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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 78

Santa Monica Daily Press

'GUITAR HERO' GETS AXE
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE STRETCH RUN ISSUE

Pot growers injured in house fire

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

KINGMAN AVE Two people were slightly injured Thursday morning during a fire at a three-story home in Santa Monica where some marijuana plants were found, public safety officials said.

The fire was reported at 6:43 a.m. at a home in the 700 block of Kingman Avenue, said Sgt. Jay Trisler with the Santa Monica Police Department.

Two people suffered minor injuries in the blaze, which took a little over an hour to extinguish. The fire is believed to have started in the basement of the home and spread to the roof, where some leaves and debris had accumulated.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. A source said the cause may have been a lighting system used to grow the marijuana.

Charges are not likely to be filed since the residents had a prescription for medical marijuana and may have been growing the pot for their personal use, Trisler said.

A damage estimate was not immediately available.

kevinh@smdp.com

L.A. Marathon to feature unusual record attempts

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES This year's Los Angeles Marathon, which will end in Santa Monica for the second straight year, will include a pair of unusual world-record attempts.

The record attempts will be for the heaviest person ever to complete a marathon and

SEE MARATHON PAGE 8



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

DIGGING: **Clare Bowen looks through the craft book section on the second floor of the Santa Monica Main Library on Thursday.**

Unruly library patrons to face ban

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

MAIN LIBRARY The next time you visit one of Santa Monica's libraries, you better be on your best behavior because if you become a nuisance and continually break the rules, you could find yourself banned.

Librarians will soon have the power to ban unruly patrons for up to a year following a decision by the City Council Tuesday to expand penalties for those who can't follow the rules. Santa Monica joins a host of other cities that allow librarians to ban those people who become disruptive. It's a tool that City Librarian Greg Mullen hopes he doesn't have to use often, but one that is necessary to keep the peace.

"Our goal is to allow everyone to come in and use the library," Mullen said. "Our rules are pretty straight forward and out of the million-and-a-half people who visit our libraries every year, there is only a small percentage of people who cause problems and create disturbances. There's an even smaller percentage who we have to tell to leave or ban."

The council also granted Mullen and his staff the ability to suspend borrowing privileges indefinitely until a customer pays outstanding fines and fees, or returns overdue books and other materials.

There is an appeals process for anyone banned from the library.

Before the change, Mullen said library staff could only ask a person to leave for the day or suspend their borrowing privileges for a short period of time. But a visitor who has been told to leave could return the next day and cause another disruption. Someone who refused to leave could be charged with a misdemeanor, but Mullen said that is rarely if ever done.

He said five to 10 people are asked to leave one of the city's libraries each day because they break the rules. During 2010, security at the libraries documented 278 incidents in which the police were called. Eleven of these visitor's behavior was so extreme that library staff suspended their borrowing privileges, typically for 30 days. The disruptive behavior included fighting, verbal assaults, overturning furniture, threats to library staff or fellow patrons, hacking into public computers and throwing objects.

Several of those people returned to the library even though they could not check out books or use the computers to surf the Internet.

Mullen said the Oakland, San Francisco and Berkeley public libraries have bans of

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 9

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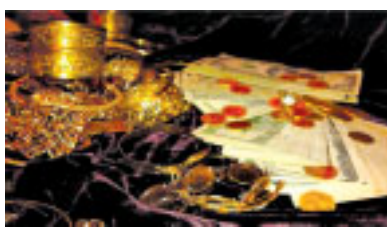
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Feb. 11, 2011

Gem Faire
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 12 p.m. — 6 p.m.
The 22nd Annual Gem Faire returns with all its glory this weekend. Over 70 renowned importers/exporters will be on site selling their wares. The event also includes classes and demonstrations by a host of experts. The faire takes place through Sunday. For more information, visit www.gemfaire.com.

Lisa McMann in the flesh
Barnes & Noble
1201 Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m.
Award-winning author Lisa McMann, writer of the best-selling "Wake" trilogy, will be on hand to present her new work, "Cryer's Cross." For more information, call (310) 260-9110.

Something special for sweetie
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., Daily
Gracie, SMMoA's gift shop, will feature Valentine's Day gifts for your special someone on Friday and Saturday. Some of the more notable gifts are sweets from Morning Glory Confections and pop culture-inspired jewelry by Cast of Vices. For more info, visit www.shopgracie.com.

Ice time
Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue
12 p.m. — 10 p.m.
ICE at Santa Monica offers the unique opportunity to ice skate in the sunshine. The rink will close on Feb. 15. Admission is $10. For more information, call (310) 393-8355.

Saturday, Feb. 12, 2011

Rolling with Hellride
CENTRAL Social Aid & Social Club
All-star outfit Hellride brings its star power to the CENTRAL. Comprised of iconic rockers Mike Watt, Stephen Perkins and Peter Destefano, Hellride is a free-form mix of punk rock with a dose of jazz-style improvisation. For more information, call (310) 451-5040.

Dancing with daddy
Santa Monica/Westside YWCA
2019 14th St., 6 p.m.
The second annual "The Princess and Her Papa" dance will bring fathers and their daughters together for a night of cutting a rug, food and prizes. Girls of all ages could also bring another man in their life. For more information, call (310) 452-3881.

Shopping in the park
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave., 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Get the freshest of the fresh at this popular weekly Farmers' Market. For more information, visit www01.smgov.net/farmers_market.

'Using Your Voice for Success'
WordTheatre (Private location)
10 a.m.
"Using Your Voice for Success" will teach participants a workout for you brain that will give you the confidence to express yourself in any situation. Writers, business people and actors could all benefit from this instructional workshop. For information, call (310) 915 5150.

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

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

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





ARTISTIC FEELING

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Local photographers and artists find inspiration during Artist Night at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium under the Pier on Wednesday night.

Activision Blizzard closes show on 'Guitar Hero'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA These days, guns are more popular than guitars, at least when it comes to video games. The company behind "Guitar Hero" said Wednesday that it is pulling the plug on one of the most influential video game titles of the new century.

Santa Monica-based Activision Blizzard Inc., which also produces the "Call of Duty" series, is ending the "Guitar Hero" franchise after a run of more than five years. The move follows Viacom Inc.'s decision in November to sell its money-losing unit behind the "Rock Band" video games. Harmonix was sold to an investment firm for an undisclosed sum. Harmonix, incidentally, was behind the first "Guitar Hero" game.

Game industry analysts have long lamented the "weakness in the music genre," as they call it — that is, the inability of game makers to drum up demand for the products after an initial surge in popularity in the mid-2000s. Music games are often more expensive than your typical shoot-'em-up game because they require guitars, microphones and other musical equipment. While extra songs can be purchased for download, this hasn't been enough to keep the games profitable.

Activision's shares tumbled after the announcement, but investors appear more concerned with the company's disappointing revenue forecast than the demise of the rocker game. As far as investors go, discontinuing an unprofitable product isn't the end of the world, even if "Guitar Hero" fans disagree.

"In retrospect it was a $3 billion or more business that everybody needed to buy, so they did, but they only needed to buy it once," said Wedbush Morgan analyst Michael Pachter. "It's much like 'Wii Fit.' Once you have it, you don't need to buy another one."

"Guitar Hero" was iconic and often praised for getting a generation weaned on video games into music. But its end after a mere half a decade is a big contrast to other influential video game franchises, such as the 25-year-old Mario series from Nintendo. "Call of Duty" first launched in 2003, two years before "Guitar Hero."

In a conference call, Activision said its restructuring will mean the loss of about 500 jobs in its Activision Publishing business, which has about 7,000 employees. But the company's overall work force numbers are not going to change much because it is hiring people elsewhere.

Activision did better than expected in the fourth quarter, which ended in December, but that already was anticipated. After all, it launched "Call of Duty: Black Ops" in November. That game, which is mostly set during the Vietnam War, made $1 billion after just six weeks in stores. Its latest "World of Warcraft" game has also been doing well.

SEE **HERO** PAGE 8

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAMOHI

Students win 'Surf Bowl'

The team from Santa Monica High School won the recent Los Angeles Surf Bowl on Saturday, Feb. 5.

The team of four defeated last year's champion, Arcadia High School. The Samohi team came back from a 28-point deficit to win the event challenging participants' knowledge of ocean sciences.

The event was held on the USC campus near downtown Los Angeles.

The Samohi team advances to the national finals of the Surf Bowl to be held at Texas University at Galveston on April 29.

DAILY PRESS

SANTA MONICA-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

Sur becomes first female chief

Dr. Denise Sur made history by being named the first female chief of staff at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, it was announced last week.

