



Santa Monica Daily Press

ROUGH DAYS FOR THE REST
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE TALE OF TWO TAPAS ISSUE

LIFESTYLE



IT HURTS SO GOOD

Rock'em, sock'em roller derby queens ride again
STORY PAGE 12

GATHERING NO MOSS Fight Crew teammates Tara Armov and Tawdry Tempest (in red) hold off Tough Cookies Lucy Ballbreaker and Markie D. Sod during a Derby Dolls match earlier this month.

Actress recalls MLK, Civil Rights strides

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SUNSET PARK With tears welling in her eyes, Donzaleigh Abernathy explained in a quivering voice why she could not delve too deep into the considerable role her father played in the civil rights movement.

Though almost 17 years have passed since her father, Civil Rights leader Ralph Abernathy, died of blood clots, it still hurt to talk about the most important man in her life — the man, who along with Martin Luther King Jr. and countless of other people who advocated for the equality of all — enabled this African American woman to find the love of her life, a white man.

It was at the end of her presentation on the Civil Rights Movement on Tuesday night that Abernathy — a former Santa Monica resident who had managed to hold in her tears throughout the evening — explained the reason why the majority of her presentation had focused on King, or who she fondly referred to as her “Uncle Martin.”

“I don’t talk about (my father) too much,” Abernathy said. “It’s easier to talk about Uncle Martin.”

Some wounds heal slow, if they heal at all.

For Black History Month, the Grant Elementary School African American Parent Student Group invited Abernathy to speak

SEE ABERNATHY PAGE 10

Retired SMPD officer gets arraigned on theft charges

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE A retired Santa Monica police officer and department historian accused of stealing collectible police badges was arraigned here on Wednesday morning.

Evan Mason, 52, pleaded not guilty to two counts of theft by embezzlement. Those charges were filed by the LA County District Attorney’s Office on Jan. 12.

A police memorabilia collector, Mason, who was granted disability



retirement from the Santa Monica Police Department in 1988 after serving on the force for approximately nine years is accused of withholding nine historic police badges that are believed to be worth a considerable amount of money.

Still, Judge Keith Schwartz is reportedly hoping the issue can be settled outside of the courtroom.

“He definitely expressed that he hoped we could settle this,” said Mason’s attorney, Stephen Wood, of Quinn

SEE BADGES PAGE 11



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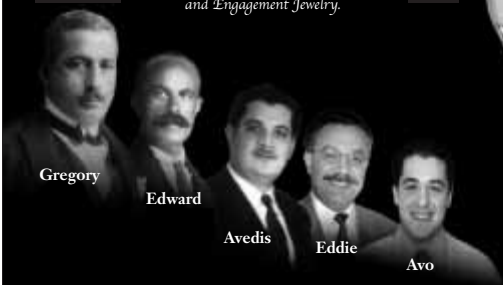
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Calendar

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 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

Laughter Yoga

717 Broadway, 11 a.m. — noon

Laughter Yoga combines yoga breathing and laughter exercises to increase health and vitality, to decrease everyday stress and to promote a more positive mental attitude. This is a donation class — pay what you can (suggested donation \$5 — \$10). For more information, call (310) 471-5773.

Weekly LeTip Business Networking Group

11th Street and Wilshire Boulevard, 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Weekly networking over lunch at El Cholo to provide additional leads and referrals to your line of work. Only one person per profession may join. Call now to reserve a spot, (310) 356-7519.

Yoga for the Lenten Season

725 California Ave., 8:30 a.m. — 4 p.m.

St. Monica's is hosting an all-day yoga event with a focus on how yoga can enhance the Christian experience. The day will include practice, discussion and time for personal reflection. Registration fee is \$75 (includes breaks and lunch). To register contact Larry Donnelly, St. Monica Pastoral Care Ministries, at (310) 319-9764 or e-mail larry@stmonica.net.

Church Mice

1220 Second St., 3:15 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Music, art projects, Bible stories, games and snacks are offered every Thursday in the Christian Education Building of First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica. Children 3 years of age through second grade are welcome. For more information, call Rebecca Hall at (310) 451-1303, ext. 26.

'Altar Boyz'

11301 Wilshire Blvd., 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.

'Altar Boyz' is a musical-comedy spoof about a fictitious Christian boy-band on the last night of their national 'Raise the Praise' tour. Tickets are on sale at the Wadsworth Theatre Box Office, by phone at Ticketmaster (213) 365-3500 and online at www.WadsworthTheatre.com.

Kundalini Yoga

2309 Main St., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

This class combines the science of movement, posture, breath, sound and meditation. Donations accepted. For more information, please visit www.shiatsumassageschool.org.

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.

'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.

Friday, Feb. 23, 2007

Comedy Night at John Adams Middle School

7 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Five professional comedians donate their time to benefit JAMS. Presented by JAMS parent and comedian Janine Hayes and a troupe of professional comics including Courtney Cronin, Christina Pazsitzky, Dan Smith and others. Tickets can be purchased in advance at either the Student Store or Main Office, by e-mailing cascio@mbi.ucla.edu, or by calling (310) 598-3198. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Adults 18 and over only.

Yoga for the Lenten Season

725 California Ave., 8:30 a.m. — 4 p.m.

To register contact Larry Donnelly, St. Monica Pastoral Care Ministries, at (310) 319-9764 or e-mail larry@stmonica.net.

Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m. Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

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.



Flaming out: Marijuana dispensary to shut down

By Daily Press staff

LOS ANGELES Amid talks of establishing a medicinal marijuana dispensary on Main Street in Santa Monica comes news this week that one currently operating in Hacienda Heights will soon be closing its doors amid concerns for the surrounding neighborhood.

The dispensary, located at 15838 Haliburton Rd., opened in May 2005 and was the first medical marijuana dispensary in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

"This is a big victory for us," said LA County Supervisor Don Knabe. "This issue is not about whether medical marijuana is right or wrong — the voters have already answered that question. What is most critical is ensuring the safety of our children

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TO HIV AND CUT BACK ON THE
VOMITING AND NAUSEA
THAT ACCOMPANY CANCER
CHEMOTHERAPY, BUT THE
EXACT MEDICAL BENEFITS
ARE STILL DEBATABLE.**

and our neighborhoods.

"Closing this dispensary ensures we are keeping our neighborhoods safe."

The safety questions that concern Knabe would appear to resonate with members of the Santa Monica City Council.

Business partners Nathan Hamilton and Logan Aries are looking to open a medical marijuana dispensary near the corner of Main and Pacific streets in Santa Monica. They contend the facility would serve the 100 patients in Santa Monica who currently commute outside of city limits to fill their prescriptions.

Hamilton and Logan are waiting for a business license from City Hall before they set up shop, a process that could prove difficult given some city officials' hesitancy to grant the license and a lack of zoning that governs medical marijuana dispensaries.

SEE DISPENSARY PAGE 14



Takes some forethought

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson places ashes onto the forehead of parishioner Belinda Gonzales at St. Monica's Church during a service for Ash Wednesday, the traditional first day of Lent for Catholics in leading up to Easter Sunday. The priest marks the forehead of each participant with black ashes, in the shape of a cross, which the worshipper traditionally retains until washing it off after sundown. Ash Wednesday is a day set aside for contemplating one's transgressions.

O'Connor spreads the green gospel

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

KYOTO Pam O'Connor is putting Santa Monica on the global map.

Over the weekend, the bubbly city councilwoman was busy imparting her knowledge of global climate issues at a conference in the original imperial city of Japan.

Sponsored by ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, an international organization of which Santa Monica is one of the founding members, the Kyoto Conference on Climate Change brought together leaders from across the globe to address pressing environmental issues.

O'Connor is still in Japan and was not available for comment. After the conference commenced on Feb. 18, O'Connor was headed for Santa Monica's sister city in Fujinomiya, according to Tanya Imola, a spokeswoman for the ICLEI.

The four-term city councilwoman was selected to represent all United States member cities in ICLEI at the conference, which was heavily attended by delegates from cities in Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. O'Connor gave opening remarks at the conference's kickoff on Feb. 16 and a presentation on sus-

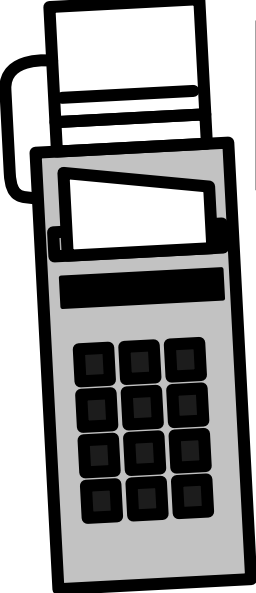
“THE IDEA IS TO SHARE
ENVIRONMENTAL
INFORMATION
AND IDEAS IN ORDER TO
EFFECTUATE POLICIES
ON A LOCAL LEVEL.”

Mayor Richard Bloom

tainable transportation initiatives currently underway in Santa Monica.

Based in Toronto, ICLEI is an international association of cities dedicated to sustainable living. One of the leading programs in ICLEI concerns climate change and how cities around

SEE KYOTO PAGE 9



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mass pedalers lack discipline
Editor:

I am following the Critical Mass bike-a-thons story with interest, but your article on Feb. 20 (“Ride or die,” page 1) did little except rehash previously quoted CM participants and community members. I wonder what the opinions of the SMPD and city officials are. It has been my observation that Santa Monica requires permits whenever large groups of people plan to assemble in our parks and streets, as they frequently do. The assortment of parades, 10Ks, demonstrations and other local events which bring together hundreds of participants are usually well regulated and take a variety of measures to be responsible for the many traffic and safety issues that may come into play.

I have no objection to bicyclists, pedestrians, wheelchair users, skaters or any other alternative “mobilizers” using our streets and paths. But whenever a group wants to immobilize others’ use of our public thoroughfares by assembling large numbers of participants, they should make appropriate arrangements in advance to safeguard community interests and safety.

Critical Mass is, essentially, a rather bawdy and jubilant street demonstration in favor of non-motorized transportation. Cool! I absolutely support their right to demonstrate for their interests, but they should, in turn, acknowledge some accountability for their members’ actions – like using monitors, as any good demonstration does – and obeying basic rules of civil conduct. If they choose to ignore those responsibilities while making their bikers’ rights points, then I would think this may be an excellent opportunity for the SMPD to improve the city’s revenue once a month by issuing mass citations.

Alan Toy
Santa Monica

Article failed bike riders everywhere
Editor:

(Re: “Ride or die,” Feb. 20, page 1)
I am very sorry about the poor quality of the Critical Mass piece in (the Daily Press) recent issue. I feel you have become the mouthpiece of a poorly articulated anger against cyclists. Rather than analyzing this diffuse anger, you have presented it in the manner of a prejudice on the first page.

