



WHERE'S WHOOP?
SEE PAGE 15

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE SUPPORTING LOCAL SPORTS ISSUE



PROGRESS?

John Merritt, an employee of Santa Monica Volvo for 12 years, watches the demolition of a home at 1325 Euclid St. on Monday afternoon. "It's amazing what can happen in a week" Merritt said of the demolition. The house sat vacant for two years before it was torn down to make way for an apartment complex.

Brandon Wise bwise@smdp.com

Coming to a consensus

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN After roughly 18 months of work, it looks as if a new business improvement district for Downtown is taking shape and could go before the City Council for discussion in late March.

A working group comprised of residents, merchants and property owners has agreed on the make-up of the board that would oversee the proposed district, which would stretch from Seventh Street to Ocean Avenue, Wilshire Boulevard to Interstate 10.

The subject of much discussion, the board would include six members appointed by the City Council, another six selected by property owners paying assessments, and one seat to be held by the city manager or his or her designee, members of the working group said.

Members of the board would also have to come from each of the three assessment zones of the proposed district, which is expected to generate roughly \$3.7 million a year for additional services that would make Downtown cleaner, more attractive and more secure.

That assessment would be in addition to the roughly \$1 million collected annually in the Bayside District that

covers the Third Street Promenade and surrounding streets.

"This was a big accomplishment," said Kathleen Rawson, executive director of the Bayside District Corp., a public-private management company that advises City Hall on matters related to Downtown and a driving force behind the creation of a new business improvement district.

"There have been some legitimate concerns about the make up of the board on behalf of property owners, business owners and ... residents ... on what they want the City Council's function to be," Rawson said. "There was also some talk about having prescribed seats or not having them."

Many merchants and property owners felt it was imperative that they have some representation on the board since they will be paying the majority of the assessment, while residents and elected officials expressed concern about giving too much power and control away given that Downtown is the city's "living room." Currently the council appoints all members of the Bayside board.

The working group as a whole did not recommend

SEE DOWNTOWN BID PAGE 10

Math 2.0

Kids use latest technology to help one another excel

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL There's a video on YouTube that has generated nearly 1,000 views since it was posted last August. It isn't the latest impressive basketball dunk or footage of pirates versus ninjas, but rather an instruction on adding fractions using different denominators.

The lesson on lowest common denominators is led by "Billy Billy," a pseudonym for eighth-grade Lincoln Middle School student Aleya Spielman, whose voice in the video guides her fellow classmates how to solve a particular type of problem.

"Hi, my name is Billy Billy and today we're going to learn about adding fractions with different denominators by using the LCD, or the least common denominator," Spielman's voice can be heard over the lesson.

The "Mathcast," created thanks to Lincoln match teacher Eric Marcos' tablet PC, is an example of how technology has been incorporated to enhance the classroom learning experience, engaging students by using an interactive lesson plan and as a result, encouraging them to embrace the subject.

One of the ways in which technology has been intertwined with Marcos' math class is with the addition of Web site Mathtrain.com, a social and educational networking site for the students in the class, a resource through which they can download sample quizzes, converse with peers through a messaging board and watch a series of Mathcasts, ranging from subtracting fractions to rounding a decimal.

But it's the Mathcasts that have caught the attention of educators across the country, viewing the online video lessons through sites like YouTube, TeacherTube and Mathtrain.com. The videos have been featured in various educational publications and have been a part of several presentations by Alan November, a leading educational and technological advocate.

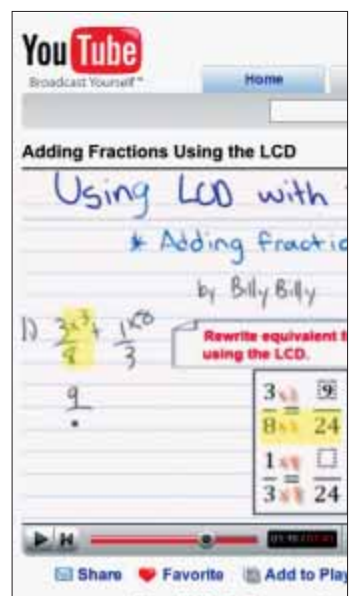


Photo courtesy

TECH SAVVY: A screenshot of a Mathcast video on YouTube.

SEE MATHCAST PAGE 10

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Calendar

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Movie Screening: 'Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.

The Monthly Movie Classic features America's favorite Old West bandits, Butch and Sundance; starring Paul Newman and Robert Redford. Free program. Seating first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Kahn curates contemporary art

3026 Airport Ave., Noon — 6 p.m.

Arena 1 Gallery is exhibiting over 150 works by 25 artists; curated by Fatima Kahn. Some of the artists represented are Amina Ahmed, Salma Arastu, Siona Benjamin, and Bismillah. To view some of the pieces, which are for sale, visit www.santamonicaartstudios.com.

Heal the Bay Speakers Bureau

1444 Ninth St., 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Join Speakers Bureau and become one of Heal the Bay's most elite volunteers. Speakers present the causes and consequences of marine pollution to schools, community groups, clubs, businesses, and civic organizations throughout Los Angeles County. To sign up, visit www.healthebay.org/speakers.

Rent Control seminar

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 9:30 a.m. — Noon

Calling all residential rental tenants of Santa Monica. Learn the basics of the Santa Monica rent control laws. Among the topics to be covered are explanations of rent control, amenities, maintenance, and eviction protection.

Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2008

VITA: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

2601 Main St., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Volunteers from the UCLA Anderson School of Management will provide free tax assistance to low and middle-income taxpayers; covering answers and filing for both federal and state income tax forms. For more information, call the Ocean Park Branch Library at (310) 392-3804.

Build a Better Brain

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Educational therapist Bibinaz Pirayesh will present a discussion on educational therapy. "Building a Better Brain: How to Help Your Struggling Child Work Less and Do Better in School" will cover how parents of struggling students can uncover what may be blocking the brain and how to remove those barriers. For further information, contact the Main Library's Youth Services at (310) 458-8621, or visit www.SuccessBeginsAtTheRoots.com.

Activist Support Circle Third Anniversary Event

1440 Harvard St., 6:30 p.m.

The nation's first emotional support group for progressive activists has been holding public support gatherings at the Friends Meeting Hall the last Wednesday of each month for the past three years. All progressive activists are welcome to help start the fourth year in a hopeful manner.

Brian Wright and The Waco Tragedies

1623 1/2 N. Cahuenga Blvd., LA, 10 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.

Texas-born Brian Wright and the Waco Tragedies — an Americana Folk/Rock-inspired band — will play the Hotel Cafe tonight. Tickets are available at the door. For more information on the band, visit www.myspace.com/thewacotragedies.

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



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Crossroads: Another blow out, reach finals

BY JON HABER

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN The Crossroads girls' basketball team blew out its third-straight playoff opponent last Friday to advance to the Division V A CIF-SS Championship at the Long Beach Pyramid.

The No. 1-seeded Delphic League champion Roadrunners (19-7) will take on No. the 3-seeded Sierra Canyon Trailblazers of Chatsworth (22-4) in a Delphic League showdown. Crossroads has already defeated its league rival twice this season — 55-50 in Chatsworth and 61-53 in Santa Monica.

Head coach Kevin Cormier knows the key to this game, as it was in the previous two victories, will be defense.

"We've done it all year. We have to defend [Sierra Canyon] really well and take them out of what they like to do," he said. "They like to run, so we're going to have to limit them to one shot and be real patient on offense."

One big advantage the Roadrunners have over the Trailblazers is their size down in the post.

"We could dominate the inside, and we have to do that to win the game," Cormier said.

The Roadrunners have been clicking on all cylinders since the playoffs began. They defeated their first two opponents — Noli Indian of San Jacinto and Sacred Heart of Jesus of Los Angeles — by a combined 103-points.

Crossroads used a stellar second half to bury Los Angeles Baptist of North Hills 47-26 in the team's semifinals matchup last Saturday.

"We were up 19-11 at the half, but they were making us play their game," Cormier said. "In the second half, we got our running game going and we got to them a little bit."

The Roadrunner's eighth-straight victory gives the team plenty of momentum heading into the biggest game of the season.

SEE PLAYOFFS PAGE 11



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

UNDER CONSTRUCTION: Workers on Monday install support beams at the Annenberg Community Beach Club, formerly the Marion Davies Estate.

More asbestos found at 415

Council to consider spending roughly \$240K for removal

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Before the Annenberg Community Beach Club is open to Santa Monica's sunbathers and swimmers next year, there's the matter of cleaning up a cancer-causing material.

The City Council tonight will be asked

to appropriate \$242,000 to remove asbestos and lead-containing materials at the former Marion Davies Estate, part of an approximately \$5.3 million spending package.

Once the beachside home of Hollywood starlet Marion Davies, a gift received from newspaper tycoon William Randolph Hearst during the 1930s, the five-acre property at 415 Pacific Coast Highway is currently being rehabilitated into a public beach club.

The 110-room mansion was sold in 1945 and operated as a luxury hotel until the late 1950s, after which point the mansion was demolished and the rest of the property was used as a private beach club called "Sand and Sea Club." City Hall opened the facility as a public beach club until it was put out of commission following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.

The Annenberg Foundation in 2004 awarded a \$27.5 million grant for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse.

It was during the course of rehabilitation of the pool, parking lot and north house that revealed the contamination. Midwest

Environmental Control Inc. was already contracted to perform asbestos abatement. The council will be asked to extend the existing contract with the company by \$242,745 to perform the additional abatement work at the pool, parking lot and north house. The total amount includes a roughly \$22,000 contingency fee.

MAKING WATER SAFE FOR DRINKING

More than a decade after a fuel additive was detected in the groundwater, shutting down five wells that produced the local drinking supply, City Hall is planning to construct a new water treatment facility, decreasing its dependence on imported drinking water.

The council will be asked to spend roughly \$4.3 million for pre-construction services to construct a new treatment facility at Charnock Well Field and upgrade the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant.

