



Santa Monica Daily Press

SYMBOL RISING AND SHINING
SEE PAGE 7

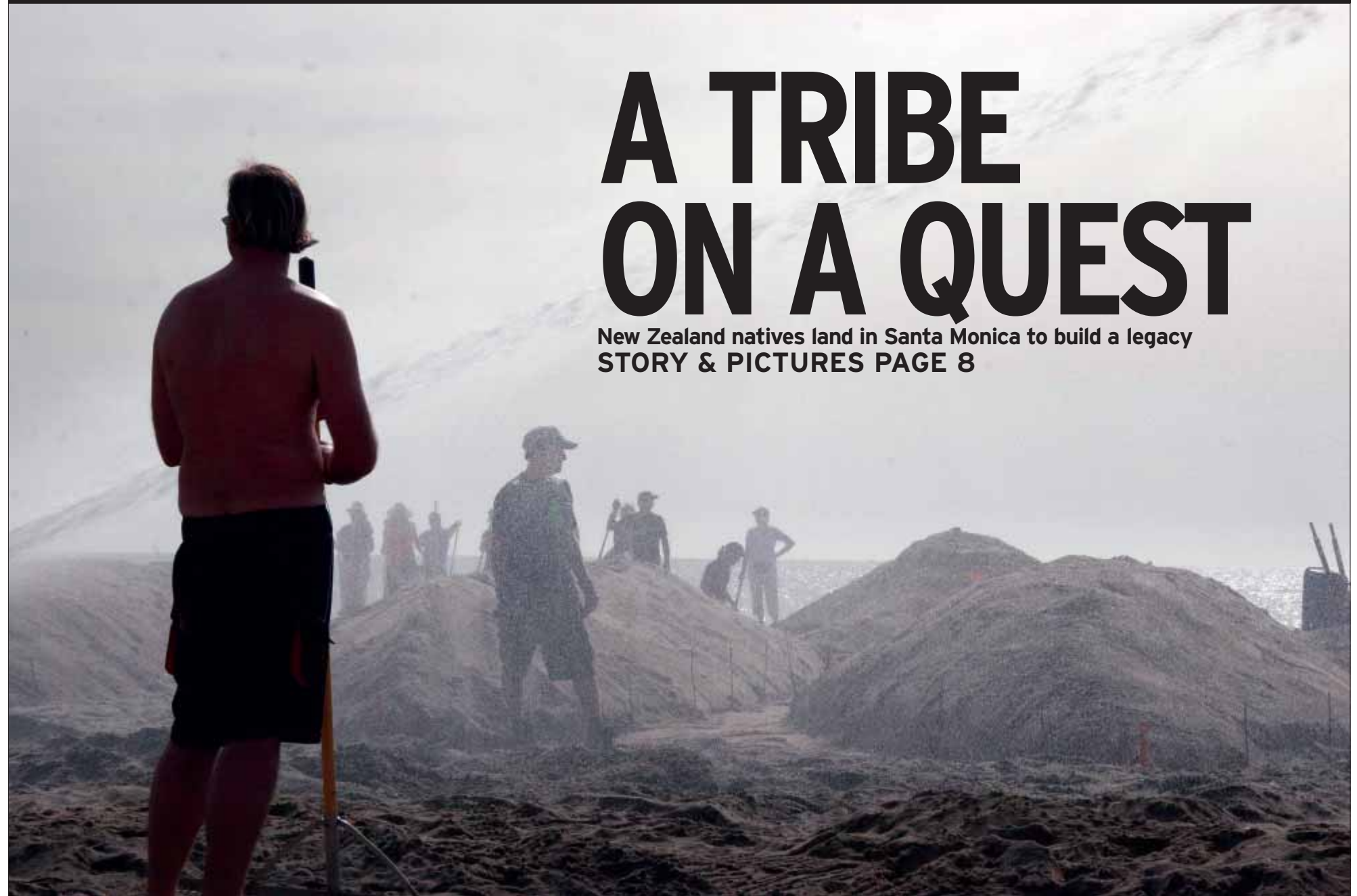
Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE WHAT'S UP ESSAY? ISSUE

CULTURAL AWARENESS

A TRIBE ON A QUEST

New Zealand natives land in Santa Monica to build a legacy
STORY & PICTURES PAGE 8



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

KIWIS IN THE MIST: Water is released upon a 100-yard sand sculpture fashioned in the shape of a large fern leaf on Monday as part of a New Zealand celebration at Santa Monica Beach.

Back in black: City has a surplus

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL There's an extra \$1.3 million sitting in City Hall's coffers, but chances are none of it will be spent anytime soon.

City staff is recommending the council wait until later this year, when they draft a new budget, so as to get a better grasp of

what they face in the future. A structural deficit may loom in 2009.

If City Council decides to open its checkbook, staff has asked that the money be spent only on unfunded or under-funded capital improvement projects because the cash is what is commonly referred to in City Hall as "one-time moneys."

The council could also designate broad categories to which the funds could be

applied, such as transportation management/circulation improvements, which would include acceleration of the traffic signal synchronization plan and neighborhood traffic studies, according to Carol Swindell, City Hall's director of finance.

"We would like for the council to hold off on spending the reserve until after they have had a chance to look at the whole spectrum of community needs," said Swindell, who is

in the process of preparing her first budget as finance director for Santa Monica. Swindell was hired by the council in December.

The council is expected to discuss the surplus, as well as other mid-year budget adjustments, tonight during a special session, which will be dominated by financial

SEE SURPLUS PAGE 14



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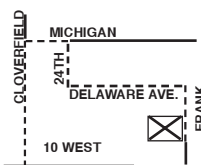
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Calendar

2

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

'A Heart Full of Laughter'

2601 Main St., 4:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Puppet show for children ages 3-7. Tickets are free, but must be picked up on day of program. No phone reservations. For more information, call the Ocean Park Library at (310) 392-3804.

Pet Buffalo in concert at the Temple Bar

1026 Wilshire Blvd., 11 p.m. — midnight

21 and over only. \$5 cover charge. For more information, visit www.templebarlive.com or call (310) 393-6611.

Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Story series for 2-year-olds at the Ocean Park Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library. Registration is required.

'The Edge of Form'

2903 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.

The debut works of Joe Pinkelman, Susie McKay Krieser and Darlyn Susan Yee will be on display. For more information on the exhibit and/or the artists, visit www.TagTheArtistsGallery.com or call (310) 829-9556.

Nordic LAttitudes

601 Santa Monica Blvd., Main Library hours

The Santa Monica Public Library, Friends of the Library and Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners are presenting a six-week design and discussion called Nordic LAttitudes, an educational exhibit showcasing the best in Nordic furniture and lighting design. For more information, visit www.smpl.org/nordiclattitudes.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

For more information, call the Playhouse box office at (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007

Education and Support Group for Parents of Children with Epilepsy

10497 Wilshire Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Group sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles. A new speaker and new topic every month. Time following for parent-to-parent exchange. For more information, call (310) 455-2747.

'Who Killed the Electric Car?' Screening

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.

The first screening in a four-part series that features films examining sustainable issues. A Q & A session with local sustainability experts will follow the screening. Screening will take place at the Main Library.

World Renowned Yoga Teacher Shiva Rea Demo and Discussion

1415 Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m. — midnight

Shiva Rea will be at Borders for a demonstration and signing of "Shiva Rea: Yoga Trance Dance."

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

For more information, call the Playhouse box office at (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.





Condition 'Critical'

Chris Michael, of San Diego, pedals past Santa Monica Place on Friday evening along with a couple hundred other 'Critical Mass' riders. Michael came all the way from San Diego to help celebrate the two-year anniversary of the bicycle-riding group in Santa Monica. Critical Mass meets the first Friday of each month at the Pier and rides through the city's streets together in efforts to promote alternative transportation and friendship.

Gabriel Shea Hacker news@smdp.com

Bullets on the beach: Outsiders open fire on teens, wound two

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

PCH Two suspected gang members from Pacoima were arrested early Sunday morning for attempted murder after allegedly firing shots at a group of teens in a public parking lot just north of the Santa Monica Pier.

Two 17-year-olds from El Monte suffered non life-threatening injuries in the attack and were transported to local hospitals for treatment, according to SMPD Lt. Alex Padilla.

Detectives are expected to file their case with the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office today. In addition to attempted

murder, the detectives will include a gang conspiracy charge. Bail for the suspects was set at \$1 million.

"We believe this was gang-related," Padilla said. "There was a verbal exchange in which the suspects yelled out the name of a Pacoima gang."

The shooting occurred around 3 a.m. in the 1500 block of Pacific Coast Highway. Authorities said a group of teens were in a beach parking lot when they were approached by the suspects and six of their friends. Words were exchanged between the two groups, at which time the suspects and their friends jumped into an SUV and began to drive away.

Just as they were about to exit the park-

ing lot, one of the suspects opened fire from the passenger side of the vehicle, striking one victim in the right leg and the other in the stomach, according to police.

Having received a description of the suspects' vehicle, police spotted the SUV heading eastbound on Interstate 10. Officers conducted a traffic stop and arrested all eight occupants. A 9mm, semi-automatic pistol was found in their possession, said Padilla.

Following an investigation, six of the eight suspects were released. The two remaining in custody were identified as Martin Vasquez, 18, and Juan Salas, 19.

SEE OPEN FIRE PAGE 14

Former officer charged

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE Felony charges have been filed against a former Santa Monica police officer and writer who is accused of snatching up historic items from the department.

Evan Mason, who resigned from the SMPD in 1985, is accused of withholding several pricey collector's items from the department, including a 1930s badge worn by the late Police Chief Clarence Webb, a cartoon drawn by "Popeye" creator Elzie Segar and historical photographs of the department.

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office filed the charges — two counts of theft by embezzlement — on Jan. 12.

"The city [of Santa Monica] and the police department allegedly made numerous attempts to get the badges back and he allegedly didn't return some of the historical badges," said Jane Robison, spokeswoman for the DA's Office.

But Mason, an avid police memorabilia collector who had been the honorary volunteer SMPD historian, was actually never in possession of the 1930s badge, according to his attorney, Stephen Wood, of Quinn Emanuel Trial Lawyers in Los Angeles. The badge has been in the hands of Webb's daughter, Fay Webb, since her father's death in 1973 and does not belong to the department, Wood argues.

Neither Wood nor the Santa Monica Police Department would comment on the case or the charges filed.

At the center of the issue is a manuscript chronicling the history of the Santa Monica Police Department. It's a manuscript that the 52-year-old Mason has been working on for years, and one that served as the source of conflict between Mason and former Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. over copyright issues.

Police conducted a search at Mason's home and car in Paso Robles on Jan. 26, 2006, seizing a number of items, including

SEE LOST BADGE PAGE 14

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vagrants keep cops in the money
Editor:

SMPD needs the homeless ("To protect and serve the homeless," Feb. 3, page 1). Vagrants keep the call volume for the police high, thus the police can justify the huge budget they get from the city each year. If the call volume for the police dropped over 50 percent, do you really think they would get the money from the city they ask for?