Sur had previously served as vice-chief of staff since 2006.

"This is a great honor. I am both flattered and excited to be the first female physician to serve in this role," she said. "I am really looking forward to working with my physician colleagues and hospital leaders as we prepare to open our incredible new hospital this fall."

The Rolling Hills Estates resident has been actively involved in physician leadership at the hospital for many years. She is vice chair for education in the UCLA Department of Family Medicine and program director for its Family Medicine Residency, as well as a professor of family medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

Joining her as officers on the hospital's 2011 Executive Medical Board are Drs. Philip Levin and Roger Lee, who were elected vice-chief of staff and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Levin is medical director of surgical services at SM-UCLA & OH, as well as a clinical professor of anesthesia. Lee is director of the Hospitalist program and chair of the hospital's medicine department.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Close call on Wilshire

Editor:

On Feb. 8, at 10:37 p.m. I witnessed what was very close to another pedestrian tragedy on Wilshire Boulevard. I was driving east and intended to go through the green light at 11th. I was about a half-block west of the intersection when three men stepped into the crosswalk from the north side of the street. They seemed oblivious to the fact that they were crossing a busy street against the light. They certainly didn't look in my direction. They entered the crosswalk almost together. One of them walked faster than the others and was soon about 8 feet ahead of the other two.

I noticed them and stopped on the west side of 11th, where I would have stopped for a red light. I was in the number one lane. There was a car a little behind me in the number two lane. Perhaps he couldn't see the men in the crosswalk because of my car. I watched, horrified and helpless, as he went through the intersection. Fortunately, he stopped just before he would have hit the man walking in front of the others.

Later, our cars were next to each other at another light. The other driver looked shaken, and relieved. I was pretty relieved, too.

Valerie Griffin
Santa Monica

Not more attention for de la Torre

Editor:

It's a shame that needy, attention-seeking politician Oscar de la Torre seeks even more attention be directed to him ("de la Torre demands review of investigator," Feb. 9, 2011, page 1). The only thing that I can agree with in your article today is when Oscar says: "The residents of this city deserve good government."

A good first step would be his immediate resignation from the school board.

Graciella Flores
Santa Monica



EDITORIAL

Taking on that 800-pound gorilla

Councilman Bobby Shriver has some guts, or could it be he's so confident in his approval ratings (the member of the Kennedy clan has received the most votes in every council race he's entered) that he feels like he can ruffle a few feathers. Either way, the Daily Press has to give him credit for tackling a politically-sensitive topic like employee pensions and rising healthcare costs. While we don't agree with Shriver's singling out Santa Monica's police officers, even though they do have one of the most generous benefits package in City Hall, we believe it is necessary for our elected officials to seriously address this issue, given that employee benefits seem to be one of the main reasons for City Manager Rod Gould calling for the half percent sales tax increase, that and the struggling school district and lackluster economy.

The five-year budget forecast presented Tuesday by Finance Director Carol Swindell clearly showed that pension costs for City Hall are projected to rise considerably, taking a relatively large bite out of the budget. A baseline scenario for the next five years shows a potential budget deficit of over $12 million. A worst-case shows more than $26 million. Now that's not all due to pension and healthcare costs, but the reality is the stock market would have to rebound like Lamar Odom for Santa Monica to see some savings when it comes to contributing to the state's pension system, otherwise known as CalPERS, which relies heavily on its investment portfolio to cover its liabilities.

We thought it was interesting that Mayor Richard Bloom and Councilwoman Pam O'Connor, both of whom have received generous support from the unions representing police officers and city employees, were quick to defend the amount of money spent each year on public safety. Cynics could say, "Hey, they know where their bread is buttered." Maybe. Or perhaps both know their community well and believe residents won't stand for anything less than the best.

We think Santa Monica is a safe city and maybe it is time, as Shriver suggested, to look at doing without one or two officers and spend that money on other services, like subsidizing recreation programs for kids or contributing more money toward infrastructure projects, something that may need to happen if redevelopment money is swiped by the state. The city manager tried to cut two police lieutenant positions from this year's budget, but he was turned back by the council, which preserved them under heavy pressure from the police union. We'd be amazed if the council decreased the number of officers during budget talks in May, but it's something to consider.

Shriver said publicly that he knows it's politically risky to talk about cutting the public safety budget in Santa Monica, a community that is very concerned about keeping crime at a minimum and seems to love its cops, but as a civic leader he knows addressing costs is critical.

When Gould meets with the bargaining units representing city employees, police and fire in the coming months to negotiate new contracts, we believe he is going to push for them to agree to paying more for healthcare and possibly create a second tier for new hires who would contribute more toward their retirement. We have said before that we believe pensions for those who risk their lives should be protected (you don't want a 60-year-old cop chasing down bad guys), but it is time for those employees to pay more for their healthcare, just as the rest of us in the private sector do. As for other city employees, we know some of you work hard, but it's necessary for you to start contributing more and have benefits more in line with what the rest of us receive. It's fair, and it's necessary if Santa Monica is to continue to enjoy the many services City Hall provides. Either that, or raise more taxes and fees, and who wants that?

The Daily Press may take some heat for this, but like Shriver said, we can't keep ignoring that "800-pound gorilla" any longer. If we do, Kong is going to cripple us.



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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Rummy plays blame game

IT'S REMARKABLE HOW MUCH OF THE history we were taught in school was distorted or just plain wrong. Howard Zinn, famed historian and political activist, who died in Santa Monica in January of 2010, wrote "A People's History of the United States," which sold 2 million copies and exposed many of these falsehoods. The errors, however, should come as no surprise, for as Mark Twain reportedly said, "History is only the winner's version."

Recently former members of the Bush administration have been attempting to rewrite history via their "memoirs." The latest is Donald Rumsfeld's "Known and Unknown." After reading it, Maureen Dowd of the New York Times suggested a more apt title might have been, "So many to blame so little space."

Actually the book is 815 pages and derives its title from a Rumsfeld response to a reporter's question about a link between Saddam Hussein and weapons of mass destruction. After numerous viewings I still have no idea what Rumsfeld was trying to say. I ask that you read his quote below very slowly to see if it makes any sense to you.

"There are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns — the ones we don't know we don't know."

I had two immediate reactions. One, my spell checker says there's no such word as "knowns." And two, I wondered what Rummy was smoking, and could I get some.

I almost felt sorry for Rummy as reporters giggled. But who could blame them? His response sounded like a cross between Abbot and Costello and the late double-speak comedian Professor Irwin Corey.

Rumsfeld does have a unique place in American history. In 1975, at 42, he was the youngest person to ever hold the office of Secretary of Defense when he served under Gerald Ford and in 2001, at 68, he was the oldest when he served for Bush Jr. (Bush's infamous, "I'm the decider" 2006 outburst was in defense of the "fine job" Don Rumsfeld was doing, which I suppose was much like the "heckuva job" Brownie did during Katrina.)

Combined, Rumsfeld was the second longest serving defense secretary and the first to serve two non-consecutive terms. In 2007, however, John McCain said of Rumsfeld, "He was one of the worst Secretaries of Defense in history." Ouch.

If you want a good laugh go to YouTube and type in "Rumsfeld known unknowns."

In his opus, Rumsfeld is critical of just about everyone (except himself) including Poppy Bush for not having taken out Saddam Hussein during the Gulf War. Rummy faults Colin Powell, George Tenant, Condi Rice, Paul Bremmer, and Gen. Tommy Franks whom he blames for letting Osama get away at Tora Bora. Whew. That's a lot of blaming, but, as they say on the late night TV infomercials, there's more.

Rumsfeld criticizes the generals for not telling him he needed more troops to secure Iraq. (And yet after Gen. Shinseki testified before Congress in February 2003 that we would need 400,000 troops, he was forced to retire.) He somehow blames the Geneva Convention drafters for not anticipating that modern wars would need harsher treatment for combatants and the Supreme Court for defending detainee rights.

Even with the huge number of failures on his watch, Rumsfeld admits to only one error. As told to ABC's Diane Sawyer, he regrets that he didn't step down after Abu Ghraib. But even then it wasn't his fault because Bush twice refused his resignation. Rumsfeld's so-called admission reminds me of a character in a Woody Allen short story who confesses that his worst fault is that he often misplaces his hat.

Bush's attempt at saving his legacy was entitled "Decision Points." It sold well in the U.S. but not so in Europe. In fact, in November of 2010, London's mayor, Boris Johnson, cautioned Bush who was embarking on a European tour. "You may never see Texas again," Johnson warned, inferring that Bush might be arrested for war crimes. (In 1998 the late dictator Augusto Pinochet was arrested in London for crimes committed during his bloody reign.)

