



LEAVE WOODEN ALONE
SEE PAGE 15

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE HOLD ON TO YOUR HAT ISSUE

Controversial project rejected

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A plan to build a two-story house on the site of an historic home in Ocean Park, the source of a feud between neighbors in the Third Street Historic District, was denied by the Landmarks Commission earlier this week after a heated public hearing marked by accusations and bitter testimony.

Homeowner Mark Woollen, a 13-year resident of the historic district, was proposing to reconstruct a two-story house on the rear of his property at 2617 Third St., a project that several neighbors have called modernist and out-of-scale with the nature of the district. As part of the project, Woollen is also planning to move his front house forward to make room in the back, a move that was already approved by the Landmarks Commission.

The project, which has been modified the past year into different forms and sizes according to suggestions by commission-



Brandon Wise news@smdp.com
SITE IN QUESTION: The Landmarks Commission rejected a project at 2617 Thirds St. on Monday.

ers, has been the source of contention in the small Ocean Park neighborhood, some residents have been vocal about their opposition to the design and campaigned against it, handing out fliers and circulating petitions.

The strained relationships between the property owners and some of the opponents

was clear during a public hearing Monday night, hisses occasionally heard throughout the public hearing when a person would speak in favor of the project, causing Chairman Nina Fresco to remind the audience that they should neither cheer nor jeer.

Unlike the past few meetings which were more heavily attended by opponents, the hearing included several voices in support of the designs, created by Santa Monica Architect Michael Folonis.

One such person was Ian Kelly, who was born and raised in England and renovated two houses that were more than 100 years old.

"I'm worried we're preserving things for the sake of preserving things," Kelly said, who reminded the commissioners that the back house is not what is considered to be a "contributing" structure to the district.

Among those who spoke in favor was Woollen's mother, Susan Kelly, who criti-

SEE PROJECT PAGE 12



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com
CHRONIC NEED: A homeless man sleeps on the sidewalk next to Santa Monica Place on Wednesday. Advocates estimate that more than 73,000 homeless people live in Los Angeles County, with roughly 2,000 living on the streets of Santa Monica.

Factoring in vulnerability

City Hall to survey homeless population to gauge need

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Editor in Chief

CITY HALL A New York-based agency that has dramatically reduced the homeless population in midtown Manhattan is coming to Santa Monica later this month to assist city staff in the creation of a homeless directory that will identify those who are most vulnerable and assign them a ranking so that services can be better directed.

By using a "vulnerability index," Common Ground was able to reduce the number of chronically homeless people in a 20-block area of Manhattan from 55 people in February 2005 to just two people in October of last year, said Becky Kanis, a representative from the non-profit.

Common Ground is currently working with six cities across the country, including Los Angeles, in creating vulnerability indexes. Santa Monica will be the seventh.

"This will help us refine and bring even more focus to

SEE SURVEY PAGE 10



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Calendar

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2008

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

'Enjoy the Arts without Going Broke!'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
Representatives from LA Stage Alliance, Gold Star Events, the Big Blue Bus and other organizations will show how to get the biggest bang for your buck of Southern California's arts and cultural destinations.

Green Living Workshop

402 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
The Sustainable Works six-week Green Living Workshop covers water; energy; waste; chemicals; transportation and travel; and shopping and food. Get the latest eco-info, save money, and lower your ecological footprint. To register, contact Barent Roth at (310) 452-8716, ext. 1 or rothbarent@smc.edu.

'Choosing the Quiet'

1227 Second St., 5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Maurizio Barattucci's solo show, "Choosing the Quiet" will open at Emeritus College. Barattucci taught at the Art Department of Santa Monica College for 30 years and retired recently. The exhibition will be shown until February 29, 2008. For more information on this free event, call (310) 434-4306.

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.

Meet other patients in the pits

2200 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
The Neuro-Endocrine Tumor Center's Pituitary Patient Support Group is held bi-monthly at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. Tonight's speaker will be Pejman Cohan on "Understanding the Pituitary Gland — Improving Your Health." For more information, visit www.neuro-endo.org or contact Sharmyn McGraw at (949) 515-9595.

Friday, Jan. 18, 2008

Peaceniks stay home

14 Below presents a night of rage with Anger is a Gift, Rejn, Sturgeon and Lead Pipe Logic. Cover fee is \$8 — \$10 at the door. For more information, visit www.14below.com.

Lots o' Otto

1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m.
Tonight's double feature at the Aero is all about Otto Preminger. The night begins with "Laura," starring Dana Andrews as a detective who falls in love with the lovely victim of a murder. Try not to fall in love with Gene Tierney. Next up is "Advise and Consent" with its bitter look at American politics. For ticket info, call (323) 466-FILM.

"Alice Sit-By-The-Fire"

703 Venice Blvd., Venice, 8 p.m.
J.M. Barrie's 1919 comedy about misunderstandings between parents and their spawn during a theater trip is playing at the Pacific Resident Theatre. For box office information, call (310) 822-8392.

Lunchtime melting pot anyone?

1250 Capri Dr., 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.

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.





Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

TOUGH TALK: Michael Dukakis and his wife Kitty took part in a discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the Main Library on Tuesday.

Dukakis talks politics

Israeli-Palestinian conflict addressed during panel talk

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM LIBRARY The voices grew louder and louder in the Santa Monica Main Library's auditorium, accusational shouts and name-calling flying out of mouths, fueled by passion over an issue that has divided the world.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is felt thousands of miles away in Santa Monica.

Such emotion characterized an event on Tuesday night when a panel discussion — led by former Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis and wife Kitty — dis-

sected a proposal by an Encino-based peace organization to maintain some stability in the Middle Eastern region by establishing equality and the formation of a confederation government.

The discussion was followed by a question and answer session, about 20 audience members eagerly rising out of their seats immediately to take their place in line, some to ask questions, others to make a statement, many inquiries and responses by panelists drawing a charged reaction from the audience.

It was at the onset of the Q-and-A session that a visibly frustrated man began shouting at the panelist before his turn came, yelling, "Why aren't there any Jews in Gaza?" and eventually being escorted out after a near altercation with another audience member.

The emotional outburst set the stage for the rest of the evening.

The event was hosted by the Israeli-

Palestinian Confederation, a non-profit organization that proposes a confederation government represented by established Israeli and Palestinian governments. The panel, which included Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels of temple Beth Shir Sholom, the Dukakises and Josef Avesar, an Israeli-born attorney and founder of the organization, conversed about whether the proposition would work in reality.

"We're trying to build a grass roots movement," Avesar said.

The former Democratic presidential candidate, Dukakis has taught courses in public affairs during the winter quarter at UCLA for the past 13 years and was invited to participate in the panel after meeting Avesar at a lecture at the university last year. Wife Kitty, who is Jewish, has been a member of the president's Commission on the Holocaust for the

SEE CONFLICT PAGE 11

Governor's decision is questioned

BY STEVE LAWRENCE
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Two veteran supporters of legislative term limits said Tuesday that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's endorsement of Proposition 93 would weaken his credibility with voters and undercut his efforts to get concessions from lawmakers on other issues.

"Clearly, we are saddened when the leader of the state flip-flops on an issue, an issue as important as this one," said Lewis Uhler, president of the National Tax Limitation Committee. "But his leadership is undermined by these kinds of position changes."

The Republican governor announced Monday that he was endorsing the Feb. 5 ballot measure. While he had not taken a

SEE PROPOSITION PAGE 12

Spider-Man's marriage spins out of control

BY JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Nobody could have seen this celebrity breakup coming: After more than 20 years of marriage, Spider-Man and Mary Jane are kaput.

Joe Quesada, editor-in-chief of Marvel Comics, said it was time to shake things up in the life of Peter Parker, the nerdy New Yorker who upon being bitten by a radioactive spider attained the ability to transform himself into a web-spinning world savior. And it was easier to do that, he said, if Parker wasn't married.

This week's plot twist left many comic-book fans climbing the walls.