That would be a disaster for the police department. Just think of all the overtime the cops would loose out on.

Greg Vega
Santa Monica

It's time to get a move on
(Editor's note: The following is an open letter to City Council.)

Mayor Bloom and fellow councilmembers:
As you begin deliberations on the budget for the city's upcoming fiscal year, I have two suggestions for new approaches to relieving Santa Monica's traffic woes:

1) As novel as it may be for these sort of missives, I'd like first to suggest a way for the city to enhance revenues rather than increase expenditures – a traffic mitigation fee on all new commercial development. This isn't a radical notion, as the City of Los Angeles has had such a fee for some time. It works like this: commercial development causes much more traffic than new housing; consequently, new commercial development has to pay a fee to offset the costs to the city of traffic mitigations; the fees are then dedicated to relieving congestion.

Recently, Bill Rosendahl announced his intentions to procure \$11 million of these funds to alleviate traffic misery on the Westside. It's about time Santa Monica had a similar fee.

2) Second, I believe it's time for the city to adopt a new traffic analysis methodology to measure existing traffic conditions and the impacts of new development on congestion.

What's interesting to me is that the city appears to have acknowledged in writing, in a recent grant application to Caltrans, that the current methodology is inadequate for the challenges of crafting a new LUCE revision:

"Unfortunately, the city's adopted Traffic Impact Analysis methodology (the Highway Capacity Manual Operational method), does not provide information regarding the impact of potential projects on the transportation system that is comprehensive enough to allow the community and Planning Commission to evaluate whether they would improve or worsen access, mobility, and cost of living here.

The current methodology merely assesses the impact of new auto trips from any project on peak-hour delays at isolated signalized intersections."

How can we reasonably attempt to craft a new Circulation Element if the data currently available to city planners isn't up to the task? The way I understand it, our current system averages the traffic flows from east-west streets and from north-south streets into one grade ranging from "A" to "F" for an intersection.

For example, if a street heavily congested with north-south traffic (Cloverfield Boulevard near the freeway comes to mind) crosses a less traveled east-west street (such as Colorado Avenue), the grade for the Cloverfield-Colorado intersection might be a "C" instead of an "F" because of the lighter east-west traffic, even though anyone waiting for five signal changes headed north on Cloverfield would have experienced "F" conditions. Then if an EIR is prepared for a new project on Cloverfield, which would add cars northbound and southbound, our current means of analyzing the traffic impacts would not account for the already gridlocked conditions on Cloverfield.

It doesn't sound very sophisticated to me. I suggest it's time to come up with the funds (perhaps through that fee on commercial development?) to institute a new traffic analysis methodology.

Ted Winterer
Ocean Park



What's the Point

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What's bad for U.S. is convenient for us

"IF I'D GOTTEN THE JOB I WANTED at Montgomery Ward, I suppose I would never have left Illinois." Had that happened, the author would not have gone on to be a radio sportscaster, actor, union president, California governor or the President of the United States. Ronald Reagan opened his autobiography with that quote, and it is one of my favorite quotes on the topic of not getting what we want, because, to me, it encompasses the enormity of how a seemingly little thing can have such a huge effect, not just on one man, but on the entire planet.

In an ironic twist of fate, Al Gore, who introduces himself as the man "who used to be the next President," seems to have found redemption from his bruising battle for the White House in the making of "An Inconvenient Truth," the movie that started out as a lecture by Gore on the causes and effects of global warming.

The man who wanted to change the world by taking on what is arguably the most powerful position on the planet, may actually have a much larger, important and effective voice today than he ever could have as president.

I say this because after having watched this tremendously powerful movie, which should be required viewing by everyone on the planet, it occurred to me that as President Gore he would have been bogged down in policy constraints, muffled by lobbyists for big business and baffled by a Congress that prefers to let issues be "the next guy's problem."

As president, Gore would have likely had to steer a conciliatory path with world leaders, he would have had to parrot that stupid statement about controlling emissions means we would lose jobs in America. The role of the president would likely have obligated him to downplay the seriousness of the situation so to not incite panic.

Luckily for America, and the world, Gore is a free man to voice his concerns and to state the truth openly and loudly. In politics and the world, people are gauged by the ability to speak truth to power. There is no greater power than the next electorate, and that is why so frequently those in positions of leadership speak softly or not at all. They don't want to risk not being re-elected by saying that which is so obviously true.

When the Supreme Court handed the 2000 election to George W. Bush, the immediate effect was the end of the Gore bid for the White House, but in the telescope of history, they may have done more to save the planet than anyone could conceive. For when Al Gore was freed from the bonds of political deal-making, he was ripe for a Hollywood movie company to take what he affectionately called his "slide show" and make a movie that is compelling, informative and horrifically scary.

With the release this past week of the latest United Nations report on global warming, which coincidentally affirms just about everything that Gore speaks of, and runs contrary to almost everything the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue declares, the world must sit up and take notice that we have a major problem on our hands.

Gore has found himself in a role that he was truly suited for. Gone is the stiff Al Gore, in its place is a humorous man who makes his points with passion and incisiveness. As a free man, he is a loud voice that can speak the truth to the world that, as president, he likely could not.

Rather than trying to forge an unlikely alliance in Congress, or reduce CAFÉ standards, or fashion a carbon credit plan that is actually worth something, Gore can stump for true change. He can get people riled up, head up a global effort to change the world and his lasting effect on the world and his place in history will be far greater than anything he could have accomplished in Washington.

On the one hand, I hated to see President Bush appointed to an office for which I think he was, and is, ill-suited. On the other, as Gore pursues his true destiny, as he has become the voice of a planet in crisis, I can only say that sometimes not getting what we want is the best thing to happen.

Gore would have made a good, maybe even a great president, but I think that history will record that his loss was the planet's gain.

DAVID PISARRA is a partner in the Santa Monica law firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached at (310) 664-9969 or dpizarra@pizarra.com.



Common Scents

Carole Orlin

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The lessons of Super Sunday

SUPER BOWL XLI IS NOW HISTORY. For the past week, I had been entertaining the idea of trying something new and unique for this year's Super Bowl party, instead of the usual nachos, chips and guacamole. Then I started thinking. Do people really want "good" food for the Super Bowl party?

It seems like the Super Bowl, at least with my group of friends, is a time for junk food and beer. It gives us a chance to not have to

worry about eating (or behaving) correctly and to just let loose. I know it's pretty pathetic that this is what encompasses "letting loose" to so many of us. Actually, for those of us who are not really into the game itself, the food, the commercials and the socialization are top priority. I have a friend back East who goes all out for the Super Bowl. She knocks herself out and makes an

SEE COMMON SCENTS PAGE 5

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A newspaper with issues

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Bowled over by the fellowship

FROM COMMON SCENTS PAGE 4

entire dinner every year. Although the food was always very good and healthy, it just did not make for a Super Bowl atmosphere. Something about healthy food makes me behave in a more reserved and proper manner. ("Go, team, go!") Junk food on the other hand, brings out the happy "foodie" in me. ("Get those suckers!")

I decided to keep the menu the same as always. We do change the beer occasionally. Last year was Corona; this year, it was Stella Artois ... just to shake things up. I think everyone enjoys the food because there are low expectations. I do not have to spend much time on preparation and serving, so I get to enjoy my friends and the party, too. I finally realized it is a time to relax, dress down, cuss out the opposing team, and just put anything in our mouths. It's the one time of the year where we can truly unwind and have a good, guilt-free time!

I think I finally understand, and even admire, my husband (I can't believe I'm saying this), when he puts on his team's hat, throwback T-shirt, gets out the Terrible Towel (I know that was last year), and makes a total fool of himself on Super Bowl day. I think he's actually on to something that I've been missing all these years.

I now realize that we need more of these events throughout the year, where the food and other bells and whistles are really less important than having a good time with friends. How about a figure skating bowl party, or soccer bowl or a rugby bowl party? I am now all for any bowl parties as an

excuse to have fun and let loose, especially in these increasingly stressful times. Maybe my old hero, Jerry Jeff Walker, was on to something with his song about: "Getting by on getting by ... living day-to-day, picking up pieces wherever they fall. Just letting it roll, let the high times carry the lows, just living ... life easy come easy go."

I NOW REALIZE THAT WE NEED MORE OF THESE EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, WHERE THE FOOD AND OTHER BELLS AND WHISTLES ARE REALLY LESS IMPORTANT THAN HAVING A GOOD TIME WITH FRIENDS.

I know that is not realistic for me. Really, I can't imagine even going camping without my hairdryer, but it sure is nice to imagine a simpler life, where nachos and guacamole are king, innocent fun is on the menu, and the focus of aggression is on the other sports team instead of the other political party, or culture, or whatever.

Let's not wait another year to let it all hang out. Go, team, go!!

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Joe Robinson, the developer, commented: "Since the government concluded its study, we have sold a half million Gas Savers. To our surprise, more people buy the Gas Saver because it extends engine life by cleaning out the carbon than buy it to increase gas mileage or to raise octane."

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The Q-Line

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Stepping out in Santa Monica ...

Following on the heels of a fatal accident at Euclid Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, it was revealed last week that 13 of the city's 15 flashing crosswalks - where a push-button prompts a series of embedded lights in the street and warns drivers of pedestrians crossing - were malfunctioning on a regular basis. The family of the victim has already made public its intention to sue the city for failing to protect pedestrians.

This week's Q-Line questions asks:

Is the city of Santa Monica, for all their efforts to slow traffic and encourage residents and tourists to leave their cars behind, a pedestrian friendly city? Why or why not?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in next weekend's edition of the Daily Press.



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Grocery workers aim to reshuffle bad deal

BY ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES The last time Southern California's largest supermarket chains battled with their employees' union over a labor contract, the dispute escalated into a strike-lockout that dragged for nearly five months.

With little more than a month to go on the current deal, a new slate of negotiations could produce another brawl over health care benefits and a two-tiered wage system — the same contract issues the union begrudgingly agreed to three years ago.

The United Food and Commercial Workers' Local 770 in Los Angeles, the largest union local in the region, is scheduled to begin contract talks Monday with

Ralphs Grocery Co. Talks between UFCW Local 324 in Buena Park and Albertsons Inc. have been under way since last month.

Union negotiations with Safeway Inc., which operates Vons and Pavilions stores, are expected to begin in coming weeks, but no schedule had been set.

In all, labor contracts covering about 65,000 employees at 785 stores from San Luis Obispo and Bakersfield south to San Diego are set to expire March 5.

"Both sides are trying to avoid the very debilitating long-term strike and lockout that occurred last time," said Kent Wong, director of the UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education.

Ralphs locked out employees on Oct. 11, 2003, after Southern California grocery

workers voted to strike against Vons and Pavilions.

At the time, Ralphs, Safeway and Albertsons were negotiating with the workers' union. Ralphs brought in replacement workers to keep its stores running. About 59,000 workers were idled at 859 sites.

The strike cost store owners more than \$2 billion by some estimates and resulted in the loss of many customers. It also left employees struggling to make ends meet, forcing some to lose their homes.

