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Volume 10 Issue 88



Santa Monica Daily Press

SAFER WATER?
SEE PAGE 7

We have you covered

THE UPGRADE US ISSUE

SMMUSD supe warns against 'sabotage'

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Superintendent Tim Cuneo warned school board members in a confidential memo of possible trouble from three former Special Education Program Task Force members he predicted would "sabotage" district negotiations with City Hall concerning funding from Measures Y and YY, a half cent sales tax increase approved by voters in November.

The City Council moved to withhold $530,000 from the school district until problems with special education, identified in a 2008 independent audit, were addressed. The council gives the school district roughly $7 million annually as part of a joint-use agreement and could give $6 to $7 million more as part of Measures Y and YY.

To address the council's concerns, the task force was formed to study reforms and report back to the superintendent.

In the memo, which the Daily Press received Monday, Cuneo named three for-

SEE MEMO PAGE 12

Friends mourn local yachters killed by pirates

CHRISTINA HOAG & GEORGE TIBBITS
Associated Press

ST. MONICA Four American yachters killed by Somali pirates early Tuesday were longtime sailors whose passion for the high seas outweighed any fear of the risks, friends said.

The yacht's owners, Jean and Scott Adam of Marina del Rey near Los Angeles, along with Bob Riggle and Phyllis Macay of Seattle, were shot to death after pirates

SEE COUPLE PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SAY CHEESE: **Tourists take photos on the Santa Monica Pier last week. A new report finds that the local tourism industry is on the mend.**

Clearer skies ahead for Santa Monica's tourism industry

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN Santa Monica's hotels are nearly 85 percent full and the price per room is rising to levels not seen since before the great recession of 2008, good news for City Hall, retailers and restaurants, many of whom rely heavily on the estimated $1 billion spent by visitors annually.

The city by the sea is fairing far better than many other destinations in the region with an average daily room rate of $255.73 at the end of 2010 compared to $245.84 in '09, according to figures released by Colliers PKF Consulting, which tracks hotel trends and statistics.

While that represents a 4 percent increase, it is still far bellow the '08 rate of $285.85, but all signs are pointing toward a continued climb back to normalcy, said Brandon Feighner, an associate with Colliers PKF.

"Historically, Santa Monica has always faired well," he said. "One of the ways Santa Monica has been able to maintain a high level of occupancy … is the incredible barriers to entry. There's not available land to build new hotels, keeping occupancy levels high. You don't have new competition cannibalizing the market."

The city by the sea also attracts a diverse group of visitors, from the strong group meeting market to the leisure traveler with a family. The high quality of hotel options is also a plus, along with Santa Monica's proximity to LAX and other popular destinations.

"You have a nice mix of affordable to luxury so you are able to capture demand across all segments and all rate levels," Feighner said.

Santa Monica had the highest occupancy rate of any other city in the region monitored by Colliers PKF with 83.6 percent. The closest was the area near LAX with 80.75 percent. Room rates in Santa Monica were also near the top. Beverly Hills was the most expensive, with $360.46.

City Hall received just over $31 million in 2008-09 and 2007-08 in tax revenue generated by hotel stays.

Experts predict a more robust 2011 with planners anticipating an increase in attendance at their events, according to Colliers PFK. Some are predicting some limited growth in the number of events planned. Fifty percent of planners surveyed said that the economy is no longer affecting their choice of destinations and meeting venues.

Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau president Misti Kerns credits Santa Monica's rebound to the hotel managers who did not panic and dramatically reduce rates, instead choosing to maintain quality services while offering smaller discounts or incentives.

"They had a plan and followed it through. Now it's paying off," said Kerns, whose bureau operates on a budget of $2.4

SEE TOURISM PAGE 11

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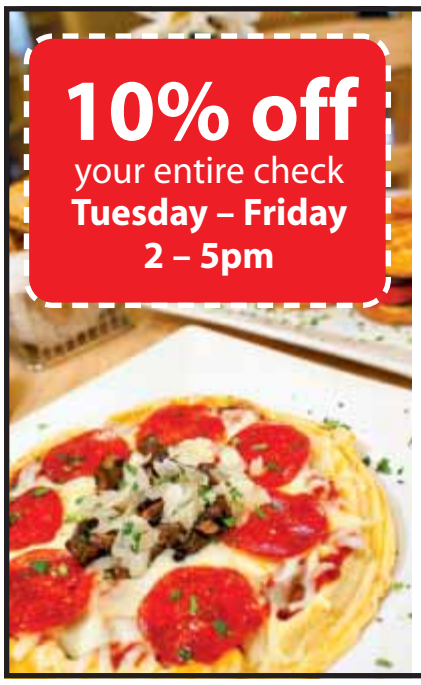
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011

Cut a rug
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club
1210 Fourth St., 7 p.m.
Stop by the Santa Monica Bay Women's Club for a free dance lesson followed by dancing on the 3,000-square-foot floor. For more information, call (310) 487-0911.

Too fresh
Arizona Avenue and Second Street
8:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
This popular market is considered by many to be one of the best in the Los Angeles area. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011

'The Threepenny Opera'
Santa Monica High School
610 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
Samohi's Theater Department presents the classic musical "The Threepenny Opera." With classic songs like "Mack the Knife" and "Pirate Jenny," this gripping musical grapples with the bourgeois capitalism and modern morality prevalent in Victorian London. This show runs through March 4. For more information, visit www.samohitheatre.org.

Peter Fletcher plays the library
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Renowned classical guitarist Peter Fletcher will play a special free concert at the Main Library. Tickets will be available at 6 p.m. For more information, visit www.smpl.org.

All about Al Taylor
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 7 p.m.
New York artist Terry Winters speaks about Al Taylor and his work. Winters will discuss Taylor's artistic process and the New York art scene in which it developed. For more information, call (310) 453-9184.

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

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

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





Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ON THE MARKET: **Residents who lived at this rental property on 10th Street will split a $20,000 settlement from U.S. Bank.**

Renters to receive $20K from U.S. Bank

City Attorney's Office secures settlement in tenant harassment case

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

10TH STREET The City Attorney's Office reached a $20,000 settlement last week with U.S. Bank after tenants of a Santa Monica rental property accused the corporation of harassment.

Tenants from a property on the 1400 block of 10th Street first filed a complaint against the bank in April 2010, claiming that bank representatives were trying to force them from their homes, said Deputy District Attorney Eda Suh.

The building in question is a rent-controlled property subject to Santa Monica Rent Control law, which means tenancies can be terminated for a limited number of reasons, including failure to pay rent, or violation of the lease.

The tenants claimed that they had received letters from the bank telling them they owed past due rent, written notices to vacate the premises and in-person pressure from manager Gret Geunther of AGP Asset Management in Woodland Hills, according to a press release issued by the City Attorney's Office.

An investigation confirmed that water service to the building was cut off for half a day, and tenants further alleged that Geunther threatened to shut off utilities.

Two people left the residence as a result of the harassment, Suh said.

Suh became involved when the renters approached the Rent Control Board. Staff there referred the matter to the city attorney.

"We get complaints from tenants, investigate them and a lot of times we will pursue it with the owner to get their side," Suh said. "Where appropriate, we will pursue criminal charges."

This case was settled out of court, without a complaint filed on behalf of the city attorney.

Under the settlement agreement, U.S. Bank agreed to pay the two remaining tenants $4,000 each, and reimburse one tenant her attorney fees; pay $5,700 to each of the two tenants who moved out; follow an injunction against future violations of Santa Monica's Tenant Harassment Ordinance; and requiring the bank's broker and property manager to complete a City Hall-approved management training course.

Geunther refused to comment for this story. Edward Treder, the attorney representing U.S. Bank, was unavailable for comment.

ashley@smdp.com

Demand Media reaches profitability for first time

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Santa Monica-based online content manufacturer Demand Media Inc. made money for the first time in the fourth quarter.

It posted earnings of $1 million in the final three months of 2010, compared with a loss of $3.9 million in the prior year.

But the positive results turned into a loss for accounting purposes because of preferred stock that converted to common shares as part of Demand Media's initial public offering of stock last month. Factoring in that conversion, Demand Media lost $7.6 million, or 54 cents per share. That conversion formula won't affect Demand Media's future results.

Revenue totaled $73.6 million, a 33 percent increase from the prior year's $55.5 million.

In extended trading Tuesday after the release of results, shares lost 48 cents, or 2.1 percent, to $22.40. In regular trading earlier, it closed at $22.88, up 1 percent.

Demand Media assigns roughly 13,000 freelance writers to produce stories about frequently searched topics and then sells ads alongside the content at its own websites, including eHow.com

SEE **DEMAND** PAGE 10

U.S. Justice official to head campaign-finance panel

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO Gov. Jerry Brown has appointed a U.S. Justice Department official to head the commission that regulates campaign financing in California.

Ann Ravel was named chairwoman of the California Fair Political Practices Commission on Tuesday.

She has been a deputy assistant U.S. attorney general handling civil cases since 2009, and was Santa Clara County counsel from 1998 to 2009.

Ravel, a 61-year-old Democrat from Los Gatos, replaces Dan Schnur, a Republican appointed by former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. She will make $132,179 a year.

Brown also named Sean Eskovitz to the commission. The Republican lawyer from Santa Monica was an assistant U.S. attorney in New York from 1999 to 2003. Eskovitz will earn $100 per meeting.

The commission was created when voters approved the Political Reform Act of 1974.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

So much for the Information Age

Editor:

All of the local and national media outlets have announced that Lakers great Kobe Bryant will have his hand and foot prints immortalized at Grauman's Chinese Theater. This tradition, as many know, goes back to the 1920s. Every single press release and news report mentioning the Feb. 19 event states, in one way or another, that Kobe "will be the first athlete to be immortalized in the front court at Grauman's ..." blah blah yada yada.

This is not true!

Sonja Henie, the Olympic champion ice skater had her hands and feet (skate blades, actually) imprinted at Grauman's in June, 1937. That she had become an actress does not negate the fact that she was an athlete, and, like Kobe, a champion in her sport. Why is it that in this so-called "Information Age," no one seems to do any damn research?

The ball is in your court, Kobe. Care to pass an apology Sonja's way, or do you and your publicists skate on this?

James Zeruk, Jr.
Santa Monica

Aren't there greater concerns?

Editor:

Regarding the bike path debate going on between Jon Mann (et al) and Geno Schotte (et al), why can't we do the progressive thing and create a separate state down the beach for pedestrians along the east bank of the controversial fiefdom of the bikers?