"When we first did it, the reaction was, 'How could you do this? This is a terrible thing to do,'" said Quesada, who invented

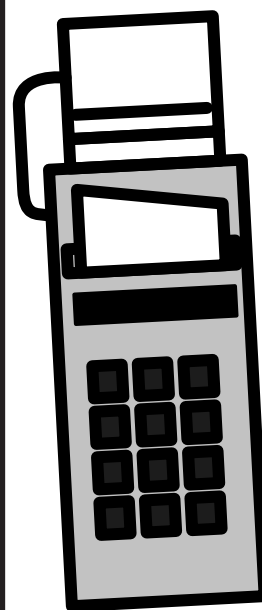
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Supporting schools is just smart Editor:

Although our three children are grown, we strongly support Measure R, which will provide continuing parcel tax support for our local public schools. As attorneys who both live and work in Santa Monica, we take issue with Matthew Millen, also identified as an attorney by the SMDP (“Gearing Up for a Ballot Battle,” page 1, Jan. 10).

We oppose Millen’s tortured use of language to explain why he believes Measure R, which does not increase taxes, is, in fact, a tax increase. We also disagree with his suggestion that Santa Monica voters must choose between doing the right thing for our school children and doing the right thing for the less fortunate among us, including the homeless. As a progressive and caring community, we can and must do both.

Even from a strictly self centered point of view, strong support for public education makes good sense. The democracy which we so highly value can not survive without a well educated populace. And, highly rated public schools help keep our property values up even during times like these when property values in other communities are declining.

Bruce Sultan
Santa Monica

A disaster waiting to happen Editor:

Sunday’s overrun of the Santa Monica Airport runway by a single-engine propellor-driven plane certainly puts the lie to the Federal Aviation Administration’s claim that runway overruns present little or no danger to the city’s residents. Thank goodness the accident didn’t involve one of the faster, larger, jets City Hall is trying to ban.

Pilot error and equipment problems happen. Either way, an aircraft overrunning a runway that has no designated safety overrun areas, as is the case here, means a possible disaster at any time.

Brian Bland
Santa Monica

Where have all the arrows gone? Editor:

I have lived and worked in Santa Monica for many years and realize the congestion is constantly worsening but I don’t believe narrowing the street on Ocean Park is the answer. I feel that traffic would flow better if there were more left turn arrows in the east/west directions. I don’t understand why the left turn light at 20 Street and Pico Boulevard (going east/west) has not been activated. Narrowing Ocean Park Boulevard only contributes to cars sitting, burning fuel and drivers becoming frustrated and angry. I haven’t spoken to anyone that feels this change has been a positive one. Please consider more east/west, left-turn signals.

Marni Washington
Santa Monica

It’s an outrage Editor:

There is no place like California; beautiful skies, scenic drives, sun kissed smiling faces, and some of the most picturesque coastlines in the world. The protection and nurturing of our coast is essential for not only our economy and our pleasure, but for the coast’s own sake. The November 2007 oil spill in the San Francisco bay area was a catastrophe; over 58,000 gallons of petroleum was spilled killing over 2,000 birds, devastating aquatic life and wiping out natural habitats. We as Californians should be in an outrage! This is our coast, our ocean, our land and we need to save it! The coast is as important to our well-being as it is to our economy. If we must ship dangerous materials in and out of our coasts and bays then it is necessary for those ships to be safe. Elected officials must act on this present window of opportunity to change California’s destructive path toward environmental degradation.

Stevie Evans
Santa Monica



Barnes Burning

Seth Barnes

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Propositions that finally have zing

ON FEB. 5, CALIFORNIA HAS THE HONOR to be part of Super Duper Cataclysmic Approximation Of Armageddon Tuesday when 21 states across the nation will hold presidential primaries. At one time, it appeared the front-loaded 2008 primary season would produce nominees on or directly after this date. But with America performing as you’d expect to perform under the tutelage of a former owner of the mighty, totally-legendary Texas Rangers baseball club, it seems we’re having a touch of difficulty deciding on the next Bozo we want flickering on our TV sets over the next four years. Understandable.

But what do you want, America? The one mantra that the media has been sharp enough to pick up on and write about ad infinitum is “change.” Like an animal lover who thought it might be nice to raise emotionally unstable chimpanzees suffering from smallpox for seven-plus years, we’re ready for something different. And the more I think about it, it’s become clear that the nation should follow the lead of California and other states that offer the electorate the opportunity to vote on ballot propositions that directly affect the laws and statutes that govern us. That would really shake things up. It might seem silly to give everyday goobers direct authority over the law of the land, but at the very least, it’s good for a chuckle or two when you realize that Joe Public just approved taxpayer-backed riverboat gambling or publicly funded euthanasia kiosks.

Here are eight national ballot propositions for an electorate as undecided as Bill Clinton in a donut shop:

Prop. 12 — Homeland Security Alerts Sponsored By Mountain Dew — I think we’d all like to see more product placement in our federal government. It’s a great way to spike revenues. And if we’re going to freak out about the unsubstantiated, nondescript possibility of terror, we might as well call that situation “Mountain Dew Code Red.”

Prop. 17 — Stop Selling Us Commemorative Coins! — Wait, so the federal government is trying to sell us our own money? Is that really legal?

Prop. 29 — Bling Out Presidential Motorcade — Look, it’s all about style these days. If we want young people to become passionate about civil service, what better way than tricking out the prez entourage with pimpy Escalades complete with dia-

mond-encrusted rims, a hootin’ sound system (“Hail To The Chief, Yo!”) and hydraulics? It’s time for us to represent.

Prop. 33 — A Penny For War, A Penny On The New England Patriots — If we’re going to spend \$190 billion each year fighting wars on foreign soil, we might as well make that money back by gambling on the New England Patriots, one of our most valuable natural resources. For each penny spent in Iraq and Afghanistan, the secretary of the treasury would place an equal amount on The Pats to cover the spread via an account set up for this purpose at www.EasySportsBets.com. Only the secretary of the treasury shall be permitted to access this login (username: USAgovdude, password: cashcow).

Prop. 39 — Aviator Shades and Afro Guy — We demand that the president wear aviator shades and a perfectly primped afro at all times. Hereafter, he will not be known as The Commander in Chief but as Aviator Shades and Afro Guy.

Prop. 49 — Presidential Pet Decree — We’re tired of boring dogs and the occasional cat in the White House. If Prop. 49 passes, the president will be required to keep an orangutan, crocodile, stingray or two-humped camel. He or she will also walk said pet across the South Lawn onto the presidential helicopter when required.

Prop. 68 — Return Of The Fireside Chat — The president still talks to us from the Oval Office, but where’s the fire? Prop. 68 would require that he sit next to a proper roaring fire and stoke it confidently and competently, like a man.

Prop. 77 — Presidential Dish Session — During the campaign, we get used to all the ducking and weaving around the tough questions. No more. We want to know all the juicy, dishy gossip about the most powerful person in the world. Prop. 77 will require the U.S. secretary of setting up the Internet and WiFi in the White House initiate a blog called “Pardon Me!” for the president. Then, once a day, the president will blog about all the weird, crazy, embarrassing stuff they’ve done or thought of doing. Sex act performed in a public bathroom? Unfortunate body odor that won’t go away? Late night over drinks and street drugs at a Washington steak house? We want to hear about it on “Pardon Me!”

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Visit us online at smdp.com



The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West L.A. Members of CNPA, AFCC, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Mike Bloomberg isn't alone in his thinking

MUCH TO THE SURPRISE OF VOTERS and pundits who thought the slate of candidates was a fait accompli, it was recently revealed that Michael Bloomberg is still considering jumping into the race to become the 44th president.

Over the past few months the billionaire mayor of New York has quietly been polling and conducting a voter analysis across the country and plans to use the data to decide whether to launch an independent presidential bid.

Which has got me thinking. If it's not too late for Bloomberg, then it's not too late for me. I'm turning 35 in a few months, which is the minimum age requirement for the Leader of the Free World job. I've never really imagined holding political office, but I'm not really taken with any of the candidates, so maybe it's my destiny to mount my own campaign.

I might not have access to the same sort of sophisticated canvassing methods as Bloomberg. But I have my family, and they know pretty much everything (just ask them). And not one of them has ever failed to soft-pedal any piece of information delivered to me (unless you count my husband answering the "Do I look fat?" question). I trust they'll be honest about my Oval Office chances (including the slight potential for an impeachment hearing if it ever comes to light that I got caught cheating on my social studies homework in eighth grade, although in all fairness, a friend copied my homework, not the other way around).

Consulting my family would be a necessity anyway, because if I'm elected it'll be life-changing for all of us. What, with the constant assassination threats and the Secret Service agents having to taste the food at our Passover Seders (just what my mom needs — one more person commenting on the texture of her matzo balls). I'm not sure my husband will be thrilled at the prospect of being whatever it is they'll call the male first lady, but I have a feeling that the combination of having Air Force One at his disposal and being able to watch first-run movies in his flannel pajamas with unlimited popcorn service in the private presidential screening room just might win over any hint of a fragile ego.