The union and the grocery chains eventually agreed on a settlement that split employees into separate wage and benefit classes.

For example, veteran employees qualified for health care after four months and didn't have to pay any health premiums. Workers

hired since the last contract deal have to wait 12 months or more to qualify for health coverage — longer for their dependents — and have been asked to pay premiums for health care.

A study by the University of California, Berkeley, Center for Labor Research and Education released last week found only 7 percent of Southern California grocery workers hired since the 2003-2004 strike and lockout were receiving benefits as of September.

"We really had no alternative but to accept the settlement," said Rick Icaza, president of UFCW Local 770. "If I had to do it all over again, I would have done everything we did last time, which is work to come back another day and try to renegotiate things to recover some of the losses we sustained."

Marines, Army intensify cultural training for Iraq war

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. Marines, Army intensify cultural training in Iraq war A former Marine captain tells departing troops that it's OK to talk to an Iraqi girl, but not a woman. Never admonish an Iraqi man in front of his family. And don't be surprised if someone introduces himself with a 40-second handshake.

Those edicts, delivered one January morning in a classroom at

this Marine base north of San Diego, are part of a new drive to increase troop exposure to Iraqi culture before they deploy. The Army is taking similar steps in an effort to avoid cultural missteps that plagued the military earlier and made it more difficult to win public support from Iraqis.

"Cultural understanding is a weapon," Edward Slavis, the former Marine captain, told about 150 Iraq-bound troops from the 1st Radio Battalion and 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. "You

need to prepare for the war of ideas and beliefs through cultural learning and understanding."

Slavis, 27, works for the Center for Advanced Operational Cultural Learning, which the Marines established 18 months ago to make troops more sensitive to other cultures. CAOCL employs about 45 Marines, Arabic language teachers and cultural experts, and sends them to U.S. Marine bases to teach troops headed overseas.

Like many Marines, when he first went to Iraq in 2003, Slavis got

only a half-hour briefing on Arab customs.

Now most Marines headed to the Middle East must take the CAOCL's four-hour seminar, which includes a rapid-fire history lesson, starting with the ancient Babylonian ruler Nebuchadnezzar through Saddam Hussein's ascendance to power. Classroom time is augmented by smaller classes at the platoon level.

An Army team based in Fort Huachuca, Ariz., travels around the country to teach similar classes at

Army bases. And for the last eight months or so, most new soldiers have been given up to 24 hours of cultural awareness training, said Army Col. Kevin Shwedo.

Soldiers are encouraged to share experiences in Iraq with Fort Leavenworth's Center for Army Lessons Learned. Their comments are posted on an internal Army Web site.

The Army also hires native Arab speakers to enact scenarios with soldiers ahead of their deployments.

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Bush's push

President to send \$2.9 trillion spending plan to Congress

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON President Bush sent a \$2.9 trillion spending plan to a Democratic-controlled Congress on Monday, proposing to spend billions more to fight the war in Iraq while squeezing the rest of government to meet his goal of eliminating the deficit in five years. Democrats widely attacked the plan and even a prominent Republican said it faced bleak prospects.

Bush's spending plan would make his first-term tax cuts permanent, at a cost of \$1.6 trillion over 10 years. He is seeking \$78 billion in savings in the government's big health care programs — Medicare and Medicaid — over the next five years.

Release of the budget in four massive volumes kicks off months of debate in which Democrats, now in control of both the House and Senate for the first time in Bush's presidency, made clear that they have significantly different views on spending and taxes.

"The president's budget is filled with debt and deception, disconnected from reality and continues to move America in the wrong direction," said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D. House Budget Committee Chairman John Spratt, D-S.C., said, "I doubt that Democrats will support this budget, and frankly, I will be surprised if Republicans rally around it either."

Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire, the top Republican on the Senate Budget Committee, agreed with the bleak assessment of Bush's prospects of getting Congress to approve his budget as proposed.

"Unfortunately, I don't think it has got a whole lot of legs," Gregg said, contending there is a wide gulf between the two parties. "The White House is afraid of taxes and the Democrats are afraid of controlling spending," Gregg said.

The president insisted that he had made

the right choices to keep the nation secure from terrorist threats and the economy growing.

"I strongly believe Congress needs to listen to a budget which says no tax increase and a budget, because of fiscal discipline, that can be balanced in five years," Bush told reporters after meeting with his Cabinet.

Just as Iraq has come to dominate Bush's presidency, military spending was a major element in the president's new spending request. Bush was seeking a Pentagon budget of \$624.6 billion for 2008, more than one-fifth of the total budget, up from \$600.3 billion in 2007.

For the first time, the Pentagon included details for the upcoming budget year on how much the Iraq war would cost — an estimated \$141.7 billion for fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the cost of repairing and replacing equipment lost in combat.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET IS FILLED WITH DEBT AND DECEPTION."

Kent Conrad
Senate Budget Committee Chairman, D-N.D.

But White House spokesman Tony Fratto cautioned that the 2008 projection was likely to change. "We're not saying the number for '08 is the final number."

The Bush budget includes just \$50 billion for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars in 2009 and no money after that year. But the president rejected the suggestion that the administration was setting a timetable for troop withdrawal.

"There will be no timetable set," Bush told reporters. He said that would send the wrong signal to the enemy, the struggling Iraq democracy and the troops.

Bush projected a deficit in the current year of \$244 billion, just slightly lower than last year's \$248 billion imbalance. For 2008, the budget year that begins next Oct. 1, Bush sees another slight decline in the deficit to \$239 billion. He sees that decline continuing over the next three years until the budget records a surplus of \$61 billion in 2012, three years after Bush has left office.

Bald eagle survey finds record 87 birds at lakes Mead, Mohave

By The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS A winter survey found a record 87 bald eagles at lakes Mead and Mohave, eight more than the previous record set in 2002, officials said.

"It's been a good year," Dawn Fletcher, research assistant for the Public Lands Institute at the University of Nevada, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal for a Monday report. The institute collaborated with the National Park Service on the southern Nevada survey.

Bald eagles migrate from the mountainous Northwest to the Colorado River reservoirs separating southern Nevada from Arizona during winter months.

The Jan. 3 through Jan. 17 count found the bald eagle, a national icon, appears to be rebounding since 1963, when 417 nesting pairs were known to exist in the contiguous

48 states. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering removing the bird from the endangered species list.

Fletcher said that along with the 87 bald eagles counted, there was one golden eagle and four eagles of unspecified type.

The count coincided with a national eagle-counting effort. Counting at Willow Beach on Lake Mohave was extended through Jan. 18, Fletcher said, and teams returned to some other sites to gather data after high winds and bad weather hampered earlier efforts.

Last year, 67 bald eagles were counted on lakes Mead and Mohave, the same number as in 2005.

The tally was 60 in 2004, 68 in 2003, 79 in 2002 and 60 in 2001.

The bald eagle was declared an endangered species in 1967 for much of the United States except for areas north of the 40th parallel, especially Alaska.

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Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 1,449,000	\$ 840,998
South of Wilshire	= \$ 1,139,333	\$ 681,333
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,302,909	\$ 731,000
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,590,000	\$ 1,160,810

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Independent spirit

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM BEACH In one of the largest gatherings of Kiwis outside their native New Zealand, hundreds of volunteers from the Polynesian Triangle on Monday hit the beach just north of the Santa Monica Pier to celebrate the country's unofficial national holiday — Waitangi Day — by building a 100-yard long sand sculpture in the shape of a giant silver fern, the nation's emblem.

Organizers of the event, including Air New Zealand, one of the country's largest businesses in the U.S., said they wanted to create the fern to not only celebrate their version of America's Independence Day, but also show Santa Monicans and the rest of the West that New Zealand is a tenacious nation in which people work together to overcome adversity.

Monday's fete was equal parts public art project and publicity stunt, with the ultimate goal of educating the masses about the beauty of New Zealand, or as the native Maori call it, "Aotearoa," which translates into "The land of the long white cloud."

"We are here to help promote our businesses back home and encourage more exports and people to think globally, which is hard given that we are so isolated from the rest of the

world," said Simon Shattky, an organizer and sponsor of www.madefrom-newzealand.com, a Web site promoting the country's merchants.

"The whole idea behind the fern is that it is our national emblem, so we felt it was the perfect symbol to use," Shattky said. "But more important and reflective of the culture is the actual building of it. In New Zealand, since we are so isolated, we have to really rely on each other to get things done."

Today, it is recognized as the founding point of New Zealand as a nation. Despite this, the treaty is often the subject of heated debate, with many Maori claiming the British have not kept up their part of the bargain. The Waitangi Tribunal is tasked with researching breaches of the treaty and suggesting redress.

In the end, there are many who see the treaty as a symbol, much like the fern, of unity between the native Maori and the Pakeha, or those of

WE ARE HOPING THAT THIS WILL BE A LINK TO OUR BROTHERS ACROSS THE PACIFIC. WE HOPE THAT THIS CAN BE A BEACON TO THE REST OF THE WORLD."

Mike Mizrahi

Installation artist who envisioned the massive fern

"You've heard of six degrees of separation. Well in New Zealand, it's more like one and a half."

A WORLD OF THEIR OWN

Waitangi Day, celebrated on Feb. 6, marks the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840 that opened the door for New Zealand to become a colony of Great Britain.

Anglo-European descent.

For Air New Zealand Vice President Roger Poulton and many of his countrymen, Waitangi Day is simply a chance to kick back with friends, drink some beer and have a barbecue, akin to the Fourth of July in the U.S.

"It is really a day for family and friends to come together and enjoy

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At Santa Monica Beach in front of the historic merry-go-round, just below & southeast of the pier.

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Scenes from a Polynesian party: (Opposite page, clockwise from top left) Santa Monica resident Kevin Tang, who grew up in New Zealand, digs dirt and helps create the relief side of the fern; the fern begins to show midway, as diggers worked all morning to create the artistic expression representing New Zealand in the sand; fern artist and creator Mike Mizrahi digs in; Corral Crawford-Shavers displays her tamoko tattoo, which displays her individuality and signifies her family tree as a part of a native people originating from New Zealand; a mid-morning snack of lunchmeat, avocado and brie is served on slices of bread. (This page) Mo Sonoque works on a leaf of the fern sculpture with her hands as a nearby crane relocates large amounts of sand; shovels are put to rest in the end as workers perfect the sculpture with their hands.

All photos by Christine Chang



each other's company," Poulton said.

WHY SANTA MONICA?

"The City by the Sea" was chosen as the location for the giant fern because of its clean beaches and the Kiwi's affinity for warm weather, shopping and proximity to Los Angeles, according to Poulton.

"Santa Monica is very well known in New Zealand and a lot of New Zealanders will come here on vacation," Poulton said. "It is very proactive, clean and the (Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau) has been very helpful and are happy to have us here."

Organizers raised money for the massive dig by creating, and then selling, 10,517 T-shirts — each featuring a small piece of yarn from the socks that New Zealand's own Sir Edmund Hillary wore as the first person to climb Mount Everest.

