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FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2009

Volume 7 Issue 372



LOOKING THE PART
SEE PAGE 10

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE DO THE MATH ISSUE

MTA moves Subway to the Sea forward

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Press

DOWNTOWN L.A. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority approved the exploration of two possible routes for the proposed subway to Santa Monica on Thursday, allowing the project to move forward into its next phase.

Decision makers winnowed down the number of proposed routes from about 17 to two, one running down Wilshire Boulevard and the other connected to the Metro Red Line through Hollywood via Santa Monica Boulevard.

The board decision authorizes engineers to conduct an additional study to assess the environmental impacts and engineering needs of the projects.

"What was approved … was a broad, general level," said Jody Litvak, the program lead for the Westside. "For instance, we may say that there should be a station in Westwood. Now comes the hard work of where in Westwood, what are the benefits and how to connect it to the system."

After this process is complete, the next step is to choose a locally preferred alternative, meaning that one of the two routes will

SEE SUBWAY PAGE 8

'Extreme Makeover' star offers reward

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN Ty Pennington, the vivacious host of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," is offering a $10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a hit-and-run driver.

Daniel Seeck, a cousin of Pennington's co-manager, was struck early Saturday at the corner of Arizona Avenue and 20th Street while riding a bicycle between 12:10 a.m. and 12:25 a.m., according to the Santa Monica Police Department.

Seeck, a 33-year-old attorney, was going

SEE REWARD PAGE 8



Byron Kennerly *news@smdp.com*

STABLE ENROLLMENT: **Students leave St. Monica Catholic High School on Wednesday. Enrollment at many private schools is steady despite the ailing economy, however many are seeing requests for financial aid increase. Middle class families are often those asking for assistance.**

Despite sluggish economy, private schools doing fine

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE As the economy forces locals to save money — cutting vacations and frivolous expenditures — one area that has remained relatively unaffected by the downturn is private education.

In a city packed with independent institutions, whether it's parochial like Saint Anne School or specialized like Crossroads School, the cost of paying tuition has deterred few families.

It's a reflection of what's occurring nationally where private schools are reporting a stable enrollment level during unstable economic times.

"It's not playing out as you might expect," Myra McGovern, spokeswoman for the National Association of Independent Schools, said. "Many people expected that the number of students enrolled in independent schools would go down and that has not happened yet."

One reason is because many non-public schools follow a similar admissions timeline as colleges, from the application deadlines in January to the tuition deposits that are typically due in late spring. That would mean many families already paid a deposit well in advance of the stock market crisis in the fall.

But the future remains to be seen.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District recently released its projected enrollment figures for the 2009-10 academic year, showing levels slightly decreasing. Officials said they believe the economy is playing a part in keeping the enrollment levels relatively stable given the current moratorium on students who don't reside in either cities, hearing about cases of families who switched this year from private to public schools because the tuition was cost prohibitive.

Yet many Santa Monica private schools report that enrollment has remained roughly the same from the previous year, some even seeing an increase.

Such has been the case for Saint Anne School, a Catholic, K-8 institution that has welcomed more students from other private schools.

"I think in part it's because we offer what is considered a more affordable alternative

SEE SCHOOLS PAGE 7


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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Keeping up with Mars
Santa Monica College John Drescher Planetarium
1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"Mars Exploration Update" will look at how our overall picture of Mars has evolved with incredible speed, due to the flood of information coming to Earth from three landing missions and three orbiters. We will also preview upcoming missions for the Red Planet. For information, call (310) 434-4223 or (310) 434-3000.

Book signing
Mystic Journey Bookstore
1319 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 6:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Join us for a book signing with internationally renowned, award winning author Sharon Jeffers. Her new book, "Love and Destiny," is based on an ancient mystic science that reveals the hidden secrets that exist within our relationships, and gives you step-by-step guidance regarding relationship choices, compatibility, and more.

Nuclear cancer
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8:00 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.
"Made Me Nuclear" is Charlie Lustman's humorous one man pop music operetta about surviving cancer. Written and performed by Charlie Lustman. Directed by Chris DeCarlo. Every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. until Jan. 31. For more information, call (310) 394-9779.

Saturday, Jan. 24, 2009

Time to team up
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 10:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Do you want to get in shape? Do you want to meet new people? Do you want to make a difference in the world? If you answered "yes" to any of those questions then you should check out this event. Team In Training is the world's first charity sports training program — and the only one to offer a full complement of exciting, sports training options. For information, call (310) 846-4727.

2009 Homeless Count Volunteer Training
Santa Monica Main Library, MLK Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
The Santa Monica Human Services Department is seeking volunteers to assist in the 2009 biennial census of homeless people in Santa Monica. The census will occur on Tuesday, Jan. 27 from 8 p.m. — 2 a.m. but volunteers are encouraged to first attend a training session. For information, call (310) 458-8701.

'Cinderella: The Musical'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Audiences help romance bloom in this internationally acclaimed musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a charming prince, zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. For information, call (310) 394-9779 ext 651.

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.





SHOT CALLER

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School's Hope Clement (right) tries to get a shot off against Beverly Hills defender Rebecca Yukelson on Thursday at Samohi. The Samohi Vikings won the Ocean League match, 8-1, improving its record to 10-7 overall and 4-0 in league play.

Commission backs rejecting coastal oil drilling

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Staff members of the State Lands Commission have recommended rejecting a request to lease land to a company that wants to expand oil drilling off the coast of Santa Barbara.

Citing environmental and other concerns in a report issued late Wednesday, staff said providing the state-owned property off the coast of Santa Barbara to Plains Exploration & Production Co. is not in California's best interests.

"The commission has established a policy that offshore oil drilling in California is less beneficial to the state than the things that might be harmed by it," executive officer Paul Thayer wrote. "It's in that context that staff made the recommendations."

The agency is set to consider the request next Thursday. Critics in the state Assembly and Coastal Commission have challenged the proposal, saying it could encourage even more drilling in the future.

The recommendation came as a surprise to Santa Barbara environmental groups that lobbied hard for the project.

In a landmark partnership, the anti-oil groups agreed last year to support the project in exchange for promises by the company to shut down its local operations within 14 years and give away thousands of acres of land.

"Our fear is that we'll lose all these benefits if this project is denied," said Linda Krop, an attorney who represents the Environmental Defense Center, Get Oil Out! and Citizens Planning Association of Santa Barbara.

Krop hopes the groups can still persuade the commission to issue permits to drill.

Scott Winters, a spokesman for the company, did not immediately return phone calls.

Firm helps Televisa win $600M settlement

BY RYAN NAKASHIMA AND E.J. TÁMARA
Associated Press Writers

LOS ANGELES Grupo Televisa SAB said Thursday that it had won concessions it valued at more than $600 million from Univision Communications Inc. in a settlement that capped a four-year lawsuit that rattled the Hispanic TV market in the United States.

Televisa, the dominant Mexican producer of telenovelas, had sued Univision, alleging the U.S. broadcasting giant excluded certain programs from a 25-year deal that called for Univision to share its advertising revenue with Televisa, even from shows that weren't made by Televisa.

On the morning before Televisa Chief Executive Emilio Azcarraga Jean was to take the witness stand in a federal jury trial, the companies announced a settlement.

Televisa's lead lawyer Marshall Grossman said Univision agreed to pay Televisa $25 million, plus give it advertising time worth $65 million a year through the end of the deal, an estimated $585 million value.

"All of the issues we have been litigating here have effectively been resolved in our favor," said Grossman, of the Santa Monica, offices of Bingham McCutchen LLP.