It was in 1996 when five groundwater production wells were shut down in the

SEE CONSENT PAGE 11

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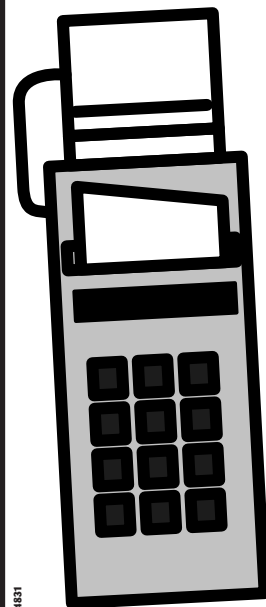
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Speaking out on the environment
Editor:

I have been quiet on the subject of saving the ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets in Santa Monica, and the proposed ban on plastic shopping bags. It seems to me that Santa Monica’s concern about the environment does not include the trees, about which there has been so much fracas! Perhaps somebody has already addressed the issue of the heavy traffic on both streets involved. Trees thrive on carbon monoxide, and there is plenty of it emitted from the constant flow of traffic down these two thoroughfares! Therefore, those trees help the environment, it seems to me. So, I wonder why there is such intense interest in removing them?

As far as the ban on the plastic shopping bags, is the city of Santa Monica also considering a ban on plastic trash bags sold in supermarkets, etc.? ... I am a fanatical recycler, and I never, never, dispose of the supermarket shopping bags improperly. As a matter of fact, I use the paper bags from the supermarket, along with the plastic bags to collect and dispose of my personal trash. Personally, I think the plastic trash bags sold for that purpose are worse than those bags one receives from supermarkets.

Perhaps the better alternative might be imposing a penalty on anyone who improperly disposes of plastic supermarket bags, and the encouragement of the proper recycling of them ... If the city has a plan for how people are to dispose of their trash in other than store bought plastic trash bags, then, I would like to hear about it.

Oh, while we are on the subject of penalties, how come the city of Santa Monica, so environmentally concerned, allows the continued use of blowers by every single gardener in Santa Monica. I thought it was illegal. They not only pollute the environment through exhaust, they are also responsible for noise pollution as well. How about renewing the ban on blowers, and making an effort to enforce it.

Oh, well, I am just one little voice in all of this.
Julia Reeves
Santa Monica

A cottage worth saving
Editor:

I urge City Council to uphold the landmark status of 2219 Ocean Avenue on Tuesday and deny the University of Illinois Foundation’s appeal to demolish it. Ask anyone who lives in the neighborhood, passes by on Ocean Avenue or simply enjoys our beach, the little yellow cottage between Pacific and Strand has been an unofficial landmark in the neighborhood for decades, especially since it (and) every other one like it has disappeared from the beach front.

It represents the very essence of early Santa Monica, the last original 1900s single-story cottage of its kind left to be seen in full view from the beach. It brings a smile to all who pass, its clapboard siding and simple lines evoking the good old days when Santa Monica was just a humble resort town ... In fact, it’s struck such a chord in the community that over 2,400 signatures have been collected in a petition to save it.

Our Landmarks Commission unanimously designated it a landmark. Stripping the cottage of this status would inevitably lead to its demolition, and the end of an era. What a travesty it would be to stroll down Ocean Avenue (Ocean Park’s original Main Street) or the beachfront someday to realize that this unique window into our past has been replaced by cold concrete and steel when it could have been saved ... It could easily survive another century, preserving our unique beach heritage and becoming even more special to Santa Monica.

Erin Maynes
Santa Monica



What’s the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Words hurt like sticks and stones

I SEE BLACK PEOPLE.

I also see Asians, and Hispanics. Every day when I walk my dog, I run across a United Nations of people in my neighborhood. I have friends from all walks of life in my world.

As a white, male, lawyer in this city, I should never feel out of place. At least that’s the party line, the perception of what it means to be me. But the reality is, as a gay man, I can hide. People don’t see me and think “he’s so gay.” I don’t project my difference unless I want to.

Frequently I will hide. I found myself in a roomful of men in just the last 48 hours, most of whom were straight and the banter was of the usual locker room variety. Lots of bragging about their sexual prowess, and posturing about being manly men. There was the customary name calling so common among teenage boys, that is so hard for some grown men to grow out of. One young man was bragging how his girlfriend left her “rich little faggot boyfriend” for him.

I immediately shut down. One word, and I was affected like a punch to the gut. I felt like the smallest guy in the room, and the game of “smear the queer” was floating just below the surface, and I didn’t want to do anything to make it come to the surface. I sat in that room and was scared.

Not for my physical safety, but for my emotional stability. I didn’t want to be picked on, I didn’t want to be the “faggot” again. I just wanted to fade into the background. And that is precisely what I did.

I know where my fears come from. It’s years of hearing jokes like, “What does GAY stand for? Got Aids Yet?” And childhood games like “smear the queer.” They’re just words, but somewhere along the road to adulthood, they became part of me. They made me homophobic. Which is not a good thing for a gay man.

The fact is that I haven’t actually been discriminated against for being gay. I haven’t lost friends, clients, housing, a job, or been treated poorly by anyone for over two decades. Well, except for myself, I’ve been pretty mean to myself. Every time I hide, it eats at my self esteem.

February was Black History month. A month dedicated to showcasing the accomplishments of African Americans in our society. I didn’t get why it was necessary. I never really understood the need for a month to honor those of African American heritage. I didn’t see open racism in our society like in the south. I couldn’t see how historical discrimination could affect people today.

Today I get it. This weekend I made the

connection between years of self hatred, and self-esteem; I see now how much words and jokes have hurt me, so I can only guess at what years of actual discrimination and hatred can do to a person’s self-esteem.

My brother used to tell me that we cannot understand something until we can “internalize an externality,” and for years I didn’t understand that. The easiest way to convey the meaning is to say that we won’t know what someone else’s reality is like, until we can connect it to our own life and experiences.

THEY’RE JUST WORDS,
BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG
THE ROAD TO ADULT-
HOOD, THEY BECAME
PART OF ME. THEY MADE
ME HOMOPHOBIC. WHICH
IS NOT A GOOD THING
FOR A GAY MAN.

As soon as you do that, however, the focus becomes so clear. It’s like something clicks into place and you can suddenly see what you’ve never seen before, even though it’s been there all along.

I don’t know what the next phase of this evolution of my awareness will bring. I hope it will bring me greater empathy and understanding. I’ve been told that we all want the same thing, connection with each other. Yet I also see how much my fears are mirrored in others.

That young man who is so full of braggadocio, is also very scared. He’s scared, just the same as I was, of being the queer that gets smeared. He wants to fit in, the same way I do. The same way we all do.

I’ve known for years that the person who is yelling in an argument is the one who is wrong. Today I know that the one who is proclaiming his superiority, is really the insecure one. Today I see what the point of Black History month is, in a way that I never could before.

DAVID PISARRA is a Family Law Attorney in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or 310/664-9969.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West L.A. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Your column here
Richard Krell

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That others may live

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE IRAQI WAR, A fighter pilot known affectionately by fellow troops as "Chocks" was shot down in his Warthog A-10 attack jet over Baghdad. The young serviceman was lucky — two U.S. search and rescue helicopters soon appeared, dropped their courageous crew and extracted him under heavy enemy fire.

But just like the exasperating inability of Washington to provide the armed services with sufficient body armor and state of the art armored vehicles, search and rescue missions are about to fall victim to the latest beltway squabble — an intramural fight by disgruntled military contractors that could leave military members wounded on the battle field without any lifeline. And politicians wonder why voters are clamoring for change.

Due to logging hundreds of such life-saving missions as part of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq, our current fleet of search and rescue choppers is wearing down and out. A senior Air Force official recently noted that the fleet of Pave Hawk rescue helicopters now serving in Iraq has a diminished success rate and faces a "severe problem," pointing out that we simply don't have enough choppers to do the job.

Seeking to avoid another political controversy, the Department of Defense has scrambled to augment the aging fleet with next-generation replacements. The Air Force awarded the contract to Boeing — widely seen in the industry and the military as possessing the most sophisticated rescue helicopter with the highest top speed, longest range, largest carrying capacity, and the best capabilities at the lowest risk.

But the delivery of these much needed aerial lifelines to the troops is in doubt now because the two jilted competitors who lost the contract have figured out how to tie it up in knots. In a tawdry game of brinkmanship with the U.S. Air Force, the two competitors — aerospace giants Lockheed Martin and Sikorsky — realized that a protest could so delay the critical project that a frustrated Department of Defense might relent and give them a share of the project.

For the most part, the competitors' legal action was roundly and summarily dismissed by the independent arbiter — the Government Accountability Office (GAO) — except for one technicality relating to what many experts regard as a minor cost factor in the contract award.

But the two losing competitors knew that the arcane rules of the GAO process were on their side, and that they could get the much sought after litigation bottleneck if they could sustain even a single complaint about the winning contract, however insignificant. By forcing the GAO to concede a small error relating to how certain

components of Boeing's winning rescue helicopter would be accounted for over the entire "life-cycle" of the project, Lockheed and Sikorsky were able to essentially block new search and rescue helicopters from reaching the troops.

To be sure, the GAO is not to blame. Old procurement laws, written at a time when defense acquisitions were simpler, require this kind of throwing the baby out with bathwater on a technicality. But those laws never anticipated that our military members could be left in the cold in the middle of a war. Right now, our troops are making the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom of people across the world and for the security of our homeland. The least we can do is provide enough weapons, body armor, vehicles, and the search and rescue aircraft to ensure they are able to complete their missions and return safely to their families.

OUR TROOPS ARE MAKING THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR THE FREEDOM OF PEOPLE ACROSS THE WORLD AND FOR THE SECURITY OF OUR HOMELAND. THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS PROVIDE ENOUGH WEAPONS, BODY ARMOR, VEHICLES, AND THE SEARCH AND RESCUE AIRCRAFTS ...

Air Force Secretary Michael Wynne noted that this bureaucratic layover "may be where all of procurement is going: a protest, some findings, some resolution and then onward." However, if that resolution never arrives, neither will aircraft, tanks, body armor, nor a whole host of essential military supplies upon which our fighting men and women depend. For the sake of our troops, Congress should move this contract and other stalled contracts forward with appropriate speed and should provide a stern warning to mendacious corporate defense contractors that they should never exploit legal loopholes at the expense of troop safety. It wouldn't hurt defense contractors to recall the rescuer motto: "These things [we] do that others may live."

Retired **ARMY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER RICHARD KRELL** served the U.S. Army proudly on a number of military and humanitarian operations, including Desert Storm, Desert Shield, Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Enduring Freedom, among others. He can be reached at richard.krell@us.army.mil

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Growing in a new direction

The City Council last week denied an appeal made by local activists to landmark a number of ficus trees in the downtown area. The Treesavers are now taking the city to court to continue their fight.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

How far — within the law — do you think the Treesavers should go to save the trees?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



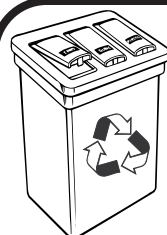
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Fast food goes feng shui

BY DAISY NGUYEN
Associated Press Writer

HACIENDA HEIGHTS The only familiar signs at the McDonald's in this large Asian community are the golden arches, the drive-through and the menu. Gone are the plastic furniture, Ronald McDonald and the red and yellow palette that has defined the world's largest hamburger chain. Leather seats, earth tones, bamboo plants and water trickling down glass panels have taken their place.