To begin with, the illustration is exceedingly inappropriate and insulting, it catches nothing of the spirit of adventure and environmentally friendly transport combined with healthy exercise which characterizes these occasions. Just go there and have a look for yourself. The photograph is a sad reflection of your inability to understand what is going on at these occasions, or of your willful distortion of the truth. The title, “Ride or Die,” is just as poorly chosen.

You really have not understood what bicycles are about, and you have not even begun to put a question mark to the car culture which is bringing this planet to the ruin. Every cyclist is a Kyoto Saint. Instead, you have given voice to a few aggrieved drivers, whose polluting exhaust fumes we all have to breath in, and whose aggressive style of driving kills and hurts many pedestrians and cyclists. It is pathetic and entirely out of touch how you allow the car driver and gas burner to speak here as if they were entirely justified, entirely natural, entirely taken for granted.

This is 2007, not 1950 ! The position is pathetic, because out on the streets of Santa Monica, drivers everywhere feel they need to justify themselves – they buy dual fuel cars, they pay more for their gas, and they have to ask themselves if bloody wars are being fought around the world to satisfy their desire for more and more cheap gas.

I am commuting to UCLA on my bike and many of the participants of the Critical Mass rides will use their bike every day for the benefit of all: But you turn on them and give us a bad press as if we are monstrous growth which threatens the planet. If we come together once a month to celebrate our responsibility and our understanding of the environment and all the gas we are not burning, then you might have the good grace and allow us a bit presence on the streets. We do it with joy, music, good will and some dressing up. It is, after all, in these occasions that we are able to encourage many more car drivers to join us on the cycle lane. And in the few interactions with drivers I have witnessed, I have seen understanding, humor and support, and nothing of the stale and stereotypical aggression you describe in your piece.

I am sorry, you have failed your assignment. Grade F.
Dr. Michael Cahn
Visiting Lecturer, Department of History, UCLA

Guest Commentary

Elan Journo

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stop encouraging the North Koreans

WESTERN “DIPLOMACY” HAS STRENGTHENED NORTH KOREA.

Thanks to a new diplomatic deal, the nuclear stand-off with North Korea will allegedly end bloodlessly. In exchange for \$400 million worth of aid and diplomatic concessions from the West, North Korea has promised to start disabling its nuclear facilities. This new arrangement is being celebrated as a levelheaded, practical and win-win solution to the problem of the North Korean nuclear threat.

But this deal, like all previous ones, rewards the North for its aggression and strengthens it into a worse menace. North Korea has become a significant threat precisely because we have appeased it for years with boatloads of oil, food and money.

Some 20 years ago, North Korea’s nuclear ambitions became glaringly obvious. Ignoring this, the West pretended that this hostile dictatorship would honor a treaty banning nuclear weapons. To get its signature took years of Western groveling and concessions. The North’s promises to halt its nuclear program were predictably hollow. By 1993, after preventing required inspections of its nuclear facilities, Pyongyang announced its intention to withdraw from the treaty.

Our response?
More “diplomacy” — in the form of the “Agreed Framework,” brokered in 1994. For agreeing to freeze its nuclear program, North Korea was offered two light-water nuclear reactors (putatively for generating electricity) and, until the reactors were operational, 500,000 metric tons of oil annually (nearly half its annual energy consumption). The United States, along with Japan and South Korea, paid for these lavish gifts. During these years of apparent tranquility, our handouts and assurances of security buoyed North Korea as it furtively completed two reactors capable of yielding weapons-grade fuel. By 2003 — when the North actually did withdraw from the nuclear treaty — it was clear that Pyongyang had continued secretly to develop weapons-capable nuclear technology. The pattern of America’s suicidal diplomacy is clear: the North threatens us, we respond with negotiations, gifts and concessions, and it emerges with even greater belligerence. Observe how in October, North Korea detonated a nuclear bomb — and now it extracts further concessions from the West.

Without economic aid, technical assistance and protracted negotiations affording it

time, it is unlikely that the North — continually on the brink of economic collapse — could have survived. It is also unlikely that it could have built the fourth-largest army in the world. The North is believed to have sold long-range ballistic missiles to Iran, Yemen, Pakistan and Syria. By some estimates, North Korea already has the material to create eight nuclear bombs. As it doubtless will continue engaging in clandestine nuclear development, the North may soon be selling nuclear weapons.

What made this cycle of appeasement possible — and why do our political and intellectual leaders insist that further “diplomacy” will work? Because they reject moral judgment and cling to the fiction that North Korea shares the basic goal of prosperity and peace. This fantasy underlies the notion that the right mix of economic aid and military concessions can persuade North Korea to give up its nuclear program. It evades the fact that the North is a militant dictatorship that acquires and maintains its power by force, looting the wealth of its enslaved citizens and threatening to do the same to its neighbors. This abstract fact, the advocates of diplomacy believe, is dispensable; if we ignore it, then it ceases to exist.

Notice how, in preparing the way for renewed talks, the Bush administration ceased describing North Korea as part of an “axis of evil” — as if this could alter its moral stature.

What the advocates of diplomacy believe, in effect, is that pouring gasoline onto an inferno will extinguish the fire — so long as we all agree that it will. Thus: if we agree that North Korea is not a hostile parasite, then it isn’t; if we pretend that this dictatorship would rather feed its people than amass weapons, then it would; if we shower it with loot, it will stop threatening us. But the facts of North Korea’s character and long-range goals, like all facts, are impervious to anyone’s wishful thinking. Years of rewarding a petty dictatorship for its belligerent actions did not disarm it, but helped it become a significant threat to America.

There is only one solution to the “North Korea problem”: the United States and its allies must abandon the suicidal policy of appeasement.

Elan Journo is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine, Calif. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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It is illegal to dispose of old and used electronics, including batteries, in the trash. Consumer electronic items, including electronic office equipment, must be disposed of properly and that includes recycling. Items that can be recycled include CRT monitors and television sets, regular and cellular telephones, phone answering machines, cell phones and accessories.

Stereo equipment, including loudspeakers, tape and cassette players and recorders, DVD and VCR players, computers and computer peripherals, scanners, fax machines, batteries, printer cartridges, audio and videotapes and floppy discs are all recyclable.

Consumer electronic recyclables will be collected free in association with California Recycles, a private electronic waste management company. A portion of the proceeds obtained from recycling old electronics benefits Santa Monica Red Cross youth programs. The Santa Monica Red Cross and California Recycles suggest that files and personal data be erased from hard drives of computers, cell phones or home telephone answering machines turned in for recycling.

For information regarding waste pick-up, contact (310) 394-3773 or go online at www.red-crossofsantamonica.org.

DAILY PRESS

Activists celebrate second-year anniversary

The Activist Support Circle is an emotional support group for progressive activists that began in February 2005. The circle will hold its second-anniversary gathering to guard against activist-related burnout; share activist-related frustrations and fears, as well as hopes and aspirations, in a supportive, safe environment; turn feelings of despair into feelings of empowerment; and learn helpful coping skills and ideas from other like-minded supportive activists.

John Johnson, editor of the monthly progressive event calendar Change Links, will be the special guest speaker at the free-to-the-public anniversary gathering. The Activist Support Circle will publicly celebrate its second anniversary on Wednesday, Feb. 28, beginning 7 p.m. at the Friends Meeting Hall, 1440 Harvard St.

The gatherings are free and there is free parking on-site. The Web site is: www.activistsupport-circle.org. For further information, call the Activist Support Circle at (310) 399-1000.

DP

In search of medical volunteers

The Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital seeks adults and teens who can spend at least four hours each week helping the community by volunteering at the medical center. Volunteers are needed in virtually all areas of the 279-bed medical center, including the admissions office, emergency center, gift shop, information desk, surgery waiting area and nursing units.

The medical center also is seeking more pet-trainer teams to participate in its Pet-Assisted Therapy program. Additionally, there are numerous volunteer opportunities at the medical center's sister facility, UCLA Medical Center, in Westwood.

For reservations or more information about volunteer opportunities, call (310) 319-3580 for Santa Monica or (310) 825-6001 for Westwood. To learn more about volunteer opportunities at both campuses, attend a free open house on the following dates: Feb. 23, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; March 14, from 10 a.m. to noon; or April 26, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

DP

Australian teen being held for attacking a 91-year-old

By the Associated Press

COSTA MESA An Australian teenager was arrested on attempted murder and elder abuse charges after a 91-year-old man was attacked in his hospital bed, police said.

Authorities believe 18-year-old Joshua Matthew Drougas, who lives in Costa Mesa, walked into the hospital Sunday night and tried to smother Ted Mastos of Balboa Island, police Sgt. Bob Phillips said.

Mastos, who was being treated for pneumo-

nia at the Mesa Verde Convalescent Hospital, woke up and fought back, yelling as he forced the pillow off his face, police said.

Hospital workers found Drougas standing by Mastos, hospital administrator Tom Skiba said.

The teen willingly sat in a chair outside the hospital room until police arrived, he said.

Drougas and Mastos had never met before the incident and, except for a couple of minor bicycle infractions, Drougas has no criminal record, Phillips said.



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The Q-Line

Historically speaking ...
 We've all heard what political pundits and assorted talking heads have to say regarding President Bush's place in the pantheon of chief executives. Just switch on any cable news channel at any time of day and somebody is yammering on and on about the president's legacy and historical significance. What are we to believe?
 This week's Q-Line question asks:
Where do you - our trusted readers - believe President George W. Bush will rank among our nation's head honchos? In honor of Presidents' Day, please be as objective as possible when answering.
 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. Please limit responses to a minute or less.

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Bars seek exemption to ban on smoking

BY MARK NIESSE

Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU Defiant bar owners are pushing proposals that would let customers smoke while they drink, despite a statewide ban on smoking in public places.

One such bill would get around Hawaii's no-smoking law by creating a new kind of liquor license that allows establishments to permit smoking. Lawmakers will hear the idea Thursday.

The legislation has emerged as more than a dozen bars throughout the state are now openly breaking the smoking law by allowing their customers to light up inside their businesses. Local police so far have not issued any citations.

"We are not scofflaws. We are local people trying to survive in a hard economy," said Kawika Crowley, co-chairman of Americans for Freedom of Choice, a pro-smoking Hawaii group. "It's not about public health or public safety."

Several legislators who support the smoking exemption for bar owners said the proposal has a chance of becoming law, even though a similar bill died in the Health Committee last week.

"The people who go into bars are grown-ups. Smoking and drinking have gone together for many years," said Rep. Colleen Meyer, R-Laie-Kahaluu.

Hawaii's smoking ban, which took effect in November, covers open malls and Hawaii's many popular year-round outdoor dining areas, and it doesn't allow bars or

offices to set aside rooms for smokers. The proposed exemption to the law would permit bars to have smoking anywhere.