As it happens just a few days ago Bush canceled a trip to Switzerland where he was to deliver a speech. He abruptly changed his mind after various human rights organizations asked Swiss authorities to arrest him for authorizing torture. Yikes!

In fact, human rights activists worldwide are seeking arrest warrants wherever Bush travels outside the U.S. (To see, go to: www.indictbushnow.org.) Currently, legal proceedings in Spain and Germany are targeting Bush and others in his administration for water boarding, torture and assorted peccadilloes. Personally, I'm not holding my breath, but at least it's cut into Bush's frequent flier miles.

JACK can be reached at Jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

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Help the SMDP out

The Daily Press is experiencing a few staffing changes in the newsroom. This got us thinking about what we're doing and why we're doing it.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Is there something that the community thinks we're not covering? Be honest, we can take it.

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

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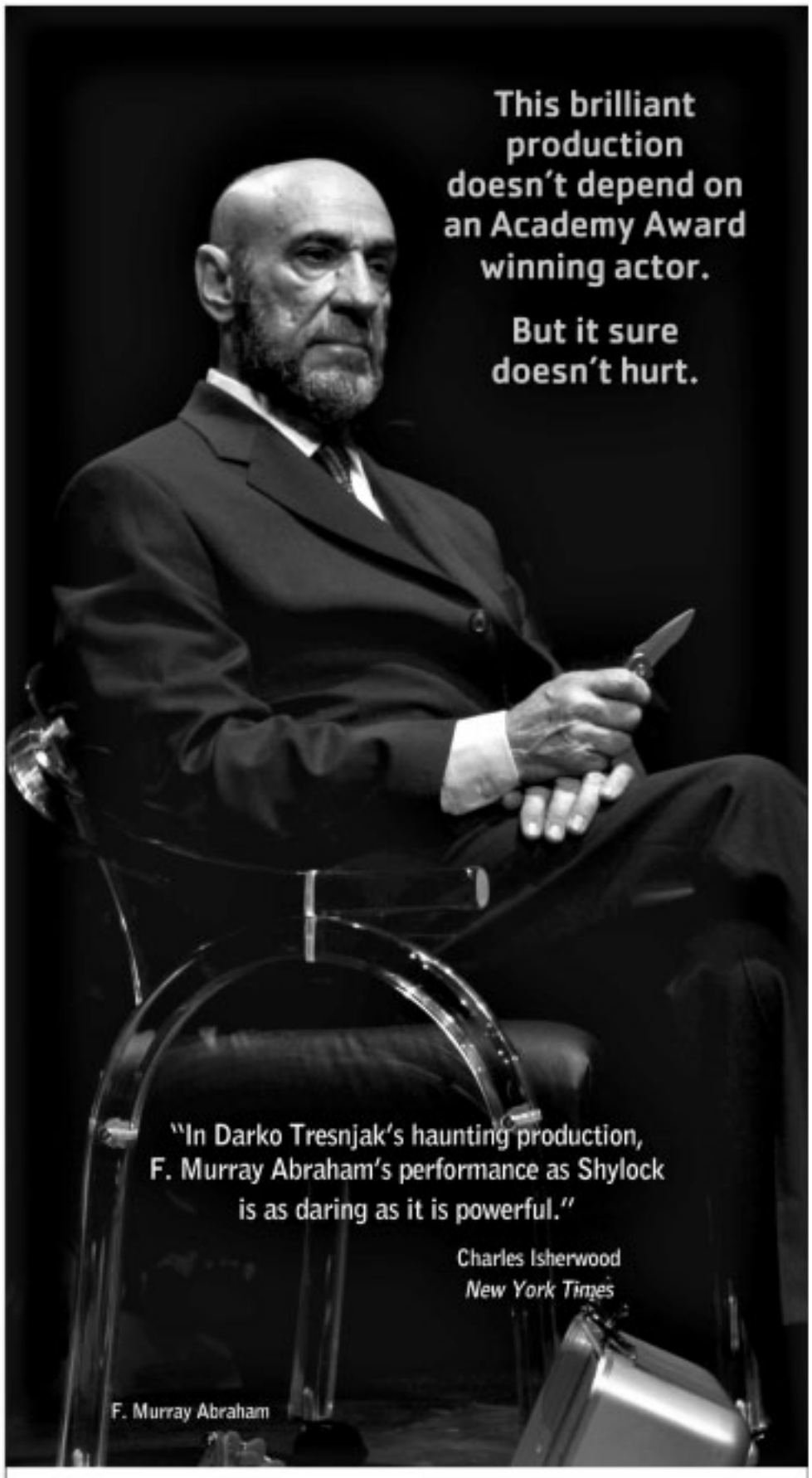
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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Valentine's flowers getting close scrutiny at LAX

Valentine's Day flowers are getting close scrutiny at Los Angeles International Airport.

Dozens of U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspectors are peering through magnifying glasses in the hunt for disease and pests in shipments of flowers from South America.

The Daily Breeze in Torrance says insects are placed in vials for closer examination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If insects are harmful, the importer is told the shipment must be fumigated, destroyed or returned.

Dozens of customs inspectors are checking the millions of flowers in shipments coming from Colombia, Ecuador and other South America countries. The most common pests are thrips, moths, aphids and miner flies.

Airport inspectors found 93 insects after examining 17.4 million flowers during the 2010 Valentine's Day shipping season.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Judge grants Charlie Sheen, wife, divorce

Charlie Sheen can go back to being single, but he'll have to wait a few months before it's official, a judge ruled Thursday.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Hank Goldberg finalized Sheen's divorce from his ex-wife Brooke Mueller Sheen, but the pair will not be legally single until May 2.

The actor and Brooke Sheen filed dueling divorce petitions in November, citing Christmas Day 2009 as the day of their breakup. Charlie Sheen was arrested in Aspen, Colo., that day on suspicion of domestic violence against his wife. He later resolved the case and spent 30 days on probation.

The former couple will split the royalties from baby portraits of them and their twin sons, and the actor will keep his Hollywood Hills home, court records show. The Sheens signed a prenuptial agreement before their May 2008 wedding, which called for Charlie Sheen to pay Brooke Sheen more than $750,000.

The pair will share legal custody of their sons, although physical custody is granted to Brooke Sheen with substantial visitation time allotted for the actor. He is required to pay $55,000 a month in child support, according to the agreement filed with the court.

The judgment was first reported by celebrity website TMZ.

The divorce judgment comes after several tumultuous months for Charlie Sheen, whose show "Two and a Half Men" remains on hold while he receives treatment for unspecified conditions.

He has been briefly hospitalized three times in recent months, the first of which came after he was taken by police from a room at a luxury New York hotel that was left in shambles.

Charlie Sheen was hospitalized last month after his neighbor, a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon, called 911 to report the actor was intoxicated and in severe pain.

The actor has thanked fans and his employers for their support and has said through his spokesman that he hopes to resume taping "Men" later this month. The show is television's highest-rated comedy, and bosses at CBS and Warner Bros. Television have expressed concern for the actor's well-being.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Bell official says false salary figures released

The clerk for the scandal-ridden city of Bell says she provided false information to a resident of the Los Angeles suburb who had filed a public records request demanding to know what the city manager and City Council members were paid.

Bell City Clerk Rebecca Valdez testified Thursday that she reported every City Council member was paid $673 a month when she knew they were paid more than 10 times that much.

Valdez says Bell's disgraced former city manager, Robert Rizzo, came up with the false figures and ordered to her to provide them. She says he also falsified his own salary.

Valdez is testifying at a hearing to determine whether there is sufficient evidence for six current and former City Council members to stand trial on fraud charges.

AP

LOS ANGELES

State geologists put earthquake maps online

Anyone with an Internet connection can now find out whether the house they want to buy is on one of California's earthquake faults.

The California Geological Survey announced Thursday that it was posting its fault zone maps online for the first time. The 547 maps were previously available only in paper or CD formats.

California state geologist John Parish says the agency uses Google Maps' address-matching technology to link users to the right map for a property's location.

State law already requires home sellers to disclose to buyers whether a home is in an earthquake fault zone.

AP

LOS ANGELES

'Survivor' boss not sure if Hantz leaked spoilers

Mark Burnett isn't sure if contestant Russell Hantz was spilling "Survivor" secrets.

The "Survivor" executive producer said during a teleconference Thursday that he had no idea if Hantz, the 38-year-old schemer featured in the "Samoa" and "Heroes vs. Villains" editions, leaked information about the CBS reality TV competition.