The thing is that the American people have made it clear they're looking for a

leader with experience. And it just happens to be a little-known fact that I've actually run for president before. I was a candidate during the 1984 election, running for president of the sixth-grade classes from my school and another one in the district. My friend Moira was my running mate, so we ran on an M&M platform.

Although we breezed through the primaries and polled well in the weeks leading up to Election Day, I lost my place in my note cards while giving a speech during the final debate and stuttered for most of my two-minute closing statement. As a result, M&M came in third out of four teams. I'm not saying the election was rigged, but 24 years later I can say the winning team was full of it by promising hot dogs for lunch every Friday. (Hot dogs are always served on Wednesdays. Friday is Pizza Day.)

At least I have other qualifications. It took some time, but my sister and I finally negotiated a settlement after years of war and strife. (But that won't really matter anyway, since apparently President Bush will be creating peace in the Middle East before he leaves office.)

When I reconcile my credit card statements in Quicken, I never rest until every penny is accounted for. Bring on the federal budget.

And I don't want to brag, but I do share some of the same traits that have made Mayor Bloomberg so likable in New York. Or, at least one. He rides the subway to work everyday and when I lived in New York, I did, too (never mind that he does it to make a statement that he's a regular guy, and I did it because my bank statement was always irregular and subways are significantly cheaper than cabs).

Voters proved tears easily sway them, and I can trigger a sob storm like I'm watching Debra Winger's death scene in "Terms of Endearment." If it's change you're looking for, I can stop crying on a dime.

And, I'm flexible. If my team of advisors doesn't think I have a shot at the top job, I would be willing to consider being Bloomberg's vice president. Just as long as I get use of his motorcade while he's on the subway.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithccarroll@hotmail.com.

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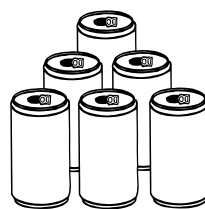
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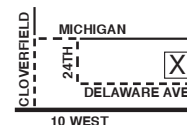
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The Q-Line

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Measuring Measure R

Considering that funding the area's public schools is one of the most important things a community can do to support its young, it is no wonder that we will be faced with it at the ballot box come February.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you think Measure R is good for the area or just another attempt to get tax payers to foot the bill for education?

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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Mac expands reach

Jobs unveils iTunes movie rentals and new ultra-slim laptop

BY MAY WONG
AND JORDAN ROBERTSON
AP Technology Writers

SAN FRANCISCO With an ultra-slim notebook computer and online movie rental service unveiled Tuesday, Apple Inc. is building on surging Macintosh sales and doubling its bet on delivering video to portable devices and televisions over the Internet.

Apple's foray into the online movie rental business was widely expected, but Chief Executive Steve Jobs surprised some by pulling off alliances with all six major movie studios, including its fierce rival Sony Pictures and Universal, which stopped offering NBC Universal TV shows on Apple's iTunes Store last fall after a spat over pricing and control.

The disagreement with Universal remains, Apple officials said. But Apple is forging ahead with its movie offerings, under terms similar to those Hollywood has dictated with other online movie providers.

"Studios have voiced their opinion that they don't want to work with Apple but they're still doing so," said American Technology Research analyst Shaw Wu.

"That's because there's going to be a paradigm shift in the online movie space, and Apple is in the best position to lead that."

With millions of people already using iTunes to download music or TV shows, Apple already has a coveted customer base, Wu said.

Users can watch films instantly over a broadband Internet connection or download and keep them for 30 days. They just have to finish watching the movie within 24 hours after starting.

Films will be available through iTunes within 30 days after they're released on DVD. More than 1,000 will be ready by the end of February, at \$2.99 for older movies and \$3.99 for new releases, plus \$1 for high-definition versions.

The service, which launched Tuesday in the United States and will roll out internationally later this year, will work on Macs, Windows-based machines, iPhones, iPods or Apple TV set-top boxes, which got a significant makeover Tuesday.

Speaking at the Macworld Conference & Expo in San Francisco Tuesday, Jobs acknowledged that Apple's first attempt to deliver movies to living rooms did not meet expectations. He also said customers have purchased only 7 million movies on iTunes, compared with 125 million TV shows and more than 4 billion songs. But he said competitors such as Amazon.com, Netflix, Blockbuster and Vudu Inc. haven't seen much more success.

"We've all tried to get movies over the

Internet and to the TV, and we've all missed," Jobs said. "So we're back with Apple TV, take two."

The Apple TV set-top box always could wirelessly stream videos and other multimedia from a user's computer to a TV. But it is now possible to rent or purchase content directly on a TV through the set-top box — now \$229, down from \$299 — with no computer involved.

Many analysts expect downloading to become a popular method of movie consumption.

"The near-term benefits are not that clear," said Wu, the American Technology Research analyst. "But longer term, it'll drive people to the Apple platform, whether its a Mac, an iPod, an iPhone or the Apple TV."

Apple's Macintosh business already hit record sales of 7 million units in fiscal 2007, up more than 30 percent from the previous year.

From the 2 percent to 3 percent range, where it hovered for years, Apple's share of the personal computer market in the United States has grown to almost 8 percent, making it the nation's third-largest PC vendor, according to the latest figures from market researcher Gartner Inc.

Trading in Apple stock was heavy Tuesday when tech stocks in general took a beating from mounting concerns over a slowdown in consumer spending. Apple's stock fell 5.5 percent, or \$9.74, to close at \$169.04.

Ike Turner's death tied to drug abuse

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO Rock 'n' roll pioneer Ike Turner's death last month at age 76 was caused by a cocaine overdose, the San Diego County Medical Examiner's office said Wednesday.

"We are listing that he abused cocaine, and that's what resulted in the cocaine toxicity," said Paul Parker, chief investigator at the medical examiner's office.

The medical examiner's office also listed hypertensive cardiovascular disease and pulmonary emphysema as "significant and contributing factors" to Turner's death, Parker said.

A telephone call from The Associated Press seeking comment from the attorney of Turner's daughter, Mia Turner, was not immediately returned.

Turner, whose musical accomplishments were overshadowed by his image, died Dec. 12 after years of drug abuse.

Turner once told the AP he originally began using drugs to stay awake and handle the rigors of nonstop touring during his glory years.

"My experience, man, with drugs — I can't say that I'm proud that I did drugs, but I'm glad I'm still alive to convey how I came through," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BARCLAYS BANK PLC APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH AN INITIAL FEDERAL AGENCY IN LOS ANGELES

Notification is hereby given that Barclays Bank PLC, 1 Churchill Place, London, E14 5HP, United Kingdom, has filed an application with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) on January 16, 2008, for permission to establish and operate a federal agency at 1620 26th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404-4013.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for District Licensing, Attn: Greg Parvin, Northeastern District Office, 340 Madison Avenue, Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10017-4613, within 30 days of the date of this publication. The public portions of the application are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Northeastern District Licensing Office.

Navy allowed to continue sonar use

BY PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON President Bush exempted the Navy from an environmental law so it can continue using sonar in its anti-submarine warfare training off the California coast, which critics say is harmful to whales and other marine mammals.

The exemption by itself won't allow the Navy to go forward with the training, but it could strengthen the military's argument in court, Navy officials said. They have asked a court to decide by Friday.

The White House announced Wednesday that Bush had signed the exemption Tuesday while traveling in the Middle East. The Navy training exercises, including the

use of sonar, "are in the paramount interest of the United States" and its national security, Bush said in a memorandum.

"This exemption will enable the Navy to train effectively and to certify carrier and expeditionary strike groups for deployment in support of worldwide operational and combat activities, which are essential to national security," Bush said.

A federal judge in Los Angeles had issued a preliminary injunction earlier this month requiring the Navy to create a 12-nautical-mile, no-sonar zone along the Southern California coast and to post trained lookouts to watch for marine mammals before and during exercises.

Bush has no authority to overturn a court injunction, officials said. With the

exemption in hand, they are hoping a three-judge panel in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco will vacate the injunction.

The president's decision drew immediate criticism from environmentalists who had fought to stop the Navy's sonar training.