Ah, but then the bikers would probably want to build houses on it and the pedestrians would still make illegal border crossings to create mischief. Oh, oh! I know! We could then build a wall!

It's nice to see people so concerned about the most pressing issues of our times. Welcome to Mayberry, BFD.

Alan Toy
Santa Monica



Your column here



Sherece West — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Changing the way ed grants are awarded to students

DESPITE THE NOTION THAT FIXING the nation's public schools may require an "act of superman," a coming together of not just educators, education officials, policymakers, parents and students, but education grantmakers as well, might actually be the "force of nature" needed to turn around our failing schools.

A few months ago, I attended the largest gathering of education funders for a conference that focused on "fulfilling the promise of excellence and equity." I hope that participants of the Grantmakers for Education conference wrestled with some startling findings from a new study. Every year, grantmakers give billions of dollars in grants for education. But only a few of them provide funding to address the specific needs of all students, especially those most in need — lower-income and other underserved students — and an even smaller number supports efforts to solve our education crisis, according to a report recently released by the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, a watchdog group based in D.C.

In "Confronting Systemic Inequity in Education: High Impact Strategies for Philanthropy," Kevin Welner and Amy Farley examine the system-wide issues that feed the cycle of unequal educational access and opportunities faced by students from marginalized communities. Welner, director of the National Education Policy Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Farley argue that education reform cannot take place without breaking this cycle, and this requires change in the way philanthropy directs its resources.

It's a myth to think that schools function as a meritocracy and provide universal opportunities. This is simply not the case. American students face glaring inequities in educational opportunities, and this injustice is tied powerfully to parental wealth, education, ethnicity and race. It's inexcusable for our nation's school system to operate as a tide that lifts only those boats not leaking, while leaving others in disrepair to sink to the ocean floor. Education grantmakers can and should use their financial clout to stimulate a rising tide that successfully lifts the most vulnerable to drive system-wide and long-term solutions.

Welner and Farley recommend two high impact strategies for foundations to be more effective at transforming American education: dedicate at least 50 percent of their education grantmaking towards supporting marginalized communities and at least 25 percent towards influencing public policy through advocacy, community organizing and civic engagement.

I support these recommendations because one can't ignore the large population of students that is disproportionately without access to quality education. And you can't claim you're seeking reform without engaging in the policymaking process.

NCRP analysis shows that of the 672 foundations that gave at least $1 million in education grants from 2006 to 2008, only 11 percent devoted at least half of their philanthropic dollars for the benefit of vulnerable schoolchildren. Only 2 percent allocated at least one quarter of their grantmaking for systemic change.

Marginalized communities — primarily children in low-wealth families and children of color, but also English language learners, gay and gender-nonconforming youth, students with disabilities, immigrant youth, rural students and females in male-dominated fields — consistently experience public education in much less positive ways than their more-advantaged peers. As a result, they are more likely to not graduate from high school or college and in general have decreased economic potential following school. Sadly, this trend continues from generation to generation.

Collaboration between a foundation and a marginalized community it serves has many benefits. Each advances the goals of the other. But foundations must significantly raise their expectations and address systemic inequities for real, permanent change in our education system to occur.

Grantmakers fund education in a variety of ways, including providing funds for direct scholarships to students, research dissemination and curricular development. They also can prioritize programs through designated giving that advances greater opportunity and equity for marginalized students. As Welner and Farley contend, this type of giving is both targeted and universal and will result in greater impact if these twin priorities were addressed.

The report also claims that grantmakers can and should address both immediate needs and systemic, transformative reform. It's important to realize that one does not preclude the other. Education funders have at their disposal a variety of tools, from advocacy for a campaign, a particular issue or marginalized group to organizing at the community level, voter engagement, technical assistance and other forms of policy engagement.

All children deserve a future that provides opportunities instead of thwarting dreams and possibilities. Philanthropy needs to be part of efforts to break apart an unjust system that offers better education to those who are wealthy while failing to acknowledge the needs of those in marginalized communities. Equalizing opportunities through education for all children makes us all heroes.

WEST is president and CEO of Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation. She is a member of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy's board.

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

This girl knows what she wants

OPINIONS ARE LIKE ARMPITS, EVERYBODY seems to have two of them, and usually they both stink. While I recognize that fact in theory, it doesn't mean in practice that I was prepared for my daughter to have a point of view, never mind many of them — often times several of them a day — and certainly not when she was just 2-and-a-half years old.

I mean, it wasn't as if I thought she'd never have a mind of her own. When I was pregnant and dreamed about the kind of person she'd grow up to be, I imagined her personality would blossom and peak simultaneously when she delivered her inspiring and historic inaugural address to the country as the first female president. Or her true colors would premiere when she stood before a judge to plead for mercy (since you never know which way that fork in the road will take you, I was just trying to prepare myself to love her no matter what, just like Sarah Palin's mom and dad must have had to do).

As a parent, you spend the first few years wondering what's on your kid's mind.

"Are you hungry?"

"Can you tell me where it hurts?"

"Who do you love more, Mommy or Daddy? And it's just you and Mommy here, so go ahead and be honest."

You scratch your head while trying to project what they're thinking and feeling, impatiently waiting for the day when they can give voice to what's actually happening in their heads. At that point you realize you were way better off when they threw spoons, shed tears (yours or theirs) and bit things in order to communicate.

On Sunday, Rick and I were getting ready to take our daughter to the pool. I grabbed a bathing suit out of her drawer.

"No like!" she declared as soon as she spied it. I took a closer look at it. It had flowers on the straps, a series of pink and green swirls on the body and a little tulle skirt around the waist. For a girl who enjoys a tutu over her fleece sweat-pants and butterfly barrettes in her hair along with a headband and double-braided ponytails, the choice of swim-wear hardly seemed like a fashion faux pas.

She pulled a swim shirt out of the same drawer.

"Dis one! Dis one!"

"No, sweetie," I said. "I don't know where the bottoms are to go with that. What about this one?" I asked, pulling out a blue polka dot one-piece.

Her eyes widened with horror as she kicked and thrashed her arms wildly in the air. "No! No like it!"

"Well, if you want to go swimming you have to pick one of these two suits. You can't wear a top with no bottoms."

She continued to howl. "Would you like a time out?" I asked.

The water works stopped abruptly. "OK," she said calmly as I wondered for the umpteenth time how time outs are supposed to be effective when a kid is left in her room to play with her toys undisturbed.

Two minutes later, Battle Bathing Suit resumed until a fourth suit was found and mutually agreed upon. I sighed, remembering how much easier life was when I could dress her in a full-body pumpkin suit, pose her for pictures with other varieties of squash and send it around as an e-card, pushing aside any worries about her feelings until she stumbles across the evidence sometime after I'm dead.

It's not just her clothes that she cares about now.

"No night-night," she'll say matter-of-factly when we tell her it's time for bed. Then she'll repeat it a second time, and then again, only the third time, she'll shriek it, just in case you weren't sure she means business.

"STAY DOWNSTAIRS!" she avers.

Sure, sometimes her having an opinion will work in everyone's favor. Like if I know exactly what she wants for dinner (which is usually peanut butter and jelly or peanut butter and jelly) I don't have to guess and cook enough food to rival the amount of choices on a Cheesecake Factory menu, all of which will inevitably go to waste when she shakes her head and pushes each dish away as I set it down in front of her.

When I wake her up from her nap each afternoon (which might seem like a cardinal sin, until you realize that the longer she sleeps during the day, the longer she stays up to torture us at night), she realizes anew how much she had been enjoying her midday snooze.

"I go stay in bed," she commands.

"I GO STAY IN BED," she'll say again louder, in case English isn't your first language, or in case you missed the daggers in her sleepy, yet determined eyes the first time. The truth is, we've kind of realized that if she wants something, we're all generally happier if she just gets it. We can deal with whatever consequences that results in when she's a teenager, which is the time in her life when we figured we'd be battling with her and her opinions anyway.

Sometimes it's hard to argue with a girl who knows what she wants. Although she seems determined to make it much easier.

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

Safe on the streets

There has been talk lately that Santa Monica's streets could stand to be safer for bike riders and pedestrians.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What would you do to make the streets safe for all parties involved?

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

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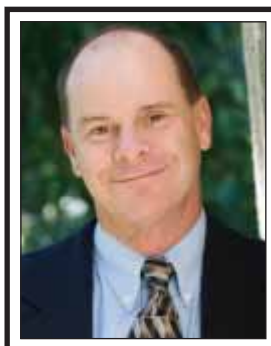


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Testimony over pay begins in Bell corruption case

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A resident who demanded salary figures after becoming suspicious that officials of his modest Southern California suburb were paying themselves gigantic salaries testified Tuesday that he was given amounts that were much lower than they were actually receiving.

Roger Ramirez was the first witness to testify at a preliminary hearing to determine if there is enough evidence for former Bell city manager Robert Rizzo to stand trial on more than 50 counts of fraud and other charges.

Authorities claim Rizzo masterminded a scam that bilked the blue-collar suburb of more than $5.5 million in inflated salaries for him and other officials, including members of the City Council.

Ramirez said he began to hear rumors in 2008 that Rizzo was paid $400,000 a year to run the city where one in six residents live in poverty. He said he went to a City Council meeting to confront Rizzo.

"He immediately said, 'No, Mr. Ramirez, if I would be making $400,000 a year I wouldn't be working here,'" Ramirez testified.

In fact, Rizzo was making $1.5 million a year in salary and benefits, according to city records, when he was fired last year. He has pleaded not guilty to misappropriation of public funds, conflict of interest and falsification of public records.

The mayor and most of the rest of the City Council members were paid about $100,000 a year.

Ramirez said he was initially told he could obtain the salary figures for Rizzo and council members if he filed a public records request with City Hall. The records he later received showed Rizzo was paid about $15,000 a month, and City Council members just a few hundred dollars a month, he said.

The testimony by Ramirez came after Superior Court Judge Henry J. Hall denied a request by Rizzo to dismiss himself from the hearing.

In court documents filed on behalf of Rizzo and three other current and former officials, Rizzo questioned if Hall could provide a fair hearing.

At a similar hearing last week, Hall ordered the mayor, vice mayor and four other current and former Bell officials to stand trial on nearly two dozen fraud charges, calling their actions appalling.

