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Volume 10 Issue 58

Santa Monica Daily Press

DISNEY WORLD TO GET A MAKEOVER
SEE PAGE 7

We have you covered

THE **BUSTING DRUG DEALERS** ISSUE



Photo courtesy Santa Monica Police Department

OFF THE STREET: **Cash and cocaine were seized by federal agents and Santa Monica police last week during a raid in Valencia, Calif.**

SMPD assists in 'major' drug bust

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Two men were booked into the Santa Monica jail on drug charges after a multi-agency task force seized 47 kilos of cocaine and $2.3 million in cash, police said Monday.

Federal agents and local police officers uncovered cocaine and cash Wednesday at a warehouse in Valencia after serving three search warrants in the Los Angeles-area. Santa Monica police were joined by officers from El Monte, Costa Mesa and Anaheim, along with federal agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement, SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler said.

Vasile Babuschin and Sergei Souetov, both Canadian citizens, were arrested and booked on narcotics charges. ICE federal detainers were placed on both. Generally, an immigration detainer is a request to a local law enforcement agency to detain a suspect for up to 48 hours after that person would otherwise be released, in order to provide ICE an opportunity to assume custody of that individual.

The task force initially targeted Babuschin, who was a suspect in a previous major cocaine seizure, Trisler said. Officers tailed Babuschin once he arrived at LAX from Toronto on Jan. 5. He led the task force to a residence in North Hollywood, which was identified as a drug house. He also led agents and officers to the warehouse and a semi-truck in Valencia.

Trisler said on the evening of Jan. 12, the task force swooped in, serving the warrants and seizing the cocaine and cash. Los Angeles County fire fighters assisted by cutting open a safe.

kevinh@smdp.com

Council abandons mandatory bike registration law

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council on Monday decided to do away with a law that few people were following anyway, voting to repeal a long-standing requirement that Santa Monica residents register their bicycles at City Hall.

The law, intended to discourage theft and help cyclists recover stolen bicycles, was viewed by many bike advocates as ineffective and was widely flouted by the riding public.

Between 300 and 400 people per year typically register their bikes, according to Don Patterson, Santa Monica's business and rev-

SEE **BIKES** PAGE 9

1st Peace Corps head Sargent Shriver dies at 95

BY JESSICA GRESKO
Assoicated Press

BETHESDA, Md. R. Sargent Shriver, the Kennedy in-law whose career included directing the Peace Corps, fighting the War on Poverty and, less successfully, running for office, died Tuesday. He was 95.

Shriver, who announced in 2003 that he had Alzheimer's disease, had been hospitalized for several days. The family said he died surrounded by those he loved. Shriver is the father of Santa Monica City Councilman Bobby Shriver.

His death came less than two years after his wife, Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who died Aug. 11, 2009, at age 88. The Kennedy family suffered a second blow that same month when Sen. Edward Kennedy died.

Speaking outside Suburban Hospital in Maryland, Anthony Kennedy Shriver, said his father was "with my mom now," and

SEE **SHRIVER** PAGE 8

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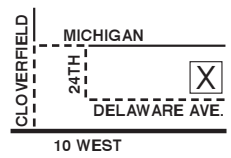

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011

CD release party
Zanzibar
1301 Fifth St.
Brazilian singer-songwriter Mario Costa will perform as part of a release party for his forthcoming CD, "Total Unknown." For information, call (310) 451-2221.

Talking books
Montana Avenue Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
This free event features a discussion of author Benjamin Black's latest work, "Christine Falls." For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

So very fresh
Downtown
Arizona Avenue and Second Street, 8:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
The Downtown Farmers' Market is considered one of the finest in Los Angeles. Want something fresh? This is the place to be.

Thursday, Jan. 20, 2011

Who doesn't like Johnny Depp?
Montana Avenue Library
1704 Montana Ave., 2 p.m.
Catch Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter in this Tim Burton adaptation of "Alice in Wonderland." This screening is free. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

A new you
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Join David Allen, M.D. and Allen Green, M.D., from the Center for Optimum Health, for this informative lecture on the most important steps you can take right now to supercharge your health this year. For more information on this free event, call (310) 445-6600.

Wii for seniors
Senior Recreation Center
1450 Ocean Ave., 10 a.m.
It's true, the Nintendo Wii isn't just for kids. The senior center uses the video game system to help seniors stay in shape. The event is free, but you have to be at least 50 to participate. Organizers say it's as good for your body as it is for your mind. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Funeral services planned

A service for Matthew Mezza will be held today at 3 p.m. at Hillside Memorial Park and Mortuary, located at 6001 W. Centinela Ave. in Los Angeles.

Mezza, 14, died on Friday after jumping from an upper floor of the Sheraton Delfina Hotel.

The family has asked that donations in Mezza's honor be made to either the Santa Monica High School baseball team, of which he was a member, or to Teen Line, a suicide prevention program.

Donations are being accepted at:

Santa Monica High School Baseball Diamond Club
601 Pico Blvd.
Santa Monica, Calif., 90405

Teen Line
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
PO Box 48750
Los Angeles, Calif., 90048

DAILY PRESS

SMC

Paid internships at KCRW

Over the next two years, students at Santa Monica College will have the chance to intern at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica and get paid for their work thanks to a grant from donors.

Daniel Greenberg, a member of the board for the Broad Stage, and his wife, Susan Steinhauser, will contribute $25,000 to create the internships, giving students hands-on training. The paid stipends will begin at the start of the Spring 2011 semester, which opens on Feb. 16, officials with the college said.

In years past, SMC students have served as volunteer interns in the station's Music Library, in the studio with DJs and artists, assisting sound engineers, audio production, video production, web design and technology, events management and in non-profit management.

"The facts of student life are that many have to support themselves while in school," Greenberg said. "Being able to award the Greenberg-Steinhauser stipends will allow many more students the opportunity to work with KCRW."

Greenberg is the chairman and CEO of Electro Rent Corporation, an electrical rental, leasing and sales service based in Van Nuys, Calif., which serves government agencies and companies in the aerospace, defense and electronics industries. Greenberg recently served as chair of the Reed College Board of Trustees and is on the NPR Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Steinhauser currently serves on the California Arts Council and the Hammer Museum's Board of Overseers. She is past chair of the Getty Museum Photographs Council and serves as a Trustee of Washington's Pilchuck Glass School. The couple has supported numerous arts institutions in Los Angeles and across the country, most notably LACMA'S Glass Matters, the Hammer's show "Gouge" on woodblock prints and the Getty Museum's exhibitions on noted color photographer and environmentalist Eliot Porter, Graciela Iturbide, and the celebrated Mexican photographer Manual Alvarez Bravo.

KCRW(89.9FM) is National Public Radio's flagship station for Southern California and is a public service of Santa Monica College.

DP



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

UPS: **Santa Monica High's Bianka Balthazar attempts a jump shot against Troy High on Monday during a non-league game at Samohi.**

Girls basketball: Samohi loses second straight

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica High School's girls' basketball team lost to Fullerton Troy, 45-39, Monday on campus. The loss was the second straight for the Vikings.

Samohi led, 15-10, after the first quarter as Troy began the game cold, missing its first seven shots of the game.

"We were on a roll," Head Coach Marty Verdugo said. "For the first five minutes of the game, we looked like the best team in SoCal."

From there, Troy's defense forced Samohi into a number of bad shots eventually pulling away for the win.

Samohi's Briana Harris led all scorers with 17 points. Troy was led by Briana Roberson, who scored 15 including a three at the end of the third quarter that gave the Warriors an eight point lead heading into the final period.

