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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 72

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT A PENGUIN
SEE PAGE 6

THE TAKE 'ER EASY, DUDE ISSUE

SMC cuts offerings taken by high school students

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC For the first time in years, Santa Monica College this summer will not offer "late-start" classes, a decision that means high school students in particular could have a harder time enrolling in college level courses.

SMC in recent years has offered between 22 and 44 late-start sections (so named because they start a couple of weeks after regular summer courses in order to accommodate high school students' vacation schedules) in subjects like psychology and sociology that aren't offered at most high schools.

While the late-start summer courses were open to any interested community college students, they were especially popular among high school students, who could sign up without paying per-unit fees.

About 200 students from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District would typically enroll in the late-start program each summer, said Sally Chou, the district's chief academic officer.

The decision to eliminate the program comes as SMC, like community colleges throughout California, is experiencing a steep drop in state support.

SMC President Chui Tsang said the college has seen its funding from Sacramento decline by 10 percent in the past three years, resulting in fewer class offerings and more competition for classroom seats.

But he said the main reason for the elimination of the late-start program had to do with scheduling, rather than budget concerns.

A shorter school year at public school systems including the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has made it easier for high school students to take regular summer session courses, he said.

SEE SMC PAGE 10



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

ROLLING: **Samohi center Imani Holloway drives to the hoop against Culver City on the road Wednesday. Samohi won the game, 53-30.**

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Samohi comes together for playoff push

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI It may have been just one night, but a victory over Culver City on Wednesday has Santa Monica High School's girls' basketball coach Marty Verdugo thinking the worst may be behind his Vikings.

Samohi (16-8 overall, 5-2 in league) had suffered through a rough stretch that saw the Vikings lose six of 10 games, giving the impression that this season may be tougher than expected for a squad that began the season 9-0.

Samohi came into the season as the defending California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 1A champs, moving up to the more competitive Division 1AA this year, which features national powers Brea Olinda, Long Beach Poly and Mater Dei. After losing to both Poly and Mater Dei, Verdugo knew that making it back to the top of postseason heap would be tough, but was surprised to see his team lose to Ocean League rivals Culver City and Inglewood, who are in lower divisions.

He feared that his team was believing its own hype and didn't do the little things to ensure a return to the playoffs. But, that changed Wednesday at Culver City.

"It was the first time that I saw the girls talking about the things that they wanted to get done," he said. "We've heard about our potential, now it was time to live up to that potential."

The Vikings came out strong in routing Culver City 53-30. So strong that Verdugo had the chance to empty his bench during the second half, giving his starters a little well-needed rest.

With the season winding down and the playoffs approaching, Verdugo said that the Vikings appear to have come around. But, he knows there is work to be done for Samohi to again make a deep run into the playoffs.

"We're going to use these next three [league] games to get better in areas that we're weak in and that we need improvement in," he said. "I have it down to better defense, offensive movement and shooting."

He said those three areas are what helped the Vikings win the title last season and looks forward to seeing that kind of execution in the coming weeks. A mid-season experiment that put sophomore Briana Harris at the point guard position wasn't

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 12

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Feb. 4, 2011

Cafe Samo
Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Samohi's choir program presents this cabaret-style show featuring dozens of performers who create and produce their own musical acts. For more information, call (310) 828-4884. This event also takes place on Saturday.

What's to become of the Colorado River?
Patagonia
2936 Main St., 8 p.m.
Famed author and adventurer Jonathan Waters will be on hand sharing his take on the slow but sure decline of the Colorado River. He will also be signing a number of his works.

Super Bowl-A-Thon
AMF Bay Shore Lanes
234 Pico Blvd., 4 p.m.
Civic groups from across the city will be competing in the annual Super Bowl-A-Thon. Proceeds go to help the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition. For more information, call (310) 314-0071.

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011

'Bikes in the City'
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 11 a.m.
Learn some of the steps you can take to be safe on city streets. Experts from Cyclists Inciting Change thru Live Exchange (C.I.C.L.E.) will share their knowledge of bike handling skills. There will be a mini-ride after the workshop. This event is free, but pre-registration is required. To sign up, e-mail contact@CICLE.org.

Ojai in postcards
Main Library
601 Main St., 1 p.m.
Presented by Craig Walker, co-author of the new book "Ojai: A Postcard History," this visual tour will draw heavily on Ojai's legacy of mission revival architecture and feature the work of such architects as Mead and Requa, Wallace Neff, Carlton Winslow, George Washington Smith, Julia Morgan and more. Emphasis will be given to rarely seen or lost commercial and institutional buildings, documented through postcards.
For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

'Caught in the Net'
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"Caught in the Net" is an Internet-themed comedy about taxi driver John Smith, whose double life and two unsuspecting wives are up-ended once his two teenagers meet in an online chat room. For information, call (310) 600-1683. This event also takes place on Sunday at 2 p.m.

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

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

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



Poll: Training, not nature, makes aggressive dog

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The majority of American pet owners believe a well-trained dog is safe — even if it comes from one of the "bully breeds."

Some dog breeds, such as pit bulls or Rottweilers, are considered truly dangerous by 28 percent of American pet owners, but an Associated Press-Petside.com poll found that 71 percent said any breed can be safe if the dogs are well trained.

"It's not the dog. It's the owner that's the problem," said Michael Hansen, a 59-year-old goldsmith from Port Orchard, Wash. "The dog will do whatever it can to please the owner, right down to killing another animal for you."

"If they are brought up in a loving household, they can flourish just like any other dog," agreed Nancy Lyman, 56, of Warwick, Mass.

Sixty percent of pet owners feel that all dog breeds should be allowed in residential communities, while 38 percent believe some breeds should be banned, according to the poll conducted by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Corporate Communications.

Denver and Miami-Dade County in Florida have pit bull bans that go back decades. The Army and Marine Corps have put base housing off limits to the dogs in the last few years.

Of the pet owners in the poll who support breed bans, 85 percent would bar pit bulls. Other breeds considered too dangerous were Rottweilers, Dobermans, German shepherds and chow chows. Seven percent said any violent, vicious or fighting dog should be banned and 2 percent said all large dogs should be outlawed.

Asked specifically about pit bulls, 53 percent of those polled said they were safe for residential neighborhoods, but 43 percent said they were too dangerous.

Age played a major role in the pit bull questions — 76 percent of those under age 30 said pit bulls were safe, compared with just 37 percent of seniors.

Janice Dudley, 81, of Culver City, Calif., was taking out her garbage when she was charged by a pit bull whose owner had been walking him in her neighborhood for years.

"He came within a few inches of my leg. It was shocking. There was nothing I could do. The owner controlled the dog and they went on their way but it was really very frightening," she said.

She goes to great lengths to avoid the man and dog now, she said. "That was as close as I've ever come and as close as I ever want to be."

Dudley would stop short of imposing a widespread breed ban, but she believes pit bulls are too dangerous. "I think it is in their nature to be more vicious than other dogs," she said.

She blames breeders for the dangerous behavior of the animals and believes the dogs are genetically at risk. "People I know

SEE **DOGS** PAGE 10



CLOSE WIN

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Samohi's Spencer Cramer puts back a rebound Wednesday for a score against Culver City on the road. Samohi won the close game, 59-58.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' SOCCER

St. Monica improves to 5-1 in league

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DOWNTOWN Despite a slow start during non-league games, St. Monica's boys' soccer team has raced out to a 5-1 record in Camino Real League play.

The latest victory came over league rival Montebello Cantwell-Sacred Heart during a 4-0 shutout. Senior Matthew Partyka scored two first-half goals to get the Mariners going. In the second half, Omar Valladares and Ryan Trihernawan scored a goal apiece.

The win gives St. Monica a 6-9-2 overall record. As it stands, the Mariners appear destined to earn a spot in the California Interscholastic Southern Section playoffs, which begin in two weeks.

Next for the Mariners is a home league game against Gardena Serra today at Airport Park. The game is scheduled for 3 p.m.

SAMOHI REMAINS NO. 2 IN POLL

Santa Monica High School's boys' soccer team retained its No. 2 CIF-SS Division 4 ranking in the latest poll released this week.

The Vikings are 14-2-2 this season. Their 5-0 Ocean League record is good for first place. Next for Samohi is a road league game against rival Beverly Hills. The game will begin at 6 p.m.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Just a suggestion

Editor:

In response to your interesting article "No-smoking signs leave some puzzled," Feb. 2, page 1, I would like to offer my more clear and more boldly printed suggestion to print on the new Santa Monica Pier cigarette butt receptacles:

Save the pier
Deposit your butt here
No, not that butt
The smoking one that smells even worse.

Jerry Rubin
Santa Monica

Drivers have no respect

Editor:

I am glad someone is addressing the problem of pedestrian safety (re: "Widow of man killed in Wilshire crosswalk demands safer streets," page 1, Jan. 29).

I have lived in Santa Monica for two years and am lucky to still be alive. I am in a wheelchair, so I never cross unless there is a walk light, but if a driver turns right before me, I do not have enough time to cross the street, or if a driver illegally turns left in front of me, it leaves me in the middle of the crosswalk, defenseless. I have been run into twice, crossing in broad daylight, with a walk light, in Downtown Santa Monica. I purchased a loud horn for my wheelchair, but nothing will work, neither a horn, street design, or police checks. Only driver education will solve the problem.

Santa Monica drivers seem to think they have a right to turn left or right into a pedestrian walkway when the walk light is on and pedestrians are crossing. Basically, pedestrians do not count, cars have the right of way. Just this Friday, crossing Arizona Avenue at Second Street at 11 a.m., a woman in an SUV turned her vehicle around in the middle of the crosswalk, right in front of me and at least six other pedestrians. Don't give these drivers tickets, make them ride around in a wheelchair for a day, or at least walk for a day.

Santa Monica is the worst city in California for pedestrian deaths. That needs to change, along with this car driver mentality that looks down on pedestrians as getting in their way.

Kathryn Kosmeya-Dodge
Santa Monica

Bikers are just as bad as drivers

Editor:

I agree with Ana Herceg's call for more "failure to yield to pedestrian" sting operations ("Widow of man killed in Wilshire crosswalk demands safer streets," page 1, Jan. 29). One good sting spot would be the Franklin Avenue crosswalk on Wilshire Boulevard where I often see cars fail to yield to pedestrians.