Univision had already paid $21.5 million under protest, but it would drop the protest and add $3.5 million in cash, Grossman said.

Univision would gain "incremental rights" to Televisa programming, according to a joint statement.

"We are pleased that today's settlement concludes this time-consuming litigation," the companies said in the statement. "It assures the public that Univision will continue to have access to consistently top quality Hispanic programming. It enables Televisa to continue utilizing Univision's extensive television networks as an important distribution channel for its content into the U.S. marketplace."

The settlement also clarifies that virtually all programs will be covered by the companies' ad-sharing deal, with some key excep-

SEE **SETTLEMENT** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Hoping the district will change

Editor:

Dear Mr. Bauer,

Thank you for your informative piece regarding the on-going controversies with SMMUSD finances, special ed practices and school polices in your "My Write" column of Jan. 19, 2009. The coverage that you've provided on these issues has proved extremely helpful in keeping SMMUSD parents, both general and special ed alike, informed and inspired to make certain their legitimate concerns are heard. The City Council's unanimous decision for full release of the funds on Jan. 13 was expressly conditioned on continued council oversight and the threat of withholding funds in the future (e.g. under the Joint Use Agreement). Given the substantial increase in the district's legal fees from fighting parents of special ed children trying to secure their rights to a fair and appropriate education, I'm fearful that the trust upon which the council decided to release the funds is misplaced. I hope I'm wrong. In light of the inauguration, maybe there's hope the district will change and right past wrongs by making good on its promise to eliminate the culture of fear that prevailed during the old regime and, based on statements made by parents at the meeting, still lingers today. Hopefully, under a new superintendent and administration, real cultural change can occur which would no doubt be evidenced by a substantial reduction or, dare I say, elimination in attorney fees.

Joe Harris
Santa Monica

Breaking a New Year's resolution

Editor:

[On] Jan. 21, 2009 I broke my New Year's resolution to not read Mr. Breen's Republican rants. I skimmed it to the end where I saw two irresistible statements written by Mr. Breen and quoted below:

1. Mr. Breen: "I can't really comment much about Obama's record of achievement. He has to actually do something first as president rather than win the Mr. Congeniality Award."

Wow. President Obama at this moment in time is experiencing his first day in office, and already he's not moving fast enough for Mr. Breen. Let's see, hopefully President Obama can spare some time from the vast mess he has to clean up left by [former President Bush] in order to actually work on his own agenda.

2. Mr. Breen: "It is my promise that I will treat the 44th president with all the same respect and deference that the 43rd president enjoyed."

If President Obama acts and presents himself in the same stupid, smirky, arrogant and dangerous way the 43rd President did, then he will deserve it. But don't hold your breath, Mr. Breen.

That said, I am renewing my vow to quit reading the obnoxious Mr. Breen. I'm too thrilled with the brilliant and ethical man in the White House to let him or Rush Limbaugh and their ilk to spoil it. And now that layoffs are occurring perhaps when the postal service can do without Mr. Breen's services thanks to the economic mess left by No. 43, Mr. Breen can then fly to Texas and read "The Pet Goat" to Mr. Bush. He never got to finish it on 9/11 when he sat there and stared into space as the terrorists he'd been warned about actually did what they said they'd do.

Ellen Brennan
Santa Monica



Your column here

Pete Peterson — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Taking it to the people

AS THEY STRUGGLE TO COPE WITH THE state's budget crisis, leaders in local communities throughout California can't turn to the Federal Reserve or the U.S. Treasury for a bailout.

Instead, they're being forced to make painful decisions about what services to preserve and which ones to trim or cut altogether. Faced with such difficult choices, a growing number of cities and school districts are trying to involve local citizens more directly in the decision making process.

The late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan once cynically called involving citizens in local government decisions "a device whereby public officials induce non-public individuals to act in a way the public officials desire."

But that was said several decades ago. Today, the budget crisis along with a growing number of successful civic engagement projects around city budgets both inside and outside California, are proving that involving citizens can be done legitimately and productively.

In 2005, facing a structural deficit of $2.9 million deficit, the City of Menlo Park realized that it needed to reach out to its residents to both inform them of the tough choices ahead and to solicit their feedback. The project, entitled, "Your City/Your Decision" involved mailing out actual budget sheets with line items and dollar figures to every home in the city. Over 1,600 of these were returned, becoming the basis of a series of face-to-face workshops with residents and public officials. The results of these deliberations informed the eventual decisions made by the City Council.

In 2006, Morgan Hill also battled a multi-million dollar shortfall. The city manager and city council invited its residents to a series of "Community Conversations" — 2 1/2 hour facilitated discussions about the future of the city and what balance of service cuts and revenue increases they would be willing to incur.

Over 300 people participated in the workshops, which were designed in coordination between city officials and the civic engagement firm, Viewpoint Learning out of San Diego. Rather than debating over particular line items, these dialogues centered on various "visions" for Morgan Hill — each with consequent budgetary implications.

This past summer, the organization I direct, Common Sense California, conducted a first-of-its-kind Citizen Engagement Grant Program. In about three months, we received over 70 submissions from around the state seeking financial and technical assistance to launch civic engagement projects on issues ranging from city budgeting to school district curriculum decisions. We have already awarded over a half-dozen "Catalyst Grants" (of up to $7,500) to cities like Brea and La Habra in Orange County, which are planning participatory budgeting projects, and Colma (pop. 1,600) in the Bay Area, which is convening its residents to formulate a citywide economic development plan.

Local government leaders are realizing that it makes more sense to involve their citizenry in the process from the beginning to avoid having to deal with criticism after the fact, or even having to undo decisions and start all over again, but they are also reaping other social capital benefits.

As one Southern California city manager recently told me about a civic involvement project in his city, "Honestly, my senior staff and I could have that [budget issue] fixed in about 10 minutes, but there would be … no understanding and no community building. Plus we've all done it that way for years and it ain't that fun. This is."

The challenge is how to encourage citizen participation in a way that constructively contributes to the decision-making process, and isn't just viewed as an irritation or worse by local officials, nor a lobbying effort by residents. Reviewing the many Californian civic participation projects over the last few years, we've learned that legitimate efforts have similar components.

First, there is a true willingness on the part of city leaders to intentionally incorporate the results of the dialogues into their decision-making process. Next, there is an agreement between city leaders and civic "stakeholders" on the information and questions, which will be presented to the general public.

Next, there is an intensive outreach effort to elicit a fair representation of the community. Third, rather than the standard "town meeting" scenario, the community conversation is a structured and facilitated dialogue between residents, as well as between residents and city officials.

As California's budget crisis deepens, there are now compelling reasons for our state's leaders to engage their residents in the difficult policy decisions facing their cities and school districts. Seeking the input of the fully informed citizen has never been more crucial.

PETE PETERSON is Executive Director of Common Sense California, and lectures on civic engagement at Pepperdine's School of Public Policy.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A new era begins

I'M NOT A FAN OF MOST PRESIDENTIAL inaugurals. For one thing, the candidate I vote for rarely wins. So, watching the newly anointed president and his wife dancing cheek-to-cheek isn't exactly my idea of must-see-TV. It's a reminder to buy eight years worth of batteries for the TV remote so I will always be "flip the channel" ready. This inaugural, however, was inspiring and emotional for hundreds of millions.

I doubt I wept at Reagan's inauguration though I should have. It marked the beginning of the end for unions and the rise of conservatism (an era that I'm hoping, that may have finally ended with Bush's spectacular flameout).