The makeover elements are meant to help diners achieve happiness and fortune — whether they realize it or not.

That's because the restaurant was redesigned using the principles of feng shui, the ancient Chinese practice of arranging objects and numbers to promote health, harmony and prosperity.

The concept is an unlikely fit with fast food. But the restaurant's owners say the designs are aimed at creating a soothing setting that will encourage diners to linger over their burgers and fries, and come back again.

The makeover is part of the attempt by McDonald's Corp. in recent years to remodel hundreds of its restaurants to attract more patrons with unique decor and amenities that might entice them stay awhile.

It also fits into McDonald's larger corporate practice of catering to local tastes, such as a fondue-style burger in France or a pita-wrapped "McArabia" sandwich in the Middle East.

"We can't look too cookie cutter," Mark

Brownstein, one of three owners of the restaurant, said about the new decor.

The basic principles of feng shui include placing strategic representations of five natural elements — earth, water, fire, metal and wood — around the room to increase the flow of chi, or energy.

Feng shui (pronounced fung shway) has been employed in the designs of high-rises, banks, even zoo exhibits, and has been popularized by countless coffee table books and TV shows such as HGTV's "Fun Shui." It's also used in the designs of the Panda Express Chinese food chain.

The McDonald's in this Los Angeles suburb boasts wood ceiling, silver-coated chairs, plus red accents throughout the dining area to symbolize fire and "good luck, laughter and prosperity," said Brenda Clifford, who designed the dining area.

The textured walls patterned after ocean waves symbolize "life and relaxation — the balanced things that you want in your life," she said.

Customers are responding positively, whether or not they recognize the feng shui elements.

"When we first walked in we were amazed, we were happy we skipped the drive-through and went inside," Andrew Chen said while lounging in a white leather booth with a friend.

Chen, 20, said he didn't notice the feng shui elements. He just thought it was a modern interior.

Two workers at the nearby post office said they've been taking more lunch breaks at the remodeled McDonald's, which opened in

late December.

"We're here two, three times a week," Waldo Alfaro said as he munched on a Filet-O-Fish and a salad. "It's relaxing, you don't feel any pressure here."

Nevermind that this is the same McDonald's that's been vilified by critics over its artery-clogging Big Macs and fries.

The buzz about the feng shui McDonald's is starting to attract curious onlookers.

"It's successful as a design. It's got a very clean, open, airy appearance," said Elaine Bjorklund. "I'm not a McDonald's habituee. It would be interesting to see if this trend will spread."

Brownstein said he and his partners chose the feng shui makeover because the restaurant is located near a renowned Buddhist temple, which is considered good luck. The designs were meant to appeal to the area's growing Asian population, but were also done in a way that would help all customers tap their inner Zen.

While the menu remains the same, there is a McCafe offering lattes and gourmet coffee drinks.

When McDonald's restaurants in Europe upgraded their decor several years ago by adding hardwood floors, armchairs, TVs and other enhancements, sales went up, Brownstein said.

He said business has picked up at his restaurant too.

Other franchise owners are taking notice. Clifford said her company has been hired to feng shui two more McDonald's in Southern California.

Pismo, Santa Barbara piers closed due to rough waves

By Associated Press

SANTA BARBARA Towering waves up to 28 feet pounding the California coast has forced closure of Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara and the Pismo Beach Pier.

Storm-tossed seas sent the giant breakers crashing to shore Sunday and forecasters say the big waves — ranging from a common 16 to 24 feet and peaking at 28 feet — will last through today.

A huge wave Sunday knocked three people walking on the Santa Barbara Harbor breakwater into the water. They were rescued by the harbor patrol and taken to Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital.

The breakwater and Stearns Wharf were shut down because of the waves.

The Pismo Beach Pier was also closed Sunday afternoon as a precaution.

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A child is calling for help.

Oakland school turns out pot club pros

BY LISA LEFF
Associated Press Writer

You know you're in a different kind of college when a teaching assistant sets five marijuana plants down in the middle of a lab and no one blinks a bloodshot eye.

Welcome to Oaksterdam University, a new trade school where higher education takes on a whole new meaning.

The school prepares people for jobs in California's thriving medical marijuana industry. For \$200 and the cost of two required textbooks, students learn how to cultivate and cook with cannabis, study which strains of pot are best for certain ailments, and are instructed in the legalities of a business that is against the law in the eyes of the federal government.

"My basic idea is to try to professionalize the industry and have it taken seriously as a real industry, just like beer and distilling hard alcohol," said Richard Lee, 45, an activist and pot-dispensary owner who founded the school in a downtown storefront last fall.

So far, 60 students have completed the two-day weekend course, which is sold out through May. At the end of the class, students are given a take-home test, with the highest scorer — make that "top scorer" — earning the title of class valedictorian.

Before getting to Horticulture 101, the hands-on highlight of Oaksterdam U, the 20 budding botanists, entrepreneurs and political activists at a recent weekend session sat

politely through two law lectures and a visiting professor's history talk.

In the lab, Lee measured plant food into a plastic garbage can and explained how, with common sense, upgraded electrical outlets, a fan and an air filter, students can grow pot at home for fun, health, public service — or profit.

Lee explained to his students how to prune and harvest plants, handing the clipping shears to a woman who wasn't sure how close to the stalk to cut without damaging it. He offered his thoughts on which commercial nutrient preparations are best, as well as the advantages of hydroponics, or soil-free gardening.

During a discussion of neighbor relations, he warned against setting boobytraps to keep curious kids out of outdoor gardens.

Students gave various reasons for enrolling. Some said they were simply curious. Others said they wanted tips for growing their own weed, although judging from the questions, a few were ready for the graduate seminar Lee recently added to the curriculum.

Jeff Sanders, 52, said he has been buying medical marijuana since 2003, but wants to open a dispensary in the San Joaquin Valley because he doesn't like having to drive up to San Francisco and paying the markup.

"I see it as a good thing. You are giving back to the community," Sanders said.

Patrick O'Shaughnessy, 37, said he started smoking pot regularly for the first time about a year ago to treat his chronic

migraines, depression and anxiety. After attending class, he said felt more confident about growing his own, which he wants to do because the dispensary he frequents often sells out of his favorite strain.

Oaksterdam U draws its name from the jokey nickname for a section of Oakland where some of California's earliest medical marijuana dispensaries took root. The nickname in turn was inspired by the city of Amsterdam, in Holland, where pot use is tolerated.

California has 300 to 400, according to advocacy groups.

Entry-level workers are paid a little more than minimum wage, while "bud tenders," can make over \$50,000 a year, and owners and top managers more than \$100,000, Lee said. But there's also a certain amount of risk — and not just financial, but legal.

Michael Chapman, an assistant agent in charge with the Drug Enforcement Agency's San Francisco office, said authorities are aware of Oaksterdam U and don't see any

“MY BASIC IDEA IS TO TRY TO PROFESSIONALIZE THE INDUSTRY AND HAVE IT TAKEN SERIOUSLY AS A REAL INDUSTRY, JUST LIKE BEER AND DISTILLING HARD .”

Richard Lee, an activist, pot-dispensary owner, and founder of Oaksterdam University

At one point, the Oaksterdam neighborhood had at least 15 clubs and coffee shops selling pot, a number that dwindled to four when the city started issuing permits and collecting taxes from them a few years ago.

California was the first of a dozen states that have legalized marijuana use for patients with a doctor's recommendation. Despite periodic raids by federal drug agents and the threat of prosecution, clubs and cooperatives where customers can buy the drug of their choice have proliferated;

reason to shut it down. Talking about marijuana is not illegal, and while a small amount of pot is kept on the premises, the DEA tries "to concentrate our case work on the most significant violators," he said.

Still, Chapman said he doesn't like Lee's effort to wrap cannabis education in a cap and gown.

"I think they are sending the wrong message out to the community and it's something that could only facilitate criminal behavior," he said.



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Demand soars for joint health miracle

Special report brings national attention to an amazing molecule now reproduced in breakthrough joint pill available in U.S. drugstores

By G. W. NAPIER

UNIVERSAL MEDIA SYNDICATE

So, what would it be like getting older but feeling good?

Believe it or not there are people living this way and a major network news crew found them.

They live in a small village called Yuzurihara and seem to defy the laws of aging with their active lifestyle.

Doctors and scientists have discovered that their secret to an active lifestyle is a diet that increases their body's production of an amazing molecule called *Hyaluronate*.

Nobody can put it in a pill to make people live longer. But, scientists at PatentHEALTH, an innovative U.S. health care company, have successfully added this amazing molecule to a 'feel good' joint pill called Trigosamine®.

This remarkable oral tablet is so impressive because it contains *Hyaluronate* which has the ability to retain fluid up to 1000 times its own weight. It has the potential to increase lubrication in the joints allowing them to move with ease.*

"Using Trigosamine is like taking a can of oil and applying it directly to your joints," said Dr. Joseph Dietz, Director of Health Science, Research and Development for PatentHEALTH.†*

And thanks to the luck-of-the-draw, readers of this newspaper are among those who can get it right now. That's because this area has already been assigned a toll-free Regional Health Hotline. But the catch is the hotline is set to close in just 72 hours.

"We recommend that those living in this area call now to get their share," said Valerie Moore, Director of the Regional Health Hotline.

"Right now, we're shipping out everything we have on a first-come-first-served basis. We may not be able to meet everyone's demands as word continues to spread across the country," she said.

Trigosamine's key ingredient is present in 'human joint oil', which is medically known as synovial fluid.

This fluid reduces friction in the joints allowing for effortless motion. It not only lubricates the joints but it also acts as a comfortable shock absorber.

"Synovial fluid is part of what allows young people to be highly active without having sore joints. But, as the body ages the production of synovial fluid declines which can force the joints to grind together resulting in nagging discomfort," Dr. Dietz said.