However, rather than criticize drivers, Barbara Filet of Santa Monica Spoke should take her own bicyclist members to task. Of all the groups who share the streets – pedestrians, cars, SUVs, motorcycles – only bicyclists disobey traffic rules most of the time.

Bicyclists ignore stop signs and crosswalks (and after hours, even red lights) as a rule. Cars usually stop for me when I wait by a stop sign or crosswalk. Bicyclists normally zip past me even when I'm in the crosswalk. Not to mention their frequent use of sidewalks.

Thomas M. Sipos
Santa Monica



SMDP EDITORIALS

Preparing for the construction crunch

Over the next five years, Downtown and the surrounding areas will be transformed as City Hall moves forward with several critical projects that will make Santa Monica a more desirable and safer place to live. Those projects include a new California Incline and Santa Monica Pier bridge, two new parks in the Civic Center and the Exposition Light Rail Line, the expansion of Santa Monica High School and The Village housing development, along with new parking structures and a state-of-the-art cineplex.

While it would be nice to delay some of the construction so that Downtown doesn't feel and look like a disaster zone (the theater project could be one since it is not critical and would demolish much-needed parking), some projects are desperately needed infrastructure improvements and can no longer be put on hold. The incline and pier bridge are already dangerously behind schedule. The other issue is Gov. Brown's threat to dismantle redevelopment agencies. This has forced City Hall and other cities to act now or risk losing hundreds of millions of dollars.

The reality is, we can't wait, and we shouldn't. It's like tearing off a Band-Aid. Do it quickly as possibly or suffer more pain. If we can weather the construction disruption that will mean detours, traffic, parking headaches, loud noise, dust and debris, our city will be in a much better position for the long haul. City Manager Rod Gould is already preaching patience.

City Hall is being responsible by planning ahead, looking at ways to address parking problems while developing tools to keep the community informed. Communication is key and it will be critical to create a construction timeline that is clear to all, and one that can be executed. City Hall needs to have firm completion dates to give residents, merchants and visitors a light at the end of the tunnel. Delays and ambiguity will only lead to more frustration and construction fatigue.

The Daily Press, which is located in the heart of Downtown, will be impacted greatly, as we were with the renovation of Santa Monica Place and the adjacent parking structures. But we have also reaped the benefits of a more attractive mall. That project proved that with a little patience comes great rewards.

Give businesses a break

City Hall needs to help our local businesses compete, and can do this by easing the restrictions on advertising at mom-and-pop shops. On Tuesday, merchants met with city officials to discuss changes to the sign ordinance, which restricts advertising to protect the community from visual blight. Merchants who attended specifically asked city officials to allow them to place sandwich boards in front of their stores to advertise daily specials and sales. This would be good for restaurants and retail and we believe City Hall should consider it.

City officials have the difficult job of making sure businesses can thrive while also cutting down on visual blight. No one wants to walk down Main Street or Pico Boulevard and feel like they are in Las Vegas. Sidewalks need to be free of clutter to ensure safety and maintain access. We get that. But there needs to be some wiggle room for businesses to attract customers. Perhaps City Hall could ease the restriction on advertising in storefronts (Vidiots is a perfect example of using storefronts creatively while positively contributing to the look of the neighborhood), or allow retailers to set some goods just outside their front doors to draw in passersby. Maybe those exceptions could be allowed on weekends only or other high-volume days like Black Friday or President's Day.

We're sure there is a compromise somewhere. By easing restrictions, that could free up time for more enforcement of those who are gross violators. We're glad City Hall called the meeting with merchants. It shows the city manager is trying to make Santa Monica more business friendly. We just hope the gesture isn't an empty one.

We all need to watch the road

Our inbox and mailbox have been filled recently with letters from our readers regarding pedestrian safety and traffic on our streets and the beach bike path. All seem to recognize the need for greater enforcement and possible design changes to enhance safety. We agree. But what has us concerned is the sustained animosity between bikers, drivers and pedestrians.

All three groups continue to point the proverbial finger at one another, placing blame but rarely offering reasonable solutions. This acrimony is not needed during this critical time when city officials are working to enact elements of the Land Use and Circulation Element, which will dictate development in Santa Monica for the next 20 years or more. The LUCE includes plans to make our streets safer for both bikers and pedestrians.

We all need to understand that bickering will not protect another person from being struck and killed. Enough with the harmful rhetoric. Everyone — pedestrians, bikers and drivers — need to stop with the distractions and pay closer attention to their actions. By following the rules of the road, and that includes cyclists who run red lights and stop signs as well as drivers on cell phones and pedestrians who Jaywalk, we can cut down on accidents. Enforcement is needed, but people also must pay attention and stop worrying about what errands or chores have to be done that day. If you're driving, riding or walking, be focused on the task at hand. It sounds simple enough, but it isn't happening.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 17!
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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Chaos in Cairo, dancing in Dallas

AS I WRITE THIS A MILLION EGYPTIANS are in the streets of Cairo and Alexandria demanding the resignation of Hosni Mubarak. He's been a brutal dictator (to whom we give $1.5 billion a year) and was grooming his son, Gamal, to be his successor. Apparently Gamal was the straw that broke the camel's back. (Sorry about that.)

Gamal recently took his family and fled to London and I have a feeling they're not staying at a Motel 6. Hosni, he may be ruthless and sadistic, but at 82 and with cancer, he looks "marvelous." Yet, by the time you read this Mubarak may have been frog marched out of office.

The Egyptian turmoil could have very serious ramifications in the Middle East, not to mention the Suez Canal and the supply of oil. (Our drug of choice.) During the protests there have been dozens of deaths and serious injuries. Reportedly, CNN's Anderson Cooper was punched in the face 10 times. (I couldn't help but think why not Bill O'Reilly.)

Back in the states, many people are very concerned, although about a slightly different matter. Apparently cold weather and blizzard conditions are making it difficult to get to the Super Bowl in Dallas, which will feature the Green Bay Packers and the Pittsburgh Steelers. While Egyptians are rioting over extreme poverty (many subsist on $2 a day) Super Bowl fans are paying upwards of $2,500 for a crummy seat in the end zone. If that's too pricey, just outside the stadium, for $200 you can see the game on a giant Jumbotron. Whoopee!

In 1966, John Lennon said of the Beatles, "We're more popular than Jesus." In the south the religious right staged the destruction of Beatle records using steamrollers. I'm reminded of this because, blasphemous as it sounds, one could say the Super Bowl is more popular than Christmas.

An expected, 100 million Americans will watch Super Bowl XLV (number 45 to you and me), whereas only 60 million went to church on Christmas. While this notion might be offensive to some, I can't imagine anyone renting a steamroller to destroy my columns. On the other hand, using them to line a birdcage is a distinct possibility.

I'm not sure how it evolved, but Super Bowl Sunday now has the status of a national holiday. Families and friends gather to eat, drink and bond in front of TVs in homes, bars and Hooters all across the country.

As opposed to Christmas, the Super Bowl is celebrated with an added bonus, the wagering of enormous sums of money. It's estimated $10 billion will be bet on the game, the biggest one day take in the entire year of gaming. (I like how they call it the "gaming industry.") Yes, to Las Vegas the Super Bowl is better than Christmas and New Years combined.

As for food, it's estimated that at Super Bowl parties nationwide more food will be consumed than any other day of the year except for Thanksgiving. Giving the poor turkeys a break, chicken wings might be considered the Super Bowl dish of choice. And plenty of beer!

Ironically, of the previous 44 Super Bowls, a majority have been on the dull side (last year's New Orleans Saints vs. the Indianapolis Colts notwithstanding). The actual game is almost incidental. For many people, often women, the TV commercials make for the most compelling viewing. And get this, of the 100 million expected to tune in, at least 50 million will watch the commercials again online! For ad agencies the Super Bowl is their Oscars.

A 30-second commercial will cost $3 million and add to that, the approximately $8 million in production expenditures. The agencies with clients who can afford it gear up for the Super Bowl like no other event. And curiously, most ads which may have cost upwards of $11 million are rarely used again throughout the year. (Did I mention many Egyptians subsist on $2 a day?)

Another highlight of the afternoon/evening is the half-time musical entertainment. This year the featured artists are the Black Eyed Peas. In the past the Rolling Stones, Paul McCartney, Prince and U2 have performed. I was at Super Bowl I at the L.A. Coliseum in 1967. As I recall the entertainment was a guy and girl in matching cheesy outfits twirling a baton and throwing it high in the air. Trust me, it was not exactly breathtaking.

This year, with the game at Jerry Jones' spectacular stadium, "The Palace in Dallas," the Super Bowl may break TV ratings records again. (Also the live attendance may be 105,000 breaking that record, as well.)

Back to the Middle East, if Egypt falls into the wrong hands it could destabilize the entire region. The whole world will be watching. And by that I mean, to see if it's the Packers or Steelers who win the Super Bowl.

If **JACK** isn't too busy flipping channels between the Super Bowl and the Egyptian revolution, he can be reached at Jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

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Disclosing donors

Councilman Kevin McKeown last week was again unsuccessful in his push to increase disclosure of campaign contributors.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Why do you think his fellow council members voted down his proposal to give the public greater access to campaign finance records?

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


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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Penguins? What's not to love?

MINA BADIE IS THE MOST AUTHENTIC pregnant woman who isn't pregnant that I've ever seen. She slouches on the sofa, belly in air, she rises sideways, clutching the arm of the sofa, and she waddles around her spectacularly tacky apartment bracketing her belly in earphones to soothe the baby with music. She calls him "the bump."

Mina and the baby are the focus of "Me, As A Penguin," now being given its American premiere at the Lost Studio on LaBrea. But the production is very nearly stolen by Brendan Hunt, who plays her eccentric brother, Stitch. He's called Stitch because he's spent his years working in his mother's wool shop, helping elderly British ladies with their knitting. And he knits throughout the play, whenever he's frazzled, and eventually knits something that brings a huge laugh from the audience.