"We made a few adjustments," Troy head coach Roger Anderson said. "We tried to double-team their shooters, making them work for their points."

The loss drops Samohi to 12-5 this season. Next for the Vikings is an Ocean League matchup with Beverly Hills at home today. The game is scheduled for 6 p.m. The game is part of a double header with the boys' basketball team, also against rival Beverly Hills. That game is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com

New emergency alert system approved

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL At meeting held 17 years to the day after the 1994 Northridge earthquake, the seismic retrofit of Parking Structure No. 2, which was damaged in the disaster, was on the City Council's agenda Monday night.

Members approved an additional $45,000 for construction firm Beezley Management, which is working on the project. The firm's total contract is now $237,500.

The retrofit required additional funding because of problems during the demolition phase of construction, according to a City Hall report.

"The project encountered many unforeseen conditions, including incorrect as-built drawings, conditions on a neighboring property that required revisions to the design and obstructions found during excavation activities," the report stated.

The contract amendment was part of a $523,000 spending package that the council approved at a special meeting on Monday.

Santa Monica is also getting an upgrade to its emergency notification capability with a new system that can dial mobile and land line telephones and send e-mails and text messages to alert the public of emergencies. The system augments the city's existing AM radio and Web Information Network systems for emergency alerts.

Besides giving City Hall another tool to alert the public in the event of a disaster, the new system also includes the capability to allow the public to register to receive notifications of non-emergency activities such as road closures and construction projects, or special events such as the Los Angeles Marathon, according to a report.

The contract is with Everbridge Inc. for $99,950.

The council also approved $246,489 to purchase a replacement trash collection truck fueled by compressed natural gas. The contract for the vehicle is with California-based Boerner Truck Center.

The council also agreed to spend $131,622 on a propane-fueled truck used to haul leaves and wood debris generated during tree trimmings. The contract is with Reynolds Buick Inc.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bike path debate rages on

Editor:

I'd like to offer a few comments regarding the recent letter to the editor by Fredric Reichel ("Sharing the bike path," Jan. 11)

The "de facto reality" is that those who ignore the law and continue to walk on a path designated only for bicycles is a serious accident waiting to happen. I use the path several times a week and frequently find myself having to avoid running into pedestrians on the path who walk three to four wide, and I either have to come to a complete stop and wait for the oncoming traffic to pass, or try and speed up and pass the pedestrians before meeting the oncoming traffic. In Venice, there is a 40-foot wide walkway (Ocean Front Walk) adjacent to the bike path that is intended for pedestrians. There are signs posted on this walkway that clearly state, among other things, "No Bicycles on Ocean Front Walk," and "No Pedestrians on Bike Path." Mr. Reichel should be ashamed of himself for suggesting that the rules be ignored. Pedestrians have their own 40-foot wide path to walk on, yet he wants to screw it up for those who lawfully ride their bikes on a path designated specifically for bicycles. Why would anyone want to walk on the bike path and compete with fast-moving bicycles, at the risk of getting hit by a bicyclist, when there is a much wider pedestrian path right next to the bike path?

Regarding his comments about " ... bikers who consider themselves a privileged class demanding exclusive use of a public amenity," I'd like to draw Mr. Reichel's attention to something we law-abiding citizens take note of, and that's the rules and regulations that societies use to foster civility. It is self-serving to think you have a right when you are violating the law. You don't have a right to walk on the bike path when it clearly says, in big white letters on the path, "Bicycles Only." This is why we have problems, because narrow minded people simply can't follow the law and the rules. They are like children who can't see the big picture and are only concerned with what they want, and the hell with everybody else. We "bikers" are not "demanding" anything, except perhaps that everyone obey the rules. When we ride our bikes on the bike path, we are not being "zealots." We are obeying the law. This is not a demand for "exclusive use" of a path which has been designated for bicycles only.

Other cities may have only one path, so bikers and pedestrians have no choice but to use the same path. In Santa Monica and Venice, it's made safer and convenient for everyone by having two paths, because you don't combine fast moving bicycles with slow moving foot traffic. This is why it's so dangerous. Accidents have happened, more will surely follow, and only when someone gets seriously hurt will something be done about enforcing it. Enforcement of the "Bicycles Only" rule should happen before it's too late. The yellow beach patrol trucks drive on the sand right next to the bike path; all they have to do when they see someone not on a bike is tell them that it's a bike path and to get off.

I would say this to the Fredric Reichels of the world. Sing your Kumbaya and drink your Kool-Aid in a place away from the rest of us who want to function safely in this society in which we live.

Kevin Dennan
Venice





That Rutherford Guy

John W. Whitehead

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Obama's plan for internet control

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION HAS YET to come up with a plan to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan which are draining our economy, prevent the continuing mortgage meltdown, get more Americans back to work, or do away with pork-barrel spending and government corruption, to name just a few of the overriding concerns plaguing our nation today. Instead, purportedly motivated by a desire to make our lives easier, the president wants to implement a universal internet ID that would eliminate the need for multiple usernames and passwords.

For those inclined to view government as a benevolent institution, this can be viewed as a considerate gesture in a time of economic and social unrest. However, for those who would take seriously John Adams' warning "to trust no man living with power to endanger the public liberty," this latest move is nothing short of a Trojan Horse attempt to sidestep privacy concerns and institute a national ID, all the while giving the government even greater access to our most personal information.

Under the stated goal of achieving internet security and consumer convenience, the Identity Ecosystem, as the program has been dubbed, would supposedly streamline the process of doing business online by replacing the various login names and passwords currently used to access personal accounts and information on various websites with a universal internet ID. However, as Curt Hopkins points out in the New York Times, "a user would have one, 'verified' ID, which would be known by the government, and a set of large corporations. Given the periodic outbreak of governmental and corporate shenanigans, we fail to see the benefit of such a system."

And who has the president entrusted with being the gatekeeper of our most sensitive online transactions? Not the Department of Homeland Security, which spent a year masterminding the strategy, nor the National Security Agency, which carries out the government's warrantless eavesdropping program. Rather, the Identity Ecosystem will supposedly be overseen by the Commerce Department—a move clearly intended to assuage fears that the government would improperly make use of such highly personal information. Yet in the wake of 9/11, information sharing between government agencies has become so commonplace that it would be naïve to think that the DHS and NSA, both of which have been jockeying for control of the nation's cybersecurity, won't have easy access to the information.

Still, if the American people refuse to accept a universal internet ID as a way of life, then does it really matter who oversees the program? In its typical Orwellian fashion, the government has come up with a way around that potential hurdle, as well. Touting the internet ID's convenience and so-called ability to enhance online trust and privacy, the Obama administration essentially plans to push its Identity Ecosystem as a way to cut through the government's bureaucratic red tape at the federal, state and local levels. Private corporations will eventually follow suit, making it all but impossible for the average American to avoid using the ID.

Considering the degree to which Social Security numbers have come to be relied on by those outside government circles for identification purposes (everyone from cable television and credit card companies to hospitals and utility companies), it would not take much for a universal internet ID to become a de facto national ID, and the consequences could be devastating.

First, such a system will give the government unprecedented access to Americans' internet activities—something it has sought for years. Indeed, last fall, the New York Times reported that the Obama administration was preparing to submit legislation to Congress that would make it easier for the government to wiretap the internet. This would inevitably lead to governmental agencies, in cooperation with the mega corporations, knowing virtually everything about our lives. And privacy as we have known it will be no more.