"The president's action is an attack on the rule of law," said Joel Reynolds, director of the Marine Mammal Protection Project at the Natural Resources Defense Council. "By exempting the Navy from basic safeguards under both federal and state law, the president is flouting the will of Congress, the decision of the California Coastal Commission and a ruling by the federal court."

NRDC spokesman Daniel Hinerfeld

said the group would be filing papers with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals later Wednesday or Thursday to challenge the exemption.

A federal judge early this month found that using mid-frequency active sonar violated the Coastal Zone Management Act. It was a section of that act for which Bush issued the waiver or exemption.

Complying with the environmental law would "undermine the Navy's ability to conduct realistic training exercises that are necessary to ensure the combat effectiveness of carrier and expeditionary strike groups," Bush said.

The Natural Resources Defense Council had sued to force the Navy to lessen the harm of its sonar exercises.

Brother attacked by tiger pleads for help on 911 recording

BY MARCUS WOHLSEN AND LISA LEFF
Associated Press Writers

SAN FRANCISCO One of the men mauled in a Christmas Day tiger attack at the San Francisco Zoo desperately pleaded for help from a 911 dispatcher and begged to know why it was taking so long to get it, according to a recording of the call released Tuesday.

The dispatcher told the young man that paramedics could not come to his aid until they could be sure they weren't in danger of being attacked themselves, according to the recording.

"It's a matter of life and death!" the young man shouts

minutes into the call.

"I understand that, but at the same time we have to make sure the paramedics don't get chewed out, because if the paramedics get hurt then nobody's going to help you," the dispatcher replies.

Seconds later, the man shouts, "My brother's about to die out here!"

The 911 call came from either Paul or Kulbir Dhaliwal, the brothers who were attacked along with their friend Carlos Sousa Jr. outside the tiger's enclosure on Dec. 25. Sousa, 17, was killed, and the Dhaliwals, ages 19 and 23, were severely injured.

Several sections of the recorded call were blanked over in the version made public, and it wasn't immediately

clear which of the brothers dialed 911 on a cell phone. Based on the synopsis of the attacks made public by police, it was likely the older one, Kulbir Dhaliwal, who was the last of the three victims mauled by the tiger.

Zoo officials say the Siberian tiger climbed or jumped over the wall surrounding its pen. They've acknowledged the wall was 4 feet shorter than the recommended minimum.

The recordings reveal intense fear and frustration by the young man, as zoo officials and emergency responders scrambled to understand what was happening.

Less than 60 seconds into the nearly seven-minute recording of the conversation between the dispatcher and the young man, the escaped tiger had already killed Sousa, and the brothers were frantically looking for help.



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Survey would help guide services

FROM SURVEY PAGE 1

our work,” said Julie Rusk, human services director for City Hall. “This will really be a tool for us as we move into the next phase of our chronic homeless work.”

The cost of the project is \$12,000, with some of that money being used to purchase food cards for the homeless who participate, Rusk said.

Roughly four years ago, City Hall began the Chronic Homeless Program, which identifies those who have been living on the streets the longest and focuses resources so that these individuals can find a permanent home and access services.

In that program, representatives from City Hall — including Human Services, Housing, Police and Fire departments — meet monthly with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and local non-profit homeless service providers to fine tune the program and monitor outcomes.

Since its inception, 144 people have been enrolled in the program, with 78, or 54 percent, being housed in permanent housing or temporary/transitional housing, according to figures released by City Hall in October of last year. The average age of those in the program is 55 years old, with the oldest being 89. One average, individuals were homeless for 18 years.

The key to Common Ground’s success has been their focus on those people who are fixtures or anchors in the community and oftentimes attract others who are seeking advice or guidance on how to survive on the streets.

In early December, Common Ground led a team of county, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other homeless professionals to survey and identify every homeless person living on the streets of Skid Row as part of the county’s \$5.6 million pilot program called Project 50, which is designed to provide immediate housing and services for those who are in need.

Advocates estimate that more than 73,000 homeless people live in Los Angeles County, with roughly 2,000 in Santa Monica. A report by the Urban Institute found that 24 percent of the homeless population suffers from both substance abuse and mental illness.

Program supporters say the effort could save taxpayers millions of dollars currently spent on homeless people who turn up at shelters, jails or emergency rooms.

In Santa Monica, volunteers from local service providers, the Veterans Administration and the county will work



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

DETERMINING THE NEED: Volunteers from local service providers, the Veterans Administration and the county will work with city staff and representatives with Common Ground on a survey of the city’s neighborhoods, identifying how many people are currently without shelter.

with city staff and representatives with Common Ground on a survey of the city’s neighborhoods, identifying how many people are without shelter. Those who are counted will be asked important questions about their health, finances, family ties and other personal information. Volunteers will ask for permission to photograph those surveyed.

Those who are the most vulnerable will receive a high ranking, putting them at the top of the list for services, Rusk said.

The important thing will be building relationships with the homeless and then placing them in housing first, giving them a safe place to live before they can address

other issues such as mental illness or drug and alcohol addiction.

The count will take place in the early morning hours of Jan. 25. The survey will

THIS WILL HELPS US REFINE AND BRING EVEN MORE FOCUS TO OUR WORK.”

Julie Rusk, Human services director for City Hall

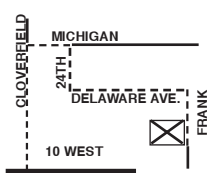
“We hope we can move some of them into housing,” Rusk said. “We currently have housing vouchers ... but we continue to struggle with finding housing. We don’t have the housing to meet the need.”

be conducted the following week, with a presentation of the findings scheduled for Jan. 31, Rusk said.

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SPEAKING UP: Radio personality Donald Bustany moderates a panel discussion addressing the often contentious Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the Santa Monica Main Library on Tuesday.

Israeli-Palestinian conflict a hot topic

FROM CONFLICT PAGE 3

past 25 years and has visited Israel on a number of occasions.

Though some people in attendance might have been drawn out of their homes because of Dukakis' name on the program, the former governor's star power seemed to have taken a back seat to the emotionally and politically driven issue of the Middle Eastern conflict.

While he seemed intrigued by the proposition, Dukakis said such an idea would not be viable unless there was both an established Israeli and Palestinian government.

"Unless we have a peaceful solution, the confederation itself can't possibly work," said Dukakis, who lives in Los Angeles.

Dukakis stressed the importance of the outcome of the 2008 presidential election, emphasizing that if Al Gore had been elected president, there might be a different situation in the region.

"If I had beaten the old man in '88, you wouldn't have heard of the kid," Dukakis joked.

Comess-Daniels concurred that America's involvement would be necessary to push the idea forward of having two separate states, something that would need to entail an economic benefit to the parties involved.

"The way you move off square one is if square two offers more economic viability than square one," Comess-Daniels said.

While the idea of a confederation government is appealing, there are flaws in the system, he added.

"We all have to support it, we all have to encourage it, but we have a lot of work to do," the rabbi said.

Under the confederation government, the entire region, including East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, would be divided

into 300 districts, apportioned by population, each electing a representative to the legislature. The legislature would be divided 60-40 in favor of Israelis, a formula calculated based on the current birth rate of Israelis to Palestinian. The balance in the legislature would be recalculated according to shifts in birth trends.

There are approximately 10 million people living in the region, 6 million of which are Israeli and 4 million Palestinians.

More than a few people seemed to take exception to comments that came from the panelists, some defending the Israelis, others the Palestinians, many caught in the middle. The question and answer session that followed the panel discussion was filled with emotionally-driven questions, often interrupted by another member of the audience, who would subsequently be asked to be quiet. At one point, Kitty Dukakis said she hoped everyone would be able to discuss the issue like adults.

Marcy Winograd, who lives in the Pacific Palisades, said she applauds the organizers promoting dialogue and debate, something that never occurred before.

"The idea of co-governance does not work in this paradigm, it is a radical one for Jews to discuss," Winograd said. "I personally don't think there is balance of power."

The moderator, Donald Bustany, criticized the organizer for the absence of a Palestinian voice in the panel, a thought with which Maureen Cruise of the Pacific Palisades concurred.

"I think (a confederation government) sounds like a fantasy," she said. "It doesn't sound like something anyone would want."

melodyh@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

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COMMUNITY BRIEF

DOWNTOWN

Local bank reports significant losses

The parent company of First Federal Bank of California, citing rising single-family loan delinquencies, reported Wednesday that the provision for loan losses for the current quarter is expected to be between \$20 million and \$23 million, compared with \$4.5 million in the third quarter of 2007.

