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Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE OVER IT ISSUE

Rubbed the wrong way

City grapples with growing prostitution problem

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE "Mr. Parlor" wants you to get laid.

On his Web site and others like it, experts on sexual services offer scores of reviews on shady massage parlors across Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties — Santa Monica included.

Each review is thorough, including everything from

which massage parlors offer free parking to how much one should tip for a happy ending.

In Santa Monica, plenty of opportunities exist for male clients willing to pay for sex. Within the city's 8.3 square miles, there are 57 massage establishments and 575 massage therapists. City officials estimate that about 15 percent of those therapists operating within Santa Monica are

SEE PARLOR TRICKS PAGE 18



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com



Peace of their minds

New Roads sophomore Danee Schiffer, 16, sings a peace song during the student Walk Out for Peace March on Friday on the front lawn of City Hall. Students called their political representatives to help end the war.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

A call for help

Volunteer fair aims to unite residents with providers

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

FAIRVIEW LIBRARY Looking to capitalize on the popular New Year's resolution of many to lend a hand to those in need, several city agencies will host a community service fair today to lure prospective volunteers.

A joint effort by the Santa Monica Public Library, the city of Santa Monica Volunteer Program and WISE Senior Services, the inaugural Community Volunteer Fair will showcase several dozen non-profit

agencies who will present a multitude of opportunities to the interested public.

It's an event meant to benefit both the agencies, which are continually seeking volunteers, and those looking to help out but may not know the best route when it comes to getting involved in community service.

"People are retiring and they have a lot of energy and they want to give back to the community, but it's not always easy for them to meet with the right volunteer opportunities," said Catherine Ronan, manager of the Fairview Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library, where the event will be held this morning. "We wanted to match people with the need."

The roster includes well known agencies within the community

SEE VOLUNTEERS PAGE 16

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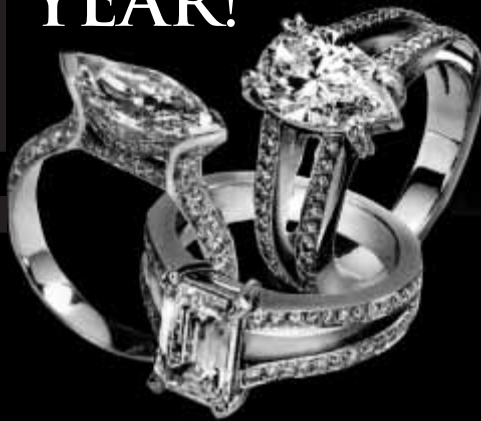
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Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, JANUARY 27-28, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



The Avon Walk for Breast Cancer L.A.'s "Great Start Party"

1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach, 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Individuals and teams can register to walk or crew for the 2007 event, meet other
participants, find out about local training walks, learn about the impact of funds
raised and more. For more information, call (800) 510-WALK or visit
www.avonwalk.org.

Whale Watching at Malibu Pier

23000 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, 11:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Whale watching voyages will sail from Malibu Pier on the 55-foot boat "Aquarius."
The trip lasts approximately two and a half hours. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults,
\$20 for seniors, and \$15 for juniors. For further information and reservations, call
(310) 456-8037. Group rates are available.

"Making Great Melodies" Concert

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Santa Monica composer and bass vocalist David Avshalomov is joined by distinguished
local artists — mezzo-soprano Lauri D. Goldenhersh, soprano Rene Burkett, tenor
Jeremy Schoenberg, with accompaniment by pianist Greg Schreiner. Tickets for audi-
torium seating will be available one hour prior to concert. No reservations. For more
information, contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600.

"And Awaay We Go To Wonderland"

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
For tickets and information on this Rudie-DeCarlo Family Theatre Musical, call (310)
394-9779 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

"Audition!"

1211 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.
Tickets for this Rudie-DeCarlo musical can be purchased by calling (310) 394-9779,
ext. 1 or by visiting www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

"Cinderella"

1211 Fourth St., 6 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Tickets for this Rudie-DeCarlo family musical are available by calling (310) 394-9779,
ext. 2 or by visiting www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

"Frida Kahlo"

2332 W. Fourth St., Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
This play, written and directed by Ruben Amavizca, and based on the life of the
Mexican artist, takes an analytical look at the woman behind the artist. Spanish and
English-language versions of the play are both available. For information and reserva-
tions call, (213) 382-8133 or visit www.fridakahlotheater.org.

Debbie Merrill's Inline Skate Group Class

2400 Ocean Front Walk, 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.
Beginner and advanced beginner class. Walk-ins welcome.

The Anatomy of Dance

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Joan Collins and Linda Evans in "LEGENDS!"

11301 Wilshire Blvd., 8 p.m. — 10:30 p.m.
Tickets are on sale at the Wadsworth Theatre box office or online by visiting
www.WadsworthTheatre.com.

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2007

Mar Vista Farmers' Market

Grandview Boulevard at Venice Boulevard, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Science and Theology Forum at FPC

1220 Second St., 11:30 p.m. — noon
After Worship Forum led by Dr. William A. Wood. Topic will be 'Cosmology.' Forum will
be held in the Renaissance Room of the First Presbyterian Church. Lunch will be
served. For more information, call (310) 451-1303.

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.



RAND study focuses on development of children

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET Does a neighborhood besieged by drug dealers affect a child's ability to get hooked on phonics?

Possibly.

A current RAND Corporation study is examining certain Los Angeles County neighborhoods to determine whether or not socio-economic status plays a role in learning ability.

The \$12 million study — a joint venture between RAND Corporation, a non-profit policy think-tank located on Main Street, and the UCLA School of Public Health — has kicked off its second phase, whereby researchers are headed back to the 65 or so neighborhoods where they interviewed families a few years ago. Some of the communities are located on the Westside, but RAND researcher Narayan Sastry would not name any specific neighborhoods nor the cities in which they are located.

"It's important that they stay anonymous and that we provide information for the county as a whole," said Sastry, who is directing the study along with Ann Pebley of RAND and UCLA.

Previous studies examining the relationship between neighborhoods, family and child development typically took place in other parts of the country. Relatively little is known about such relationships in Los Angeles and Southern California.

"Much of what we know about how neighborhoods affect the well-being of kids and adults comes from studies done in cities on the East Coast and in the Midwest," Sastry said. "But Los Angeles represents how the nation has changed, with large numbers of immigrants and a mobile population."

"It's important to see if lessons from the past and from other parts of the country are valid in today's growing urban areas in the West."

In the first phase of the Los Angeles Family and Neighborhood Survey, which began in 2000, researchers interviewed about 3,000 families, evaluating how income and

SEE RAND PAGE 17



Wassup coppers

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Santa Monica Police officers lay down the law to a group of students from St. Monica High School after receiving complaints from neighbors about 'reckless skateboarding' on Friday. Police asked the teens to move along, putting a damper on the skateboarding video they were filming near the Santa Monica Boardwalk.

Lawsuit expected in death of pedestrian

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY The family of an 80-year-old man who was struck and killed by a motorist Wednesday afternoon while walking in a crosswalk plan to sue City Hall for allegedly failing to ensure people's safety at the busy intersection.

Yakov Krivulin, a retired engineer from Lvov, Ukraine, was walking north on Euclid Street around 3:15 p.m. when he was hit by a four-door Jaguar traveling westbound on Santa Monica Boulevard, according to police.

Krivulin was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver, who was not identified, but is believed to be in his late 60s or early 70s, was taken into custody shortly after the accident

and submitted to a blood test. Police said he was cooperating with the investigation.

"It was definitely the driver's fault, but City Hall did not provide adequate safety," said Semion Krivulin, the son of Yakov Krivulin, who was out picking up medication and groceries when he was killed. "I went to that intersection and walked back and forth five times — nobody stopped for me. They need to put up a traffic light for sure."

"We will definitely open a case."

As for the driver, "his punishment will come from within his own soul," Semion Krivulin added.

City officials could not comment on the threat of a lawsuit because the accident is still under investigation.

"It is a terrible accident and our hearts go out to the families of those involved," said

Mona Miyasato, assistant to the City Manager. "Police are still investigating the accident and we need to let that take its course."

Immediately following Wednesday's tragedy, nearby residents and those who work at the intersection reported the continual dangers pedestrians face crossing Santa Monica Boulevard there because cars rarely stop at the crosswalk. Many also voiced complaints that the lighted crosswalk, which was out of service at the time of the crash, gives people a false sense of security.

Only three of the crosswalk's 25 embedded lights were working at the time of the crash, police said. Above the crosswalk activation button was a sign that read: "Flashers out of service ... Sorry."

SEE CROSSWALK PAGE 17

Lost when it comes to insurance?



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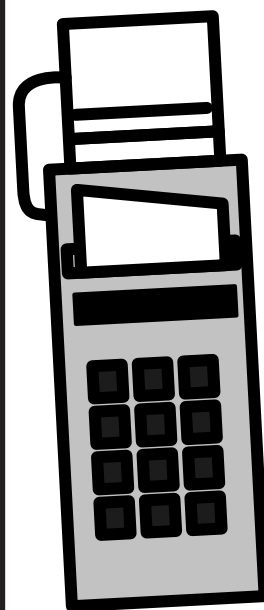
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Under a bad spell

Editor:

Hasn't anyone else noticed the sign in front of Roosevelt Elementary School? I cringe every time I pass by the northeast corner of the heavily traversed intersection of Montana (Avenue) and Lincoln (Boulevard).

Among the boldly posted notices: "Thank you, First Federal, Pavillions and Staples."

Exposing students to the spelling error is bad enough, but particularly egregious as the school is located directly across the street from Pavilions Market!!

Good going, SMMUSD.

Jenny Fisher

Santa Monica

Justifying the homeless

Editor:

Nothing really changes in Santa Monica. I have lived here for 52 months and I find it fascinating that they allow homeless people to sell and use drugs between California and Arizona (avenues) along Ocean Avenue – three blocks from the police station on Second Street. There is a theory that they let these people do this because it will show the community that there is a homeless problem so taxpayers can feel comfortable that their money is going to the problem, and this keeps the 50 are 60 government-subsidized companies for homeless and drugs in Santa Monica in business, making money off the backs of others.

Santa Monica will always be a second-rate place if the police department and city allow this activity to keep going on. Also, it smells like piss up and down the Palisades. Santa Monica is using the same formula they use on Skid Row, but this is a problem because Santa Monica is a place of beauty and a different socio-economic population then Downtown LA, which is trying to change and grow in the right direction. Eventually, Downtown LA will change for the better and we'll see more of a homeless problem because of the lack of authority and decision-making.

Matthew Muzio

Santa Monica

Give preference to the deserving

Editor:

Parking near the beach is a complicated matter, requiring creative solutions to fairly provide access to a scarce commodity ("Knocking their spots off," Jan. 22, page 1).

It is true that the California Coastal Commission does not look favorably on creating yet more preferential parking districts, making beach access more difficult.

However, the commission does not object to a city charging for that parking, even in residential neighborhoods. So, one alternative to creating yet another preferential parking district is to install nicely designed meters on those residential streets favored by beach or Farmers' Market parkers. There could be one master meter per block and residents could be exempt from paying to park at the meters. One variety of this idea is to create a residential parking benefit district and give residents a cut of the parking revenue to use to improve their neighborhoods. Parkers could be given a debit card for coin-free parking.

I would love to see a pilot program of this kind near the beach or Santa Monica College.

Barbara Filet

Santa Monica



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

They'll say darndest things

Recently, I saw Al Gore's movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," about global warming. Whether you are someone who believes in global warming or someone who has the equally legitimate position that global warming is actually a rumor started by polar bears who want more land, it would be impossible for you to avoid noticing that the Al Gore in the movie seems like a much different person from the Al Gore who ran for president.