Meanwhile Mina, as Liz, argues with her husband Mark (Craig Robert Young) about "when is your brother going to leave already?" She strikes a bargain with Mark: when Stitch leaves, so will the sofa. She wants a new settee from Ikea. He considers their current overstuffed monstrosity "a loyal piece of furniture" and clings to it as to a security blanket.

Meanwhile, Stitch has bonded with a baby penguin at the local zoo. He identifies with it, and in a sensitive and moving monologue describes how the baby, an "outsider," hangs back from the group of his elders and seems to be totally ignored at feeding-time.

To complicate matters even more, Stitch, who is gay, has a crush on the penguin-keeper, Dave, (James Donovan) with whom he had a not-memorable one-night stand. When Dave shows up at Liz and Mark's apartment dressed in a penguin suit, triggering Stitch's humiliation and dismay, instead of sympathizing, he points out coldly that "nobody ever died of a joke!"

All the actors are excellent, thanks to the impeccable direction of veteran director/actor/writer John Pleshette, but they could stand having a better and more consistent grip on their British accents. The wonderfully dreadful set (busy green wallpaper, maroon patterned sofa, etc.) is also the work of John Pleshette, with lighting design by Phil Galler, sound design by Joseph Slawinski, and costumes by Esther Rydell.

"Me, As A Penguin" is a sweet play, simple and straightforward, with lots of laughs and maybe a brief tear or two. Tom Wells, who studied English at Oxford, wrote this play when he was 23. It opened at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in 2009 and subsequently toured the UK. Since then he has written half a dozen more, with names like "Notes For First Time Astronauts," "Yeti," and "The Light That Never Goes Out." His plays have been produced in London and elsewhere in England, and he is currently Associate Playwright at the Bush Theatre and writes under commission from that theater and three other regional theaters. To envision him as Alan Ayckbourn's successor would not be too much of a stretch.

"Me, As A Penguin" will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. through March 6 at The Lost Studio, 130 S. LaBrea Ave. (between First and Second streets) in Los Angeles. Call (323) 960-7721 for reservations.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

Mick Jagger to make first appearance on Grammy stage

NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK The Recording Academy is finally getting some satisfaction, with Mick Jagger's first appearance on the Grammy stage.

The Rolling Stones frontman will perform at the Feb. 13 ceremony as part of a tribute to soul great Solomon Burke, who died last year. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer opened for the Rolling Stones several times during his career comeback late in life.

Jagger will perform with soul singer Raphael Saadiq during the 53rd annual Grammy Awards, which will air live on CBS from the Staples Center in Los Angeles (8 p.m. EST).

"We're thrilled, delighted, excited and very much looking forward to Mick doing his debut on the Grammy stage," said Neil Portnow, president and CEO of the Recording Academy. "It's extraordinary to many of us that the fact is, this will be the first time; he has never performed on the Grammy stage."

This won't be Jagger's first appearance on a Grammy telecast. In 1986, the Rolling Stones were given a lifetime achievement award by Eric Clapton, and they performed on the show by satellite.

"We did a remote from London, and it was at least three o'clock there," said show producer Ken Ehrlich.

"I think they had been celebrating a little time before we went on camera," he said. "It was quite a moment."

Ehrlich has produced the show for 31 years and has always wanted Jagger and the Stones to perform, but it didn't work out until this year.

Ehrlich said it was Jagger's admiration for Burke that brought him to the Grammy stage.

"He's asked me not to go into detail about what he's doing, but I think when you see the performance, it will make a lot sense," said Ehrlich. "I think it was the idea of the performance that was intriguing to him and really brought him here."

Jagger will join a performers list that includes Rihanna, Cee Lo, Gwyneth Paltrow, Eminem, Arcade Fire, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Usher, Lady Gaga, Lady Antebellum and Justin Bieber.

When asked who was left on his list of must-have Grammy performers, Ehrlich, noting the numerous legends who have appeared on the Grammy stage, said: "In all honestly, that's about it."



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Guggenheim returns to its roots, traces collection

ANN LEVIN
For The Associated Press

NEW YORK The Guggenheim Museum is returning to its roots with an exhibition presenting the masterworks of modern art that form the foundation of Solomon R. Guggenheim's collection.

Beginning in the late 1920s, Guggenheim began to branch out into new artistic directions with the help of an adviser, German artist Hilla Rebay. She steered the American industrialist toward artists who were making nonobjective, almost abstract art.

Until then, Guggenheim had been fond of old master paintings, the realistic landscapes of the French Barbizon school and similar works; under Rebay's direction, he began acquiring art of the moment that captured the vast social and technological changes transforming early 20th century society.

The paintings and sculpture in the show, which range from 1910 to 1918, are displayed on the spiral ramp of the museum in chronological order. Now almost a century old, they still manage to evoke the dynamic energy of Europe on the eve of World War I as cities rapidly industrialized, and automobiles and air travel collapsed distances and quickened the pace of life.

French artist Robert Delaunay captures a sort of destructive but thrilling energy in a series of fractured images of the Eiffel Tower in which the delicate iron latticework of the Parisian landmark appears ready to tumble down. Just as skyscrapers were an innovation of the era, so were X-rays. In a beautiful nude portrait of his wife, Czech artist Frantisek Kupka uses broad planes of purple, blue, yellow and green to suggest what's inside her body.

Every artist, it seems, was joining a group or issuing a manifesto proclaiming his or her intention to overthrow the art establishment and picture the world anew. In France, it was cubism; in Germany, expressionism.

In Italy, the futurists were captivated by the speed and violence of modern technology. The fascination with motion is evident in their efforts to capture the movement of bodies and objects through space, as in Umberto Boccioni's "Dynamism of a Cyclist" and Gino Severini's "Red Cross Train Passing a Village."

When Vasily Kandinsky and Franz Marc formed the group Der Blaue Reiter, or the Blue Rider, in 1911, they were hoping for a "great upheaval" in that arts that would turn to the "inner realm of nature."

Marc, who was particularly drawn to nature, devoted himself to studies of animals, using color to express emotion and assigning a symbolic value to each hue. Blue was masculine and severe; yellow, feminine and gentle.

The exhibition, which opens Friday and will not travel, features a large number of Marc's powerful and brilliant works including the spectacularly joyful painting "Yellow Cow." Curators Tracey Bashkoff and Megan Fontanella suggest it might be his wedding portrait, with the cow representing his wife and the blue mountains an abstraction of himself.

Marc, who had deeply idealistic, was initially enthusiastic about the prospect of a European war, believing it had the potential to cleanse Europe of its spiritual ailments. After volunteering for the German army in 1914, however, he quickly became disillusioned, writing to his wife that all the bloodshed was "for nothing."

Black Eyed Peas give Super Bowl a young feel

PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

DALLAS OK, let's get the obvious cliche out of the way right up front: We've got a feelin' this Super Bowl halftime show won't be as lame as last year's.

We sure hope so, because our ears have barely recovered from Roger Daltrey's off-key caterwauling in Miami.

Taking a tentative step toward making the mini-concert sandwiched between the second and third quarters relevant to viewers under the age of 60, the NFL has signed up the Black Eyed Peas to handle the halftime duties Sunday at Cowboys Stadium.

The league won't get a medal for bravery. Make no mistake, this is a safe choice.

The Peas, despite occasional dirty words and Fergie's sexy posturing, are mainstream and family friendly. And they've already performed in a Super Bowl pre-game show, back in 2005.

They know the drill. Sing the hits (usually in medley form, because time is so limited), hop around like you care and get off the stage so the real show can resume. Throw in a couple of surprise guests — look for Usher and Slash at this one — and you've got a perfectly respectable show that should appeal to a broad audience.

That's what the NFL wants. The league has been playing defense with its halftime show since 2004 in Houston when Justin Timberlake ripped off a piece of Janet Jackson's top — the last time the Super Bowl was in Texas.

Fergie promises no wardrobe malfunctions this time.

"You want to show a little sex appeal," she said during an occasionally racy news conference Thursday with the rest of the group, will.i.am, Taboo and apl.de.ap. "But you don't want to get in trouble."

After that debacle in Houston, the NFL turned to a string of older rockers, from Paul McCartney and the Rolling Stones to Bruce Springsteen and Prince (though the Boss showed plenty of energy, and we'll give the Purpled One credit for a rocking show and that cagey move he pulled with his guitar to project a huge, if suggestive, image on a curtain).

A year ago, the NFL went with The Who, an outstanding choice for, say, 1969. Vocalist Daltrey and guitarist Pete Townshend are all that's left of the once-great band, both in their mid-60s, sounding and looking nothing like they did in their prime.

If nothing else, the NFL can read an audience. One of the suits who spoke before the Peas' news conference even dropped a very telling word for this year's choice: "energetic."

Good enough. But now maybe we can talk 'em into something even more daring for next year's game: How about Kanye West — with surprise guest Taylor Swift?

We've got a feeling that would REALLY be interesting.


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Ex-braceros want Mexico to repay wages

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Mexican workers who picked cotton, tomatoes and other crops in the United States after World War II urged the Mexican government on Thursday to make good on a promise to pay them thousands of dollars in salaries that they earned decades ago.

A handful of the former laborers, known as "braceros" gathered with their relatives outside the Mexican Consulate to urge the government to dole out the money that was banked for them but never paid.

"The sad reality is that that money disappeared," said Juan Jose Gutierrez, president of the immigration activist group Vamos Unidos USA.

The Mexican government settled a long court battle by agreeing to pay thousands of the former guest workers 38,000 pesos each, or about $3,500. Mexico has paid about 40,000 people and allocated enough money to pay another 35,000 ex-braceros, but authorities in that country have failed to publish legally required regulations needed to disburse the money, Gutierrez said.

The small payment is largely symbolic but it's a matter of dignity to the aging workers, some 13,000 of whom have died in the past two years, Gutierrez said.

"People want to go to their graves with the satisfaction that the Mexican government is acknowledging that they did wrong and that these people deserve justice," he said.

The activist said he is scheduled to meet with the acting Mexican consul general in Los Angeles on Monday to share the concerns of former farmworkers.

A message to a consulate spokeswoman seeking comment was not immediately returned Thursday.