FirstFed Financial Corp. reported that non-accrual single-family loans as of Dec. 31 rose to about \$180 million, from \$83 million as of Sept. 30, while single-family loans 30 to 89 days delinquent rose to about \$237 million, from \$72 million.

Adjustable rate mortgages that have reached their maximum allowable negative amortization, which now require an increased payment, are a contributing factor in the higher level of delinquent loans, according to FirstFed.

In addition to the higher level of loan loss expense, the company will record about \$2 million in additional expense during the quarter related to the move of its corporate headquarters.

The higher estimates for loan loss and occupancy related expenses are preliminary and unaudited. The company expects to issue its year-end earnings on Jan. 25.

DAILY PRESS

PUBLIC NOTICE



Please take notice that the Santa Monica Rent Control Board adopted Regulation 3108 at its regular meeting of January 10, 2008.

These changes, as set forth below, will become effective by promulgation the day after publication in this newspaper.

3108 Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Surcharge

(a) The surcharge provided by this regulation is meant to reimburse owners of controlled residential rental properties for the cost of the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax established pursuant to City Ordinance 2214 (CCS), enacted by the Santa Monica City Council on July 25, 2006.

(b) Duration of Surcharge

In addition to the monthly rent, a landlord may collect a monthly surcharge in accordance with this section on any controlled rental unit for each month no earlier than February 1, 2008, and which shall expire upon the repeal or expiration of Santa Monica City Ordinance 2214 (CCS). The actual surcharge for each fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 may be collected in monthly installments commencing the following January 1, or any month within the same calendar year, and continuing for the next twelve months thereafter.

(c) Determination of Surcharge

- (1) The monthly surcharge shall not exceed an amount equal to the amount of the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, as determined by Ordinance 2214, divided by the total number of units on the parcel, divided into twelve monthly payments.
- (2) For purposes of this section, the term "units" includes, but is not limited to, all units in a controlled rental property that are used for residential rental purposes or for commercial purposes, including owner-occupied or relative-occupied units, units occupied pursuant to a Section 8 housing agreement, and/or units participating in the Incentive Housing Program.
- (3) Upon notice by the County Assessor's Office of the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, the landlord shall calculate the surcharge provided in this regulation and give notice to the tenants of the amount of the per unit surcharge as set forth in subsection (d) of this regulation.

(d) Notice Requirements

- (1) A landlord shall notify each tenant of the amount of the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax surcharge pursuant to this regulation. The notice must comply with all noticing requirements set forth in Civil Code section 827.
- (2) The notice shall contain the following information: the amount of the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax for the property; the number of units on the property; the amount of the monthly per-unit surcharge; and, the amount of the maximum lawful rent, including all fees and surcharges. A copy of the portions of the Joint Consolidated Tax Bill or other official notification that reflects the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, and the parcel number shall be attached to the notice.
- (3) Failure to comply with the notice requirements set forth above shall render any surcharge excess rent within the meaning of section 1809 of the Charter and Chapter 8 of the Board's regulations.

(e) Exemptions

- (1) Section 7.64.060 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code authorizes the City Council to establish by resolution special exemption procedures and eligibility criteria based on income, age or disability for the Clean Beaches and Ocean Tax. The City Council established special exemption procedures for low-income residents in Resolution 10248 (CCS). All property owners and renters who meet the Clean Beaches and Ocean Tax Exemption eligibility criteria are exempt from the Clean Beaches and Ocean Tax.
- (2) The maximum dollar amount of gross household income for single-person households for purposes of Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Exemption eligibility shall be twenty five thousand and two dollars (\$25,002).
- (3) The maximum dollar amount of gross household income for households of two or more persons for purposes of Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Exemption eligibility shall be twenty eight thousand six hundred and fifty dollars (\$28,650).
- (4) On July 1, 2008 and in subsequent years on the same date thereafter, the maximum dollar amounts of gross household income for single and two-or-more person households for purposes of Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Exemption eligibility as set forth above shall be adjusted by the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the previous calendar year.
- (5) Application for determination of eligibility for fee waiver under this section must be on a form provided by the City.

A complete copy of this regulation is available at the Rent Control office, 1685 Main Street, Room 202, (310) 458-8751 or on the website: www.smgov.net/rentcontrol

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Illustration courtesy Tracy Bremer

SNEAK PEEK: This photo illustration depicts the Third Street project as it was initially proposed.

Commission rejects residential project

FROM PROJECT PAGE 1

cized the opposition for allegedly distributing fliers that claimed Woollen was trying to ruin the historic district by proposing a monstrosity of a project.

"He's not trying to ruin the district, he's trying to make it as user friendly as possible," she said.

Erin Fotos, who lives with Woollen, said her boyfriend had made a good faith effort to stay within the guidelines of the property. Her voice shaking, Fotos mentioned that several of the opponents had themselves been involved in projects that included the destruction of contributing structures.

Neighbors against the proposal say it is incompatible with the character of the district, a design that is much too large in scale and would jeopardize the unique theme of the neighborhood, which includes a series of California bungalows, American Colonial Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival style houses. Woollen's home is amongst the row of bungalows on Third Street. Some praised the design of the house, but argued it doesn't belong in the neighborhood.

"I like the new structure, I just don't like it here," said Richard Orton. "It's kind of like putting a goat in the middle of a chicken coup and pasting on feathers."

The project actually received a majori-

ty vote in support, but couldn't garner enough numbers to pass. Out of the seven commissioners, five were eligible to vote — Commissioner Roger Genser had to recuse himself because he lives within 500 feet of Woollen, and Commissioner Ruthann Lehrer left because she had written a letter against the project.

Under the Landmarks Ordinance, four votes were necessary in order for the project to pass. Both Fresco and Margaret Bach voted against the project, creating a 3-2 split.

Fresco said she didn't feel the architect had made enough changes to the project, suggesting the roof should not be flat like a Spanish Colonial Revival and instead be more at an angle to complement the front bungalow. Bach added that while she appreciated the resolution of the design from the previous times it was presented to the commission, she was still uncomfortable with the massing and shape.

The applicant will have approximately one week to appeal the commission's decision and bring it before the City Council.

While the outcome was disappointing, Folonis said he was actually encouraged that the majority of commissioners on the dais were supportive.

"I thought that all of the commissioners were in fact all pretty positive about the project," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Prop. 93 foes oppose endorsement

FROM PROPOSITION PAGE 3

stand previously on the proposition, Schwarzenegger had consistently said that he would not support a change in legislators' term limits unless it was tied to a measure stripping lawmakers of the power to draw their own districts.

In an op-ed piece written for the Los Angeles Times, Schwarzenegger said Proposition 93 was "good public policy, irrespective of redistricting, and on its own it will go a long way toward improving the

quality of state government in California."

The current limits, adopted by voters in 1990, allow lawmakers to serve up to three two-year terms in the Assembly and two four-year terms in the state Senate.

Proposition 93 would cut the maximum term from 14 to 12 years but allow all 12 years to be spent in one house. It also would enable 34 lame duck lawmakers to run for re-election this year, in part because the new 12-year limit would not apply to time a legislator had spent in the other house.



SWEET MUSIC

(From top clockwise) Daria Yaari, 11, plays the flute during the Elementary Stairway Honor Auditions at Grant Elementary School on Saturday. Yahel Engelberg, 10, recites a piece on violin during the audition. Jack Kennerly, 10, practices the cello in the hallway before auditioning.

Photos courtesy David Kennerly



Spider-Man's marriage story line comes to the end of the road

FROM WEBHEAD PAGE 3

the story line that turned Spider-Man into Single-Man.

"But with the first issue of 'Brand New Day' (this week's comic book in which Spider-Man returns to single life), our letters very quickly changed to people saying, 'This is fantastic. This is the Spider-Man we remembered. We didn't know what we'd been missing.'"

With Spider-Man footloose and fancy free again, Quesada says, he'll be able to have new adventures, get into new dilemmas and, who knows, maybe even woo back Mary Jane.

Say what?

Well, the pair didn't exactly get divorced. After Peter Parker's beloved Aunt May was wounded in an attack, Spider-Man and Mary Jane reluctantly struck a deal with the devil-like Mephisto in which he erased everyone's memory

of the couple's time together in exchange for May being restored to good health.

The story was received less than warmly by fans who thought that after 21 years of marriage Pete and MJ really were going to make it.