He's not as stiff or cold or pompous as he was. He's more, well, human. This personality change is quite common among people after their political careers are over. (And I'm sure that Al Gore will return to his robotic persona if he resumes his political career). After politics, politicians don't have to weigh every word. Everything they say and do is no longer motivated by trying to please as many people as possible.

While they were in office, who would have ever predicted that Bill Clinton and the first President Bush would say nice things about each other, would respect each other, and actually become friends? Many people feel that Jimmy Carter has done his best work after his unexceptional presidency. So it will be interesting to see what the current crop of politicians are like after the pressure is off — after they no longer have to be concerned about their popularity.

If I were to interview them sometime in the future, they may sound something like this:

Hillary Clinton: "Let's get what you're really interested in out of the way first. So, let me just say that I have a cordial relationship with my ex-husband. However, it's obvious that at that infamous time of our marriage, he had all the self-control of a mosquito in a blood bank.

"I've enjoyed being retired and, since you've caught me here in Rome, it's obvious that I love to travel. However, I am getting the political itch once again. So I'm considering declaring myself a resident, and running for president of Italy."

John McCain: "Out of all the distasteful things that I did in my political career, I guess pretending to like George W. Bush was the worst. Embracing him was torture for me, and I know torture. But that was in the past, and I like to live in the present. I'm thoroughly enjoying my job as baseball commissioner, and I assure you that we will get to the bottom of this steroid issue any day now."

Dick Cheney: "I have to admit that it's been a little lonely since I retired. For some

reason, nobody wants to go hunting with me."

Howard Dean: "Was I bitter because I lost the chance of ever being president just because I got carried away that one night? I was for a while. But I got over it. I realized that I could help the country in other ways. By being the head of the Democratic Party, I was able to accomplish a great deal working behind the scenes. Maybe I wasn't in that big house in Washington, D.C., but you know something? You know something? I got to work in New Hampshire, South Carolina, Arizona, Oklahoma, North Dakota, CALIFORNIA, AND MICHIGAN! YEAH!"

George W. Bush: "Being president was indubitably a hoot for me. The most enjoy-

AFTER POLITICS, POLITICIANS DON'T HAVE TO WEIGH EVERY WORD. EVERYTHING THEY SAY AND DO IS NO LONGER MOTIVATED BY TRYING TO PLEASE AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE."

able aspect of my octet of years in that position was, of course, la grande charade: I loved posing as a rube from Texas instead of presenting myself in the context of my true identity as someone born to a well-ensconced Eastern establishment family. At first, I was surprised that so much of the public was taken in, but I guess some of my classmates at Yale and Harvard were right — we of the elite class can get away with just about anything.

"I don't want to be accused of verbosity, but before you go, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Karl Rove for finding that little loophole last year. Let's face it, without it, I don't think I ever would have seen my twins, Jenna and Barbara, elected Co-Presidents of the United States."

LLOYD GARVER writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.

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A newspaper with issues

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Visit us online at smdp.com



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

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA.

Members of CNPA, AFPP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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YOUR OPINION MATTERS

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STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

"Strippers changed my life."

— Brad Pitt, on how one of his first jobs, as a driver for strippers, led to an important acting connection

"Many of our youths from the Pico Neighborhood are in prison or dead. The ones in prison are charged with gang enhancements to put them away (for) 15 (years) to life. What will become of this lost generation?"

— Belinda Ramos, mother of 19-year-old Mathew Felix Vargas, who was sentenced to 53 years-to-life for killing Jalonnice Carter in 2003

"Now there is the charge that we are somewhat responsible and, of course, we contend we are not."

— Jeannette Schachtner, chief deputy city attorney, regarding a lawsuit filed by victims of the 2003 Farmer's Market crash

"I cannot see how it is possible that a new security plan can work."

— Mahmoud al-Mashhadani, speaker of the Iraqi Parliament and a Sunni Arab, during a Parliament meeting that erupted into yelling and threats by both Sunnis and Shiites

"I'm sorry I'm not Britney Spears, but I'll work on my dance routine."

— Gwyneth Paltrow, responding to a child at a reading event, who thought she was Britney Spears

"This is the Big Kahuna contract."

— Craig Perkins, City Hall's director of Environmental and Public Works Management, on a construction contract with Pankow Special Projects to completely renovate the Marion Davies estate at 415 PCH

Compiled by Cynthia Vazquez.

WE HAVE TO BITE THE BULLET AND MAKE A POLICY DECISION ON HOW FAR ARE WE WILLING TO GO BEFORE WE START RUNNING AROUND IN CIRCLES.

— Councilman Bob Holbrook, speaking on helping the homeless



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The Q-Line

THEY FIND IT ALL VERY ANNOYING

This week's Q-Line question asked: **What individual or group gets under your skin — either world-famous or locally infamous — and why?**

"THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL AND associated cronies have got to be the worst and most aggravating individuals around. They have driven Santa Monica into the pits, inviting bums and criminals into this community with open arms, and enabling them to become thoroughly entrenched here. They are the low-lives of the age. This city is a disaster because of their inability and unwillingness to prevent this nightmare."

"THE ENTIRE WHITE HOUSE CREW GETS under my skin, to say the least. Imagine a group lying to get us into a miserable war that has caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people and still being in charge! It's hard to believe, but worse are the ones who sell their souls to these devils once they are accepted into the inner circle and are used up and tossed out. They deserve it."

"THE TWO I HATE THE MOST ARE, FIRST of all, that guy from the Sit 'n Sleep mattress company: 'We'll beat anyone's price

or your mattress is freeee.' All he has to do is beat the price. He doesn't have to give away any mattresses. He's probably the kind of kid who'd remind the teacher that they forgot to assign homework, and this would be on Friday afternoon.

The other one is Paris Hilton, that vapid, waste of human DNA serves no useful purpose on the planet and she'd be out walking the streets if the family wasn't rich. The only good thing I can say about either of these people is that, unlike President Bush, neither one has lied to get us into a war that's been costing billions of dollars and tens of thousands of lives with no end in sight."

"THE GROUP THAT GETS UNDER MY SKIN are the ones that passed that asinine law stating no smoking in front of coffee shops, etc., and they don't even bother to enforce it. Of course, it's not the smokers' fault. It's that same group that has one sign up in the entire city that says: No smoking. So, I guess we'll still have to put up with the cigar smoke and the cigarette smoke."

"WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A LOT OF WHITE trash. Donald Trump is definitely that. He may have a lot of money, but he's just a load of trash. As for Paris Hilton, she might

have a lot of money, but that doesn't mean she's swanky."

"MY CHOICE IS THE SCHOOL BOARD. Have you ever listened to the superintendent speak? She must say 'uh' five times in each sentence. Then, the school principals trot out and mutter their 'uhs' and intersperse their platitudes about how great of a job they are doing. The whole group needs a dumbbell English and speech class to better enunciate their supposed educational brilliance. If you can't communicate a thought, how do you teach an idea? But here's the kicker: All of these people make over \$100,000 a year for eight months of work. I have a few choice words, and they aren't 'uh.'"

"THE RICH EXPECT OTHER PEOPLE TO pay for them, so by paying for the so-called public schools of Malibu, Santa Monica's nicely supply that lesson. Kevin (McKeown), of course, also has other people's money to play with without having to contribute any of his own."

"ILLEGAL ALIENS. THEY'RE NOT 'undocumented workers,' they're illegal aliens. The reason is crime, welfare expense, medical expense, pollution, housing cost pressure ... on and on and on."

"POLITICIANS AND SUPPORTERS WHO evaded serving in the U.S. armed forces during any conflict, did not serve, and are

now loud-talking, extreme warhawks."

"SMOKERS GET UNDER MY SKIN, ALL over Santa Monica, especially now that we have the non-smoking law in effect. I see more people smoking than ever. Smokers are just nasty. They leave their cigarette butts all over the place. They don't have any consideration for other people. The worst part is their cigarette butts end up in the ocean. The individuals that get under my skin are those smokers that forced the ban."



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STATE BRIEFS

Orange County to collect DNA from those on probation
SANTA ANA

Orange County will begin collecting DNA samples from people on probation and saving them to compare against evidence gathered at crime scenes.

The program, believed to be among the first in the nation, was approved Tuesday by the Board of Supervisors.

The DNA will be analyzed by British-based Forensic Science Service Ltd. and shipped to local authorities. The county agreed to pay Forensic Science \$875,000 for the work.

State law already requires that DNA evidence be collected from anyone convicted of a felony. The Orange County program expands that to include those convicted of misdemeanors as well. Sheriff Michael Carona hailed it as "cutting edge."

William Thompson, a DNA expert at the University of California at Irvine's school of criminology, expressed concerns about going with outside companies for such work. Thompson, who has helped draft guidelines governing the use of DNA evidence, recommends that DNA databases be maintained by the state.

"It doesn't seem like a wise use of resources," he said. "It seems more like a district attorney trying to top other D.A.s in the DNA arena."

Orange County officials said Forensic Science Service, which is owned by the British government, is known for high-quality work and its prices are competitive with those of U.S. companies.

Mayor says a lack of housing led to girl's death
WATSONVILLE

Mayor Manuel Bersamin said a lack of affordable housing helped lead to a fire in an illegally converted garage that killed a 7-year-old girl.

Families in Watsonville have had to "double, triple and quadruple up, creating unsafe conditions," said Bersamin as he visited the burned-out garage and looked over charred mattresses, children's furniture and propane tanks.

Seventeen people lived in the house and garage that went up in flames Wednesday morning, killing 7-year-old Imelda Rendon.

Rendon, who lived in the garage with her brother, father and eight-months-pregnant mother, had stayed home sick from school, authorities said. Her body was found just two feet from a door.

Investigators said a small electrical heater too close to clothes or bedding likely caused the blaze.

The city had asked the owner of the burned home to tear down an illegal garage-to-home conversion less than two years earlier.

Finally, a cleanup plan for boulder-clogged Canyon
PASADENA

A deal for clearing boulder-clogged Rubio Canyon has been reached, ending an eight-year dispute between environmentalists and forest officials over how best to handle it.

A 1998 landslide, caused by relocation of a water pipe, blocked the Angeles National Forest canyon above Pasadena with 50,000 tons of boulders. Remnants of the historic Mount Lowe Railway and six waterfalls were buried.

Hikers and historians despaired that cleanup could take years and cost \$6 million, but a freak 2004 rainstorm swept away most of the debris. The waterfalls Moss Grotto, Ribbon Rock, Grand Chasm, Lodged Boulder, Roaring Rift and Thalehaha re-emerged largely unscathed.

The cleanup will include blowing up large boulders and distributing the chunks throughout the canyon.

Remnants of the railway, a pioneering hydroelectric plant and buildings constructed as a circa-1890s tourist attraction by promoter Thaddeus S.C. Lowe, will be preserved in an effort to have the site included in the National Register of Historic Places, U.S. Forest Service ranger Marty Dumpis said.

"I have decided to lay down the sword for the time being and accept Ranger Dumpis' invitation to become involved in the restoration," said environmental activist Paul Ayers, who has led the Rubio Canyon restoration campaign.

The Mount Lowe Railway carried more than 3 million riders during the 41 years it operated, starting in 1893. Its narrow-gauge cars clung to the mountain along a 3 1/2-mile route.

SoCal teacher pleads not guilty to molesting girls
VICTORVILLE

An elementary school teacher pleaded not guilty to allegations of molesting two 6-year-old girls.

Rogelio Alvino Cardenas, 60, entered the plea Tuesday to two counts of continuous sexual abuse of a child under the age of 14, with special allegations of having multiple victims. He was ordered held on \$1 million bail and could face six years to 16 years in prison if convicted.

Cardenas' attorney, Michael A. Scaffiddi of San Bernardino, declined to comment to the San Bernardino Sun on Tuesday. A call to the lawyer's office seeking comment was not immediately returned Thursday.

Cardenas, who has no criminal record, taught for 17 years at Del Rey Elementary School in Victorville. Prosecutors contend he repeatedly improperly touched the children while in class between August 2006 and this month.