Second, it will eventually allow the government to have control over all internet activity, e.g., acting as a clearinghouse for who can and cannot access the internet and the extent to which they can do so. Control is the key word here, and total control is the government's objective.

Third, it would enable the government to better monitor Americans' internet activities—another long desired goal. The danger, of course, is that the information could be used by corporate entities and law enforcement agencies alike.

Fourth, it would empower the government in its quest to regulate not only internet activity but also the content of expressive activities. In fact, in the wake of the Tucson shootings, FOX News Channel host Greta Van Susteren voiced her support for an identification system for web users seeking to post and comment at online venues in order to "tone down the viciousness on the internet."

Finally, a single internet ID would make Americans that much more vulnerable to security breaches.

The last bastion of democracy is the internet, and the government is well aware of this. For years now, government agencies have lobbied for greater access to our personal internet activities. In fact, back in 2005, John Ashcroft, George Bush's Attorney General, urged the FCC to require that internet communications be easier to wiretap. As a result, the Bush administration came under fire from the media and civil liberties groups alike for seeking to expand the government's online surveillance powers. Unfortunately, many of those who were quick to lambast Bush for his civil liberties violations have been less vocal in their public criticism of Obama, despite the fact that when it comes to civil liberties, Obama is no better and may, in fact, be worse. Case in point: if Congress falls in line with the Obama Administration's dictates, all online communications services — including communications sent using texting platforms, BlackBerries, social networking sites, and other "peer to peer" communications software such as Skype — will be required to use technologies that would make it easier for the government to collect private communications and decode encrypted messages that Americans send. That doesn't sound like any kind of "change we can believe in" to me.

When all is said and done, it doesn't really matter what party controls the White House or Congress, because the objective of our bureaucratic government remains the same: total control — of the nation, of the internet, and ultimately of you and me.

Constitutional attorney and author **JOHN W. WHITEHEAD** is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org. Information about The Rutherford Institute is available at www.rutherford.org.

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The Taxman

Jon Coupal
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Hardly a transparent budget

JERRY BROWN IS BEING APPLAUDED FOR bringing honesty to the California budget process. True, compared to his predecessor, his blunt talk is refreshing. (He abstains from using the word "fantastic" in every sentence). Also, he hasn't minced words in describing the scope of the problem. But let's deconstruct whether he has been entirely honest in his handling of the budget as well as the plan itself.

First, to the extent he was saying, "we had no idea it was this bad," the reality is, yes he did. Everyone did. For years fiscal conservatives have warned about the impending disaster both in terms of overspending and the extraordinary level of debt being racked up by state, much of it consisting of accounting maneuvers for the purpose of kicking the budget can down the road.

Second, during the campaign, he pointedly said that "everything is on the table." But that's not quite true either. His budget plan lacks any real reforms. Where is the pension reform? What will be done to blunt the power of the unions? What about more efficient ways to deliver public services? For example, why does California continue to spend twice the national average to incarcerate one prisoner for a year? The real answer to this is that he has refrained from putting anything "on the table" likely to anger the unions — the very interests that financed his campaign. (Sure, the unions will cry crocodile tears over the cuts, but there is nothing here that threatens their power).

The extent of union influence on the budget will be addressed in a future column but, for now, what about the actual budget plan itself? Is it, as Brown contends, comprised of equal parts spending cuts and tax increases?

The short answer is no. Brown is simply wrong in saying that the plan consists of half cuts and half taxes, about $12 billion each, to solve $24 billion of the shortfall.

Let's deal with the $12 billion in tax increases first. Here, even the Sacramento Bee said that the governor relied on "accounting magic" to get to this figure. His plan actually counts on $14 billion in tax solutions (not $12 billion), including about $11 billion in higher sales, income, and vehicle taxes. But his plan curiously cancels out $2 billion in money that goes to schools due to the tax hikes. The $2 billion doesn't affect the state's shortfall, but that doesn't mean it isn't a $2 billion tax hike.

BROWN IS SIMPLY WRONG IN SAYING THAT THE PLAN CONSISTS OF HALF CUTS AND HALF TAXES, ABOUT $12 BILLION EACH, TO SOLVE $24 BILLION OF THE SHORTFALL.

On the spending side, it gets a bit more tricky. What Brown is calling "cuts" are really fund transfers — taking special funds to reduce the state's general fund burden. This includes taking over $800 million in mental health funds, $1 billion in early childhood development reserves (the "First Five" program), $1.7 billion in redevelopment funds and $1 billion in a fuel-tax swap that involves local transportation funds.

Bottom line? Even in the best light, this budget plan has almost twice as much in tax increases ($14 billion) than it does in spending reductions ($8 billion). And that doesn't even bring into the equation the long standing issue of what constitutes a "cut" in government parlance. That, too, is a subject for a future column.

Gov. Brown has a style that Californians appreciate. But his reservoir of goodwill in this honeymoon period will evaporate quickly unless he becomes brutally honest as to how he plans to bring California back from the brink of financial ruin.

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

The Q Line

SPONSORED BY

On the rise?

City officials are considering raising fees on a number of recreational programs including youth sports and the Santa Monica Swim Center.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think an increase in fees is necessary in these tough economic times, or do you think City Hall should look elsewhere to shore up budget gaps?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**


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St. Monica Catholic High School

Date	Team	Opponent	Location	Time
SOCCER				
Jan 21	JV/Var	Bosco Tech	Airport Park	1:30/3pm
Jan 26	JV/Var	St. Bernard	St. Bernard	3:30/5pm
BOYS BASKETBALL				
Jan 19	F/JV/V	Bosco Tech	Bosco Tech	4/5:30/7pm
Jan 21	F/JV/V	St. Paul	St. Paul	4/5:30/7pm
GIRLS BASKETBALL				
Jan 20	JV/Var	CSHM	CSHM	5:30/7pm
Jan 25	JV/Var	La Salle	La Salle	5:30/7pm

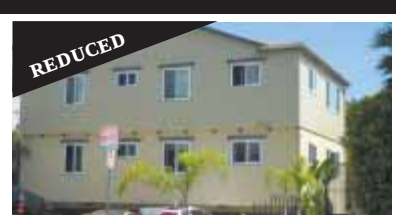
Santa Monica High School

Date	Team	Opponent	Location	Time
GIRLS BASKETBALL				
Jan 19	F/S/J/V	Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills	3/3/6:00pm
Jan 21	F/S/J/V	Morningside	Morningside	3/3/6:00pm
Jan 22	Var	Long Beach Poly	Long Beach Poly	7:00pm
BOYS BASKETBALL				
Jan 19	F/S/JV/V	Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills	4:30/6/7:30pm
Jan 21	F/S/JV/V	Morningside	Morningside	4:30/6/7:30pm
GIRLS SOCCER				
Jan 19	F/S/JV/V	Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills	3:30/5/3:30pm
Jan 21	JV/V	Morningside	Morningside	5/3:00pm
BOYS SOCCER				
Jan 19	F/S/JV/V	Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills	3:30/5/3:30pm
Jan 21	JV/V	Morningside	Morningside	5/3:30pm
WRESTLING				
Jan 20	Coed All	North High		3:00pm
Jan 20	Coed All	Dual Meet-North Terrace		TBA
Jan 22	Coed All	Varsity Arroyo Tourney	Scrimmage	TBA
GIRLS WATER POLO				
Jan 20	JV/Var	Culver City		3/4pm

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Sluggish job market, tight credit keep home prices flat

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Bargain prices and low interest rates helped Southern California home sales surge 20.5 percent last month over November, but activity lagged far behind that of December 2009, a tracking firm reported Tuesday.

