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TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2008
Volume 7 Issue 67



Santa Monica Daily Press

SHOW GOES ON
SEE PAGE 3

Since 2001: A news odyssey
THE FOND MEMORIES OF SANTA MONICA PLACE ISSUE

Closing time for SM Place

Merchants, shoppers say good-bye after 28 years of service

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Good-byes are never easy.

The window decorations and business signs are coming down inside Santa Monica Place as the remaining few retailers begin boxing up unsold inventory and packing it away in trucks, preparing to bid adieu to the aging mall that will soon undergo a multi-million dollar makeover that will literally raise the roof.

On Thursday evening, the 28-year-old shopping center that was designed by Frank Gehry will close for more than a year for a renovation that will transform the mall into an open-aired, three-level destination, taking advantage of the ocean breezes and better connecting the complex with the area's other main attractions — the Santa Monica Pier and Third Street Promenade.



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

SEE GOOD-BYE PAGE 8

BIG DEALS: **Signs like these could be found at nearly ever store at Santa Monica Place on Monday as merchants prepared for the mall's last day, Jan. 31.**



ALL ABOARD Photo Courtesy/MTA

City Councilwoman Pam O'Connor, MTA board chair, takes a tour last week of Metro's 2,500th compressed natural gas bus, which will help reduce emissions in the county.

Samohi exhibit talks about choices

'Freshman Seminar' uses the Holocaust to teach life lessons

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI The choices made today can shape tomorrow.

It's a lesson that students in a freshman seminar at Santa Monica High School have learned over the past four months and one that will be relayed to the public tonight through an exhibit that features a series of poems, essays and art work that ties in the Holocaust with the power of choice.

Titled "Saving Memories: History as a Witness to the Future," the exhibit showcases the work of more than 100 freshmen that spent several months studying a survivor from the 1939 Club, one of the largest organizations of Holocaust survivors that is based in Los Angeles. Each student in the mandatory freshman seminar was charged with the task of examining a survivor's testimony and transcribing the power of that experience into the form of a written or art piece. Part of the assignment included connecting the survivor's experience to themselves, said Tisha Reichle, who teaches one of the sections.

"The class is about choices and the factors that influence the choices we make, " the Samohi teacher said on Monday. "It looks at what influences the choices we make and looks at how we can make a more positive contribution to our community, whether it's our geographical neighborhood, school community, racial community or religious community."

The seminar is sponsored in conjunction with Facing History and Ourselves, an international organization that aims to educate students about issues of racism and prejudice in society. The non-profit organization provides the framework and resources for the freshman seminar, a program they run in various high schools and grade levels across the country.

The exhibit, which is an aspect of the year-long course, is part of the Ninth Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest, which is sponsored by Chapman University. The students responsible for the top three pieces, which will be announced at the high school tonight, will be sent to Chapman University next week

SEE EXHIBIT PAGE 9

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Sustainable Santa Monica Community Event
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Main Branch Library will host a panel discussion on sustainability in the local community. Discussion topics will include an overview of programs, rebates, grants and educational opportunities to make participating in a sustainable Santa Monica easy, affordable and fun. Brief presentations will be followed by time for Q&A with speakers. Participating organizations include City of Santa Monica's Environmental Programs Division, Sustainable Works, and Global Green USA. RSVP is not required but recommended and appreciated. RSVP to Traci Reitz, Community Sustainability Liaison at traci@sustainablesm.org. This event is free.

St. Monica opens her doors
1039 Seventh St., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
St. Monica Elementary School is having an Open House for prospective parents in the school auditorium. For more information, call (310) 451-9801.

Story Time for Twos
2601 Main St., 10 a.m. — 11 a.m.
The Ocean Park Branch Library brings back their music and story program for toddlers aged 24 — 36 months. Registration and an accompanying adult are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call (310) 392-3804.

The Play 'tis the Thing
2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Ocean Park Branch Library is hosting a six-week play writing workshop. Learn principles of dramatic structure, how to construct dialogue and analyze the finished product with instructor Anna Stramese. Registration required. Enrollment limited. For more information, call (310) 458-8638.

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2008

Voices of Los Angeles Poetry Reading Series
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
A poetry reading with Gretchen Mattox and Amy Newlove Schroeder followed by a reception and book signing.

'Love Songs of Walt Whitman: Full of Life Now'
UCLA, 7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
UCLA hosts the world premiere concert of "DreamBrother" baritone Stephan David Hewitt with his 5-piece band. The performance celebrates the beginning of their "Calamus at 150" tour, featuring Whitman's passionate anthems to love and spirit beyond the constraints of institutions, and honors the Calamus volume of "Leaves of Grass," which made Whitman both famous and his work notorious. This free event will be held in the Northwest Campus Auditorium. For more information, call the UCLA LGBT Resource Center at (310) 206-3628.

Tired Treesavers unite
1440 Harvard St., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Dedicated environmental and community activists who are passionately working to save the ficus trees in downtown Santa Monica will share frustrations and aspirations at a monthly emotional support group for progressive activists. Free and free on-site parking.

'Choosing the Quiet'
1227 Second St., call for gallery hours
Maurizio Barattucci's solo show, "Choosing the Quiet" is currently available for viewing at Emeritus College. Barattucci taught at the Art Department of Santa Monica College for 30 years and retired recently. The exhibition will be shown until February 29, 2008. For more information, call (310) 434-4306.

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.



Maintaining the flow

City crews worked overtime to combat potential flooding

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE When it rains, it pours, but thankfully, it doesn't flood.

While Santa Monica received a steady stream of rain over the past week, bringing in more than 1.3 inches Sunday alone — according to the National Weather Service — the downpour didn't seem to have overwhelmed the storm drain system in the city, according to Gary Welling, the waste water superintendent.

Extra crews were sent out over the weekend to clear the catch basin screens in anticipation of possible flooding, monitoring the storm drain and clearing out accumulated debris, Welling said.

"We did have a couple of folks out just checking Main Street and the (Third Street) Promenade area to ensure there wasn't any flooding," Welling said. "I didn't hear of any major flooding issue."

Following a dry season, Southern California has received a series of storms over the past few months, the most recent one passing through on Sunday, sparking flood warnings in Los Angeles County.

Rainfall usually leads to cautionary flags for swimmers. According to Heal the Bay, people should stay out of the water for at least 72 hours following the end of the storm.

SEE NO FLOOD PAGE 9



SEEING MORE THAN DOUBLE

photo courtesy Mike Vaughan

Santa Monicans traveling down Wilshire Boulevard recently may have seen this army of cardboard cutouts featuring Westside Rentals' famous Rental Man, aka Philip Parks, a fixture in town and at many sporting events. The Rental Man, who has appeared on television shows, is known for his wild dances to grab people's attention.

Grammys to go on

Striking writers reach interim agreement, promise not to picket

By the Associated Press

EASTSIDE The Grammy Awards ceremony will go forward as planned, thanks to an interim agreement announced today that will allow striking Writers Guild of America members to work on the production.

"Professional musicians face many of the same issues that we do concerning fair compensation for the use of their work in new media," said Patric Verrone, president of the Writers Guild of America, West. "In the interest of advancing our goal of achieving a fair contract, the WGAW Board felt that this decision should be made on behalf of our brothers and sisters in the American Federation of Musicians and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists."

The agreement assures that the Grammy ceremony can move forward without fear of picketing by WGA members, who have been on strike since November. Some Grammy performers — some of whom also work as actors — may have refused to cross picket lines to attend the show.

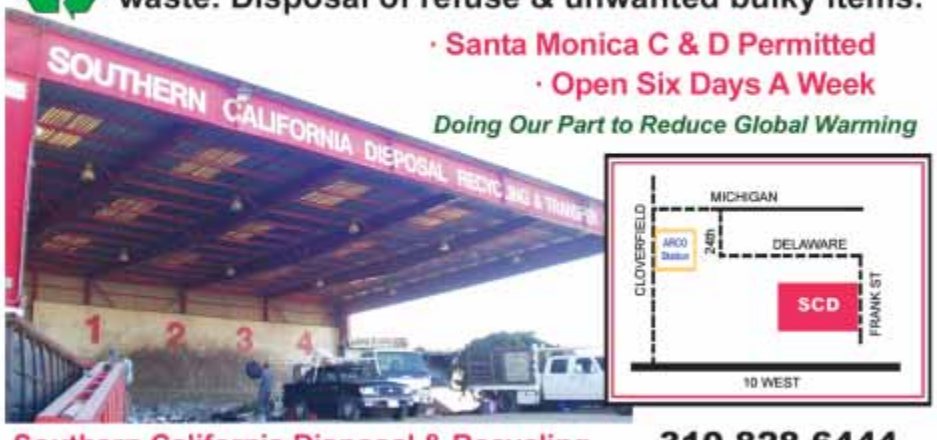
Actors' refusal to cross picket lines already forced the cancellation of this year's Golden Globes and People Choice awards ceremonies. It is still unclear whether the strike will impact the Feb. 24 Academy Awards.