Deborah Zysman, director of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii, said the state would be reversing the progress it has made toward protecting the public from secondhand smoke if it approves an exemption for bars.

"We're talking about taking a major step back," Zysman said. "Right now, the law is fair and equitable. It's a level playing field for all employers, regardless of what industry they work in."

A smoking exemption for bars was revived when the leadership of the overwhelmingly Democratic state Legislature assigned the bill to the Judiciary Committee, where it will stand a better chance than it did in the Health Committee, Meyer said. She proposed a similar bill that exempts bars from the law as long as they post a sign warning the public that smoking is permitted inside.

"This bill gives people a choice," said Gene Ward, R-Kalama Valley-Hawaii Kai. "We're doing too much, too fast, to a group we're making into second-class citizens."

Sixteen states have banned smoking in public places. Hawaii's law calls for penalties starting at \$100 and increasing up to \$500 after the third offense. Bars could eventually lose their liquor licenses, and customers could face \$50 fines.

Many bar owners didn't feel like they had much of an opportunity to argue against the law when it was passed last year, said Jolyn Tenn, co-chair of the Hawaii Smoker's Alliance.

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D'oh! Nuclear reactor might become national landmark

By The Associated Press

RICHLAND, Wash. A reactor built for make fuel for atomic bombs at the dawn of the nuclear age in World War II has been nominated as a national historic landmark.

The proposal for the long-closed B Reactor at the Hanford nuclear reservation was developed by the National Park Service in collaboration with the Energy Department, which runs the sprawling complex that once produced fuel for nuclear weapons, and with boosters who hope to make the reactor into a museum.

Construction began at a breakneck pace with 45,000 workers in the Eastern Washington scablands in 1943, and it produced the fuel for the atomic bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, shortly before the end of the war.

Its design remained the standard for U.S. reactors until a new plant began operating at the Savannah River complex in South Carolina in 1952. Five reactors based on the B Reactor design were built at Hanford from 1947 to 1955, and it continued to produce plutonium until 1968.

"The B Reactor provides a tangible link to world-changing events of the final years of World War II and the initial years of the Cold War," local historian Michele Gerber, and Brian Casserly, a University of Washington doctoral candidate, wrote in the nominating papers.

A key issue in deciding the fate of the reactor by the Columbia River will be how

much of its historical integrity remains.

All of the support buildings have been removed in cleanup work at Hanford, the nation's most polluted nuclear site. T Plant, where plutonium was removed from fuel that had been irradiated in the B Reactor, remains in use for other work.

Would the B Reactor alone be enough?

"We think it is," said Stephanie Toothman, the park service's regional chief of cultural resource programs.

Landmark designation would add "another level of protection" because any action that could affect the integrity of the reactor would first have to be discussed with her agency, Toothman said.

Otherwise, B Reactor would be torn down to little more than its radioactive core and sealed, a process called "cocooning," so radiation can subside for 75 years before more cleanup plans are drafted. That process has been completed or is planned for eight other plutonium production reactors along the river at Hanford.

For now, Energy Department officials have agreed to delay release of the reactor to a cleanup contractor until 2009.

The nomination could be considered by the National Historic Landmark Subcommittee of the National Park System Advisory Board as early as April. A final decision is up to the secretary of the interior.

B Reactor, completed in 13 months, was designed to be 500 million times more powerful than the first reactor to achieve a chain reaction two years earlier.

Waterless planets puzzle astronomers

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON Scientists taking their first “sniffs of air” from planets outside our solar system are a bit baffled by what they didn’t find: water. One of the more basic assumptions of astronomy is that the two distant, hot gaseous planets they examined must contain water in their atmospheres.

The two suns the planets orbit closely have hydrogen and oxygen, the stable building blocks of water. These planets’ atmospheres — examined for the first time using light spectra to determine the air’s chemical composition — are supposed to be made up of the same thing, good old H2O.

But when two different teams of astronomers used

NASA’s Spitzer Space Telescope for this new type of extrasolar planet research, they both came up dry, according to research published in Thursday’s edition of *Nature* and the online version of the *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

The study of one planet found hints of fine silicate-particle clouds. Research on the other planet found no chemical fingerprints for any of the molecules scientists were seeking.

“We had expected this tremendous signature of water ... and it wasn’t there,” said the study leader for one team, Carl Grillmair of the California Institute of Technology and Spitzer Science Center. “The very fact that we’ve been surprised here is a wake-up call.

We obviously need to do some more work.” Grillmair’s colleague, Harvard astronomy professor David Charbonneau, said these surprising “sniffs of air from an alien world” tell astronomers not to be so Earth-centric in thinking about other planets.

“These are very different beasts. These are unlike any other planets in the solar system,” Charbonneau said. “We’re limited by our imagination in thinking about the different avenues that these atmospheres take place in.”

Our own solar system has two planets without water in the atmosphere, Grillmair noted: Mercury, which doesn’t have an atmosphere, and Venus, which is a different type of planet from the huge gaseous ones that would be expected to have the components of water in the air.

So far, scientists have found 213 planets outside our solar system, but only 14 have orbits that make it possible for this type of study; only eight or nine of those are close enough to see. Grillmair’s team studied the closest, which goes by the catchy name HD 189733b. It’s a mere 360 trillion miles from Earth in the constellation Vulpecula. The other planet, HD209458b, is about 900 trillion miles away in the constellation Pegasus and it’s the one with the strange silicate cloud.

So where’d the water go? Maybe it’s hiding, scientists suggest. The water could be under dust clouds, or all the airborne water molecules have the same temperature, making it impossible to see using an infrared spectrograph.

Vandals hitting headstones

BY MARTIN GRIFFITH
Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. Law enforcement authorities are searching for vandals who toppled and damaged more than two dozen headstones at one of Nevada’s oldest cemeteries — the latest in a long string of such crimes statewide.

Among 32 headstones damaged last weekend at Lone Mountain Cemetery in Carson City were ones belonging to three grandchildren and a son of Abraham Curry, who’s regarded as the “father” of the capital city. The grandchildren were no older than 2 when they died in 1861, 1865 and 1870.

“To tip over the headstone of a baby is just awful,” cemetery manager David Stultz said Wednesday. “I just don’t understand how anybody can do something like that.”

While Curry’s headstone was not disturbed, the gravestones of other pioneers were damaged, Stultz said. Curry helped lay out the town in Utah Territory before his death in 1873, and is honored by a statue on the Legislative Mall.

Also escaping damage were the headstones of Mark Twain niece Jennie Clemens, legendary stage coach driver Hank Monk and six Nevada governors.

Footprint evidence shows at least two people knocked over the headstones sometime late Friday or early Saturday, Stultz said. One gravestone was broken off at the base, while four or five others were snapped in half. Others were chipped.

“You could see the hand and butt prints in the dirt where they were sitting and using their feet to knock them over,” cemetery caretaker Tim Glancy told the Nevada Appeal.

“These are really historic markers. There’s no way to duplicate these,” Glancy said, adding workers spent all day Tuesday uprighting unbroken headstones.

Stultz said some of the markers could be mended with epoxy but the repairs probably would not last over time because of the area’s weather extremes.

State Archivist Guy Rocha said vandalism has long been a problem at cemeteries across the state, and the Carson City cemetery has been hit by vandals before.

On Halloween 1997, skulls of prominent local lawyer Patrick Henry Clayton, who died in 1871, and his wife, who died in 1905, were stolen from a family crypt at Lone Mountain Cemetery.

The skulls were later returned to the crypt after one of the grave robbers admitted he sold one skull for \$400 and some methamphetamine.

Also in 1997, cemeteries in Carson City and nearby Virginia City were victims to a team of thieves who stole wrought-iron fences surrounding the areas for an antiques dealer. Local officials estimate one item a day is stolen during the summer from cemeteries around Virginia City, which draws nearly 1 million visitors from around the world each year.

“Almost anyplace that has a cemetery not patrolled constantly is plagued by vandalism,” Rocha said. “There are people bent on doing such ugliness, and it’s hard to catch them, particularly in remote areas.”

Marilyn Newton, author of “Alkali Angels” — a book about historic Nevada cemeteries — said she hopes a 2005 state law making cemetery vandalism a felony will help deter such crimes.

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Between Wilshire & Montana	= No Listings	\$ 875,378
South of Wilshire	= \$ 1,139,333	\$ 671,831
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Mardi Gras reflects Katrina hangover

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
 Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS Jeff Friedland couldn't disguise his frustration with the slow pace of post-Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. In fact, he chose to wear it on his sleeve.

The 57-year-old joined the celebrations this week at the Mardi Gras carnival by donning a low-budget costume of a house painter's jumpsuit wrapped in red tape.

"Abysmal. Uncaring. Bordering on immoral," is how Friedland, 57, described more than 17 months of haggling with five different insurance companies and three mortgage companies over damage to his home and two rental properties he owns in New Orleans.

"No leadership from government. That's my biggest complaint," he said.

Many of the revelers who joined the French Quarter's famously bawdy celebration for the second Mardi Gras since Katrina vented their frustration and anger in a humorous way, donning homemade costumes with themes that were far more political than prurient.

A popular target for their sly jabs was Gov. Kathleen Blanco's grant program that offers eligible homeowners up to \$150,000 in compensation to get back into their homes. Checks have been slow to come, say critics.

Allen Bender dressed as a housewife with a bathrobe and curlers in her hair and held a fake, oversized check for \$150,000 signed by "Goobernor K. Blanco." He was flanked by two friends wearing jackets that said "LRA Prize Patrol," a reference to the storm-spawned Louisiana Recovery Authority.

Bender said his grant application was rejected because it concluded that his \$70,000 flood insurance payment should have covered all the damage to his home. But Bender said he only got half of what he needed to rebuild.

"It's a hit this year," he said of his costume as other revelers snapped his photograph. "Last year we dressed as insurance adjusters from hell."

Even a tourist like Annie Clowes, 43, of Newburyport, Mass., found the political-themed costumes more amusing than the flesh-baring ones. Clowes said it's impossible to celebrate Fat Tuesday in New Orleans without thinking of Katrina.

Wanted: Non-illegal workers

BY JACQUES BILLEAUD
 Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX A committee of the Arizona Legislature has approved a proposal that would prohibit employers from knowingly hiring illegal immigrants and require businesses to sign affidavits saying they aren't breaking such a rule.

Supporters said the proposal would help lessen some of the state's immigration woes, while opponents said it would make for a tougher business climate in Arizona, where illegal immigrants account for an estimated one in 10 workers in the economy.

"This is a proper step forward to hold those employers accountable," said Republican Rep. Warde Nichols of Chandler, who voted for the bill (HB2779).