San Diego-based MDA DataQuick said 19,528 homes sold last month in the six-county area, up from 16,208 in October but down 12.5 percent from 22,328 in the year-ago period.

Sales have increased an average of 12.9 percent since DataQuick began compiling statistics in 1988, the firm said.

"Ultra-low mortgage rates, coupled with lower prices, gave the market a boost this fall, helping to explain the above-average gain in closings between November and December," DataQuick president John Walsh said. "We still see the potential for sales to perk up this spring if rates stay low and brighter economic news lifts consumer confidence."

The region's median home price increased 0.3 percent to $290,000 last month from $289,000 in December 2009 and grew 1 percent from $287,000 in November, DataQuick said.

The firm said the sluggish job market and tight credit conditions were keeping the median from appreciating much over the previous year's prices.

The median was also being tugged down by weak sales of new homes, which reached their lowest level for a December since DataQuick began keeping records.

"It's hard to ignore the ongoing slump in the Southland's new-home market," Walsh said. "What happens next will hinge largely on the pace of the economic recovery and the manner in which lenders manage their inventories of distressed properties, which are competition for new homes."

Foreclosures accounted for 34.3 percent of resales last month, down from 35.2 percent in November and 39.6 percent a year ago.

Dow Jones up despite bad earnings reports, Apple news

BY CHIP CUTTER & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Boeing Co. and Caterpillar Inc. led stocks higher on Tuesday, pushing the Dow Jones industrial average to its highest close since June 2008.

Boeing rose 3.4 percent after reporting that it expects to deliver its long-awaited 787 jet in the third quarter. Caterpillar gained 2.8 percent. The two companies contributed more than half of the Dow's 50 point rise.

Indexes swung between gains and losses earlier in the day. Apple Inc. weighed on the Nasdaq composite index after the company announced that its CEO, Steve Jobs, was taking another medical leave. Apple fell 2.2 percent to $340.65.

Banks dropped after Citigroup Inc. reported earnings that fell short of analysts' forecasts. Citigroup fell 6.4 percent. Bank of America lost 1.6 percent.

Delta dropped 8.2 percent after winter storms caused its earnings to come in lower than investors had expected.

The Dow rose 50.55 points, or 0.4 percent, to close at 11,837.93. The Dow has already gained 2.2 percent this year as optimism builds about the economy. The index rose 11 percent last year, or 14 percent including dividends.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 1.78, or 0.1 percent, to close at 1,295.02. The Nasdaq rose 10.55, or 0.4 percent, to 2,765.85.

European markets rose after Greece raised $865 million in another successful bond auction. That allayed concerns about Europe's financial system, which have been a drag on U.S. markets.

Bond prices fell, pushing their yields higher. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.37 percent from 3.32 percent late Friday. U.S. markets were closed Monday for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Rising stocks outpaced falling ones by a small margin on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was 1.2 billion shares.

Disney's Fantasyland to get a revamp

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla. Walt Disney World says a new indoor roller coaster and a new place to interact with Disney princesses will be part of the largest expansion in Magic Kingdom history.

Disney announced details of the plans Tuesday that will double the size of the theme park's Fantasyland section.

The coaster, dubbed the "The Seven Dwarfs Mine Train," will feature vehicles that swing back and forth along a twisting track. And in "Princess Fairytale Hall," Aurora, Cinderella and other Disney princesses will greet guests in a new royal court.

Another new indoor ride with a "Little Mermaid" theme will be like one opening at Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., later this year.

The new Fantasyland will open in phases beginning in late 2012.

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It's never too early to think about next year's taxes

BY CAROLE FELDMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The Bush-era tax cuts have been extended, the alternative minimum tax is patched and capital gains rates are set.

Tax breaks are in place for students and teachers, and for the most sizable estates.

Congress established some of the parameters for the 2011 tax year even before the year began.

The big question confronting lawmakers was whether to extend the Bush tax cuts and for whom. Democrats had argued that the nation's richest taxpayers should be excluded from any extension. But as a part of a compromise deal worked out with President Obama, Congress approved an extension for all taxpayers through 2012. The net result: Workers won't see their take-home pay reduced because of taxes.

In fact, they'll actually see an increase.

Congress declared a 2 percent payroll holiday in 2011, temporarily reducing Social Security withholding. People who are self-employed will see the savings when they file their estimated taxes.

"People are going to spend it or they're going to save it" depending on their goals and financial situation, said Greg Rosica, tax partner with Ernst & Young. "It's a great opportunity to look at it as an opportunity to increase their 401(k) or make an IRA contribution."

"That could multiply tax savings," said Barbara Weltman, author of tax guides for J.K. Lasser. "If they give to charity, it's tax deductible. If they put it into an IRA, that's deductible."

Other options could be to put it in a 529 plan to save for a child's education, or open a Roth IRA and create tax-free income for retirement. A note of caution: Roth IRA contributions are not tax deductible.

The reduced withholding for Social Security took the place of the Making Work Pay tax credit, which had been in place for 2009 and 2010. That credit was worth up to $400 for individuals and $800 for married couples filing jointly, but was phased out for those at higher incomes.

For those people and others, the payroll holiday will work out better. Earnings up to $106,800 are subject to the Social Security payroll taxes. That means a maximum savings from the payroll tax holiday of $2,136. Also, unlike the Making Work Pay credit, the payroll holiday does not phase out at higher incomes.

Some lower-income workers will be worse off, however, said Weltman. A married couple earning less than $40,000 a year or an individual earning less than $20,000 gets a smaller benefit under this year's tax break.

For tax year 2011, the standard deduction increases slightly to $11,600 for married couples filing joint returns, $8,500 for heads of households, and $5,800 for singles and married couples filing individually. The personal exemption increases to $3,700, up $50 from 2010.

Congress in December patched the alternative minimum tax to adjust for inflation for tax years 2010 and 2011. The AMT exemption for 2011 is $74,450 for joint returns, $48,450 for singles and heads of households, and $37,225 for married couples filing separately. Without the patch, millions more Americans would be subject to the AMT.

Other 2010 tax provisions in effect for 2011 include:

—A top capital gains rate of 15 percent.

—Personal exemptions and itemized deductions won't be phased out for higher-income taxpayers.

—The American Opportunity credit, an expansion of the Hope credit. Qualified taxpayers can get a credit of up to $2,500 toward tuition and other fees at colleges and universities.

—The maximum $4,000 deduction for qualified tuition and fees.

—The option of deducting state and local sales tax, geared mainly toward taxpayers in places that don't have state income taxes.

—The maximum $250 deduction for out-of-pocket expenses incurred by teachers in grades kindergarten through 12.

—The deduction for mortgage insurance.

Some of those credits and deductions phase out at higher incomes.

By the same token, some credits and deductions in place for 2010 were allowed to expire and are unavailable to taxpayers for 2011.

Among them is the first-time homebuyers credit. A smaller homebuyers credit for people who had owned homes before also expired. An exception was made, however, for active duty military and members of the Foreign Service or intelligence community stationed overseas. They may still qualify for the maximum $8,000 credit if they enter into a contract to buy a home by April 30, 2011. There are income limits and limits on the price of the home.

For those already in their homes, a limited credit is available for new windows, doors, furnaces or other energy-efficient improvements installed in 2011. A more-generous credit for energy-efficient improvements expired at the end of 2010.