The bracero program, originally designed to stem World War II labor shortages, sent at least 2.5 million Mexican laborers to the U.S. from 1942 through 1964 to farm, mine and work in rail yards. The Mexican government banked 10 percent of their wages as an incentive for them to return home.

Benigno Herrera, 74, of Los Angeles, said he went back and forth between the two countries between 1958 and 1964. He picked cotton and also handled lemons, tomatoes, lettuce and other produce. He often earned less than $10 a day, and about $3 of that went to pay for his food and water, he said.

"They steal everything from us," he said in Spanish of the Mexican government. "They should return everything, all our money that they have from us."

Bell recall candidates pledge to be honest

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

BELL With most of the City Council that turned this nondescript Los Angeles suburb into a national symbol of municipal corruption facing a recall election next month, many of those who led the fight to boot them from office have lined up to replace them.

Seventeen people, most of them prominent leaders of last summer's recall drive, are running for five seats on the City Council in next month's election. They began making their case for their candidacies this week at a pair of candidate forums in this working-class city of 40,000 people.

The recall was launched after the Los Angeles Times reported that four of the city's five council members were paying themselves about $100,000 a year for their part-time service to a city where one in six people live in poverty. The Times also revealed that former City Manager Robert Rizzo had an annual compensation package of $1.5 million and that several other top officials were drawing huge salaries.

Rizzo, four council members and three other former officials have since been charged with fraud. The council members facing charges include the mayor and vice mayor. All have pleaded not guilty.

The recall's leaders — many of them political novices whose efforts initially were fueled by anger — have since joined the March 8 race to replace the four council members targeted for recall, including one who has already resigned.

A fifth council member, Lorenzo Velez, did not take a high salary and was not targeted for recall. He is seeking re-election.

On Wednesday night, seven of the candidates attended the first of two forums aimed at discussing their candidacies with voters. They acknowledged they would have to learn on the job, but they pledged to be honest.

STATE BRIEFS

COMPTON

Court blocks city from checking parent petition

A Los Angeles judge has temporarily blocked the Compton Unified School District from implementing a complicated process to verify signatures on a petition submitted by parents to convert a failing elementary school to an independent charter.

Mark Holscher, lawyer for six parents and their children, says Superior Court Judge Robert O'Brien granted the temporary injunction Thursday morning, after the parents filed a lawsuit against the district.

The next court hearing on the lawsuit will be Feb. 24.

The lawsuit was sparked by the district's move to verify signatures on a petition submitted by 61 percent of parents at McKinley Elementary School in December, stating they want the school to be turned over to an independent charter operator. It's the first use of California's new "parent trigger" law.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LYNWOOD

1 dead, 1 injured in apartment fire

A fire at a vacant Lynwood apartment building has killed one person and badly burned another.

Authorities say the victims may have been homeless people living in the building.

Los Angeles County fire officials say the fire began shortly after 3 a.m. Thursday and took about 10 minutes to knock down.

The cause is under investigation.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Spokesman: Sheen wants to resume work this month

Charlie Sheen wants to get back to work this month on "Two and a Half Men," a spokesman said Thursday.

The 45-year-old actor remains in rehab but hopes to return to TV's top-rated comedy by the end of February, publicist Stan Rosenfield said. That's a "target" projection, Rosenfield said.

The series halted production after Sheen sought treatment for undisclosed reasons following a 911 call and brief stay at a Los Angeles-area hospital last week. According to a tape of the 911 call, Sheen was said to be intoxicated and in pain.

CBS and series producer Warner Bros. Television declined comment on Sheen's intentions. But decisions about the show aren't Sheen's alone.

Producers intend to evaluate the situation before deciding whether to resume filming for the season, a person familiar with their plans said Thursday. The person was not authorized to publicly discuss details and spoke on condition of anonymity.

With uncertainty over Sheen's return, CBS intends to use a combination of "Two and a Half Men" reruns and other sitcoms to fill out its Monday night schedule. The network has two unaired episodes of "Men" in hand, which are to be broadcast Feb. 7 and 14.

Out of 24 episodes ordered for the season, 16 were completed.

AP

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Woman uses brass knuckles on cop

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 28, AT 9:59 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 2200 block of Main Street regarding a report of possible gang members drinking beers in a subterranean garage. When officers arrived, they found five people standing around a car and there were several open beer cans on the ground. One of the men was under 21 and was drunk and belligerent, police said. Officers arrested the suspect, Bogard Sanchez, 20, of Santa Monica, for public intoxication. Officers continued to search the garage and found a woman hiding between some cars. Officers asked her for her ID but she did not have any. Officers said the woman was uncooperative and would not let them search her or her belongings. Officers tried to place her under arrest for obstruction. That's when she socked one of the cops in the face with a pair of brass knuckles, police said. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for possession of a dangerous weapon, assault with a deadly weapon and obstruction of justice. She was identified as Britny Villalobos, 20, of Venice. Her bail was set at $30,000.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, AT 2:20 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 2600 block of Fourth Street regarding a burglary in progress. When officers arrived, they found three people inside the building, which was under construction. Officers searched the suspects and found one to be in possession of a large amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia (an electronic scale and grinder). The owner of the property arrived and told officers the suspects did not have permission to be there. Officers issued citations to two people for trespassing. The other suspect was arrested for possession of marijuana for sale, trespassing and a warrant. He was identified as Ryan Jones, 34, a transient. His bail was set at $22,000.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, AT 12:48 P.M.,
Officers responded to the Apple Store on the Third Street Promenade regarding a theft that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who said the suspect entered the business and stole an iPhone. Security tried to detain him, but he ran away. Officers located the suspect a short distance away and placed him under arrest for burglary and a probation violation. He was identified as Jimmy Birba, 35, a transient. His bail was set at $20,000.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, AT 5:05 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1800 block of Wilshire Boulevard (Rite Aid) regarding a suspected shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who said the suspect entered the business and placed five boxes of Crest Teeth Whitening Strips (valued at $449.90) in a backpack. The suspect then left without paying. Security detained the suspect outside of the store and held him until police arrived. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for burglary. He was identified as Keenan Carter, 25, of North Hollywood. His bail was set at $20,000.

ON WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, AT 7:30 P.M.,
Officers responded to the Urban Outfitters on the promenade regarding a shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the suspect left the store and set off alarms. Security checked the suspect's bag and found stolen merchandise. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for theft. He was identified as Joshua Cobb, 20, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27, AT 10:30 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1300 block of Euclid Street regarding a report of an assault and battery. When officers arrived, they saw a man matching the description of the suspect running away from the scene. Officers gave chase and detained the suspect. Officers spoke with the victim, who said her boyfriend was drunk and was verbally abusing her. When she tried to leave his apartment, he allegedly tackled her and took her purse and her phone. Officers booked the suspect for assault and battery and obstruction of justice. He was identified as Steven Sloan, 42, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, JAN. 28, AT 8:05 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 2700 block of Wilshire Boulevard regarding a report of an assault with a deadly weapon. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who told them that he was driving southbound on Harvard Street and was about to make a right onto Wilshire when he stopped. There was a pedestrian walking in the crosswalk. The pedestrian allegedly confronted the driver, telling him not to block the crosswalk. The driver told police the pedestrian eventually punched him in the face twice. The driver got out and a struggle ensued. The suspect allegedly had a screwdriver in his hand and stabbed the victim twice in the forearm. He then fled. Officers located the suspect and placed him under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. He was identified as Gregory Sliders, 54, a transient. His bail was set at $30,000.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, AT 4:21 P.M.,
Officers were on routine patrol in the 2000 block of Alley 19 when they saw a man reaching into some bushes. Officers approached the suspect and noticed that he had some type of bronze paint on his hands and clothing. As officers talked with the suspect, they said they could smell paint on his breath, as if he had been breathing in the fumes in order to get high. Officers believe the suspect was under the influence and in possession of a chemical called toluene. The suspect also had a warrant. He was identified as Ronald Robbins, 54, a transient. His bail was set at $750.

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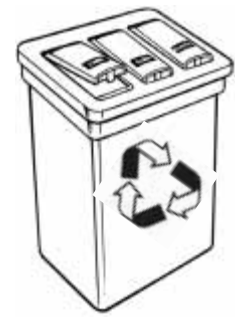
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LAUSD staffer guilty of stealing $100K

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A former Los Angeles school district employee has pleaded guilty to stealing more than $100,000 from an elementary school in Torrance.

Prosecutors say 47-year-old Lisa Ann Castro was sentenced to two years in prison Thursday.

The former administrative assistant at Halldale Elementary School was arrested in October.

Deputy District Attorney Gary Nielsen says Castro was responsible for two school accounts and was PTA treasurer with access to its checking account.

He said he plans to ask the judge to order her to pay more than $100,000 in restitution at a hearing on March 7.

Eight other counts against Castro, including embezzlement and forgery, were dismissed as part of a plea bargain.

SMC
FROM PAGE 1

This year SMC's regular summer session starts June 20, just two days before the last day of school at Santa Monica High School.

"This year the high school schedule has changed so that the timing will not be a factor," Tsang said. "There will be enough time for [students] to finish the high school classes and then start the classes at Santa Monica College."

High school students, though, could find it difficult to find slots in popular SMC courses, since they have lower enrollment priority than full-time community college students.

SMC has not yet released its summer session class schedule, but Tsang acknowledged the offerings will be lighter than in the past.

"There's a general reduction because of budget constraints that we're facing," he said.

While Chou said the loss of the late-start program was a disappointment, she added the decision to end it was understandable in light of lower state support for all levels of education.

"It's a college — their primary clients are community college students," she said. "[SMC has] provided this great service to us for many years, and now we have to recognize that they're also facing budget constraints."

There's no plan to restore the program in the near term, but Chou said the district is collaborating with the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation with the goal of offering additional courses for high school students this summer. Unlike the summer institute, those potential offerings would be fee based.

> **"[SMC HAS] PROVIDED THIS GREAT SERVICE TO US FOR MANY YEARS, AND NOW WE HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THEY'RE ALSO FACING BUDGET CONSTRAINTS."**
>
> Sally Chou,
> Chief academic officer at SMMUSD

At its meeting on Thursday, the SMMUSD school board was expected to formally enter into a partnership with the Ed Foundation to hold the summer classes.