Employers who hire illegal immigrants are blamed for fueling illegal border crossings. While federal law already outlaws the hiring of illegal immigrants, some state lawmakers have pushed for Arizona to come up

with its own employer sanctions, because they say the federal government has done of a poor job of cracking down on illegal hirings.

Business lobbyists said the proposal would increase the regulation of business and that the duty to crack down on illegal hirings should remain the responsibility of the federal government.

The employer sanctions proposal, approved in a 6-4 vote by the House's Government Committee, would set fines for businesses that file false affidavits.

First-time violators would face fines as high as \$50,000. A second offense would carry a fine as high as \$100,000. The punishment on a third-offense violation could reach up to \$150,000.

Democratic Rep. Steve Farley of Tucson, an opponent of the bill, said the proposal leaves open the possibility that a violator could walk away with no financial penalties and that the measure would continue to make businesses verify the employment eligibility of their workers.

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Photo courtesy of Local Governments for Sustainability

Santa Monica City Councilmember Pam O'Connor speaks at the Kyoto Conference on Climate Change, where leaders from cities around the world shared information on being sustainable.

O'Connor represents U.S. in overseas climate talks

FROM KYOTO PAGE 3

the world could work together in implementing an action strategy.

More than 700 cities around the world have participated in ICLEI initiatives, including Santa Monica.

"The idea is to share environmental information and ideas in order to effectuate policies on a local level," said Mayor Richard Bloom on Wednesday. "The kind of things that if more and more municipalities are on board, we can have material impact on important issues like climate change."

Santa Monica is considered to be a leader in sustainable initiatives, having implemented a Sustainable City Plan, encouraged local businesses to engage in environmentally friendly practices and passed city ordinances that address environmental issues.

During the conference, O'Connor spoke of the progress local governments in the United

States have made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The cities in ICLEI draw from each other's experiences in implementing sustainable measures. Some of the sustainable practices in Santa Monica were derived from ICLEI member cities, and vice versa, according to Bloom. It's all part of the plan to get all cities on the same page.

"If other communities don't join in, we would only have a marginal impact," Bloom said.

Though the entire City Council was welcome to attend, O'Connor was the lone member to hop on a plane for the 11-hour ride to the Orient. Bloom said he would've liked to attend, but was restricted by scheduling conflicts.

The incoming chairwoman of the MTA board, O'Connor has made transportation and the environment two of her core issues.

melodyh@smdp.com

Free workshop reveals 7 ways to slash college costs

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

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

ents make when planning for college.

The workshop dates are Thursday, March 1st (7:15-8:45) Santa Monica Main Library, Saturday March 3rd (10:00-12:00 Noon) Santa Monica Main Library, Tuesday, March 6th (7:15-8:45) Montana Branch Library. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation's leading expert on paying for college.

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

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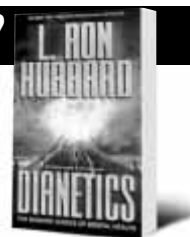
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Carl Laurysen, MD

**Daughter of Civil Rights invokes spirit of the '60s**

FROM ABERNATHY PAGE 1

about her book, "Partners to History: Martin Luther King Jr., Ralph David Abernathy and the Civil Rights Movement."

Group President Wesley Terry said the community is a rich resource for civil rights advocates. Abernathy said that one of King's children resides in Malibu. Abernathy now lives in Los Angeles.

"We all have to look within the community," Terry said. "We didn't even know she was here."

Abernathy has deep ties in the community, being one of the founders of the New Roads School.

The African American Parent Student Group invited Abernathy to speak at the suggestion of Principal Alan Friedenberg, who said the civil rights daughter impressed students when she spoke at the school several weeks earlier.

"The kids knew who MLK was," Friedenberg said. "She painted a picture and put in context that what they're dealing with didn't happen five minutes ago."

WHEN RALPH MET MARTIN

Having grown up during a racially tumultuous time in the south, Donzaleigh Abernathy — Ralph Abernathy's youngest daughter — provided the audience with a vision of the civil rights movement through the eyes of a young girl. She offered up anecdotes of the partnership and friendship between King and her father, drawing chuckles from the audiences. Most importantly, she recalled stories of the civil rights movement unknown to most.

"He (Ralph Abernathy) was just beyond phenomenal and he had so much to give and was so nonviolent and so loving and nurturing, I thought the least I had to do is give something back to them, which is what the book is about," Abernathy said.

An ordained minister, Ralph Abernathy was considered to be King's No. 2 in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He was King's confidante and could be found wherever the face of the civil rights movement was seen. Following King's death, Abernathy became president of the SCLC.

The two civil rights leaders met in Montgomery, Ala., in 1955 when Abernathy was at a university in Atlanta and King was an undergraduate student at Morehouse College. The two joined forces after an incident in which a woman who had broken a date with Abernathy was caught with King.

"They got rid of the woman and that is how the relationship began," Abernathy said.

The younger Abernathy, an actress who has appeared in about 34 different television shows, including "House" and "Commander in Chief," spoke of the various incidents in the civil rights movement that she had either witnessed first-hand or heard accounts of from her father.

She talked about how African Americans were mistreated on the bus and how they finally got fed up and boycotted, crippling the city by "doing something that was right." During the segment about bus boycotts, a photo was projected behind Abernathy. It was a photo of King, Rosa Parks, Abernathy and Pete Seeger, the folk singer credited with writing "We Shall Overcome."



Photo courtesy

Donzaleigh Abernathy is the youngest daughter of late Civil Rights leader Ralph David Abernathy, a compatriot of Martin Luther King Jr. The younger Abernathy, an actress who had a role in Lifetime show 'Any Day Now,' spoke about the Civil Rights Movement at Grant Elementary School on Tuesday night in honor of Black History Month.

Blacks actually had to exit the bus after paying and re-enter from the side, hoping that the bus driver wouldn't pull away. Even if the entire front section of the bus, which was dedicated to white customers, was empty, the black passengers would be forced to stand in the back like sardines, Abernathy reminisced.

Next came life-threatening experiences that the Abernathy family endured during the civil rights movement. Abernathy's mother was watching "The Jack Paar Show" when she decided to get up and see how her children were doing. Fifteen minutes later, the living room where Abernathy's mother had been sitting exploded.

"Mom said she just panicked," Abernathy said. "She didn't know what to do."

A police officer was called to the scene when the mother heard another explosion. The officer looked at his watch and said the explosion came from the First Baptist Church where Ralph Abernathy was the minister.

The slideshow documented events including the March on Washington in August of 1963; the Abernathy house after the explosion; and a meeting of civil rights leaders, including King's brother, who was later found drowned in a pool. Abernathy would speak fondly of those depicted in the pictures, talking about her Aunt Coretta Scott King, Uncle Sammy Davis Jr. and of course, Uncle Martin.

But then with the happier moments, came the saddest.

One of the final photos was of King's funeral procession that drew more than 50,000 people.

Abernathy told a story not commonly covered in the history books of King's final moments. King was sprawled over a balcony in Memphis after he was shot. His eyes were wobbly as Civil Rights leader Andrew Young could be heard crying in

the background, said Abernathy, whose father was with King during his final moments.

"Daddy didn't want Uncle Martin to hear

HE WAS JUST BEYOND PHENOMENAL AND HE HAD SO MUCH TO GIVE AND WAS SO NURTURING, I THOUGHT THE LEAST I HAD TO DO IS GIVE SOMETHING BACK ... WHICH IS WHAT THE BOOK IS ABOUT."

Donzaleigh Abernathy

Andy's tears," Abernathy said. "Because he needed strength at the time."

When King was taken to the hospital and stripped of his clothes, Ralph Abernathy saw a bullet had created a hole in King's chest. A hole that was the size of a man's fist.

The doctor told Abernathy that King could be saved, but would spend the rest of his life as a "vegetable," Donzaleigh Abernathy said.

Moments later, the doctor said there was nothing that could be done.

At the conclusion of the presentation, children and parents could be seen hugging each other in the audience, warmed by the story of how King and Abernathy worked to create a better world for their own children.

Tamu Hassle listened to the presentation with her friend, Tonya Anderson. Both said they found it interesting to hear the story of the civil rights movement from a child's perspective.

It's only been 43 years since the Civil Rights Act was signed and discrimination exists to this day," Anderson said.

"Our struggle is not over."

melodyh@smdp.com

Judge wants collector, SMPD to work out case on their own

FROM BADGES PAGE 1

Emanuel Trial Lawyers in Los Angeles.

The judge also suggested that Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn supply the defense with a list of the specific badges in question, according to Wood.

Meanwhile, the police department has made numerous requests to Mason to return the badges, Korn insisted on Wednesday.

Mason was an honorary volunteer historian for the SMPD who had been writing a book detailing the history of the department. The book was reportedly a source of conflict between Mason and former Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. over copyright issues.

The department accused Mason of withholding the badges, including a 1930s badge worn by the late Police Chief Clarence Webb, and several historical photographs of the department. The SMPD provided Mason with the materials in question and allowed him to store them at his home in Paso Robles while they were in the process of moving to the new Public Safety Facility in 2003.

Mason insists the badge from the 1930s

has been in the hands of Webb's daughter, Faye Webb, since her father's death in 1973. The younger Webb wrote a formal declaration in March 2006 backing up Mason's claim.

Police conducted a search warrant at Mason's home on Jan. 26, 2006, and seized items including an Apple computer tower, a laptop, RCA police radios, and a manila envelope containing the manuscript. The search warrant listed that any "articles or manuscripts written by Evan Mason that describe or depict property misappropriated from the Santa Monica Police Department" be seized.

The defense has argued that the manuscript has no relationship with any of the collector's items Mason is accused of withholding.

Mason became the department's historian after serving as a member of the SMPD Centennial Committee in 1996. As a volunteer historian, Mason had access to the SMPD archives.

He is expected back at Airport Courthouse on March 13 for the setting of his preliminary hearing.

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Reinventing the wheels

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

NORTH OF WILSHIRE When Brooke Forsythe and her daughter Hazel moved to Santa Monica from San Francisco a little over four years ago, they found it difficult to meet new friends.

"I was a single mom working from home, so I didn't get out much," said the 35-year-old Forsythe. "Honestly, I hadn't made a single friend within a year of being in L.A. It was pretty sad."

Desperate, Forsythe checked out the online community of Craigslist looking for some activity partners. That's where she stumbled upon something that has dramatically changed her life, something so empowering that even a pulled groin muscle can't keep her away — roller derby.

Forsythe is a member of the Los Angeles Derby Dolls (www.derbydolls.com), the county's only all-girl, banked-track roller derby league where more than 60 fearless women dressed in short skirts and tight tops fly around a makeshift track at breakneck speeds, sacrificing their bodies for sport and spectators. Players slam into one another to clear a path for their "jammers," agile skaters who fight their way through the crowd in efforts to lap other skaters and score points.