A year from now, when it's time to do your 2010 taxes, remember that professional tax preparers will have been required not only to register with the IRS, but also to have passed a competency exam. Certified public accountants and others who meet other qualifying standards are exempt from the exam.

Since many things already are in place for 2011, Rosica says people should do some planning now. For example, if you're thinking about selling your home in the next year or two and the value has increased, should you sell it in 2011 since the lower capital gains rate are in effect only until the end of the year? The same with selling a business. "All items ought to be on the list to be examined," he said.

There's one big caveat: The economy, political environment and many other factors can change. And Congress still has a full year to amend the tax laws.

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SHRIVER
FROM PAGE 1

called his parents' marriage a great love story.

At Eunice Shriver's memorial service, their daughter Maria Shriver said her father let her mother "rip and he let her roar, and he loved everything about her." He attended in a wheelchair.

The handsome Shriver was often known first as an in-law — brother-in-law of President John F. Kennedy and, late in life, father-in-law of California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

But his achievements were historic in their own right and changed millions of lives: the Peace Corps' first director and the leader of President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty," out of which came such programs as Head Start and Legal Services.

President Barack Obama called Shriver "one of the brightest lights of the greatest generation."

"Over the course of his long and distinguished career, Sarge came to embody the idea of public service," Obama said in a statement.

Within the family, Shriver was sometimes relied upon for the hardest tasks. When Jacqueline Kennedy needed the funeral arranged for her assassinated husband, she asked her brother-in-law.

"He was a man of giant love, energy, enthusiasm, and commitment," the Shriver family said in a statement. "He lived to make the world a more joyful, faithful, and compassionate place. He centered everything on his faith and his family. He worked on stages both large and small but in the end, he will be best known for his love of others. "

In public, Shriver spoke warmly of his famous in-laws, but the private relationship was often tense. As noted in Scott Stossel's "Sarge," an authorized 2004 biography, he was a faithful man amid a clan of womanizers, a sometimes giddy idealist labeled "the house Communist" by the family. His willingness to work for Johnson was seen as betrayal by some family members.

The Kennedys granted him power, but also withheld it. He had considered running for governor of Illinois in 1960, only to be told the family needed his help for John Kennedy's presidential campaign. Hubert Humphrey considered him for running mate in the 1968 election, but resistance from the Kennedys helped persuade Humphrey to change his mind.

When Shriver finally became a candidate, the results were disastrous: He was George McGovern's running mate in the 1972 election, but the Democrats lost in a landslide to President Richard M. Nixon.

Four years later, Shriver's presidential campaign ended quickly, overrun by a then-little-known Georgia governor named Jimmy Carter.

Although known for his Kennedy connections, Shriver, born in 1915, came from a prominent old Maryland family. His father was a stockbroker, but he lost most of his money in the crash of 1929.

Shriver went on a scholarship to Yale, then went on to Yale Law School. He served in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II.

Returning home, he became an assistant editor at Newsweek magazine. About this time, too, he met Eunice Kennedy and was immediately taken by her. They married in 1953 in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Her father, Joseph P. Kennedy, hired him to manage the Kennedy-owned Merchandise Mart in Chicago. He was a big success on the job and in Chicago in general — and even was elected head of the school board in 1955.

Shriver had fought for integration in Chicago and helped persuade John F. Kennedy to make a crucial decision in the 1960 campaign despite other staffers' fears of a white backlash: When the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was jailed in Georgia that fall, Kennedy phoned King's wife and offered support. His gesture was deeply appreciated by King's family and brought the candidate crucial support.

Soon after taking office, Kennedy named Shriver to fulfill a campaign promise to start the Peace Corps. Although it was belittled by some as a "kiddie corps," Shriver quickly built the agency into an international institution.

After Kennedy's assassination, in 1963, Johnson called upon Shriver to run another program which then existed only as a high-minded concept: the War on Poverty.

Shriver's efforts demonstrated both the reach and frustrations of government programs: Head Start remains respected for offering early education for poor children, and Legal Services gave the poor an opportunity for better representation in court.

But other Shriver initiatives suffered from bureaucracy, feuds with local officials and a struggle for funds as Johnson devoted more and more money to the Vietnam War.

In early 1968, with Shriver rumored to be on the verge of quitting, Johnson offered him the ambassadorship to France. He accepted it even though some family members wanted Shriver to support Sen. Robert Kennedy's presidential candidacy instead.

In Paris, Shriver won many French fans, but he left the post for a job in private business not long after Nixon took office in 1969.

He campaigned for congressional Democrats in 1970, and two years later McGovern drafted him to replace Sen. Thomas Eagleton of Missouri as his running-mate. Eagleton dropped out because of questions about his medical history.

Shriver was good humored that he had been McGovern's seventh pick for the job — after brother-in-law Ted Kennedy, among others. He named his campaign plane "Lucky 7."

In September 1975, Shriver joined an already crowded race for the 1976 Democratic nomination. But he dropped out in March 1976 after poor showings in the early primaries and never again sought office. He instead worked with Special Olympics and other causes.

In 1994, Shriver received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Bill Clinton.

Meanwhile, daughter Maria Shriver gained fame as an NBC newswoman and, since 2003, first lady of California. The Shrivers also had four sons — Bobby, Timothy, Mark and Paul Anthony. They also had 19 grandchildren.



BIKES
FROM PAGE 1

enue operations manager. There's no official count of cyclists in Santa Monica, but it's clear that number represents a small fraction of the total.

Several cycling advocates on Monday urged the council to abolish the law, and the five council members who were present (Bob Holbrook and Bobby Shriver did not attend) quickly complied.

Before the meeting, Michael Cahn, a member of the cycling advocacy group Santa Monica Spoke, posted an argument for repeal on the organization's website.

"This is a program designed for non-compliance," he wrote. "Since so few bikes are licensed, the program gives the police the opportunity to target cyclists, especially those who look like they may be carrying drug paraphernalia in their back-packs. This targeting of the population of cyclists is not in the public interest, and not fair."

City Hall will continue to register bikes, and for the time being will waive the $3 fee.

Patterson said a small processing fee for joining the voluntary registry could be reinstated at a later date.

> **"I THINK THIS VOTE BY THE COUNCIL IS A MILESTONE TOWARDS MAKING CYCLING EASY AND SIMPLE FOR EVERYBODY."**
>
> Michael Cahn,
> Bicycle advocate

After the meeting, Cahn applauded the decision.

"I think this vote by the council is a milestone towards making cycling easy and simple for everybody," he said. "I myself lost a bike to a thief last year. The bike community now looks forward to working with the city to address bike theft with education, more and better bike parking, and sting operations."

The council's decision to drop the mandatory registration program came despite a recommendation from city staff to keep the program and adjust the fees and penalties associated with it.

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2 teens wounded at Gardena High when gun in backpack goes off

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A gun in a 10th-grader's backpack discharged Tuesday when he dropped the bag, wounding two students at a high school, including one who remained in critical condition, police said.

A 15-year-old girl with a head wound underwent hours of surgery at Los Angeles County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, said Dr. Gail V. Anderson Jr. A 15-year-old boy was in serious condition with neck and shoulder wounds.

Both teens were hit with the same bullet, Los Angeles deputy police chief Patrick Gannon said.

John Deasy, deputy superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, said there was no indication the student had touched the gun before it discharged.

"He literally dropped his knapsack on the desk and it went off," Deasy said.

Gannon said the student apologized before running to another classroom.

"He said, 'I'm sorry,' when the gun went off. It made it appear to the teacher that it was an accident," Gannon said.