A separate program at SMC called Young Collegians that is geared toward preparing underprivileged SMMUSD high school students for college has not been affected by the cancellation of the summer late-start classes.

nickt@smdp.com

DOG
FROM PAGE 3

who have had them maintain they are the sweetest things in the world. I don't believe it," she said.

Older pet owners were more apt to support a breed ban than younger ones — 56 percent of seniors believe some dogs should be outlawed compared with just 22 percent of those under age 30.

Parents who own pets were no more or less likely than non-parents to say certain breeds should be banned.

But Tiffany Everhart, 40, of Splendora, Texas, wouldn't have a pit bull. "I have a small child and I'm not going to take that chance." A paralegal, she also believes some dogs are too dangerous for residential areas and she would support a breed ban.

"Every dog is different and should be evaluated on its own merits," said "Dog Whisperer" Cesar Millan.

"If a pit bull has good energy, and if he is socialized early and brought up in a balanced and structured pack environment, then I would consider him perfectly safe for a family with children," Millan said.

Lyman, who has a 17-year-old, blind, deaf and crippled Shih Tzu, said any dog will bite if provoked — citing Martha Stewart's recent run-in with her own dog.

Hansen blames the pit bull's bad reputation on owners and the press.

"You have a tendency to sensationalize stories or put into them right down to the blood and gore when it isn't really necessary," said Hansen, who has two dogs, 9-year-old Lab-collie brothers named Chaz and Zach.

Still, she said Michael Vick's dogfighting operation probably helped pit bulls' bad rep because it showed that "people can reintroduce these dogs back into a society that's not going to abuse them."

"The owner is responsible for what an animal does. It's totally your behavior, whether you have a good dog that minds well and is not a problem to society or you turn it into a vicious animal that will bite the mailman, the girl next door or grandma walking down the street," Hansen said.

Betsy Adevai, 50, of Grand Rapids, Mich., said muscle dogs have become status symbols for young men who walk through her inner city neighborhood.

"You don't see people walking cockapoos or fluffy puppies. I have five boys and they all have friends around here. They walk these dogs to say, 'I'm cool,' 'I'm a badass because I got this dog,'" she said.

She thinks pit bulls "look like little football players" so she wouldn't have one, but the custom seamstress doesn't blame the dogs.

"It's the attitude behind the people who raise them, not the dog," she said.

The AP-Petside.com Poll was conducted Oct. 13-20, 2010, by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Corporate Communications.

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Salaries of 37K L.A. city employees posted online

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Salary information for nearly 37,000 Los Angeles city employees has been posted online in a move designed to make local government more transparent.

City Controller Wendy Greuel said Thursday that the salaries in the database reflect pay cuts, furloughs and other cutbacks, as well as increased pay due to benefits like overtime, bonuses, uniform and car allowances.

Greuel tells City News Service that "Angelenos have a right to know how their taxpayer dollars are being spent."

The controller's office says Los Angeles is the largest city in the country to post a comprehensive list of employee salaries.

When news broke about the Bell City Council's inflated salaries, calls for the release of salary information increased.

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

getting the type of movement that he liked so he reinstated Kristina "KJ" Johnson as the floor leader after shifting her to shooting guard.

Johnson gives the Vikings better flow on offense, he said, giving scorers like Harris and UCLA-bound Moriah Faulk better shots.

"I think we're going to be in a good place when the playoffs come around," he said. "I like the way we look with that lineup."

But, before the Vikings can punch their ticket to the dance, they have to take care of business against league opponents starting tonight at Beverly Hills.

"They are down from years past," he said of a Beverly Hills team that has struggled to a 13-12 overall record. "But, we know that they have the potential to hang around at the end of games. We just can't let that happen."

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Bernanke says Fed will continue push to spur resurgent economy

CHIP CUTTER & DAVID K. RANDALL
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Stocks posted small gains Thursday after Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke said the central bank will stick to its efforts to spur the economy.

In a speech at the National Press Club, Bernanke said that the Fed expects the economy to improve this year and inflation to remain low despite the jump in commodity prices.

"Chairman Bernanke basically indicated in his speech that he considers unemployment to be the bigger problem than inflation and that the Fed will continue to focus on that," said Doug Roberts, chief market strategist at Channel Capital Research.

The Federal Reserve has a plan to buy $600 billion in bonds, a tactic known as quantitative easing, aimed at spurring lending and making stock ownership more attractive. Some economists had worried that the Fed could end its bond purchases earlier than anticipated.

Stocks had fallen for the most of the day as concerns over violent protests in Egypt weighed against better-than-expected economic news in the U.S.

Clashes continued in Egypt between pro- and anti-government demonstrators, leaving some analysts worried about the stability of the Middle East and the unrest's impact on oil-rich countries throughout the region, such as Saudi Arabia.

"That's the fear," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Avalon Partners.

But better-than-expected January sales figures sent shares in retail companies higher. Consumer-discretionary companies in the Standard and Poor's 500-stock index gained 1.2 percent after national chains reported that sales were nearly double what analysts had forecast despite heavy snowstorms in much of the nation.

Shares in the consumer-discretionary companies were the best performers among the 10 company groups that make up the S&P index. Industrials companies were the only group to fall.

Costco Wholesale Corp., Nordstrom Inc. and Gap Inc. all gained more than 4 percent.

The S&P 500 — the benchmark for most U.S. mutual funds — gained 3.07 points, or 0.2 percent, to close at 1,307.10. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 20.29 points, or 0.2 percent, to 12,062.26. The Nasdaq composite rose 4.32 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,753.88.

Among the positive economic reports, the Labor Department said Thursday that fewer people applied for unemployment benefits last week. A separate report showed that worker productivity in December rose by its largest amount since 2002. Economists say many employers have reached the limit in terms of how much work they can squeeze from their employees.

DA: Apple store credit card scam larger than thought

JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK A crafty crime ring honed a very 21st-century scheme, authorities say: gleaning stolen credit-card numbers online from data thieves, deploying the numbers for a million-dollar, cross-country Apple store shopping spree and using social media to boast about it all.

The scam was so successful that one member branched off to start his own syndicate, and the original ringleader taught his girlfriend how to keep the scheme going while he was in jail, authorities said as they detailed the scheme Wednesday. Arrests of the 27 suspects began Tuesday and were continuing.

The Brooklyn-based group compromised hundreds of accounts as members scooped up laptop computers, iPads, iPhones and other popular products at Apple Stores around the nation, from New York to Portland, Ore., and from Orlando, Fla., to Wauwatosa, Wis., Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. and the U.S. Secret Service said.

At the heart of the "S3" group was Shaheed Bilal, 28, who enlisted his girlfriend, Ophelia Alleyne, and his brothers, Ali, 23, Isaac, 25, and Rahim, 21, to help oversee the scheme, authorities said.

"This was, in essence, a family affair," Vance said.

It eventually sprawled out to include more than a dozen people who were recruited to act as shoppers, several men accused of reselling the ill-gotten goods and a whole spin-off group, authorities said.

Shaheed and Ali Bilal, 23, and Alleyne, 29, have pleaded not guilty to grand larceny and other charges and are being held on various bail amounts. Alleyne's lawyer, Verena Powell, said she "is proclaiming her innocence"; Ali Bilal's lawyer, Daniel Gotlin, declined to comment.

Shaheed Bilal's lawyer didn't immediately return a telephone call Wednesday; the names of lawyers for the other Bilal brothers weren't immediately available, and no telephone numbers for the brothers could be found.

After buying the stolen account numbers through underground websites, the group stored the data in shared e-mail accounts and then printed up phony Visa and MasterCard cards in the shoppers' names, using equipment commercially available and intended for businesses that create magnetic keycards and the like, authorities said.

Then the shoppers would fan out to use the cards in Apple Stores in major cities such as Los Angeles, Atlanta, Las Vegas and St. Louis, and smaller communities such as Short Hills, N.J., and Stamford, Conn., according to an indictment. The thieves sometimes charged more than $3,000 worth of products in one stop, but other transactions were as small as a $53.45 tab for a laptop case, the indictment says.

Visa Inc., based in San Francisco, and MasterCard Inc., based in Purchase, N.Y., representatives said the companies recommend that merchants look carefully at cards and match signatures to customers' names. But it's unclear whether any of that would have flagged the allegedly fraudulent transactions in this case; the cards would have the shoppers' names but the victims' account numbers encoded in their magnetic stripes, authorities said.

Cupertino, Calif.-based Apple Inc. declined to comment on the case.



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

Conditional Use Permit 10-024, 109-111 Santa Monica Boulevard. A Conditional Use Permit to allow a restaurant the ability to serve beer, wine, and distilled spirits in conjunction with a bona fide restaurant and to allow an expansion into the adjacent space.[Planner: Dennis Banks] **Applicant: Bar Pintxo. Property Owner: Belle Vue Plaza.**

Conditional Use Permit 10-026, 1920 Colorado Avenue. The applicant requests a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a preschool use to operate within an existing building in the LMSD district. The use will occupy 13,836 sq. ft of the existing building and provide educational pre-school and day care services to children 6 weeks to 5+ years of age. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.35.030(m), a CUP is required to allow a school use in the LMSD district.[Planer: Gina Szilak] **Applicant: Knowledge Learning Corporation. Property Owner: 1920 Colorado Inc.**

Development Agreement 09-001, 1802 Santa Monica Boulevard, Discuss the applicant's Development Agreement proposal for a mixed-use project located at 1802 Santa Monica Boulevard. The project involves the construction of a 3-story building that would include 32-resdiential units and 9,400sf of ground floor commercial space with 95 parking spaces provided within a 2-level subterranean garage. The project site consists of three contiguous parcels with a total 22,473sf located on the southeast corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Eighteenth Street in the C-4 commercial district. [Planner: Steve Mizokami] **Applicant: Plus Architect. Property Owner: Venice One, LLC.**

Tract Map 10-004 and Variance 10-013, 2438 Ocean Park Boulevard. The applicant requests approval for a Tentative Parcel Map and Variance for the construction of a two-story, two-unit condominium building with an attached four-car tandem parking garage in the Boulevard Residential (BR) R3 Overlay District. The project includes multiple variance requests to reduce the required front and side setbacks, increase the maximum parcel coverage and allow compact tandem parking within the parking garage. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.20.04.030, the applicant requests approval of Tentative Parcel Map 10TM-004 (No. 71319) to approve the airspace subdivision of one lot into two parcels in conjunction with a proposed two-unit residential condominium development. In addition, pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(d)(1), the applicant may request a modification to the yard setbacks and parcel coverage when a parcel has a lot depth less than 90-feet or a lot width less than 39-feet. The subject property has a width of 24.5 feet. Furthermore, the proposed four-car garage requires approval of a variance to allow compact tandem parking. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(b), modification of off-street parking requirements can be requested. [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **Applicant: Doug Merrill. Property Owner: Javier Corral.**

WHEN: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at http://www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #9 provide service to the City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA
LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following:

Comprehensive Historic Resources Inventory, Presentation from the consultant project team, and receive and file a final report and summary findings from the comprehensive historic resources inventory. The result is an update to the 1,284 previously identified historic resources, the identification of 478 new individual resources and 11 new potential historic districts (containing 1,014 properties that appeared eligible as contributors), and documentation of these newly identified resources. A historical context statement for the City as a whole was also prepared.