Hantz, who also stars in the upcoming 22nd season of the show, was accused of providing several plot points about the show, including the elimination order of contestants, before it aired, to a man posting on the "Survivor Sucks" message board, according to a Daily Beast report released last week.

"Survivor" producers filed a lawsuit against the poster, Jim Early, last year but later dismissed it.

A message posted on Hantz's Facebook page last week cautioned to "never believe what you read."

AP

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

One thing leads to another

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

SUNDAY, FEB. 6, AT 7:04 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers received a radio call of an alleged shoplifter running from Sears security. As officers arrived on scene, they saw the suspect running down Fourth Street from Colorado, near the Sears. Officers told the suspect to stop but he kept running, police said. The suspect hid behind some cars and dropped something in nearby bushes. Officers were able to take the suspect into custody. Officers searched the bushes and said they found a watch and switchblade knife. Officers spoke with the security guards who said the suspect entered the store, took watches and left the store without paying. Security grabbed him and brought him to an office for questioning. They told officers the suspect managed to get free and fled. The suspect was arrested for theft. While at the Santa Monica Jail, officers said they found a firearms permit, bus pass and a guard card that were bogus. Officers also found rental car keys. They searched the parking lot where they saw the suspect hiding, found the car and found a stolen watch inside. The suspect was booked for burglary, forging an officials seal, receiving stolen property, possession of a switchblade and violation of parole. He was identified as Riccardo Patterson, 44, of Long Beach. He was not eligible for bail.

SATURDAY, FEB. 5, AT 3:10 P.M.,
Officers responded to the Third Street Promenade — Abercrombie & Fitch — regarding a shoplifting suspect in custody. When officers arrived, security told them that the suspect was in the store on three prior occasions and stole things. During this latest visit, the suspect allegedly walked up to the fragrance counter and placed five boxes in his jacket and walked out without paying. Security confronted him. The suspect told security that he needed the items to sell for food. Officers took the suspect into custody for burglary and a parole hold. He was identified as Bruce Jones, 57, of Hollywood. He was not eligible for bail.

SATURDAY, FEB. 5, AT 1:05 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling the 100 block of Broadway when they were flagged down by a person who was pointing toward a crowd of people. Officers saw one man on top of another fighting. The person on the ground was bleeding profusely from his elbow. The victim told officers that the suspect entered a business with some friends. As the suspect was sitting down, he hit a glass with his elbow. On the fourth hit, the glass broke. The suspect then fled the location. The victims confronted the suspect, who struck the victims several times. They were able to get on top of him and hold him down until the cops showed up. Officers placed the man under arrest for vandalism, public intoxication and assault and battery. The suspect was identified as Marcus Brander 24, of South Carolina. His bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, FEB. 4, AT 9:55 P.M.,
Officers were on routine patrol in the 2000 block of Delaware Avenue when they were flagged down. Officers stopped and asked the man if he needed help. Officers recognized the suspect from prior contacts and knew he was on probation. Officers searched the suspect and found crack cocaine in the headband of his hat. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for possession of narcotics and a probation violation. He was identified as Henry Boykins, 55. His bail was set at $10,000.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, AT 3:18 A.M.,
Officers responded to a report of a vehicle burglary that recently occurred in the 100 block of Strand Street. Officers were advised by a witness that he was sleeping but woke up when he heard the sound of glass breaking and a car alarm. He looked outside and saw a subject in dark clothing leaving from the carport. Officers located a vehicle that had been broken into. Officers located the owner who said that his iPod and other items were missing. Officers located a man a short distance away who matched the description of the suspect. The suspect was allegedly in possession of items that belonged to the car owner. He also had burglary tools, police said. Officers arrested the suspect for burglary, possession of burglary tools, a probation violation and a burglary warrant. He was identified as Dean Thomas, 53, of Santa Monica. He was not eligible for bail.

MONDAY, JAN. 31, AT 1:03 P.M.,
Officers responded to the corner of Appian Way and Arcadia Terrace regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, they made contact with an off-duty city employee who said he saw the suspect marking on a wall. Officers located the suspect and determined he was responsible for the graffiti. Police said they found an identical tag on the suspect's property. He was placed under arrest for vandalism. He was identified as Harley Brown, 20, of Northridge. His bail was set at $10,000.

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Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

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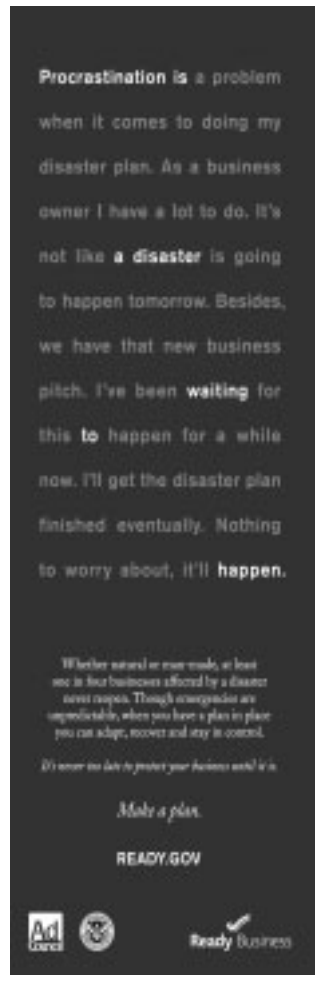
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MARATHON
FROM PAGE 1

for the largest cheerleading dance.

The race, scheduled for March 20, will be attempted by 40-year-old Kelly Gneiting of Ft. Defiance, Ariz. The marathon won't be the first for the 410-pound three-time U.S. Sumo champion. He ran in the 2008 L.A. Marathon, but didn't notify Guinness World Records officials of his attempt. This time around, he hopes to beat his time of 11:52:11 as he hopes to become the heaviest finisher in history.

During his first successful marathon, Gneiting said that running was a last-second decision by he and a couple of buddies. This time around, he has taken training more seriously, saying that he trains everyday by walking a mile each day to his job as a statistician at the Ft. Defiance Indian Hospital.

"I train at 7,000 feet on broken glass shards and cattle wire, so a few uppity hills into Santa Monica don't scare me," he said.

As Gneiting attempts his world record, he won't be alone.

Marathon organizers are preparing an attempt at the largest cheer dance ever. The current record included 297 cheerleaders, a number organizers hope to eclipse this time around.

"We had nearly 300 cheerleaders from 11 squads at last year's race," said the marathon's director of community relations, Ginger Williams. "We're already approaching that number with weeks to go. It's going to be a record-setting day for the runners and for the cheerleaders."

It will take place on Santa Monica Boulevard on race day. Choreographed by Sharp International, the attempt will take place at Moreno Drive, just west of the Beverly Hills border.

news@smdp.com

HERO
FROM PAGE 3

Bobby Kotick, Activision's CEO, said the company's big franchises "have larger audience bases than ever before and we continue to see significantly enhanced user activity and engagement for our expanding online communities." Revenue from so-called "digital channels" — that is, downloads, subscriptions and extra game content sold online — now accounts for 30 percent of the company's total revenue.

Activision said Wednesday it lost $233 million, or 20 cents per share, in the latest quarter, compared with a loss of $286 million, or 23 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier. Net revenue fell to $1.43 billion from $1.56 billion.

Its adjusted earnings of 53 cents per share were better than last year's 49 cents and beat analysts' expectations of 51 cents, according to FactSet. Revenue that's been adjusted to account for games with online components was $2.55 billion, up slightly from $2.50 billion a year earlier and above analysts' $2.25 billion forecast.

For the current quarter, which ends in March, Activision forecast adjusted earnings of 7 cents per share, and adjusted revenue of $640 million. Analysts are looking for earnings of 10 cents per share on higher revenue of $771 million.

Activision Blizzard also said its board authorized a new $1.5 billion stock buyback plan. And it declared an annual dividend of 16.5 cents, an increase of 10 percent from the dividend it issued in February 2010, its first ever.

Shares of the company, which is majority-owned by France's Vivendi SA, tumbled 87 cents, or 7.4 percent, to $10.82 in after-hours trading. The stock had closed the regular session down 19 cents at $11.69.

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SHARING THE LOVE

Photo courtesy Subaru of Santa Monica

Ron Davis, owner of Subaru of Santa Monica, presents a check for $6,400 to Rosemary Regalbuto, president of Meals on Wheels West, on Monday. The contribution was the result of the December 'Share the Love' Subaru campaign where a portion of vehicle sales were donated to charity.

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE 1

1 year.