Last week, the WGA began informal talks with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, offering a glimmer of hope that formal contract negotiations would eventually resume. The talks broke off in early December.

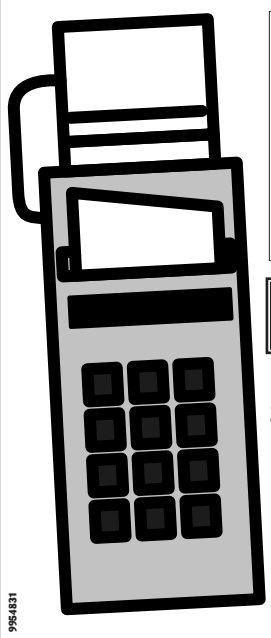
The primary issue on the table is writers' payment for work that is distributed online or through other forms of new media.

The Grammy Award ceremony is scheduled for Feb. 10 at Staples Center.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

All praise is due

Editor:

Residents of the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District were gratified by the Landmarks Commission's decision not to approve the project proposed for 2617 Third Street, a sensitive site in the designated historic district ("Controversial project rejected," page 1, Jan.17). They are grateful to the landmarks commissioners who, in addition to taking the time to visit the district repeatedly over the many months of hearings, studied the Historic District Guidelines carefully. That diligence allowed these commissioners to understand the intent of the guidelines, namely to protect the district from incompatible development that would harm the integrity of the district.

The design in question was in the Modernist architectural style, a particular style that emerged in the mid-20th century and is still popular among architects today. It is a starkly elegant style, very rectilinear, and often incorporates large expanses of glass. As an architectural style it has no relationship to the California Bungalow style whatsoever.

The residents of the district see themselves as custodians and caretakers of the beautiful old homes in which they live. A few years ago, many of the houses were fast becoming derelict. A small dwelling behind one of the homes was condemned as unfit for habitation by city inspectors and had to be torn down. A decaying garage was also removed with the approval of the Landmarks Commission. Mostly, however, the story of the district in recent years has been one of successful restoration of the old homes by owners who care deeply about historic preservation and who have done their utmost to make sure these historic houses will survive to give pleasure to future generations.

Karen Blechman
Santa Monica

You can't walk everywhere

Editor:

Mayor (Pro Tem Richard) Bloom ... in (the) Daily Press ("Parking just got cheaper," page 3, Jan 26-27) was (paraphrased) as saying that reducing parking fees might send a message that it's OK to get in a car.

Mayor Bloom, it is nice to walk around town, and occasionally take the bus, but the reality of life in Southern California is that if one is to get anywhere, it is necessary to "get in a car" and drive. It is not a crime, and one need not feel guilty about driving. This is another example of the fantasy world of our City Council.

Fredric Reichel
Santa Monica

It's time to stop development

Editor:

While it's obvious that the city of Santa Monica would be unhappy with an initiative limiting development ("Coalition wants to limit development," page1, Jan 18). It's also obvious they should have seen it coming.

City (Hall) has created the perception that it is ignoring the residents' concerns on development, and perception frequently is reality. Not one person I know supports that over-scaled mess at the civic center, but planning chugs right along. Restricting resident input on low income buildings of less than 50 units makes clear the city's continuing intended grip on the development process, which, if necessary, will be unilateral.

City (Hall) must maximize revenues to continue its egalitarian journey, and will push hard to that end. Fair enough. Just don't be surprised when disenfranchised residents start to push back.

Robert Scura
Santa Monica



Your column here

Stephen "the Mailman" Breen — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Going postal over Thompson

I WAS TAKING A BREAK ON SATURDAY at Sparky's yogurt, hunched over a pint of non fat frozen confection smothered in politically correct granola as I read the weekend edition of the SMDP. I went straight to the Opinion/Commentary page as they are right next to the funny papers (coincidence? Naw!!). After reading Lloyd Garver's smarmy yet pallid lynching of former presidential hopeful Fred Thompson, I was wondering if Llloyd's brainstem had detached from its moorings. Offering up a smackdown on a man described as "...[not] a popular enough candidate to be coy. Who cared if he was in or not ..." seemed overwhelmingly self serving as obviously Lloyd cared enough to engage in a little character sissification of a guy who ran on what little money with which he had to campaign. Clinton has a war chest of a little over $ 80 million. You said that Fred wasn't really interested in running ... more like he was walking, eh? One really could "run" instead of "walk" for president with the kind of cash-ola Billary, oops, Hillary has in her political funderwear drawer.

On an historical note: When Bubba Clinton was wallowing through his impeachment hearings on the peculiar uses with a cigar, then U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson voted against conviction on the charge of perjury. So cut Thompson some slack here, Lloyd. Going after Fred Thompson is like going after the Muppets with a TASER. Are these the vaunted values of the alleged "Party of Tolerance?" Is your disdain because Thompson is Southern (stupid), conservative (stupider), religious (stupidest) who graduated from Vanderbilt law school or is it because he made more money as an actor than you did as a writer? Rather than go after a "nobody" like Fred Thompson, howzabout going after "somebody" in your own party?

Did you happen to see the debate earlier in the week? Watching the party that invented "identity politics" spring its own trap of victimology upon itself was better than anything that could have been written on "Family Ties." We had the white woman shrewishly calling the black man, essentially, a litigious hitman for a Chicago slumlord and the black man volcanically inferring that she was a whore for corporate America. This is politics, dude. This is goooood television.

The Democrats are now the official "Neener-Neener" Party. John Edwards is now official Hall Monitor and Seesaw Police as he seemed to be the only one willing to give Bam-Bam Obama and Pebbles Clinton a well earned time out. Edwards has the most enlightened approach to our problems, other than Joe Biden, and is largely ignored because, well, he is a WHITE MAN!! That women and blacks split along race and gender lines in the South Carolina Democratic Primary after the debate should show that neither leading candidate should be "running" for president and have further split an already dysfunctional Democratic party into a Democratic parody. The proof of that split is in Edwards' poor showing in a state where he was born [!] and that he carried in the 2004 Presidential elections [!!]

GOT OP-ED?

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

Now let me get this straight ... Two Yankees, one black man from Illinois and a white woman from New York beat the "favorite son" in his birth state of South Carolina where the first shots of the Civil War were fired at Fort Sumter...Naw, race and gender ain't got nothing to do with it. Bam-bam and Pebbles posturing that they are more a "victim" than the respective opposition is just so rhetorically flatulent.

Lloyd, you have theories about, "...why ... this particular man who not only seemed to have no chance to win..." was campaigning to avoiding joining the picket line for the writer's strike and possible actor's strike. My theory is that he probably didn't want to come down to picket or lend his voice to the struggles of labor because he has such warm and caring folks like you to welcome him. Nothing makes a man want to participate in the solidarity of working people knowing full well he will be vilified and pilloried in print (and probably behind his back) because he's given most of his life to public service and not to the self serving hacks of the entertainment industry. So much for "Si, se puede."

Lloyd, you may not be "...thrilled that (Thompson) sometimes ... seems to use American politics [instead of Hollywood] as his unemployment office..." but it seems the reverse is probably more accurate. I'm not thrilled that you can't go after the "L'il Rascals" in the Democratic party and leave the Elmer Fudds of the Republican party alone.

STEPHEN BREEN is a Santa Monica resident, self-proclaimed Reagan Republican and "the best looking mailman in the US Postal Service." He can be reached at dulcamamrax@yahoo.com.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press Attn. Editor: 1410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica • 90401 • editor@smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Seth Barnes, Taylor van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Mark Marchillo, Ken Tarr, Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp Mariel Howsepian and Cynthia Citron

NEWS INTERNS
Natalie Edwards
news@smdp.com

Chiara Canzi
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS
Geoffrey Dunn
news@smdp.com

Alexis Hawkins
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Julie Martinez
juliem@smdp.com

Liam Blume
Liamb@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ASSISTANT
Cynthia Vazquez
advertising@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Tessa Vergara
tessav@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Frances Casareno
production@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER
Annie Kotok
anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
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Your column here

Michelle Mintz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Communication has to start early

OUR WORLD HAS SEEN TOO MANY children who have traveled down the wrong path. It is possible that their lives and the lives of those they affected could have been different if their parents knew more about how important the first five years of life are for a child's development.

Recent medical studies have established that babies are deeply affected by their early experiences for the rest of their lives. Providing stimulating nourishing environments during children's early years when their capacity to learn is at its greatest can produce changes in the actual structure, size and chemical characteristics of their brain by increasing the number and strength of their child's brain connections. A child's level of intelligence can be raised substantially by care they receive in their first five years of life.