2501 2nd Street, 10LM-002, Zoning: OP2 (Ocean Park Low Density Multiple Family) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 10LM-002, at 2501 2nd Street to determine whether the existing residential cottages, in whole or in part, should be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the structures meet one or more of the required criteria for Landmark designation. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: Plaster Family Trust.

1685 Main Street, 11LM-001, Zoning: CC (Civic Center). In accordance with Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.36.120(f), the Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider supplementing the Landmark Designation of the City Hall site at 1685 Main Street to identify and specify the historic exterior character defining features of the site in the Designation. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

2219 Ocean Avenue, LC-11CA-001, Zoning: OP-3 (Ocean Park Medium Multiple Residential) District. The Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness 10CA-021 for the construction of a new garage with studio unit above in the rear of the Landmark parcel at 2219 Ocean Avenue. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed work is appropriate and architecturally compatible with the Landmark "Turn-of-the-Century" cottage". Applicant: John Heidt. Owner: Heidt Family Trust.

When: Monday, February 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Shoppers brave cold to spend

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK Americans didn't stop splurging after the holidays.

They braved snowstorms and shopped in force in January, handing retailers like Costco, Victoria's Secret and Macy's surprisingly strong sales.

Along with two encouraging economic reports — the biggest service sector expansion in five years and a plunge in weekly unemployment claims — the sales figures offered more evidence Thursday that the economic recovery is picking up speed.

"It's one more piece of the economic puzzle that's falling in place," said Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Consumer spending has been improving for more than a year now, and this holiday season was the strongest for stores since 2006, before the Great Recession, according to the council. Sales figures for January showed that shoppers weren't spent out after Christmas.

The council's index of 32 stores showed a robust 4.8 percent increase for the month, well above the expected 1.5 to 2 percent. Analysts were worried that snowstorm after snowstorm, particularly in the Northeast, might have kept shoppers at home.

The figures cover Jan. 2 through Saturday for stores that have been open at least a year.

Consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity, so how shoppers behave is an important measure of economic health. The next question is whether they will shell out full price for spring items, which are starting to show up in stores. There's no special occasion to spur spending after Valentine's Day until Easter, which this year falls on April 24, three weeks later than in 2010.

Rising gas prices and other household costs could squeeze lower- to middle-class shoppers. The next few months could be a "long spring thaw," said John Morris, an analysts for BMO Capital Markets.

Niemira said he believes a better job market could offset the higher prices, though. The next read on employment comes Friday, when the Labor Department reports on job gains or losses for January. The unemployment rate is 9.4 percent.

Other data out Thursday were encouraging. The service sector, which employs nine of every 10 American workers, expanded in January at the fastest pace in five years. The Institute for Supply Management, a private trade group, said its index of service-sector activity grew for the 14th month in a row, to the highest level since 2005.

The manufacturing and service sectors are growing at pre-recession rates, and economists expect that will translate into more hiring. Another positive sign: Fewer people applied for unemployment benefits, reversing a spike from the previous week largely caused by bad weather.

For retailers, January is the least important month of the year because they use it to clear out winter goods and make room for spring merchandise. Still, the strength brightened profit outlooks from Limited Brands, J.C. Penney and teen retailer Wet Seal Inc.

Obama calls on businesses to invest in clean energy

BEN FELLER
AP White House Correspondent

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. President Barack Obama, turning briefly to his eclipsed domestic agenda Thursday, called on the nation's businesses to make fresh investments in clean energy technology and lay a foundation for long-term American prosperity.

He proposed a new tax credit and other measures to encourage businesses to retrofit their plants and reduce costs — steps that he said would save $40 billion a year in utility bills. The visit to the Pennsylvania State University campus was designed to highlight Obama's emphasis on energy and his view that technological innovations represent jobs of the future.

"Making our buildings more energy efficient is one of the fastest, easiest and cheapest ways to save money, combat pollution and create jobs," the president said, taking his retooled economic pitch to the heart of Pennsylvania, a prominent state in presidential politics that will be a key in his 2012 re-election bid.

Obama has wanted to feature his long-term economic plans ever since he detailed them in his State of the Union speech to a joint session of Congress last week. The State College trip was the third in a series of visits to energy-related enterprises in as many weeks.

But the trip comes as the crisis in Egypt has dominated his time and consumed media attention. Obama is trying to press on with his economic ideas, ahead of the release of his budget plan on Feb. 14, while he manages his response to the violent clashes that have Egypt and the Mideast on the edge.

Earlier in the day, Obama addressed the continuing violence during remarks at a prayer breakfast in Washington. But he made no mention of the Egyptian turmoil in his Penn State remarks, deviating from his subject only to acknowledge Penn State's football tradition and the coming Super Bowl between the Green Bay Packers and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

He twice mentioned Joe Paterno, the locally beloved 84-year-old coach of the Penn State football team, who was in the audience.

Speaking directly to a youthful audience, Obama said: "What you're going to do is lead a modern day incubator for what sets us apart, the greatest force that the world has ever known and that is the American idea."

As part of his new plan, Obama will ask Congress to provide companies with a tax credit that financially rewards them for retrofitting their buildings in ways that decrease energy usage. The proposal would alter the existing tax break for such commercial upgrades, switching it from a deduction to a credit that applies more widely, administration officials said.

The energy efficiency plan is an extension of Obama's call last year to give government rebates for home retrofitting, a proposal that has stalled in the Senate.

The White House said former President Clinton and General Electric CEO Jeff Immelt will lead the effort to reach out to businesses to take advantage of the government efficiency incentives. Obama recently named Immelt to head an advisory council on entrepreneurship.

NFL

Super Bowl: It's a hair thing

PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

DALLAS Vince Lombardi surely would've loved to have Clay Matthews or Troy Polamalu on those great Packers teams of the 1960s.

Their hair? Uhhh, that might've been a problem.

At a Super Bowl where there's been nearly as much focus on shampoos and conditioners as zone blitzes and passing schemes, one of Lombardi's former players huffed at all the attention going to all that hair, from Polamalu's out-of-control curls to Matthews' stringy locks.

Heck, one might think there's a hair convention in town, not the biggest football game of the year.

"Coach Lombardi didn't like long hair and he didn't like facial hair," said Jerry Kramer, a lineman for the guy whose name is on the Super Bowl trophy.

"It would've been, 'Comb your hair! Cut your hair!' He wasn't very shy about telling you that. We were all pretty trim and neat. We just didn't have all that hair."

My, how times have changed.

Polamalu and Matthews have such famous manes that each has landed his own shampoo endorsement deal. The Steelers safety pitches for Head & Shoulders when he's not donning his helmet and shoulder pads, while the Packers linebacker recently landed an endorsement deal with Suave.

They aren't the only ones going hairy at this Super Bowl. There's everything from dreadlocks to glorified mullets, with the league's most famous beard thrown in for good measure. Brett Keisel has two Facebook pages dedicated solely to the Santa Claus-like growth on his face, and he plays right along when asked about how he takes care of all that hair.

"There's not much maintenance," Keisel quipped. "I just comb it out every once in a while, brush the birds and squirrels out."

Jerry Johnson winces when he hears that kind of talk. He's the lead instructor at the Aveda Institute of Dallas, where he teaches others how to style hair.

"My goal is never to change people. I want them to be who they want to be," Johnson said Wednesday. "My goal is to sort of polish the rough edges. He's a good-looking man, with good features. If he wants to wear a full beard like that, let me shape it up for him. Right now, he looks like a homeless person."

Johnson invited Polamalu to come sit in his chair, as well.

"I would love to get hold of that crazy, curly mess," the stylist said. "Nobody has figured out how to give him a haircut for that texture without it getting all big and frizzy."

Matthews and Polamalu, perhaps mindful of the endorsement dollars at stake, have played right along with all the queries about coiffures.

The Packers star even doled out a little good-natured trash talk, without any fear of getting called for clipping.

"Troy may have won defensive player of the year," Matthews said. "But there's no doubt that I've won best hair in the game on the defensive side. So I'm real happy about that. I think it's a unanimous decision."

Polamalu was more diplomatic about his rival, noting that both attended college at Southern Cal.

"There must be something in the water at USC," he said, breaking in a grin nearly as big as his hair. "We'll just call it even for now."

On media day, Polamalu disappointed by showing up with his hair pulled back tightly in a bun, far from the massive 'do he'll display in the game, the tresses spilling out from the back of his helmet in tribute to his Samoan heritage.

When a reporter urged him to turn it loose, Polamalu declined.

"This is my media day hair," he said. "You must only come on Super Bowl days. If you were in Pittsburgh, this is how it is during the week."

Matthews is short on details when asked about Green Bay's plans to stop Ben Roethlisberger and the Steelers' rugged offense. There is no such hesitancy when asked what is more important: shampoo or conditioner?

"You need shampoo, obviously, to keep it clean. You can't have it greasy and nasty out there on game day, especially when you're putting the helmet on," Matthews said. "But the conditioner really seals the deal. If you can use a little conditioner, help lock in the moisture, keep the fly boys down, that's really going to help you out."