The number reflects the amount of miles between New Zealand's Bethells Beach, where the first fern was created, and the Santa Monica Bay, said Mike Mizrahi, an installation artist who envisioned the massive fern.

"We are hoping that this will be a link to our brothers across the Pacific," Mizrahi said. "We hope that this can be a beacon to the rest of the world."

The day's festivities began around 8 a.m. with a Tongva tribe welcome ceremony and blessing of the sand sculpture, followed by backhoes digging up large clumps of sand for builders to mold into giant fern leaves. Members of the Maori tribe were on hand all the while to share their culture.

Most seemed to be in good spirits given the unseasonably warm weather and clear skies.

"You couldn't ask for a better day than today," said Olivia Chumacero, a resident of Echo Park and member of the Raramuri tribe from Chihuahua, Mexico.

Chumacero was on hand to bless the project, having been called by the Maori, who were seeking permission from the native ancestors to build on the beach.

"We came to offer a traditional blessing, calling on the spirits of air and water," Chumacero said. "It's nice to come here and celebrate the signing of a treaty. For our people, there have not been good memories when it comes to treaties."

"It seems all the treaties we signed were reneged."

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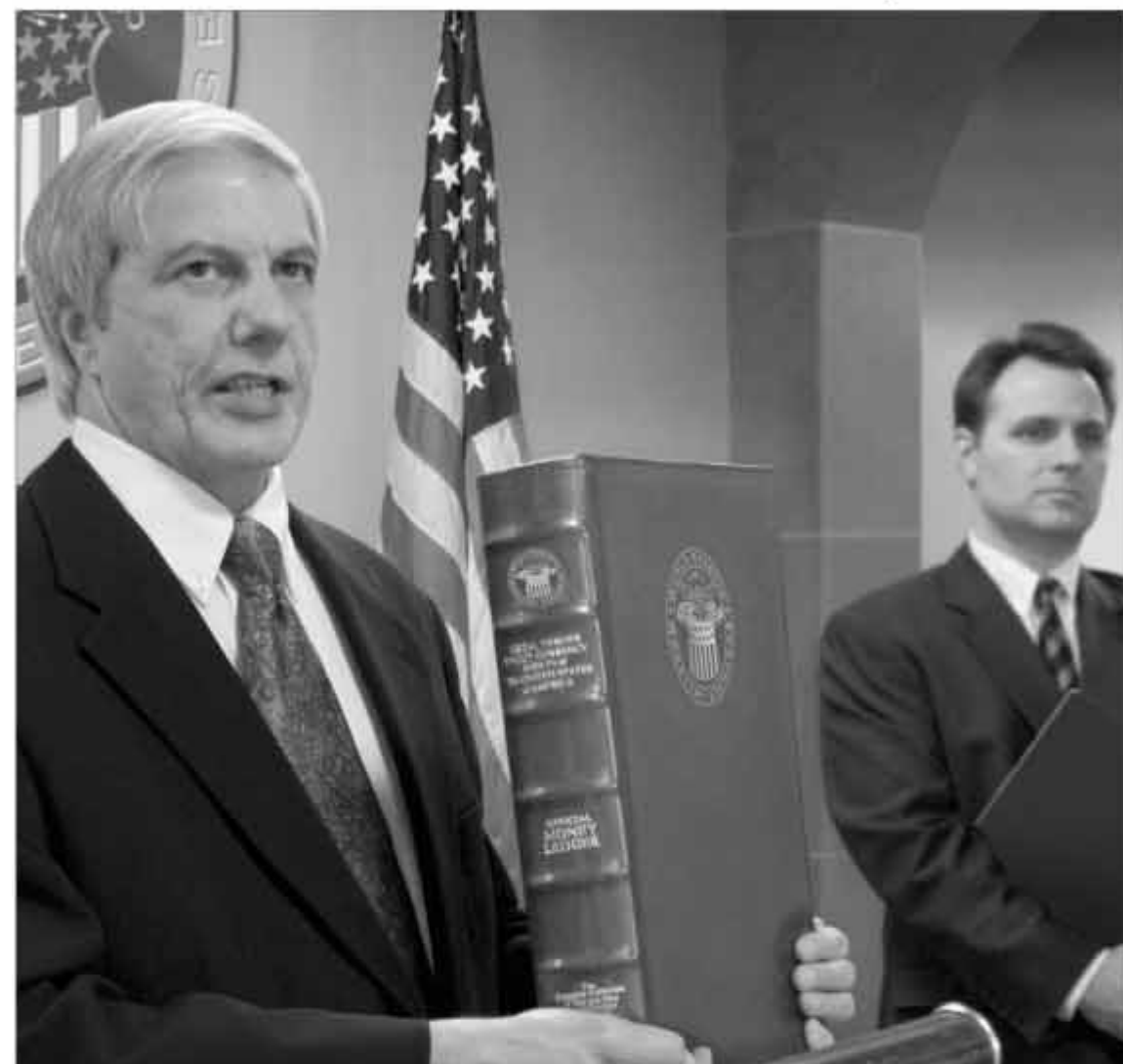
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CASH HANDOVER: Official spokesmen from the World Reserve Monetary Exchange show off impressive Bank Books. They are now being released so everyone can load them with real uncut sheets of money. This kicks off the public release today, but the government is not the one to thank. All this money is under the private control of the World Reserve who is making no secret about advertising its plan to dump the surplus cash starting at 7:30 a.m.

By MARY BETH ANDREWS
Universal Media Syndicate

(UMS) The World Reserve is dumping its surplus of \$3 million dollars of excess cash right in our backyards.

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"Recently hundreds of thousands of people got in before the deadline to get massive Bank Books loaded with full sheets of money. But many other people did not have enough time to place their order before the deadline," said Steven Speakman, National Hotline Director for the World Reserve.

So for the next 72 hours its all up for grabs again. Only this time, local readers are coming out big winners because this 72 hour cash rollback is giving away money for 93% off.

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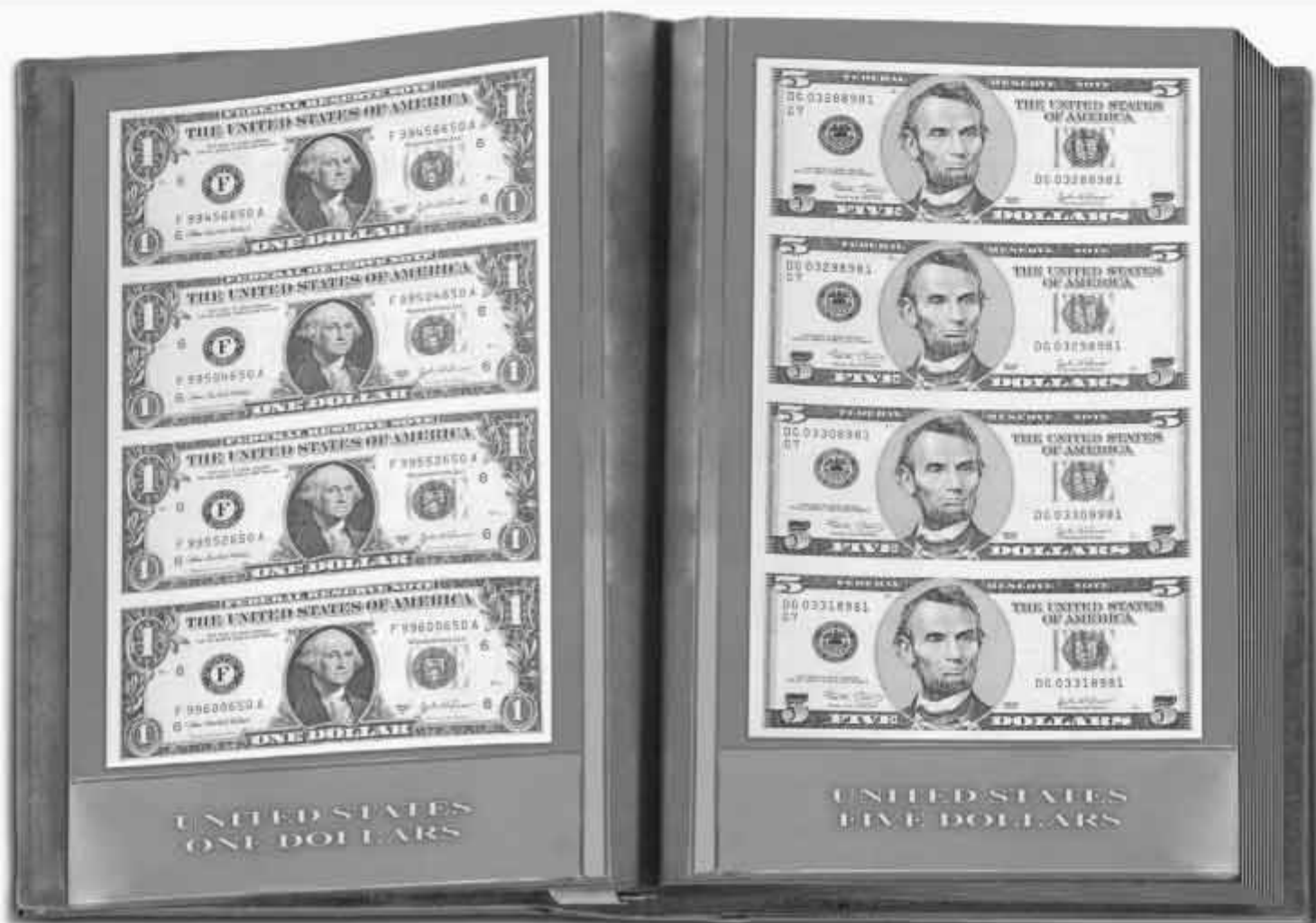
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worth so much more as a sheet," Speakman confirmed.

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It is important that the general public have 2 forms of ID ready and call the assigned Hotline number to beat the deadline.

"Once they see the Bank Books they'll try to get more but it may be too late. When they're gone, they're gone. And dealers are being turned away. That's why time is so pressing," he said. ■

■ **UP FOR GRABS:** These are the rarely seen uncut sheets of real money that are being given up for only a fraction of their value for everyone who beats the deadline to order the massive Bank Book.



GUEST COMMENTARY BY LINDA MILO

Quit the stressing and take a bite out of life

IT'S BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT STRESS is your body's reaction to a threat or a challenge. When your heart beats faster and your muscles tense, then you're in a stressful condition. Stress can be both helpful and harmful: It's the fuel that powers you over your life's obstacles, such as a personal tragedy or a job interview, and it's also known that stress, which runs into high gear, can also wear you down physically and emotionally.

Parenting is stressful because of the many demands made on parents balancing their career, children and personal needs. Changes, which take place through your child's physical and emotional phases, cause stress to the entire family. How you learn to handle stress is vital to the health and happiness of your family.

Many parents become stressed when they don't have a grasp on their child's daily behavior. They are unsure of their parenting skills. Some parents expect their child to

act like small adults, and when they don't, the parent becomes frustrated and angry. In the olden days, there was a lot more family support by grandparents, friends, community and relatives. Today, the support system is much smaller, causing parents to feel worn out trying to meet their child's needs and their own needs. There is also stress involved in trying to model the perfect family, which leads to low self-esteem — seen as a personal failure by many parents. Add the stress involved in everyday living, which includes work, making money and illnesses, and you can see the whole family may suffer.