It is crucial for parents to be able to recognize the different ways that their babies are communicating to them from the moment they are born. Parents need to understand their baby's speech and language development and they must learn how they can actively improve the development of their baby's ability to communicate. By applying simple quick techniques during natural daily routines, parents can increase their children's capacity for learning by stimulating, strengthening and nourishing their baby's brain development.

Some strategies when reading with your child:

1. Sit across from your child, face-to-face when reading together. As you point to the pictures and/or read the words you can then point to your mouth so they can see how it looks when different sounds are produced. Show them how your mouth starts open when you say, /o/ for the word "open" and it starts closed with your lips together when you say, /b/ for the word "ball".

2. Help keep your child interested in the book by using lots of different exaggerated facial movements and producing different tones with your voice while looking at pictures or reading.

3. Increase your child's attention span by making sure that you hold the book so you can control the pace. Children go too fast and turn many pages at once. Look at every page, point out at lease one picture on the left, middle and right side of the page and read slowly so they have a chance to imitate your words.

4. Give your child some control of the book reading by allowing them to turn the page when you're ready. By using these strategies and taking a longer time to read the book, you are helping to stimulate your child's attention and language skills as their focus is on the words, pictures and sounds rather than on turning the pages.

Some strategies when playing with your child:

1. To help increase eye contact, be sure to play on their level even if that means lying down on the floor so you can be more face-to-face. Hold toys by your eyes so it is easier for your child to shift their eye gaze from the toy to your eyes.

2. Label objects constantly. Every item your child shows an interest in something you bring to their attention should be verbally expressed with one word. For example when your son points to the animal across the street you say, "Dog."

3. Repetition of the same word or short phrase will help your child comprehend the meaning and be able to generalize. For example, using the word "dog" when you see one in the pet store, in a picture book, in the window of the car next to you, and at the park will help your child understand that "dog" doesn't just refer to the one you have in the house.

4. Expand your child's language skills by always adding one more word onto the verbal expression they have produced. For example, if your child says, "more", you repeat back, "more juice", if your child says, "more juice", you respond back, "more juice mama". Determine how many words your child uses when speaking (i.e. the one word level, two word phrases, four word sentences) and then add one more word to what they have said when you respond back to them.

MICHELLE MINTZ is a licensed speech and language therapist in Santa Monica who developed the workshop "Baby's Brighter Connections," which is dedicated to teaching parents strategies and techniques to better communicate with their children. She can be reached at michelle@tot2talk.co

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Stripes or no stripes?

The city recently transformed Ocean Park Boulevard from what was once called a two-lane highway into a one-lane corridor. Since the restriping was complete, there has been an outpouring of public opinion on the issue.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you agree with the move to make the oft-used street a one-lane corridor or do you want the city to reverse course and restore Ocean Park Boulevard to the way it was?

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

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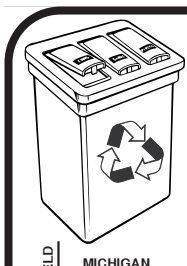
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Bush offers his perspective

Economy, Iraq war dominate State of the Union address

BY TERENCE HUNT I Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON President Bush, focusing on gnawing recession fears in his final State of the Union address, said Monday that Americans are troubled about their economic future and prodded Congress to urgently approve a $150-billion rescue plan.

On Iraq, always a main topic of his annual addresses to Congress, Bush said his troop buildup is succeeding after five years of a long and costly war that has claimed the lives of 3,940 members of the U.S. military. "Al-Qaida is on the run in Iraq and this enemy will be defeated," Bush said.

With his approval rating near its all-time low and less than a year remaining in his presidency, Bush lacked the political clout to push bold ideas before a hostile, Democratic-led Congress. Offering modest new plans, Bush proposed a $300 million "grants for kids" program to help poor children in struggling public schools pay for the cost of attending a private school or a better public school outside their district.

The White House urged lawmakers, particularly in the Senate, to resist any temptation to enlarge the economic-stimulus plan that he and House leaders agreed on last week. "At kitchen tables across our country, there is concern about our economic future," the president said. "In the long run, Americans can be confident about our economic growth."

Excerpts of his prepared text were released in advance by the White House.

On two issues that were centerpieces of State of the Union addresses past — Social Security and immigration — Bush passed the buck back to Congress, which had ignored the president's earlier proposals. Contending that entitlement spending is "growing faster than we can afford," he said, "I ask members of Congress to offer your proposals and come up with a bipartisan solution to save these vital programs for our children and grandchildren."

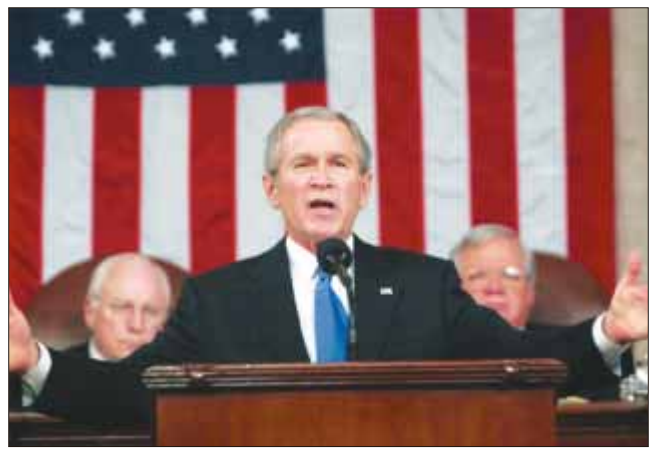


Photo courtesy U.S. Department of State

FINAL ROUND: **President Bush delivers the State of the Union to a joint session of Congress at the Capitol, Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006. Bush gave his last address as president Monday night.**

A major challenge for Bush in his address to Congress was simply being heard when many Americans already are looking beyond him to the next president.

His speech came hours before Florida's presidential primary election and just eight days before Super Tuesday when voters in more than 20 states go to the polls on the biggest day of the primary campaign. Republicans running for president rarely mention Bush, preferring to focus on conservative hero Ronald Reagan instead.

As for the Democrats, presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton said, "Tonight is a red-letter night in American history. It is the last time George Bush will give the State of the Union. Next year it will be a Democratic president giving it."

Bush, calling for bipartisan cooperation in Congress, said, "Let us show them that Republicans and Democrats can compete for votes and cooperate for results at the same time."

In Iraq, he said, U.S. adversaries have been hit hard, though "they are not yet defeated and we can still expect tough fighting ahead."

The address came one year after Bush, defying the wishes of Congress and rising anti-war sentiment in the country, ordered a major troop buildup in Iraq. The increase has helped quell violence, but there is no end in sight to the U.S. troop commitment, which Bush says will extend beyond his presidency. There are 158,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, a number that is expected to drop to 135,000 by July. There are 28,000 in Afghanistan, the highest number of the war, which began there in October 2001. The Iraq war began in March 2003.

Bush did not announce any troop withdrawals Monday night. The White House said that would depend on the advice of Gen. David Petraeus, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, and Ryan Crocker, the U.S. ambassador to Baghdad.

Reviving a theme from his trip to the Mideast this month, Bush called on Iran to suspend uranium enrichment that the White House says could easily be transferred to a nuclear weapons program. A recent U.S. intelligence report concluded Iran halted its nuclear weapons program in 2003, but Bush says it could be restarted easily.

"Come clean about your nuclear intentions and past actions, stop your oppression at home and cease your support for terror abroad," Bush said. "But above all, know this: America will confront those who threaten our troops; we will stand by our allies and we will defend our vital interests in the Persian Gulf."

What a difference a year makes. Twelve months ago Bush boasted that unemployment was low and the economy was on the move. Now the jobless rate has climbed to a two-year high and the nation is sagging toward recession amid turmoil in housing and financial markets. The economy is No. 1 on the U.S. worry list.

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Hispanics are feeling Clinton

LAURA KURTZMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Bidding for Hispanic support in California's upcoming primary, Barack Obama describes himself in a Spanish-language television ad as the son of an immigrant whose success is a beacon to others.

"This is your country," a narrator says in the ad that began airing Friday in Los Angeles. "Don't let anyone or anything take away those dreams."

But it is an older, more familiar success story — that of the Clintons — that seems to be holding sway among most California Hispanics, who will play a key role in deciding the Democratic winner.

As the wife of the former president, Hillary Clinton has an almost dynastic appeal to Hispanic voters, many of whom came of voting age during the economic good times of Bill Clinton's presidency.

Hillary leads Obama 3-to-1 among Hispanics, according to a recent survey by the nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California.

"There is very much a comfort zone with the name and the family, and a very comfortable remembrance with Clinton's eight years in office," said Jaime Regalado, director of the Pat Brown Institute at Cal-State University, Los Angeles.