He's not much for blow dryers.

"That can damage your hair," Matthews said, somehow managing to keep a straight face. "I'm more of a wash-and-go guy. Get it cleaned up, pull it back and walk out the door with it."

Keep an eye on Matthews right before kickoff, when he drenches his hair and slings it back one last time, the water flying in all directions before he slides into his helmet.

What's that about?

"I wake myself up for the game," he said. "That's something I've been doing since college. Even in 15-degree weather, you'll still see me do it. My hair may turn into icicles, but it wakes me up and gets me ready."

C'mon, is that the only reason he does the Fabio impression?

Matthews knows when he's busted.

"That," he added, "is for the ladies at home."

Well, keep it up, big guy.

It's working.

"Clay, he knows how to work his hair," said supermodel Marisa Miller, flicking back her own luxurious locks. "You see him with his water bottle, squirting his hair and he does the slow-motion thing. So you have be able to work it."

Johnson, the hair stylist, is actually encouraged by all these super 'dos, even if he'd like to do a little snipping here, a little clipping there.

"Guys are not supposed to have long hair," he said. "That's absurd. If you've got good hair, you've got good hair. What I love is they're sort of breaking the taboo of a (tough) man having long hair. It's also showing people, yeah, you can make a little cash while exploring how to take care of your hair better, to make it look like you want it to look. It doesn't make you a sissy to have good grooming habits."

Then there's Brett Swain, a backup wide receiver for the Packers. Grooming would appear to be the last thing on his mind, with his scruffy beard and straggly hair — an untidy version of the mullet that makes him look as though he just stepped out of the movie "Wayne's World."

"Grow the hair long, grow the beard long, and let's go to work," Swain said. "Let's get nasty. Let's get down to some football."

There are practical benefits as well.

"Have you ever been to Green Bay?" Swain said. "Well, you know we have negative-degree weather. It's tough to deal with that. If you grow your hair a little bit longer, it helps warm you up a bit."

Rock on, Brett. But remember this: For all the discussion about hair in the lead-up to Sunday's game, none of it will matter when the teams step on the field.

Community Workshop



BERGAMOT Transit Village

Please Join the City of Santa Monica for the intitial **Community Workshop** on guiding the evolution of the Bergamot Transit Village and Bergamot Art Center

WHEN: THURSDAY, FEB. 17th at 6:30-9PM

WHERE: PIER 59 STUDIOS, 2415 MICHIGAN AVENUE, BERGAMOT STATION

At this special meeting of the Planning Commission we will discuss

- **THE AREA PLAN:** Including the Bergamot Transit Village and Bergamot Art Center
- **CREATING AN URBAN TRANSIT VILLAGE:** Characteristics of an urban transit village, mix of uses, gathering places, pedestrian-oriented design and scale
- **NEW CONNECTIONS:** Pedestrian and bike linkages from the village to the Expo Light Rail, Bergamot Arts Center and other destinations to reduce car trips

Your input is needed to create the Guiding Principles for a sustainable transit-focused neighborhood within the Bergamot Area.

RSVP to ensure adequate staffing and equipment.
BergamotPlan@smgov.net

To request disability-related accommodations, please contact 310.458.8341.

Esto es una noticia sobre talleres para planear el futuro de Santa Monica. Para mas información llame a Peter James al numero 310.458.8341.

Parking is available at Bergamot Station and on Michigan Ave.

Big Blue Bus line #5 on 26th Street and the Sunset Ride on Colorado Avenue stop near the workshop location.



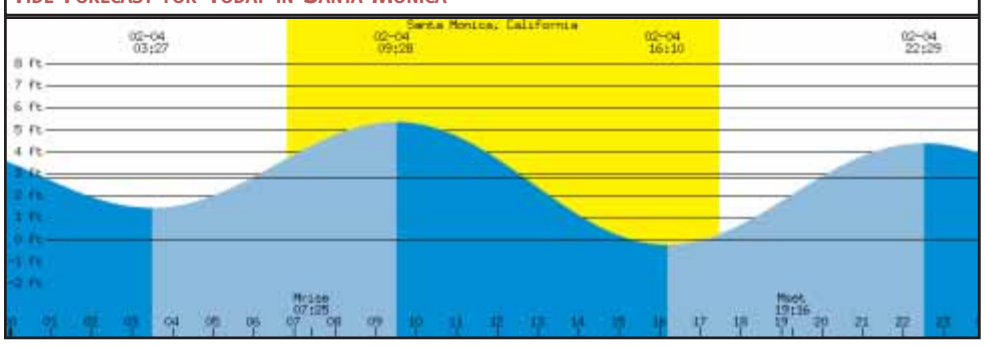
SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast
Looks rather small as well.

Long Range Synopsis
We could see wind swell increase to chest high around west facing breaks, but sloppy and storm driven.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 26, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 9
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31 / 18
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 13 / 24

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Groundwork Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

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NFL

‘Steeler Way’ lives on through veterans

EDDIE PELLS
AP National Writer

DALLAS Instead of focusing on the eight Super Bowl trips and six Lombardi trophies, Steelers defensive line coach John Mitchell likes to talk about these numbers: four and nine.

That’s four players he’s coached on the Pittsburgh roster for nine or more seasons.

Mitchell’s veteran linemen — Casey Hampton, Brett Keisel, Aaron Smith and Chris Hoke — may not be the Steel Curtain of the 1970s, but they speak to a larger truth. They were brought to the team, given time to develop and never jettisoned when the going got tough. And through it all, they were coached to play a single, specific, hard-nosed style.

In short, that’s the “Steeler Way” — an unwavering devotion to getting one kind of player and playing one brand of football that has resulted in one outcome more often than any other over the past 40 years: The season ending with the Steelers holding the Super Bowl trophy.

They play Green Bay on Sunday in search of their seventh NFL championship.

“In the ‘70s, when you had the Steel Curtain, those guys were there for a long time,” Mitchell said. “They had continuity with the scheme, the coaches, the ownership, and you look at it, and it’s those same reasons we’re playing very well today. I don’t think there’s many teams in this league that can say they’ve had four players with the same assistant coach for nine years or more. That’s the thing. Because the Rooneys, they don’t panic.”

The Rooney family, of course, has owned the Steelers since the beginning, back in 1933. They do more than talk the talk about “family.” To build a sense of togetherness, they like to eat with the players in the team cafeteria. When it comes to the big picture, they run an organization that loves stability but isn’t fond of drama.

One of the most significant tests of the Rooney resolve came when Ben Roethlisberger got in trouble in the offseason, when police investigated allegations that he sexually assaulted a woman at a bar in Georgia. One of the quarterback’s loudest critics during that time: the team president, Art Rooney II. No charges were filed against the quarterback. Roethlisberger ended up with a four-game suspension from the NFL and a second chance from the Steelers.

About the same time, though, the team said goodbye to receiver Santonio Holmes, who caught the winning pass in Pittsburgh’s last Super Bowl, but whose trouble with drugs, legal problems and untoward Twitter messages became too much for the team to stomach.

“The key to it is, we’ve always believed in having good people,” Rooney said.

And for the most part, they have. While other teams dominate headlines with contract holdouts, loudmouth coaches and videotaping scandals, about the most news the Steelers serve up on a regular basis — from the Mean Joe Greene days to the present time — is that they hit too hard.

The biggest flare-up of Super Bowl week so far has been James Harrison’s decision to use the big game as his platform to call out the NFL and Commissioner Roger Goodell for cracking down on violent hits, among other things. Harrison is this season’s most-fined player. Perhaps, then, it’s not surprising that he finished third in the recent voting for Associated Press defensive player of the year, while his teammate and fellow defender Troy Polamalu won the award.

“It’s always about talent and evaluation of talent,” Hall of Fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw said. “It’s always about a style. Their style of play is not any different than when we started winning in 1972. It’s great defense, ball-control offense, big plays in the passing game.”

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation Board of Directors

Wednesday, February 9, 2011– 3:00 PM
Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting and Study Session of the Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 3:00 PM

No other business will be conducted at the Meeting.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

City of Santa Monica

DATE/TIME: February 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:
ARB 10-554, 512-518 Georgina Avenue: Single Family Residential
ARB 10-573, 301 Ocean Avenue: Residential
ARB 10-587, 1343 Third Street Promenade: Retail
ARB 11-021, 1338 Twentieth Street: Convalescent Facility

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org", or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 and the Tide Ride serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

MOVIE TIMES

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

The Pink Panther 1964 (NR) 1hr 32min
A Shot in the Dark (NR) 1hr 42min
7:30 p.m.

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

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
12:50pm, 3:40pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Dilemma (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Company Men (R) 1hr 53min
1:40pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 1hr 54min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

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

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

No Strings Attached (R) 1hr 50min
11:25am, 1:15pm, 2:35pm, 4:10pm, 5:25pm, 7:00pm, 8:15pm, 9:40pm, 10:55pm

Sanctum 3D (R) 1hr 43min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Rite (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:20am, 2:20pm, 5:10pm, 8:05pm, 10:50pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:10pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

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

Social Network (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

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

127 Hours (R) 1hr 35min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

Biutiful (R) 2hrs 27min
1:20pm, 4:40pm, 8:00pm

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

Roommate (PG-13) 1hr 33min
11:30am, 12:30pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:30pm

Mechanic (R) 1hr 40min
12:00pm, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:25pm

Waiting for Forever (PG-13) 1hr 34min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