Whether one voted for Obama or not, his inauguration was clearly historic. Braving the brutal cold, 2 million people attended. Perhaps it was 400 years in the making. History books often ignore that when the White House was originally built, much of the labor force was comprised of slaves. All these years later, to have a black president, whose wife is a descendent of those slaves, hopefully will be healing for everyone.

In the past I've been called less than patriotic because I don't shout about America being number one in the world. The sad truth is, we aren't anymore. In education, infant mortality, life expectancy, crime, healthcare and dozens of other indicators, it's more like, "We're number 49." But to elect a black president in a country with a white majority signifies the America that, despite the GITMOs and Abu Ghraibs, much of the rest of world still longs to look up to.

Obama's inaugural was broadcast all over the world. It's such an uplifting change to see foreigners waving American flags that aren't on fire. The commercialism, however, I could do without. Obama silver dollars, mugs and dishes. I admire Obama enormously but I don't want to eat off his smiling face.

The inaugural week reminds me of Super Bowl week without the football. Democrats may not know how to win that often, but they know how to put on a show. Performers included U-2 and Bono, Bruce Springsteen, Sheryl Crow, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Beyoncé, James Taylor and Garth Brooks.

If McCain had won, the entertainment might have been Ted Nugent and Pat Boone. And maybe John Ashcroft would have sung, "Let the Eagles Soar" which has been known to shatter glass. Instead of waterboarding Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, it might have been more effective to have had Ashcroft sing to him.

The inaugural concerts are spectacular and the dinners are lavish. The swearing in ceremony itself is rather regal, followed by an evening filled with grand balls. It's as though we never quite gave up the whole monarchy thing. Our president isn't inaugurated, he (or one day, she) is coronated. Then the next day we dump on him.

This swearing in ceremony had a slight glitch, however. Actually, not so slight. Chief Justice Roberts memorized the oath, or so he thought. He goofed so badly they had to repeat it the next day. (Roberts got a mulligan, so to speak.) It was considered necessary otherwise the wing nuts who still claim Obama wasn't born in the U.S. could say he didn't repeat the exact oath and therefore isn't legally president.

Some of those nuts may be readers of mine. (Or Steve Breen's aliases.) Since Obama's landslide election I've gotten a number of nasty e-mails. I had written about how Obama had graciously thrown a dinner in honor of John McCain. One reader wrote back, "But a spade is still a SPADE." She made the second "spade" all caps so I'd be sure to get the so-called joke. If you don't, consider yourself lucky. The sheer ignorance depressed me for days.

Bush was booed at the inaugural, which was unfortunate. But, with 2 million people in attendance and Bush's abysmal record, I'm relieved rotten vegetables weren't involved. Dick Cheney was there too but in a wheel chair. He injured his back moving a box. (Or maybe it was shredding documents?)

Obama and Bush couldn't be more different, but that's often the norm. Ike was old and JFK was young. Nixon lied while Carter was born-again. Bush 41 was a blueblood and Clinton was country. Clinton was a workaholic/sexaholic and Bush 43 took vacations and naps. W often speaks like English is a second language while Obama is often poetic.

At the People's Ball, Obama asked the audience, "Isn't my wife beautiful?" Living with three females he's picked up a few pointers. I'm impressed with Michelle and the girls are precious, but maybe the puppy should be a male for balance?

Now the party is over and the work begins. Two wars, Gaza, a recession, melting icecaps, and bailouts. Obama has the most overwhelming "To Do List" of any president in history. Meanwhile, Bush still naps.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

No butts

The City Council recently approved a ban on smoking in the common areas of multi-unit residences.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you agree with the decision or do you think the ban goes to far?

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.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: January 28, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible) Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB 08-350, 1800 Stewart Street: Industrial (Continued by Applicant)
- ARB 08-461, 2100 Colorado Avenue: Commercial
- ARB 08-546, 2344 Pico Boulevard: Commercial
- ARB 08-454, 1518 Eleventh Street: Multi-Residential (Continued by Staff)
- ARB 08-497, 3001 Wilshire Boulevard: Commercial (Continued by Staff)

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). Call 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 for disability accommodation requests. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9, serve City Hall.

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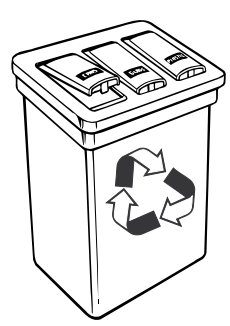
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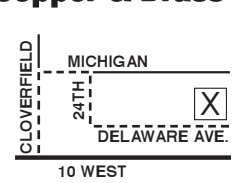


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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

When push comes to a bottle over the head

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SUNDAY, JAN. 18, AT 1:15 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 2900 block of Main Street – Main on Main – after being flagged down by witnesses to a brawl who said a woman was hit over the head with a bottle and was bleeding. Officers located the victim, who told them she was inside a bar when she was struck in the head by a glass bottle. She said she was pushed by another woman while in the bar. She pushed the woman back and was struck. She followed the suspect out of the bar and officers detained her as she tried to board a taxi. Officers placed the suspect under arrested for assault with a deadly weapon. The suspect was identified as Angela Archuletta, 24, of Santa Monica. Bail was set at $30,000.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17, AT 11:59 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding a theft that just occurred. Officers made contact with store security who said they saw an employee removing cash from his register. Security conducted an audit of the registrar and found additional money was missing from the previous week. It is estimated the total loss was $660. Police placed the employee under arrest for embezzlement. He was identified as Anthony Dwayne Blackburn, 44, from Los Angeles. His bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16, AT 7:45 A.M.,
Narcotics officers served a search warrant at two residences in Los Angeles, including one in the 4000 block of Don Luis Drive. Officers yielded narcotics, handguns, and stolen property. One of the homes searched was being used as a grow house for marijuana, police said. Officers removed 134 plants from the house. Three suspects were arrested. Wells Hsu, 30, of Los Angeles was booked for possession of stolen property, possession of marijuana for sale, possession of cocaine and methamphetamines for sale. His bail was set at $30,000. Joe Hsu, 20, of Los Angeles was booked for marijuana cultivation. Bail was set at $10,000. Kristen Garcia, 25, also of Los Angeles, was booked for two felony narcotics warrants. Her bail was set at $70,000.

FRIDAY JAN. 16, AT 8:05 P.M.,
Officers responded to a report of a strong arm robbery that just occurred in the 200 block of Broadway. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who said he was robbed by three suspects. One took his cell phone and boarded a Big Blue Bus. Officers later detained the suspect and he was positively identified by the victim. The cell phone was recovered. At the time of the arrest, the two other suspects were still at large and were described as African-American males, 19 years old, standing six feet tall. The suspect arrested was identified as Quinten D'Angelo Johnson, 19, from Santa Monica. His bail was set at $50,000.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15, AT 5:03 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1500 block of Second Street regarding a report of a subject causing a disturbance inside McDonald's. When officers arrived, they spoke with employees at the restaurant who said the suspect became irate when he was told to produce a receipt if he wanted a refill on his coffee. The suspect allegedly pushed a glass display off the counter, causing it to break. He left the restaurant and was detained a short time later by officers. He was positively identified by a restaurant employee and booked for vandalism, violation of probation and for outstanding warrants. The suspect was identified as Galen McCall, 57, a transient. His bail was set at $7,000.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14,
Officers arrested and booked a suspect wanted for allegedly trying to purchase Vicodin using a false prescription. Police said the suspect was an employee at Saint John's Health Center and stole a prescription pad from the hospital. The suspect was booked for attempting to obtain drugs by using a forged prescription. The suspect was identified as Donald Gerard Gloisten, 41, of Encino.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13, AT 5:20 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Bank of America – regarding a report of fraud. When officers arrived, they bank manager pointed out a female customer who was trying to cash a check for $9,000 using an account that had seen a lot of activity that day. Officers spoke with the suspect about the check. The bank received additional information that another person was attempting to cash a check using that account at another bank. Officers contacted the number on the check to be cashed to speak with the victim, but spoke to a man they believed was in on the crime. The female suspect was placed under arrest and booked for fraud, grand theft, forgery, and conspiracy to commit a felony. She was identified as Caprisha Latique Williams, 23, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at $20,000.