By contrast, he said, most Hispanics know little about Obama, who only burst onto the national scene four years ago, when he was elected a U.S. Senator from Illinois.

While Obama has come to California to raise money and hold the occasional campaign event, he has not been able to make much of an impression among rank-and-file voters, who do not tune into the race until the final weeks before an election.

Clinton, meanwhile, has been able to drawn on 16 years in the national spotlight.

> **"THERE IS ... A VERY COMFORTABLE REMEMBRANCE WITH CLINTON'S EIGHT YEARS IN OFFICE."**
>
> **Jaime Regalado,**
> director of the Pat Brown Institute at California State University, Los Angeles

Earlier this week, she traveled across the country for a visit to Salinas to accept the endorsement of the United Farm Workers.

Like whites, Hispanics are somewhat split along generational lines, with young voters gravitating toward the promise of Obama and older ones attracted to the experience of Clinton.

But some cite another possible reason for Clinton's dominance: the disinclination of some Hispanics to vote for a black candidate. Tensions between the two groups have been intensified by competition for jobs and political power as Hispanic immigrants have moved into black neighborhoods.

Education establishment at odds over collge funding

MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

BERKELEY The fight over higher education dollars in California is moving to the ballot box with Proposition 92, an initiative designed to pump up community college funding.

The measure would lower fees and change the way money is allocated. Supporters say it is needed to protect the state's huge community college system and will net a payback of a smarter, higher-earning work force.

"The best deal in higher education in America is a couple of years at a California community college," said Scott Lay, head of the Community College League of California, a nonprofit association of the state's 72 community college districts, which is supporting the measure.

Opponents say the initiative does not come with controls on how the money would be spent, and, because it also doesn't come with a dedicated revenue source, would siphon money away from other institutions. That's a particular concern in light of the state's projected multibillion-dollar deficit, which has led Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to call for 10 percent cuts across all state programs.

The governor and other critics of the state's budgeting process say California's boom-and-bust cycle is in part caused by programs that lock in funding increases each year, even if revenue to state government declines. Many of those spending programs have been passed through voter initiatives, such as Proposition 92, without specifying how the state will pay for them.

Lay doesn't deny there are problems in California's budgeting system. But since that's the way education dollars are doled out, he said it's only fair that community colleges get their share.

"For the last 20 years, our opponents have been supporting formulas that provide revenue to high-priority programs at the cost of community colleges," he said. "We believe that it's time for community colleges to be recognized and funded accordingly."

The California Federation of Teachers supports the measure. Leaders of the University of California and California State University systems, as well as the California Teachers Association, are in the "no" camp.

"The sad thing about this is that it doesn't represent a plan for higher education in California," said Mary Gill, consultant to the No on Proposition 92 campaign. "Here we have one segment trying to get money at the expense of the other two segments."


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Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

Remodel to begin in March

FROM **GOOD-BYE** PAGE 1

"It's sad when something closes but it's an investment into the rebirth of a project that the community has told us they would like to see," said Randy Brant, the executive vice president of real estate for Santa Monica-based Macerich Co., the developer that owns the mall and operates 71 shopping centers across the country.

The scene was peaceful at the mall on Monday afternoon, the atmosphere subdued as the Avril Lavigne hit, "Keep Holding On," played softly in the background along with the sounds of the escalators and the chatters of shoppers.

Only a few businesses remained in the mall, the majority of which are concentrated on the ground floor, stores like Leather Expo, a Santa Monica Place resident for 15 years, and Shoe Care, a shoe repair store that joined the mall family in 2000. Signs of price reductions have been advertised in the handful of businesses that have decided to stick around until Jan. 31, with discounts ranging from about 20 percent to 80 percent.

Santa Monica resident Michael Tarbet, who has frequented the mall since its opening, spent a few hours and a few dollars on Monday at some of his favorite stores, purchasing a ring at Indian Art and a jacket at Leather Expo.

Tarbet said he originally came to downtown Santa Monica to shop at Sears that day and decided to head to Santa Monica Place, unaware that there were sales.

After about three hours at the mall, Tarbet said he was far from done with his shopping excursion.

"I'm working on it," he said jokingly.

Tarbet said he liked the mall but wasn't sad about it closing. He's looking forward to the new design.

Leather Expo has been buzzing with business since the slashed price advertisement went up earlier this month and Monday was no exception, shoppers roaming racks holding leather jackets that were discounted at around 80 percent.

"People are always excited about deals," said Charlie Salmo, who co-owns Leather Expo with Michael Asfahan.

The business partners also own Leather Expo stores in Canoga Park and Woodland Hills and have shuffled some of the merchandise in the Santa Monica location to the two other shops.

"We try to sell what we have," Salmo said.

It's been a slightly different story at Deena Hahn, a clothing boutique on the second floor.

Store employee Kim Choi said while it seems that traffic into the shop has increased since the 75 percent markdown signs went up, there doesn't seem to be much of a difference in terms of actual transactions.

"It's been pretty busy, but they don't want to spend their money," Choi said.

> **"IT'S SAD WHEN SOMETHING CLOSES BUT IT'S AN INVESTMENT INTO THE REBIRTH OF A PROJECT THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS TOLD US THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE."**
>
> **Randy Brant,** executive vice preside of real estate, Macerich Co.

Though there have been talks about redevelopment since 2004, some of the remaining store owners say they have yet to find another home for their businesses and are hopeful they can return once Santa Monica Place reopens in fall 2009.

Macerich officials said they have yet to receive construction permits from the city and hope to get a hold of them sometime in March.

Many of the retailers that have conducted their businesses out of the mall were on short-term leases, arranged by Macerich in order to keep the mall alive while it formed the blueprints for the redevelopment, according to Macerich representative Robin Young.

The company is working on posting information on its Web site updating shoppers on where they can find their favorite Santa Monica Place business after the mall closes, Young added.

One of the businesses still seeking a home is Perfumeria, a fragrance shop that has been in the mall for six years.

The store officially closed on Sunday and employees are spending the next few days packing up, said manager Yani Elazary, who was busy filling stacking boxes on Monday afternoon. The owners of the perfume store, which runs a second location in the San Fernando Valley as well as a Web site, are looking at several spaces in Santa Monica, including a vacant spot off the corner of Fourth Street and Broadway.

"We love Santa Monica," Elazary said. "We love the customers here."



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

LAST CALL: **A shopper checks out the deals last week at SM Place. Merchants must leave by Jan.31.**

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Students study Holocaust

FROM **EXHIBIT** PAGE 1

where they will compete with hundreds of students from Southern California. The student that earns the top prize will win $500.

"The students were asked to reflect on the memories that spoke to them and what the importance is of having memories," said Mary Hendra, the program associate with Facing History and Ourselves.

The exhibit tomorrow night will feature Alfred Benjamin, a Santa Monica resident and Holocaust survivor.

Benjamin, who has lived in Santa Monica for 36 years, was born in Hamburg, Germany in 1936 and was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust. The career photographer and artist has traveled the country on speaking engagements, teaching the history of the Holocaust through his own personal experience.

"I want to give (my memories) to the next generation so that the memory will be kept alive," Benjamin said on Monday.

Facing History and Ourselves' involvement with Samohi's freshman seminar began about three years ago to provide a place where students could explore the issue of identity, said Hendra, who taught the course in 2005.

Aside from the Holocaust, the students have studied other genocides that have taken place throughout history, including the Armenian and Rwandan genocides.

"We look at the Holocaust and the (factors) that influence the choices people make — the choice to be a bystander and do nothing, to be upstanders and to rescue people," Reichle said. "To in some way do something or to be a witness."

The exhibit and reception will be held at the Mortensen Library on the Santa Monica High School Campus, 601 Pico Blvd., from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

melodyh@smdp.com

Water quality is poor after weekend rain

FROM **NO FLOOD** PAGE 3

"It can take quite a bit of time for all of the water to reach the ocean so for 72 hours, you still have water coming in that is contaminated with bacteria and other contaminants like metals and trash," said Polly Barrowman, a staff scientist with Heal the Bay.

But the water quality is typically cleaner following a long continuous rain storm, similar to what Santa Monicans saw last week, as opposed to a short intermittent rain storms where there are gaps of several days in between rainfall, said James Alamillo, the urban programs manager for Heal the Bay.

"The first few days of the rainfall will have flushed everything out," said Alamillo, who once compiled the Heal the Bay Beach Report Card. "There is no time for dirt and trash and other uses to build up again."

melodyh@smdp.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

Power lost during rain storm

By Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Skies were clearing Monday over waterlogged California after a week of downpours and heavy snowfall that led to avalanche and traffic deaths but only minor flooding and slides.

State workers clean up mud on Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, California, on Sunday.