The Trigosamine supplement (pronounced *Tri-go-sa-mean*) combines *Hyaluronate* with the essential blend of glucosamine and chondroitin. This



■ **STILL ACTIVE AT 86 YEARS OLD:** Yuda Miya, 86, who lives in the region near the village of Yuzurihara, just loves to garden and she does it everyday. Researchers believe a special diet increases the body's production of a molecule called Hyaluronate to keep people in Yuzurihara active. Although no pill can promise a longer lifespan, an over-the-counter joint supplement has developed a proprietary formula featuring Hyaluronate. This pill, called Trigosamine, will be available in many U.S. drugstores. Consumers can call 1-800-924-2109 to get this remarkable joint health miracle

blend is available without a prescription in once daily tablets.

It has been clinically shown that this essential dose of glucosamine and chondroitin helps to build healthy cartilage in the joints and allows for increased flexibility and range of motion.*

This impressive combination works to

alleviate uncomfortable joint dysfunction by promoting elasticity, allowing joints to move freely and with greater flexibility.*

A clinical study conducted by the United States government found that glucosamine and chondroitin, similar to those present in Trigosamine, had

a remarkable 79.2% effective rate for those with moderate to severe joint discomfort.2*

It was also announced at an American College of Rheumatology meeting that the combination of glucosamine and chondroitin showed promise among persons with moderate to severe

discovered in Japan's 'feel good village'

discomfort.²

"Even though there is no pill that can make you live longer, the clinical trials have been consistent. The essential blend like the one present in Trigosamine has been proven safe and is extremely effective for joint health," said Dr. Dietz.*

The tough part now is how to get it.

"Everybody wants it," said Moore.

"The first drugstores to get this formula couldn't keep it on the shelves," she said.

That's why CVS/pharmacy stockpiled the first available shipments. All the other drugstores may not get their shipments until later this year.

That makes the next 72 hours so critical for everyone living in the local area. Those who get through to the Regional Health Hotline before the deadline will get the Trigosamine supplement sent directly to their homes.

Otherwise, those who miss the deadline and everybody else living in other parts of the country may be hard pressed to get it.

So, even with the clock ticking local readers still have the advantage of being among those who can get their hands on this medical breakthrough. ■

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Here's how to get it

Until all pharmacies are fully stocked this national distribution of Trigosamine is being conducted on a state-by-state-basis. Those living in the states listed below with a star ★ next to it are authorized to have it sent directly to their home by calling The Regional Health Hotline now.

Regional Hotline Approval Code: **TG3874**

★ = Call **1-800-924-2109**

LINES OPEN at **8:00 am** today for the next 72 hours.

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IMPORTANT: You may be able to find Trigosamine at CVS/pharmacy since they have received the first shipments. Otherwise, if you do not live in a state with a star ★ next to it you must wait to call until future announcements in this or other publications.

Or, visit us online at: www.trigosamine.com

■ **HEALTHY JOINTS:** Diagnostic x-rays reveal human joints that have the proper amounts of synovial fluid to lubricate the joints and act as a comfortable shock absorber. The plentiful fluid allows for comfortable and effortless motion. Trigosamine's key ingredient, Hyaluronate is present in synovial fluid.



■ **ALMOST GONE:** Demand in U.S. drugstores is soaring for the joint pill called Trigosamine. PatentHEALTH officials predict pharmacies will have to scramble to keep shelves fully stocked as shown in this photo reproduction. A special toll-free Regional Hotline has been set up for those unable to find it at their pharmacy. All consumers have to do is call 1-800-924-2109 to get Trigosamine shipped directly to their homes.

1. Dr. Joseph C. Dietz, PhD currently conducts full-time joint care and nutraceutical research on Trigosamine for PatentHEALTH, LLC.
2. Statements herein are based upon published public information and do not imply affiliation, sponsorship or endorsement of Trigosamine by the American College of Rheumatology, the United States Government or any news agency.

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Learning math in the iPod world

FROM MATCHCAST PAGE 1

The video library has slowly been building since the first video was launched on Valentine's Day of last year when "Bob," also known as seventh-grader Camilla Spielman, sister of Aleya, created a video on proportions. For the Lincoln student, math has always been a strong suit, and creating the videos came naturally.

"I thought it would be fun if other people could hear me (online)," Spielman said.

The concept behind the Mathcasts is "kids teaching kids," understanding that some things are better understood to students when the message is relayed by a peer.

They just seem to speak the same language.

"We have a different language," Leo Erickson, a seventh grader who took Marcos' class last year, said. "If they explained it to me, I would get it a lot easier."

The online videos have come in handy during occasions in which Erickson wouldn't normally think about math. While watching his sister's soccer game last year, Erickson used his dad's cell phone to watch a lesson, enabling the student to get a head start on his homework.

"Math is easy now," Erickson, who also uploads the Mathcast to his iPod, said. "It makes a lot more sense."

Many of the student say they refer to the online videos if they get stuck on a math problem at home. Others say the Mathcasts are a good way to catch up with school work if they miss a day of class.

"When I do my homework and I don't get something, I can always go on and find out (how to solve the problem)," Emily Claus, a sixth grade student, said during class on Monday. "Then all of a sudden, it makes sense."

The Mathcast has become a daily ritual for Matthew Cianfrone, a sixth grade student who reviews the day's lessons online.

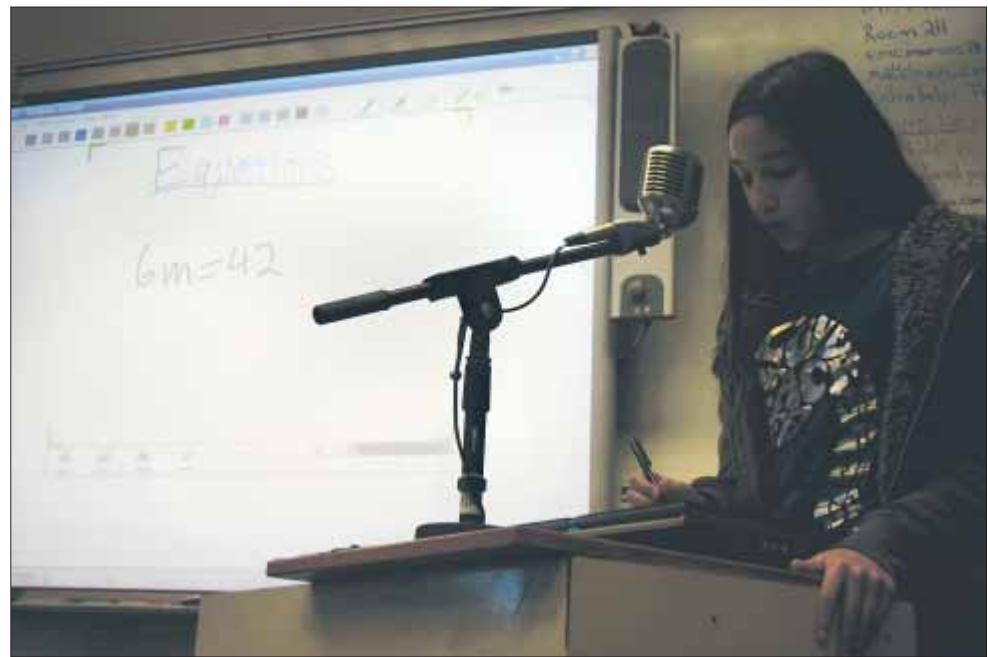
"It's easier and more fun than to just look at a textbook," Cianfrone said.

Most of the videos were made by Aleya and Camilla Spielman or former classmate Tiana Kadkhoda, who was responsible for six herself.

Creating the videos and guiding the lessons have actually helped the student producers understand the material better because the videos are all unscripted, testing the student's knowledge of the subject.

It is for this reason that the videos are so easily understandable to other students, Kadkhoda said.

"When a kid explains something, it's different than a teacher," she said. "We're at the same level of intelligence and our brains work the same way."



Melody Hanatani melodyh@smdp.com

LESSON LEARNED: Lincoln Middle School seventh-grader Camilla Spielman creates a new educational math video for classmates as part of her teacher's Mathcast program, which uses the Internet to help students solve problems. The Mathcasts have caught on across the nation and will be presented at two educational conferences this year in Las Vegas and in Boston.

The videos have also caught the attention of other teachers at Lincoln Middle School, some who plan to also incorporate the teaching method in their own classrooms.

Rose Supangan, a seventh-grade math teacher at Lincoln, showed a video on slopes to her pre-Algebra class last week, receiving a positive reaction from the students who showed an interest in adopting the Mathcasts.

"All of the kids were so excited to do the problems," she said.

The kid-driven Mathcast concept will be presented at two educational conferences

this year in Las Vegas and in Boston, reaching educators from across the country. Marcos, who will travel to the two conferences, said he one day hopes to have a video made on every single lesson or topic and have a tablet PC available for each student in his class.

"It encourages kids to work with each other and collaborate," Marcos said.

melodyh@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

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 Moorpark College biology instructor Jana Johnson—the world's foremost expert on the endangered Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly—discuss her work directing recovery efforts for this species once thought to be extinct. • Tue, Feb 26 • 11:15 am • Free • Science 145 • SMC Main Campus

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 One of the Lost Boys of Darfur—who co-authored *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky* with his cousins Benson and Alephonsion Deng—will discuss his extraordinary life and the genocide in Sudan. • Thu, Feb 28 • 11:15 am • Free • Art 214 • SMC Main Campus

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 SMC POLITICAL FILMS SERIES showing of *RED DAWN* (1984), starring Patrick Swayze, C. Thomas Howell, and Lea Thompson, Mon, Feb 25, 6:30 pm, HSS 165, SMC Main Campus • ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY LECTURE by actor, comedian, and renowned TV host Matt Iseman, Mon, Feb 25, 7 pm, AET Screening Room • LITERARY LECTURE: Michele Matheson: *Writing and Publishing Your First Novel*, Tue, Feb 26, 11:15 am, Art 214, SMC Main Campus • JAZZ CONCERT: Jan Mayer Quartet, Fri, Feb 29, 7 pm (\$12), Concert Hall, SMC Main Campus • PLANETARIUM shows, Fri, Feb 29: "Night Sky" 7 pm, "Leap Years and the Evolving Calendar" 8 pm, Drescher 225, SMC Main Campus • ONGOING EXHIBITS: Maurizio Barattucci: "Choosing the Quiet" continues thru Feb 29 at Emeritus College Art Gallery • Group Exhibit: "Endangered Species" continues thru Mar 8 at Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery, SMC Performing Arts Center • COMPETITIONS: Women's Tennis, Tue & Thu, Feb 26 & 28, 2 pm, Reed Park • Women's Softball, Tue & Thu, Feb 26 & 28, 2:30 pm, Cloverfield Park • Track & Field Western State Conference Meet #2, Fri, Feb 29, 2 pm, Corsair Stadium

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santa monica college

New Downtown BID shapes up

FROM DOWNTOWN BID PAGE 1

having prescribed seats, but instead adopted a philosophy when it comes to selection. The members said they want to ensure that all stakeholders are represented on the board, but realize that not everyone will be able to volunteer, so setting aside a certain number of seats for one constituency may not be practical, Rawson said.