He surrendered on Jan. 19 after a complaint by a 6-year-old girl led to a warrant for his arrest.

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Fatal Wii contest nets wrongful death suit

BY JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO The radio station disc jockeys who hosted an on-air water-drinking contest knew that consuming too much water too quickly could be fatal but dismissed the concerns with juvenile jokes, according to a wrongful death lawsuit filed Thursday by the family of a contestant.

Jennifer Lea Strange, a mother of three, died Jan. 12 hours after taking part in the on-air promotion to win a video game console.

"The talent admitted during the broadcast that they should have done more research once various participants, including (Strange), began to report medical symptoms," according to the lawsuit filed in Sacramento County

Superior Court. "Such conduct was despicable and so vile, base or contemptible that it would be looked down upon and despised by reasonable people."

Strange, 28, was one of about 18 contestants who tried to win a Nintendo Wii gaming console by seeing how much water they could drink without going to the bathroom. The disc jockeys on KDND-FM's "Morning Rave" program called the contest "Hold your Wee for a Wii."

The Sacramento-area station fired 10 employees after Strange's death.

The lawsuit names as defendants KDND's parent company, Entercom/Sacramento, the on-air talent who hosted the contest, as well as employees and managers who organized, promoted and par-

ticipated in the contest. Among those named are Adam Cox, Steve Maney, Patricia Sweet and Matt Carter, identified by the family's attorneys as the show's disc jockeys.

Sweet was not immediately returned Thursday.

The radio station would not comment directly about Thursday's lawsuit, Entercom

whether the four disc jockeys had retained their own attorneys.

It alleges they were negligent in failing to research the contest and warn participants about the risks. The suit also says they failed to get medical help even after participants complained about getting sick.

At one point, a listener who identified herself as a nurse called in to warn the disc jockeys that the stunt could be fatal, according to an audio tape of the broadcast.

"Yeah, we're aware of that," one of them responded.

Another DJ laughed: "Yeah, they signed releases, so we're not responsible. We're OK."

The lawsuit claims that Strange never signed a liability waiver. Instead, the form merely granted the station permission to use the contest in its promotion.

SUCH CONDUCT WAS DESPICABLE AND SO VILE ... THAT IT WOULD BE LOOKED DOWN UPON AND DESPISED BY REASONABLE PEOPLE."

Lawsuit filed in Sacramento County Court.

The Associated Press could not locate telephone listings for Cox or Carter. A recording at a listing for Stephen Maney said he was not available and did not take messages. A phone message left for

spokesman Charles Sipkins said.

"We reiterate our deepest sympathies and condolences to the Strange family, but we do not comment on pending litigation," he said.

Sipkins said he did not know

Invasive mussels make their move on California water supply

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Federal, state and local officials are on the hunt for an invasive mussel that has been spotted in California for the first time ever and could clog water supply pipelines.

Quagga mussels were found earlier this month at Lake Mead in Arizona and at Lake Havasu near the Whitsitt intake facility for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The discoveries launched a wider search for infested reservoirs and pipelines in California that are connected to the Colorado Aqueduct.

The aqueduct delivers water to an estimated 18 million people in urban Southern California, including Los Angeles and San Diego. The mussels can choke pipelines and threaten native species of fish by competing for their food.

"I suppose when people ask what level of concern we have, it's high and what level of effort we're putting in, it's considerable," said

Mic Stewart, manager of water quality at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Officials will shut down the entire aqueduct for three weeks in March to dry out the canals and will use chlorine to kill the mussels. Even so, because the freshwater mollusks multiply rapidly — with a single female laying as many as 1 million eggs — it is unlikely that action will completely rid the state of the hardy mollusks.

"They're extremely difficult to eradicate," said Bob Muir, spokesman for the water dis-

trict. "It's more a matter of trying to control them."

The invasive mussels likely hitched a ride on a private boat from Michigan's Great Lakes to Lake Mead and Lake Havasu. Because the mussels are young — between 6 months to 2 years old — officials are hopeful that they can manage the situation.

Divers in California, Arizona and Nevada continued the search for the mussels in a coordinated multi-agency effort this week.



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Simpson's juke

Judge refuses latest suit aimed at O.J.'s earnings from book

BY ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A federal judge this week refused to hear a lawsuit by the father of murder victim Ronald Goldman that is seeking money paid to O.J. Simpson for his book, "If I Did It."

"I have no personal jurisdiction over Mr. Simpson," U.S. District Judge Manuel Real said.

The judge noted that Fred Goldman lives in Arizona and Simpson lives in Florida.

"I feel the jurisdiction is in the state courts of Florida," Real said.

"They got kicked out to the curb," Simpson attorney Yale Galanter said after the hearing.

Jonathan Polak, an attorney for the Goldman family, said they had not decided whether to appeal the federal decision or take the fight to Florida.

Simpson was acquitted in October 1995 of murder charges in connection with the June 12, 1994, slayings of Goldman and Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, in the Brentwood area of Los Angeles.

Two years later, a state jury ruled in a lawsuit that Simpson was liable for their wrongful deaths and ordered him to pay \$33.5 million, which with interest has ballooned to

about \$40 million.

The former football star's Heisman Trophy was sold to pay a portion of the judgment but the plaintiffs have not been able to recover any substantial cash.

However, the Goldman family has waged a legal campaign to obtain the money Simpson earns from personal appearances, autographs and other forms of publicity.

In December, Fred Goldman sued Simpson in federal court for "fraudulent conveyance," contending that he used a Santa Monica shell company to conceal an advance he received for a book-and-TV deal in order to avoid paying the wrongful death judgment.

In the suit, Goldman sought a court order freezing the money or turning it over to the family. On Wednesday, Real refused to entertain the request on grounds of jurisdiction, effectively throwing out the federal court suit.

The book contains a chapter in which Simpson gives a hypothetical account of how he would have killed his ex-wife and Goldman. Its publication and an accompanying television interview were scrubbed in November by News Corp. after complaints of poor taste.

Simpson received \$895,000 in the deal but he spent it for items such as tax payments, his mortgage and tuition for his children's schooling, said one of his attorneys, Ron Slates, after the hearing.

"It's gone," he said.

Slates said that more than a decade ago, Fred Goldman rejected a proposed settlement of the original wrongful death lawsuit that could have totaled \$7 million.

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California's power companies barred from buying dirty power

BY TERENCE CHEA
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO California power companies will be barred from buying electricity from most coal-fired power plants after state utility regulators adopted new limits on emissions of heat-trapping gases linked to global warming.

Thursday's 4-0 vote by the Public Utilities Commission prohibits investor-owned utili-

ties from entering long-term contracts to obtain electricity from sources that emit more carbon dioxide than a modern natural gas plant. The so-called "greenhouse gas emissions performance standard" takes effect Feb. 1.

"It represents a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to address the challenge of climate change," PUC President Michael Peevey said.

The new rules — along with similar reg-

ulations for municipal utilities later this year — are expected to affect energy markets across the West. While there are almost no coal-fired plants in California, about 20 percent of the state's electricity comes from coal plants in Nevada, Wyoming, Utah and other Western states.

The new emissions standard is aimed at encouraging investment in cleaner energy sources such as wind and solar, while discouraging use of coal and other high-polluting sources.

Coal is inexpensive and plentiful, but releases high levels of carbon dioxide, a gas blamed for trapping heat in the earth's atmosphere and raising temperatures worldwide.

The standard, which is expected to take effect Feb. 1, was adopted as part of California's strategy to combat climate change by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Legislation signed into law last year required the state to adopt emissions standards for investor-owned and municipal utilities.

The PUC regulates the state's three investor-owned utilities — Pacific Gas & Electric Co. in San Francisco, Southern California Edison in Rosemead and San Diego Gas and Electric, owned by Sempra Energy in San Diego. Together, they supply power to more than 70 percent of Californians.

The three utilities said Thursday they support the emissions standard and did not anticipate much impact on electricity rates. Coal only makes up 1 percent of electricity at PG&E, 3 percent at SDGE and 7 percent at SCE, company officials said.

The California Energy Commission is drawing up a similar emissions standard for municipal utilities, which import a greater share of their electricity from out-of-state coal plants. The CEC is expected to issue its rules by July.

Municipal utilities in Anaheim, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Truckee ran into strong opposition when they tried to secure long-term contracts with out-of-state coal plants before the emissions standard took effect.

Environmentalists praised the PUC's emissions standard Thursday, saying it could encourage other states to adopt similar rules.

"It will help transition California's energy market to one that produces less greenhouse gas emissions," said Jim Metropoulos of the Sierra Club. "Other states may look at it and decide that they also want to transition from dirty coal power to cleaner, green power."

But Luke Popovich of the Washington-based National Mining Association, which represents the coal industry, said restricting emissions would drive up energy costs because coal makes up about half of the nation's electricity supply. Such restrictions will do little to combat global warming unless other countries adopt similar limits, he added.

"We don't think it makes sense for the United States to unilaterally deny itself use of its most abundant energy source, which is coal," Popovich said. "It is hardly going to solve anything unless we get China and India and other rapidly expanding economies into some sort of control regime."

Bob Finkelstein, who heads The Utility Reform Network in San Francisco, said California ratepayers may pay a little more now, but will benefit from cleaner-energy sources in the long run.

Democrats oppose new dams, favor conservation

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Democrats in the state Senate on Thursday said California does not need to build new reservoirs as it tries to cope with the expected consequences of global warming.

Instead, the state should rely on conservation, underground storage and boosting the height of existing dams.

Their plan, outlined in a series of bills, runs counter to Republicans' desire for new reservoirs to help California address the changes anticipated from global climate change.

It sets up a potential clash in the coming months with Republicans and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who proposed \$4.5 billion for two new reservoirs and underground water storage in his state of the state speech earlier this month.

"We do not believe that dams at this point are needed. They cost billions of dollars and take years to build," Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland, said during a news conference.

Democrats also said California should wisely spend the \$9.5 billion in flood-control and water bond money approved by voters in November before it spends more for new dams. Despite the disagreement, Perata predicted lawmakers and the governor will be able to negotiate.

California's average temperature is projected to rise 3 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050 and 5 degrees by 2100, state climatologist Michael Anderson said.

Scientists say the warmer weather will lead to more rain than snow in the Sierra Nevada, the 400-mile-long range that acts as a giant ice box for the state. Its snowpack stores much of the state's water supply, releasing it throughout the spring and summer when it's most in demand by farmers and cities.

Climate-change models say that pattern will change. The snowpack is expected to be smaller and will melt earlier in the year, conditions that could lead to spring flooding and summer drought.

"We all agree these are big challenges to ensure the water supply and to use it efficiently," Perata said. "But we need to get beyond the old and tired maxim that the best way to do that is to build a dam."

Some scientists say additional reservoirs are needed to capture the heavier runoff. Schwarzenegger proposed building one of the reservoirs in a valley about 60 miles north of Sacramento and the other near Fresno.

Sen. Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, said the proposal is premature, in part because studies of the two dam sites won't be completed for two years.

Reacting to the Democrats' proposals, Schwarzenegger said boosting surface storage must be part of the state's long-term water planning. He also advocates desalination, among other measures, said a spokesman, Darrel Ng.

"We must carefully consider all of the possible actions to ensure water supplies, including surface storage — an important part of a responsible overall water management system," Ng said.

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Fingerprints, shotgun shells led to arrests in 1971 police killing

BY KIM CURTIS

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — A fingerprint on a cigarette lighter left at the crime scene, testimony from an informant and old shotgun shells helped lead to the arrests this week of eight men accused of murdering a police officer in a spree of violence aimed at law enforcement in the 1960s and 70s.

The evidence — some of which was recovered using new forensic

techniques — was listed in court papers used to obtain an arrest warrant in the case. The 21-page document was released Thursday by the state attorney general's office.