Controlling unruly behavior at local libraries has been an issue in recent years given the large number of mentally ill homeless people who congregate at the branches during the day. While many follow the rules, there are others who get violent.

In 2006, Ocean Park Branch Librarian Celia Carroll was assaulted by a homeless man after she confronted him about his disruptive behavior. At the time of her attack, Carroll called on the City Council to pay for a security guard at the library branch to patrol before it opened and after it closed so that staff would be protected.

In June of last year, librarians had to dispose of roughly 150 books covering such topics as Greek literature and history after a patron spread human feces on the materials. The loss was estimated at $5,000.

Library Services Officer Honorio Bala, who has worked in that capacity for over 10 years, said it's not just the mentally ill. There are increasing numbers of visitors who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

"The library has become a meeting place for a lot of folks, or a place where they can come and hang out because they have no other place to go," Bala said. "When it gets crowded, tensions are really high, especially on Friday, Saturday and Sunday when the hours are truncated. There's a definite frustration by people wanting to use the computers. People get into arguments."

Bala said the ban will go a long way in controlling those few individuals who can't behave.

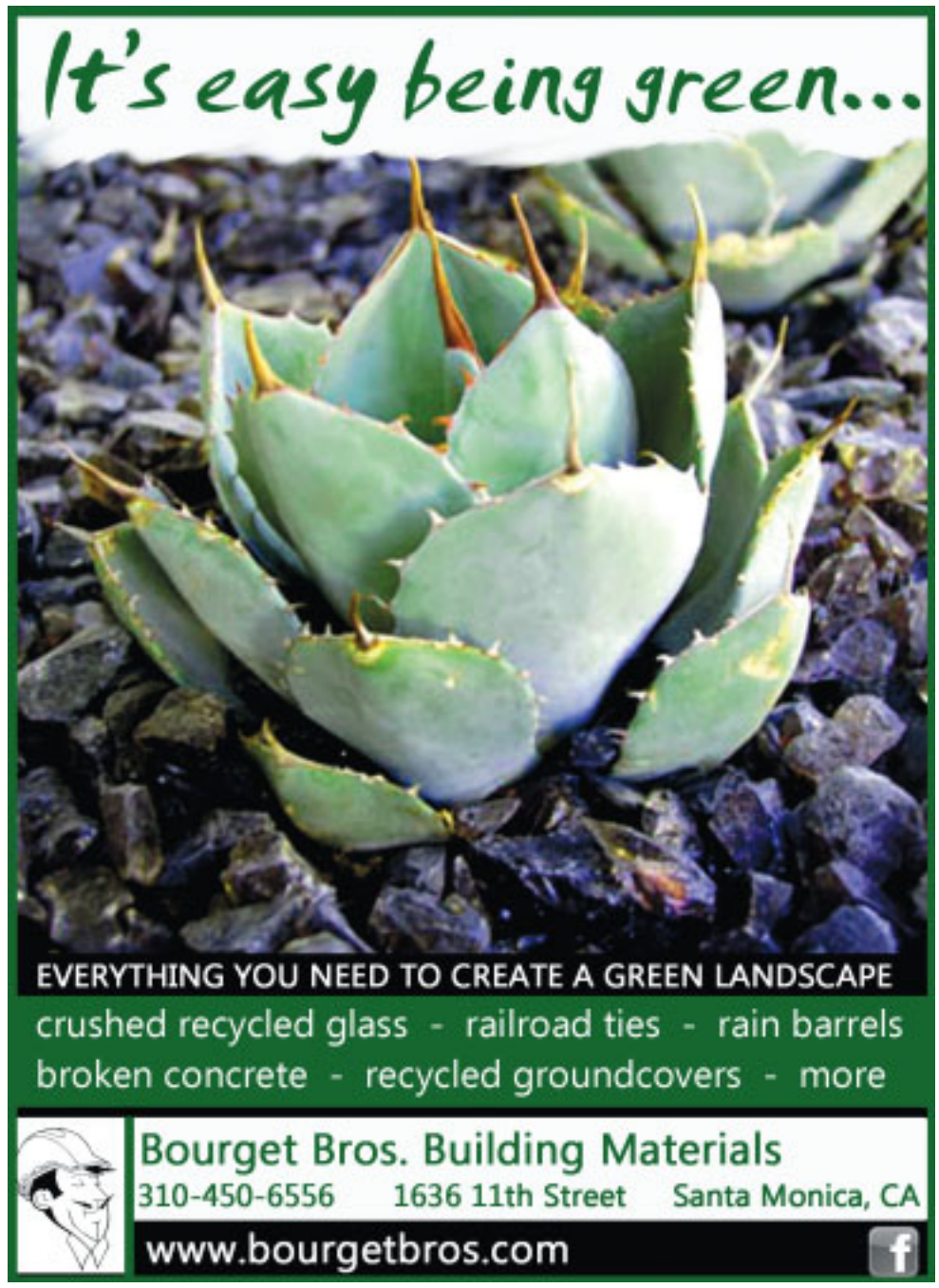
The cost of posting the new rules is expected to be $500, according to a city staff report. The council must hold a second reading and the ordinance will become effective 30 days after that.

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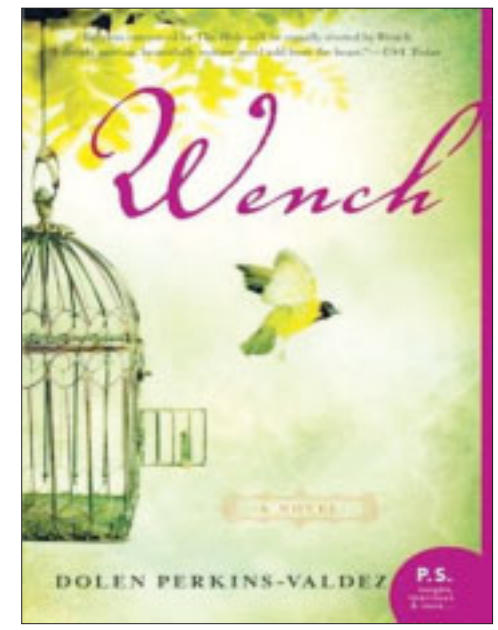


BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON

'Wench'

By Dolen Perkins-Valdez • Amistad



Every year for the past nine years Santa Monica has had a Citywide Reads. In the past we have had "The Time Traveler's Wife" and "Little Bee," to name a few. All provided much discussion among various groups held around the city.

The Santa Monica Citywide Reads this year is a book by Dolen Perkins-Valdez told in the third person. It is set pre-Civil War from 1842 to 1854 covering three summers and concerns the life of four female slaves. The underlying theme is freedom.

It took some research to depict this time period. Someone had to creatively string together the facts with an imaginative bent and place words on paper to come up with this book. Perkins-Valdez has been able to work with historical manuscripts from the era left and develop this tale. She no doubt spent time picturing herself back in those politically-charged days.

Her viewpoint character is Lizzie, a house slave, who shares the main house with Drayle, the white slave owner. At this point in time a house slave along with keeping the house would also be used as the sex object. There was no freedom or choice afforded them.

Each year the slave master would take a holiday at Tawana House, a resort in a free state. States were known as free or slave at the time.

"Three of the Southern men brought their slave women with them, first on ships, and then riding in separate train cars after they entered free territory," Perkins-Valdez writes.

The masters liked showing off their female slaves at Tawana House, taking them to balls where there were Northerners. It was almost as if the owners enjoyed flaunting their possessions.

"It was no secret many of the Northern whites who stayed at the resort disliked slavery," Perkins-Valdez wrote in one passage.

The main thought about freedom for the slaves is summed up by something Drayle says to a Northerner, "I'm not worried about anyone ending slavery anytime soon." Drayle stared directly at the Northerner. "This country has been built by men like us."

Among the four women featured, there is Mawu who longs for freedom for herself after spending some time up at Tawana. Another is Lizzie who lives in the Big House and has given children to her master, Drayle. Her wish is for the freedom of their son. Sweet doesn't want freedom at first since she has stopped dreaming. Reenie just wants to get along.

It would be years yet before someone like Abraham Lincoln, who at this point in time was still a country lawyer, would say when he was president, "In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free — honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve. We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last, best hope of earth."

This is a very thought provoking book and will generate discussion. Information about the scheduled groups can be found in the recent Seascape or at the local library. Considering this is Black History Month, this work takes on even greater significance.

This year the library will hold discussions from Feb. 14 to March 12. Find further information at your local library. Or you can go to the blog at www.santamonicacitywidereads.blogspot.com.