MONDAY, JAN. 12, AT 7:46 A.M.,
Officers responded to a call of a commercial burglary in progress in the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard – Ralphs. When officers arrived, they made contact with the store manager who said he recognized the suspect from previous thefts and watched him closely as he walked through the store and place merchandise in a cart before walking out without paying for the items. The manager confronted the suspect outside the store and a struggle ensued. The manager said the suspect had in his possession four bottles of champagne valued at $241.35. Officers detained the suspect and discovered he was also in possession of stolen gift cards, police said. He was also in possession of a glass pipe commonly used to smoke drugs. He was booked for commercial burglary, possession of stolen property, possession of drug paraphernalia, being under the influence of a controlled substance, violation of probation and two outstanding warrants. He was identified as Mantas Sileikis, 25, from Los Angeles. His bail was set at $75,000.

Editor in Chief KEVIN HERRERA compiled these reports. news@smdp.com

Some private schools see hike in demand for help with tuition

FROM SCHOOLS PAGE 1

private education," Carol O'Day, the director of marketing and development, said.

The tuition at Saint Anne, which is about $3,000 annually per family, is much lower than other schools in Santa Monica that can charge more than $20,000.

The school, which has nearly 200 students, added three families this month. While it has brought in more students, Saint Anne, like many other Catholic institutions, has seen enrollment decline as a whole over the past several years.

One of the more extreme cases of increased enrollment can be seen at PS #1 which has seen a 33 percent jump in new kindergarten students this year.

"They're greater than we have seen in 10 years," Deirdre Gainor, the outreach coordinator, said.

The K-6 school, which has approximately 200 students, charges more than $20,000 for tuition and has actually seen an increase in demand for financial aid.

Several schools report that more families are requesting scholarship information or assistance paying for tuition, putting some institutions that have seen a drop in donations in a difficult situation of turning them away.

Thom Gasper, the principal at St. Monica Catholic High School, said the most requests are coming from middle-class families.

Enrollment overall at the high school has remained stable, losing only a few families who have cited finances as their reason for departure.

The tuition at the school is $6,700 for students who attend a parish in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and $7,300 a year for those who do not. The reason why Catholic families pay less is because a percentage of donations to their respective parishes are funneled back to the schools in the Archdiocese.

"Our challenge is more of how we can keep our tuition low, respond to the need for more financial aid when … the endowment is not bearing interest, and how to keep reaching out to people to support when our return in the investment is not going to do it alone anymore," Gasper said.

> **"I WISH WE HAD AN ENDOWMENT OR SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO HELP PEOPLE TO PAY THIS TUITION."**
>
> **Shelley McDermott**
> School administrator, Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Some preschools have felt the impact from the economy.

The student population at Pilgrim Lutheran Church's preschool has long been socio-economically diverse, with both low and high-income families. But the number of students in the former income group have gone down substantially this year.

Tuition at the school averages about $6 an hour.

"It's money well spent but nonetheless money spent," Shelley McDermott, the school administrator, said. "I wish we had an endowment or scholarship fund to help people to pay this tuition."

While there might be families leaving private education for public schools, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District does boast one of the strongest academic programs in the state.

"I believe that when we look at the quality of our schools, we have to compete with the private schools and I think we're very successful in that," Mike Matthews, the assistant superintendent for human resources, said. "When financial times get a little tighter, it's easy for parents to make a decision.

"We're a great option without any drop off in quality."

melodyh@smdp.com

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Subway to the Sea a long time coming

FROM **SUBWAY** PAGE 1

be selected based on community popularity and feasibility.

"We use a lot of community input," said agency spokesman Dave Sotero. "During the process, the project team goes into the community with poster boards to show how and where the alignments [of the subway] would fit."

According to Pam O'Connor, a Santa Monica City Councilmember and Metro board member representing the Westside and South Bay cities, the Wilshire route will probably precede the Santa Monica Boulevard route, though it is likely that both will eventually be built.

Though the city is excited by the proposed subway, O'Connor cautions that the project won't be finished for a long time.

"We don't want to intensify the land use on Wilshire Boulevard and we don't have the density that is conducive to a subway," O'Connor said. "It probably will get to the sea, but when push comes to shove, it is a low priority and a long way out."

The problem, O'Connor said, is that subways have to be built segment by segment. The proposed route now ends at Western Avenue and will be built from east to west, meaning that any subway to Santa Monica would be a long time coming and subject to vagaries of funding.

"That means it's a decade or more out even if it's on the fast track. That means you won't be hopping on a subway any time soon," O'Connor said.

It is more important to complete the Expo Light Rail line, O'Connor said, which is more conducive to Santa Monica's needs.

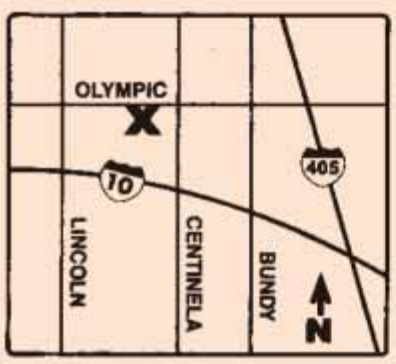
"The Expo Light Rail line is further along, we'll get that in the next few years," she said. "We do have the ridership for a light rail line."

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Man was hit on bicycle

FROM **REWARD** PAGE 1

to meet some friends after having dinner with his parents and his fiancé, Kate Roland.

He is listed in critical condition on life support at UCLA Medical Center, Roland said.

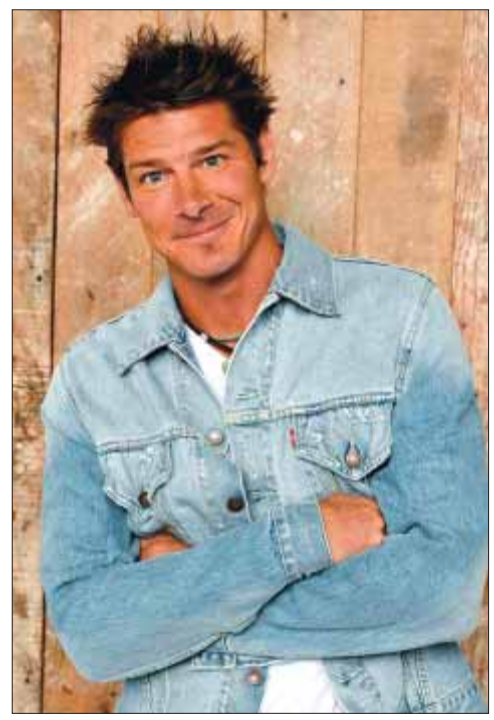
"We are very optimistic …, however the situation is about as serious as it can be," Roland said during a phone interview from the hospital. "Whomever did this needs to come forward and own up to what they've done."

Bill Stankey, Seeck's cousin, said he told Pennington about the accident and the host immediately offered a reward. Stankey described Seeck as a "smart guy who loves music, loves his family, outgoing, a tremendous human being."