The working group also agreed that the new district, if approved by a majority of those who are to be assessed, would be good for 20 years, but require a vote by the property owners after 10 years to determine if it should continue. The working group also discussed restructuring the business license tax so that hotels in other areas of the city would pay more to help fund an ambassador program since those hotels would see some benefit.

Under the proposed plan, assessments would be based on the property's size and location. A property on the popular

promenade would pay the most at 88 cents a square foot, while properties on neighboring Second and Fourth streets and Ocean Avenue would pay 44 cents, while those on Fifth to Seventh streets would pay 22 cents.

A series of community meetings to discuss the details of the proposed BID are scheduled for March 5, with hopes of bringing a final draft to the council for discussion on March 25, said Rawson, who admits there is still a lot of hard work ahead as she and other supporters try to convince property owners in the district to pay more.

"Typically when a district like this is proposed, it's because the area is run down," Rawson said. "This is a hard pitch because (property owners) can only go up. The challenge is that people can be content and happy with the way things are and our job is to help people focus on the future."

kevinh@smdp.com

LOCAL BRIEF

LOS ANGELES

Officials want downtown rail to link three light-rail lines

Transportation leaders want a 1.6-mile downtown Los Angeles rail system to link the area's three light-rail lines.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's proposal for a Gold, Blue and Expo line is being reviewed during public meetings this week. After examining public comments, the MTA staff will make a recommendation this summer.

MTA chief of countywide planning and development Diego Cardoso says funding for the regional connector hasn't been earmarked.

The downtown rail link will run above or below ground, stretching from the future Gold Line extension in Little Tokyo to the Blue Line's Flower Street station. The 8.6-mile Expo Line now under construction ends at the Flower Street station.

Moving closer to getting clean H2O

FROM CONSENT PAGE 3

Charnock Well Field after a leak of methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE), a chemical usually added to motor gasoline, was discovered from underground storage tanks and pipes owned by several oil companies.

Since the wells were shut down, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) has supplied most of the local drinking water, with about 20 percent coming from other local groundwater wells owned by City Hall. The MWD water is blended with local well water and treated through the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant before it is distributed.

The new treatment facility and the upgrade at the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant will be funded through a settlement agreement reached with liable oil companies.

MANAGING DEBT

The council will be asked to add about \$150,000 to an existing contract with a financial advisory firm that assists various city departments and agencies with financial

planning and debt-related services.

The Public Resources Advisory Group signed a \$100,000 five-year contract with City Hall last summer. The agency is anticipated to assist in various ongoing financial matters and as a result, city staff is recommending that the firm's contract be extended to \$250,000.

RECYCLING BINS, TAKE TWO

After failing to receive the necessary five votes of approval from the council, city staff is bringing back a proposal to purchase up to \$500,000 worth of refuse and recycling bins.

In a 4-2 vote, the council approved the emergency purchase of 800 bins earlier this month. But under the municipal code, at least five affirmative votes are required in order for the funding item to be in effect.

It is estimated that 50 bins will be needed this month and 250 every month from March until May.

melodyh@smdp.com

Samohi boys' soccer to play for a championship

FROM PLAYOFFS PAGE 3

The championship game is set to be played either Friday or Saturday. CIF officials will announce the date and time of the matchup Wednesday.

TOUGH LOSS FOR SAMOHI GIRLS' B-BALL

The Santa Monica High School girls' basketball team (24-5) couldn't find a way to stop Los Osos' junior center Cierra Warren in its quarterfinals CIF-SS Division IV AA playoff matchup Saturday, leading to a second-straight third-round road-playoff exit for the Vikings.

Samohi lost 52-49 to Los Osos of Rancho Cucamonga (24-5), snapping the Vikings' season-high 11-game winning streak and ending their hopes for a CIF championship.

"We weren't ready for it to end yet," said Samohi head coach Marty Verdugo. "But we had some great memories. As one player said, 'We felt like we got on the basketball map this year.'"

Samohi was the Ocean League champion, compiling a 9-1 record in league play, setting up the makings for a strong playoff run. The Vikings won easily against their first two playoff opponents — Redlands East Valley and Blair of Pasadena. — but were over-matched by the 6'4 Warren in Saturday's contest.

"She was everything we heard she would be, and better," Verdugo said. "We double and tripple-teamed her... She used her strength to dominate on the offensive end."

Warren scored 27 of the Grizzlies 52-points, and she didn't relax on the other end of the court either.

"She had a double-double in blocks and rebounds, which made it really difficult for us to drive," Verdugo said.

Playing without standout senior center Katy Keating due to injury, the Vikings were

forced to play small, which weakened their inside game and made it difficult to spread out their offense.

Samohi senior shooting guard Daisy Feder had 16-points and continued her impressive post-season play alongside senior point guard Karlia Batilla, who scored 11-points and made several key baskets down the stretch to keep the game close.

SAMOHI BOYS' SOCCER PREVIEW

The Ocean League champion Samohi boys' soccer team (24-0-1) looks to continue its march toward a championship banner in Santa Monica today against Channel Islands of Oxnard (18-2-1) in a CIF-SS Division IV semifinals matchup.

The Vikings are coming off a 7-0 stomping against Bloomington last Thursday in the quarterfinals.

"We're definitely going to carry that momentum [into the game today]," Samohi head soccer coach Frank Gatell said. "I've never seen anything quite like that before, especially in a quarterfinals match."

The Vikings played nearly flawless soccer during the last 20-minutes of the first half. The team built a 5-0 by half time.

The Raiders, however, are looking to prove their 2-1 victory over Del Rey League champion Cathedral in the quarterfinals was no fluke. Junior midfielder Jesus Landeros is an offensive weapon Samohi will need to contain.

"They depend heavily on Landeros," Gatell said. "He is very dangerous. We're not going to play scared of him, but we'll be cognitive of his abilities because they play most of their game through him."

The game is set to start at 3 p.m.

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Fishing town still hurting

Supreme Court to decide if Exxon should pay for Valdez spill

BY RACHEL D'ORO | Associated Press Writer

CORDOVA, Alaska For many in this coastal town, the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster was an event so crushing that hard-bitten fishermen still get teary-eyed recalling ruined livelihoods, broken marriages and suicides.

But mostly, people in Cordova talk about the discouraging wait for legal retribution for the worst oil spill in U.S. history.

It's been almost 19 years since the tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground at Alaska's Bligh Reef, spurting 11 million gallons of crude into the rich fishing waters of Prince William Sound. In 1994, an Anchorage jury awarded victims \$5 billion in punitive damages. That amount has since been cut in half by other courts on appeals by Exxon Mobil Corp.

Now the town of 2,200 looks anxiously to the U.S. Supreme Court, which will hear arguments Wednesday from Exxon on why the company should not have to pay punitive damages at all.

Scores of Cordova residents are among almost 33,000 plaintiffs — including commercial fishermen, Alaska Natives, landowners, businesses and local governments — who could see the \$2.5 billion judgment taken away by the high court.

"With this legal system the way it has been protracted out, people can't put it behind them," said Cordova Mayor Tim Joyce. "The final recompense has never been made."

Steve Smith, a 69-year-old Cordova fisherman, worries that big business will prevail.

"I really wonder, what do you do if you don't get a just decision out of the Supreme Court," he said on his boat Prince William. "I mean, there's no other court to take it to. What do you got left, really? Anarchy?"

The spill soiled 1,200 miles of shoreline and killed hundreds of thousands of birds and other marine animals, inflicting environmental injuries that have not fully recovered, according to numerous scientific studies. Exxon contends it should not be liable for the actions of the Exxon Valdez skipper, Joseph Hazelwood, when the supertanker ran aground on March 24, 1989, with 53 millions gallons of oil in its hold.

Prosecutors said Hazelwood was drunk, but he denied it and was acquitted of the charge in criminal court.

Cordova itself, 45 miles from Bligh Reef, was not directly touched by the slick. But residents say the spill was a crippling blow for a town so dependent on commercial fishing, particularly for herring, whose numbers plummeted several years after the spill and have yet to return.

The mayor at the time of the spill later killed himself, leaving a long suicide note that mentioned Exxon.

Mike Webber, a 47-year-old Native Alaskan artist and fisherman from Cordova, said his marriage did not survive the strain; he and his wife divorced two years after the spill. With the fishing industry in shreds, he also began drinking heavily, finally checking himself into rehab in 1998.

He said that he has been sober ever since, but that others kept drinking and abusing drugs and sank into severe depression and, in some cases, suicide.

Webber carved a "shame pole" last year to commemorate the spill and will be in Washington this week with the 7-foot carved piece of cedar, which depicts former longtime Exxon chief executive Lee Raymond with dollar-sign eyes and a Pinocchio-like nose. An oil slick pours from Raymond's mouth along with the words uttered by a top Exxon official soon after the spill: "We will make you whole."

"Well, they didn't," Webber said, his voice breaking. "They just put a hole in us is what they did, right in our hearts and it hurts. And they took part of our soul."

According to plaintiffs, Exxon knew Hazelwood had begun drinking again after seeking treatment, but the company still put him at the helm of the nearly 1,000-foot ship.

At issue is whether Exxon should have to pay any damages under the federal Clean Water Act and centuries-old laws governing shipping.

Exxon maintains that punitive damages would be excessive punishment beside the \$3.5 billion in cleanup costs, compensatory payments and fines it already has paid. As for the environmental effects of the spill, the claim about severe, continuing damage to the sound "is simply untrue," according to the Texas company, which earlier this month posted the largest annual profit by a U.S. company — \$40.6 billion.

"The environment in Prince William Sound is healthy, robust and thriving," Exxon spokesman Tony Cudmore said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "That's the conclusion of many scientists who have done extensive studies of the Prince William Sound ecosystem."

To the casual observer, the sound's stunning beauty has been restored, its many islands, fjords and glaciers a photographer's dream. But residents in Cordova and other communities say the region is still a long way from healing. It took years for salmon to rebound, and sea otters and Harlequin ducks are still below pre-spill numbers.

An estimated 85 tons of crude linger, according to a federal study released last year. Jars of oil-stained sand and rocks still being dug up in the spill area can be examined at the Prince William Sound Science Center at the south end of town.