"Judge Hall is not coming to Mr. Rizzo's hearing with a clean slate and an open mind," the court documents said. "He already has formed extremely strong and entirely negative opinions regarding the council defendants' work with Mr. Rizzo."

Hall said the previous hearing in no way influences this one.

The current hearing also involves former assistant city manager Angela Spaccia, who was paid more than $375,000 a year, Mayor Oscar Hernandez and former Councilman Luis Artiga.

Spaccia is charged with four counts of misappropriation of public funds, with three involving loans of nearly $300,000 she received from Rizzo. Hernandez and Artiga are charged with illegally accepting loans of city money from Rizzo that authorities say he was not authorized to make.

Defense attorneys don't contest that city officials took loans or were paid high salaries, but maintain their actions were not illegal and that they dutifully paid back the loans.

"We have very little to dispute on the facts," Spaccia's lawyer, Russell G. Petti, said during a brief opening statement. "We believe the facts don't add up to a crime."

Frisco may be in for rare snow

TERRY COLLINS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Yes, it's really possible that downtown San Francisco might see its first snowfall in more than 30 years later this week.

Might being the operative word.

An unsettled cold air mass dropping from the Gulf of Alaska will bring colder temperatures and periods of rain to the San Francisco Bay Area, the National Weather Service said Tuesday. The mass could drop any snow amounts to sea level.

That likely means snow at higher elevations and — possibly — light snow to downtown San Francisco for the first time since 1976, said Bob Benjamin, a weather service forecaster in Monterey.

"I really won't say it's not going to happen, if we do experience snow, you may see it in the air, but it will likely be gone before it hits the ground," Benjamin said.

However, the snow could likely stick to metal surfaces up in San Francisco's Twin Peaks, as well as the Hills in neighboring Oakland, he added.

"It's so rare," Benjamin said. "Any snow will be temporary. Probably long enough to take a picture, if you have a camera with a fast shutter."

Showers in the area are expected to start Thursday, peaking on Friday with more rain on Saturday. Highs are expected to be only in the 30s by Saturday, conditions just right for rain to possibly turn into snow.

Overnight lows are expected to also be in the 30s on Friday and Saturday nights.

The Bay Area has already seen snow on some of its mountain peaks after a nearly four inches of precipitation, last week.

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Santa Monica High School

Date	Team	Opponent	Location	Time
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PLAYOFFS	**Long Beach Poly** - Wed. 2/23/11 at 7pm, at Long Beach			
BOYS SOCCER				
PLAYOFFS	Wed. 2/23/11 , 3:15 @ La Puente , if win they play Fri. 2/25/11 time and place TBD			
GIRLS SOCCER				
PLAYOFFS	Tue. 2/22/11 @ 6pm if win play Thurs. 2/24/11 time and place TBD			
BOYS BASEBALL				
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Wednesday, March 2, 2011 6:30 PM
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Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 6:30 PM

No other business will be conducted at the Meeting.

Lawmaker's bill calls for less carcinogen in tap water

LIEN HOANG
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Saying clean drinking water should be a basic right, a California lawmaker on Tuesday proposed a strict limit on the amount of a known carcinogen in tap water.

Assemblywoman Nora Campos, D-San Jose, introduced legislation that would require the state Department of Public Health to place limits on hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium 6, by Jan. 1, 2013.

If the agency does not act in time, California would adopt a limit of 0.02 parts per billion, compared with the federal standard of 100 parts per billion.

The legislation was backed by lawyer and environmental advocate Erin Brockovich, who was scheduled to attend a news conference on the proposal but was forced to cancel because of illness.

Brockovich's fight for clean water in the desert town of Hinkley brought national attention to hexavalent chromium and inspired a 2000 movie named after her.

Hinkley has seen an increase in the chemical in its tap water in recent months, although studies have found no abnormal increase in cancer rates.

The toxin can cause cancer in humans, while animal research has shown it can damage the stomach, intestines, liver and lymph nodes.

Campos said Tuesday that she did not know what her changes would cost, but she called clean drinking water the most basic human right.

"It is unacceptable that in the state of California we have families that are forced to wonder whether every glass of water they drink or their child drinks may contribute to an early demise," she said.

In December, the Environmental Working Group found that drinking water in 31 of 35 cities nationwide had more than 0.02 parts per billion of hexavalent chromium. Riverside and San Jose were among the cities with the highest levels.

U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, both Democrats from California, have called on the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate hexavalent chromium in tap water.

Social media dog, injured Marine meet

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Noble is a four-legged Facebook star with thousands of friends. Sam is a 23-year-old Marine who was paralyzed in a car accident.

After months, the two have been matched.

Noble, a golden retriever, was raised from a pup and trained as a service dog as his online fans logged in every day, sharing stories and offering words of encouragement.

Sam Farr, 23, of Oceanside joined the Marines right out of high school. He was on duty in North Carolina two years ago when the car he was in went out of control and over a cliff, partially severing his spinal cord.

It would be a month before he woke from a coma in a Georgia hospital. He was paralyzed, unable to use his hands or walk. During Farr's rehabilitation, volunteers from a group called Canine Assistants visited the hospital with service dogs that would lick Farr's hand. When Farr was asked if he'd like a dog, he said yes.

It was more than 18 months of hard work for both before they met a few weeks ago.

"He jumped straight in my lap and started licking me in the face," Farr said. "They brought two other dogs. I had to continually give the other dogs treats to get them to respond to me. With Noble, I didn't have to do that."

Only after they knew it was a match did Canine Assistants tell Farr about Noble's Facebook fame. "They asked me if I knew anything about Facebook and I said, 'I am the king of Facebook.'"

Farr promised Noble's fans he would figure out a way to keep them posted. "They have nothing to worry about. Dogs are one of the greatest creatures on God's planet. I will take care of him like he takes care of me," Farr said.

Her son knows the value of friendship, said his mom, Crystal Farr. After the accident, Farr's three best friends went to school to learn how to do IVs and take care of him in an emergency. "Sam loved that they did that for him," Mrs. Farr said.

Farr said he hopes he and Noble can go to school, and they are planning a Caribbean cruise. They've only known each other a few weeks, but Farr said Noble already knows when he's feeling bad. "He'll come to my room and lay his head in the bed next to me and make sure I'm doing OK."

For Farr, the hardest part of being paralyzed is going out. "Sometimes I feel there's no point, like it's a waste of time because I can't do the things I used to do."

But he and Noble have been to the mall, the movies and a restaurant, and going out is starting to have more appeal.

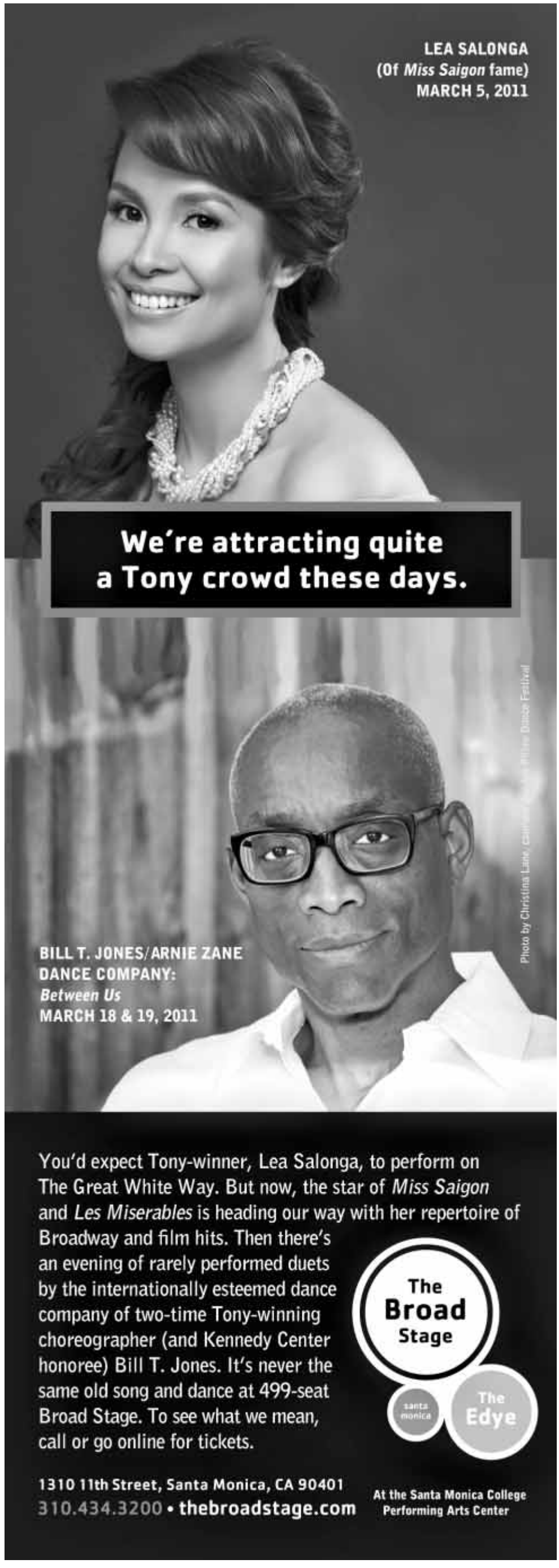
Mrs. Farr said her son is constantly dropping things. She used to retrieve them, but now Noble does. "He's so fantastic. Sometimes I forget he's a dog because he reacts so much like a human," she said.

Mrs. Farr is comfortable enough now to go back to work as a CPR instructor for the American Heart Association.

Noble's Facebook page, chronicling his journey to becoming a service dog, is part of an ad campaign for Milk-Bone. He has over 34,000 friends and counting.

A copyrighter on the campaign, Will Decher, summed up the feelings of those who got to know Noble over the months: "You can teach a dog tricks, rules and commands, but you can't teach a dog how to have a Noble heart."





STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Body found inside home gutted by fire

Firefighters have found the body of a woman inside a gutted Los Angeles home.

City fire spokesman Devin Gales says the blaze broke out in the Studio City home at about 3 a.m. Tuesday and it was extinguished about 20 minutes later. The cause of the fire hasn't been determined.

City News Service says the name of the female victim hasn't been disclosed.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Second body unearthed in backyard is wife

Investigators say a second body unearthed from the backyard of a Los Angeles County drug house is the wife of the homeowner whose body was dug up last week.

Deputy Bill Brauberger says Gabriela Stein's remains were found Saturday afternoon in the unincorporated Lennox area backyard where her 53-year-old husband Daniel Stein was discovered on a week ago. City News Service says identification of Gabriela Stein was confirmed Sunday evening.