Prosecutors say members of the Black Liberation Army, a violent offshoot of the Black Panthers, stormed the lobby of a San Francisco police station Aug. 29, 1971, killing Sgt. John V. Young with a shotgun and injuring a civilian clerk with gunfire.

Arrested Tuesday on charges of murder and conspiracy were: Francisco Torres, 58, of Queens, New York; Richard Brown, 65, of San Francisco; Harold Taylor, 58, of Panama City, Fla.; Ray Michael Boudreaux, 64, of Altadena; Henry Watson Jones, 71, of Altadena; Herman Bell, 59, and Anthony Bottom, 55, both of whom are currently incarcerated in New York.

Richard O'Neal, 57, of San Francisco, was arrested on a charge of conspiracy.

A ninth suspect, Ronald Bridgeforth, is believed to have fled the country. On the night of the shotgun siege, police recovered 48 items, including a ballpoint pen, a key, a cigarette lighter, shotgun shells and buckshot.

Advances in the recovery of fingerprints helped a state Justice Department forensic investigator in 2003 match the prints on the lighter to Torres, according to the affidavit used to obtain his arrest warrant.

Torres' lawyer did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

The following year, an FBI investigator matched five of the 15 shotgun shells recovered from the crime scene to spent shells recovered from a shotgun found at Bell's New Orleans home in 1973. The shotgun has since been lost by police.

Bell's lawyer, Stuart Hanlon, said he was excited for all the defendants.

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'Miracle' boy merges

Boy who started 'Missouri Miracle' happy to fade away

BY CHRISTOPHER LEONARD

Associated Press Writer

BEAUFORT, Mo. Shawn Hornbeck has a new Web site and is getting a new home. Mitchell Hults was given a truck, a \$5,000 scholarship and free tickets to see his favorite comedian.

When asked what kind of big gifts have been given to 13-year-old Ben Ownby, his uncle laughed.

"Um, nothing," Loyd Bailie said. "Lots of people calling."

That's just fine with Ben's parents, Don and Doris Ownby. For four days after their son was abducted Jan. 8, they tried to remain hopeful even as the chances of finding Ben alive grew thin.

Now, they are just happy to be out of the spotlight and healing with their son, Bailie said.

They're not looking for gifts from strangers.

"We're looking at material things here that, yeah, they would be nice to have, but the most important part about this whole thing is that Ben is back and Ben is doing well," Bailie said. The parents did not want to comment for this story, he said.

The three boys unwittingly swept up in the global media storm dubbed the

"Missouri Miracle" have taken very different paths in the public eye. Two have embraced the attention while one has faded into the shadows.

Mitchell, 15, has become the hero of the story — the eagle-eyed youth who spotted a pickup speeding from the site of Ben's abduction. The tip led authorities to the apartment of 41-year-old Michael Devlin, where they found Shawn and Ben. Devlin is charged with two counts of kidnapping.

Shawn has become the tale's miracle. Abducted more than four years ago, the boy last seen by his parents as a spunky 11-year old came home a lanky 15-year-old with faint sideburns, bushy hair and a lip ring.

markedly different stances with the media.

Just days after the boys were freed, Shawn appeared with his parents, Craig and Pamela Akers, on the "The Oprah Winfrey Show." Don and Doris Ownby appeared, too, but kept Ben off camera.

Shawn's parents became adept at dealing with the media years ago. They formed the Shawn Hornbeck Foundation to bring attention to their son's case and the plight of other missing children.

The foundation this week launched a Web site containing photos of Shawn and message boards where more than 1,100 notes have been posted for the boy and his family.

... THE MOST IMPORTANT PART ABOUT THIS WHOLE THING IS THAT BEN IS BACK AND BEN IS DOING WELL.

Loyd Bailie

Uncle of Ben Ownby

Ben and Shawn appeared together publicly only once, on Jan. 12., when police brought them from Devlin's home to the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. They walked into the building in front of a crowd of shocked and tearful onlookers.

Interviews suggest the boys have not spoken with one another since. The boys and their families have taken

On Tuesday, a St. Louis company announced it would build a home on the Akers' property in Richwoods. Ground was to be broken Friday, but the family was not scheduled to attend.

Mitchell was honored at a school assembly earlier this month. On Wednesday, he received a new truck from DaimlerChrysler and was later honored at Gov. Matt Blunt's speech.

Anchorage away: City digging itself out

BY RACHEL D'ORO

Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The snow is already piled so high that drivers cannot see around corners. Homeowners are getting worried their roofs can't handle the load. And snow-removal crews are running up the overtime hours.

Even by Alaska's prodigious, myth-making standards, this is a remarkably snowy winter on the Last Frontier.

In one of the strangest winters across America in many years, Alaska's biggest city has gotten more snow — over 74 inches so far — than it normally receives in an entire winter (68 inches). And there are still four more months of snowy weather ahead.

Anchorage Daily News columnist Beth Bragg cried, "Uncle!"

"Winter wins. Snow wins. Now can we see the sun again?" she wrote in Friday's column. "Twice already I've hired someone to shovel my roof. Both times I waited until water leaked into the house. Both times, I discovered something was amiss, not because water dripped off the ceiling, but because it seeped through the bedroom carpet."

The robust snowfall comes after several years of wimpy, low-snow winters in proudly rugged Alaska, and so it is welcome news to some.

"I love the snow. Bring it on!" said Whitney Hitchcock, a 20-year-old University of Alaska student who likes to go ice skating at an outdoor rink downtown. "I can't get enough."

The Anchorage snowfall record is 132.5 inches, set in the winter of 1955-56.

City snow-removal crews have had to cut channels through the streets, leaving narrower-than-usual roadways, hemmed in by walls of snow as high as cars.



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Bush seeking \$10.6B to help fight Taliban

BY ANNE GEARAN
AP Diplomatic Writer

BRUSSELS, Belgium The Bush administration plans to ask Congress for \$10.6 billion for Afghanistan, a major increase aimed at rebuilding the country and strengthening government security forces still fighting the Taliban five years after the U.S.-led invasion.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said all but \$2 billion of the money is for security needs. She detailed the plan as she prepared to attend a NATO gathering meant to plan for an expected Taliban military offensive in the spring.

Among other issues Rice was to raise Friday with her NATO colleagues were the divisions within the alliance on sharing the burden in Afghanistan. Some NATO countries have shown a greater willingness than others to send troops to areas of conflict.

The United States is by far the largest contributor to the 34,460-member NATO force in Afghanistan, with 11,800 troops. Britain is next with 5,200.

"We're looking to others to step up their effort with us, step up across the board," Richard Boucher, Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia, told reporters Thursday.

The Bush administration funding proposal follows a year in which Taliban forces launched surprisingly fierce attacks across the country, poppy production expanded and relations worsened between Afghanistan and Pakistan, a key ally in the fight against global terrorism.

"The challenges of the last several months have demonstrated that we want to and we should redouble our efforts," Rice told reporters flying with her to Brussels for the NATO sessions.

The U.S. aid package would fund training and equipment to meet a previously set goal of increasing the ranks of Afghan soldiers and national police to about 70,000 and 82,000 respectively, among other uses, a State Department official said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because President Bush will make a formal budget request next month.

The United States wants to strengthen the democratic government of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who has struggled to extend political control throughout his country and quarreled with Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf. The new U.S. money would be on top of \$14.2 billion in aid the United States has already given to Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion that toppled the Taliban government.

Rice said that of the total, \$8.6 billion would be for training and equipping Afghan police and security forces, and \$2 billion would be for reconstruction. The money would be spent over the next two years.

The aid proposal comes alongside a move toward increasing the number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. The Defense Department has said that 3,200 soldiers from the New York-based 10th Mountain Division already in Afghanistan would have their tour extended by four months.



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Money may grow on trees: Cashing in on carbon dioxide

By The Associated Press

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho Some landowners in the Pacific Northwest are planting new forests of trees to consume greenhouse gases and potentially buffer climate change, in a business called carbon forestry.

The Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho recently planted 5,000 acres of new forest along the Clearwater River and is in the process of selling carbon credits from the land. The state of Idaho also is exploring the idea as a way to get more value out of its timber.

The trees can be worth money to energy companies and other businesses under increasing pressure to offset the carbon dioxide they emit, said Ted Dodge, director of the National Carbon Offset Coalition of Butte, Mont.

"We believe this is going to be the largest commodity market in the world," Dodge told a group of foresters and land managers earlier this week, adding: "This is going. The train has left the station."

Through a U.S. Department of Energy grant, Dodge spent the week crossing Idaho to explain the concept, hoping to find an extra 12,500 metric tons of forest-based and crop field-based carbon to sell to traders on the Chicago Climate Exchange.

The concept may be new to a state long dependent on turning trees into lumber. However, an acre of these trees can consume a ton of the gas from the atmosphere each year.

The money in the trees isn't much — about \$4 an acre. At current carbon prices, trees are still worth far more dead than alive, but landowners with no intention of cutting their trees might find an extra source of income through carbon credits, Dodge said.

"It's money they wouldn't have gotten otherwise," he said. There are a number of conditions.

Primarily, the trees must be planted on barren land or places where natural disasters, including wildfire, have killed off the forest. The landowner also must agree to keep the land

forested for a set number of years.

Farmers may also tap into the project by agreeing to no-till or low-till practices just like forests, Dodge said.

Landowners are paid a set price for each ton of carbon stored by these newly planted trees or undisturbed fields. The going rate this week on the Chicago Climate Exchange was \$3.80 per ton. Businesses and organizations that produce carbon dioxide buy credits on the exchange to help offset their emissions.

In Europe, where carbon dioxide emissions are capped by law, the price of carbon has topped \$20 a ton.

The system is voluntary in the United States, but dozens of organizations are now participating, including steel producers, energy companies and even the state of New Mexico.

Several states, including California, are beginning to regulate emissions on their own. A national standard would be easier to follow than dozens of separate state rules, said Neil Sampson, a Virginia-based forestry consultant to the National Carbon Offset Coalition.

When a national system is developed, the price of carbon credits is expected to rise, Sampson said. Forestry will likely play a marginal role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but Sampson believes it could be a way for landowners to make enough money to pay their tax bill while also helping stabilize the climate.

"We can't solve the whole problem but we can nip away at the edges," he said.

The Nez Perce Tribe has one of the biggest projects in the region. The trees were planted on land once forested but long ago converted to agricultural lands on the advice of the federal government. The land wasn't the best for crops and the tribe prefers to see it reforested, said John DeGroot, forestry director for the Nez Perce. The idea of selling carbon credits from these newly planted forests is appealing, he said, because it offers the chance to make money to manage the land and pay for other reforestation.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Balls in your court

The 57th Annual Seniors Tournament will be held at Reed Park on Jan. 27-28 and Feb. 3-4. Bring a chair, an umbrella for the beach weather and enjoy highly competitive tennis on the Westside for free. Age groups include 30 and over to 80 and over with five-year brackets in between.

DAILY PRESS

Winograd speaks for SM Democrats

Area Democrats can get the dish during a lecture called "Accomplishing our Progressive Agenda" on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

Marcy Winograd, President of Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles, will be the featured speaker at the next meeting of the Santa Monica Democratic Club.

Winograd challenged incumbent congressperson Jane Harman in 2006, receiving 38 percent of the vote. Winograd will speak at 7 p.m. at St. Anne's Community Room on 20th Street and Colorado Avenue.

DP

Talk about transportation history

Professor Joseph Schwieterman, a nationally known transportation expert, will give a talk, "Trains, Planes & Automobiles: Perspectives on Santa Monica's Rich Transportation History," on Friday, Feb. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Main Library's Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard.