Highways closed because of heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada were reopened Monday, including a nearly 130-mile stretch of U.S. 395 just north of Bishop to the Nevada state line, state officials said.

Interstate 80 through the Sierra between Sacramento and Reno, Nevada, also was reopened Monday but chains were required, according to a Department of Transportation Web site.

The storm produced wind approaching 40 mph during the night in the mountains east of Los Angeles, said Penny Dodge, a desk clerk at the mountain resort community Big Bear Lake. It was the worst she has seen in her seven years in the area.

"We had it all last night — the wind and the blowing," she said Monday.

The storm system was headed east Monday and could bring winds and heavy moisture to the Great Plains, National Weather Service forecaster Stan Wachowski said.

But California was due for a reprieve that would last at until at least Wednesday, when there was a 20 percent chance of rain.

"We're definitely past the worst of it," Wachowski said. "Now it's just a matter of things winding down."

Up to 3 inches of rain had fallen since Saturday along the Southern California coast, with nearly 8 inches in some remote mountain areas, the weather service said. The storms had pushed the seasonal total for Los Angeles to more than 11 inches, well past the norm of 6.5 inches at this time of year.

Experts said hillsides in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties charred by last year's wildfires remained at risk for landslides.

Sue Cannon of the U.S. Geological Survey's landslide hazards program said the ground has not been able to dry out because of the back-to-back storms. "It still is a very hazardous situation," she said.

Thousands of power outages were reported throughout Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Three skiers were killed Friday by a trio of avalanches that swept through canyons outside the trails of Mountain High ski resort at Wrightwood, northeast of Los Angeles in the San Gabriel Mountains.

At least two California traffic deaths were believed linked to the storm, and a man walking along a road in Washington state died after being struck by a state snowplow, authorities said.



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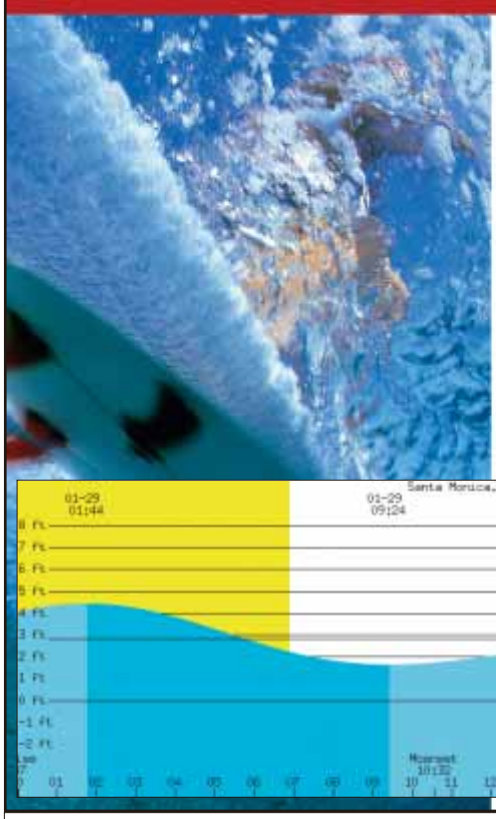
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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 55°**

SWELL FORECAST (6-8 FT)

Today should see weather finally improve (somewhat). Wind swell should back off considerably as some southern hemi SW comes into the picture. South facing breaks are looking best for size and conditions with waist to chest high waves, knee to waist at west facing spots. Note though that this relatively better conditioned day will still face increased levels of bacterial contamination from all the recent runoff.

LONG RANGE SYANOPSIS

WIND AND WEATHER ISSUES OFF AND ON THIS WEEK...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

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NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **January 22, 2008**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 7
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 39 / 16
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 25

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from Ford

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NHL

Ducks pull off successful hunt

After contemplating retirement, Selanne signs one-year deal

By the Associated Press

ANAHEIM Teemu Selanne returned to the Stanley Cup champion Anaheim Ducks on Monday after missing the first half of the season while contemplating retirement.

The unrestricted free agent signed a one-year deal and then practiced with the team before it departs Tuesday for an eight-game, 15-day road trip.

"It was a pretty hard practice. I almost forgot how tough it is," Selanne said afterward. "I really feel this is a good time to come back and go on the road with my teammates. (The trip) gives a little more privacy and the ability to get together with new teammates and get back into action."

The 37-year-old Selanne nearly didn't come back, but then he began attending games and being around the team made him want to be part of the action.

"If Brian Burke had told me he needed a deadline in training camp or November, I wouldn't be here today," he said.

Selanne said he didn't want to make a decision until his wife gave birth, which happened seven weeks ago.

"I was very happy to be home and spend the time with my boys and the newborn," he said. "After that, I thought I would start skating and see how I feel. Every day I started feeling better and better. Then I called my agent and asked him to see if there was a deal available."

Selanne followed Stanley Cup MVP Scott Niedermayer in returning to the team. Niedermayer came back in December after pondering retirement, and he scored a goal in Sunday's All-Star game in Atlanta.

Selanne had 48 goals and 46 assists last season, when he ranked third in the NHL in goals, led the league in power-play goals with 25 and tied for first in game-winning goals with 10.

"We are thrilled to have him back," general manager Brian Burke said. "This is a player who scored 48 goals last year and showed no signs of slowing down."

Selanne had been skating at the Ducks' practice rink for the past few weeks.

"I feel the passion again to play hockey," he said. "Anaheim is the only place I wanted to play and I'm very happy that the Samuelis (owners Henry and Susan) and Brian Burke have welcomed me back."

The Finland native won his first Cup last season, scoring the game-winning goal in overtime of Game 5 of the Western Conference finals against Detroit.

NFL

Pats' Brady gives injury talk the boot

BY BARRY WILNER
Associated Press Writer

PHEONIX Tom Brady was back where he belongs Monday, behind center for the New England Patriots' first practice session of Super Bowl week. The NFL's Most Valuable Player missed three practices last week with a tender right ankle, which was taped for Monday's training at Arizona State in nearby Tempe.

According to the Chicago Tribune's Dan Pompei, the designated pool reporter, the star quarterback appeared to have a slight limp but participated in all phases of practice, including jogging the length of the field twice at the end of drills.

Coach Bill Belichick, as usual, declined to comment on injuries or elaborate on Brady's presence.

"Everybody practiced," Belichick said. "The injury report will be out Wednesday."

Brady's return from an injury sustained in the AFC championship game against San Diego was a welcome sight to receiver Wes Welker.

"Anytime the MVP of the league is back, it has to be a positive," Welker said. "He looks good — the same dimples and all."

Brady talked about the ankle for the first time Sunday, shortly after arriving, and said it wouldn't be a problem for the game.

"I'm not concerned about how it's going to affect my play," he said. "This won't keep me out."

Nor do his teammates seem concerned.

"I don't worry about Tom," tackle Matt Light said. "He can take care of himself. I have a bunch of guys in front of me from the Giants to worry about."

Brady's health became an issue a week ago when he was spotted wearing a protective boot on his right foot while visiting supermodel girlfriend Gisele Bundchen in New York. He sat out all three practices in Foxborough, Mass., when much of the game plan was being installed.

Fans have to wonder whether the ankle will slow down the record-setting passer against the New York Giants in Sunday's NFL title game, when New England tries to become the first league team to go 19-0.

"This won't keep me out of this game," he said Sunday, comparing the injury to a similar problem before the 2002 Super Bowl, in which he was the MVP. "That ankle didn't keep me out of the last game. It would have to take a hell of a lot more than an ankle."

Before the Patriots headed to Arizona, Brady appeared at a departure rally at Gillette Stadium and walked without slipping on a light dusting of snow on the field.

He also didn't limp when he arrived at Sky Harbor Airport and, later, at the news conference.

5150 pop star

Britney's got 'mental issues,' friend tells Barbara Walters

BARBARA WALTERS says she has been contacted by BRITNEY SPEARS' manager and "very good friend," Sam Lutfi, who says the pop singer has seen a psychiatrist.

Lutfi told her the 26-year-old pop singer "is suffering from what he describes as mental issues which are treatable," Walters said Monday on ABC's "The View."

"He said that she has been to a psychiatrist and that she, I assume, is starting some kind of treatment," said Walters, a co-host on the ABC daytime talk show.

"She has been having mood swings. She's been having trouble sleeping, and also she is in touch with her mother – 'cause we had heard she wasn't – and her mother has been very supportive of whatever it is that Britney is going to do," Walters said.

Lutfi has been staying with Spears constantly, "and he got in touch with us," Walters said. "I can't vouch for this, he seemed to be very knowledgeable and he certainly was very nice."

Spears' attorney, Sorrell Trope, didn't immediately return a phone call seeking comment Monday.