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

Treat yourself, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Understand what is happening within your immediate circle. You can instrument change, even today, as long as you are willing not to be in the limelight. Don't think someone isn't noticing the quality effort you put in. Tonight: Vanish into your weekend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Prioritize, especially as you have many people who are unusually motivated and are willing to pitch in. Your ability to accept different ideas helps you update some more-dated ideas. Tonight: Count on a late night.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others eye your actions. Someone might leave some work for you to finish up for him or her. Fortunately, being energized, you quickly clear through work right now. A partner adapts his or her plans to you. Tonight: A late dinner or get-together.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Your ability to relate makes all the difference when dealing with others. You think in terms of gains within a partnership. Stretch and look at the big picture. Your drive and follow-through make all the difference in seeking out new ideas. Tonight: Try a new spot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Deal with associates, friends and family directly. You might need to revise your thinking about an investment. You can see beyond the normal scope of possibilities because of a conversation. Honor another's privacy. Tonight: Togetherness works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might have some very strong opinions about a personal matter. Another party involved also has a strong opinion, but one that differs from yours quite a bit. If you look at a solution as opposed to having your way, an answer will emerge. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to revise your opinion about a personal matter. Not everything is occurring as you might like. You can resist change and upset yourself and others, or you can go with the flow. Note your innate tendencies before deciding. You will be able to make a stronger decision then. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Where others run into a brick wall, you come up with a solution. It might be difficult to immediately answer a request that could involve a change of plans. Your drive and organization is profound. Sometimes changing directions is difficult. Tonight: Lighten up. TGIF.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Pressure builds. You might ask yourself what you can do to alleviate some of the tension. Could you be making some judgments that are causing you a problem? Try to relax and work with a different way of prioritizing. Tonight: Treat yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your words have an impact. You could be taken aback by the reactions of others. You have strong opinions about finances, and are unlikely to change them. You might be best off forging out on your own, rather than waste time explaining your thoughts. Tonight: Join a friend. Catch up on his or her news.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Take a back seat, but be aware of the costs. You might want to do something very differently from others around you. Listen, consider and express your feelings. However, do be ready to forge out on your own. Understand your goals completely. Tonight: Indulge and relax.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might want to understand what is happening behind the scenes. If you don't, you could have some anger to deal with. Understand your own sensitivities, and you will move forward and not regret your choices. Tonight: A friend surprises you.

Happy birthday

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

Focus on security this year. Security comes in many different forms. For many it is money; for others, it is emotional; still, many people find it through spirituality or religion -- but for most people, it is a combination. As you determine what you need, you will start growing. As you explore your options, you will enhance your immediate circle of friends. If you are single, as a result, you will attract a new type of suitor. Recognize that you are in the process of growth. The person you choose now might not be the same in a few years. If you are attached, you and your sweetie will be talking more openly. PISCES has a very different sense of what is acceptable than you.



MYSTERY PHOTO

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

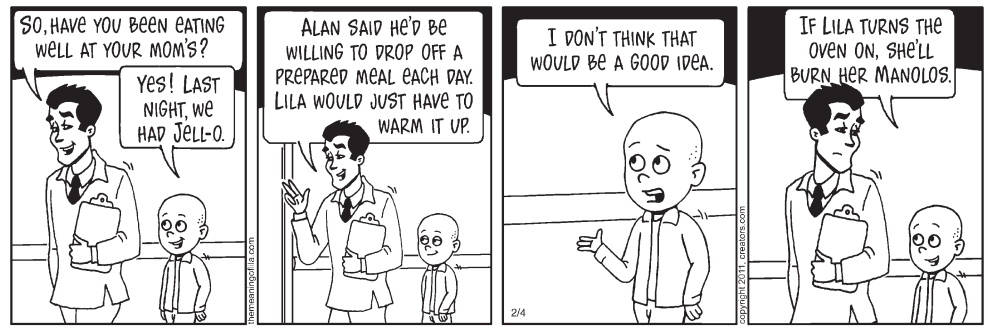
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



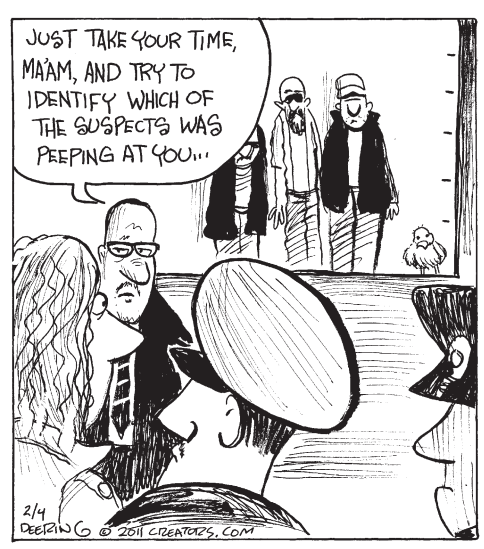
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Setting setting
5 British stables
9 Phoenix birthplace
11 "Thereby hangs —"
13 Tea cake
14 Parts
15 Contrived
16 Bauble
18 Watches secretly
20 "— had it!"
21 Follow
22 Bills from tills
23 Keg attachment
24 Director's cry
25 Diamond Head setting
27 RPM measurers
29 Goose formation
30 Some nuts
32 Cordillera Real natives
34 Get-up-and-go
35 Top actors
36 "What do —?"
38 Private's boss
39 Act the waiter
40 Time-table, for short
41 Scraped (out)

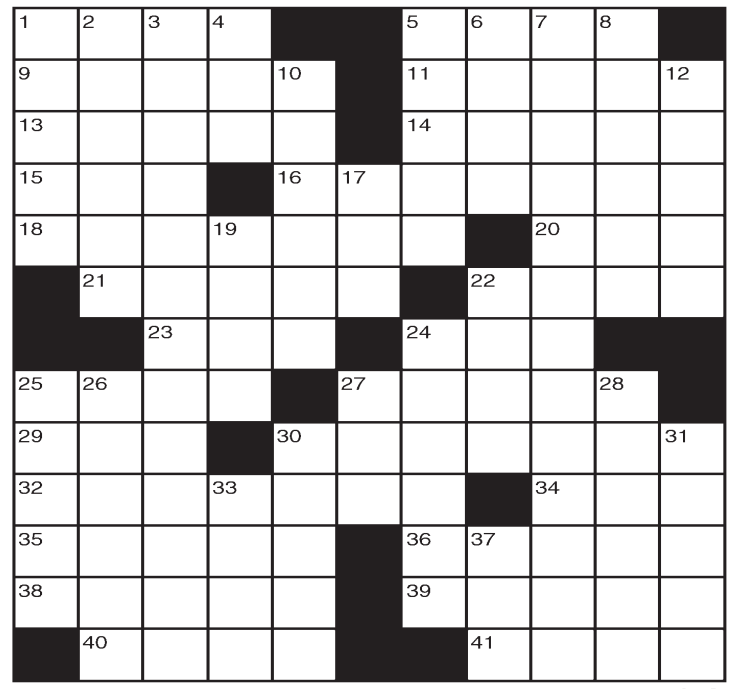
DOWN

1 Nest builders
2 Houdini feat
3 Wild guess
4 Score half
5 California county
6 School near Windsor
7 Easy task
8 Coat part
10 Establish-es
12 Senator Kefauver
17 Future fish
19 Jacob's twin
22 Pained cry
24 Currant liqueur
25 Squashed circles
26 Virgil hero
27 Shoe shade
28 Veer suddenly
30 Studied for a heist
31 Alacrity
33 Keenness
37 Horse-shoe shape

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-4

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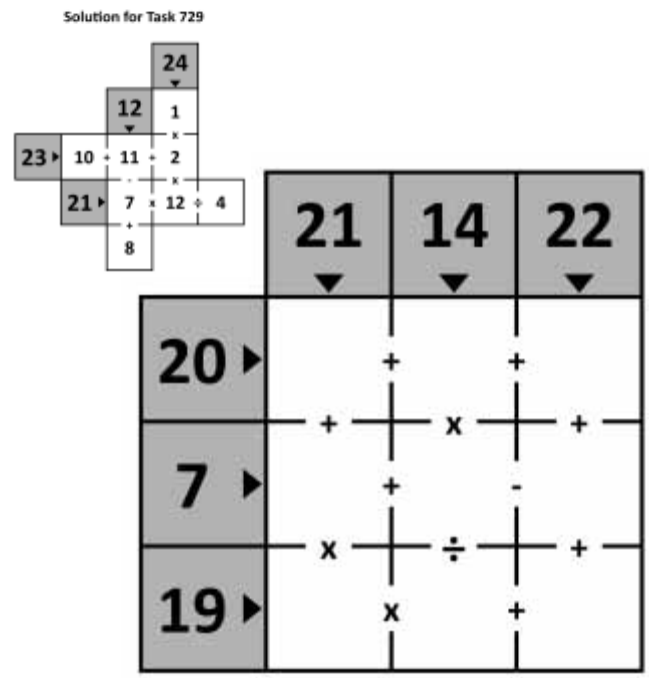
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand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

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

2, 4, 6, 6, 7, 7, 9, 11, 12

Solution for Task 729



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Fantasy 5: 7 9 13 19 23

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

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 08 Gorgeous George 2nd: 12 Lucky Charms 3rd: 01 Gold Rush RACE TIME: 1:48.32

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Extreme:** (1) The North Dakota Supreme Court ruled in September that the overdraft fee charged by Quality Bank of Fingal, N.D., to customer Lynette Cavett, of nearly $12,000, was nonetheless legal. The court found that the fee, which reached $100 a day, was disclosed to Cavett in advance. (2) Automaker BMW of Germany announced testing in December of a new technology ("flash projection") in which an ultra-bright light sears the company logo into a viewer's vision, where it lingers even if the viewer subsequently closes his eyelids tightly.

■ (1) A Roman Catholic church tribunal in Modena, Italy, ruled in November that a marriage should be annulled on the grounds of the wife's adultery even though she apparently only "thought about" having an affair. Her now-ex-husband believes she never actually followed through on her desires for an "open marriage." (2) Because two different laws operate, New York state prisoners, when they win lawsuits against guards who have injured them, keep the entire amount of the award, but when New York state mental patients win similar lawsuits, the hospitals can claim a large portion of the money back, as repayment for the daily cost of providing "care." The New York Times reported in December that the dual system is unique to the state.

■ **Questionable Judgments:** (1) A 26-year-old man was arrested in San Pablo, Calif., in December and accused of stealing a taxi after tricking the driver into momentarily exiting the cab. The man then drove to a Department of Motor Vehicles office, where he attempted to register ownership of the car. (2) Kyndric Wilson, 19, was being booked into jail in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., in December on a misdemeanor charge when a routine search revealed a bag of cocaine. As deputies then began processing the more serious drug-possession charge, Wilson was heard saying, "(Expletive), I knew I shouldn't (have) brought that in ... (expletive)."

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