Schwieterman, a professor at DePaul University in Chicago, will offer a fast-paced look at the changing transportation scene, showing the audience scenes of the glory years of the Pacific Electric Railway, the heyday of the Santa Monica airport and other highlights from around the region. He will also be signing copies of his book, "When the Railroad Leaves Town: American Communities in the Age of Rail Line Abandonment," which contains a chapter on Santa Monica. A book sale and signing follows the program. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

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Free workshop reveals 7 ways to slash college costs

SANTA MONICA — An extremely popular free workshop is being held for the parents of college bound high school students during the month of February at various Santa Monica locations.

The workshop dates are Thursday, February 8th at the Montana Avenue 7:15PM-8:45PM, Saturday, February 10th at the Santa Monica Main Library 10:15 AM. to 12 PM, and Tuesday, February 13th at the Santa Monica Main Library. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation's leading expert on paying for college.

The workshop will focus on little-known ways of getting money for college, no matter how much income you make, or how good of a student you have. The class will include such topics as how to double or triple your eligibility for free grant money, the secret to sending your child to a private or UC school for less than the cost of a junior college, and the single biggest mistake that 9 out of 10 par-

ents make when planning for college.

Seating is free, but limited by the size of the room. To reserve your seat, call 310-581-7954 leave a message and receive a confirmation



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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

A TIME FOR HEALING: Volunteers help Heal the Bay clean the Santa Monica Beach last year. A community volunteer fair this weekend looks to pair residents with community service providers.

A call for volunteers by local organizations

FROM VOLUNTEERS PAGE 1

including the Santa Monica Conservancy, the Santa Monica Police and Fire departments, Sojourn Family Services, UCLA Medical Center Meal on Wheels, the Center for Healthy Aging and the library itself.

"I have many organizations calling me who would like to be represented, but we don't have the space for them," Ronan said. "I didn't expect this response, I'm thrilled."

Projected as an annual event based on the response received from interested agencies, city officials expect to see 200 people pouring in through the doors of the branch library.

"We'll be looking to attract a lot of people, and get people excited about volunteering," said Ann Hammond, program director for WISE Senior Services. "This whole idea of volunteerism is so important. There are so many organizations doing important work."

Among the programs for which WISE is seeking help today are Fraud Fighters — a program that informs seniors on how to combat telemarketing fraud — a senior tax advice service and elementary school tutoring.

Agencies in need of help are hopeful the fair can help replenish their volunteer inventory. Meals on Wheels, servicing Santa Monica, Malibu, Pacific Palisades and Topanga, has had a hard time finding a helping hand since gasoline prices skyrocketed over the past few years.

Volunteers for Meals on Wheels, which delivers hot meals to senior citizens, cover their own gas mileage.

"We're definitely looking for more volunteers," said Joanna Vasquez, director of volunteers at Meals on Wheels. "It's always hard to get volunteers."

The non-profit is specifically looking for local corporations to "Adopt a Route," a program in which employees or appointed volunteers can deliver meals each week on a given route.

Though Vasquez has never participated in a city sponsored fair on this scale, she has solicited help at the local public schools, which she has always found to be a good source for finding volunteers.

Groups outside city limits will also be

reaching into Santa Monica for community service-minded individuals. The Venice Family Clinic [VFC], on Venice Boulevard near the Lincoln intersection, will be seeking volunteers to help both in the clinic and at upcoming events, including the Venice Art Walk in May, a fundraising venture for the clinic.

The clinic will be seeking volunteer medical personnel, clinical and administrative assistants, and bilingual volunteers who can service the large population of Spanish speaking clients.

**PEOPLE ... WANT TO
GIVE BACK TO THE
COMMUNITY, BUT IT'S
NOT ALWAYS EASY FOR THEM
TO MEET WITH THE RIGHT
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES."**

Catherine Ronan
Manager, Fairview Branch Library

"There's always a need for people to help us pull medical records or file medical records," said Jennifer Jiries, development and administrative volunteer coordinator for VFC. "There isn't a shortage in terms of meeting the daily needs of our patients, but we're trying to keep everything going [behind the scenes]."

Even the city could use a helping hand. The sponsoring parties also plan to seek help in their respective departments. The Santa Monica Public Library needs volunteers to lead book discussion groups, tutor children in reading and assist with publicity and newsletters.

The city, on the other hand, could use more assistance in the animal shelter, the Farmers' Market and the after-school homework program.

"We've got civic-minded people here and people want to help and give," said Julie Schatz, volunteer program supervisor for the city of Santa Monica.

The Community Volunteer Fair will take place today from 10 a.m. to noon at the Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

melodyh@smdp.com

Traffic fatalities have plagued Ocean Park

FROM CROSSWALK PAGE 3

The crosswalk was one of five installed on Santa Monica Boulevard in 2000 to "provide increased visibility for the motorist, while still requiring the pedestrian to cross with care," according to a city staff report dated Aug. 8, 2000.

Other locations on Santa Monica Boulevard where the lighted crosswalks were installed are; Ninth Street, 15th Street, 18th Street and Princeton Street.

Ocean Park and Pico boulevards also have the same systems at select intersections.

CROSSWALKS A CONCERN

City officials are working on the final phase of a traffic study to improve safety along a deadly stretch of Ocean Park Boulevard. Police recently filed misdemeanor charges against a driver who struck and killed a woman while she was walking in a crosswalk at 25th Street and Ocean Park Boulevard on Sept. 21, 2006.

The city kicked off the four-phase traffic analysis in May 2006 at a community meeting at the Fairview Branch Library, where approximately 45 concerned participants vented their frustration over the dangers of an area that is home to John Adams Middle School, Will Rogers Elementary School and New Roads Elementary School. Santa Monica College is situated also nearby.

A study identified speed as one of the main problems on Ocean Park Boulevard, which has posted speed limits of 25 mph when children are present, and 30-35 mph at other times. Residents contend the limits are rarely adhered to by motorists.

Residents also complained about the

lighted crosswalks breaking down frequently.

City officials said one of the companies that installed the system has since gone bankrupt, which has hindered efforts to get them fixed. City Hall is looking at alternatives for maintenance.

In the meantime, Semion Kivulin is making funeral arrangements for his father, a World War II veteran who moved to Santa Monica 13 years ago with his wife of 60 years.



IT IS A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT AND OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE INVOLVED."

Mona Miyasato
Assistant to the City Manager

The two lived at Geneva Plaza, a low-income housing complex for seniors on 21st Street.

"He was a hard-working man," Semion Kivulin said of his father. "He did everything he could to support his family. He loved people, loved nature. He loved everybody ... He was a very strong man. He would go everywhere on his feet. He was in good condition. You would not know he was 80 by looking at him.

"This is a tragedy for our family and my mother, who is now alone after 60 years of marriage."

kevinh@smdp.com

Learning the neighborhood

FROM RAND PAGE 3

neighborhood affected school-readiness for children, whether health insurance existed among immigrants, and how other socioeconomic factors affected behaviors among adolescents.

RAND claims the study was the first real look at the number of illegal immigrants who have health insurance in LA County.

The first phase of the study suggested that neighborhood economics might play a role in the child's ability to succeed. Growing up in a poor neighborhood might have more of an effect on learning ability than growing up in a poor family, the study states.

"We found that the neighborhood seemed to matter over and above family influences," Sastry said.

In the second phase, which is expected to wrap up by early 2008, researchers hope to interview 1,000 new families and touch base with the families who still live in the neighborhoods covered in the first phase. These new families will be asked the basics about their neighborhoods and whether they have health insurance.

The key difference in the second phase will be its focus on health factors. Researchers will check height and weight, blood pressure, cholesterol levels and the level of stress hormones of the participants.

"We'll be able to answer questions about how healthy people are in Los Angeles, in relationship with the neighborhood factor," Sastry said.

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 Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com
IN THE OPEN: Massage parlors abound in Santa Monica, a city measuring just 8.3 square miles.

Happy endings may not be in cards for landlords

FROM PARLOR TRICKS PAGE 1

prostitutes, and that's not even counting those who haven't bothered filing for permits from City Hall and the Santa Monica Police department.

"This has been an ongoing problem for years in this city," said SMPD LT. Marianne Fulllove, who uses sites like Craigslist.org, along with tips from residents and customers who have been solicited, to weed out the therapists providing deep-tissue rub-downs and then some.

"People have found little loopholes and ways to work around the law," Fulllove added. "If a girl is arrested, they are simply replaced by someone else. If the operators are cited when a violation occurs, they just transfer the business to another family member or friend and continue operating ... It's frustrating."

Over the past decade, the problem in Santa Monica seems to have exacerbated. In 2006, the number of people applying for permits to operate a massage establishment more than doubled the previous two years combined, according to Pamela McGarvey, revenue operations supervisor for City Hall, who is in charge of issuing permits and business licenses.

While many of those applying are legit, the increase suggests that Santa Monica is becoming a trendy place to set up shop for the sex trade.

STEMMING A 'VICIOUS CYCLE'

In July 2005, federal and local law officers raided suspected brothels in San Francisco, the Koreatown area of Los Angeles, Redondo Beach and Santa Monica. The raids resulted in 18 arrests of people believed to be involved in the smuggling of hundreds of

Korean women into the United States as prostitutes.

"The majority of the women here are from Korea," said Fulllove. "They range in age. I've seen them as old as 55 ... and as young as 18. Most times, they are victims themselves. They are brought here from foreign countries and are promised a good job in a legitimate business. When they get here, they learn otherwise and are forced into prostitution to pay off a debt that can be as high as \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$20,000 — money they paid to come over here."

"It's a vicious cycle, so instead of focusing on the women, we try to apply pressure to the business and property owners," Fulllove said. "People don't want to lose their land."

The problem has become a growing concern for both residents and elected officials, so much so that the City Attorney's Office is currently working on changes to the permitting process that would force all massage technicians in the city to be fingerprinted, submit health records and pass a series of tests to show that they have been trained by an accredited organization.

The SMPD and City Attorney's Office have also increased their use of a state law commonly referred to as the "red light abatement" law, which allows city officials to target property owners who rent to those who are operating illegal massage establishments, according to Deputy City Attorney Linda Mills.

If a parlor is cited several times for illegal activity, the City Attorney's Office can shut the building down for one year and force the owner to pay damages to the city equal to the fair market value of one year's rent for the space. The courts can also order a civil

SEE PARLOR TRICKS PAGE 19

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FROM PARLOR TRICKS PAGE 18

penalty of up to \$25,000 and attach a lien to the property.

"These are pretty substantial penalties," Mills said. "They are among the tools that we have, including jail time. Our goal is compliance. We want to have the nuisances abated. That's our goal."

The proposed changes under consideration include requiring all massage technicians to show they have anywhere from 300 to 500 hours of education. Currently, technicians only need 150 hours, McGarvey said.

Those with only 150 hours currently have to also submit medical certification that they are free of communicable diseases and must pass an exam on the art of massage therapy and the city's massage ordinance.

"The city does not require (liability) insurance at this time, but that would be one of the provisions under the ordinance," McGarvey said.

The changes are expected to come before the City Council by the end of February.

"The education of the landlords, in general, is a challenge that we are working on," said Chief Deputy City Attorney Betty Haviland. "We had a relatively small number of massage establishments in Santa Monica 10 years ago and we've seen a rapid increase ... since then. This enforcement effort is really about educating the land owners about what we believe is going on at their location and asking them to be responsible."

Progress is being made. A former massage parlor at the corner of Lincoln and Pico boulevards has been converted into a tax preparer's office because of the efforts of the City Attorney's Office and the SMPD.

A FEW BAD APPLES RUIN BUNCH

The hundreds of massage technicians in Santa Monica who do provide legal services to their clients have mixed feelings about the new requirements being proposed.

Many feel that the ordinance would help in changing perceptions about their profession, which has received a bad rap because of a small number who use massage parlors as a cover for prostitution. However, there are those who believe stricter enforcement of the current laws would go a long way towards weeding out those who are not legitimate.

In the end, most therapists would like to see regulation come from the state, so that it is uniform. At present, therapists must obtain permits from every city they work in. Each city has different requirements, which can be confusing, costly and time-consuming.