Dylan, Dr. Dre to perform at Grammys

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Grammy Awards will feature star-studded performances by music icons Bob Dylan and Dr. Dre.

Dylan, a 10-time Grammy and lifetime achievement winner, will join nominee Mumford & Sons and The Avett Brothers for a salute to acoustic music, while Dr. Dre will make his debut on the Grammy stage when he joins protege Eminem.

It will be Dr. Dre's first performance on live television in a decade. Eminem, who leads all nominees with 10, also will be joined by Maroon 5's Adam Levine.

The Grammys also announced Thursday that Zac Brown, Eva Longoria, Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and will.i.am of The Black Eyed Peas will present awards.

The Grammys air live at 8 p.m. EST Sunday from Los Angeles.



Obama pushes universal wireless plan

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

MARQUETTE, Mich. President Barack Obama promoted plans Thursday to bring high-speed wireless to nearly all American households, pushing his domestic agenda in a small, snowy city in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on a day of dramatic developments in Egypt.

Obama kept in touch with his security team throughout the trip and opened his remarks at Northern Michigan University with brief comments on the events overseas, where President Hosni Mubarak appeared close to resigning. But in a late-night speech Egypt's president announced he was transferring some powers to his deputy. Mubarak did not step down from office. "We are witnessing history unfold," Obama said.

He then turned to the importance of investing in wireless technology, part of a new White House focus on innovation, competitiveness and infrastructure as a pathway to jobs and "winning the future." The president compared the goal of extending wireless access to important successes that connected previous generations of Americans: the building of railroads and the federal highway system.

"For millions of Americans, the railway hasn't shown up yet," Obama said. "For our families and our businesses, high-speed wireless service: that's the next train station; it's the next off-ramp. It's how we'll spark new innovation, new investments and new jobs."

Obama wants to make high-speed wireless available to 98 percent of the population within five years, a goal he set out in his State of the Union address.

It's a lofty aim considering such technology is only now being built in major cities by AT&T, Verizon and others. And it will cost billions of dollars that Republicans now running the House signaled they may be unwilling to spend. But the president cast it as crucial for America's future prosperity and competitiveness with other nations.

"This isn't just about faster Internet," the president said. "It's about connecting every corner of America to the digital age."

Obama has taken a domestic trip each week since the Jan. 25 speech to promote different aspects of his competitiveness agenda; previous trips focused on high-speed rail and energy efficiency.

Obama's wireless plan involves increasing the space available on the airwaves for high-speed wireless by auctioning off space on the radio spectrum to commercial wireless carriers. The White House says this would raise nearly $30 billion over 10 years, and the money could be spent on initiatives that include $10 billion to develop a national broadband network for public safety agencies and $5 billion for infrastructure to help rural areas access high-speed wireless.

Portions of the plan will be in the 2012 budget Obama sends to Capitol Hill on Monday. Republicans sounded skeptical Thursday about the proposal, which needs congressional approval.

Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said billions had already been allocated for broadband services in the 2009 economic stimulus bill. "Before we target any more of our scarce taxpayer dollars for broadband, it is critical to examine whether the money already being spent is having an impact," said Upton, who is holding hearings on the topic.

But Obama's proposals won applause from AT&T and other telecom companies.

White House domestic policy adviser Melody Barnes told The Associated Press that Obama wants more spending on Internet broadband because business leaders and emergency responders have told him more funds are needed. "We know that this is the right thing to do," she said.

Obama chose Marquette for Thursday's remarks because the university town of 20,000 overlooking Lake Superior is becoming an example of how the Internet can bring opportunity and prosperity to far-flung locales. Numerous local businesses market online. Northern Michigan University also has a high-tech wireless program, which Obama saw in action, that lets students and teachers connect with other classrooms in the region.

Cisco, Akamai pull technology stocks lower

CHIP CUTTER & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Stocks finished flat on Thursday, dragged down by Cisco Systems Inc. and Akamai Technologies Inc. Both issued weak earnings forecasts, raising concerns about business and technology spending.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended an eight-day winning streak, entirely a result of Cisco's 14 percent drop. Other indexes managed slight gains.

Cisco, the world's largest networking equipment maker, had the largest fall of the 30 stocks that make up the Dow. The company said late Wednesday that its fourth-quarter income slid 18 percent because of lower sales to government agencies, a problem that could worsen over the next few quarters.

"Cisco is stumbling," said Rob Lutts, president and chief investment officer of Cabot Money Management. "When you're No. 1, it's hard to stay there." Lutts said the weak results reflect Cisco's struggle to stay competitive, not necessarily weakness in the technology industry overall.

Akamai Technologies fell 15 percent after the company said competitors are forcing it to offer lower prices for its Web streaming services. Akamai was the weakest stock in the Standard & Poor's 500 index of large U.S. companies.

Whole Foods Market Inc. rose 12 percent in after the natural foods grocer reported a 79 percent increase in first quarter net income. It had the biggest gain of any stock in the S&P 500.

Sprint Nextel Corp. rose 5.7 percent after the company increased its subscribers under contract for the first time in about four years.

The Dow lost 10.6 points, or 0.1 percent, to close at 12,229.29. The S&P 500 rose a point, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,321.87. The Nasdaq composite rose 1.38 to close at 2,790.45.

Rising stocks narrowly outpaced declining ones on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was 1 billion shares.

Stocks traded lower much of the day despite positive news on jobs. The Labor Department said 383,000 people applied for unemployment benefits for the first time last week, the lowest level in nearly three years. Economists say applications would need to fall to 375,000 or below on a consistent basis before the unemployment rate will decline.

The Commerce Department also reported that businesses at the wholesale level increased their inventories in December even though demand for their products slowed. The hope is that increased demand will keep factories busy.



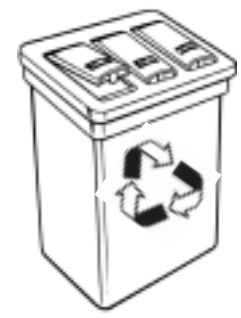
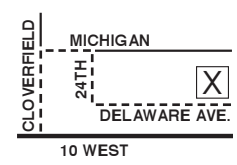
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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

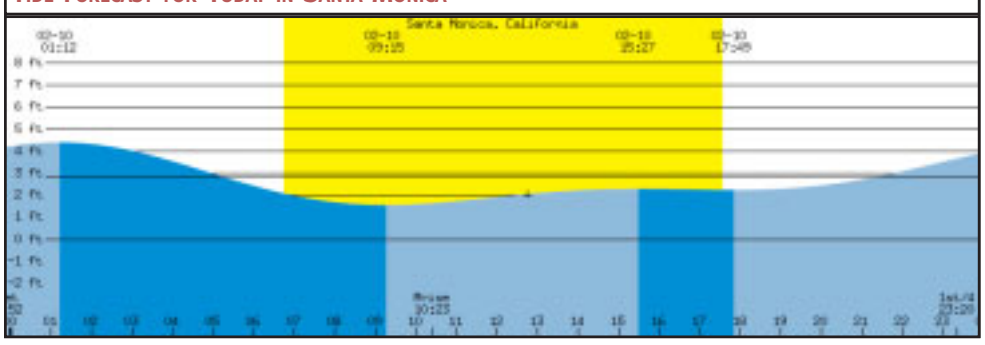
Swell Forecast

A mix of mostly westerly ground swell and light southern hemi. West facing breaks are looking at chest to at times head high sets while direct south facing spots see waist to chest high sets.

Long Range Synopsis

The swell combo should back down, with all breaks waist to chest max.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 2, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 6
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31/23
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 12/12

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodbrook Family Foundation, simplehuman, LazerGUY, SMBA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A	B
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	B
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Las Alitos creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	B
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	F	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	C	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	C
Solstice Canyon at Ben Blocker County Beach.	C	A+
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	B	A
Big Rock Beach at 19848 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Topa Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

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

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NBA

Abdul-Jabbar says cancer at 'minimum'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWARK, N.J. A few days after putting a comment on his Twitter account that he was cancer free, basketball great Kareem Abdul-Jabbar said Thursday that it was a "misstatement."

"You're never really cancer free and I should have known that," Abdul-Jabbar said. "My cancer right now is at an absolute minimum."

The 63-year-old Abdul-Jabbar, a six-time NBA Most Valuable Player, was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia in 2008. He spoke Thursday at Science Park High School, after the screening of his new full-length documentary about the Harlem Rens basketball team, "On the Shoulders of Giants."

"It's not life-threatening," he said, "at this point in my life."

Abdul-Jabbar said when he was first diagnosed with leukemia, he didn't know what to think. He feared the worst.