Still, Los Angeles police Lt. John Pasquariello said it was a crime to bring a gun to campus. The unidentified student was arrested and charges were pending, he said.

"We don't know exactly what happened," Pasquariello said. "Traditionally, guns don't go off without someone's finger on the trigger."

The shooting occurred in a classroom at Gardena High School, where Principal Rudy Mendoza said students were on a break at the time. The campus was locked down after the incident. Police initially reported a shooter was at large.

Student Semaj Elan was in an adjacent classroom when the shooting occurred.

"My friend came up to me in the classroom talking about how she almost got shot. They're gonna be traumatized by that," Elan said.

Numerous law enforcement agencies responded to the 2,400-student campus about 15 miles south of downtown Los Angeles.

Nelda Robledo, one of the worried parents who gathered near the school, said her 16-year-old daughter texted her that students were ordered to get down on the ground or hide in a corner after the shooting.

If the student is released on bail, the school will recommend to the district disciplinary office that he be suspended, district spokeswoman Gayle Pollard-Terry said. The office also could recommend expulsion, which would have to be approved by the school board.

Expelled students are referred to the Los Angeles County Office of Education to complete their education.

Shedric Porter, 14, said he was walking past the classroom at the time.

"I didn't see anything, but I heard the shot, and it was really loud," he said. "I stopped. I was scared. Then I thought it was just a book or something hitting the ground, but it was too loud for that."

It's unclear how the student got in with the gun in his backpack, Pollard-Terry said.

Arriving students are checked with security wands on a random basis at Gardena High, she said. No district school is equipped with walkthrough metal detectors.

Several parents said their children had described racial tension at the school.

"There's usually fights everyday, you're going to see blacks against whites and whites against blacks every single day," said Christy Westbrooks, whose 16-year-old daughter attends the school. "Spanish, whites, Samoans — they don't care what race."

Discipline has long been a problem at Gardena, which ranks as one of the district's lowest-performing high schools. Roughly 35 percent of students drop out.

Five years ago, more than 2,000 students were suspended, and 15 students were expelled. Those figures remained high until last year when the number of suspensions dropped to 300 and expulsions to two.

Forming a discipline committee was one of the principal's goals for this year, according to the school's website.

Frantic parents rushed to the school after hearing about the shooting. They paced nervously as they waited behind police tapes for word from their children.

"I've never heard of anything like this before," said Thomas Hill, whose 16-year-old and 18-year-old children attend the school.

Cynthia Cano, 15, said she was in a Mexican-American social studies class when an announcement was made that the school was in lockdown.

"We heard someone got shot. Everyone was freaking out a little," she said in a telephone interview from inside the campus.

Gardena High School was the scene of a shooting in February 2002, when three assailants tried to hold up two students in an outdoor area. Two students were shot.

In the past five years, two students have been expelled for firearms violations at Gardena High.

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Also, beginning February 1, 2011, the **Household Hazardous Waste Center** will be available for drop-off service on **SATURDAYS ONLY**. If the pilot program is successful, the city will transition to a permanent pick-up system in June 2011.
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2 charged with stealing iPad users' information

BY DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. Two men who authorities say were competing to impress their fellow hackers were arrested Tuesday on federal charges they stole the e-mail addresses of more than 100,000 Apple iPad users, including politicians and media personalities.

The theft and the AT&T security weakness that made it possible were revealed months ago, and U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman said there was no evidence the men used the swiped information for criminal purposes. Authorities cautioned, however, that it could theoretically have wound up in the hands of spammers and scam artists.

Daniel Spitler, a 26-year-old bookstore security guard from San Francisco, and Andrew Auernheimer, 25, of Fayetteville, Ark., were charged with fraud and conspiracy to access a computer without authorization.

Fishman said the men and their cohorts were engaged in "malicious one-upsmanship" as they sought to impress each other and others online.

"We don't tolerate committing crimes for street cred," Fishman said. "Computer hacking is not a competitive sport, and security breaches are not a game."

Spitler appeared in federal court in Newark and was released on $50,000 bail. A U.S. magistrate ordered him not to use the Internet except at his job at a Borders bookstore.

"I maintain my innocence and I'm not worried about this case at all," Spitler said outside court. "The information in the complaint is false. This case has been blown way out of proportion."

At Auernheimer's court appearance in Fayetteville — where he also faces drug charges stemming from a search of his home in June — he was ordered held pending a bail hearing on Friday. He told a magistrate that he had been drinking until 6:30 a.m., and he mocked the case against him, telling federal officials in the courtroom, "This is a great affidavit — fantastic reading."

The stolen e-mail addresses, on their own, aren't that valuable; many of them could easily have been guessed by knowing a person's name and how his or her organization structures its e-mail addresses.

But once they knew a person was an iPad owner and an AT&T customer, cybercriminals and spammers could have sent e-mails that looked like they came from Apple or AT&T, tricking the recipient into opening them.

Those e-mails could, in turn, plant malicious software on the recipient's computer or trick the person into sharing vital private information, such as Social Security or credit card numbers.

The criminal complaint against Spitler and Auernheimer details online conversations in which their cohorts discuss selling the addresses to spammers.

"you could put them in a database for spamming for example sell them to spammers," a user named Nstyr wrote to Spitler.

"tru ipad focused spam," Spitler allegedly responded.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

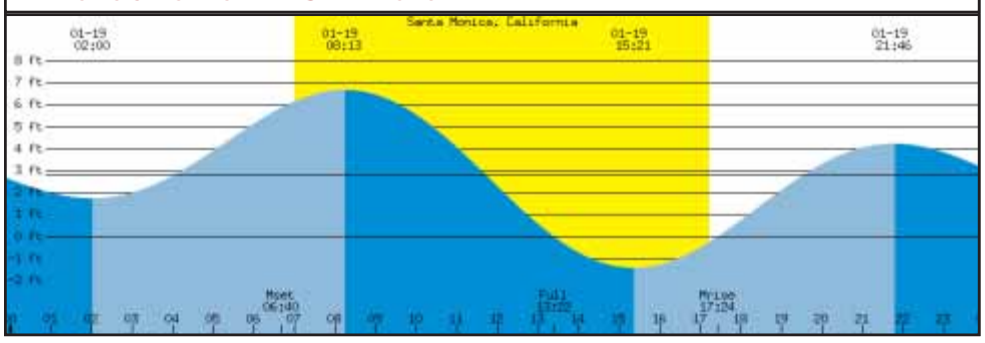
Swell Forecast

Should see the next WNW swell come ashore, bringing west facing breaks into surf running 1-3' overhead, possibly bigger at times at standouts.

Long Range Synopsis

Head high swell at west facing breaks, likely a foot or two overhead on the better sets at standout west facing spots.

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 30 days up to the ending date of **January 12, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 20
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 11
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 32

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	F
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	F
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	D	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	F

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

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 PLAYOFFS

Packers, Jets show what low seeds can do come playoffs

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK The NFL can't be upset with so many upsets in the playoffs.

What better evidence is needed that the "anybody can win at any time" mantra is accurate when two No. 6 seeds are in the conference championship games? And nobody would be shocked to see both the Green Bay Packers and New York Jets in the Super Bowl.

Indeed, the wild-card Packers are favored for Sunday's NFC title game at Soldier Field, home of the champions of their division, the Chicago Bears.

"Yeah, we're championship caliber," Packers linebacker A.J. Hawk said. "But championship caliber to us isn't getting to the NFC championship game. We have a lot higher goals than that. We're where we want to be. We've been saying all year, 'Just give us a chance to get here.' Now, it's up to us."