Most devastating to Cordova residents, the once-lucrative Pacific herring fishery has not returned in significant numbers since 1993, a failure precipitated by the spill, according to a recent report by science center researchers. Exxon maintains there is no link between the spill and the virus that reduced the number of herring.

The herring catch used to kick-start the entire town after the quieter winter months. Herring meant a quick bounty for fishermen and ready cash for boat insurance, equipment repairs and new gear. For many, it represented a half year's earnings. Herring also brought auxiliary ships, processor vessels, and plane crews for spotting the fish.

"A whole lifestyle has gone," said restaurant owner Libbie Graham. "Life was great. I mean, you worked hard but you were rewarded for it."

I REALLY WONDER, WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU DON'T GET A JUST DECISION OUT OF THE SUPREME COURT. I MEAN, THERE'S NO OTHER COURT TO TAKE IT TO. WHAT DO YOU GOT LEFT, REALLY? ANARCHY?"

Steve Smith, Cordova fisherman

The year before the spill, Cordova received \$1.2 million — or 2 percent of the value of fish caught — through the state's raw fish tax, according to Joyce, the mayor. Post-spill, the town's annual cut has averaged around \$500,000, reflecting the loss of the herring and the falling price of salmon.

"When our budget is just \$6 million, that's a big hit for us," Joyce said.

Steve Picou, a sociologist with the University of South Alabama who has been researching the effects of the spill on Cordova residents, said that initially, reports of stress and depression were directly linked to the loss of jobs for fishermen and the damage to the environment so crucial to Alaska Natives who hunt and fish for their food. Later, he said, the stress increased because of the drawn-out court battle with Exxon.

"I find it not only ironic but tragic that the very process that is supposed to resolve the social impacts of the Exxon Valdez spill — that is, litigation — has, over time, become a source of stress and disruption itself," Picou said.

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Ammo 101: Lawmakers back bringing guns to college

BY JACQUES BILLEAUD
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX A proposal to allow concealed-weapons permit-holders to bring guns to community colleges and universities in Arizona received its first endorsement at the Legislature on Monday.

The measure has been promoted as a way to reduce the carnage of school shootings.

The 4-3 vote by the Arizona Senate's Judiciary Committee came 11 days after a man killed five young people during a lecture at Northern Illinois University before

turning a gun on himself.

Supporters said people with permits to carry concealed weapons should be allowed to bring guns to schools so they can defend themselves and others if a gunman starts shooting people and police haven't yet arrived at the scene.

Opponents said officers urgently responding to school shootings might have difficulty distinguishing innocent permit-holders from gunmen.

The proposal originally would have allowed permit-holders to carry guns on K-12 campuses, but lawmakers scratched the idea.

**INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Even your dog is getting green

BY EMILY ZEUGNER

Associated Press Writer

When Bronna Bodenstein's "only child" Moe D. Beagle has a particularly hard day, she knows just how to pamper him: a few rounds of fetch, a belly rub and an evening unwinding to the relaxing scent of "Rose Petal Pooch," an aromatherapy candle made just for dogs, infused with essential oils and Peruvian balsam bark.

Bodenstein, 54, of Pikesville, Md., considers herself the quintessential customer for her store Earthdoggy.com, an online distributor of earth-friendly products for pets: a self-described "crunchy granola" who drives a hybrid car and buys eco-friendly laundry detergent and also loves her dog.

For Bodenstein, earth conscious pet products are a natural extension of her green lifestyle.

"I buy green because I care about the environment," she said "but I also love to do good things for my dog."

Fueled by increasing popularity of environmentally friendly products of all kinds, the sustainable pet product industry is expected to grow to nearly \$1 billion in sales by 2009, according to Packaged Facts, a consumer research company in Rockville, Md. Many pet stores are adding special eco-friendly sections to their aisles, and online sales are booming.

Now in its third year of operation, Earthdoggy.com is one of at least a dozen online retailers specializing in environmentally friendly pet products. The store

carries everything from natural peanut butter-flavored dog cookies to eco-friendly plush squeaky toys. Their top seller is a \$120 dog bed made from recycled materials and printed with low-impact dyes, and a \$75 organic cotton quilt designed to protect car seats from pet hair is so popular it's out of stock.

Bodenstein says she sells environmentally-friendly accessories for all facets of a pet's life, from snout to tail — even biodegradable plastic baggies for picking up dog poop.

A GREEN PRODUCT HELPS THE PLANET NO MATTER WHAT IT IS. IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY A COLLAR OR A DOG BED ANYWAY, WHY NOT PICK AN EARTH-FRIENDLY ONE?"

Bronna Bodenstein, Earthdoggy.com

"A green product helps the planet no matter what it is," Bodenstein said. "If you're going to buy a collar or a dog bed anyway, why not pick an earth-friendly one?"

But the industry isn't all lavender and mint dog shampoo and stylish leashes made of hemp. In addition to environmental benefits, green pet accessories tend to be much safer for dogs and cats, said Donn Griffith, president of the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association. The pet industry has little or no regulation, he said, so that cheap rubber bone you bought for

Fido might be coated with poisonous chemicals or tainted with lead.

At his practice in Columbus, Ohio, Griffith sees increasing numbers of dogs and cats with liver and pancreatic problems, complications that can come from ingesting toxins in chew toys and treats.

"Conventional rawhides and pig ears are treated with chemical solutions that give off a slow dose of poison," he said. "Pet owners need to be informed about what they are giving their animals."

Toibin now buys exclusively natural and eco-friendly products for her animals, many from her new online business, Ecopetlife.com. Although the green pet accessories sold there cost "easily double" what their conventional counterparts would, she thinks the extra cost is worth it. "Our pets depend on us to make the right choices for them," Toibin said.

But daily treats of whole-grain doggie cookies and organic catnip can add up fast, said Marcia Martin, a veterinarian in Boca Raton, Fla.

"I love the whole concept but I have kids and a family to buy for too," she said. "I try to fit as much into my lifestyle as I can."

For Martin, that means shelling out for "people grade" meat and natural treats for her dachshund and Labrador retriever, but saying no to pricey recycled dog tags and pet jerseys knit from unbleached merino wool.

Bodenstein has fewer reservations. With no kids and only her beloved Moe to dote on, she happily buys most of the products she sells, from all-natural doggie spa products to aromatherapy deodorizer sprays — eco-friendly treats she acknowledges are just as much for her as for her dog.

"I don't think Moe knows or cares about most of this stuff," she said. "But Moe likes to roll in poop so I don't really trust his taste in products, if you know what I mean."

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 56°

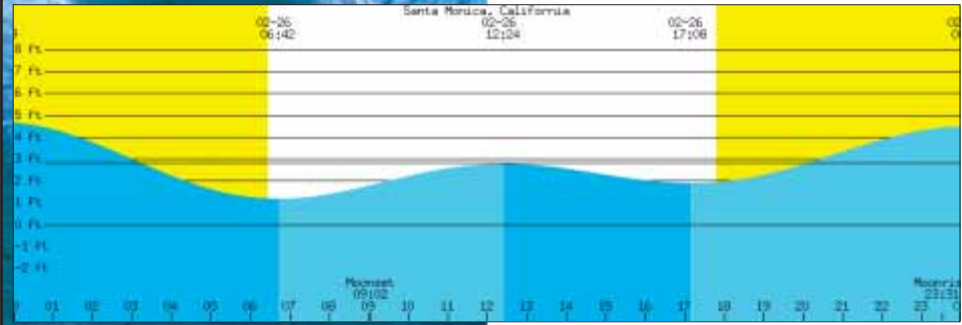
SWELL FORECAST (10-15 FT)

Today's swell should back off with size a couple feet overhead at west facing breaks for the AM, chest to at times head high for south facing breaks able to work the wrap. High pressure should move in Tuesday for some mild weather. Winds should start off offshore, but could be a little breezy from LA north (12 mph or so from the ENE at wind-prone spots). Tide isn't looking like much of an issue.

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February 12, 2008

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 2

Number of wet days -- 12

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 14

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 28

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Carillas Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (near carillas)	A+	C	Will Rogers State Beach at Del Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	D	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachasa and Las Aliso creeks	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Tenesca Canyon drain	A+	F
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantrejas)	F	F
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	D
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Reservoir Canyon Creek mouth	F	F	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Xavier storm drain	B	D
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	C	Santa Monica Beach at Street St. (in front of the restaurants)	A+	F
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	C	Ocean Park Beach at Ashburn Ave. drain	A+	A
Selkirk Canyon at San Blas County Beach	A+	B	Venice City Beach, at the Raso Ave. storm drain	A+	D
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	B	F	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	B
Marine Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	B	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	B	A+
Sunbinder Beach at Malibu Canyon fence	A+	D	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A
Sunbinder Beach (beach location) - daily	F	D	Venice Beach- projection of Topical St.	A+	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower	A	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	C	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	B	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	B	B	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunes County Beach	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	D
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	C	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	D	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	ns	F			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	F			

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken



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

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NASCAR

Edwards takes the checkered flag

BY MIKE HARRIS
Associated Press Writer

Carl Edwards won the rain-delayed Auto Club 500 on Monday, charging past NASCAR Sprint Cup champion Jimmie Johnson with 13 laps remaining. Johnson, winner of the past two Cup titles, came out of the final pit stop in the lead with 26 laps left. But Edwards surged from third to capture the eighth victory of his career.

Edwards showed good form on his traditional victory backflip in front of the main grandstand after taking the checkered flag in a race that ended under caution when Dale Jarrett spun on the final lap.

Edwards had it all but wrapped up at that point, driving his Roush Fenway Racing No. 99 Ford to a lead of more than four seconds over Johnson. It was his first victory at Fontana but his seventh top-10 finish in eight starts at Auto Club Speedway, formerly known as California Speedway.

“Well, it looked like Jimmie was the guy to beat at the end,” Edwards said. “It was fun racing with him. I want to thank Bob (Osborne, the crew chief) and all my teammates for working so hard this winter.”

Jeff Gordon, who dominated Sunday’s racing, was third. He was followed by Kyle Busch and Roush’s Matt Kenseth, who had won the two previous February races at this track. Another Roush driver, Greg Biffle, won this event in 2005.

The Roush Fenway team got off to a slow start with NASCAR’s new Car of Tomorrow that was introduced with a 16-race schedule in 2007. It was Johnson, Gordon and their Hendrick Motorsports teammates that dominated the CoT race last year.