Gabriela Stern went missing about a month after Stein's mother reported him missing Dec. 17.

The Sheriff's Department describes 26-year-old Marcos Lomeli, who was arrested on Feb. 16, as a person of interest in the case. He is in custody on unrelated charges of robbery and carjacking.

AP

EL CENTRO

Interior Secretary reassures off-roaders

U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has gone to one of Southern California's most popular off-road spots to assure dune buggy enthusiasts that they fit into federal conservation plans.

Salazer and Bureau of Land Management chief Bob Abbey toured the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area during the busy President's Day weekend. Salazar raced over the dunes in a sand rail.

The Los Angeles Times says Salazer and Abbey stressed that motorized recreation fits into the Obama administration's vision of America's Great Outdoors, a conservation and health initiative rolled out last week that is heavy on land preservation.

The 160,000-acre federally-managed recreation area has long been the focal point of legal wrangling between off-roaders seeking to keep acreage open and environmentalists demanding protection of the dunes' sensitive plant and animal species.

AP

Many bus crash victims still hospitalized

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAKE ARROWHEAD A church bus driver caused a crash that plunged the vehicle off a San Bernardino County mountain road, killing him and injuring 23 others, mostly children, authorities said Tuesday.

Won Seok Chae, 61, lost control on a curve and crossed the double-yellow line on Highway 189 on Monday before the bus struck an SUV, sheared off a telephone pole, slid 20 feet down an embankment and came to rest against a tree, according to a statement from the county Sheriff-Coroner's Department.

Chae, of Los Angeles, died at the scene.

Eleven people remained hospitalized, three of them critically.

The most seriously injured was a 12-year-old girl who remained unconscious. Jae-Yun Ha was listed in extremely critical condition with severe head injuries and abdominal bleeding.

"Her biggest challenge is the recovery of her brain function," said Dr. Dev GnanaDev, medical director and chief of surgery at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton.

Caleb Kim, 17, and a 28-year-old woman were in critical but stable condition, he said.

All three have had multiple surgeries, he said.

Two other people with broken bones were in stable condition when they were transferred Tuesday to the Kaiser Permanente hospital in Hollywood, GnanaDev said.

There was no immediate word on their condition at that hospital.

Six people remained hospitalized at Loma Linda University Medical Center, some with broken bones. Two boys, ages 12 and 14, were listed in serious condition and three children, ages 12, 14 and 16, were in fair condition along with an 18-year-old girl.

The bus was carrying 18 youngsters and four adults from the Light of Love Mission Church, a Korean congregation in Pasadena. It was returning from a weekend retreat in Twin Peaks, about 70 miles east of Los Angeles.

It was unclear how fast the bus was going when it collided with the Nissan Murano, California Highway Patrol Officer Mario Lopez said.

Alcohol and weather conditions have been ruled out as contributing factors in the crash, Lopez said, adding that it was sunny and the road was wet but not icy.

The bus, a 1998 Blue Bird, passed a CHP inspection in March, he said.

Lopez said with the driver's death, it was unlikely that anyone will be criminally charged in connection with the crash.

John Cho, a church deacon, said the bus driver was a professional driver who volunteered to make the trip.

Lee said he normally would have driven the bus.

"I was supposed to be driving, but I had a job to do," Lee said Monday as he choked back tears. "So I asked other church member to drive."

The Korean Presbyterian church planned a prayer meeting Tuesday night.

The congregation was suffering, the Rev. Seong Park said.

"It's very, very painful," he told the Riverside Press-Enterprise. "There is a lot of crying, a lot of pain, a lot of heartache."

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Hollywood


Weaker New Zealand quake packed a deadlier punch

ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES The latest New Zealand earthquake is much weaker than the one that rocked the area last September yet caused much more destruction.

Why? Scientists say it's all about location, location, location.

Tuesday's magnitude-6.3 quake was centered about 3 miles from the populated hub of Christchurch, toppling buildings and killing dozens.

The location, the timing during the middle of a workday and the quake's shallow depth of 3 miles combined to make a deadly mix.

The jolt "is squarely beneath the city itself," said seismologist Egill Hauksson of the California Institute of Technology. "All the old historic buildings are being shaken more violently than they were built to withstand."

Scientists classified it as an aftershock of the powerful magnitude-7 that struck last Sept. 4.

No one died in that early morning quake — which was 11 times stronger — mainly because it was centered farther away, about 30 miles west of the city center. It was also twice as deep as Tuesday's aftershock. Shallower quakes tend to be more damaging.

While New Zealand has strict building codes, Christchurch has a number of pre-World War II buildings that were badly damaged by the September quake, which also triggered landslides in the area.

Another reason why this latest quake was more deadly is because buildings that were previously weakened by ground shaking were more likely to suffer damage or even collapse this time around, said Tom Jordan, who heads the Southern California Earthquake Center.

Many cities on the U.S. West Coast face similar seismic risks, experts say.

The West Coast has similar soil as New Zealand, which can turn to mush during an earthquake and worsen damage done by shaking, said Robert Yeats, professor emeritus of geology at Oregon State University.

"New Zealand has some of the most progressive building codes in the world. They are better prepared for an earthquake like this than many U.S. cities would be," Yeats said in a statement.

Since September, about half a dozen aftershocks greater than magnitude-5 have rattled Christchurch. Tuesday's was the largest aftershock to date.

"You can have an aftershock months after the main shock," said geophysicist Paul Earle of the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo. "Just because a few months have gone by doesn't mean you can't have a large, damaging earthquake."

L.A. County firefighters mobilized for New Zealand

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A Los Angeles County Fire Department urban search-and-rescue unit is being mobilized for deployment to earthquake-stricken New Zealand.

Chief Deputy John Tripp says the unit known as California Task Force 2 is expected to depart Los Angeles late Tuesday aboard a commercial flight.

The team includes 74 specially trained firefighters supported by doctors and civil engineers, and 55,000 pounds of equipment. Tripp says search dogs will not be going because there are already dogs on scene and there is a quarantine on dogs.

The Los Angeles County firefighters will be prepared for "heavy rescue," anticipating the need to drill or dig through concrete reinforced buildings where people may be trapped.

Tripp says a half-dozen teams are responding to the disaster in Christchurch, including groups from Australia, Singapore and Japan.

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COUPLE
FROM PAGE 1

boarded their yacht Friday and took them hostage several hundred miles south of Oman.

The pirates shot the four after firing a rocket-propelled grenade at a U.S. warship, one of several vessels tracking the hijacked boat over the weekend. Fifteen men were captured.

Friends, family and fellow sailors remembered the four as adventurous, with a zest for life, but also as meticulous planners who were well aware of the dangers of the open seas.

The Adams had been sailing full-time on their 58-foot yacht, the Quest, since December 2004 after retiring. They often travelled with friends, and on this trip were joined by Riggle and Macay, who left Seattle nine or 10 months ago.

At St. Monica's Catholic Church in Santa Monica, where the Adams were longtime parishioners and Jean Adam sang in the choir, Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson described the killings as heartbreaking during morning Mass.

The Adams took Bibles with them to distribute to far-flung corners of the world, he said.

"They were an extraordinary couple," Torgerson said. "They were joyful people."

Mariners were warned about traveling around the Horn of Africa because of the risk of pirate attacks. The four sailors had traveled with a large flotilla to stay safe from pirates earlier in the trip, but left the group when the attack occurred, Macay's niece, Nina Crossland, told reporters in South San Francisco.

"My aunt is a very smart and avid sailor," said Crossland, visibly shaken and holding back tears as she spoke to reporters Tuesday morning. "I think she was smart enough and planned ahead and prepared to not be in this type of situation."

Macay, 59, was wounded but alive when Navy Seals boarded the Quest after the shooting, but she died later, her niece said.

Riggle "would never do anything to jeopardize Phyllis," Hank Curci, a friend and fellow member of the Seattle Singles Yacht Club.

Joe Grande, another member, said the deaths were like losing family to those who knew the pair.

"Great sailors, good people. They were doing what they wanted to do, but that's small comfort in the face of this," Grande said.

The U.S. flag flew at half-staff Tuesday at the Del Rey Yacht Club in Marina del Rey, a small boat harbor on the Los Angeles County coast where the Adams made their base.

Gary Deitsch, commodore of the club, said members were devastated by the killings. The couple had belonged to the club since 2001.

"We are deeply saddened," he said at a press conference. "We hope their deaths will bring about the world's focus to eliminate this violence."

Club Secretary DeDe Allen, who was a friend of couple and had sailed with them, said they were last in Marina del Rey in December.

"They were just wonderful people to be with," Allen said. "Their personal mission was enjoying life."

Scott Adam, who was in his mid-60s, had been an associate producer in Hollywood when he turned in a spiritual direction and enrolled in Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena a decade ago, said Robert K. Johnston, a professor at the seminary.

His wife had been a dentist, Torgerson said.

Riggle was a relief veterinarian for the Seattle Animal Shelter for the past eight years or so, spaying and neutering adopted animals, said director Don Jordan.

"He wasn't a man of many words but he was a kind-hearted individual with a great passion for animals and animal welfare," Jordan said.

Riggle once took a colleague's family sailing when their daughter was diagnosed with cancer to get their mind off their troubles. "That was just a small indicator about how he treated people," he said.

Macay was vice president for training and development for Profitability Consulting Group, an adviser to retail furniture stores based in Hillsborough, N.C.

Macay, who never married, took a sabbatical about three years ago. She and Riggle were romantically involved when they first met, but in recent years were friends who sailed together, said Macay friend Cynthia Kirkham in Seattle.

Chief Executive John Eggers said Macay was regarded in the industry as one of the top educators and presenters on design and sales.

"She was such a free spirit," Eggers said. "She was just a real professional and just loved life."

DEMAND
FROM PAGE 3

and Livestrong.com, and about 375 Internet other destinations operated by its partners. They include the National Football League and Gannett Co.'s USA Today, the nation's second-largest daily newspaper.

The search-driven approach to generating low-cost articles has caused some journalism purists to deride Demand Media as a "content mill," but Wall Street seems to love the idea so far.

Demand Media's stock has already surged more than 30 percent from its IPO price of $17, leaving the company with a market value of nearly $1.9 billion.

That market value was about $400 million higher than The New York Times Co., whose flagship newspaper has won more than 100 Pulitzer Prizes and employs some of the top-paid reporters and editors in the world.