A red SUV was spotted near the scene of the accident shortly after Seeck was hit. Police said Seeck was riding a bike without lights and may have been drinking a beer at the time of the accident.

While the reward and Pennington's celebrity can help in solving the case, SMPD investigator Chris Dawson said the offer can be a "double-edge sword."

"Publicity brings this to more people, which is good, but the problem is we start getting calls from people … coming out of the woodwork," Dawson said. "Any help we can get we will look at, but the bottom line is unless a friend or relative of this [driver] calls and gives us the plate number or we find the car, it is going to be pretty tough.



PENNINGTON

"I hope this guy grows a conscience and turns himself in."

Anyone with information about the hit-and-run is urged to contact Dawson at (310) 458-8427, or the We-Tip hotline at (800) 782-7463.

kevinh@smdp.com

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Battle has raged since '05

FROM **SETTLEMENT** PAGE 3

tions like the World Cup, Grossman said. The length of the deal, which expires in December 2017, was unchanged.

The companies also agreed that Televisa will license rights to Univision to broadcast home games for the three Televisa-owned soccer teams, America, Necaxa and San Luis, this year.

They added, however, that they would still go to trial in a federal court in Los Angeles in March over the U.S. Internet rights to Televisa programming.

"This is a good first step," said Univision lawyer John Keker, of Keker & Van Nest LLP, based in San Francisco. "These folks need to get back to work."

The courtroom battle has been going since 2005, and threatened to have Televisa's popular weeknight dramas, such as "Las Tontas No Van Al Cielo," pulled from Univision's networks.

Those telenovelas are the bedrock of Univision's programming, accounting for three hours of prime-time programming each weeknight and cementing Univision at No. 1 among U.S. Hispanic audiences.

Mexico City-based Televisa had accused Univision of committing a material breach of contract and the company said if it won at court it could cut its ties and take its programming elsewhere.

Such a move would have crippled New York-based Univision, which has $10.8 billion in debt, much of it created in 2006 in a private-equity firm leveraged buyout that included investment from billionaire Haim Saban, for $12.3 billion.

Observers said the settlement leaves the Hispanic TV market at a status quo for now.

"It's an expedient solution especially for Univision, who needs to move forward and protect its corporate value," said Julio Rumbaut, a Miami-based media consultant who has advised Univision in the past. "I think Televisa still has leverage in the future, especially in 2017 when (the deal) ends, because they still are a content provider."

Benjamin Mogil, an analyst with Thomas Weisel Partners, said the settlement paves the way for Televisa to buy a stake in Univision. Before Univision was taken private, Televisa was among its suitors.

"Now that the two parties are no longer involved in courtroom 'telenovela,' there is the possibility Televisa may use its large cash position to acquire an equity stake in Univision," Mogil wrote in a research note. "We would view this as positive as it grants Televisa a greater direct interest in the U.S. Hispanic broadcast market at a valuation likely unthinkable just a year ago."

Mogil maintained a neutral "Market Weight" rating on Televisa shares with a $20 target price.

Televisa shares rose 75 cents, or 5.2 percent, to close at $15.11 after the announcement, but fell 41 cents, or 2.7 percent, to $14.70 in after-hours trade.

Drought forces farmers to cut back

BY GARANCE BURKE AND TRACIE CONE
Associated Press Writers

SAN FRANCISCO Some of the nation's largest farms plan to cut back on planting this spring over concerns that federal water supplies will dry up as officials deal with the drought plaguing California.

Farmers in the Central Valley said Thursday they would forego planting thousands of acres of water-thirsty canning tomatoes and already have started slashing acreage for lettuce and melons.

As growers in Fresno and Kings counties prepared to sow their dry fields with tomato seeds this week, the giant water district that supplies the irrigation for their sprinklers warned them to think again.

Computer models of the state's parched reservoirs and this year's patchy snowfall showed shortages so extreme that federal officials could slash supplies down to zero, managers at the Westlands Water District told their members in an emergency conference call.

"We thought it was important to talk to our growers so they can make important planting decisions," said Sarah Woolf, a spokeswoman for Westlands, the coalition of giant agribusinesses in the state's fertile interior.

Officials with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the state Department of Water Resources plan to announce next month how much water they'll speed to farms and cities.

But farmers say that's too late, since they need to decide what to plant now, as they negotiate with banks for crop loans. Growers who are struggling to revive shriveled vines and dying trees say they're panicked at the thought of having to solely rely on well water of dubious quality.

"It's ugly," said Shawn Coburn, who grows 1,000 acres of almonds in Fresno County. "I've heard from probably eight to 10 guys whose lines of credit are frozen until they can show they have water."

Coburn said he is abandoning tomatoes and will use his brackish well water to try to keep vineyards and almond orchards alive. Other growers are choosing instead to let their nut trees go dormant, which has meant less work for the beekeepers who travel to central California each year to pollinate orchards.

Farmers' decisions to fallow thousands of acres during last year's drought cost $260 million in crop losses statewide, as well as hundreds of jobs. In the tiny farm community of Mendota, in the heart of Westlands farming country, the unemployment rate is nearly 40 percent, city officials report.

Elissa Lynn, a senior meteorologist with the state water agency, said the forecast so far suggests conditions will not improve this spring.

"It's pretty clear we're heading into the third dry year in a row," Lynn said. "We've only gotten one-third of the rainfall we desperately need, and we're already halfway through the winter."

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Michie Obama looks the part

THE BIGGEST FASHION QUESTION THIS WEEK HAS BEEN what Michelle Obama would wear on Inauguration Day.

But why? Why didn't tabloid TV shows and the blogosphere buzz that Barack was having a tough time selecting the color of his necktie? This white shirt, or that white shirt? This black suit, or that black suit? What shoes will he choose?

We pay more attention to what women wear because women have a greater potential for fashion disaster. Take, for example, Aretha Franklin's hat.

For the Inauguration Day ceremony, Michie O chose a lemongrass yellow sheath dress and matching coat by Isabel Toledo, green Jimmy Choo "Glacier" pumps, and green J. Crew gloves. People are split. Some loved the look, saying Michie O looked youthful and elegant. Some say that the dress was unflattering to her figure, that the color with its greenish cast was unflattering to her complexion, and that overall, she looked like she was wearing an elderly woman's fancy tablecloth.

Why wasn't more fuss made over Obama's pick of a Republican Red tie, instead of one in Democrat Blue?

I teach sixth grade at a Los Angeles middle school. On Tuesday, my school held an Inauguration Day assembly, for which all of the students were packed into the auditorium to watch a feed of the ceremony. Where were you when the first African American president took the oath of office? I was on the floor.

For the most part, I was impressed with the way the students seemed to be paying attention to what was going on during the ceremony. They were pretty quiet for everything through the new president's speech. (After Dr. Lowery gave his ridiculous benediction, it was a whole other story.) They were pretty quiet.

This is the first inauguration that I have watched in its entirety. The thing that struck me the most was the phrase "peaceful transfer of power." Oh yeah, I thought, the new guy doesn't storm the White House. For the rest of the ceremony, scenes from the movie "Tristan and Isolde" kept replaying in my mind.

I was less than pleased each time the camera panned to George W. Bush and the auditorium filled with the kind of noise reserved for a mob yielding torches and swords. I was even more upset by the way my principal reacted. After the ceremony, he said something to the effect of: In some countries you wouldn't be allowed by the government to boo your leader, but we live in a country where you can.

What he failed to say was: While we have the right, we need to think about what is right. We were witnessing a peaceful transfer of power, not a mustachioed melodrama villain tying an innocent maiden to the conveyor belt of a sawmill.