"I thought I might be dead in a few months," he said. "I had a good friend (actor Bruno Kirby) who was diagnosed with leukemia and was dead within 30 days. I really had no understanding of what I was dealing with."

With the help of a medication called Gleevec, CML can be monitored better, and the chances for recovery are improved. Abdul-Jabbar is a spokesman for Novartis, the company that produces Gleevec.

"Medical science has made great strides over the last 20 years," he said. "People in my position are able to live their lives to the fullest. I'm very grateful for that. I'm lucky that they caught it in enough time, and I've responded well to the medication. If not for the success that medicine has made, I might be part of a much different story right now."

The basketball star turned author wrote a book about the Harlem Renaissance Big Five, also known as the Harlem Rens. They were a basketball team comprised of African-Americans who fought to be a part of the game, only to be set back by the racism that plagued the United States before World War II. The book chronicles the Rens as they made their way toward playing in the first non-segregated championship in 1939 against a team from Oshkosh, Wis.

Abdul-Jabbar's book became a documentary that was shown to approximately 1,000 Newark high school students on Thursday. A panel discussion followed.

"The film has all the things I love," Abdul-Jabbar said. "It has basketball, jazz music and the history of African-American people. I think the film came out really well. I'm happy with it. I spoke with various educators and they believed that New Jersey would benefit from seeing it. It seemed to me that they were interested in it."

Perhaps it's the start of something special for Abdul-Jabbar.

"The main reason why I did the film is that it is enabling me to make the transition from a jock," he said, "and give me credibility as a scholar and a filmmaker. I'm going to continue to make that work."

Abdul-Jabbar made sure to get his message across to the nation's youth. On Wednesday, the film was shown to students at the Schomburg Center in Harlem, where Abdul-Jabbar grew up.

"You're the main reason why I did what I did with this film," Abdul-Jabbar told the students. "I want to challenge you to make Newark and New Jersey a better place. I hope to read about you doing good things in the future. So go forth, do your thing and be successful."

Abdul-Jabbar has scheduled another screening next week in Los Angeles.

This was our message in the 1970's...
Some things just don't change

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Email to: editor@smdp.com or fax to (310) 576-9913

smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

MOVIE TIMES

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

Double feature
The Princess Bride &
The Notebook
7:30pm

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

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 1hr 54min
5:05pm, 10:15pm

Company Men (R) 1hr 53min
2:30pm, 7:45pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Rite (PG-13) 1hr 52min
2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

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

Gnomeo & Juliet 3D (PG) 1hr 24min
11:30am, 1:50pm, 4:10pm, 6:30pm, 8:50pm

Just Go With It (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

No Strings Attached (R) 1hr 50min
11:10am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Sanctum 3D (R) 1hr 43min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:35am, 2:20pm, 5:05pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Justin Bieber Never Say Never 3D (G) 1hr 45min
11:15am, 12:15pm, 2:05pm, 3:00pm, 4:45pm, 5:45pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm, 10:15pm, 11:15pm

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

Dogtooth (Kynodontas) (NR) 1hr 34min
4:30pm, 9:55pm

Carancho (Las heridas) (NR) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

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

Another Year (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

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

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

Roommate (PG-13) 1hr 33min
12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Eagle (PG-13) 1hr 54min
10:50am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Just Go With It (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:10am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 1hr 47min
12:05pm

Gnomeo & Juliet (PG) 1hr 24min
10:00am, 12:20pm, 2:40pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 9:50pm

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

Homeward bound, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Pressure builds, as at the last minute there are unanticipated changes. You could be deceiving yourself about a money matter. Understand that you could be giving someone an excuse. Communication flourishes later. You can and will clear out a problem. Tonight: Hang with a pal or loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Although you believe you are on the correct course, you do hit obstacles, especially with a boss, parent or someone you must answer to. You keep running into the same brick wall. Try walking around it or jumping over. A new approach will work. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Don't distort a situation by overthinking it. You could have yourself convinced that your way is the only way, even if the perceived result is far from good. Stop with this story and center yourself. Go for a walk. Late afternoon, you re-energize and lighten up. Tonight: On top of the world.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, as uncomfortable as it might be. Listen to what is being shared. Know what you want. A meeting proves to be more supportive than a loved one. Clearly, this person is insecure and frightened. Help him or her feel better. Tonight: Take some personal time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Pressure builds with a respected person in your life. Whether there is a distortion in your perceptions of each other doesn't make a difference. You can take off your rose-colored glasses, but you cannot force another person to do the same. Tonight: Surrounded by fun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You will be challenged to grow past the obvious and understand what is happening behind the scenes. Pressure from a daily associate or another issue keeps building. Clearly there is an element of confusion or distortion. Tonight: In the limelight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your ability to relate emerges, though you might not be seeing certain facts clearly. Your imagination plays out and can be a great source of happiness. The problem is the lack of realism in the long run. Try to be more grounded with close loved ones, friends and associates. Tonight: Take off quickly.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Let others take the lead, rather than have a conflict. You cannot talk someone out of his or her idea; therefore, step back. A family matter or domestic issue might be distracting you more than you realize. A discussion late today clears the air. Tonight: With a favorite friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Pressure builds around you. You might have difficulty accomplishing everything that you want. Perhaps you need to clear out some confusion through a conversation. Don't corner anyone. Just get his or her take on what happened. Tonight: TGIF.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Let your creativity flourish and come forward. Your way of handling a matter could change radically as a result of opening up to some experimenting. You eye success, but be careful as to how much you choose to spend. Tonight: Choose something relaxing.

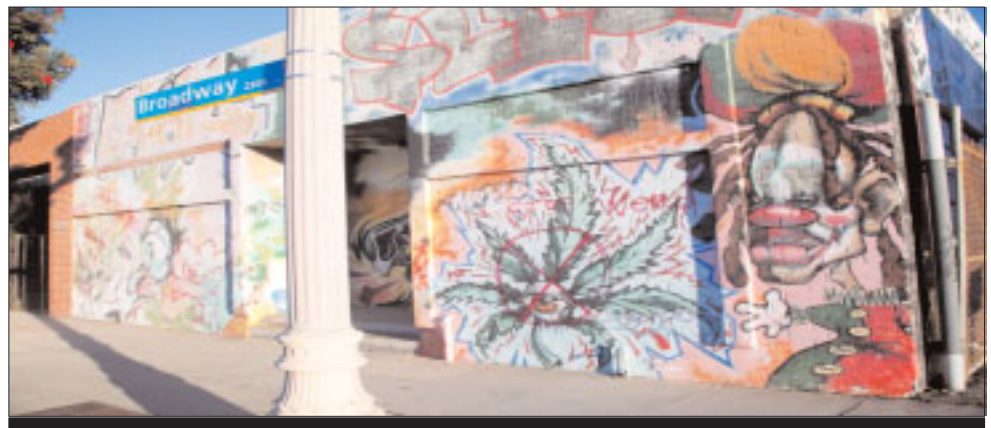
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might want to stay close to home if possible. You have a lot on your mind. Though you are clear in your mind, you might sound confusing to others. Take some time for yourself as soon as possible. Break from your routine. Tonight: Allow your sense of humor to bubble up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Keep expressing your concerns in a meaningful way. You have a sense of confusion or perhaps a slant on a situation that really doesn't work. Center yourself and try to clear out any judgments. Talk to a friend who thinks differently from you but who you respect. Tonight: Homeward bound.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you cannot confirm plans and conversations enough. A haze surrounds you, sometimes making it difficult to communicate. You will recharge well at home. You often want to stay home or work from home. Make sure to include some type of stress-buster in your routine. Toward the later half of 2011, you might become more amorous, delighting a significant other. If you are single, others will sense your intensity and interest. Expect to date a lot. In any case, you will enjoy yourself during this period. Your creativity flourishes all year. GEMINI brings out the best in you.



MYSTERY REVEALED!