There is no big pay off. In fact, skaters pay \$80 per month in dues to get bruised. What keeps these raucous rollers coming back despite the broken collarbones and chipped teeth is sisterhood, a love for the sport and a sense of belonging to something greater than themselves, something which they have built together despite the hardships faced along the way.

"It's totally addictive ... the funnest thing I've ever done in my life," said Forsythe, a jammer for the Sirens whose alias in the rink is "Raggedy Anarchy." "Because there's no money, everyone does it for the love of the game. A lot of people enjoy the social aspect, the camaraderie. I enjoy being a part of an organization founded by women and completely run by women in a democratic fashion."

"I don't think there is any better way for my daughter to learn about the power we can have as women"

RETRO ACTIVE

Forsythe and the rest of her Derby Doll sisters are part of a roller derby revival that is growing across the nation. Over the last five years, more than 200 leagues have sprouted, including one in San Diego, where some of the L.A. ladies on wheels will be battling this weekend when they take on their counterparts from the south in a good, old-fashioned "Sibling Rivalry."

Derby Dolls recently hosted Texas Roller Derby Lonestar Roller Girls out of Austin, a benchmark in the history of the league as it was the first time the Derby Dolls were able to bring them to Los Angeles.

Proof of the sport's growing popularity could be seen on Feb. 10, when celebrities such as Patricia Arquette ("Medium") and John C. Reilly ("Chicago") were among the hundreds in attendance at the Downtown LA event.

"That actually blew me away," said "Tara

Armov," a 38-year-old blocker from Mar Vista who skates for the Fight Crew, undefeated league champions last season. "It's pretty cool to find out that we had some celebs attend and that gives me hope that we can sustain ourselves, which is the goal I think we have all set for ourselves. We would like for this to continue well after we stop playing."

"It would be cool if we got more exposure, but I like the underground aspect of it. If Paris Hilton shows up, we know it's over."

The Derby Dolls were formed in 2003 by Rebecca "Demolicious" Ninburg and Wendy "Thora Zeen" Templeton. The two artists met through work and immediately found that they had a mutual interest in roller derby that stemmed from their childhood. Ninburg and Templeton rounded up a bunch of their friends and family members, and over a year and a half began building the league from the ground up. They held practices anywhere they could, pulled together money to help buy skates, pads and helmets, even built a 100-foot, by 60-foot track.

They have gone from small events in odd locations, to continually selling out the former bowling alley that is now their home in Little Tokyo.

Located on the third floor of a mall just off First Street in downtown Los Angeles, the



**IT'S TOTALLY
ADDICTIVE ...
THE FUNNEST THING
I'VE EVER DONE IN MY
LIFE."**

Brooke Forsythe, jammer for the Sirens.

venue is reminiscent of an old Legion Hall where teens would throw punk rock shows. The vibe is very raw, but inviting. Most of the space is dark, with light shining brightly on the track as skaters practice and stretch in the moments leading up to the clash. Announcers keep the crowd pumped and rock bands bring it during intermission.

While having a permanent home for the league is an accomplishment, it is also very expensive. The Derby Dolls must carry a \$5 million insurance policy, which works out to be around \$1,800 a month, and pay rent of \$9,460 a month. General admission tickets sell for \$15, with VIP tickets going for \$35. Most, if not all, events sell out. The venue holds only about 800 people, lending intimacy to the fans and players.

To make ends meet, all skaters must volunteer to help set up, clean up and perform other duties.

"This is totally do-it-yourself," said Armov, an animator by day. "I know everyone loves to have fun strapping on their skates and hitting each other, but we also realize that this is a business and we have to take care of every aspect of it."

"It's not just about cleaning up after ourselves, but dealing with the city bureaucracy, how to manage people, manage money, be a



Photos courtesy of Derby Dolls
The Fight Crew and Tough Cookies (above) go at it in a roller derby clash earlier this month in Downtown LA, won by the defending champion Fight Crew. (Left) Santa Monica resident Brooke Forsythe and her daughter, Hazel, have embraced the comradery afforded by the Derby Dolls league in Los Angeles.

skaters, they must rely on their day jobs or the emergency room for care. League officials said they are hoping the next step will be coverage for skaters, but so far the money just isn't there.

"I've broken five bones due to roller derby, my big toe on my right foot, my thumb a grand total of three times and my right clavicle," said Kelly Kaboom, a skater from Venice who plays for the Tough Cookies. "I have no medical insurance, so let's just say that the county hospital and I know each other well."

Despite the pain, Kaboom and other skaters keep coming back. Some love it so much they have to be restrained when injured because they want to skate so badly.

"It's hard to just sit there and wait," Forsythe said. "You kind of feel helpless. It's frustrating being injured. The injuries are starting to get to me, but I can't see myself stopping."

"I think I've got a few good years left in me."

kevinh@smdp.com

good neighbor to other businesses in the mall. You have to be on top of everything."

That includes your own medical bills. Since the league does not yet offer insurance to

ODDS OF A CHILD
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That's the Spirit

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

An assembly crew from Victory Outreach works earlier this week constructing the tent where the 2007 Spirit Awards will be staged this weekend just north of the Santa Monica Pier. The Spirit Awards, a celebration of independent films, will air live on IFC on Saturday at 5 p.m.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR 525 BROADWAY MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given on the completion and availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed mixed-use development project located at 525 Broadway.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is located on 37,450 square feet (0.86 acres) at the northwest corner of 6th Street and Broadway. The site consists of one parcel and is currently occupied by an existing 35,290 square foot, 3-story office building and two-level parking structure. The proposed project involves demolition of all existing structures on the site and construction of a new 6-story mixed use development consisting of 65 two-bedroom units, 56 one-bedroom units, and 4 studios for a total of 125 residential condominiums and approximately 8968 square feet of gross commercial space that is being analyzed as casual dining. A total of 352 parking spaces will be provided in a 4-level subterranean parking garage. The applicant has applied for the following discretionary permits: a Development Review permit (DR 06-003) for a project exceeding 30,000 square feet of floor area, a Design Compatibility Permit (DCP 06-002) for a condominium project in a commercial zone, and a Vesting Tentative Tract Map (TM 06-005) for a one-lot subdivision for condominium purposes.

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS: The Draft EIR determined that implementation of the project will result in the following significant or potentially significant impacts:

Significant Unavoidable Impacts: Construction Effects Transportation/Traffic & Neighborhood Effects
Potentially Significant Impacts: Noise

HOW TO COMMENT: A 45-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the Draft EIR. **The comment period will start on February 22, 2007 and end at 5:30 p.m. on April 9, 2007.** Written comments should be sent to: Jing Yeo, Senior Planner; City Planning Division; 1685 Main Street, Room 212; Santa Monica, CA 90401. Fax: (310) 458-3380. E-Mail: jing.yeo@smgov.net

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: The Draft EIR is available to be viewed at the following locations:

- City Planning Division Public Counter, Room 111, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
- Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
- Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA

Demise of pot dispensary raises questions locally

FROM DISPENSARY PAGE 3

Marijuana has been shown to relieve nerve pains related to HIV and cut back on the vomiting and nausea that accompany cancer chemotherapy, but the exact medical benefits are still debatable.

California voters passed a proposition in 1996 legalizing the sale of medical marijuana. In November 2006, Santa Monica adopted Measure Y, which made adult personal marijuana use the lowest priority for the Santa Monica Police Department.

At the time the Hacienda Heights location opened, no regulations in the county governed marijuana dispensaries.

Knabe led a subsequent effort to make sure the dispensaries would be adequately regulated in the interests of keeping neighborhoods safe.

On May 9, 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that regulated marijuana dispensaries in the county.

The new ordinance contained a clause stating that a marijuana dispensary must be at least 1,000 feet from a sensitive location, such as a school, church or library.

Under the new regulations, the dispensary in Hacienda Heights was out of compliance with that clause.

The operator of the dispensary — California Medical Caregivers Association — has settled with the county and agreed to cease all operations in the unincorporated area of the county for which they have not obtained permits or licenses required under the new regulation.

The operator will vacate the Hacienda Heights location on or before April 30, 2007.

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ATHLETE: 1 in 16,000

ODDS OF A CHILD
BEING DIAGNOSED WITH
AUTISM: 1 in 166



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GOLF

There are streaks, then there's Tiger

BY TIM DAHLBERG
AP Sports Columnist

Tiger Woods has never had any trouble counting on the golf course, though it's not too hard to add up a couple of nines filled with birdies and pars and come up with something in the 60s.

He didn't have a problem counting to four a few years ago either, when the trophies from all the major championships sat on his fireplace mantle at the same time. And he knows exactly how many more majors he has to win (seven) to top the record of 18 held by Jack Nicklaus.

Figuring out his bank balance might be a bit trickier, since it seems to expand by millions every week. No one other than Woods and his accountants know for certain, but estimates are he will in just a few short years become the first athlete to become a billionaire in earnings and endorsements alone.

The math really gets fuzzy this week, though, when Woods tees it up in the Accenture Match Play Championship. In the Arizona desert, he'll try to win his eighth straight PGA Tour event, and move a step closer to a record once thought as insurmountable as Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak.

But wait. It gets even better.

Assuming he wins the Match Play -- and he's won it twice -- it's on to Florida where Woods is expected to play twice in tournaments he usually dominates. Wins there

would get him to 10 straight, one short of the record set by the late Byron Nelson against war-depleted fields in 1945.

So where would a record-tying No. 11 come? How about at Augusta National?

On the 10th anniversary of his astonishing first win in the Masters. In his first Masters since his father died.

They couldn't write a script like this in Hollywood. Way too unbelievable.

Then again, it's hard not to believe. Woods has already proved he's the greatest golfer of his time, and just 11 years into his pro career he's beginning to make a case for himself as the greatest of all time.

He's the only modern player to win four straight majors, and there's little doubt now that he will pass Nicklaus to win the most majors ever. His name is all over the record books and, perhaps most frightening to his fellow players, is that he seems to be getting better with every year.

OK, so there's an asterisk to this latest streak, somewhat like the one attached to the Tiger Slam because Woods didn't win his four consecutive majors in one year. Woods put this one there himself by traveling to Europe, Asia and the Middle East and failing to win four tournaments.

Critics might argue that the streak ended last September when Shaun Micheel pulled off his biggest upset since winning the PGA Championship by beating Woods 4 and 3 in the opening match of the HSBC World Match Play Championship in England.

BASEBALL

A's Johnson is no longer getting his signals crossed

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX Dan Johnson wants to win back a starting job with the Oakland Athletics, and he has one significant thing working for him: He can see again.

Johnson spent the second half of last season at Triple-A Sacramento after beginning the year as Oakland's starting first baseman. While he offers no excuses for why he struggled offensively for the A's, it certainly didn't help that he accidentally squirted sunscreen directly into his right eye on the final day of spring training last year.