"Considering I have been reading Spider-Man for exactly 20 years now, and that seems to be the amount of time Joe Q. has decided to rip from Spider-Man continuity, can I simply return all of my Spider-Man comics for a full refund?" asked one of the more polite postings on Marvel's Internet message boards after the plot was revealed.

Some message threads were discontinued after they became nothing more than forums to insult Quesada and others.

"It's heresy for some people," laughed Dave Pifer, who runs the Secret Headquarters comic book store in Los Angeles. Others, however, are beginning to adapt.

"The ones who are new to superheroes like Spider-Man, they're excited about it," Pifer said. "They feel like they're starting at the beginning."

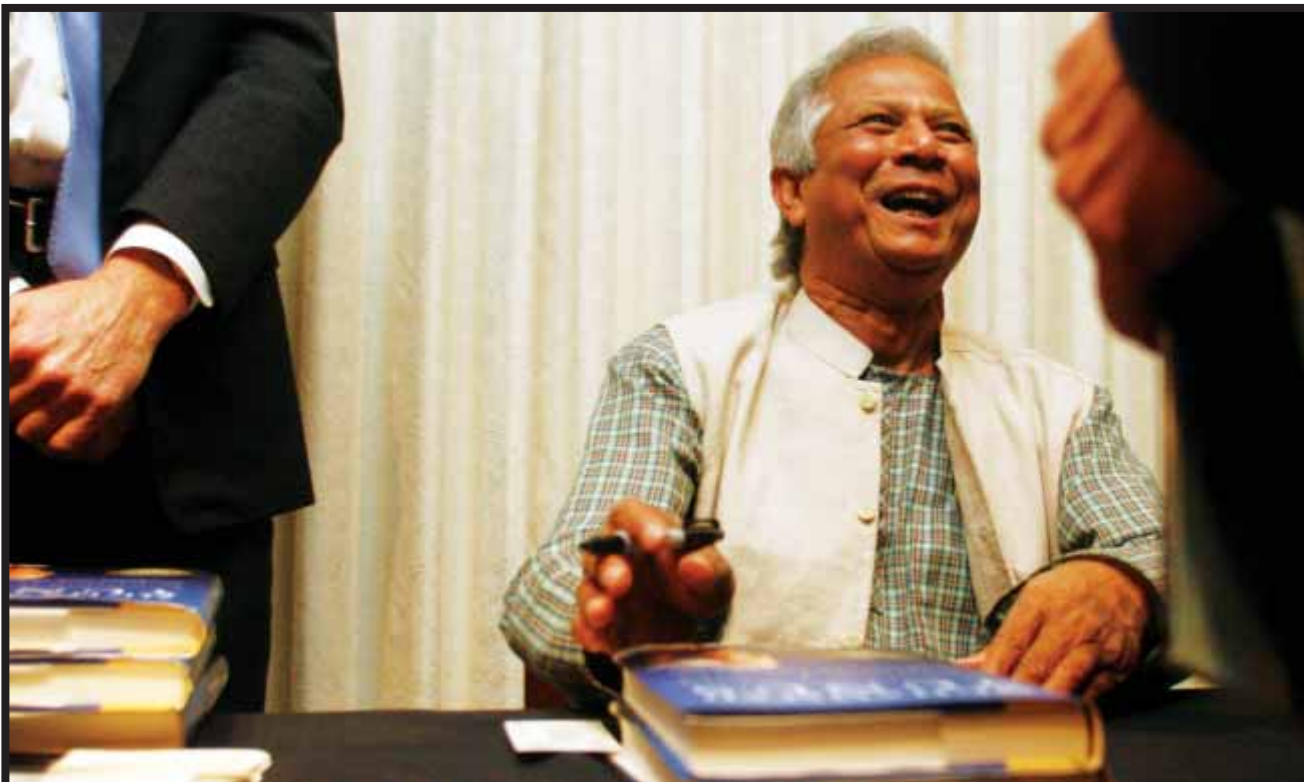
One message poster even joked that the beautiful Mary Jane, who remains in the Spider-Man cast, is free now to pursue Brad Pitt.

Stan Lee, who created Spider-Man, isn't involved in the current story but called it "a very creative idea."

"It should stimulate a lot of interest in the characters and the books, and I'm eager to see what happens next," he said.

The 85-year-old comic book legend said it's a challenge to come up with new and interesting dilemmas for beloved characters that have been around for decades.

"You have to introduce new elements to spark interest, to keep it alive. That's the reason we decided years ago to have Peter and MJ get married in the first place," said Lee.



SPREADING THE WORD

Muhammad Yunus, winner of the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize, signs copies of his new book 'Creating A World Without Poverty' after giving a speech at the Milken Institute in Santa Monica on Wednesday. Yunus spoke about how businesses can be socially responsible.

Geoffrey Dun news@smdp.com

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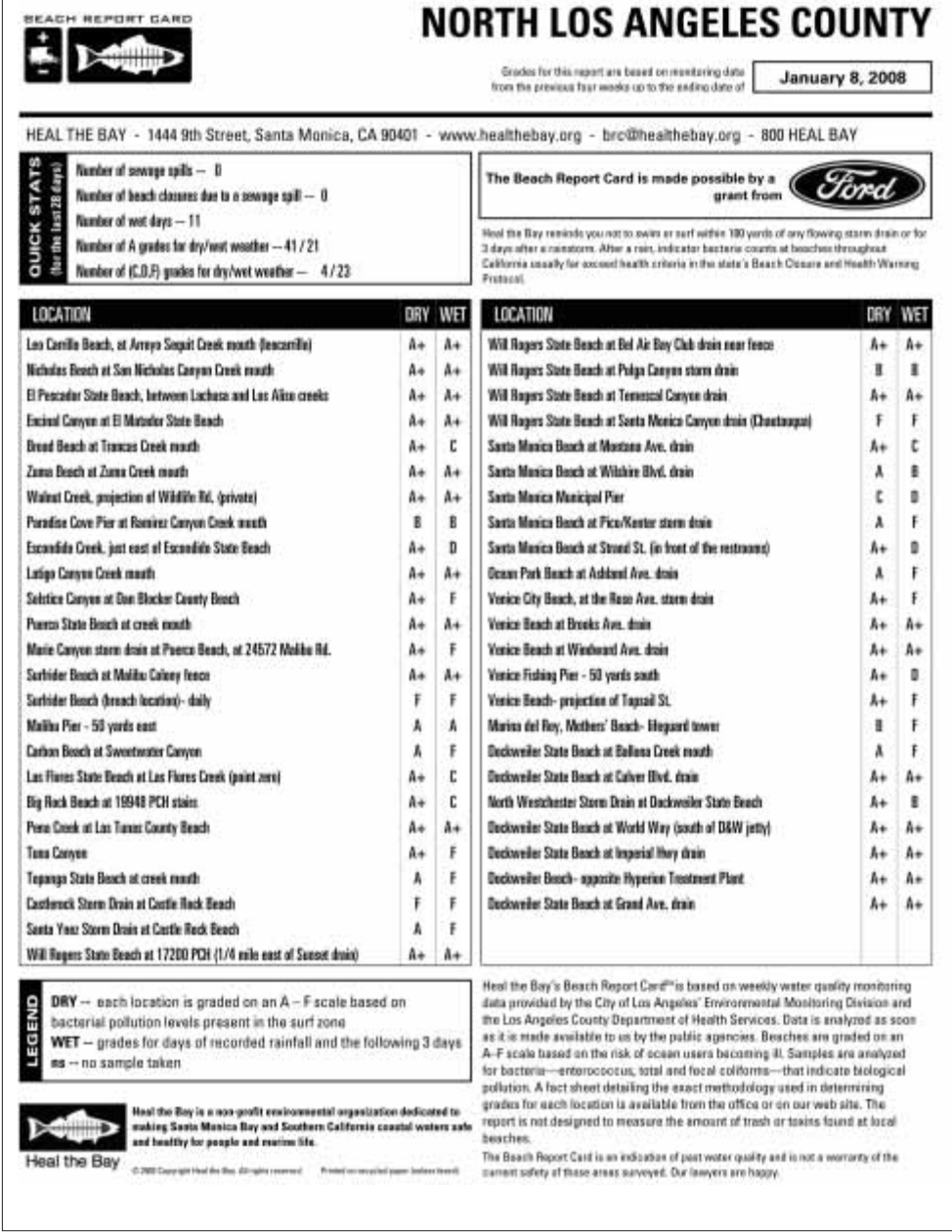
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Getting free