"In 37 states, massage therapy is licensed by the state. California has not jumped on that bandwagon," said Jean Robinson, government relations director for Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals, a national trade organization. "This can be very cost-prohibitive and insulting. Most of these therapists have gone through school and have anywhere from 150 to 1,000 hours."

"The prostitutes aren't the one's paying

for an application."

Robinson said she still cannot understand why therapists are required to submit their health records.

"We are fine with background checks, but these therapists are professionals," Robinson said. "They have trained in the art of healing. They are not going to be sleeping with their clients. It just seems crazy."

Robinson said attitudes are changing across the country when it comes to massage therapy. Technicians are commanding more respect following years of being lumped together with adult entertainment.

That said, there are still clients who will ask for sexual services from a therapist.

"I have stories from therapists that totally creep me out," Robinson said. "The therapist is often placed in a horrible situation that has them scared to death. Many are freaked out and run out of the room after being confronted by a client looking for sex."



PEOPLE HAVE FOUND LITTLE LOOPHOLES AND WAYS TO WORK AROUND THE LAW."

Marianne Fulllove
SANTA MONICA POLICE LIEUTENANT

A 'SORRY' STATE

The perception that spas and massage establishments offer sex is so pervasive that even the most well-known locations occasionally have customers who come in asking for something extra.

At Burke Williams in Santa Monica, General Manager Brian Layne said therapists are trained in how to deal with clients who go too far.

"Basically, you give a warning and let them know that this is not that kind of establishment," Layne said. "Most of them are guys and they say, 'All right. I'm sorry, I didn't mean anything by it,' and it's a done deal. It can be very scary for some of our therapists. No matter what you need to do to get out of that room safely and to feel comfortable while giving treatment, we support that."

Layne said that "97 percent" of people who get into the industry do so with the best intentions, but the industry is still plagued by the bad image that prostitution creates. While the perception of therapists may have changed over the years, it appears there is still a long way to go.

"I think it's just the nature of putting one person in a closed room without clothes on, with another person," Layne said. "I guess it opened the door to questions being asked. I really don't know, but this industry in particular seems to be stigmatized."

kevinh@smdp.com

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City of Santa Monica Ordinance Number 2217 (CCS) (City Council Series)



AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE TO EXEMPT CERTAIN AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING PROJECTS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW REQUIREMENT IN ALL MULTI-FAMILY DISTRICTS, AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS IN THE CM, C5, AND M1 DISTRICTS

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2217 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2217 (CCS) ("the Ordinance") amends the Santa Monica Municipal Code to exempt from development review threshold requirements 100% affordable rental housing projects of not more than 50 units in the R2, R3, R4, R2B, R3R, OP2, OP3, OP4 and OPD Districts. The Ordinance also exempts from conditional use permit requirements 100% affordable rental housing projects of not more than 50 units in the CM, C5 and M1 Districts.

Ordinance Number 2217 (CCS) was adopted on January 23, 2007, and shall become effective 30 days after its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

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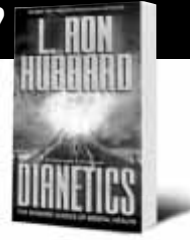
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Cupid's main course

Martha Stewart and Rachael Ray serve up sumptuous ideas for Valentine's dinner

BY J.M. HIRSCH

AP Food Writer

NEWYORK Are you a "Casablanca" couple or more inclined to an "Out of Africa" affair?

Your answer might suggest which path is the most direct line to your lover's heart, a fast and fun Valentine's Day meal as envisioned by culinary speed queen Rachael Ray or a more elegant (and involved) endeavor crafted by domestic authority Martha Stewart.

Hoping to ease some of the Hallmark moment anxiety couples new and old face on this day defined by hearts and cards, Stewart and Ray recently sat down with The Associated Press to chart out their ideas for the perfect at-home dinner.

Both agreed that the perfect ending to the perfect meal is a snuggle on the couch accompanied by a good movie. And both suggested classics to help carry the romance from the table to, well, wherever it takes you.

"I find 'The Godfather' a romantic movie," said Ray, though she acknowledged it's probably best to make sure you really know your date before hitting the play button on that one. "'Casablanca,' now that's a gold standard. Or 'When Harry Met Sally.'"

Stewart's top choice was "Out of Africa," followed closely by the 1940 version of "Pride and Prejudice."

But don't dwell too long on the encore, at

least not before sorting out the opening act. For Stewart, that means a card.

"Cards have to be sent. I love cards and I send them to every man I care about, whether they're boyfriends, former boyfriends or business colleagues," Stewart said. "And I make up silly cards because I think Valentine's Day is a silly holiday."

For the meal, Stewart calls for easing into something casual and delicious with a cocktail or rose Champagne. And she likes the idea of a duet, a meal the couple plans and prepares together. And she doesn't fret that one partner might not be a whiz in the kitchen.

"Some men don't like to cook at all, so you just let them get drunk," Stewart said, laughing.

Start the dinner with a salad of gently roasted vegetables, perhaps wild mushrooms and baby asparagus tossed with fresh herbs, mache (a salad green) and sliced endive. Then move on to pasta, such as fettuccini Alfredo with shaved white truffles.

If white truffles aren't your thing, or are out of your budget, Stewart suggests a Parmesan souffle, a delicate and impressive offering. Then continue the theme into dessert with a pistachio souffle with a molten chocolate center.

For a special touch, Stewart enjoys making a heart-shaped box, which she fills with chocolates, candies or pastries. The directions for making such boxes appear in the current issue of Stewart's magazine.

And don't forget to set the mood with an attractively set table, flowers and — of course — music. Stewart opts for Leonard Cohen.

Ray prefers a more come-as-you-are approach, saying a romantic evening with her husband generally involves a low-stress meal while lounging in ripped jeans and T-shirts.

Bananas on the windowsill?

BY ANNE WALLACE ALLEN

Associated Press Writer

Winter is a cold, dark time in Grand Rapids, Mich. But inside Scott Zomerlei's house there's always a hint of spring.

The downstairs hallway of his two-story home has a modest lettuce garden growing under a light. In the upstairs hall, strawberries thrive.

"I can have a fresh salad any time I want for pretty much no money and I know it's totally organic because I grew it myself," said the 24-year-old, who works at a hydroponic equipment store. He says he enjoys living with the glow of growing lights and the lush smell of plants.

He's hardly alone. Exotic or extensive windowsill gardens have become a big business. And this is way beyond pots of basil or chives.

As the American palate has diversified, many home cooks want more than old standbys such as thyme or oregano. And increasingly, they are getting it. Even high-rise apartment dwellers are finding they can grow exotic produce.

Living room-friendly dwarf citrus trees can be found on eBay, online gardening sellers, even in the pages of upscale food catalogs. With the right conditions and care, lemons, limes and miniature oranges can be an arm's length from your couch or kitchen.

There also are mail-order dwarf banana trees guaranteed to thrive in any climate — as

long as it's indoors. And Springville, Utah-based Herbkits.com sells kits for growing medicinal herbs, as well as herbal teas, such as chamomile.

The appeal is part novelty, but also part offshoot of the local and organic foods movement. People want to know where their food comes from and how it was produced. It's hard to be better acquainted with one's food than this.

"It's just crazy popular right now," said Jay Lawrence, owner of Growco Indoor Gardening, the Grand Rapids hydroponics equipment store where Zomerlei works. In hydroponic gardening, plants are rooted in a non-soil substance and fed liquid nutrients.

Of course, indoor edibles come at a price. While a clay pot of oregano might cost a few dollars, dwarf citrus plants run \$50 or more. And once you get into more serious growing systems, the cost of powering them has to be factored in, too.

Wattage determines the size of the area you can garden, said Lawrence. His store sells all-in-one hydroponic growing systems, including a 3-by-3-foot enclosure, for \$1,547. Smaller all-inclusive systems, suitable for a tabletop, start at around \$199.

Christopher Casacci, who sells hydroponic equipment in his Niagara Falls, N.Y.-based Sunlight Solutions, is trying to take advantage of the efficiency of hydroponics to grow truffles on the roots of indoor hydroponic hazelnut trees.

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GOLF

Rookie makes a name for himself at Torrey

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

SAN DIEGO Brandt Snedeker knew the score. He just couldn't believe where he was. The only time Snedeker had ever been 9-under par through nine holes was sitting in front of a monitor playing a Tiger Woods video game. He knew that wasn't the case Thursday in the Buick Invitational because Woods was two groups ahead of him on the North Course at Torrey Pines, and well behind him on the scoreboard. And when the 26-year-old rookie added yet another birdie, he even started taking away some of Woods' fans. "I don't know if they know who I am or what was going on," Snedeker said. "But they were sure rooting me on like they were my best friend. It was great."

So was his opening round of the year. Snedeker flirted with golf's magic number by reaching 10 under through 10 holes, before the birdies dried up and a 59 fell out of reach. He settled for an 11-under 61 that tied the course record and gave him a two-shot lead over Charlie Wi.

"The whole front nine was a blur," said Snedeker, who couldn't recall how he birdied some of the holes, much less what those holes even looked like. But he generated the biggest buzz at the Buick Invitational, where Woods opened with a 66 in his bid for a seventh straight PGA Tour victory and was reduced to a supporting role.

"To see the crowd kind of work their way back to me from Tiger was kind of nice," Snedeker said. "Seeing them rooting me on the last nine holes — although I couldn't bring it in the way they wanted — was still fun. I had a blast."

Woods had just knocked down the flag with a 5-iron for a short eagle putt on the 18th hole when he noticed a scoreboard on his way to the first tee that showed Snedeker

at 8 under through seven holes. "We thought it was a misprint," Woods said. "It came up again, so obviously it was not a misprint. That's some great playing."

His second thought must have been, "Who's Brandt Snedeker?"

He's the Tennessee kid with blond hair flowing under his visor, a former U.S. Amateur Public Links champion who turned pro after tying for 41st in the '04 Masters. He didn't get his PGA Tour card until finishing ninth on the Nationwide Tour money list last year, despite missing a month when he tripped over a tree and

... THEY WERE SURE ROOTING ME ON LIKE THEY WERE MY BEST FRIEND. IT WAS GREAT."

Brandt Snedeker
Golfer

broke his right collarbone. Snedeker quickly became the star attraction on a spectacular day in San Diego. "The crowd going into today probably didn't have a clue who I was, and by the end of the day, I had people cheering my name and telling me to shoot 59 and stuff like that," he said. "It was a great way to break onto the PGA Tour."

Never mind that they couldn't pronounce his name properly. "I've had it butchered so many times that it's no big deal," he said. "I've gotten 'Snotlicker' before, so I don't think it could get any worse than that."

Starting his first round at No. 10, Snedeker went eight holes before making a par and was 9 under through nine holes, tying the PGA Tour record for nine holes on a par 36. That's when the thought of a 59 first came into view.

BASEBALL

A's sign Kielty for \$2.1M

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. The Oakland Athletics all but completed their roster heading into spring training, agreeing Thursday with outfielder Bobby Kielty on a \$2.1 million, one-year contract that avoided arbitration. Kielty will likely be primarily a backup outfielder again for the A's, with Nick Swisher slated to start in left field, Mark Kotsay in center and Milton Bradley in right. Kielty, who is strongest against left-handed pitchers, batted .270 with eight home runs and 36 RBIs in 81 games for AL West champion Oakland last season. His contract includes up to \$100,000 in performance bonuses _ \$25,000 each for 300, 350, 400 and 450 plate appearances. His batting average last year was the second highest of his career after he hit .291 in 2002. "It's a happy day. I'm definitely pleased to get it done," Kielty said in a phone interview. Kielty made 40 starts in left field and 27 in right as one of an Oakland-record five players to make at least 60 outfield starts. New manager Bob Geren said at a lunch-

eon Thursday that he likes the depth of his club and doesn't plan to change a lot from a team that won 93 games and the division, then advanced to the AL championship series with a first-round sweep of the Minnesota Twins. The A's were then swept by the Detroit Tigers in four games. "I feel we have some flexibility, we have some talent and we have some players who can play multiple positions," said Geren, promoted from bench coach in November to replace Ken Macha. "I feel positive about it."