The disparity reflects a steep downturn in revenue at the Times Co. and other major newspaper publishers during the past four years as the less expensive and more convenient alternatives on the Internet siphoned advertising revenue away from their print editions. The shift has been devastating for newspapers because online advertising hasn't generated nearly enough income to replace the revenue that has evaporated from print.

But most newspapers are still earning money, something that, until the latest quarter, Demand Media hadn't done since its inception four years ago. The company had accumulated losses of $53 million through the third quarter. The $1 million fourth-quarter income is higher than the upper range of Demand Media's forecast in a regulatory filing last month.

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TOURISM

FROM PAGE 1

million and is responsible for attracting guests to Santa Monica. The CVB is funded by taxpayers.

Wolfgang Jonas, general manager at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and Bungalows, one of Santa Monica's largest and most luxurious, said lowering rates significantly makes it more difficult to increase them when conditions improve, creating a more sluggish recovery.

"You're really going uphill," Jonas said. "People will always be expecting those lower rates."

Jonas said January was a good month and February is looking that way also as more corporate travelers return.

"We're very excited about that," he said.

The Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau told the Daily Press that Australia and New Zealand combined have passed the U.K. as the top market for Santa Monica, with nearly 13 percent of all international visitors here coming from those two countries.

"We've been in the market longer than others and it has paid off for us," Kerns said. "Australians are English speaking, their seasons are opposite ours and they find our lifestyle appealing. And our destination delivers."

Recently, a team from the CVB and local hotels visited Australia and New Zealand to maintain strong ties as the bureau charts a new course. The CVB now has its sights set on India and Brazil, two emerging markets with economies that are growing.

Still a concern for Kerns is the increase in domestic travelers. They now account for 52 percent of all visitors to Santa Monica compared to 48 percent international. Kerns said the CVB has worked to have a 60-40 mix in favor of foreign travelers because they tend to stay longer, spend more and rely on public transit.

"You have to have both to be successful," she said.

Another goal of the bureau is to increase the number of jobs supported by tourism locally. Before Sept. 11, 2001, there were roughly 16,000 jobs supported by tourism. That number has since dropped to 9,725, Kerns said.

"We still have a ways to go, but we're optimistic," Kerns said.

The re-opening of Santa Monica Place is a plus and should attract more tourists to the area, Kerns said, and a new hotel on Ocean Avenue is scheduled to go online this summer, complete with two new restaurants, spa and fitness center.

Kerns said another boost could come from the federal level in the form of the nonprofit Corporation for Travel Promotion, which will promote travel to the United States and communicate and improve the entry process so that visitors have an easier time getting visas. The corporation is funded by private donations and matching funds from a new fee collected from foreign travelers to the U.S.

According to a report released in February 2010 by U.S. Travel Association/Oxford Economics found that the nation's failure to keep pace with growth in international long-haul travel worldwide cost the U.S. economy $509 billion in lost spending and 441,000 jobs.

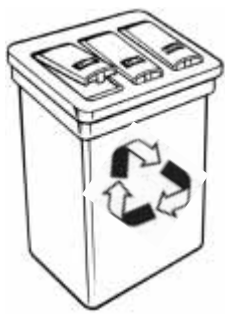
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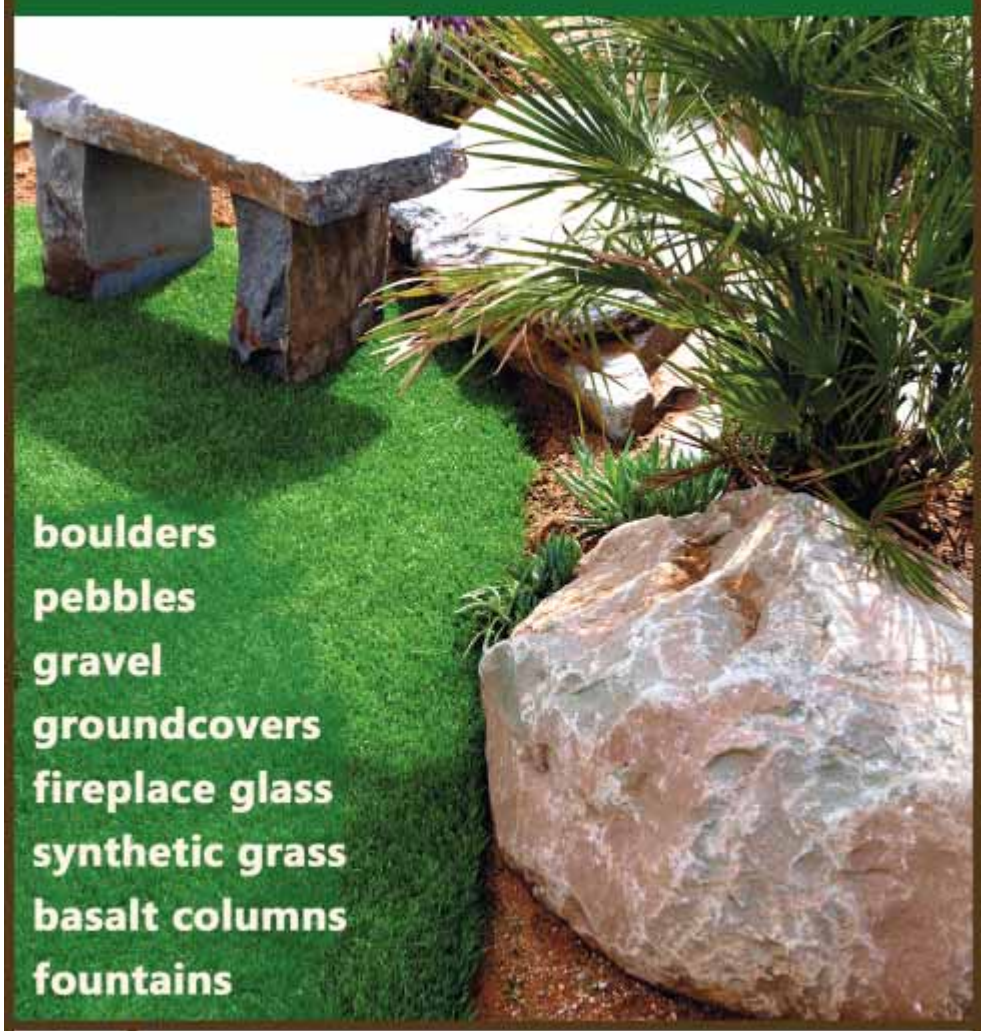




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MEMO
FROM PAGE 1

mer task force members — Tricia Crane, Claudia Landis and Lee Jones — as unsatisfied parents that were unhappy because the draft report did not "address specific concerns relating to their children."

He predicted that the three would be "very vocal" about their objections to the report coming from the task force.

"Based on past experience," he wrote, "I can anticipate that at least one of the three may attempt to sabotage the district's efforts if they do not get their way."

All three resigned from the task force Jan. 19, citing frustration with a lack of specific action relating to instruction in the task force report.

"The facts are these," Crane wrote in an e-mail, "there is still no district-wide, research-based reading program. There is still no special education math program. And there is still no district-wide program for children on the autistic spectrum."

Crane also protested Cuneo's characterization of her as a disgruntled parent, noting that her son is 20 years old and hasn't been in the district for the past five years.

According to the memo, the report in question was near completion in June 2010, but the three former task force members made substantive changes to it to reflect their beliefs.

E-mails sent by Chief Academic Officer Sally Chou show an ongoing effort to continue drafting the report with the help of Landis and Crane.

In one, dated June 14, 2010, Chou attempts to set a date in July to work on the report. Another, dated July 20, 2010, shows an ongoing exchange concerning the most recent draft of the report between Chou, Landis and Crane.

However, by the Jan. 19 meeting of the Task Force, Crane, Landis and Jones all submitted letters of resignation.

"There was never real support for this work by the superintendent or senior staff … ," Jones wrote in her letter of resignation.

Not long after, Cuneo sent out the confidential memo.

Landis said that she found the content of the memo "chilling" and inappropriate as it referenced her own child's need of what she felt was a confidential education plan.

"It took me by surprise, I got sick to my stomach," Landis said. "It was the sharing of privileged information and the connection to my child that I found intimidating."

The Board of Education received the memo three weeks ago, said board member Oscar de la Torre, who described the document as a "black list."

"This behavior and culture of looking at parents as adversaries is endemic, and must change," de la Torre said.

The board president or vice president must be prepared to address the existence of the memo, its contents and other issues involving Cuneo's behavior publicly, he continued.

"If they don't, them I'm prepared to lead that charge," de la Torre said.

Board Vice President Ben Allen said that he disagreed with the content of the memo, but lamented the leak.

"I think the superintendent needs to feel comfortable expressing his unvarnished opinions to the board on a variety of difficult topics," Allen said.

"I'm not going to defend what he wrote, but I'm certainly not pleased that one of my colleagues decided to breach his trust and one of the board's trust," he continued.

Cuneo refused to comment for this story, saying only that he would not discuss confidential communications between himself and his board.

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Libya unrest rattles markets; oil prices jump as a result

CHIP CUTTER & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Stocks had their worst drop this year and oil prices surged Tuesday after Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi clung to power in the face of mounting protests.

The capital of the oil-rich country has plunged into chaos. That's causing to concerns that the unrest that has already toppled dictators in two of Libya's neighbors, Tunisia and Egypt, could spread to other countries in the region like Iran and disrupt the flow of oil.

Oil prices jumped 6 percent to $95 a barrel. Libya is the world's 15th largest exporter of crude, accounting for 2 percent of global daily output. It also has the largest oil reserves in Africa.

The Dow Jones industrial average sank 178.46 points, or 1.4 percent, to close at 12,212.79. It was the biggest drop since Nov. 16. Bond prices rose as investors sought safety.

Gadhafi vowed to fight to his "last drop of blood" and roared at his supporters to take to the streets against protesters demanding his ouster. A violent crackdown in Tripoli has resulted in wild shooting and bodies in the streets. Protesters backed by defecting army units claimed control over the eastern half of Libya's Mediterranean coast.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 27.57, or 2 percent, to 1,315.44. It was the S&P's worst day since Aug. 11.

The Nasdaq fell 77.53, or 2.7 percent, to 2,756.42.

The main worry among traders is that unrest will spread to other oil-rich countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Protests are continuing in Yemen and Bahrain.