Here's how to cope with everyday parenting stress:

- Learn to manage your frustration and anger by finding out what causes your frustration and anger. When you find out what triggers this, avoid situations that create this. Find outlets for your frustration by going for

a walk, calling a friend or reading a book. Slow down as much as you can so that you can change behaviors that make you feel like screaming. Counting to 10 works when someone upsets you, communicating your feelings to others about your problems, and getting the necessary time to center yourself each day is very helpful. Learn to be patient with yourself and the situation you are confronting.

And always remember to keep a sense of humor when things become overwhelming.

- Look in your local newspaper to find groups that bring services that help families. Build a network of friends and family that can assist you when times get too stressful. Talking and sharing does a lot to curb stress.

- If you find your child's behavior perplexing, go visit the library and find books that give advice on child behavior patterns. Remember children have their own way of looking at things; they usually don't misbe-

have on purpose. Attend parenting workshops where you can learn to parent effectively and still maintain your balance. Learn and understand the different ways of positive discipline.

- Love yourself more. Learn to get enough exercise daily, eat foods that are beneficial to your body, take time out from work, children and spouses by going out to eat or go to a movie, and most importantly, get enough rest each and every day.

Remember that needing help in your everyday stressful life is not a sign of giving up or not being able to be the best you can — what it means is that you want to know and do more for yourself and family members to enjoy a happy and healthy home life.

LINDA MILO is "The Parent-Child Connection Coach." For more information, visit www.empoweringparentsnow.com.

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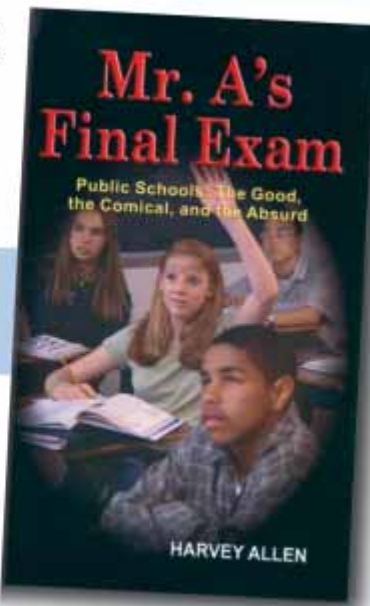
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STORYTELLING with ASHA'S BABA – 4:00 p.m. A celebration of African culture with stories and music. Ages 6 and up. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 310-450-0443. FREE!

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MISS NELSON is MISSING – 11:00 a.m. A delightful play based on the popular Miss Nelson series about a teacher and her students. Great fun for the entire family, ages 4 and up. \$7 adults, \$5 for children under 12. Morgan-Wixson Theatre, 2627 Pico Blvd., 310-828-7519, www.morgan-wixson.org. Reservations strongly suggested.

SAT., FEB. 10
WORLD CITY – 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Today's performance features Nukariik, that represents the culture and music of Canada's Inuit people, and The Vinok Worlddance performing traditional dances and music of the French-Canadian and Celtic folk of Canada. Art workshop follows. Walt Disney Concert Hall, 111 S. Grand St., LA, 213-972-3379.

SUN., FEB. 11
GLOBAL GROOVES at the SKIRBALL CULTURAL CENTER – 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Twist and twirl to music from Africa, Mexico, Persia and Israel. Ages 2 – 12, \$7 adults, \$4 children ages 2 and older. 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., 310-440-4679.

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library – 601 Santa Monica Blvd. – 458-8621
Baby Time – 10:15 & 11:00 a.m., babies up to 2 years, current session thru Feb. 13.
Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 450-0443.
Toddler Story Time in Spanish – 10:00 a.m., ages 2-3.
Baby Time – 11:00 a.m., babies to age 2, current session thru Feb. 6
Twilight Story Time -7pm – an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.
Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 829-7081.
Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m., all ages.
Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 392-8304
Story Time for Twos – 10:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis for ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com
Barnes and Noble at the Grove
Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Classes
YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class – 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – 12 to 36 months; Infant & Me Class – 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 0 – 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise
Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal – 11:25 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:30 – 1:55 p.m., \$15.
Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.
Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga – 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks – 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes. yogababyla.com

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 – drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Storytelling and Library Programs
The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.
Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.
Story Time for Twos – 9:30 a.m.
Preschool Story Time – 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-5. Current session thru Feb. 7 for both.
Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.
Baby Time – 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2. Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. –392-3804.
Spanish Bilingual Stories – 11:20 a.m., ages 2 – 5.
Preschool Twilight Story Time – 7:00 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.
Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 2 pm – ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144
Border's, Westwood – 11a.m. – 310-475-3444.

Classes
YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., 5 to 36 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise
YoMama Yoga – 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks – 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com
Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150
Pre/Postnatal – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m., \$15
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Other
Puppetolio – 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

THURSDAY
MOMS Club of SM South Playgroup – noon for children born 3/06 – 12/06; 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. for children born 1/02 – 2/03; 3:30 p.m., for children born 3/03 – 12/03; Call or email Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library – 601 Santa Monica Blvd. – 458-8621
Story Time for Twos – 10:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Preschool Story Time – 11:20 a.m, ages 3 – 5.
Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.
La Hora Del Cuento – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.
Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.
Story Time for Twos – 10:15 a.m.
Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m.; ages 3-5. Ongoing.
Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.
Baby Time – 9:20 & 10:20 a.m. Babies to 2 years. Current session thru Feb. 1.
Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Classes
YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class – 9:15 - 10:15 a.m and 10:45 – 11:45 a.m., 12 to 36 months; Parent Support Group – 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., age 3 – 5 years; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise
Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal – 11:25 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
YoMama Yoga – 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks – 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes. yogababyla.com
Prenatal Yoga – 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes.
Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:30 – 1:55 p.m., \$15.
Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Groups
La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista – meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the Westchester Municipal Bldg., 7166 W. Manchester Ave., corner of Lincoln and Manchester. Call 310-390-2529 for info.
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 – drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups
11:00 a.m. - playgroup for children born 10/04 – 5/05; Call or e-mail Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info.
Parent's Night Out at Child's Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.
Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. www.childsplayonline.net
Cinderella- select Fridays thru May 12, 6:00 p.m., 394-9779 ext. 1 for reservations.
\$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

Classes
YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class – 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – 12 – 36 mos.; Playtime/Parent Support – 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881 for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise
Kid's Yoga Circle Class at Exhale Spa – 3:30 p.m., for ages 5 – 11, 1422 2nd St., 260-2736 or yogaforkids@hotmail.com.
Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:30 – 1:55 p.m., \$15.
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

SATURDAY
Storytelling
Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Kid's Story Time – 10am, 310-260-9110
Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 10:30am – ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.
Children's Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA – 10:30 a.m., every other Sat., 310-559-800K.
Village Books, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.
826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

Classes
YWCA – Toddler & Me – 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.; Parent Enrichment once per month , 11:00 a.m. – noon, call Barbara Olinger at 452-3881 for rates and dates.

Yoga & Exercise
Santa Monica Yoga – Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santamonica yoga.com
Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga – 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks – 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga – 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com

Other
And Awaay We Go to Wonderland! at The Santa Monica Playhouse
Family Theatre; Saturdays & Sundays, thru Feb. 11; 12:30 & 3:00 p.m., 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. www.santamonicaplayhouse.com
The Bridge Cinema Deluxe – Enjoy a G-rated movie for kids every Sat. and Sun. Tickets are \$3.50. 6081 Center Drive, LA, 310-568-3375.
Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested
Magicopolis – 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.
Precious Prints – Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime
Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit www.preciousprintsstudios.com for more info.
Lakeshore Learning Stores "Free Crafts for Kids" – Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.
"A Faery Hunt" – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday at Franklin Canyon Park. An interactive children's show, searching for fairies and other enchanted creatures in the magical canyon and finding them! \$10, call for reservations – 818-324-6802. www.faeryhunt.com. Meet in the parking lot of the Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills.

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Staffers cautioning haste makes waste

FROM SURPLUS PAGE 1

issues, including setting salaries for various department heads and the parking rates for the new Civic Center Parking Structure, scheduled to open in March or early April.

The changes in salaries are due to a voter-approved initiative passed last November, which made department heads "at will" employees, stripping them of civil service protections and creating a greater risk than what was experienced previously. With that in mind, the city manager requested a study of all department head positions, with salary levels being adjusted to reflect the "appropriate balance between internal equity and external competitiveness," according to a city staff report.

I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD BE IN A HURRY. THERE IS NOTHING THAT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED THAT REQUIRES A SENSE OF URGENCY."

Richard Bloom.
Mayor

In the past, salary levels for director positions were typically raised when positions became vacant so that City Hall could remain competitive in the labor market and attract the best and brightest candidates.

IT DOESN'T GROW ON TREES

A mid-year budget review is standard, with each city department offering the latest information on their bottom lines. The fiscal

year begins in July.

Total revenues for the current fiscal year are up by \$3 million over what was originally budgeted. Much of that is due to increases in money paid under the business license tax, transient occupancy or hotel tax, parking citations and other fees. The increases have offset lower-than-expected returns on the tax charged when a property is sold, as well as decreases in building and permit fees and interest earned on City Hall's investments, according to a city staff report.

With added revenues, the council is being asked to make some additional expenditures which have surfaced during the first half of the fiscal year. Some of those expenditures include \$700,000 for unscheduled overtime for police officers, \$430,000 for business license audit services, and \$150,000 for replacement equipment at Barnum Hall.

That leaves an additional \$1.3 million in one-time moneys, considered a "drop in the bucket" compared to City Hall's overall budget of \$442.6 million, said Mayor Richard Bloom.

"If you look at the overall budget, we could easily have a couple of bad months or months that just don't meet our expectations and that could eat all of (the surplus) up," Bloom said. "I don't think we should be in a hurry. There is nothing that has been identified that requires a sense of urgency."

Bloom said he is leaning towards the Finance Department's recommendation of sitting on the funds for now, until the council has had more time to discuss next year's budget.

"Let's let the city manager provide us with guidance, along with the new finance director," Bloom said. "This will really be the first time that we, as a council, will be able to talk with her in-depth about the budget."

kevinh@smdp.com

Badge of discouragement: Former SMPD officer charged with stealing

FROM LOST BADGE PAGE 3

an Apple computer tower, a laptop, RCA police radios and a manila envelope containing the manuscript. A "list of items to be seized" in the search warrant named the Webb badge and "articles or manuscripts written by Evan Mason that describe or depict property misappropriated by Mason from the Santa Monica Police Department."

In a letter to the City Attorney's Office, dated in April of last year, Wood contends that Butts and the police "abused their authority" in conducting the search warrant and that the manuscript does not appear to have any relationship with the collector's items.