Kielty, who has added lean muscle to his frame this winter through his workouts and a high-protein diet, hopes he will get his chances in 2007. He said he feels as strong as he ever has. "It's good to hear," he said of Geren's words. "I think I should be hitting against left-handed pitching most of the time and probably against righties who I have good matchups with. That's kind of how it's been last year and the year before. I don't see it changing too much. Whoever's swinging the bat the best is probably going to play."

Oakland's pitchers and catchers report to the team's Phoenix facility Feb. 16.



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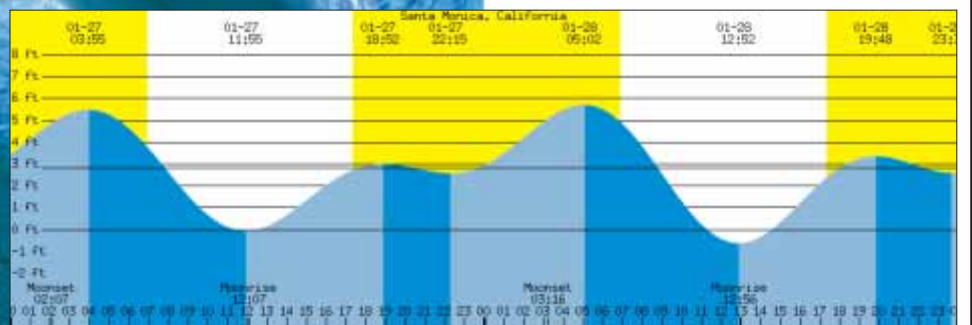
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 58°

SWELL FORECAST (6-9 FT)
Today this swell will start to back down, but there should still be some chest to head high surf for west facing breaks, maybe even a few overhead pluses from time to time. Tomorrow should start out with moderate NW swell, mostly leftovers from yesterday's swell. Most west facing breaks are looking at waist to chest high waves.

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	Number of wet days --	4	
	Number of A grades for dry/wet weather --	32 / 5	
	Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather --	11 / 5	
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LOCATION	DRY	WET	
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns	
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+	
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns	
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	B	ns	
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	B	ns	
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	B	ns	
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily	F	F	
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns	
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	F	ns	
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns	
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A	ns	
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	A+	
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns	
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	B	ns	
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A	ns	
LOCATION	DRY	WET	
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	F	ns	
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns	
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	D	ns	
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	F	
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	F	ns	
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	D	ns	
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	A	
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	F	
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A	ns	
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	C	
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns	
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	D	ns	
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns	
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns	
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns	
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	B	A+	
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	F	
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns	
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns	
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns	
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns	
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns	
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns	

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

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★★ Positive
★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Deal with basics this morning and liberate yourself for more fun and enjoyment. You might want to share some special news. Wait. Someone you meet might not be the easiest person to relate to. Careful. Tonight: Hang out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ You feel your energy and power in the morning hours. By the afternoon, you could be waning or tired. You also could be in the mood to let your hair down because you are exhausted from being so true-blue and efficient. Tonight: Could be memorable. A friend plays a big role.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Make it OK to be lazy this morning, though by the afternoon, you might be hard-pressed to stay put. A compliment is heading your way. This person means what he or she says. You make quite an impression right now! Tonight: Ask with the expectation of receiving.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Use the morning for any important projects, calls or visits. In the afternoon, take some time off just to wander or to simply relax. You don't have to have every moment booked. Tonight: Do only what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Check in with an older relative or friend in the morning. Though you might feel burdened with responsibilities, you are also clearing the path to feeling free. Friends invite you here and there. Where you go is your call. Tonight: The center of the party.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ If you have plans to take off, do it in the morning. You could get snarled up in some project or responsibility this afternoon. Even if you do, this "job" might be as simple as organizing a get-together. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ A loved one's presence makes all the difference in the morning. You feel quite complete. Your mind could be an endless source of fantasy and creativity, as the afternoon will demonstrate. Tonight: Daydream all you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Someone clearly steals the scene, whether you like it or not. What you discover is how important it is to be easygoing. A budding relationship is in the process of developing more warmth. Go off together. Tonight: Add that magic.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ If you really want to enjoy the remainder of your day and weekend, clear out what you must do. Relax and be the natural extrovert your sign is noted for. Still, you might want to buy something special for a friend or loved one. Tonight: Choose the most appealing invitation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Squeeze every moment out of the morning, when someone might be more gentle or amorous. Whatever idea or hobby you like or have been putting off hits center stage in the afternoon. You become a doer. Tonight: Relax in a favorite way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You clearly want to get certain tasks completed so you can enjoy yourself. The child in you emerges, full of mischief and fun. Let go and be that free spirit your sign is renowned for. Spending could turn into splurging. Tonight: You might go on and on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Return calls in the morning. Your instincts and events encourage you to cocoon, not for lack of invitations. You might be weighing the pros and cons of an emotional situation. Take your time. This decision could be important. Tonight: Light a candle; add atmosphere. Sit in front of a fire.

Born Today

Author Lewis Carroll (1832)

Actress Bridget Fonda (1964)

Rapper Tricky (1968)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>

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Happy Birthday!

You might swing from stable to wild and crazy at the drop of a hat. No matter which way you swing on the pendulum, many find you unusually attractive and desirable. You will make money through a gift or talent. You also might overspend with ease. Know that fun doesn't have to cost a fortune. You also don't need to keep up with the Joneses. If you are single, you have a lot to offer; in fact, you are quite the handful. Others want to get to know you. If you are attached, you add excitement to your relationship just by being yourself. GEMINI loves to play with you.

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No glove lost

Since **MICHAEL JACKSON** forsook his Neverland Ranch, the King of Pop has popped up in some very unexpected places.

He's taken up residence in the Gulf state of Bahrain, in France and even in a castle in Ireland. He showed up in Augusta, Ga., to give a eulogy at James Brown's funeral, and materialized in London to accept an award for his contributions to the world of pop music. Lately he's been spotted in Las Vegas on his famed shopping sprees.

So where is he now? In a rare conference call, the singer emerged with

his spokeswoman Friday to confirm to The Associated Press that he is back in the United States after more than a year in self-imposed exile following his acquittal in a high-profile child molestation trial that ended in June 2005.

They also said he is on the comeback trail – planning a pair of “fan appreciation events” in Japan in March, one of which will charge \$3,300 for the opportunity to meet the Gloved One.

“I can confirm that he is in the United States,” spokeswoman Raymone K. Bain said. “We don't

give out information regarding our client's whereabouts because of safety, and this is just an ongoing policy.”

During the brief conference call, Jackson read a statement prepared for The Associated Press about his plans to visit Japan and allowed only one question: How are you?

“I'm fine, thank you,” was his reply.

Jackson, one of the best-selling artists of all time, said he has chosen to come back to Japan because of the strong support he enjoys here.

“My friends and fans in

Jackson begins comeback after self-imposed exile

Japan have been so supportive of me and my family for many, many years,” he said. “My fans in Japan helped me achieve historic milestones in the music industry.”

Broderick Morris, the promoter working the Japan side of Jackson's trip, said they have sold 220 of 300 tickets to a “platinum VIP party” on March 8 with Jackson, at \$3,300 a pop. Guests will have dinner, get autographed photos and be able to “meet and greet” Jackson for 30 seconds to one minute, he said.

A less-exclusive party is

scheduled for the following day. Jackson is not obligated to perform at either event, and promoters refused to comment on how much Jackson, 48, would be paid.

Jackson made his first official foray back into the spotlight after his acquittal with an appearance – again, in Tokyo – to accept MTV Japan's “Legend Award.” Last November, he allowed the syndicated TV show “Access Hollywood” to film him in the studio, working on music with producer will.i.am from the Black Eyed Peas.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BACKING BLACK

TED NUGENT has denied reports that he made offensive remarks about non-English speakers during his performance at Gov. Rick Perry's inaugural ball.

In a guest column in Thursday's Waco Tribune-Herald, Nugent said allegations made by some people who attended the Jan. 16 ball were “pure, unadulterated lies.”

“In total defiance to the vicious lies and hateful allegations of `racism' leveled at me by irresponsible, unprofessional and downright goofy media punks, I never said a word about immigration or language, specifically not the alleged slam against `illegal immigrants' or `non-English-speaking' anyone,” the outspoken 58-year-old rocker wrote.

Nugent, a hunting and guns-rights advocate, wrote that he will recruit more National Rifle Association members, provide hunting trips for needy children and wounded soldiers and their families, and fight the war on drugs and drunken driving.

“I will intensify my fight for a united America by demanding all Americans speak English,” he wrote.

Nugent, who lives in Waco, said he has collaborated with musicians of diverse ethnicity, has dedicated his albums to “many of my revered black heroes” including James Brown, and is not a racist.

AP

B.B. King in good condition after scare

B.B. KING was hospitalized for a low-grade fever following the flu but was in good condition Friday, his management agency said.

The 81-year-old bluesman was expected to be discharged Saturday, a hospital spokesman said. King's agency said he plans to perform Tuesday in Fort Worth.

“He's doing great,” said Tina France, vice president of Lieberman Management of New York. “He's in good spirits and cracking jokes.”

King had been scheduled to perform Thursday at the Grand Opera House, but was admitted to The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, said Paul McCarthy, a hospital administrator.

King, who has a history of diabetes, was taking antibiotics for a 100-degree fever, France said. The ailment in a younger person wouldn't have required hospitalization, but King is being monitored because of his age, she said.

His concerts in Galveston, Orange and Tyler, Texas, previously scheduled for this week and early next week, will be rescheduled for June, France said.

John Koloen, a hospital spokesman, said the hospital in Galveston, about 50 miles southeast of Houston, was keeping King in the elderly acute care unit until Saturday “just to make sure.”

With his trademark guitar that he named “Lucille,” King racked up hits includ-

AP

The guy's a prince: Beckham pitches in

DAVID BECKHAM plays a prince in a new Disney campaign – his first showpiece endorsement since announcing his move to Los Angeles.

Beckham was among the celebrities photographed in roles of Disney movie characters last month for a “Year of a Million Dreams” promotion for Walt Disney Co. theme parks.

The international soccer star, marketing giant and fashion icon was photographed as the prince from “Sleeping Beauty,”

astride a white horse and fighting a fire-breathing dragon.

“There were many Disney characters I liked as a kid,” Beckham said in a statement released Friday by Disney. “Now my sons love the Disney characters and it's a big part of their lives, a big part of many children's lives around the world. So to be part of that is an honor and very exciting.”

The photo, shot at a lake near Madrid, Spain, by famed photographer Annie Leibovitz, will appear in

magazines such as Vanity Fair and Vogue in March.

The 31-year-old midfielder with Real Madrid signed a recent five-year deal with Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy. He will join the club this summer.

His wife, former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham, has been spotted house-hunting in Southern California.

Other photos for the Disney campaign feature Beyonce Knowles as Alice in Wonderland and Scarlett Johansson as Cinderella.

AP

Charles, Camilla feel the brotherly love

PRINCE CHARLES and his wife, Camilla, are making a whirlwind trip to the city this weekend to get a big slice of Philadelphia culture.

The royal couple was to arrive Friday afternoon and spend about 24 hours visiting everything from historic sites to modern neighborhoods, fine arts patrons

to urban painters, gospel hymns to classical music.

“Their Royal Highnesses are going to experience a very broad cross-section of Philadelphia,” said Oliver St. Clair Franklin, the city's honorary British consul.

On Saturday morning, the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall were

expected to be welcomed by Mayor John F. Street and Gov. Ed Rendell at Independence Hall. The building is where American colonists severed their ties with Britain in 1776.