Jim Ritterbusch, an energy analyst, said a "fear premium" has added about $10 a barrel to oil prices in recent days. Prices could tumble once the region settles down, he said.

Oil producers rose with the prospect of a drop in oil supply. Chevron Corp. gained 1.6 percent, the largest gain among the 30 large companies that make up the Dow Jones industrial average. Exxon Mobil Corp. rose 1 percent.

Higher fuel costs hurt airline stocks. Delta Air Lines Inc., American Airlines parent AMR Corp., United Continental Holdings Inc. and US Airways Group Inc. all dropped by 5 percent or more.

Investors drove into the relative safety of Treasurys, pushing their prices higher and lowering their yields. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 3.46 percent from 3.59 percent late Friday.

Brian Bethune, an economist at IHS Global Insight, said a $10 rise in the price of oil subtracts roughly 0.4 percentage point from economic growth. An increase to $150 or $160 a barrel could knock the economy into a recession, Bethune and other economists say.

Higher oil prices also pinch U.S. consumers by pushing up the price of gas. "This puts a damper on consumer optimism, which is really critical at this stage of the recovery," said Alan Gayle, senior investment strategist for RidgeWorth Investments.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. fell 3 percent after revenue at stores open at least a year fell for the seventh straight quarter. That raised worries about the company's ability to turn around its U.S. business this year.

Barnes & Noble Inc. fell 14 percent after the bookseller said its net income fell 25 percent. The company also suspended its dividend and said it would not forecast its fourth-quarter or full-year earnings following last week's bankruptcy filing by Borders Group.

Falling stocks outnumbered rising ones nine to one on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated trading volume was 5.5 billion shares.

Court bars streaming of TV programming online

JOELLE TESSLER
AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON In a key victory for television broadcasters, a federal court has ordered a Seattle start-up called ivi Inc. to stop distributing broadcast signals over the Internet without their consent.

The U.S. District Court in New York issued a preliminary injunction against ivi on Tuesday barring the company from streaming copyright-protected broadcast programming online.

Ivi captures over-the-air broadcast signals from stations in Seattle, New York, Chicago and Los Angeles and delivers them to subscribers who have downloaded its ivi TV player, which costs $4.99 a month.

The company is being sued for copyright infringement by the big broadcast networks, local stations in New York and Seattle, public broadcasters, several large movie studios and Major League Baseball.

Ivi said it will shut down its broadcast channel offerings while it appeals the court ruling.

"The oppressive big media networks must open their doors to innovators or they will inevitably fall," the company said in a statement. "People want responsible choice, not the one-size-fits-all television offerings imposed by powerful media interests."

In court, ivi has argued that it is entitled to the same rights to distribute broadcast programming that federal copyright law automatically grants cable TV operators.

Tuesday's court ruling rejected that reasoning, concluding that ivi does not qualify as a cable system.

The National Association of Broadcasters said it welcomed the decision.

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Report decries lack of paid parental leave in U.S.

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

NEW YORK Americans often take pride in ways their nation differs from others. But one distinction — lack of a nationwide policy of paid maternity leave — is cited in a new report as an embarrassment that could be redressed at low cost and without harm to employers

"Despite its enthusiasm about 'family values,' the U.S. is decades behind other countries in ensuring the well-being of working families," said Janet Walsh, deputy director of the women's rights division of Human Rights Watch. "Being an outlier is nothing to be proud of in a case like this."

Human Rights Watch, based in New York, focuses most of its investigations on abuses abroad. But on Wednesday, with release of a report by Walsh on work/family policies in the U.S., it takes the relatively unusual step of critiquing a phenomenon affecting tens of millions of Americans.

The report, "Failing its Families," says at least 178 countries have national laws guaranteeing paid leave for new mothers, while the handful of exceptions include the U.S., Swaziland and Papua New Guinea. More than 50 nations, including most Western countries, also guarantee paid leave for new fathers.

Past efforts in Congress to enact a paid family leave law have floundered, drawing opposition from business lobbyists who say it would be a burden on employers.

Instead, there is the 1993 Family and Medical Leave Act, which enables workers with new children or seriously ill family members to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave. By excluding companies with fewer than 50 employees, it covers only about half the work force, and many who are covered cannot afford to take unpaid leave.

"Leaving paid leave to the whim of employers means millions of workers are left out, especially low-income workers who may need it most," said Walsh, citing federal estimates that only 10 percent of private-sector workers have paid family leave benefits.

With prospects for federal legislation considered dim for now, advocates of family-friendly workplace policies hope for progress at the state level and are looking closely at California and New Jersey, the only states that have paid-leave programs.

Both states have severe budget problems overall, but the leave programs — financed entirely through small payroll tax contributions by workers — are flourishing. Both offer six weeks of paid leave for workers taking time off to bond with a new child or to care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent.

Human Rights Watch, which interviewed dozens of parents for its report, said lack of paid leave has numerous harmful consequences — fueling postpartum depression, causing mothers to give up breast-feeding early, forcing some families into debt or onto welfare.

Cathy Frazier of Mendota Heights, Minn., and her husband, Joe, believe that her severe bout of postpartum depression could have been avoided or at least eased if he had been able to take paid leave after the birth of their son six years ago.

The boy was born two months early, spent five weeks in the hospital, and remained in frail health after he went home. The couple said Cathy had to provide most of his care single-handedly while Joe was working long hours at a local public-access TV station.

"If Joe had been around, it would have been better," Cathy Frazier said in a telephone interview. "I might have gotten sick, but not like I was."

The depression was so severe that she was hospitalized for a week, and went into debt paying for therapy with a credit card because her insurance didn't cover it. Six years later, she said she still struggles with depression, taking medication and unsure about her prospects for accepting any job that would involve working outside her home.

Conversely, Jennifer Shankman of Malibu, Calif., was grateful to benefit from her state's paid leave program, which helped her take off a total of five months — three paid, two unpaid — after her son was born in September.

"It helped me to not feel as stressed," said Shankman, who's now back at work as a youth camp director. "It made a big difference mentally."

The Human Rights Watch report urges other states to emulate New Jersey and California by adopting paid leave programs. Any takers might get federal help — the Obama administration, in its recent budget proposal, proposed allocating $23 million to help states with startup costs for such initiatives.

One possible beneficiary could be Washington state. A paid leave measure was passed by lawmakers there in 2007, but never implemented due to lack of funding.

New Jersey's program started in July 2009 and its balance as of Dec. 31 was $39 million — robust enough so the state recently reduced workers' contribution by half. The maximum annual payment is now less than $18 instead of more than $35.

Through December, New Jersey had approved 44,972 claims — 91 percent of those filed — and paid out $105 million in benefits at an average of $471 a week.

California's program began in 2004 and is run by the State Disability Insurance plan, which collects 1.1 percent of pay from 13 million eligible workers. In 2009-10, the state paid out $469 million for 180,675 claims, with an average weekly benefit of $488.

In New Jersey, men make up about 12 percent of the parents seeking paid leave to bond with a new child. In California, men's share of the leave has risen from 17 percent to 26 percent since 2004.

In each state, some business leaders remain unenthusiastic, though there is no clamor to repeal the programs.

Michael Egenton, senior vice president of New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, said the impact had been relatively modest thus far. He attributed this to the recession and the desire of most workers to take paid leave only after conferring with their bosses to ensure the absence wouldn't be disruptive.

"With the tough economy, people are feeling, 'I'm glad I have a job,'" he said. "We'll be interested in seeing where the program goes when the economy improves."

In California, Chamber of Commerce policy advocate Jennifer Barrera said the leave program — combined with other policies — "creates a significant administrative burden on employers, increases costs, and minimizes the ability of companies to expand hiring and create new jobs."

However, Eileen Applebaum of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, a liberal Washington think tank, said she and a colleague reached a different conclusion in a recent survey of 235 California businesses. She said the vast majority of employers found the leave program had a positive or neutral effect on productivity, profitability, turnover and worker morale.

Applebaum contended that business associations, rather than individual employers, were the main obstacle to paid-leave proposals in Congress and state legislatures.

"Employer associations in other countries help their companies be successful," she said. "In this country, employer associations largely exist to resist anything that might be good for workers."

In the European Union, paid parental leave varies from 14 weeks in Malta to 16 months in Sweden, which reserves at least two months of its leave exclusively for fathers. Most EU countries have maintained the provisions of their programs despite the recession.

Ellen Bravo of the Family Values at Work Consortium, a 15-state network working for family-friendly policies, said the bid to expand paid leave in the U.S. was hampered by the clout of corporate lobbyists and the relatively weak status of the labor movement.

"Family values often end at the workplace door," she said. "What we're fighting for isn't just modest — it's meager compared to what other countries have."

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Also, beginning February 1, 2011, the **Household Hazardous Waste Center** will be available for drop-off service on **SATURDAYS ONLY**. If the pilot program is successful, the city will transition to a permanent pick-up system in June 2011.
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NBA

Knicks pay steep price for Anthony

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

GREENBURGH, N.Y. The New York Knicks were searching for a second superstar when Carmelo Anthony became available.

The price was high, but they're certain he's worth it.

"When you go out hunting, would you rather have a bigger gun or a little gun?" coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We got a bigger gun."

The Knicks agreed to a trade with the Denver Nuggets for Anthony on Monday night, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press. The teams were awaiting the completion of a conference call with the NBA on Tuesday before the deal, which also includes the Minnesota Timberwolves, could become official.

Anthony will join fellow All-Star Amare Stoudemire in the frontcourt, giving the Knicks the potent duo they hoped they could assemble last summer in free agency. Instead, they had to give up much of their core, but in return they get one of the NBA's top scorers.

"We liked the way our team played this year and I looked at it and I thought we had one piece that was at the high level of the league. We always wanted two pieces at least," team president Donnie Walsh said.

Stoudemire has led the Knicks to a 28-26 record this season, but said Tuesday they will be even more dangerous with Anthony bringing his 25.2 points per game to join his 26.1 average.

"Every team needs a 1, 1A punch," Stoudemire said. "And so with the ways that we both can score .... we're very versatile, so it's hard to guard us."

NBA

Knicks pay steep price for Anthony"It's what he wants. It's what I wanted, to come to New York and play on the big stage," Stoudemire said. "He has the same type of swag. This is what he wants and he can handle it. We're going to do it together."