Spears has spiraled downward since filing for divorce from Kevin Federline in November 2006. Her bizarre public antics include shaving her head bald, attacking a car with an umbrella and bringing along a paparazzo pal on trips to a Los Angeles courthouse in her custody case with Federline.

The singer was taken to a Los Angeles hospital by paramedics earlier this month after police were called to her home because of a dispute involving her sons Sean Preston, 2, and Jayden James, 1. She has lost custody and visitation rights with the boys.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEN. KENNEDY BACKS BARACK

Summoning memories of his slain brother, SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY led two generations of the First Family of Democratic politics Monday in endorsing BARACK OBAMA for the White House, declaring, "I feel change is in the air."

Obama is a man of rare "grit and grace," Kennedy said in remarks salted with scarcely veiled criticism of the Illinois senator's chief rival for the presidential nomination, Sen. Hillary Clinton, as well as her husband, the former president.

AP

No call: NYPD doesn't plan to talk with Mary-Kate Olsen

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly says MARY-KATE OLSEN will not be questioned by detectives about HEATH LEDGER's death.

"There's absolutely no indication investigators were going to speak to Mary-Kate Olsen," Kelly said at a news conference Sunday, echoing previous statements by police officials. "They determined that they had all the info needed from witnesses who were on scene: That's the cleaning woman, the masseuse."

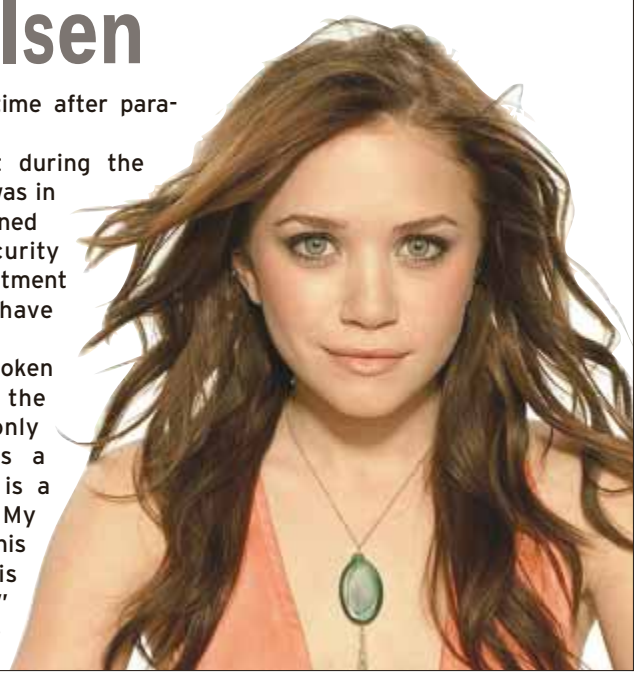
Ledger's masseuse, Diana Wolozin, found his body Tuesday in his Manhattan apartment.

Police have said Wolozin made three calls to Olsen before dialing 911 for help, then phoned the 21-year-old actress a fourth time after paramedics arrived.

At some point during the calls, Olsen, who was in California, summoned her personal security guards to the apartment to help, police have said.

Olsen hasn't spoken publicly about the calls. She has only said: "Heath was a friend. His death is a tragic loss. My thoughts are with his family during this very difficult time."

AP



In the game of life, Scorpio

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

Happy Birthday!

Understand that others often will look to you to take the lead. Much might be going on behind the scenes this year. You might feel that others are pushing your buttons. Know when to say enough. If you are single, be careful not to hook up too fast, or you might have regrets. Carefully get to know someone you are interested in. If you are attached, the two of you need to find new ground on which to relate. SCORPIO can be challenging.



Born Today

Guitarist Jonny Lang (1981)
TV host Oprah Winfrey (1954)
Actor Tom Selleck (1945)

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

★★★★ Relate individually. Listen to what is happening beyond your immediate circle. Important information might point you in a new direction. How you deal with someone might change as a result. Tonight: Lying back could still be important.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Others will show their true colors. Examine what needs to be done, and you'll make good decisions. You might opt to head in a new direction or do something very different. Open up to the possibilities that others present. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Pace yourself and be easygoing. What happens could be most surprising if you remain open. Your finances need studying, whether you like it or not. You head in a new direction. Your home factors into your work. Tonight: Get some exercise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your creativity emerges when dealing with a child or an interesting issue. Let your mind flow, and you'll get results. Speak your mind. Don't have the illusion that others will necessarily agree. Tonight: Fun times are here.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Basics demand a lot of attention. Come from an anchored position. You might not know what to do or where to head. You could feel held back by a money matter. Not so. Move forward and try another approach. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You could be a tad too serious for your own good. Know when to pull back. You might want to loosen up some and express your feelings. You express yourself clearly, and others listen. Tonight: Speak your mind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Curb spending. You might be out of kilter and want to spend, spend, spend. If you don't want a disaster, be careful. Be happy that an opportunity wings your way. You know much more than you realize. Tonight: Pay bills and decide how frivolous you can be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You know what you want. Getting there means focus and determination. Don't allow a setback to stop you. You will achieve your goals. Resolve an issue with an older person or friend. Tonight: In the game of life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Understand that you might be stoppable, whether you like it or not. Investigate possibilities rather than act. Right now, keep your own counsel, and you will succeed. Trust your judgment. Expect changes. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Go for what you want. You alone could trip yourself up. Claim responsibility, and everything will work as smoothly as a well-oiled engine. Ask for support from a friend or loved one. You just might need it. Tonight: Where the gang is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Knowing when to say enough and take a stand could be far more important than you realize right now. Often others eye your performance and thought process. Go for what you most want. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Let your visions direct you. Opt to head in a new direction if you feel uncomfortable. You might be surprised by what you find out. Investigate possibilities with an eye to a different stance. Decisions can be delayed. Tonight: Put on a favorite piece of music.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 260.1528

Check theatre for showtimes

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

Atonement (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00
Cloverfield (PG-13)
4:30, 6:45, 9:00
The Great Debaters (PG-13)
1:15, 6:30
How She Move (PG-13)
2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
I Am Legend (PG-13)
4:00, 9:20
The Kite Runner
1:45

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

27 Dresses (PG-13)
1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:40
Charlie Wilson's War (R)
2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50
Cloverfield (PG-13)
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG)
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
P.S. I Love You (PG-13)
3:30, 6:25
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (R)
1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10
There Will Be Blood (R)
3:00, 6:20, 10:00
Untraceable (R)
2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15

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

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

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

The Bucket List (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Cassandra's Dream (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30
Mad Money (PG-13)
12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 10:10
Meet the Spartans (PG-13)
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00
Michael Clayton (R
1:10, 4:20, 7:40, 10:20
Rambo (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

More information email news@smdp.com

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

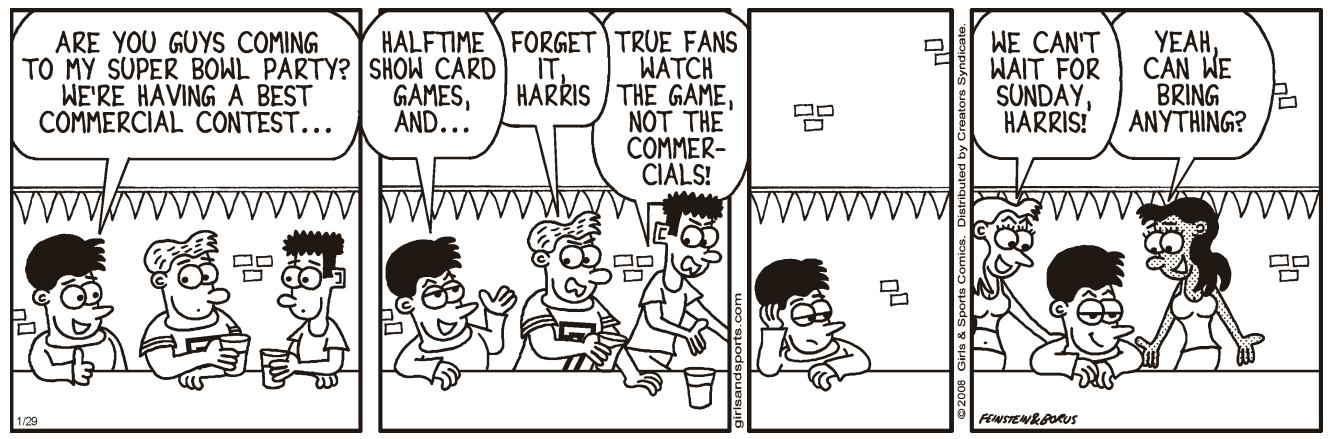
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Girls and Sports

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The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