Reader Mike de Mendoza correctly identified this photo of a mural located at the corner of Broadway and Cloverfield Boulevard. He will receive a reusable shopping bag from the Daily Press. Check out Friday's paper for another chance to play. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

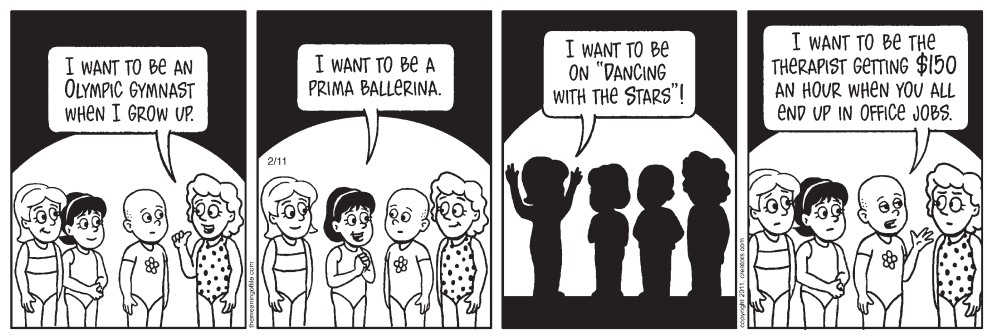
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



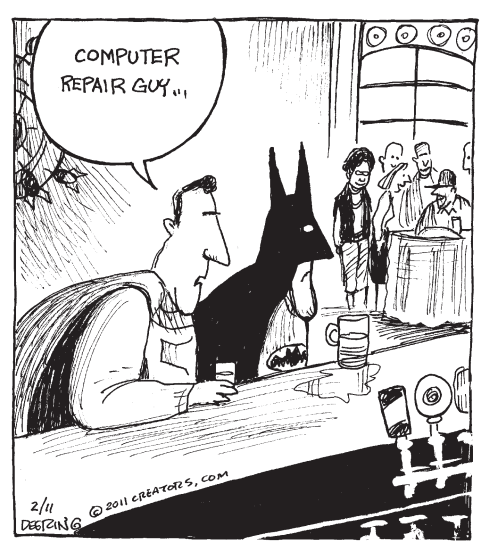
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

"IRA Rollover Do's and Don'ts"

"Retirees and Soon to be Retired Make These Mistakes Losing Thousands of Dollars"

A nationally known financial expert says many retirees and boomers who rollover their retirement savings accounts make these mistakes, costing themselves and their families thousands of dollars! They risk their retirement security, increasing the chance they could outlive their money. This is true whether they handle their savings themselves, or with help from a professional! Are you needlessly losing thousands of dollars? **Find out NOW, Call toll-free, 800-238-1719 for a free consultation on the do's and don'ts of IRA rollovers and generating income in your retirement. CALL NOW, before it's too late!**

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Man of steel
6 Pluto's place
11 Cheering loudly
12 Hollywood mover
13 Sample
14 Pound parts
15 Blasting stuff
16 Band blaster
18 Through
19 Sense of self
20 Gift from Santa
21 Conclusion
22 Not as bright
24 Paris' home
25 Travel group
27 Retain
29 Soybean, for one
32 Completely
33 — Moines
34 Hair goo
35 D.C. player, for short
36 Follower's suffix
37 Guy's date
38 Chapel topper
40 Peace goddess
42 Tie type
43 Arrive
44 Tree houses
45 Lets up

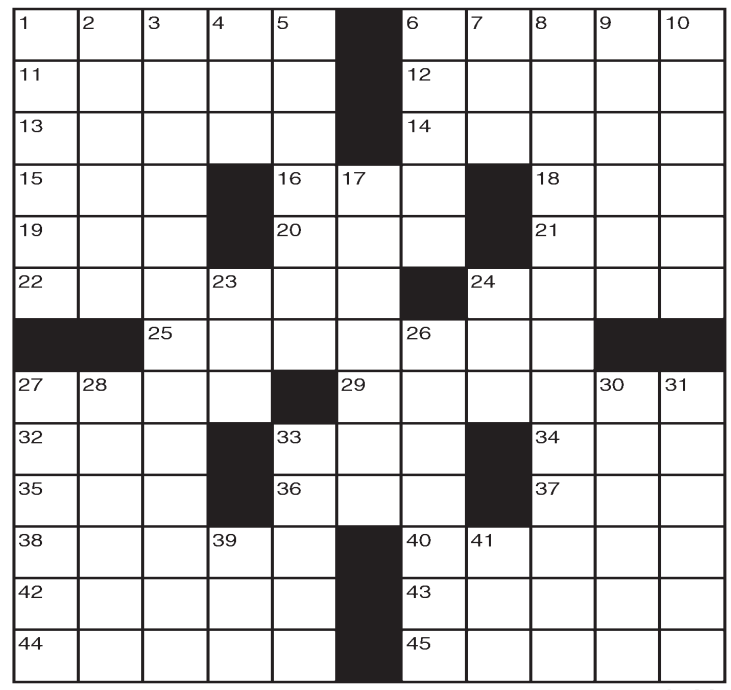
DOWN

1 Was a fink
2 Pulp source
3 NBA team
4 Bran base
5 Bill footer
6 Joyous
7 Historic time
8 NBA team
9 Los Angeles suburb
10 Unwavering
17 Esai of "La Bamba"
23 Maple flow
24 Playground game
26 Trace
27 Dorothy, for one
28 Go by
30 Nasty fellow
31 Barkin and Burstyn
33 Losing plans
39 Deteriorate
41 Stephen of "The Crying Game"

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-11

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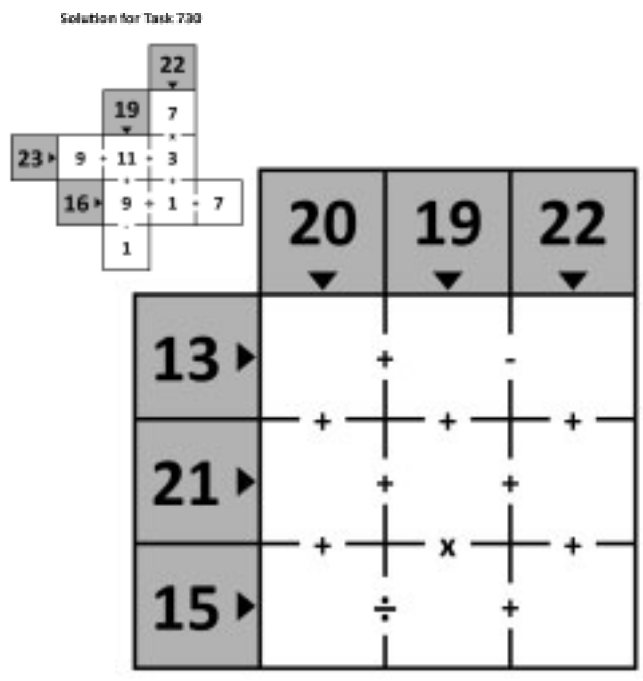
CrossMath + × − ÷

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

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 7, 11, 12, 12



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 25 35 36 47 48 Meganumber: 18 Jackpot: $30M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 7 8 17 41 Meganumber: 7 Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5: 7 15 21 22 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 9 4 3 EVENING: 8 6 8

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 04 Big Ben 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 08 Gorgeous George RACE TIME: 1:41.04

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A perp wanted on an arrest warrant has a powerful incentive to lie about his ID if subsequently stopped by police, and sometimes bluffing with a bogus name works. However, twice in January, in Dallas and in Great Falls, Mont., perps gave other names, only to learn that people with those names were in as much trouble as they were. Mario Miramontes, 22, wanted for parole violation, told an officer in Dallas that he was his cousin, without knowing that the cousin was wanted for sex abuse of a minor. Jonothan Gonsalez told police in Great Falls that he was really Timothy Koop Jr., but Koop was also a wanted man.

■ (1) Which Branch Is Best? Dustin Jakes, 27, an Army soldier, was arrested for shooting drinking buddy David Provost, 24, a Navy sailor, in Florence, Ariz., on Christmas Day. They argued over which service was better (and since Jakes had the gun, the answer was "Army"). (2) Mark Richardson, 21, of Oklahoma City is the most recent con man to seek caregivers to attend to him intimately as he dresses in a diaper, feigns autism and claims to require constant care. Richardson's mother admitted to The Oklahoman newspaper that her son is "not your average, everyday, walking-the-street citizen."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1953 President Dwight Eisenhower refuses clemency appeal for Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

1953 The Soviet Union breaks off diplomatic relations with Israel.

1964 Greeks and Turks begin fighting in Limassol, Cyprus.

1964 The Republic of China (Taiwan) breaks off diplomatic relations with France.

1968 Israeli-Jordanian border clashes.

1971 Eighty-seven countries, including the US, UK, and USSR, sign the Seabed Treaty outlawing nuclear weapons in international waters.

1973 Vietnam War: First release of American prisoners of war from Vietnam takes place.

WORD UP!

daedal
\ DEE-duhl \ , adjective;
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LEASE FOR $189 /MO+TAX

1 AT THIS OFFER

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LEASE FOR $199 /MO+TAX

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