Mason became the department's historian after he served as a member of the SMPD Centennial Committee, which was charged with preparing for the 100-year celebration in 1996. As the volunteer historian, Mason had access to the SMPD archives and attained a number of historical items from the family of deceased department employees on behalf of the department, according to a "Statement of Probable Cause," written by Lt. Michael

Beautz, who signed off on the search warrant.

As the historian, Mason was entrusted with storing historical photographs at his home in Paso Robles when the SMPD moved from its old headquarters to the new Public Safety Facility in 2003. At the time of the move, there was no space to hang the photographs in the new facility, the statement read.

"Mason volunteered to store the items in his barn at his home in Paso Robles until a determination was made concerning the location and size of the Police Museum."

Without the manuscript in his possession, it's proven more difficult finding a publisher to ink a deal, Mason's lawyer contends.

"Evan has been in contact with several publishers," Wood said on Monday. "Publishers weren't interested in publishing text that's currently in possession of the police department."

melodyh@smdp.com

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

Police charge two in shooting

FROM OPEN FIRE PAGE 3

Detectives are urging anyone with information about the shooting to contact the robbery/homicide division of the SMPD at (310) 458-8451, or the watch commander's office at (310) 458-8426.

Callers who wish to provide information anonymously can do so by calling the We-

Tip national hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27463). Callers with information that leads to an arrest and conviction become eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000.

kevinh@smdp.com

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Blood fueling feud over hormone tests

BY PAUL ELIAS AND DAVID KRAVETS
Associated Press Writers

SAN FRANCISCO Olympic athletes soon will have their blood tested for human growth hormone, but the NFL and baseball officials instead are embracing the unproven concept of urine testing in their bid to stop use of the performance-enhancing drug.

Critics question whether the pro leagues truly are intent on rooting out HGH, thought to be widely abused because no one currently is testing for it. But baseball and football officials say they are stymied by union contracts that prohibit taking blood from players, and they cite privacy concerns and doubts about the accuracy of blood tests.

The two leagues recently awarded grants worth a combined \$1 million to develop a urine test, but even the scientist who received most of the research money concedes an effective urine screen is years away, meaning players can continue using HGH with little fear of getting caught.

“It’s a difficult proposition,” said Don Catlin, chief of the Olympic Analytical Laboratory at UCLA. “It’s going to take a while.”

This blood feud over how to root out cheaters has opened a deep schism at the highest levels of amateur and professional sports.

The World Anti-Doping Agency plans to test the blood of elite amateur athletes by the end of this year. The agency’s chief, Dick Pound, dismissed efforts by the NFL, Major League Baseball and their unions as “a piddling little amount” spent on unproven technology to combat a major problem.

“Our view is that it’s out there being used with impunity because of the lack of test-

ing,” Pound said.

Anti-doping agencies that police amateur athletes around the globe have spent nearly \$10 million over the past decade to develop a blood test to detect synthetic growth hormone.

“All the experts we have consulted told us to forget about urine tests,” said Olivier Rabin, the anti-doping agency’s top scientist. “In urine you will find less than 1 percent of human growth hormone than you will find in the blood.”

“ALL THE EXPERTS WE HAVE CONSULTED TOLD US TO FORGET ABOUT URINE TESTS.”

Olivier Rabin
Anti-doping agency’s top scientist

Human growth hormone occurs naturally in the body and synthetic versions taken by injection are chemically identical, making detection difficult. The new blood tests are designed to find higher-than-normal hormone levels that can be reached only by taking synthetic versions.

Rabin said the blood test can detect the presence of synthetic growth hormone for about two days after it’s injected, which requires the agency to conduct unannounced, random samplings.

Some 300 athletes at the 2004 Olympics in Athens underwent blood testing without a positive result.

A Super end to the fantasy

BY JOSH L. DICKEY
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK That last instant message said it all.

My friend and I had been IM’ing all night as the Super Bowl unfolded, but this little line brought it to a screeching halt, a stoppage that’s likely to stick until late summer: “Woke up this morning saddened by the official end of football season,” it read.

Then, nothing more.

The Super Bowl was concluded, and with it, a season of profuse rapport was over as well: No more daily e-mails about free agents, no more frantic matchup analysis over IM. No more exchanging gut-busting voice mails, or scheming over the phone about how we would hornswoggle the weaklings in our fantasy football league, then face each other in a dream final, mano-a-mano.

When the confetti flew over the Indianapolis Colts’ championship in Miami on Sunday, so did my daily palaver with a high school buddy from back in Minnesota blow into the wind.

See you in September, man.

And so it is with many of the estimated millions of Americans who play fantasy football: For six months out of the year, we are intimate partners, bitter rivals or a little bit of both. Whatever we are, we are in touch. Constantly.

But in the offseason?

“Oh, I definitely have friends who I only see or talk to during fantasy season,” says Rob Bertsch, a 34-year old father of one who lives in the Denver suburbs. “One friend I talk to a few times a week, and he lives in the area. But when the season’s over I maybe talk to him ... once a month? At the most.”

Then, this caveat: “But he’ll always be my friend.”

Fantasy sports leagues would seem, to the uninitiated, like a pretty pedestrian pastime: Players put together teams of actual stars in real sports, tracking their performances — usually through online leagues — to determine whose assemblage of talent is supreme. Various estimates place the number of fantasy football players in the U.S. from 14 million on up; Yahoo Inc., a leader in the fantasy sports market, has more than 6 million registered players alone.

Most fantasy players equate winning with having a superior knowledge of the sport; a high degree of managerial acumen; or a diligent and tireless attention paid to the sport’s tiniest details. (In my case, it’s all three.)

And while most leagues are played for money, to say that the gambling component is what drives the popularity of fantasy sports would be missing the point.

Fantasy sports is about competition, bragging rights, and cause for communication — a reason to stay connected with people who we’d otherwise relegate to an annual Christmas card list.



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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS

SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)
Today the NW that's in the water now should peak with similar size as today: chest high at west facing breaks with occasional pluses at standouts. Tide should recuperate for early AM sessions, but winds could be rather brisk off-shore (15+) for some areas until the afternoon.

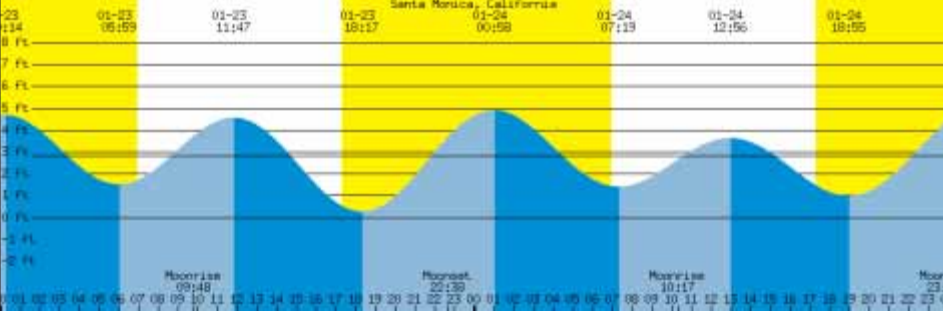
LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

SUBSTANTIAL NW LATE IN WEEK...
TRACKING NW FOR 29TH...

WATER TEMP: 58°



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 four weeks up to the ending date of

January 30, 2007

QUICK STATS

(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 14

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1

Number of wet days -- 4

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34/34

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 14/10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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

Heal the Bay

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Do your thing, Capricorn

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Others come toward you. You might feel as if you don't have many options. In some manner, others might be dictating their terms. Understand that you can only control yourself, not them. You might need to distance yourself rather than confront them. Tonight: Let others do their thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ What you set out to accomplish might be more difficult than you initially anticipated. Distractions occur naturally. A friendship might be playing a bigger role in plans than you'd anticipated. Go with the flow rather than become aggravated. Tonight: Get some errands done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Your playfulness might not be as appreciated as you'd like. Still, you'll have a good time as you unleash your creativity. Others might not need to be on board right now. A covert offer heads in your direction. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ If you can work from home or stay close to where you feel comfortable, all the better. An undercurrent of discomfort marks your actions, conversations and plans. The unexpected plays a role as well. Tonight: Home is your castle.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You will speak your mind, but you might not like the end result. Is it you or is it them? You might question the results you are getting. Although what you say might be perfectly OK, others could be a touch reactive. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Suddenly, you note a possessive streak emerge. You might want to reconsider a decision about your finances. New facts come to light that might not be totally compatible with past opinions and decisions. Tonight: Don't fret; just act.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ The Moon highlights you. You might be full of energy and good will. The issue easily might be those around you, who could feel a touch askew. Whether you decide to indulge them or not is your call. Make yourself priority number one right now. Tonight: What would put a smile on your face?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★ Take your time and don't commit to anything that doesn't feel right. In fact, stepping back and reconsidering your options just might be perfect. A loved one or a child has excellent intentions, even if his or her actions are a flub-up. Tonight: Take some personal time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Keep your eye on the big picture, and you won't experience a problem. Distractions and mini-hassles could surround you. As well-intended as you are, pleasing a family member might be impossible right now. Tonight: Head out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Others, as always, look to you for advice and change. You might want to approach a situation differently, and hit some flak. As nicely as you state your case, others seem impervious to your suggestion. Tonight: Do your thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Events will encourage you to take the high road. That outlook might be the only one you feel comfortable with. Use special care with your finances, as others want and ask for a lot. Learn the word "no." Everyone needs boundaries – you included.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ A partner wants to make the call. Know that you cannot make a difference here, so you might as well go along for the ride. You could make this relationship work. Letting someone discover the end results of his or her actions could be important. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

Born Today

Baseball player Babe Ruth (1895)
News anchorman Tom Brokaw (1940)
Singer Bob Marley (1945)



Happy Birthday!

You'll discover the power of positive thinking this year. Though you are a strong and assertive sign, learning to understand where others are coming from might be more important than you realize. Others feel that they can trust you. As a result, those in your immediate circle will open up even more. Travel also could play a significant role. If you are single, you could meet someone quite exotic and different this year. If you choose to get to know this person, relating could be an eye-opening experience. If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from your laid-back and positive outlook.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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Labor of ‘Love’ O’Neal pulls a gun in altercation with son

Oscar-nominated actor **RYAN O’NEAL** was arrested and accused of assaulting his son, Griffin O’Neal, officials said Sunday.

Deputies and paramedics were called to O’Neal’s Malibu residence at 12:30 a.m. Saturday “regarding a battery that had occurred,” said Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Lt. John Benedict.

“Deputies determined ... Griffin O’Neal, his son, had been assaulted by his father,” Benedict said.

Ryan O’Neal, 65, was arrested and accused of assault with a deadly weapon and negligent discharge of a firearm. He was booked and released on a \$50,000 bond, Benedict said.

Benedict could provide no details on what caused the dispute. No one was treated for injuries, he said.

An investigation is under way. The Associated Press was unable to contact Ryan O’Neal Sunday

morning.

The twice-divorced Ryan O’Neal, known for his boyish good looks, went from a TV soap opera to an Oscar-nominated role in “Love Story.” He also appeared in films including “Paper Moon,” “Barry Lyndon,” “Green Ice” and “Zero Effect.”