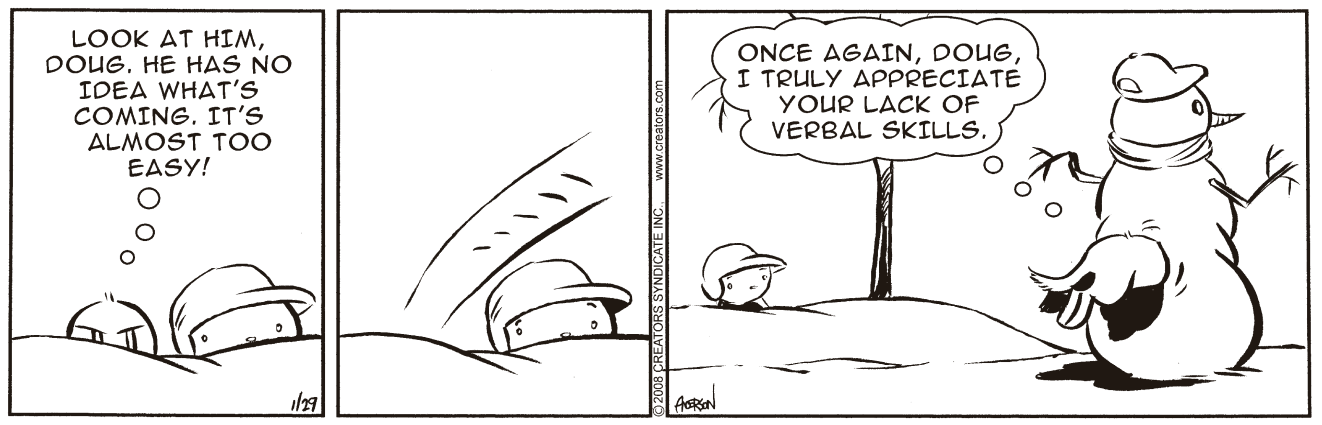
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



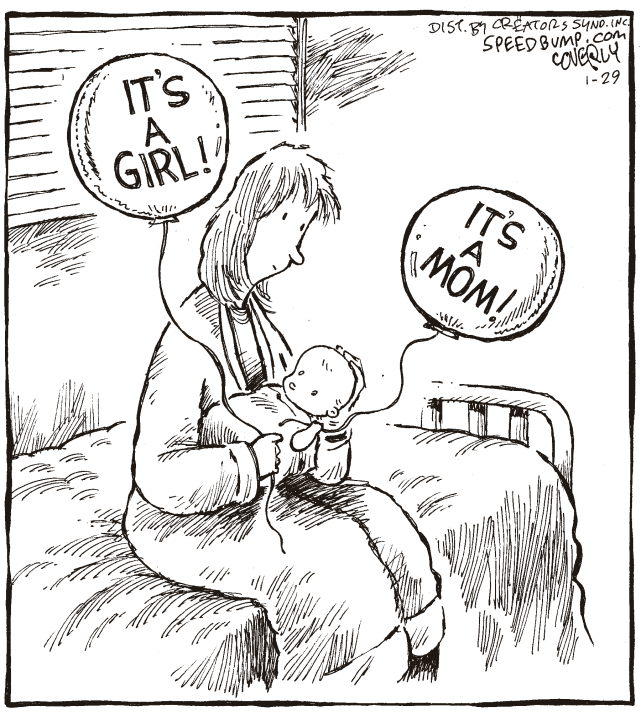
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By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Sumptuous
7 In the thick of
11 Willing to consider
12 Island east of Java
13 Constitution start
15 Improve, in a way
16 Animation frames
18 Owed amount
21 Unclad
22 Curator's place
24 Before now
25 Beat walker
26 Jurist Fortas
27 Station worker
29 Rowing team
30 Penn or Astin
31 Gum masses
32 To now
34 Ayn Rand's first novel
40 Buffalo's lake
41 Broad street
42 Combo
43 Bookish one

DOWN

1 Depressed
2 Clumsy fellow
3 Horse healer
4 Take a breath
5 Flower parts
6 Aspiration
7 Homes
8 Tourist's aid
9 Suffering
10 Conk out
14 Finish
16 Gerbil homes
17 Eat away
19 Chin cover
20 Old TV parts
21 Gold unit
22 Custodian's tool
23 Kitten call
25 River boat
28 Redeemed, as a check
29 Served the turkey
31 Forgo
33 Wing feature
34 Spider's place
35 Memorable time
36 Pewter component
37 — nutshell
38 Sister, of sorts
39 Understand

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11						■	12			
13						14				
■	■	■	15					■	■	■
■	16	17			■	18		19	20	■
21				■	22					23
24			■	25			■	26		
27			28			■	29			
■	30				■	31				■
■	■	■	32		33			■	■	■
34	35	36						37	38	39
40				■	41					
42				■	43					

1-29

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 5 12 22 38 56 Meganumber: 22 Jackpot: $73M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 2 23 29 32 42 Meganumber: 20 Jackpot: $53M

Fantasy 5: 6 23 30 31 33

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 2 8 5 EVENING: 5 7 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 04 Big Ben 2nd: 01 Gold Rush 3rd: 05 California Classic RACE TIME: 1.41.80

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Killed by early-morning gunshots in a club in Greensboro, N.C., in December: Mr. Born God Supreme Thompson. Arrested and charged with groping two women in Springfield, Ill., in December: Larry Letcher, 24. The loser of a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling in December that sought to suppress child pornography found on his computer by a Circuit City repair technician: Kenneth Sodomsky.

■ Joshua Hoge, a schizophrenic confined to Washington's Western State Hospital, is claiming at least part of his late mother's estate even though he's the one who killed her in 1999. Washington law prevents profiting from the "unlawful" and "willful" taking of another's life, but Hoge was found "not guilty by reason of insanity," and the legal issue is still unsettled. Furthermore, according to a January report in The Seattle Times, it appears that the mother's estate consists almost totally of the $800,000 the estate won in a lawsuit against a county health clinic because it was negligent in delaying Joshua's medications, which probably led to his killing her.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1843 The 25th president of the United States, William McKinley, was born in Niles, Ohio.

1845 Edgar Allan Poe's poem ``The Raven'' was first published, in the New York Evening Mirror.

1850 Henry Clay introduced in the Senate compromise proposals on slavery.

1820 Britain's King George III died at Windsor Castle, ending a reign that had seen both the American and French revolutions.

1861 Kansas became the 34th state of the Union.

1936 The first members of baseball's Hall of Fame, including Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth, were named in Cooperstown, N.Y.

1958 50 years ago, actors Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward were married in Las Vegas.

1963 The first members of pro football's Hall of Fame were named in Canton, Ohio.

1963 Poet Robert Frost died in Boston at age 88.

1979 President Carter formally welcomed Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping to the White House, following the establishment of diplomatic relations.

1996 Fire destroyed Venice, Italy's La Fenice opera house.

WORD UP!

neophyte \NEE-uh-fyt\, *noun:* 1. A new convert or proselyte. 2. A novice; a beginner in anything.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Notices

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES
AND DESIGNATION OF CENTRAL COUNTING PLACE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office of polling places designated for the Presidential Primary Election scheduled to be held on February 5, 2008.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's facility, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, California 90650 has been designated as the central counting place for the above election.

Polling places shall be open between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, or Vietnamese regarding information in the notice may call (800) 481-8683.