I disagreed with the way my principal handled the situation, but I didn't boo him. Booing isn't graceful.

I'm not usually good at being graceful. I'm usually the girl who spills coffee down her pants leg when she's wearing khakis, or the girl who eats large quantities of raw vegetables during meetings so that her mouth will be too full to say what she's actually thinking.

In President Obama's inagural address, he thanked the former president "for his service to our nation, as well as the generosity and cooperation he has shown throughout this transition." This is how we behave during a peaceful transfer of power, regardless of what color necktie we choose to wear.

Tuesday night, Michie O wore an ivory, one-shouldered ball gown adorned with fabric petals and Swarovski crystals, a dress that designer Jason Wu said he wanted to be "soft, feminine, but powerful." Graceful.

MARIEL HOWSEPIAN digs black coffee, fairy tales and a man in coveralls. She lives in Santa Monica and can be reached at Mariel_Rodriguez@antiochla.edu.

'Button' nabs 13 Oscar nominations

BY DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

BEVERLY HILLS "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" is the Academy Awards heavyweight with 13 nominations, yet the shadow of Batman loomed large with the absence of "The Dark Knight" in the best-picture race.

An epic romance that earned a best-actor nomination for Brad Pitt and a directing spot for David Fincher, "Benjamin Button" was joined in the best-picture category Thursday by the Richard Nixon tale "Frost/Nixon," the chronicle of gay-rights leader Harvey Milk in "Milk," the Holocaust-themed drama "The Reader" and the rags-to-riches crowd-pleaser "Slumdog Millionaire."

The Batman blockbuster "The Dark Knight" had picked up so much momentum from honors by Hollywood trade unions that awards watchers generally thought it would land a best-picture nomination.

"Benjamin Button" producer Frank Marshall said "it was a bit of a surprise" that his movie would not be competing with "The Dark Knight" for the top prize.

"The fact that 'The Dark Knight' did so well at the box office was probably a good thing and maybe a not-so-good thing," Marshall said. "People tend to think films as successful as that are not well made, but certainly, 'Dark Knight' is exceptionally well made."

As expected, "Dark Knight" co-star Heath Ledger earned a supporting-actor nomination on the one-year anniversary of his death from an accidental overdose of prescription drugs. If Ledger wins, he would become only the second actor to receive an Oscar posthumously, following Peter Finch, the best-actor recipient for 1976's "Network."

Josh Brolin, competing against Ledger with a supporting-actor nomination for "Milk," said the acclaim for Ledger was bittersweet.

"It's too bad, because every time I think of Heath, I'm split down the middle," Brolin said. "I think of his performance. I think of the work that he's done, and then the fact that this tragedy happened. It's an uncomfortable situation, for sure, but it makes sense to me, because I thought he did a bang-out job."

"The Dark Knight" picked up seven other nominations for technical achievement, among them cinematography and visual effects.

Yet it missed out on other major categories, including directing and screenplay. The directors and writers guilds both had nominated "The Dark Knight" for their top honors, while the Producers Guild of America nominated it for the year's best film.

"Benjamin Button" leads a bold batch of best-picture candidates, among them Golden Globes champ "Slumdog Millionaire," which came in second at the Oscars with 10 nominations.

Based on an F. Scott Fitzgerald story, "Benjamin Button" stars Pitt as a man aging backward toward infancy, caught in a tragic romance with the love of his life (Cate Blanchett) as she ages in the opposite direction.







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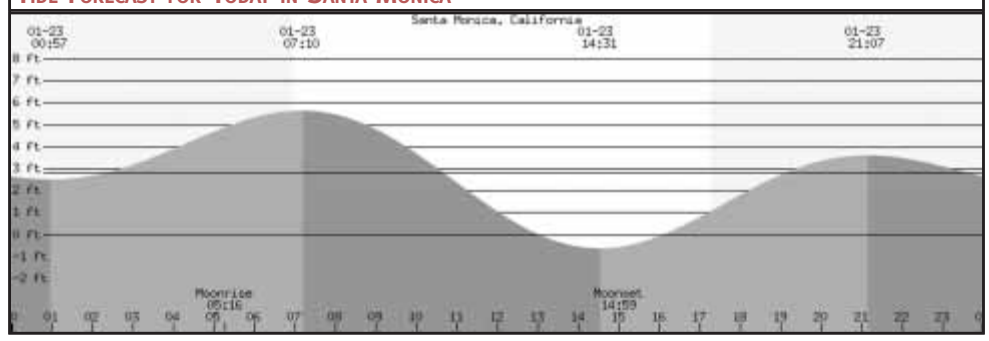
Swell Forecast (3-5 FT)

Friday the 23rd should start out smaller, perhaps waist high around most west facing breaks. Our next swell should build in the afternoon.

Long Range Synopsis

Saturday the 24th the next WestPac, WNW swell comes through. This is looking like a chest high swell with occasional pluses to head high at times at standouts.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 13
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 17
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 30

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

The Unborn (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

Yes Man (PG-13) 1hr 44min
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05

Milk (R) 2hrs 08min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

Notorious (R)
12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2hrs 48min
11:15am, 2:45, 6:20, 9:55

My Bloody Valentine 3D (R) 1hr 41min
11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15

Bride Wars (PG) 1hr 30min
11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:40, 7:10, 9:25

Inkheart (PG) 1hr 46min
11:00 a.m., 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35

Defiance (R) 2hrs 17min
11:40am, 3:10, 6:35, 9:45

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
10:50am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (R) 1hr 32min
11:50 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Revolutionary Road (R) 1hr 59min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Last Chance Harvey (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Slumdog Millionaire (R) 2hr 1min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

The Wrestler (R) 1hr 45min
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1hr 27min
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

Gran Torino (R)
1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30

Valkyrie (PG-13) 2hrs
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1hr 40min
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Marley & Me (PG) 2hrs
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

The Reader (R) 2hrs 02min
1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

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

Show up, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ How you deal with a changing situation could transform a relationship. You might want to do something very differently in order to obtain the results you desire. Good fortune comes to those who are upbeat and take the first step. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Mentally transforming your perspective could have a lot to do with your outlook and the outcome of some touchy situations. Reach out to others in an attempt to make amends. Tonight: Try a new path.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Work with a partner rather than buck present trends. You could be most unhappy with what happens otherwise. Your sense of humor emerges when dealing with a very spirited and fun person. Tonight: Go for adventure.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Be smart — defer to a partner. You might have a lot more going on than you originally intended to. Open up to more positive happenings. Someone wants to share more of him- or herself. Be open to this person, yet understand that he or she will do whatever's necessary to succeed. Tonight: Dinner for two could be fun.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ A change of tune or another approach will work if you relax more. How you deal with someone could change dramatically. Listen to another person's sharings more completely. Tonight: Try to make it an early night.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Allow your creativity to flourish and understand where someone is coming from. You could come to terms with another person if you take your time and proceed in a key direction. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your personal life stars in your priorities. A reversal might be possible. Investigate a new beginning with more care. How you perceive a situation could change after a talk. Tonight: How about some fun and games?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ A conversation might take quite an unexpected twist or turn, testing your ability to flex and grow. Not everyone needs to understand where you are coming from, unless you feel someone is key to your well-being. Tonight: Out for dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Be sensitive to costs and expenses. Know when enough is enough. How you deal with a loved one could change if you relax more. Let communication flourish in an unforeseen manner. Tonight: Make it your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your smile is a sure-bet winner. Open up to change, even if at first you feel uncomfortable. Your understanding grows. Getting along with someone else becomes a snap. Tonight: As you like.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your optimism goes much deeper and further than you think or believe. Realize what needs to happen between you and a close friend. Share more often, allowing a greater exchange. Tonight: Make it OK to keep mum.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on what is important, making possibilities happen. Your sixth sense comes through when you least expect it. Friends and people play a big role in what is about to come down your path. A friendship could be in the process of changing. Tonight: Where the action is.