The Knicks haven't made the playoffs since 2004, but are in sixth place in the Eastern Conference in their first season since acquiring Stoudemire from Phoenix last summer. He thinks the blockbuster deal could make them better equipped to face teams such as Boston or Miami, which already have multiple All-Stars, in the postseason.

"It's not easy and it's not going to get any easier for us now because the target is on our back," Stoudemire said. "Teams are going to be eager to play against us."

The Knicks also would acquire Chauncey Billups, Shelden Williams, Anthony Carter and Renaldo Balkman in the deal that was first reported by the Denver Post. They are playing a heavy price, trading Wilson Chandler, Raymond Felton, Danilo Gallinari, Timofey Mozgov and a 2014 first-round draft pick to the Nuggets, who would get additional picks and cash.

But the Knicks felt they had to make the move after failing last summer to land two superstars through free agency.

"Now we've got two guys in our stable," D'Antoni said.

The completion of the deal is delayed while Anthony first signs a three-year, $65 million contract extension with the Nuggets before the trade conference call can be held.

It was Anthony's refusal to take the extension when the Nuggets offered it to him last summer that forced them to explore trading their leading scorer. The Knicks hoped they could sign him next summer in free agency, but felt they couldn't wait because Anthony wanted the extension this season, before a new collective bargaining agreement next summer could severely restrict salaries, and that could have forced him to lock in long term with whatever team Denver traded him to.

So the Knicks agreed to trade four of their top six players, realizing there were few chances to add a player of Anthony's caliber to one like Stoudemire.

The Knicks hope Anthony will be able to play Wednesday when they host Milwaukee. He is expected to arrive in New York to take his physical late Tuesday or Wednesday morning.

New York's once-passionate fan base was turned off by the team's poor play on the court and embarrassing press off it for most of the decade under Isiah Thomas' reign. But in the third season under Walsh and D'Antoni, the buzz has come back, and it's only going to get louder once Anthony takes the court.

"New York City was on fire even before this trade happened with Carmelo, thanks to (the traded players) and I think with the help of Carmelo and Chauncey and the rest of the guys, we have a great shot at it," Stoudemire said.

Though Anthony was the focus, the Knicks are excited about the acquisition of Billups, a former NBA finals MVP and All-Star who remains one of the league's top point guards and will orchestrate D'Antoni's pick-and-roll offense.

The Anthony trade saga lasted all season and often overshadowed the Knicks' improved play. During a chaotic final week, the Nuggets entertained offers from the Knicks and New Jersey Nets, with both owners meeting with Anthony during the All-Star weekend in Los Angeles.

Walsh repeated the Knicks' previous denials that Madison Square Garden chairman James Dolan — with advice from Thomas — had taken the Anthony pursuit out of his hands and paid more than Walsh would have.

"I'm the one who knows basketball, so my job is to advise him, 'This is good for your franchise,' and I did that," Walsh said.

The Knicks are probably too far back to make a move in the standings over the final portion of the regular season. But they believe they have enough time to fit in the new players and be a threat if they finally get back to the playoffs.

"It'll be up to the players and I'm sure Carmelo wants to come in and win. He didn't come here just to go to Broadway, he wants to win," D'Antoni said. "Amare I know wants to win, I talked to him. I know Chauncey wants to win, so let's sit down and figure it out. And there's a lot of talent there to figure it out."





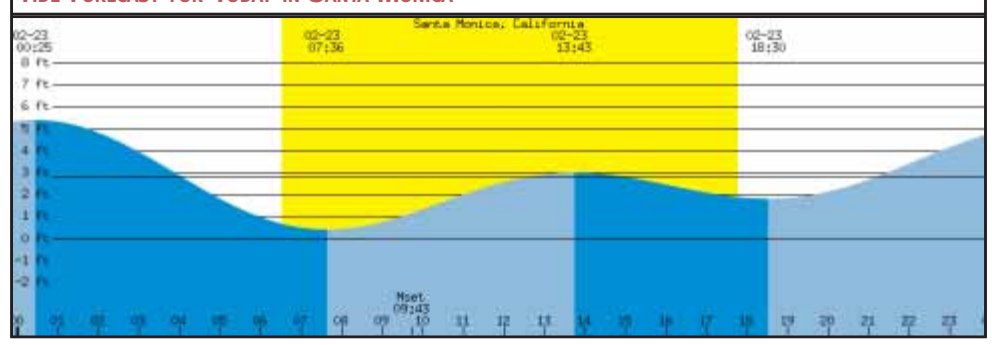
SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58°

Swell Forecast
Looks fairly weak, maybe knee to waist most everywhere.

Long Range Synopsis
We can expect some NW wind swell to come ashore. Waist+ is the call for most west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 14, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37/34
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8/7

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Reservoir Dogs (R) 1hr 39min
7:30pm

Call theater for information.

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

Roommate (PG-13) 1hr 33min
1:05pm, 4:00pm, 7:05pm, 9:20pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

I Am Number Four (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:00pm, 3:35pm, 6:10pm, 9:00pm

Unknown (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:15pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

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

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

Just Go With It (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm

No Strings Attached (R) 1hr 50min
11:35am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

I Am Number Four (PG-13) 1hr 44min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

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

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

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

Illusionist (L'illusionniste) (PG) 1hr 22min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 9:45pm

Immigration Tango (R) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

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

Eagle (PG-13) 1hr 54min
1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Just Go With It (PG-13) 1hr 50min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:20pm

Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son (PG-13) 1hr 47min
12:45pm, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm, 10:10pm

Unknown (PG-13) 1hr 49min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
4:20pm, 7:05pm, 9:50pm

Gnomeo & Juliet (PG) 1hr 24min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm

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



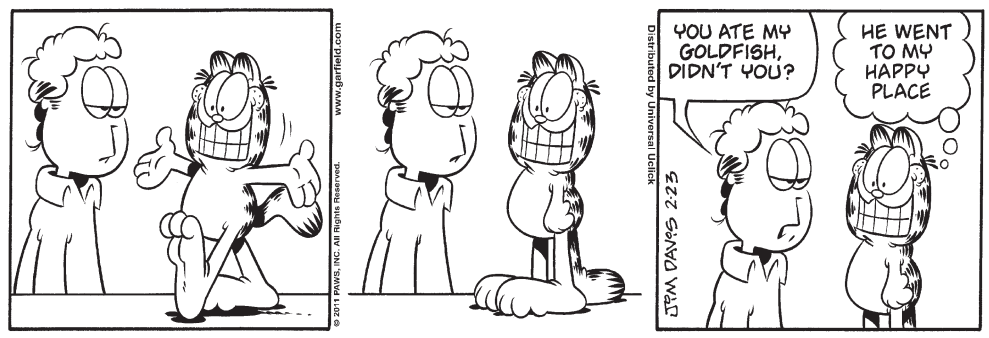
MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

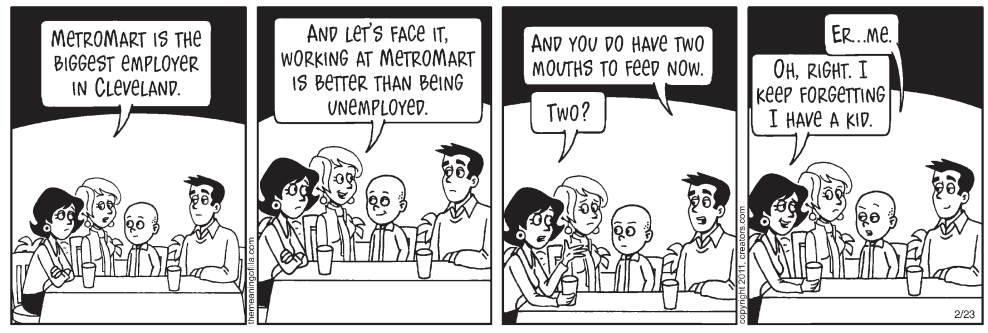
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



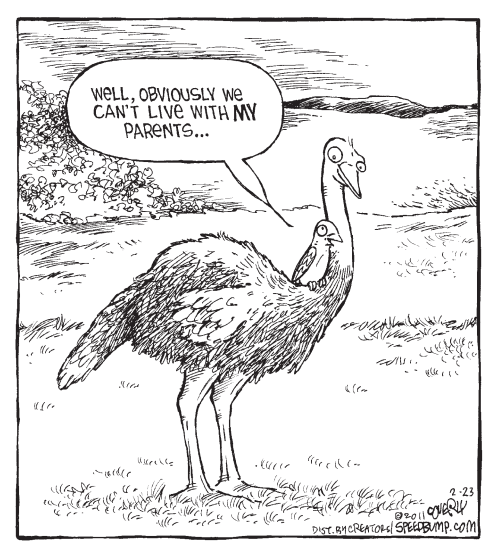
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Follow your instincts, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Others provoke some unusually strong responses. A boss, parent or supervisor likes your style. A meeting provides important feedback. One-on-one relating takes you in a new direction. If you want some answers, say less. Someone will start talking. Tonight: With a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Defer to a partner or loved one. He or she feels the need for your support and, above all, approval. Allowing others to assume a stronger role demonstrates confidence and caring. Your mind goes into overdrive. Sort through your thoughts first. Tonight: Go with another person's ideas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You focus at such a level that others cannot break your concentration. Clearly a partner supports you in a venture that could take a lot of time. Is there any way that you could include him or her in this project? Tonight: Choose a tension-breaker.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You come up with answers quickly and efficiently. You might wonder when enough is enough. Clearly someone admires -- if not cares about -- you. Share more of your imagination and creativity. Tonight: Let fun in.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your steadiness helps. In fact, your mere presence helps. Give others the support they need, and let go of your opinions for the moment. Positive vibes create more positive vibes. A lunch or meeting could develop into a social happening. Tonight: Order in your favorite pizza.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Approach others with confidence and caring. Share more of your ideas that you usually keep to yourself. A conversation could help a personal relationship more than you think. Make calls; schedule meetings. Remain positive. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Money is very important, as you like to indulge in frivolous items to express your affection for others, as well as for yourself. A family member would appreciate just a card far more than you think. Listen to your inner voice with this person. Tonight: Your treat, and it doesn't have to break the bank!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Your sense of direction emerges. By softening your style just a little, your impact will increase. Touch base with a sister or brother. Give that neighbor the extra time. Your caring builds more open bonds. You don't need to always be stern! Tonight: Flirting over dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Sometimes the less said the better. You see a loved one or financial situation in a much different light. You could be overwhelmed by another person's feelings. There are some people you can influence only through an exchange of feelings. They are not moved otherwise. Tonight: Follow your instincts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Someone thinks you are the cat's meow. Though it might be nice to do no wrong, a realistic appraisal might feel better ultimately. Your inner transformation starts breaking through. You won't evoke the same responses anymore. Tonight: You are the party!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You handle the limelight well. Others are extremely sympathetic and understanding. You still might be well advised to restrain your feelings. You don't need to share all your thoughts, either. Honor your image. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Stretch your mind if you are confused. Give up your preordinate thinking, and try to open your mind. Where might someone else be coming from? Travel, foreigners and mental growth might mix together in an odd manner. Tonight: Let your imagination choose.