O’Neal had two children with his first wife, Joanna Moore: actor Griffin O’Neal and actress Tatum O’Neal, his co-star in the 1973 movie “Paper Moon,” for

which she won an Oscar for best supporting actress. He was romantically involved with Farrah Fawcett for years; they never married but had one son, Redmond.

Griffin O’Neal has a history of trouble. He was given an 18-day jail sentence for not performing 400 hours of community service ordered by the judge who found him guilty of reckless boating in the 1986 accident that killed Gian-Carlo Coppola, the

son of film director Francis Ford Coppola.

He pleaded no contest to a drunken driving charge in 1989 and was sentenced to probation. In 1992, Griffin O’Neal avoided a possible three-year jail sentence by pleading no contest to charges he shot at his estranged girlfriend’s unoccupied car. At the time, he agreed to spend one year in a live-in drug rehabilitation program and serve five years on probation.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAM! HE’S MARRIED

BAM MARGERA – professional skateboarder, MTV star and amateur prankster – just earned himself another title: husband.

Margera, 27, who became a punk hero on the shows “Jackass” and “Viva La Bam,” married childhood friend Missy Rothstein, 26, in downtown Philadelphia on Saturday.

The couple wed in front of about 350 friends and family members – and an MTV crew.

Margera is making his path to marriage into a nine-part reality television series called “Bam’s Unholy Union.” The wedding itself will be shown in the final episode in early April.

The festivities included a performance by rocker Iggy Pop, as well as appearances by skateboard legend Tony Hawk and James Iha, formerly of the alternative rock band Smashing Pumpkins.

The couple will honeymoon in Dubai.

AP

‘Funny’ donor: Streisand can’t decide

BARBRA STREISAND says she likes Hillary ... and Obama ... and Edwards likes what she sees in the Democratic race for the presidency, so much so that she’s giving money to three candidates.

Streisand, a friend and supporter of former President Clinton, has previously made contributions to the successful U.S. Senate campaigns of Clinton’s wife, Hillary. This time, the actress said in a statement released Monday, she’s giving money

not only to the New York senator but to former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina and Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois.

“I’m very excited about the strength of the Democratic field for the 2008 presidential election, and I’m looking forward to a lively and healthy primary debate that discusses the key issues facing this country,” Streisand wrote.

Her publicist, Dick Guttman, said the statement was released in response to news media

inquiries about her favorites in the 2008 primaries.

“Because I want to see the front-runners have the financial backing they need to be competitive during this process, I’ve decided to make the maximum allowable primary donation to Hillary Clinton, John Edwards and Barack Obama,” Streisand said in the statement, adding, “As the conversation continues, I may make contributions to other candidates as well.”

The maximum amount

she can contribute to each candidate is \$2,300 for the primary, then she can give another \$2,300 if one of them becomes the presidential challenger.

When Bill Clinton was in the White House, he had an affectionate relationship with Hollywood and the good will transferred to Hillary Clinton in her Senate races. Streisand, Jennifer Lopez and Chris Rock were among those who donated to her Senate races in 2000 and 2006.

AP

Simpson says Lachey left her stung and ‘hurt’

JESSICA SIMPSON says she was stung when ex-husband Nick Lachey jumped back into dating after their high-profile breakup.

“Oh, it hurt me,” the 26-year-old singer-actress says in an interview in the March issue of Elle magazine, on newsstands Feb. 13. “Two or three weeks later? Yeah, I’d say it kind of hurt me.”

Simpson and Lachey, 33, starred in the MTV reality show, “Newlyweds: Nick &

Jessica.” She filed for divorce in December 2005, after three years of marriage.

She made that decision, she says, after watching the 2004 romance “The Notebook” on a plane ride home to Texas. “I just figured out the statement,” she says of the movie, starring Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams as star-crossed lovers. “It was about that moment of desperation. I needed to

breathe.”

Does she still keep in touch with the singer, who is dating MTV’s Vanessa Minnillo?

“Mm-hmmm,” she tells the magazine. “He’s so much a part of my life, how could I not be? Any guy that’s going to be with me from this day forward has to understand that. You want to help me find a guy?”

(It appears that’s not necessary. Simpson has been photographed recently

with singer-songwriter John Mayer, and in her profile in Elle, the writer noted that he spotted e-mails from Mayer on her computer.)

She says she “is so happy right now,” but declined to discuss her love life. “I want to tell you everything, but I have to sew my lips together,” she says.

Asked whether she’s in love, a grinning Simpson plays coy: “I didn’t say yes.”

AP

The skinny on a healthy body image

BY JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

NEW YORK She was a 16-year-old honors student, keenly interested in politics and eager to work for her candidate in last fall’s congressional elections. But when election day came around, the girl wasn’t on the campaign trail. She was in the hospital, with anorexia.

“By then, she wasn’t thinking about the political issues,” says her psychologist, Ann Kearney-Cooke. “She was thinking about how many calories were on her lunch plate.”

The girl is now recovering, but

her story is only one of many. Which is why Kearney-Cooke, who’s been treating girls and women with eating disorders for 25 years, sees the current “skinny-model” debate sweeping the fashion industry as a positive step — one that may eventually help lead to a healthier body image for young girls.

“This is such a waste of young people’s energy,” the Cincinnati-based psychologist says of the ever-intensifying obsession with being thin, an affliction she’s seen in girls as young as 5 or 6. “Teenagers should be figuring out who they are, how they feel about Iraq, about abortion.

Instead, the question ‘Who am I?’ has been replaced by, ‘How do I look?’”

With Fashion Week currently in full swing in New York, the debate over thin models is on the front burner. The Council of Fashion of Designers of America recently issued voluntary guidelines to curb the use of overly thin models. Officials in Madrid set a minimum body-mass index, and Milan tightened restrictions. Efforts gained urgency after 21-year-old Brazilian model Ana Carolina Reston died of anorexia in November, at 88 pounds.

Surely, models have always been

thin — Twiggy was a phenomenon in the ‘60s for her waifish looks. But recent years have seen a trend toward the emaciated, with younger models displaying protruding hip bones, sallow skin, and stick-like legs with knees wider than the thighs.

“A lot of models today, you’re just worried for them,” says Suze Yalof Schwartz, executive editor-at-large for Glamour Magazine. “They look so vulnerable.” (She notes, however, that some models are naturally skinny.) In the ‘90s, she points out, the sample size used by designers was 5 feet 9 inches or taller and a size 6 to 8; now, it’s the same height, but a size 0 to 2.

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Wednesday
Taxi Driver
7:30
Thursday
Midnight Run
7:30

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

Babel (R)
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
Because I Said So (PG-13)
1hr 42min 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
Blood Diamond (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)
1:55, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05

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

Catch and Release (PG-13)
2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:10
Children of Men (R)
2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 9:55
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:15
Epic Movie (PG-13)
1hr 26min 1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:25
Messengers, The (PG-13)
1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05
Night at the Museum (PG)
1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Pan's Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

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

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

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

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

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

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

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

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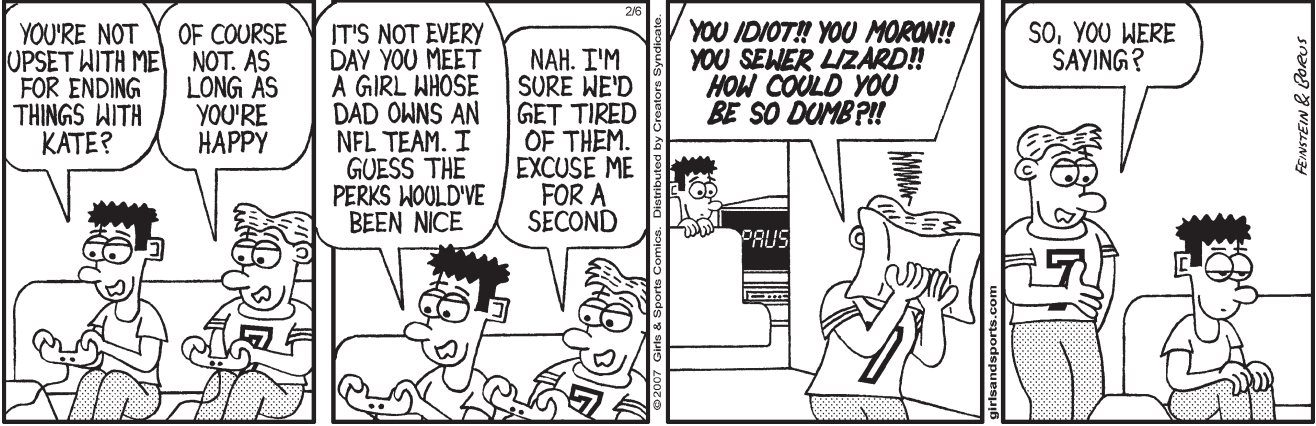
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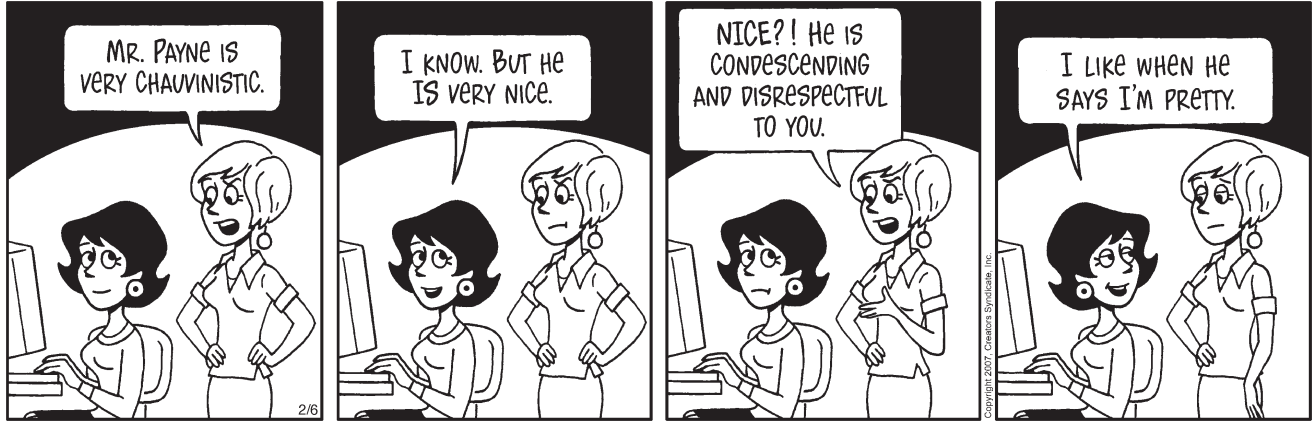
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