The prince and duchess will visit the Liberty Bell, then attend a reception nearby at the National

Constitution Center, according to the British Consulate-General.

Later, they will travel to west Philadelphia to meet with college students and see at least one of the city's 2,700 murals. One of their planned stops is International House.

AP

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Friday
The Bad Sleep Well
7:30
Saturday
Kagemusha
7:30
The Seven Samurai
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

Alpha Dog (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Babel (R)
1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:45
Blood Diamond (R)
1:30, 4:35, 7:45, 10:45
The Hitcher (R)
12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:25, 9:45

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

Catch and Release (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:40
Children of Men (R)
11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
10:30am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30
Epic Movie (PG-13)
10:55am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30, 11:30
Night at the Museum (PG)
11:00am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40
Pan's Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
10:40am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)
10:50am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:50, 10:45

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

The Departed (R)
1:00, 4:30, 8:00
Notes on a Scandal (R)
11:00am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

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

Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
1:20, 4:45, 8:00
Queen, The (PG-13)
1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 9:55
Venus (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Volver (R)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

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

Arthur and the Invisibles (PG)
11:00am, 1:20
Blood and Chocolate (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
Casino Royale (PG-13)
3:30, 7:00, 10:10
Freedom Writers (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
The Last King of Scotland (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
Smokin' Aces (R)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
Stomp the Yard (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

7	1	6	5	2	8	4	3	9
2	3	9	7	1	4	5	6	8
5	8	4	3	6	9	1	2	7
6	4	2	9	5	1	8	7	3
9	7	1	2	8	3	6	4	5
3	5	8	6	4	7	2	9	1
8	6	3	1	7	2	9	5	4
4	2	7	8	9	5	3	1	6
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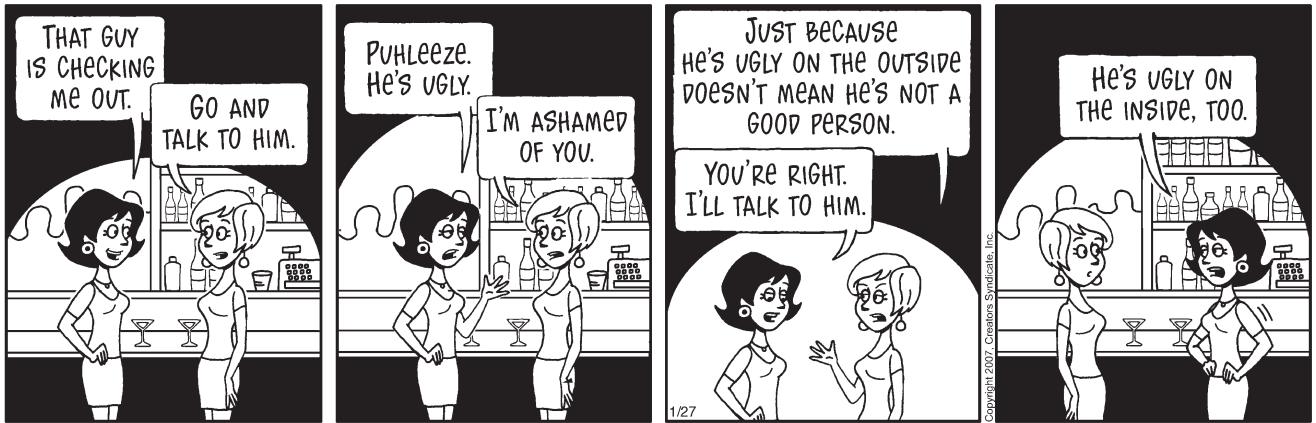
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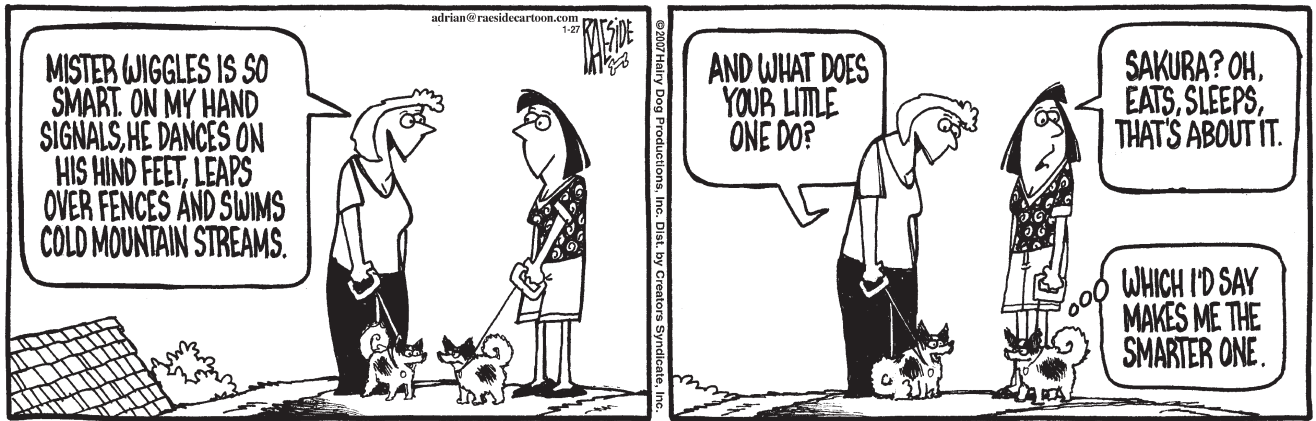
Girls and Sports



The Meaning of Lila



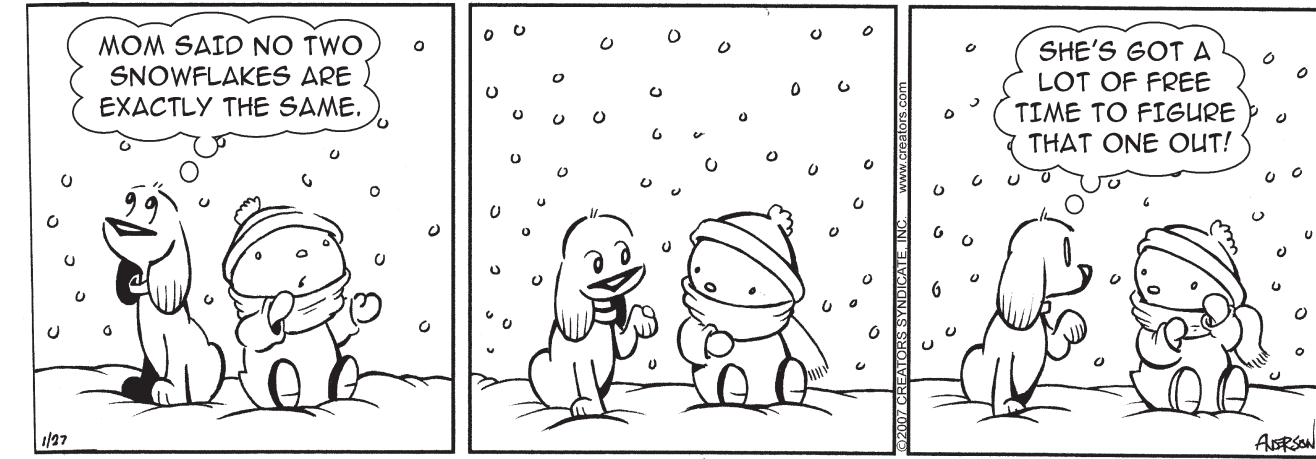
The Other Coast



Garfield



Dog eat Doug



What do you crave?



People crave all sorts of things. Hot buttered popcorn. Donuts with those little multi-colored sprinkles on top. That first shot of caffeine in the morning. And what's wrong with that? What's wrong with indulging your little cravings now and then, huh? Well, before you hightail it to your local donut palace or new age coffee shop, look a little deeper.

What do you crave? I mean, what do you really crave? Well, if you're like many people in Santa Monica, you might find your craving taking you down a boulevard that takes you straight to Honda of Santa Monica.

You know the "new" Honda of Santa Monica, don't you? Oh, they're still right where they've been for over 35 years, 1720 Santa Monica Boulevard. The great service and selection is still there too. What's new you ask? Well, that would be General Manager, Dan Rowand. We could tell you how great Dan is but you just have to meet him to understand how car oriented and community driven he really is. If you do, you'll understand what we mean when we say that more and more savvy car shoppers are learning the difference between merely wanting a pleasant car buying experience and truly craving it! Which brings us to the all-new 2007 Honda CR-V. Without a doubt, the 2007 Honda CR-V is more stylish, comfortable and powerful than any previous incarnation. In the market for a compact SUV but tired of the same old, same old? Face it, you crave change, and Honda of Santa Monica can deliver just that.

The all-new CR-V boasts a sleek, new exterior as well as an amenity-rich interior. And performance? Nothing in its class even comes close to the CR-V in the area of performance. For example, the CR-V's new suspension system delivers an unprecedented ride with improved handling and response, its iVTEC engine utilizes variable intake valve timing to optimize both torque and horsepower, and its revolutionary Real Time 4WD system is just what's needed to navigate any terrain with confidence. But let's cut to a most serious topic, shall we? Safety.

The people at Honda of Santa Monica understand where you're coming from. After all, they've been serving the community for over 35 years. You're active, always on the go. You've probably just started a family or are thinking about it. Safety is important to you, and it's important to Honda of Santa Monica, too. That's why they offer the 2007 CR-V standard with three-point seatbelts, front side airbags, front seat-mounted side airbags, front and rear seat side air curtains, and many more features. Needless to say, the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety's awarding of the "Top Safety Pick" to the 2007 CR-V is no small accolade; it's a tremendous, well-deserved honor. From the leather-trimmed luxury of its interior to the ingenuity of the Advanced Compatibility Engineering (ACE) body structure, the comfort and strength of the all-new CR-V will amaze and entice you.

You can feel it starting, can't you? The craving. Well, that's good. Crave all you want, just visit Honda of Santa Monica today--your community Honda store--and experience the all-new 2007 CR-V firsthand, then in that moment, ask yourself... What do I crave?

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MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 218, 219 1bdrm/1bath, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, tiling, flooring, granite counter tops, with utilities, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. \$1195/mo (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA/Culver City Adj. \$1595 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths. "Twnhs-Apt." No Pets. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, 2-Car garage. 12048 Culver Blvd #202. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

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CNS-1079613#
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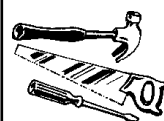
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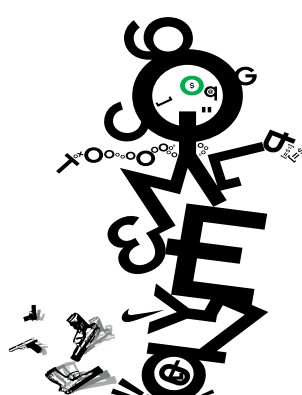
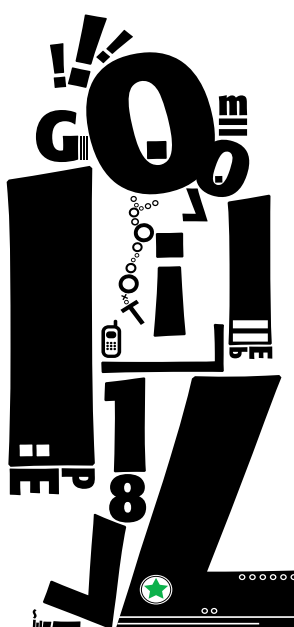
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Fully Loaded #2A027128 **\$38,981**

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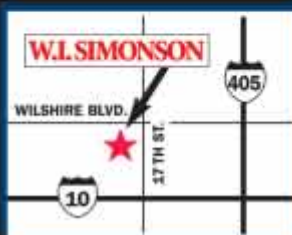
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