The bottle was old and had gobbled up, so when Johnson tried to spritz the cream to his arm it made a hard stream into his eye instead, causing severe trauma. A's trainer Larry Davis witnessed the whole thing and it was later determined that Johnson had double-vision.

Johnson spent last season with what he thought was one blurry eye and tried a variety of different drops. The remedies would work only temporarily before he had to try something new. His eye also felt dry much of the time, and he became used to blinking constantly.

"It would fix the problem for a while," he said of his different methods. "It was infected and ... my eyes got tired."

This winter, he saw four or five doctors who put their heads together to determine what was wrong -- and he received a diag-

nosis just a few weeks ago. Johnson has since been undergoing therapy on the eye and so far is pleased with the results, though he says he won't know right away how much it helps his swing.

"My perception of what was wrong was wrong," he said. "There were dramatic results right away. It's night and day."

The 27-year-old Johnson has been working out at the team's Papago Park complex to get ready for what should be a good competition during spring training. While the A's initially said this offseason that Johnson was all but a lock to be the starting first baseman, the acquisition of outfielder Shannon Stewart earlier this month has club officials backing off on that plan.

If Stewart has a strong spring, he could earn a shot to start in left field, meaning Nick Swisher would play first base rather than in left field as he had been pegged.

"That's going to be the most interesting scenario to play out," manager Bob Geren said. "We have a good problem to have."

Johnson is just happy to finally be feeling like himself again. He figures he's fortunate, because the quick-drying, waterproof sunscreen advises users to call poison control if the substance is swallowed -- of course there weren't any guidelines in the case of spraying it in the eyes.

Johnson batted .237 with seven home runs and 25 RBIs in 72 games before the All-Star break last year, then was optioned to Sacramento.



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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS



WATER TEMP: 59°

SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)
Today we still have plenty of NW swell along the coast, but this will be backing off throughout the day. A system in the Gulf will affect NCal tomorrow, but SoCal should see size back off until the end of the week. More rain though is on the way. Long-range models are showing more NW swell coming down from the Gulf next week.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
NW WITH SW FRIDAY, SATURDAY

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 **February 13, 2007**

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 14
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 29
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / 12

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
Los Camille Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lockase and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	B
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Loriga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	A+
Panero State Beach at creek mouth	B	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Panero Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	A+
Sartrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	B
Sartrider Beach (beach location)- daily	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19049 PCH stairs	A+	A+
Perra Creek at Los Tunes County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+
Tapanga State Beach at creek mouth	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	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+	A

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.

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LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	B	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Palga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantaugay)	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	C	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	B	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	D	B
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Monter storm drain	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A	D
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	A
Venice City Beach, at the Raze Ave. storm drain	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	B	B
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	B
Venice Beach- projection of Topaz St.	A+	D
Marino del Rey, Mothers' Beach- flagpole tower	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballinas Creek mouth	A	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 D&W jetty)	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	A+

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 debris 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 these areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

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See LA Marathon March 4 On Metro

Use Metro Rail and a \$3 Day Pass to see all the action for the 22nd Annual LA Marathon on Sunday, March 4. This year's course starts in Universal City and winds through the heart of LA to finish downtown. Be sure to check metro.net for information on extensive March 4 bus detours prompted by the race.

Transit Village Underway For Hollywood/Vine

Groundbreaking has been held on the Hollywood/Vine Transit Village at Metro Rail's Hollywood/Vine Station. The multi-use development will include 55,000-square feet of retail space, a 300-room hotel, approximately 375 apartments and a two-story below ground parking structure.

Tell Us What You Really Think

Help make a difference in the bus service in your community. Attend Metro's Westside/Central Governance Council meeting on Wednesday, March 14 at 5pm at La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills. For information, search "Metro Westside/Central" at metro.net.



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WSCI-E-07-009

Seize the pay: Don't miss opportunities this April

THE ANNUAL RITUAL OF TAX SEASON HAS BEGUN, AND deadlines are getting closer each day. But as you begin preparing to file your 2006 tax return, now is a good time to review your overall financial picture as well. As with all your investments, it's important to have a good handle on your tax situation so you can maximize any savings opportunities that may exist.

While many of your investment decisions won't be made on the basis of tax planning alone, there are still several tax-related strategies you should consider to help minimize the effects of taxes on your finances, leaving you more money to put away for your own future.

Following are some items to be aware of as you prepare your 2006 tax return, and also a few things to consider as you look to the future as well.

When figuring your taxes each year, it's important to take note of all your capital gains and losses over the course of the year, and come up with a net gain or loss. For investments you've held for one year or less, you'll be calculating what are known as short-term gains or losses. Long-term applies to those investments you've held longer than one year.

To calculate your overall gain or loss, you'll need to start by comparing similar investments. First, you'll net your short-term gains versus short-term losses, and then net your long-term gains versus long-term losses. Once you have those two figures, you can then net short-term against long-term to come up with your total gain or loss for the year. If you're left with a net loss, you can take a deduction for up to \$3,000 against ordinary income on your taxes for that year. Any excess losses over that \$3,000 amount can be carried over to the next year to go through the same netting process again.

Tax time is also a good opportunity to revisit a couple of long-term savings opportunities. The tax filing deadline is the last day to make contributions to a traditional or a Roth IRA and have



Market Matters

Brian Hepp

them counted for the 2006 tax year. So if you haven't already maxed out your contributions for last year, you still have time to get those in. The maximum contribution for 2006 and 2007 is \$4,000, and those aged 50 or older are allowed to make additional "catch-up" contributions of \$1,000. Looking ahead, that contribution limit will be raised to \$5,000 in 2008, meaning the total contribution allowable for those nearing retirement will go up to \$6,000 when their catch-up contributions are added to the mix.

Education Savings Accounts also need to be funded by the April filing deadline. The maximum contribution for these accounts is \$2,000 per child, per year, and ESAs are also subject to certain income requirements. But if you're eligible to contribute to an ESA, now is a good time to consider adding to — or simply establishing — a savings account for your child's education. Keep in mind that contributions made during 2007 for 2006 are still considered gifts for 2007 for federal gift tax purposes. And although contributions to an ESA are not tax-deductible, the funds have the opportunity to grow tax-deferred and distributions are tax-free when used for qualified education expenses.

While the process of filing our taxes is something we may not always enjoy, it's important to take the time to seek out all the benefits you can find. Consulting with financial and tax-planning professionals could help you uncover opportunities you may not have been aware of before.

Brian Hepp is a financial consultant for A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com.

Whole Foods gobbles up Wild Oats

By The Associated Press

Santa Monicans can expect a shake-up in their line of health food markets with Wednesday's news that retailer Whole Foods Market Inc. is buying out its rival Wild Oats Market for about \$565 million.

Under the deal, Whole Foods will pay \$18.50 per share for the company and will assume all of Wild Oats' debt, totaling about \$106 million.

The company said the

share price is a 23 percent premium to the one-month average closing price of the stock. Wild Oats shares closed Wednesday at \$15.72. The share price is a 17.7 percent premium to that closing price.

Whole Foods said it will fund the buy with \$700 million in senior term loans and will enlarge its long-term senior revolving credit facility to \$250 million. Whole Foods Chairman and Chief

Executive John Mackey said the acquisition will help the store compete with larger players that don't only sell natural and organic food.

"Wild Oats Markets will be our largest acquisition and is a great geographical fit as all of our 11 operating regions will gain stores and three of our smallest regions — our Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountain and Florida regions — will gain critical mass," Mackey said.

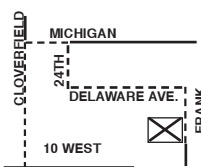
"We will also gain immediate access into a significant number of new markets."

Wild Oats operates 110 stores in 24 states and British Columbia, Canada. Whole Foods said some Wild Oats stores may be closed or relocated if they overlap with stores Whole Foods already has in development.

The chain said it will also make "significant investments" in remodeling the Wild Oats stores.

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for what
the future
holds?
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Horoscopes
on
page 20

Not so brutal

The Police add California dates in Oakland and LA

THE POLICE have added stops in Oakland and Los Angeles to their reunion tour. Promoters on Tuesday announced concerts on June 13 at Oakland's McAfee Coliseum and June 23 at Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles. The band announced their summer reunion tour at the famous Whisky a Go-Go in West Hollywood last week the day after a per-

formance at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, but the tour initially included no California dates. Tickets – which range in price from \$50 to \$225 – will go on sale Monday morning. The group, which recorded hits including “Roxanne” and “Every Breath You Take,” broke up two decades ago. Members Sting, Andy Summers and Stewart

Copeland have since pursued individual careers. They are hoping to rival mammoth recent outings by the Rolling Stones and U2 and will join a crowded reunion lineup this summer that includes Genesis, Van Halen and the Eagles. The Police have scheduled 21 gigs in the United States and Canada, including stops in Las Vegas, Seattle, New Orleans and New York.



NOBODY'S SWEETIE



SEACREST

If we learned anything from Tuesday's installment of “American Idol,” it's that **RYAN SEACREST** and **SIMON COWELL** still get on each other's nerves. A lot. Seacrest went off on Cowell on the Fox network's singing competition after the acerbic judge called him “sweet-heart.” “Don't call me sweet-heart. ... We don't have that kind of relationship,” Seacrest said. “I don't want that kind of relationship.”



COWELL

“I don't want that kind of relationship,” repeated Cowell, to which Seacrest replied: “Exactly. We'll just work together, that's fine with me.” Later in the two-hour broadcast, Seacrest continued to needle Cowell, who was harshly grading the 12 male singers vying to win the “Idol” title and a record contract. “Why are you being so negative tonight? I mean, you've been very, very negative,” Seacrest said. “I'm not being negative,” Cowell replied. “Unlike you, I actually respect the audience at home and I don't – and I don't believe in lying to them.” That didn't appear to go over well with Seacrest, who closed the sing-off by thanking Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and the band – but not Cowell. AP

Britney bounces from rehab ... again

BRITNEY SPEARS left a live-in drug rehabilitation facility early Wednesday, less than a day after checking in, according to several reports. It was the second time in a week that Spears entered a rehab facility and checked out before her first day was finished. The TV news magazine “The Insider” initially reported that Spears called a car service, walked out of the Promises Malibu Treatment Center and left the facility early Wednesday morning. Later, the TV show “Extra” and the celebrity Web site TMZ.com said the 25-year-old pop star had left the center far short of the usual 45-day stay. TMZ said she could-

n't handle rehab and went home. Eddie Michaels, a spokesman for the public relations agency that handles Promises, said he had no comment. He would not confirm that Spears had been there or that she had left. Spears' agent referred calls to her manager, Larry Rudolph, who did not respond to e-mails or messages left at his office and on his cell phone Wednesday. On Tuesday, Rudolph said Spears had voluntarily checked herself into an undisclosed treatment facility. “We ask that the media respect her privacy as well as those of her family and friends at this time,” Rudolph

was quoted as saying. He didn't disclose why she entered rehab. Entertainment TV shows and Web sites reported Friday that Spears had gone in and out of rehab that week. Some reports identified the facility as Eric Clapton's Crossroads center in Antigua, in the Caribbean, but the AP wasn't able to confirm those reports. Spears entered rehab again Tuesday after a meltdown weekend that included shaving her head, having her wrist tattooed and clubbing with friends. On Friday night, she sheared off her hair at a Los Angeles salon, whose owner quickly set up a Web site to auction the shorn locks and

other items Spears left behind. He said he would seek a minimum bid of \$1 million. Since filing for divorce from Kevin Federline in November, after two years of marriage, Spears has been photographed pantyless, wearing skimpy outfits and partying heavily. Federline manager Dan Dymtrow said there would be no comment on Spears' latest rehab departure. Federline's attorney earlier confirmed that Spears and Federline would continue to share custody of 5-month-old Jayden James and 17-month-old Sean Preston this month, following terms of a January custody agreement. AP

Was dead patient moved for Michael?