Happy birthday

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

You'll make a difference this year if you slow down. Work on listening to your inner voice more often to get into contact with the possibilities. Inside, you might be experiencing a tremendous transformation unseen by many. You could be surprised by what emerges if you let your hair down more often. Many see you as simply lucky. You just see beyond what many others don't. If you are single, you could have the choice of several suitors. Take your time, and you will be less likely to make an error. If you are attached, relating becomes even more easy than in the past. CAPRICORN is your natural healer.

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 ★★★★

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

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

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

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Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured gets a pat on the back from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Butler's portrayer
6 Dangerous gas
11 Skirt
12 Bouquet
13 Purple shade
14 Like some situations
15 Gambling mecca
17 Golden Rule word
18 Collars
20 Lucy's co-star
22 Wall St. debut
23 Payback
26 Realty listing
28 Trimmed
29 Letter after delta
31 Mrs., in Madrid
32 Narrated
33 Snifter part
34 Painter Chagall
36 Costly
38 Staggering
40 Stab
43 Singer Della
44 1993 NBA Rookie of the Year
45 Unable to eat another bite
46 Nymph chaser

DOWN

1 Whale group
2 One of Frank's wives
3 French Quarter site
4 Biographies
5 First place
6 Operated
7 Woke
8 London site
9 Leave out
10 Billionth: Pref.
16 Poem type
18 Pleasant
19 Each
21 Tied up
23 Dice turn
24 "Power" player
25 Dutch export
27 Bishop's realm
30 Peculiar
33 Hot spot
34 Earth's neighbor
35 Neighborhood
37 Swelled heads
39 Was ahead
41 Utter
42 Camera type

A	M	I	S	■	D	R	A	M	A	S
R	I	N	K	■	R	E	N	E	G	E
E	N	V	Y	■	E	A	G	L	E	T
A	D	E	L	A	I	D	E	■	■	■
■	■	S	I	N	■	E	L	I	O	T
B	E	T	T	Y	■	R	A	N	T	O
A	D	O	■	■	■	■	■	V	I	P
B	E	R	T	H	■	C	R	E	S	S
E	N	S	U	E	■	H	U	N	■	■
■	■	■	P	E	D	E	S	T	A	L
M	A	D	E	D	O	■	S	O	M	E
E	Y	E	L	E	T	■	I	R	O	N
D	E	C	O	D	E	■	A	S	K	S

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	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					■	14				
■	■	15			16	■	17			
18	19			■	20	21			■	■
22			■	23					24	25
26			27		■	28				
29					30		■	31		
■	■	32				■	33			
34	35			■	36	37			■	■
38				39	■	40			41	42
43					■	44				
45					■	46				

1-23

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 9 10 35 46
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: $21M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 15 21 29 37
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $56M

Fantasy 5: 13 22 27 29 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 0 5
EVENING: 6 2 7

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1.40.38

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

■ Ewww, Gross! Two brain surgeons in the western U.S. admitted that recent operations had shaken them up, though both said the patients have since been doing nicely. Dr. Peter Nakaji, expecting to find a dreaded tumor in the brain of a woman in Phoenix, was heard on video of the surgery chuckling when he realized the problem was merely a worm on the brain stem (probably acquired from poor sanitation). And in December, a 3-day-old infant was doing well in Colorado Springs following the discovery and removal of a tiny, almost-perfectly-formed foot from his brain by Dr. Paul Grabb.

■ More than 1,000 new animal species were discovered in the last decade in the area surrounding the Mekong River that runs through Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, including striped rabbits and a spider bigger than a dinner plate. Also found was a pink millipede that secretes cyanide, according to a December World Wildlife Fund report.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1789 Georgetown University was established in Washington, D.C.

1943 critic Alexander Woollcott suffered a fatal heart attack during a live broadcast of the CBS radio program "People's Platform."

1950 the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution affirming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

1964 the 24th amendment to the Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified.

1973 President Richard M. Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War.

1989 surrealist artist Salvador Dali died in his native Figueres, Spain, at age 84.

2002 Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was abducted in Karachi, Pakistan, by a group demanding the return of prisoners from the Afghan campaign; he was later slain.

2005 former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson died in Malibu, Calif., at age 79.

WORD UP!

rancor \RANG-ker\, *noun*: bitter resentment or ill will; extreme hatred or spite

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Announcements

HERNIA REPAIR SURGERY ALERT! If you suffered serious complications after hernia repair surgery, you may be entitled to Money Damages. Call the attorneys at James Rolshouse & Associates at 1-800-598-5940. Licensed in Minnesota. (Cal-SCAN)

NEED HEALING OR DREAM INTERPRETATION? HEALING CIRCLE IS HERE!
The Healing Circle Healing Rooms will be gathering at the Virginia Park in Santa Monica this Saturday January 24, from 10 am to noon. Virginia Park is located at the corner of Pico and Cloverfield. We'll be on the side of Virginia St. (Virginia and 22nd St). We'll be praying for people who are seeking spiritual, physical and emotional healing. Come and receive prayer to attain wholeness and restoration of your body, soul and spirit. We'll also be doing dream interpretation. For more info please call Cibby at 310-993-0267.

Employment Wanted

EUROPEAN WOMAN, educated, legal, looking for employment inSanta Monica- Malibu. Caring for elderly. Will cook, and take for walks, companionship. Ester (818)754-1186

Employment

Advertising Sales

The Santa Monica Daily Press, Santa Monica's Daily newspaper is seeking an Advertising Account Executive. Previous advertising sales experience isn't needed but it's certainly a plus. The job is meeting and networking with local and national businesses to help them get their message to our readers here in Santa Monica. We're looking for smart, friendly people who are motivated by money to join our growing sales team. Great work environment, must bring a positive attitude and outlook to our team. If you play well with others, are aggressive without being pushy, and have a drive to succeed, we want to work with you. Resumes are accepted via email to Rob Schwenker – Schwenker@smdp.com

Assistant Manager Position Available-Self Storage company in Santa Monica seeking a candidate with a great personality and great phone skills. Position is full time, must have sales experience, a valid driver's license, be available on weekends, must pass background check. Please e-mail your resume to info@sawtelleselfstorage.com

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GIVE OF YOURSELF American Cancer Society Discovery Shop needs volunteer sales help. You can contribute by spending 4 hours per week Thurs., Fri., or Sat.assisting in our up-scale resale shop in Santa Monica. Conact Terry or Shaunnah at (310) 458-4490.

GROOMER/KENNEL TECHNICIAN for a Veterinarian office, experience needed e-mail resume animedctr@hotmail.com (310)575-5656

Line Cook with valid drives license for catering delivery Must speak English. Please call (310) 985-0080

PART-TIME SALES POSITION-Retail hardware/lumber store in Santa Monica. Contact Erik (310)395-0956.