POLLING PLACES

6250001A (6250001D, 6250017D, 6250017E, 6250017F CONS) - RESI-DENCE; 709 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402, 709 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402
6250005A (6250005E, 6250109B, 6250109C, 6250109D, 6250109E, 6250109F CONS) - SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY; 1704 MONTANA AV SANTA MONICA 90403, 1704 MONTANA AV SANTA MONICA 90403
6250005B (6250005C, 6250005D, 6250010F, 6250110B, 6250110C CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH; 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250007A (6250008B, 6250008C, 6250008D, 6250125E CONS) - RESI-DENCE; 300 GEORGINA AV SANTA MONICA 90402, 300 GEORGINA AV SANTA MONICA 90402
6250008E (6250008E, 6250008F, 6250020C, 6250020D, 6250020E, 6250020F, 6250095F CONS) - GARDENS OF SANTA MONICA; 851 002ND ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 851 002ND ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250010A (6250010C, 6250010D, 6250017B, 6250017C, 6250125B, 6250125C CONS) - EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY; 1311 MONTANA AV SANTA MONICA 90403, 1311 MONTANA AV SANTA MONICA 90403
6250010E (6250010E, 6250094B, 6250094C, 6250110D, 6250110E, 6250110F CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH; 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250011A (6250011C, 6250011D, 6250011E, 6250012C, 6250012D, 6250012E CONS) - TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH; 1015 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 904, 1015 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 904
6250016A (6250015B, 6250015C, 6250016C, 6250016D, 6250016E, 6250016F CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE; 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250018A (6250018B, 6250018C, 6250018D, 6250018E, 6250018F, 6250094D, 6250094E CONS) - SAINT MONICA'S PARISH; 725 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 9040, 725 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 9040
6250021A (6250021B, 6250021C, 6250021D, 6250021E, 6250095C, 6250095D, 6250095E CONS) - FIRESIDE CONVALESCENT HOSP; 947 003RD ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 947 003RD ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250025B (6250025B, 6250025C, 6250025D, 6250025E, 6250025F, 6250062D, 6250062E, 6250062F, 6250063G CONS) - 18TH ST ARTS CENTER; 1639 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404, 1639 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404
6250026A (6250026E, 6250026F, 6250078B, 6250078E CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH; 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250031A (6250031B, 6250031C, 6250031D, 6250031E, 6250031F CONS) - DOUGLAS PARK; 1155 CHELSEA AV SANTA MONICA 90403, 1155 CHELSEA AV SANTA MONICA 90403
6250032A (6250032C, 6250032D, 6250032E, 6250034B CONS) - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE; 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1001 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250034C (6250034C, 6250034D, 6250034E, 6250034G, 6250034H, 6250034I, 6250035B, 6250035C, 6250035D CONS) - FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH; 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1008 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250036B (6250035E, 6250035F, 6250035G, 6250036B, 6250036C, 6250036D, 6250036E CONS) - TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH; 1015 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 904, 1015 CALIFORNIA AV SANTA MONICA 904
6250038A (6250019D, 6250038B, 6250038C, 6250038D, 6250038E, 6250038F, 6250038G, 6250056B, 6250056C CONS) - THE SALVATION ARMY; 1533 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401, 1533 004TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401
6250041C (6250019B, 6250019C, 6250019E, 6250041C, 6250041E, 6250041F, 6250041G CONS) - REED PARK/ THE CARD ROOM; 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250043A (6250043C, 6250043D, 6250043E, 6250053G CONS) - UNI-TARIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH; 1260 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404, 1260 018TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404

Notices

6250045A (6250045C, 6250045D, 6250045E CONS) - CELLULAR FAN-TASY; 2600 WILSHIRE BL SANTA MONICA 90403, 2600 WILSHIRE BL SANTA MONICA 90403
6250050C (6250051C, 6250051D, 6250051E CONS) - GENEVA PLAZA; 1441 021ST ST SANTA MONICA 90404, 1441 021ST ST SANTA MONICA 90404
6250052A (6250051F, 6250052A, 6250052C, 6250052D, 6250052E, 6250052F, 6250052G CONS) - HOLIDAY VILLA; 1447 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404, 1447 017TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404
6250053A (6250041B, 6250041D, 6250053A, 6250053C, 6250053D, 6250053E, 6250053F CONS) - RED CROSS OF SANTA MONICA; 1450 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401, 1450 011TH ST SANTA MONICA 90401
6250056A (6250055D, 6250055E, 6250055F, 6250056D, 6250056E CONS) - COLORADO COURTS; 502 COLORADO AV SANTA MONICA 90401, 502 COLORADO AV SANTA MONICA 90401
6250060A (6250060C CONS) - WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP; 2944 COLORADO AV SANTA MONICA 90404, 2944 COLORADO AV SANTA MONICA 90404
6250061B (6250061B, 6250061C, 6250061D, 6250061F, 6250061G, 6250062B, 6250062G CONS) - VIRGINIA PARK; 2200 VIRGINIA AV SANTA MONICA 90404, 2200 VIRGINIA AV SANTA MONICA 90404
6250065A (6250065B, 6250065C, 6250065D, 6250065E, 6250065F, 6250065G, 6250121C, 6250121D, 6250121E CONS) - OCEAN HOUSE; 2107 OCEAN AV SANTA MONICA 90405, 2107 OCEAN AV SANTA MONICA 90405
6250068A (6250067D, 6250068C, 6250068D, 6250069B, 6250069C, 6250069E CONS) - JOSLYN PARK; 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040
6250068E (6250068E, 6250068G, 6250068H, 6250106B, 6250106C, 6250106D, 6250106E, 6250106F CONS) - SANTA MONICA CITY HALL; 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401, 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401
6250070A (6250069D, 6250069F, 6250070B, 6250070C, 6250070D, 6250070E CONS) - RESI-DENCE; 1204 PINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 1204 PINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250075A (6250076D, 6250076E CONS) - GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; 2368 PEARL ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 2368 PEARL ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250078A (6250076B, 6250076C, 6250078C, 6250078D, 6250078F, 6250085E CONS) - BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH; 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 2516 020TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250081C (6250081C, 6250081D, 6250081E, 6250081F, 6250093D, 6250093E, 6250093F CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK; 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250083C (6250083C, 6250083D, 6250083E, 6250083F, 6250089D, 6250120F CONS) - THE SOFA COM-PANY; 2314 LINCOLN BL SANTA MONICA 90405, 2314 LINCOLN BL SANTA MONICA 90405
6250085A (6250085D, 6250087E CONS) - RESI-DENCE; 2108 OAK ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 2108 OAK ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250089A (6250083B, 6250087F, 6250089B, 6250089E CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING; 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250089C (6250089C, 6250092C, 6250092D, 6250092E, 6250092F, 6250092G CONS) - MARINE PARK BUILDING; 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 1406 MARINE ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250098B (6250067E, 6250067F, 6250098C, 6250098D, 6250098E CONS) - CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK; 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 235 HILL ST SANTA MONICA 90405
6250104A (6250012F, 6250012G, 6250012H, 6250095B, 6250104B, 6250104C, 6250104D, 6250104E CONS) - REED PARK/ THE CARD ROOM; 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403, 1129 007TH ST SANTA MONICA 90403
6250107A (6250093B, 6250093G, 6250098A, 6250107B, 6250107C, 6250107D, 6250107E, 6250107F, 6250107G CONS) - SANTA MONICA SHORES; 2800 NEILSON WY SANTA MONICA 90405, 2800 NEILSON WY SANTA MONICA 90405
6250113A (6250113C, 6250113D, 6250113E, 6250113F, 6250125D, 6250125F CONS) - ST PAULS LU-THERAN CHURCH; 958 LINCOLN BL SANTA MONICA 90403, 958 LINCOLN BL SANTA MONICA 90403
6250120A (6250067B, 6250067C, 6250081B, 6250120C, 6250120D, 6250120E CONS) - JOSLYN PARK; 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040, 633 KENSINGTON RD SANTA MONICA 9040
6250121A (6250063B, 6250063C, 6250063D, 6250063E, 6250063F, 6250121F CONS) - SANTA MONICA CITY HALL; 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401, 1685 MAIN ST SANTA MONICA 90401
6250127A (6250093C, 6250093H, 6250127B, 6250127C, 6250127D, 6250127E, 6250127F, 6250127G CONS) - ST CLEMENTS CHURCH; 3102 003RD ST SANTA MONICA 90405, 3102 003RD ST SANTA MONICA 90405

DEAN C. LOGAN
Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
County of Los Angeles

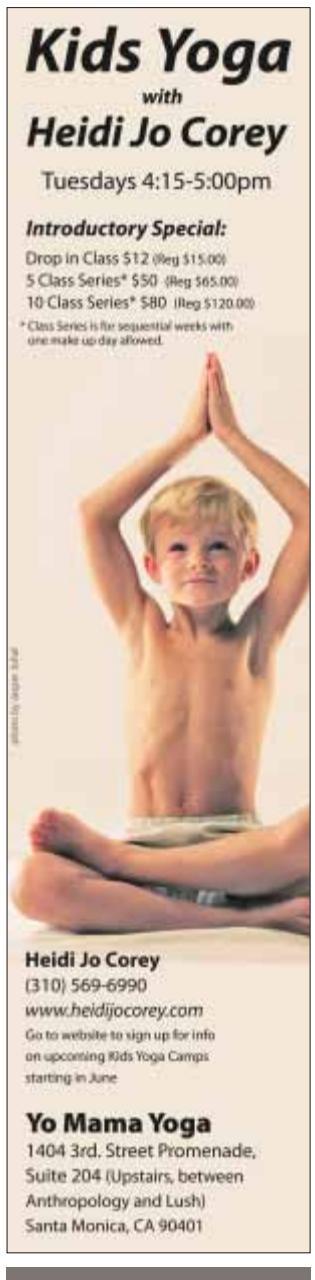
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		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 2,586,333	No Listings
North of Montana	=	$ 3,548,148	$ 2,066,286
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,141,125	$ 945,323
South of Wilshire	=	$ 1,290,000	$ 752,309
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,276,167	$ 670,923
Ocean Park	=	$ 2,260,571	$ 917,775

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