And up to the Jets to set up the first Super Bowl involving non-division winners.

"The idea is to win the Super Bowl, whether you do it by winning your division or as a wild card," Jets cornerback Darrelle Revis said. "Keep winning."

Long shots going far in the playoffs, even winning Super Bowls, is not unheard of. Consider that since the league went to six playoff teams in 1990 — there were three divisions and three wild cards until 2002 — wild cards have made the title game 14 times. Counting the Packers and Jets, eight of those have occurred since 2005. Two of those wild cards, the 2005 Steelers and 2007 Giants, won the whole thing.

In '05, '08 and this year, a wild card got to the conference championship match. No Super Bowl has featured a pair of non-division winners.

"We have a lot more, our season is bigger than just beating the Falcons and going to the NFC championship game," Packers defensive tackle B.J. Raji said. "We've got bigger goals than that. ... We expect to win no matter where we go."

They go to Chicago, where the Bears beat them 20-17 in Week 3, a horrendous performance in which Green Bay set a team record with 18 penalties. And barely lost.

The Packers won 10-3 at Lambeau Field in the season finale to clinch their wild-card spot.

Start your New Year off right!
Make your Business a Priority in 2011
Join the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce at our upcoming events and meet your next best customer

Chamber Membership Orientation
Interested in what the Chamber can do for you? Looking to take advantage of all that your membership has to offer? Get answers to all your questions here!
Thursday, January 13 | 5 – 6pm | At the Chamber Office
Free entrance for all – RSVP preferred

Business@Sunset Mixer
With over 120 members in attendance each month, this is the perfect opportunity to food, drinks & networking on the beautiful Santa Monica Place Dining Deck! Hosted by La Sandia & ZENGO restaurants with the PeBL Committee (Professionals Emerging as Business Leaders)
Wednesday, January 19 | 5:30 – 7:30pm | La Sandia & ZENGO
Member Presale $10 | Member at the Door $15 | Future Members $25

Speed Networking
A fast paced event that allows you to network for 3 minutes one-on-one with everyone in the room!
Tuesday, January 25 | 5 – 6:30pm | At the Chamber Office
Member $10 | Future Members $25

State of the City 2011
Santa Monica: Passport to Success
Change is coming! Join the Chamber with our host Santa Monica College & local leaders as we discuss the future of our city – services, projects & plans that ensure Santa Monica as the premier destination for business. Includes a continental breakfast, a message from City Manager Rod Gould & panel of Alliance businesses on how they are surviving & thriving.
Thursday, January 27 | 7:30am Breakfast, 8am Program | The Eli & Edythe Broad Stage
Member Presale $40 | Future Members $50 | At the Door $60
Students & Seniors $10 | Group Rates Available

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

There's Always Tomorrow (NR) 1hr 24min
7:30pm
Discussion following with actresses Pat Crowley & Gigi Perreau.

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Somewhere (R) 1hr 38min
12:05pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Dilemma (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:15pm, 4:00pm, 6:35pm, 9:15pm

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
4:10pm, 9:20pm

Gulliver's Travels 3D (PG) 1hr 25min
1:55pm, 7:00pm

AMC Santa Monica 7
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Little Fockers (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:50pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (NR) 2hrs 07min
12:40pm, 3:40pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Dilemma (PG-13) 1hr 58min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
11:15am, 2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:15pm

Country Strong (PG-13) 1hr 52min
1:15pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:20pm, 10:05pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Concert (Le concert) (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:00pm

King's Speech (R) 1 hour 58 min
1:10pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:30pm, 9:50pm

Casino Jack (R) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Inside Job (PG-13) 1hr 48min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Giselle (Ballet) (NR)
11:30am

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 2hrs
12:00pm, 2:40pm, 4:05pm, 5:25pm, 7:00pm, 8:15pm, 9:45pm

Tangled in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
12:00pm, 2:25pm, 4:50pm, 7:15pm

Season of the Witch (PG-13) 1hr 38min
2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm, 10:00pm

Yogi Bear (PG) 1hr 22min
1:45pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:05pm, 9:55pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Could be a late night, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Pressure builds. Fundamentally, you are attempting to cover too many bases. There appears to be no solution until late day or tomorrow. Recognize that much of the situation emanates from your judgment of how matters should be handled. Tonight: Paint the town red.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You move through one message, request or act with speed. Recognize that you have more than your share on your plate. Information heads in your direction, indicating that a decision was made with all the facts. Tonight: Head home quickly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Juggling many concerns, you wonder where the path to simplicity is. Handle all that you must now, and ponder the issue later. A boss might be more supportive of your plight than you thought. Be careful, and funnel anger appropriately. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ The Full Moon energy in your sign helps motivate you. Curb wildness and risking, which is more likely at this juncture. Understand another's plight, but identify with the person. Detach if frustrated for now. Tonight: Where the action is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ If you do not have the answer or cannot come up with a solution, say so, allowing others to intervene. You could be in a position that is most uncomfortable otherwise. By late afternoon, you feel much better. Now you are verbal, stating your opinions. Tonight: Tell it as it is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Others certainly will go along with your ideas. A meeting could turn an opponent into a compatriot. This person might have wanted to reverse his or her position for a while. Tonight: Take some much-needed private time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ What becomes clear is that you are not capable of handling all the surprises heading your direction and completing a key project. A creative solution comes forward. Do follow through on this idea. You are more effective with a little less heat in your life. Tonight: Time for a special friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Investigate possibilities that you were not aware of previously. An impulsive or risky decision just might work. Know, however, that if it should fail, the responsibility will be yours. Honor your need to accomplish certain rituals every day. Tonight: Could be late.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Working with individuals proves most effective at the moment. The problem arises when you hit a rebellious or controlling individual. You might want to toss a project at that point. Endurance pays off. Late afternoon, detach from the immediate. Tonight: Jog while listening to music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Defer to those who seem to have the power. If you fight city hall, all you do is waste your energy. Your perception is more insightful than many, though the timing might not be right. Play the waiting game. Late afternoon, a partner or loved one wants to talk. Tonight: Dinner for two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ At first, you might be uncomfortable with what is requested. You might not have a choice, as the unexpected bubbles up. Be sensitive to a friend's request, but remember your needs. Others could test your limits. Tonight: Where people are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Others find you bold but unpredictable, not really who you are. As a result, you could be asked to run with the ball on a project. Feel free to say "no," as you are so unpredictable! An associate sees a situation with not only a different perspective but more depth. Tonight: Go for a workout.

Happy birthday

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

This year you will change course. Others can be difficult, and you find relating one on one to be better. You will resist groups and group meetings. Pressure builds between your needs and the needs of the group. If single, Cupid arrives in your neighborhood this summer. Perhaps his first arrow might not catch you, but by your next birthday, it very well might. If attached, you start acting like newlyweds again after you move through a volatile issue. LEO understands much more than you think.