But, with the new car running the full schedule this season, it appears Roush Fenway has figured it out.

Edwards went into the final round of pit stops under caution on lap 221 while leading. He came out behind Johnson, Gordon and Roush Fenway teammate Jamie McMurray.

He quickly passed McMurray after the

green flag waved for the start of lap 225 and set out after the leaders, passing Gordon for second on lap 233 and moving alongside Johnson’s No. 48 Chevrolet on lap 236.

They stayed side-by-side for almost two laps before Edwards nosed ahead and then began to pull away.

“Carl Edwards was in another league. We’ve got some work to do to catch those guys,” said Gordon, whose engine blew seconds before the last of 12 caution flags in the race froze the field and assured his third-place finish.

Gordon, a four-time Cup champion, and teammate Johnson, who finished 1-2 in points last year, got off to a tough start last week at Daytona. They finished 39th and 27th.

“It’s a good rebound from Daytona and we’ll roll on,” said Johnson, who won 10 races last season. “I was too loose off the corners to do anything with Carl.”

Johnson said the new car performed well on the two-mile oval at the track formerly known as California Speedway.

“Maybe another practice session would have helped,” Johnson added, referring to all the track time lost to rain Friday and Saturday. “I think it would have helped the whole field.”

About 25,000 fans, far short of the approximate 120,000 capacity, showed up Monday, with the sun peeking out from high clouds and temperatures moving into the high 60s.

The drivers spent most of Sunday waiting through rain, track drying and attempts to stop water seeping through seams of the track. The race finally began about 2 1/2 hours late, followed by a rain delay of just more than an hour and then a five-hour wait after a downpour. NASCAR and track officials finally gave up after 11 p.m. and postponed the conclusion until Monday.

Accidents during Sunday’s 87 laps involved Dale Earnhardt Jr., Casey Mears, Sam Hornish Jr., Reed Sorenson and Denny Hamlin. Only Mears and Hornish were unable to get back into the action.

MLB

Tampa Bay Rays thinking of Bonds

BY FRED GOODALL
Associated Press Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. The Tampa Bay Rays have had internal discussions about the prospect of pursuing Barry Bonds. Manager Joe Maddon said Monday he knew “little” about what was going on, but acknowledged some thought has been given to the career home-run leader.

“A minor discussion was thrown out there a little bit, and it’s really not gone any further than that,” Maddon said after Monday’s workout at the team’s spring training facility. “That’s all it is right now.”

The St. Petersburg Times reported in Monday’s editions that team officials have conferred among themselves about Bonds and other veteran unsigned free agents, such as Kenny Lofton and Mike Piazza. Andrew Friedman, Rays vice president of baseball operations, called the report a “non-story.”

Bonds, who broke Henry Aaron’s career home run record last summer, has pleaded not guilty to perjury and obstruction of justice charges stemming from testimony to a federal grand jury in 2003 in which he said he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs.

Maddon shrugged off a question about how Bonds might fit in with the Rays if the team decided to pursue him and ultimately added him to the roster.

“It’s hard to conjecture. ... I don’t know this man. I only know what I read, and I’m very much open to meeting people and drawing my own conclusions about people. I don’t necessarily believe everything that I read,” Maddon said.

“For me to create conjecture of what it’s going to be like, I really don’t want to go there right now. ... So many things are going good right now. If I have to face those moments, I’ll do it at the appropriate time. But for right now, it’s really about nothing.”

Whoopi gets dissed

The Oscar winner, former host left out of montage

WHOOPI GOLDBERG seemed sad and choked up on "The View" Monday when her fellow co-hosts discussed how she was not included in a montage featuring Oscar hosts during the Academy Awards telecast.

The 52-year-old Goldberg has received two Oscar nominations, winning for her role as Oda Mae Brown in 1990's "Ghost." She hosted the event in 1994, 1996, 1999 and 2002. She did, however, appear as an Oscar winner in a separate montage Sunday night.

Goldberg appeared stumped that the academy would leave her out of the one clip, as well as repeat host Steve Martin.

Joy Behar said "being slighted is never fun." Sherri Shepherd wondered if Goldberg had made someone mad.

"Undoubtedly," Goldberg said, smiling. "Undoubtedly I (bleeped) somebody off yet again. You know what, I don't – I don't know."

"Hey, we think you're a great host," reassured Barbara Walters, the creator of the ABC chatfest.

"I think we should do our own montage of you to make up for it," Hasselbeck said.

"This makes up for it," Goldberg responded, before getting up and kissing each co-host on the cheek. She and Walters embraced.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERTINELLI: I CHEATED, TOO



VALERIE BERTINELLI says despite her girl-next-door image, her marriage to Eddie Van Halen was hurt by infidelity and drug use – by her, too.

"I wasn't an angel, either. I cheated, too," Bertinelli said. "He claims to this day that I cheated first, but I don't know. I don't know about the timing."

Bertinelli, who starred in the long-running sitcom "One Day at a Time," married Van Halen in 1981 when she was 20. She said she was "destroying my body," trying to keep up with a rock-star lifestyle on the weekends and weeks off from taping her TV show.

AP

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

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100% of the proceeds go to the charity of your choice. 1st time clients only.

Say yes, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Keep communication open and know that you can avoid some of the drama. Tonight: Say yes to an offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Others come to you. Tonight: Take an overview.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ A boss might be flattering, but it doesn't hurt to look at the true motive. Tonight: Off to the gym.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your relaxed style will make a difference. Tonight: Fun and games.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Build on strong foundations. Tonight: Cozy at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Think before you leap. Allow greater fun in your life. Sometimes we all get too serious. Tonight: Visit with a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your follow-through makes a difference.

ence. Tonight: Stay close to home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You might want to rethink a question or approach it differently. Help others feel good about themselves. Tonight: What would make you happy?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Take your time, and you'll discover just what is necessary to do. Your intuition homes in on a financial matter. Tonight: Do a vanishing act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You'll come out on top of your game. Tonight: More the merrier.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your efficiency and values make a good mix. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Look to the overview. Detach and ask for feedback. Recognize how many different ways there are to look at a situation. Tonight: Surf the Internet or go to a movie. Let your mind relax.

Happy Birthday

Welcome an extraordinary year heading in your direction. How you handle situations, the twists and turns you might take, could change many of your life choices. Listen to the people around you who care. Choose to do nothing halfway. Expose yourself to new types of people; learn what makes them tick. Travel and education are also highlighted. If you are single, you will meet people with ease. With the theme of "different" this year, you could choose someone from a totally new background. Communication excels. If you are attached, by opening up to new ideas, you will be able to accept your sweetie far better.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com> (c) 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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

We have our
beer goggles
on this
St. Patrick's Day



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Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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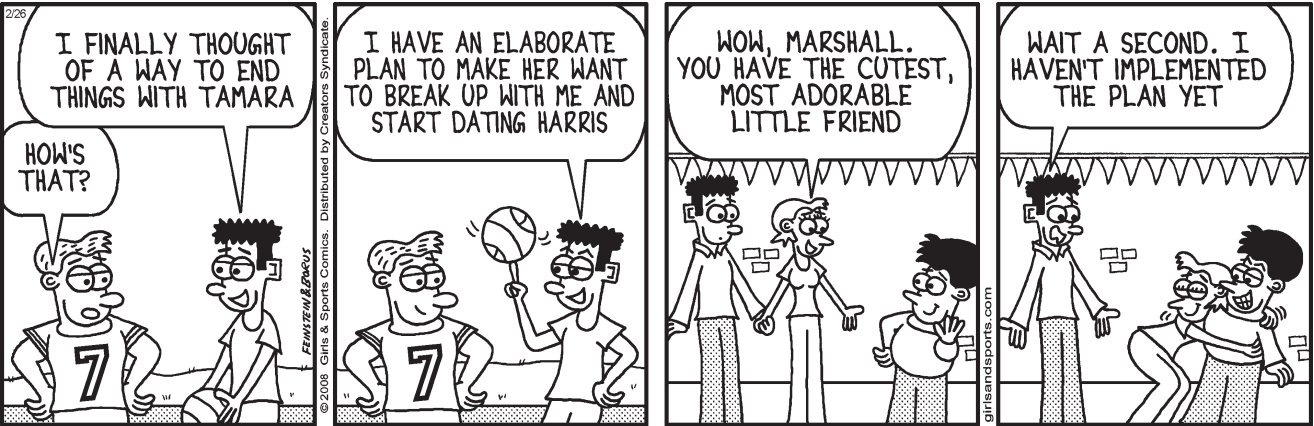
Residential

Interiors

Commercial

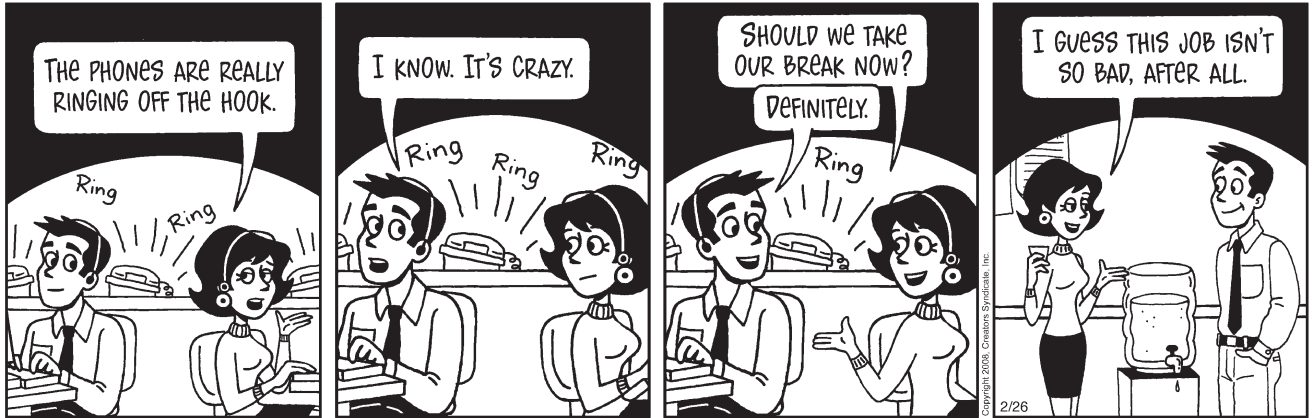
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