The family of a woman who died two years ago is suing **MICHAEL JACKSON** and a hospital, claiming the gravely ill patient was moved to make room for the pop star when he arrived with flu symptoms. The complaint, claiming abuse of celebrity status, was filed against Jackson and Marian Medical Center in Santa Maria on Thursday, the second anniversary of the death of Manuela Gomez Ruiz, 73. It seeks unspecified damages. The family had previously complained publicly that

Ruiz, who had suffered a heart attack and was on life support, was suddenly moved to make way for Jackson, whose Feb. 15, 2005, admission caused cancellation of a court session in his child molestation trial. Ruiz suffered a second heart attack and died later that day. The family says she was moved from her two-bed trauma unit to another room. A statement from the medical center said the suit is without merit and is “another frivolous claim to generate publicity.” The statement also

expressed sympathy for the Ruiz family's loss, said she received exceptional care and added: “Patient care and safety is always our priority.” Jackson spokeswoman Raymone K. Bain did not immediately return phone calls seeking comment. Family attorney James McKiernan said in his complaint that a circus-like atmosphere at the hospital because of Jackson's arrival caused “emotional and mental lasting effects” on the Ruiz family. “Manuela Ruiz was dying,”

the suit said. “Michael Jackson was also dying ... dying not to go to court that day.” The pop star was later acquitted of child molestation. The suit alleges intentional infliction of emotional distress, negligent infliction of emotional distress, elder abuse, false imprisonment and conspiracy by Jackson, Marian Medical Center and Catholic Healthcare West, which owns the hospital. AP

Brandy faces second wrongful death suit

A second wrongful death lawsuit has been filed against actress-singer **BRANDY** in a December freeway crash. On Jan. 30, a \$50 million lawsuit claimed Brandy was driving recklessly when her sport utility vehicle struck the back of a Honda driven by Awatef Aboudihaj, 38. The lawsuit was filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on behalf of her parents, Aboudihaj Ahmed and Labridi

Zohra, who reside in Morocco. Awatef Aboudihaj was killed and her two sons, Mrwan Mohamed, 14, and Kareem Mohamed, 10, were injured in the Dec. 30 accident on the San Diego Freeway. The latest lawsuit was filed Feb. 8 by attorney Paul N. Philips on behalf of the two boys. It said unspecified injuries to the children will likely cause some permanent

disability. Damages will be determined at trial, the lawsuit said. “The accident was a terrible tragedy, and Brandy's heart goes out to Awatef Aboudihaj's family. But for legal reasons we cannot comment on this lawsuit,” the singer's spokesman, Allan Mayer, said in an earlier statement. The city attorney's office is still deciding whether to

charge the singer, whose real name is Brandy Norwood, with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter, which was recommended by California Highway Patrol investigators, spokesman Jonathan Diamond said Wednesday. If charged and convicted, Brandy, 28, faces up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. Brandy, who earned a Grammy in 1999, has made five albums. AP

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
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Our Daily Bread
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

Babel (R)
10:15am, 3:45, 7:15, 10:30
Because I Said So (PG-13)
10:55am, 1:30, 4:35, 7:30, 9:55
Breaking and Entering (R)
11:00am, 1:45, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15
Night at the Museum (PG)
10:30am, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00
The Queen (PG-13)
1:25, 9:45

AMC SANTA MONICA 7
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4AMC

Breach (PG-13)
11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:15
Bridge to Terabithia (PG)
1hr 35min 11:00am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:35
Children of Men (R)
11:40am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
10:35am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35
The Messengers (PG-13)
10:30am, 12:35, 2:40, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25
Pan's Labyrinth
(El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
10:40am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls (PG-13)
11:20am, 1:50, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25

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

Captive (Cautiva) (NR)
11:00am
God Grew Tired of Us:
The Story of Lost Boys of Sudan (PG)
11:00am
Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
1:20, 4:45, 8:00
The Lives of Others
(Das Leben der Anderen) (R)
1:10, 4:35, 8:15
My Country, My Country (NR)
11:00am
Puccini for Beginners (NR)
11:00am
Venus (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Volver (R)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

MANN CRITERION
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Ghost Rider (PG-13)
11:00am, 11:40am, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:40, 10:40, 12:15am

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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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

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

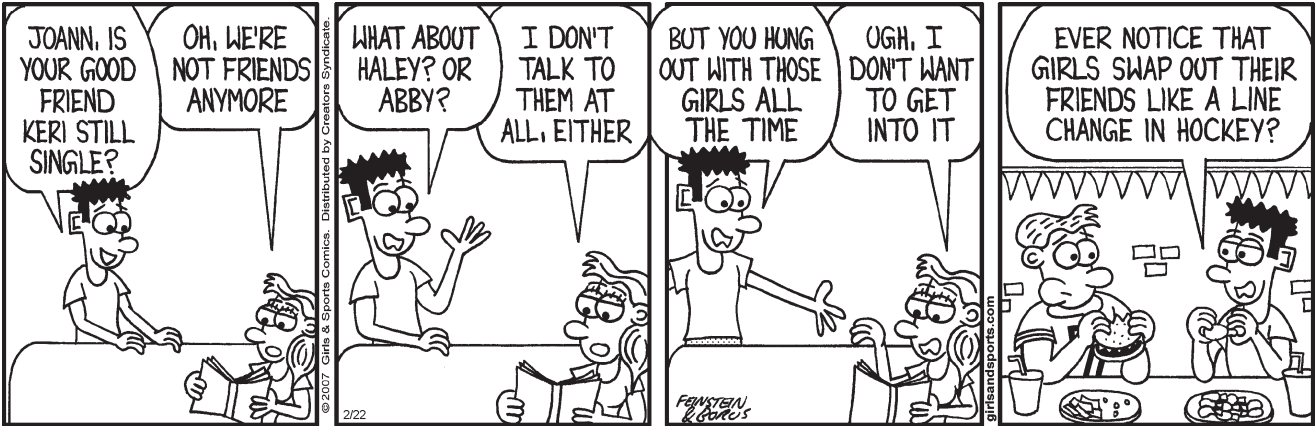
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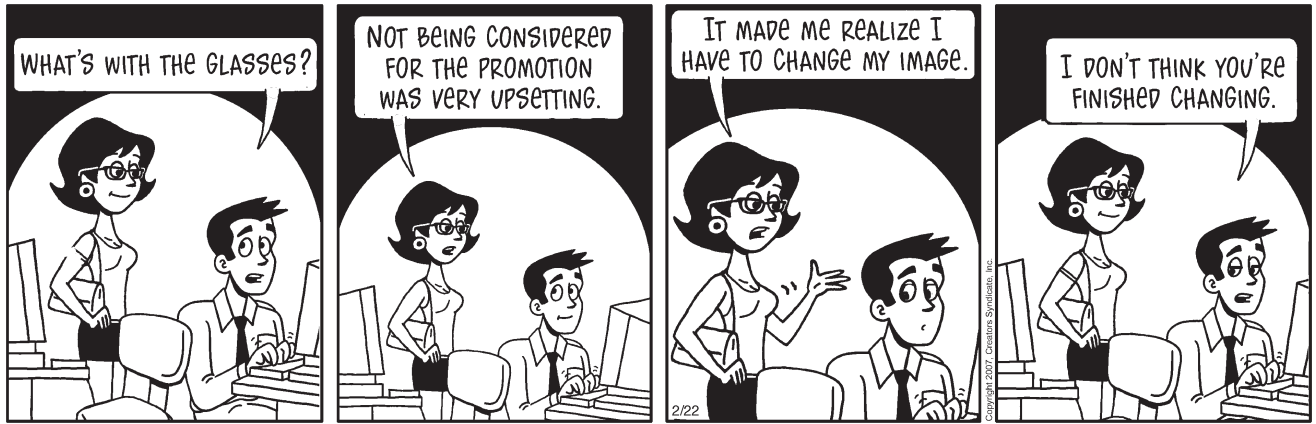
Girls and Sports