Happy birthday

Follow your instincts this year. Your feelings will guide you. As a result, you will hit many home runs. It is important to be in tune with yourself. Once you achieve that level of self-understanding, your year will flow. A new friendship could play a significant role in your life, helping you realize a long-desired wish. Your popularity soars. You easily could meet someone quite special this year. This person will demonstrate real caring. If you are attached, the two of you gain through socializing as a couple more. CAPRICORN warms up when with you.

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

Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

"New Year - New Rules for Retirement!"

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

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Seed holders
5 Jokes
9 Command to Fido
11 George W.'s wife
12 Seven: Prefix
13 Singer John
14 Notre Dame's Parseghian
15 Skilled showoff
17 Workout lead-in
19 Future embryos
20 Publicity act
21 Ironically funny
22 "Spider-Man" director
24 Chiding sound
26 Play groups
29 Buddy
30 Excellent, slangily
32 Freezing
34 "The Raven" writer
35 Generous one
36 Site of action
38 Clarifying words
39 Startled cry
40 Enter the regatta
41 Lisa's brother

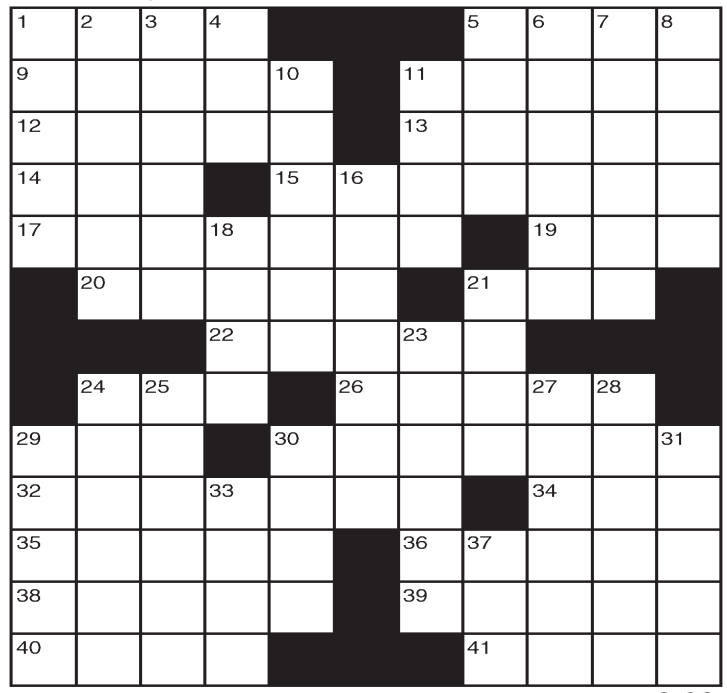
DOWN

1 "Nonsense!"
2 Met productions
3 Leave
4 Was inactive
5 Guys' dates
6 Dickens or Doyle
7 "Fab!"
8 Blitzen's boss
10 Boss, in slang
11 "Why not!"
16 Kind of illusion
18 Darkness
21 Minn. neighbor
23 Distress call
24 City near Mt. Rainier
25 Play opener
27 Midwest state capital
28 Oklahoma native
29 Some skirts
30 Frayed
31 Minimal amount
33 Fossil fuel
37 Chest bone

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-23

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 5 6 7 30 45 Meganumber: 42 Jackpot: $64M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 7 12 19 30 Meganumber: 10 Jackpot: $7M

FANTASY 5: 3 6 11 12 34

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 2 4 5 EVENING: 2 7 1

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 08 Gorgeous George 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 10 Solid Gold RACE TIME: 1:48.82

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Alex Good, 15, practicing tee shots with his high school golf team on a rainy day underneath a golf course awning, had one of his drives hit the metal pole holding the awning up, causing the ball to ricochet into his eye, resulting in likely permanent damage. Despite the fact that the pole was directly in front of the tee, inches away, Good nonetheless charged the Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club (Hillsboro, Ore.) with negligence and filed a $3 million lawsuit in January.

■ How Not to Do a Laser Bronchoscopy: First, according to a case written up in December in the Massachusetts Medical Law Report, do not let the laser set fire to the patient's throat. More importantly, if a spark does ignite, do not use the everyday home remedy for a small flame, i.e., try to blow it out -- because blowing down the "trach" tube might actually extend the fire, as it did here. (The surgeon and hospital were not named; the lawsuit resulting from the patient's death was settled out of court.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1883 Alabama becomes the first U.S. state to enact an antitrust law.

1886 Charles Martin Hall produced the first samples of man-made aluminum, after several years of intensive work. He was assisted in this project by his older sister Julia Brainerd Hall.

1887 The French Riviera is hit by a large earthquake, killing around 2,000.

1898 Émile Zola is imprisoned in France after writing "J'accuse", a letter accusing the French government of anti-Semitism and wrongfully imprisoning Captain Alfred Dreyfus.

1900 In South Africa, Boers and British troops fight in the Battle of Hart's Hill.

1903 Cuba leases Guantánamo Bay to the United States "in perpetuity".

1905 Chicago attorney Paul Harris and three other businessmen meet for lunch to form the Rotary Club, the world's first service club.

WORD UP!

1. A person's specific area of knowledge, authority, interest, skill, or work. 2. The office or district of a bailiff.

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

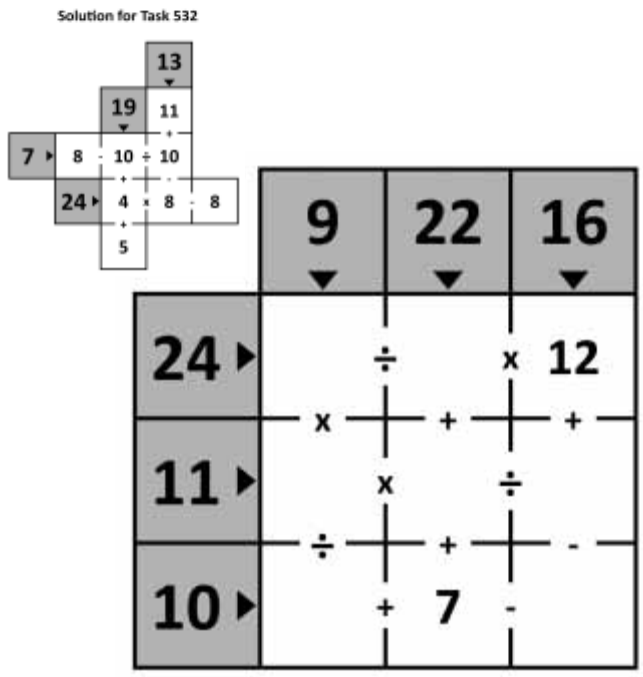
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand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

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

4, 5, 8, 8, 9, 9, 11

Solution for Task 532



Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Commerical Lease
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Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
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$15775

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Miscellaneous

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Employment

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HAIRSTYLIST AND MANICURE station for rent Santa Monica (310) 449-1923

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rentals@howardmanagement.com

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SANTA MONICA $1250.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, NO Pets, Stove, Refrig, Dshwshr, parking 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open daily 9am-7pm.

For Rent

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $995 and up $750 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS/BVRLYWD ADJ. $1275.00 2 Bdrm, 1-1/2 Baths, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #11. LA 90034. Open daily 9am-7pm .Additional info in Apt

PALMS; 3+2 3633 Keystonse unit 7, $1695/mo stove, blinds, tile/carpets, balcony, parking, laundry room, tandem parking no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

SANTA MONICA $1250 1bdrms, 1 bath, no pets, stove, refrigerator, parking, 1935 Cloverfield Blvd. #7 Opean Daily for viewing 9am-7pm. Additional info in Unit. Manager in #9

SANTA MONICA $1650.00 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, NO Pets, Stove, Refrig, Dshwshr, parking 2535 Kansas Ave., #107 Open daily 9am-7pm.

SANTA MONICA $1650.00 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, NO Pets, Stove, Refrig, Dshwshr, parking 2535 Kansas Ave.,Open daily 9am-7pm. , Mgr # 101 additional info in apt

SANTA MONICA $2495.Spacious large lower front 2+2. Hardwood flooring, prime location, Front and rear entrance, backyard, large kitchen, appliances 7 blocks to beach.Close to 3rd Street Promenade. 917 Lincoln Blvd.#2 Call 310-666-8360

SM $1500 large 1 bdrm Arizona & Franklin hardwood floors,.remodeled kitchen & bath, lots of windows, bright & airy. Spacious closets, beautiful yard & garden area. Laundry on site, fridge & stove 310-729-5367

SM. ADJ. UNOBSTRUCTED Ocean View large 2+2, on top of hill, on private drvway. 2 sundecks 2 parking, $1995 (310)390-4610

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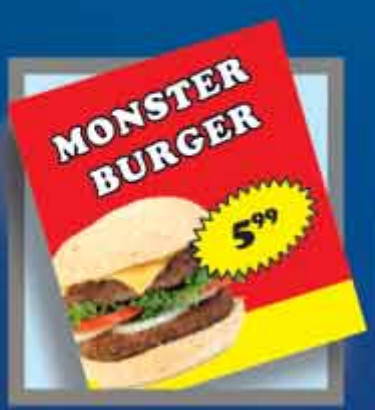


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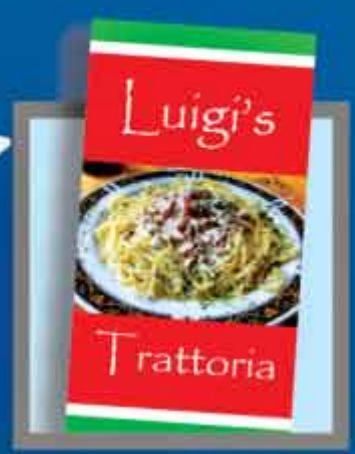
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