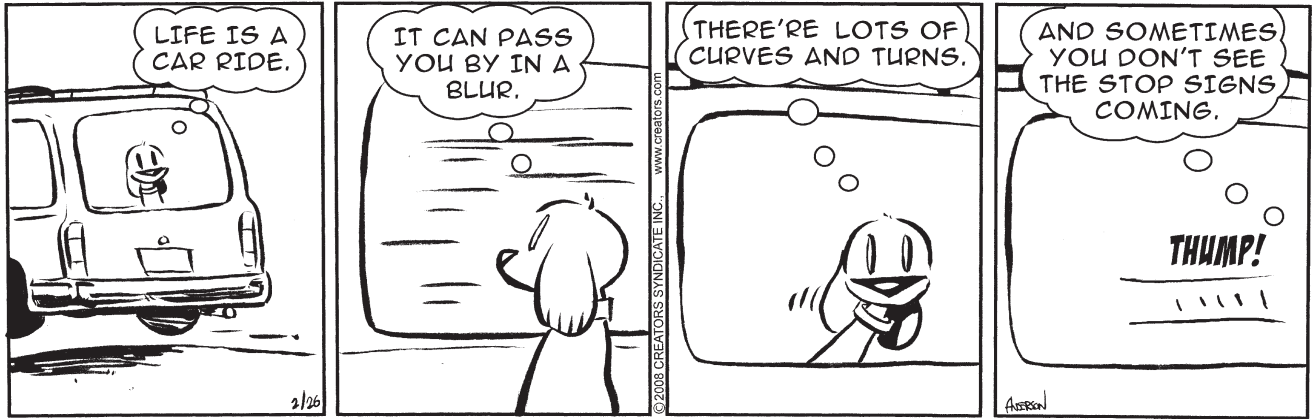
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

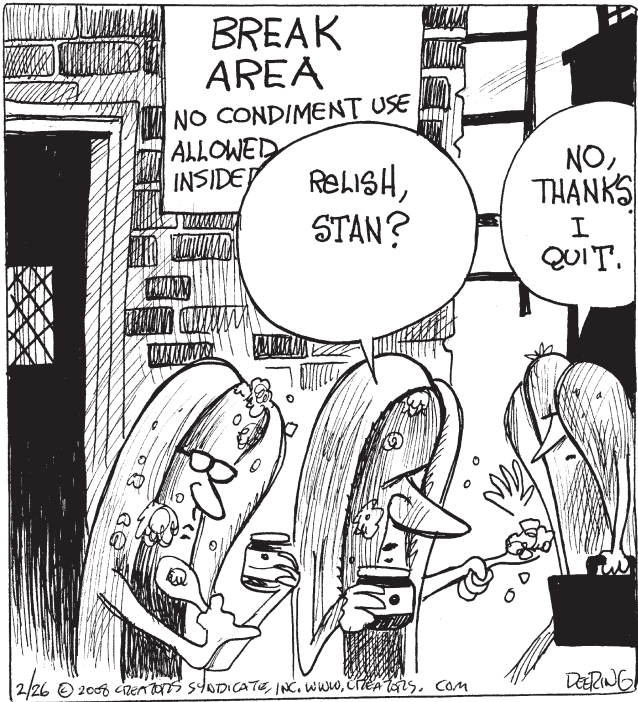


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



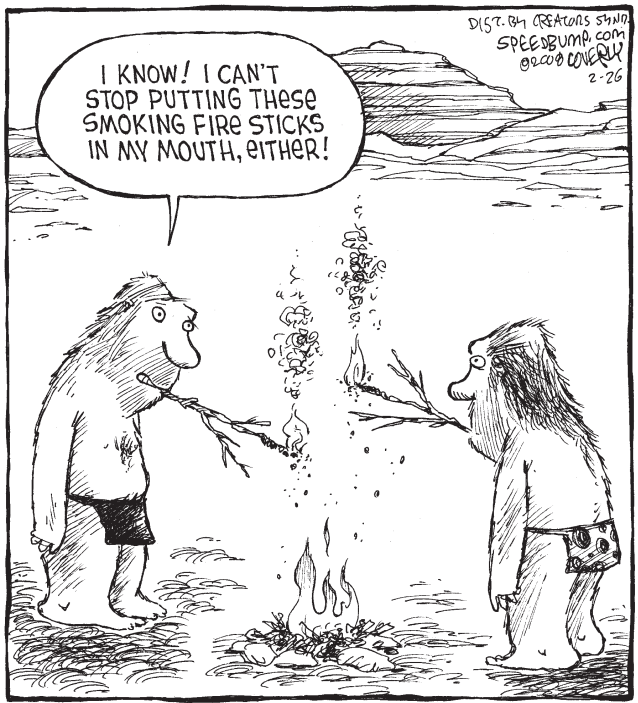
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Track projectile
 - 7 Mama's mate
 - 11 Texas town
 - 12 Egyptian goddess
 - 13 Blackout aids
 - 15 Maze wall, at times
 - 16 "Believe" singer
 - 18 Aerobatics feat
 - 21 It may be furrowed
 - 22 Beatniks beat them
 - 24 Clock numeral
 - 25 Twosome
 - 26 Game cube
 - 27 Checked out
 - 29 Heredity unit
 - 30 Telegraph period
 - 31 Small coin
 - 32 Iron output
 - 34 Portable file holders
 - 40 Prime
 - 41 Swiss city
 - 42 Squirrel's cache
- DOWN**
- 1 Rock's — Leppard
 - 2 Suffering
 - 3 Spring setting
 - 4 Kidney-shaped treat
 - 5 Theater worker
 - 6 Auction cry
 - 7 Urban bird
 - 8 Tough wood
 - 9 Deep hole
 - 10 Burro
 - 14 Home that's a dome
 - 16 Calls out
 - 17 Raise
 - 19 Poet Nash
 - 20 Score-board unit
 - 21 Particle
 - 22 Rose-to-be
 - 23 Glimpse
 - 25 Profundity
 - 28 Flings
 - 29 Zodiac sign
 - 31 Gave a darn
 - 33 Border
 - 34 Team backer
 - 35 Gehrig or Brock
 - 36 Kitchen invader
 - 37 Old soldier
 - 38 First woman
 - 39 Down

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13						14				
			15							
	16	17				18		19	20	
21					22					23
24				25				26		
27			28				29			
	30					31				
			32		33					
34	35	36						37	38	39
40					41					
42					43					

DAILY LOTTERY



7 12 13 19 22
Meganumber: 0
Jackpot: \$12M



2 25 33 35 41
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: \$9M



19 20 21 31 34



MIDDAY: 8 2 7
EVENING: 0 7 4



1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1.41.51

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

■ China's historical fascination with crickets has recently been exhibited in cricket beauty contests, singing competitions and prize fights, according to a January Los Angeles Times dispatch, and has led even to increasing vigilance about crickets cheating with performance-enhancing drugs. The fighters duel in terrarium-sized containers, and, according to the Times, "Overhead cameras (project) the action onto large screens," allowing spectators close-ups of crickets tossing each other around with their powerful jaws. The best fighters may sell for the equivalent of \$10,000, are raised on vegetables and calcium supplements, and are sexually active before fights. The doping issue mostly involves the "singers"; slowing the vibration of the cricket's wings produces an attractively lower pitch.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1266** Battle of Benevento: An army led by Charles, Count of Anjou, defeats a combined German and Sicilian force led by King Manfred of Sicily. Manfred is killed in the battle and Pope Clement IV invests Charles as king of Sicily and Naples.
- 1658** Treaty of Roskilde: After a devastating defeat in the Northern Wars (1655-1661), the King of Denmark-Norway is forced to give up nearly half his territory to Sweden to save the rest.
- 1794** Christiansborg Castle, Copenhagen burns down.
- 1797** The Bank of England issues the first one-pound and two-pound notes.
- 1815** Napoleon Bonaparte escapes from Elba.
- 1848** The second French Republic is proclaimed.
- 1863** U.S. President Abraham Lincoln signs the National Banking Act into law.
- 1870** In New York City, the first pneumatic-subway opens.
- 1885** The Berlin Act, which resulted from the Berlin Conference regulating European colonization and trade in Africa, is signed.
- 1887** At the SCG, George Lohmann becomes the first bowler to take eight wickets in a Test innings.
- 1897** Sigma Pi Fraternity, International was founded at Vincennes University.
- 1917** The Original Dixieland Jass Band records the first ever jazz record for the Victor Talking Machine Company in New York.

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lissom \LISS-uhm/, adjective; also *lissome*: 1. Limber; supple; flexible. 2. Light and quick in action; nimble; agile; active.

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310-463-4945

TRAINED OPERA singer available to sing jolson songs, oldies. Available for all sorts of parties and occasions. There will be a sing-a-long! Gabe (310)392-6501

Employment

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Fax resume to 323-525-1140, or email mindy.rosenman@yahoo.com

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Call on Schools, clubs, PTA, Organizations and friends
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Skills needed
Call (310)697-3177
Math Maze USA Redondo Beach, Ca
Women and Spanish speakers
Encouraged to apply
Excellent profit potential

COOK
OCEAN HOUSE, an elegant senior living residence in Santa Monica, is looking for an ideal candidate for it's line cook position. Duties include participating in the daily menu production, preparing and coordinates daily breakfast, lunch and dinners from standardized recipes. Working line shifts daily to ensure speedy service. Ensuring kitchen equipment is clean, operable, and properly maintained on a daily basis. This is a full time position with benefits after 3 months, medical, dental, vision. 401(k) plan and meal plan as well. If you have a great attitude and enjoy working on a great team, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

COUNTER HELP needed. Cafe near 3rd St. Promenade 215 Broadway. Must be experienced. Immediate openings. Apply afternoons in person. (310) 396-9898.

Employment

PT/FT SALESPERSON for a hardware store. Call (310) 395-1158

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1234 11th st 1bd/1ba \$1650

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1st Floor 2 + 1.75 Condo

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Top Floor 2 + 1.75 Condo

Open Sunday, March 2nd
1:00 - 4:00 pm



2041 Euclid Street # 11
\$349,000

Sunset Park 1 + 1 Condo

Open Sunday, March 2nd
1:00 - 4:00 pm



737 Pier Avenue # 3
~~\$689,000~~ \$689,000

Ocean Park 2 + 2.5 Townhome

Open Sunday, March 2nd
1:00 - 4:00 pm



1012 - 7th Street # 7
\$639,000

Updated 2 + 1.75 Condo

Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Late February 2008

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,338,364	\$ 1,399,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,798,500	\$ 2,177,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,450,556	\$ 1,006,837
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 932,316	\$ 785,849
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,418,294	\$ 574,292
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,885,750	\$ 1,026,945

Statistics updated every Friday

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!