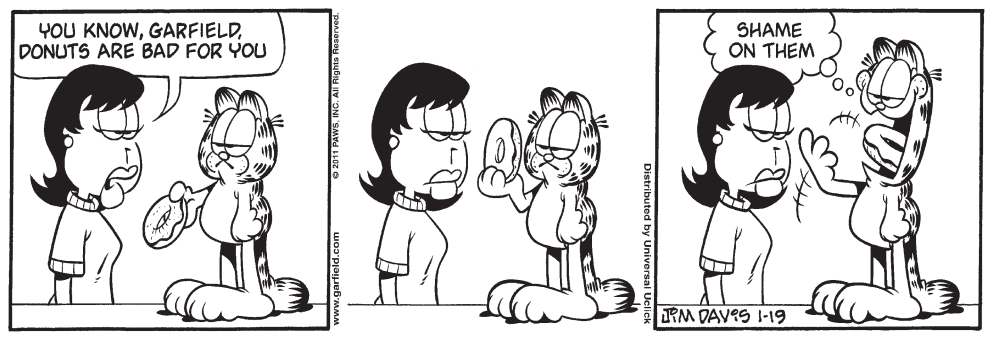


MYSTERY PHOTO

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

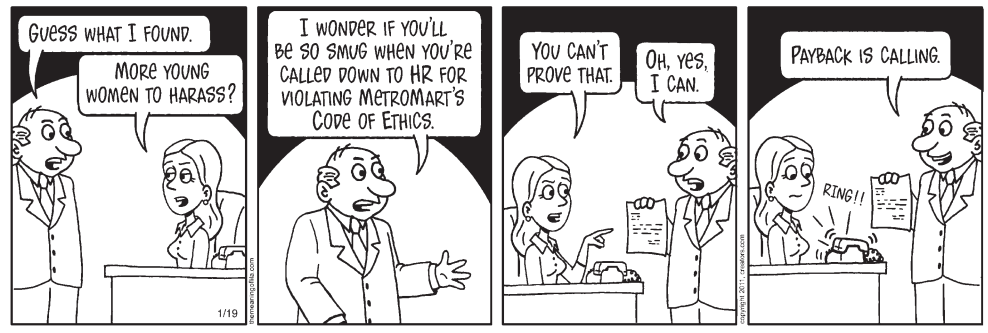
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



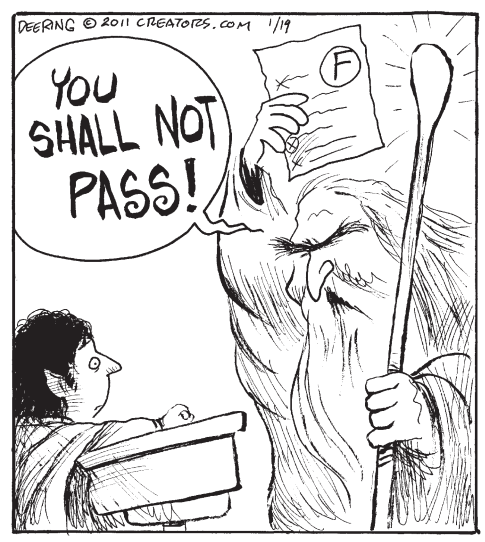
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Meal in a shell
5 Radio show format
11 Revered one
12 For each
13 Moniker
14 Like some tires
15 Guitar booster
16 Shrewd
17 Bring together
19 Truck part
22 Soda bottle size
24 Compo-ser's creation
26 Dane of "Grey's Anatomy"
27 Forebod-ing sign
28 Word of German gratitude
30 Bolivian city
31 Director Lee
32 Bartlett's snippet
34 Wrath
35 Summit
38 Travel woe
41 Jaunty greeting
42 Fly high
43 "Put a lid —!"
44 On the FBI's list
45 Swelled heads

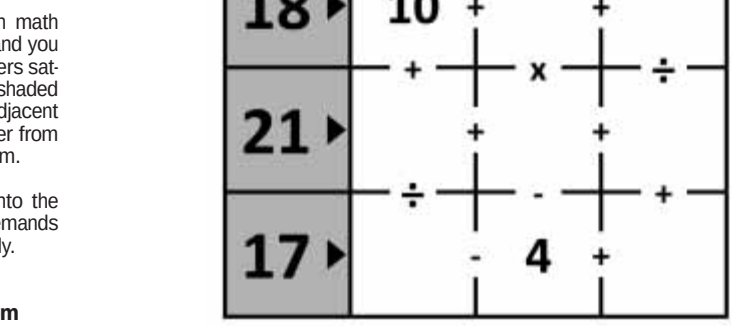
DOWN

1 Fey of "30 Rock"
2 First person
3 Using a PC
4 Flamenco cry
5 Labrador explorer
6 Summits
7 Easter symbol
8 Rent out
9 Drink cooler
10 Homer's neighbor
16 Fragrant tree
18 Bottle part
19 Acting as a rival
20 Vicinity
21 Julie of "No Ordinary Family"
22 Helen's mother
23 Persia, today
25 Winter wear
29 Compare
30 Myrna of movies
33 Prodded
34 Level
36 Columbus setting
37 Kitchen collection
38 Mouth part
39 Juan Perón's wife
40 Badge metal
41 Garden tool

C	L	A	W	■	■	B	O	I	S	E
R	O	M	E	O	■	A	U	N	T	S
I	N	E	E	D	E	D	T	H	A	T
M	E	L	■	E	A	U	■	A	B	A
P	R	I	E	S	T	■	S	L	A	T
■	S	A	L	S	A	■	P	E	T	E
■	■	■	L	A	N	C	E	■	■	■
B	I	T	E	■	D	R	A	P	E	■
A	N	O	N	■	R	E	R	U	N	S
S	A	L	■	C	U	E	■	S	C	I
I	S	E	C	O	N	D	T	H	A	T
C	E	D	A	R	■	S	O	U	S	A
S	C	O	T	T	■	■	O	P	E	R

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



1-19

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 11

Solution for Task 527

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 2 15 17 33 35 Meganumber: 8 Jackpot: $40M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 15 28 29 41 45 Meganumber: 17 Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5: 2 7 12 18 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 6 5 EVENING: 2 1 9

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 11 Money Bags 3rd: 03 Hot Shot RACE TIME: 1:49.45

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Among the Major League Baseball players (average salary: about $3.3 million) who spent time on the disabled list in 2010: Kendry Morales (Angels), who broke his leg jumping on home plate after hitting a home run; Brian Roberts (Orioles), who was out a week with a concussion when he smacked himself in the head with his bat after striking out; Chris Coghlan (Marlins), who needed knee surgery after giving a teammate a playful post-game shaving-cream pie; and Geoff Blum (Astros), who needed elbow surgery after straining his arm putting on his shirt.

■ Robert Hurst, 47, was charged after an incident at the cemetery in Picayune, Miss., pursuing his hobby of "orb photography" -- capturing the images of circles of light at night, especially the ones that appear to him as faces. Hurst was spotted one night in December, naked, setting up his camera, thus giving rise to a charge of indecent exposure. He explained that he thought bare skin would be the "best canvas" for orb photography.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1953 68% of all television sets in the United States are tuned in to I Love Lucy to watch Lucy give birth.

1969 Student Jan Palach dies after setting himself on fire 3 days earlier in Prague's Wenceslas Square to protest the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union in 1968. His funeral turned into another major protest.

1975 An earthquake strikes Himachal Pradesh, India

1977 President Gerald Ford pardons Iva Toguri D'Aquino (a.k.a. "Tokyo Rose").

1977 Snow falls in Miami, Florida. This is the only time in the history of the city that snow has fallen. It also fell in the Bahamas.

1978 The last Volkswagen Beetle made in Germany leaves VW's plant in Emden. Beetle production in Latin America would continue until 2003.

1981 Iran Hostage Crisis: United States and Iranian officials sign an agreement to release 52 American hostages after 14 months of captivity.

WORD UP!

concupiscible \ kon-KYOO-pi-suh-buhl \ , adjective;
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