Foxy Brown asks for release from prison for hearing tests

FOXY BROWN is asking to be released from jail so she can go to California for hearing tests and repair of a cochlear implant. Brown's hearing problems were revealed during a court appearance in late

2004. Her petition, filed Tuesday in Manhattan's state Supreme Court, says her condition is worsening in jail and she needs to go to a Los Angeles clinic to "have her cochlear implant reprogrammed and

repaired or else face imminent harm to her hearing." The 28-year-old rapper's lawyer was out of her office and not immediately available for comment Wednesday. Brown was sentenced in

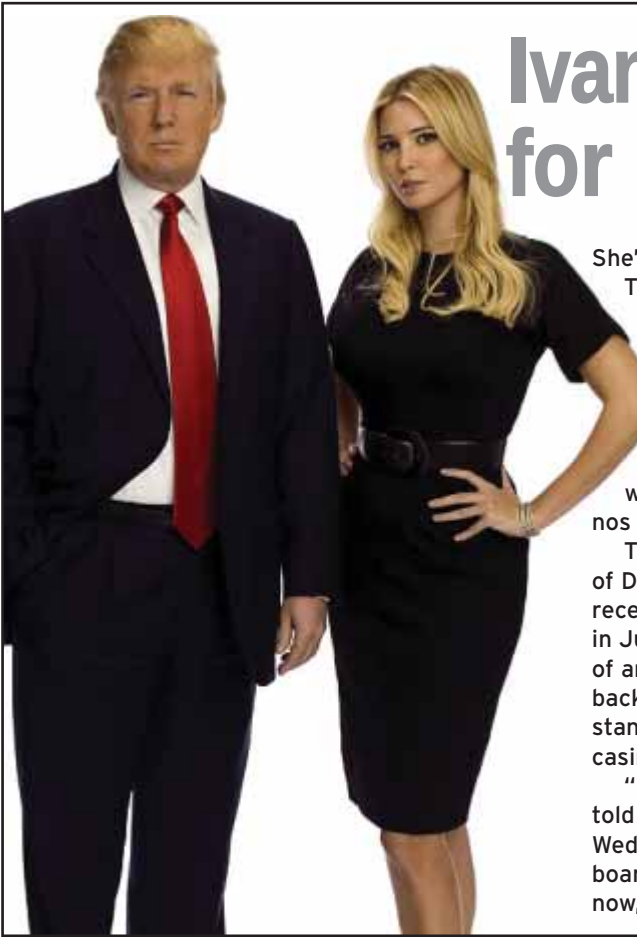
September to a year in jail for violating probation. A judge put her on probation after she pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault of two manicurists at a Manhattan nail salon in August 2004.

Brown, whose real name is Inga Marchand, had two ear surgeries in New York and both failed. Arguments on her request would likely be heard in a Manhattan court. ASSOCIATED PRESS

DMX HAS TO PAY UP

DMX has been ordered to pay \$1.5 million to the mother of his child after the rapper-actor failed to appear in court to defend himself against allegations of defamation. DMX, whose real name is Earl Simmons, was sued by Monique Wayne for defamation of character after he allegedly told a magazine that Wayne raped him during a 2003 hotel stay in Baltimore, leading to her pregnancy. Wayne responded to the comments by filing a \$6 million lawsuit against Simmons in Prince George's County Circuit Court in October 2006. Judge Thomas Smith ruled in Wayne's favor Friday.

AP



Ivanka Trump is OK'd for NJ casinos' board

She's hired. The state Casino Control Commission gave final approval Wednesday to **IVANKA TRUMP** serving on the board of directors of Trump Entertainment Resorts, which operates three casinos here. The 26-year-old daughter of Donald and Ivana Trump received temporary approval in July, pending completion of an investigation into her background and finances – a standard practice for pending casino board members. "I'm very excited," she told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "I've been on the board for several months now, and this is an opportunity to continue to contribute. The company is at a point where we need to make a lot of important decisions, and I bring a voice of a different generation, and also a female voice to the debate." Ivanka Trump serves as vice president of development and acquisitions of the Trump Organization LLC, and is assuming a greater role on "The Apprentice," the NBC reality show on which her father fires someone each week. In the first two episodes of this season's "The Celebrity Apprentice," she clashed with Gene Simmons of Kiss, who ignored her inquiries during a project pitting teams against each other.

AP

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

Find an expert, Taurus

Happy Birthday!

Your perspective grows as the year ages, but also because you are willing to absorb new ideas and head in a different direction. Your openness might be the determining factor in your next year. You will be starting a new life cycle this year. Your spirits will soar as you learn to work with others. Your creativity seems endless.



Born Today
Actor Jim Carrey (1962)
Singer Kid Rock (1971)
Gangster and crime lord Al Capone (1899)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ How you deal with differences and the choices you make could determine much more than you realize right now. If you're wondering about a friend's idea, try to imagine the long-term implications. Tonight: Your treat. Go in a new direction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Excitement becomes your middle name. Evaluate and head in a more positive direction. Understanding earmarks a discussion, though you might not want to get it or respond. Your personality blooms. Tonight: Find an expert.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ The unexpected might shake you up more than you thought possible. Deal with another person head-on, whether you like the outcome or not. Remember, resourcefulness can help get you through a hassle. Tonight: Don't act just yet.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Allow others the opportunity to join in on a project. Don't be so concerned about what might happen. Unity and brainstorming breed success. Listen to what is being said between the lines. Understand another's real agenda. Tonight: Hang with friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Your ability to lead others becomes more important than you thought. Think in terms of success and new beginnings. Others just might not get it. Your resourcefulness blooms when facing a problem. Tonight: A must appearance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might want to revise your thinking about a situation. You might feel a bit out of sorts about it. Your creativity flourishes, but with it comes a certain amount of disorganization. A child or romance demands your time. Tonight: Let in more fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You might want to evolve or try another style or approach. You could be surprised by what happens when you relax and work with a touchy person in your life. Know that there are answers. Tonight: Togetherness works.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Others seem to come out of the woodwork. Keep communication flowing. Processing as a group draws some very strong reactions. Don't take a comment personally. Tonight: Let someone else take the lead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You are coming from a place of solidity. Think through a decision with care. Spending and accepting responsibility might be unusually heavy themes. Tonight: Buy a treat on the way home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might be way ahead of the game. Much more happens than you anticipated. Your ability to handle situations overloads, and many demands and needs come forward. Pace yourself with care. Tonight: What would you like? That is the question.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Basics count. How you handle a situation could change because of an insight. You might want to see a situation in a certain manner, but facts start coming to light that you cannot ignore. Honor what comes forward. Tonight: Happy at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ How you say what you feel could determine the response. Pick and choose your words with great care. Investigate alternatives rather than close yourself off and be rigid. Sometimes different paths do end at the same point. Tonight: Hang out with the gang.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
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Anatomy of a Murder (NR)
7:30

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

Atonement (R)
1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:15
The Great Debaters (PG-13)
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:05
P.S. I Love You (PG-13)
1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55
Pirates Who Don't Do
Anything: A VeggieTales
Movie (G)
1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:35, 9:45

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

The Diving Bell and the
Butterfly (Le Scaphandre et le
papillon) (PG-13)
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55
Juno (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
No Country for Old Men (R)
1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55
Persepolis (PG-13)
12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15

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

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50
The Bucket List (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20,
10:10
First Sunday (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10,
9:40
I Am Legend (PG-13)
12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
One Missed Call (PG-13)
12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox
Story (R) DLP-Digital
Projection
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