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Wanted

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1248 11TH st. unit I, 3bdrm/1 1/2bath, stove, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets.on site manager $2500/mo $500 off move in (310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

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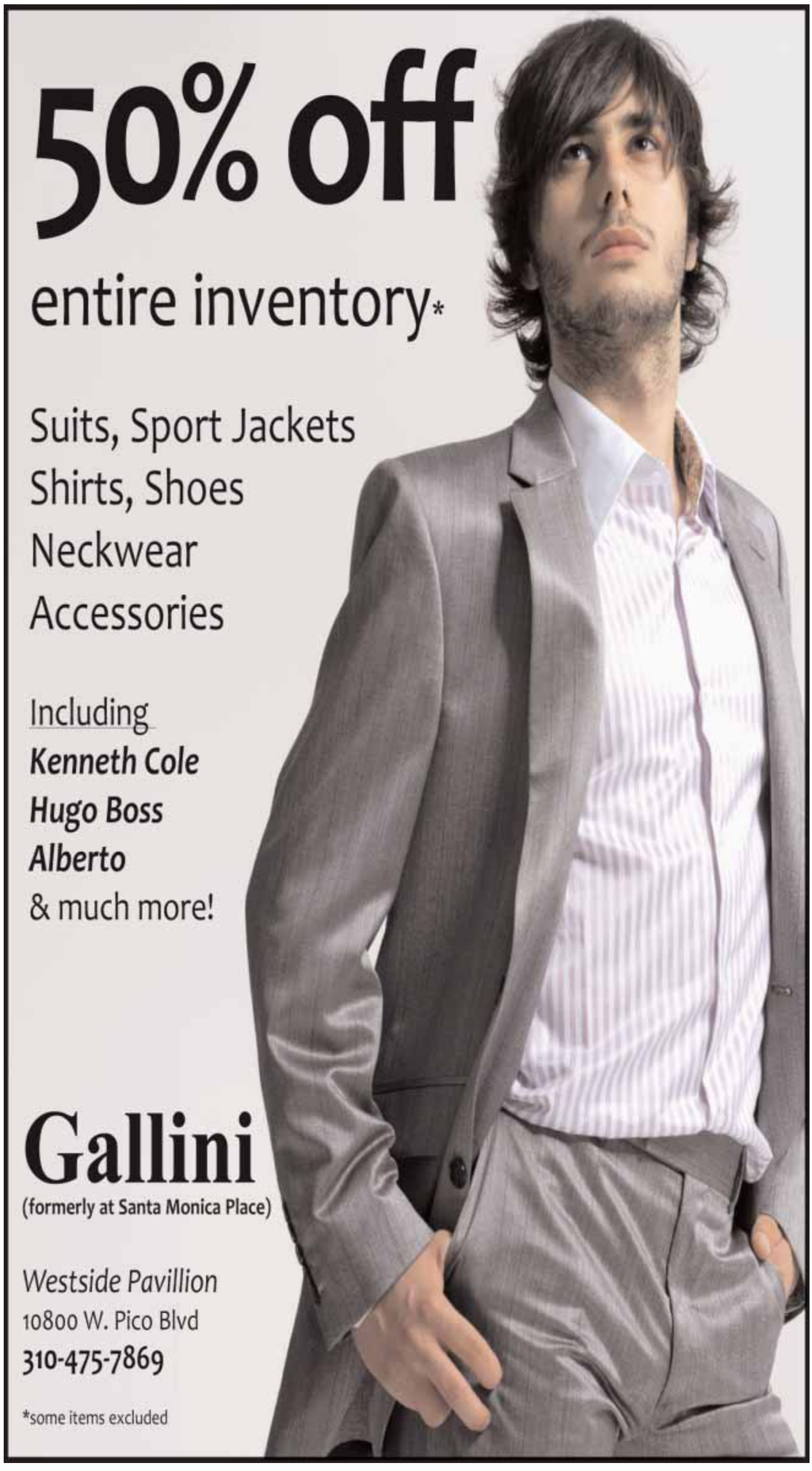
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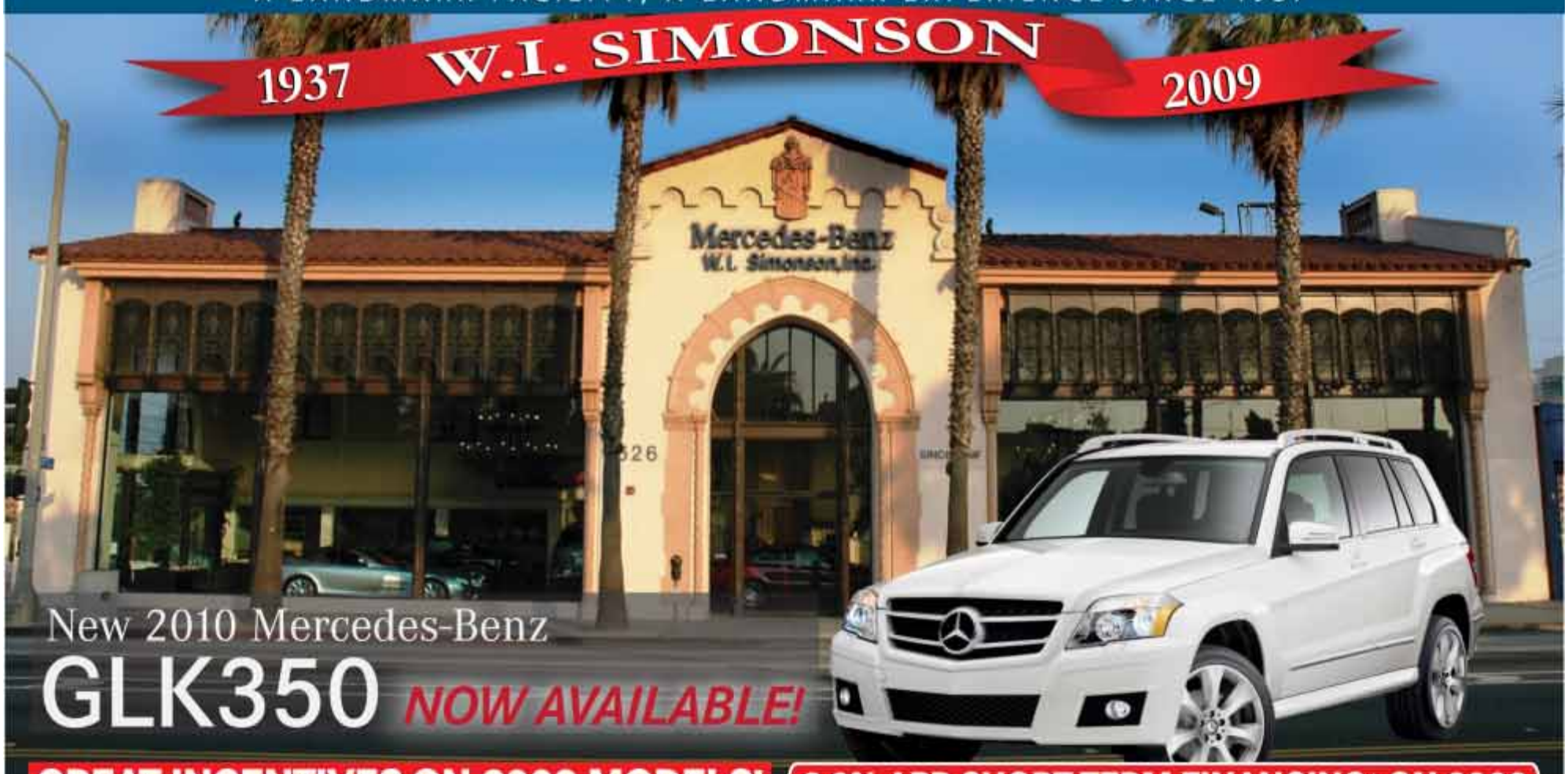
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