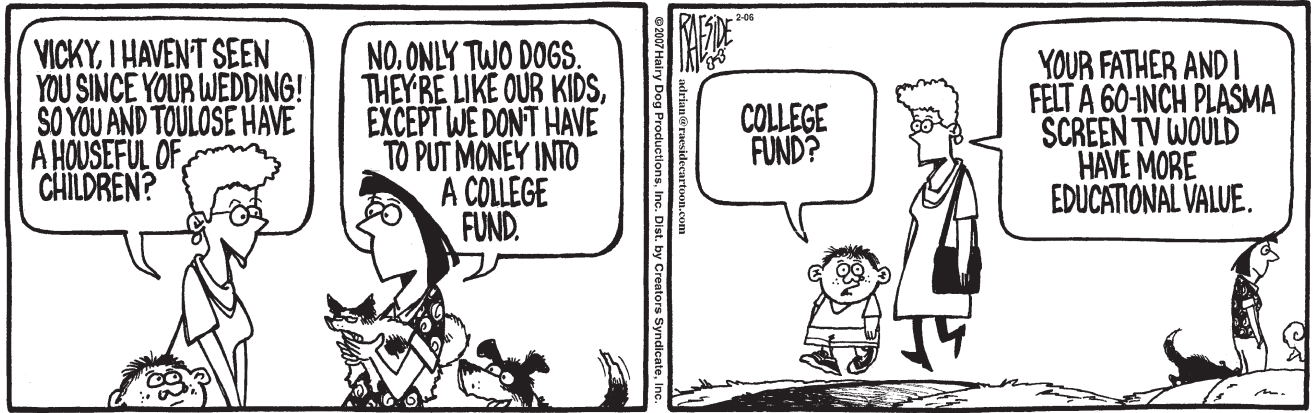
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



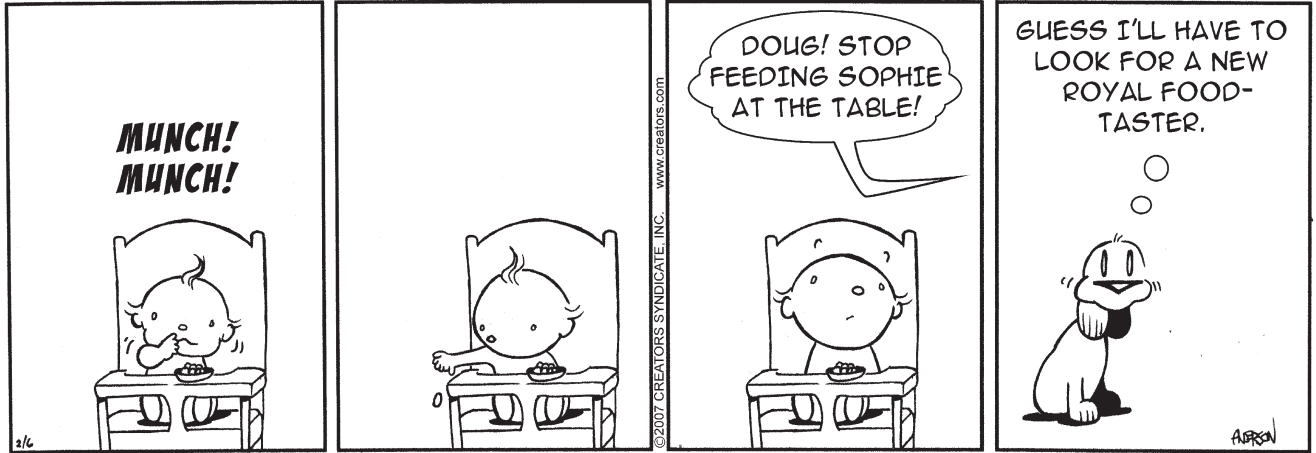
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection

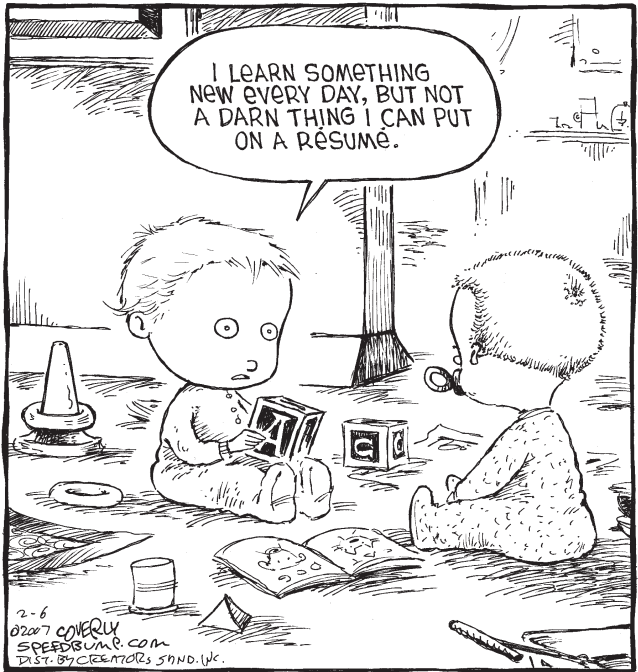
By Russ Wallace



The guy who played Godzilla

Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Michael Spinelli is the winner of the latest Mystery Photo contest, being the first to identify that this picture was captured at Norm's Restaurant on Lincoln Boulevard.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Kind of boom
- 6 Scout settlements
- 11 Writer Brontë
- 12 Scarlett's last name
- 13 1953 Ethel Merman movie
- 15 Number after due
- 16 Flower visitor
- 17 Look over
- 18 Legitimate
- 20 Suez sight
- 23 Frisco player
- 27 Yoked animals
- 28 Donate
- 29 Heads, to Henri
- 31 Mended
- 32 Heavyset
- 34 Lyricist Gershwin
- 37 Pitcher's pride
- 38 Mai-tai base
- 41 1963 Bob Hope movie
- 44 Finish
- 45 Survives
- 46 Antlered animals
- 47 Trade shows

2 Poet

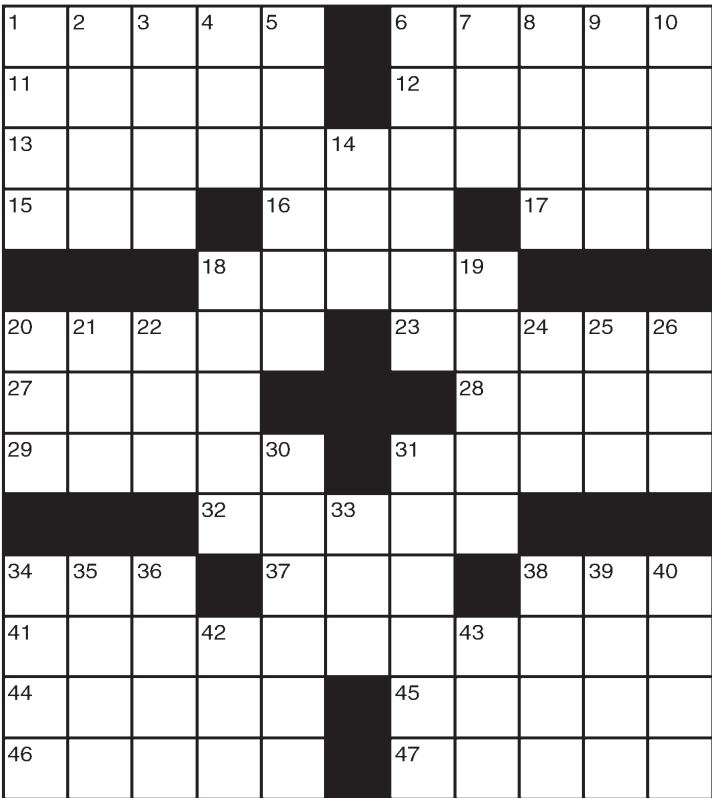
- Khayyám
- 3 Cairo's river
- 4 Sick
- 5 Orchestra clasher
- 6 Response to a knock
- 7 Cry of insight
- 8 Built
- 9 Call for divine help
- 10 Identical
- 14 Twisty fish
- 18 Windmill parts
- 19 ZIP code part
- 20 Barracks bed
- 21 Chopping tool

- 22 Volleyball need
- 24 Veto
- 25 Cain raiser
- 26 Cardinal color
- 30 Post-office buy
- 31 Rusher's goof
- 33 Refinery supply

- 34 Chilled desserts
- 35 Diatribe
- 36 "M*A*S*H" star
- 38 Grating sound
- 39 "Do — others ..."
- 40 Church service
- 42 Galoot
- 43 Crayon material

Yesterday's answer

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Meganumber: 15
Jackpot: \$77M

Super LOTTO
7 21 32 37 46
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: \$25M

Fantasy 5 1 13 16 29 32

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 2 8 5
EVENING: 0 0 1

DAILY DERRY
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1.45.08

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A 2006 Church of England report warned that disagreeable congregants, together with the pressures of the church's "feudal system" bureaucracy, were turning priests harshly negative and creating an "irritable clergy syndrome." One of the report's authors told The Times of London in December that priests are bothered by "having to be nice all the time to everyone, even when confronted with extremes of nastiness," such as aggressive and neurotic parishioners.

■ The recent traditional Christmas Nativity play at St. Stephen's church in Tonbridge, England, centered on music from the Beach Boys, with Mary turning into a "surfer girl" to sing "God Only Knows" and the Three Wise Men portrayed as Brian, Carl and Dennis Wilson performing such favorites as "Fun Fun Fun" and "Good Vibrations" (according to a December Agence France-Presse report). Said the pastor, "(N)ativity plays ... can just be a bit dull. (This) made it more realistic."

■ Michigan Law: (1) A bill passed in November by the Michigan House of Representatives makes it a crime for a cohabiting boyfriend to pressure his pregnant girlfriend into having an abortion, including by simply moving out of the house. (2) The Michigan Court of Appeals, ruling in November, said an obscure but unambiguous state law makes any "sexual penetration" a serious sexual assault if it occurs during any other felony, including simple adultery, with a maximum penalty of life in prison.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1911 Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States, was born in Tampico, Ill.

1756 America's third vice president, Aaron Burr, was born in Newark, N.J.

1778 the U.S. won official recognition from France with the signing of treaties in Paris.

1788 Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

1899 a peace treaty between the United States and Spain was ratified by the U.S. Senate.

1933 the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, the so-called "lame duck" amendment, was proclaimed in effect by Secretary of State Henry Stimson.

1959 the United States successfully test-fired for the first time a Titan intercontinental ballistic missile from Cape Canaveral.

WORD UP!

missive \MIS-iv\, *noun*: A written message; a letter.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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RECEPTIONIST GENERAL office bilingual English/Spanish a plus. 45wpm MS Word, filing, phones in Marina del Rey. Fax resume with salary history to (310) 306-4498

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SOCIAL ESCORTS needed. Accompany celebs, V.I.P.'S to dinner, theatre, events, etc. assignments strictly platonic. P/T evenings and weekends. \$150/hr (323) 852-1377

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taught by established artist. Paint Sculpt and draw in a garden setting. Classes start February 1st, 2007. Your artwork and bio placed on www.campbellart.com free with sign up. Call 310-804-0335 for schedule and pricing.

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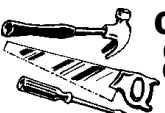
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Santa Monica Daily Press



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