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

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

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

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Girls and Sports

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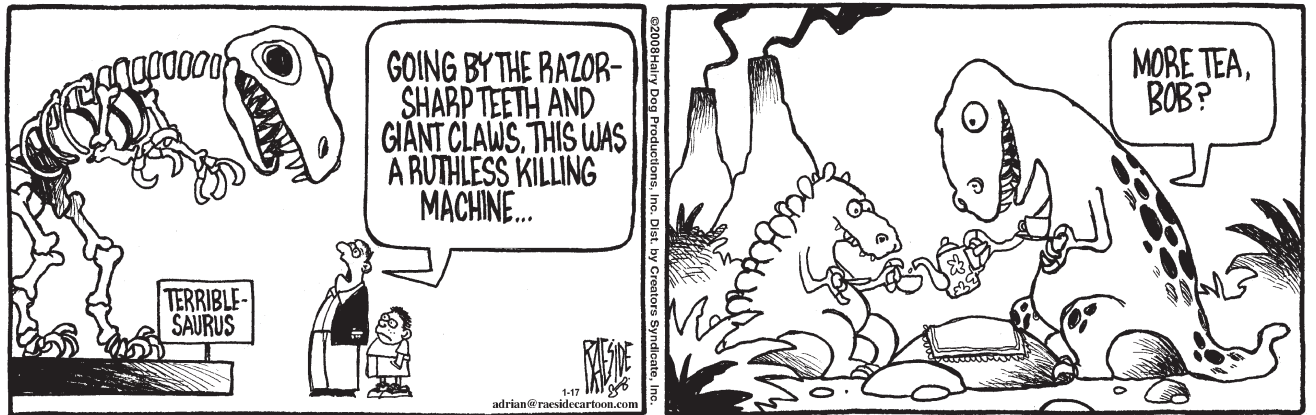
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



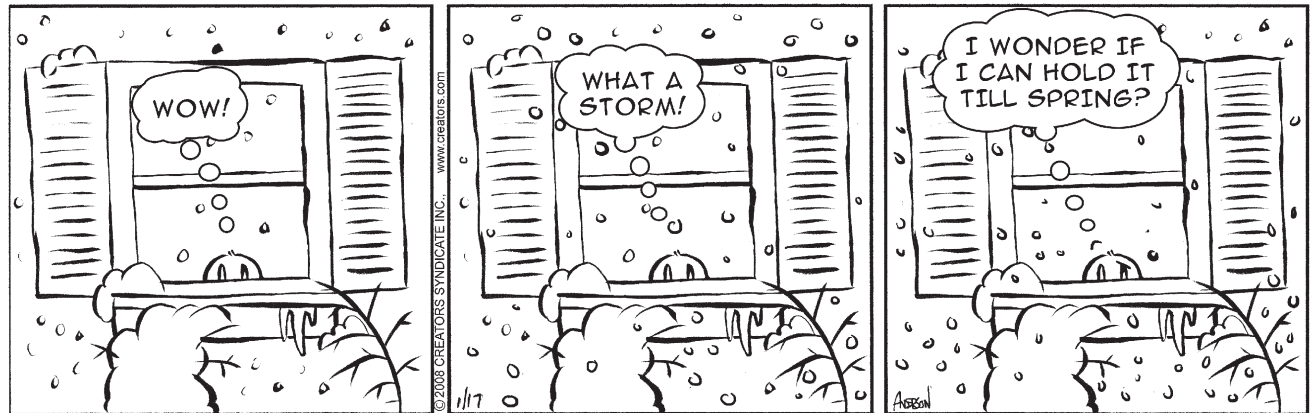
Garfield

By Jim Davis

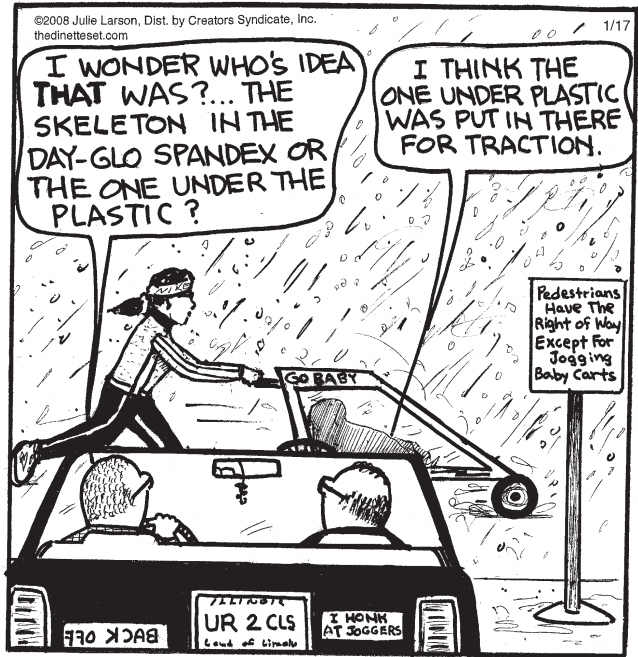


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 In the area
- 6 Infamous motel name
- 11 Foolish
- 12 Scent
- 13 Basil-based sauce
- 14 Prepare to drive
- 15 Odometer fractions
- 17 Kind of music
- 19 Rage
- 20 — -de-sac
- 23 Stritch of Broadway
- 25 Angel's topper
- 26 Outdoor gathering
- 28 Quantities: Abbr.
- 29 Frozen expanse
- 30 Myrna of movies
- 31 Zeus or Jupiter
- 32 Amigo
- 33 Oh of "Grey's Anatomy"
- 35 Yellow gem
- 38 Slow tempo
- 41 Un-escorted
- 42 Computer key
- 43 Must have
- 44 Flair

DOWN

- 1 Gloss spot
- 2 "A Chorus Line" song
- 3 Opening night gathering
- 4 Start a hand
- 5 Like Simba
- 6 Soak
- 7 Son of Hera
- 8 Loafer part
- 9 Big bird
- 10 Dupe
- 16 Eastern state capital
- 17 Fit for a king
- 18 1836 battle site

P	O	P	P	A			F	A	D	S
A	V	A	I	L			C	A	I	R
L	E	T	M	E			A	D	L	I
A	R	E	A			S	L	E	E	V
C	A	L		S	O	L		D	E	R
E	L	L	I	P	S	E	S			
	L	A	C	E			R	U	T	S
			E	C	L	I	P	S	E	S
V	E	T		K	I	D		H	A	T
O	R	A	C	L	E		P	I	P	E
C	A	C	H	E			B	O	R	O
A	S	K	E	D			A	S	T	R
L	E	S	T				R	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Bridge gathering
- 21 Extreme
- 22 Faithful
- 24 Check-cashing needs
- 25 Friend of Luke and Leia
- 27 Shower souvenirs
- 31 Loving looks
- 33 Dune makeup
- 34 Crazy talk
- 35 Camel
- 36 Spanish cheer
- 37 "Tamerlane" writer
- 39 Salon stuff
- 40 Iron source

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ It is well-known that methane released by cattle forms a significant amount of the greenhouse gases in some countries, but getting people to abruptly drop beef from their diets might be unrealistic. However, a senior researcher for the Queensland (Australia) government, Athol Klieve, told Agence France-Presse in December that it would be possible to transplant the stomach bacteria of kangaroos into cows to reduce cattle's gas-passing proclivity to the much gentler level of kangaroos' (since the latter have much more efficient digestive systems).

■ News That Sounds Like a Joke: (1) Salt Lake City police reported that an out-of-town man was treated at a local hospital on Dec. 1 after being beaten up by gang members. The man had earlier mentioned to the gangbangers that "Utah gangs" are not as tough as those from his hometown. (2) In October in West Palm Beach, Fla., Jacqueline Holmes filed a lawsuit against a nightclub named Coco Bongo for injuries after a disco ball fell from the ceiling and conked her on the head.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1893 the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, died in Fremont, Ohio, at age 70.

1893 Hawaii's monarchy was overthrown as a group of businessmen and sugar planters forced Queen Liliuokalani to abdicate.

1917 the United States paid Denmark \$25 million for the Virgin Islands.

1945 Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, credited with saving tens of thousands of Jews, disappeared in Hungary while in Soviet custody.

1961 in his farewell address, President Dwight Eisenhower warned against the rise of "the military-industrial complex."

1966 a U.S. Air Force B-52 carrying four unarmed hydrogen bombs crashed on the Spanish coast. (Three of the bombs were quickly recovered, but the fourth wasn't recovered until April.)

1977 convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot by a firing squad at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

1994 a 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck Southern California, killing at least 72 people.

1995 more than 6,000 people were killed when an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 devastated the city of Kobe, Japan.

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737 Pier Avenue # 3

\$748,000

Ocean Park 2 + 2.5 Townhome

Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Mid January 2008

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,654,714	No Listings
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,657,261	\$ 1,994,900
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,833,000	\$ 927,835
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,099,000	\$ 732,356
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,275,211	\$ 672,385
Ocean Park	=	\$ 2,159,800	\$ 896,548

Statistics updated every Friday

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.