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

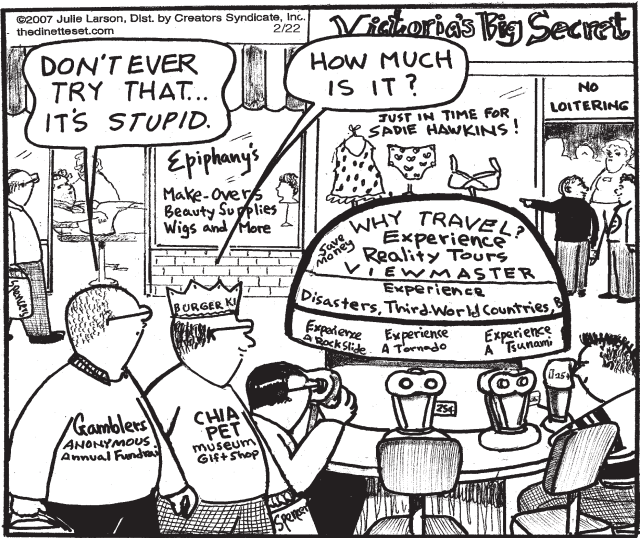


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



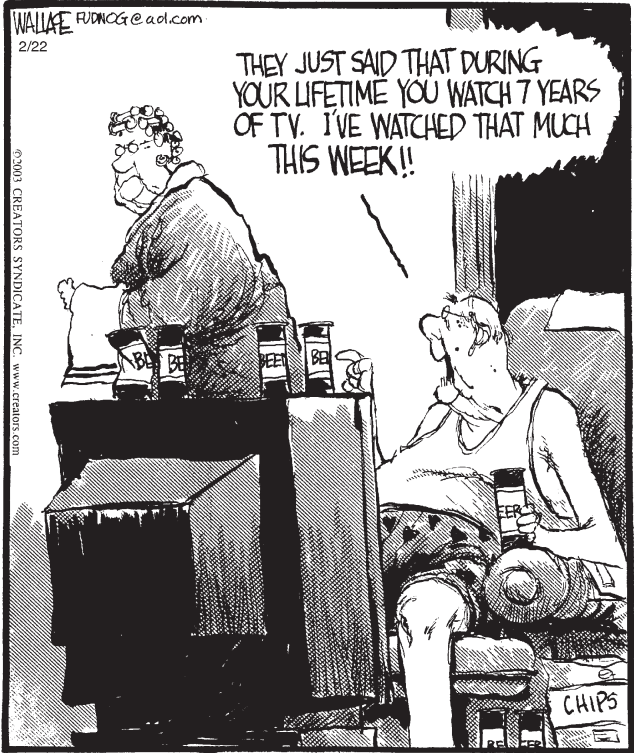
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



din0222.TIF

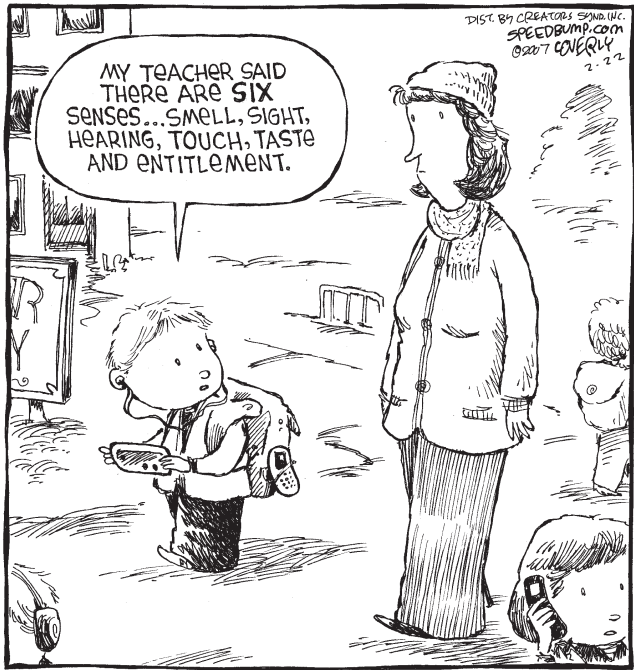
Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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DOWN 1 Truck parts

5 Betrays

11 Border on

12 Broad-way's Stritch

13 Boeotian B

14 Confer

15 Child's racers

17 Classical begin-ning?

18 Conical home

22 Comic tribute

24 Down time for a team

25 Dijon pal

26 Draw

27 Doer's words

30 Deposi-tory

32 Follow

33 Fleming or Holm

34 "Enough!"

38 "Good-fellas" star Ray

41 Rent

42 Lucky charm

43 One of Chek-hov's "Three Sisters"

44 Irrigates

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

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Leave in phone limbo
- 20 Mideast ruler
- 21 Olympics weapon
- 22 Gushing review
- 23 Sign of trouble
- 28 Hurry
- 29 Game dog
- 30 Try the tea
- 31 Arm art
- 35 Feed-bag fill
- 36 Jason's ship
- 37 Eye drop
- 38 Court concern
- 39 "— Believer"
- 40 Ump's cry

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12					
13					14					
15					16					
			17				18		19	20
22	23					24				
25								26		
27				28	29		30	31		
32							33			
				34		35				36
38	39	40						41		
42								43		
44								45		

DAILY LOTTERY

1 9 26 46 51
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: \$177M

31 32 36 39 46
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: \$38M

2 6 15 19 39

MIDDAY: 6 9 4
EVENING: 0 9 6

1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.40.14

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ According to police in Hartselle, Ala., Daniel Brown, 22, wore a ski mask to hide his identity from his grandfather when he staged a home invasion-robbery in January, but when he burst in, he yelled, "I need your money, and I mean it, Pa-Paw." (Nonetheless, when arrested, Brown denied that he was the man behind the mask.) (2) Glenn Vickers, 53, allegedly intoxicated, wildly tailgated a driver in January on Interstate 64 that happened to be Kanawha County, W.Va., sheriff Mike Rutherford in an unmarked car. After jockeying behind Rutherford for a while, Vickers peeled off at an exit and flipped Rutherford the finger, but immediately crashed into a guardrail.

■ "I was 6 when I first became aware of my desire to lose my legs," wrote "Susan Smith" in London's The Guardian in January. "The image I have of myself has always been one without legs." News of the Weird has reported several times on people with "body identity integrity disorder" (apotemnophilia), which leads them to remove one or more limbs (or men their scrota). The worst part, said "Smith," was having to kill her leg, by freezing it in dry ice for at least four hours (she tried twice before it succumbed to an infection), because surgeons cannot ethically amputate a healthy limb. (A 1998 News of the Weird story involved a de-licensed San Diego surgeon who illegally removed limbs of needy men.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1979, followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini seized power in Iran.

1986, Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky was released by the Soviet Union after nine years of captivity as part of an East-West prisoner exchange.

WORD UP!

hoi polloi \hoi-puh-LOI/, noun: The common people generally; the masses.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★ Out of the blue, a possessive streak could develop that might startle even you. You have words of wisdom and insight regarding money and investments. Others might be wise to listen. In some sense, you too could be skeptical of a premonition. Tonight: Donspend if you don't need to.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You are on top of your game, but others might have a strong reaction or might not be able to give you the necessary support you would like. You have strong, clear ideas that will get you where you want to be. Tonight: Just choose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You have more to say than usual, but so do others. You easily could be overwhelmed by what you hear and see. Use your instincts with a touchy person in your life. Play it smart. Make a must appearance. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You have an opportunity to zero in on what you want. Naturally, your perspective and ability to detach might make you even more successful. Don't push yourself so hard. Friends and associates support your ideas. Tonight: Where the action is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Sometimes you need to take the lead. The situation in particular right now encourages you to do just that. A partner or friend has a lot of opinions. You would do well to listen. Together you make a strong team. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ If you walk away from a situation, you will see it far differently from the way you have in the past. Communication will open up as a result. You might be surprised by what you hear. Learn to walk in another's footsteps more often. Tonight: Relax your mind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Others work with you on a one-on-one level. Relate intensely, absorbing others' ideas. You don't need to agree with them, but you can wrap your arms around their ideas. Brainstorm away. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Others have more control than you might be comfortable with. Take your time making a decision, especially if it involves a creative idea or a loved one. Discussions could be animated and lively. Tonight: Choose a movie or a relaxing activity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Emphasize what you can do rather than what you can't. Focus on the positives. A discussion with a family member or a matter involving real estate is significant. Much will come forward if you listen. Tonight: Easy works.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You attract people like honey does a bear. Manifest your inner resources, especially your creativity. You have a discussion that could go much further or deeper than you originally thought. Tonight: Act as if it's the weekend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might be far more anchored than you have been in a while. Though you could make solid decisions, you might not like them when you return to the individualistic Aquarian. Remember, you don't need to do anything. Tonight: Order in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You will have a tendency to tell it like it is. Remember, when you do that, you are simply saying how you perceive the situation. You cannot be the ultimate word. Respect others' opinions. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

Born Today

Basketball player Julius Erving (1950)
Wildlife expert Steve Irwin (1962)
Actress Drew Barrymore (1975)

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

What you say and how you say it really count this year. Others listen and respond in appropriate ways. Lighten up and don't get too intense, especially regarding neighbors and siblings. Driving, communicating and visiting will be very important to the quality of your year. Yes, Pisces, you will be the zodiac socialite! Your sixth sense doesn't always come through for you -- careful. Logic is your ally, which can be difficult for the intuitive Pisces. If you are single, check out your sweetie with care before you decide to totally flip over him or her. Some details or characteristics could be hidden. If you are attached, have more dinners and times alone together.

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This Is No
"Bull"

"If you're gonna play
the game
you're gonna need
the energy"

Santa Monica Daily Press

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RECORD PROMOTOR p/t Santa Monica \$20/hr. (310)998-8305 xt. 87

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PALMS/BEVERLYWD ADJ. \$1300.00 2 Bdrms, 1 1/2 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Parking, No Pets. 2009 Preuss Rd. #11. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr: 101

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SANTA MONICA 833 5th st. unit 101 2bdm/1.75 bath, \$2900/mo, stove, dishwasher, balcony, granite counter tops, carpet and tiling flooring, wood flooring laundry, intercom entry, pool no pets (310)393-2547 jkwproperties.com

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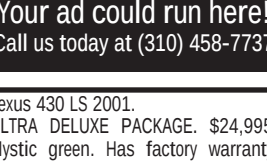
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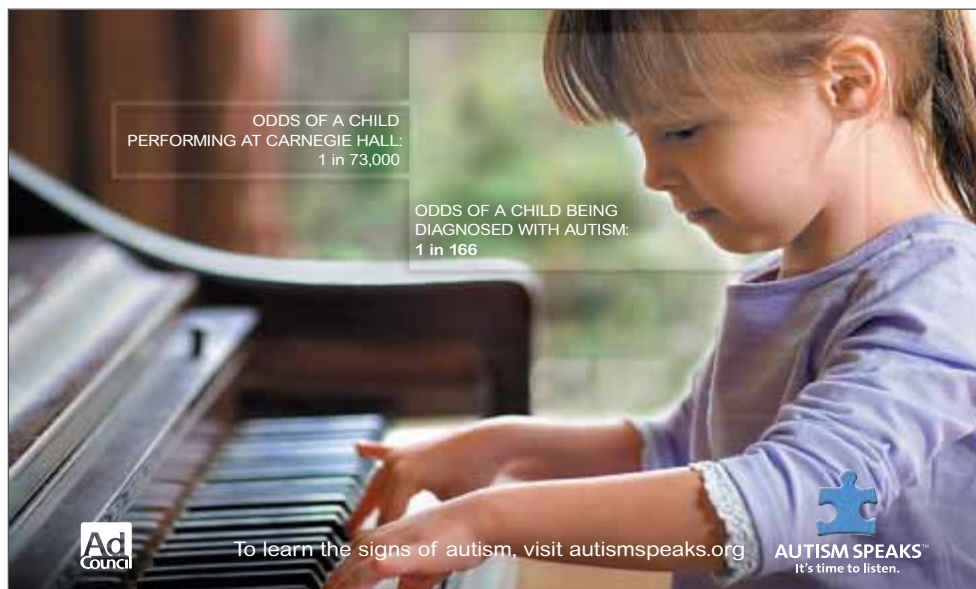
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