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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2009
Volume 8 Issue 98



Santa Monica Daily Press

STAYING SAFE AT THE OSCARS
SEE PAGE 10

Talk of the town

THE FINAL FOUR ISSUE



LITERATE MOB

Fabian Lewkowicz *Fabian@FabianLewkowicz.com*

A group of librarians, calling themselves a 'book mob,' simultaneously read aloud excerpts from 'The Shadow Catcher,' by acclaimed author Marianne Wiggins on the Third Street Promenade on Thursday. The book is the current subject of the Citywide Reads program.

Octopus pulls plug on exhibit

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA Staff arrived at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium on Tuesday morning to find their offices soaked with hundreds of gallons of sea water.

A preliminary investigation points to an eight-legged suspect — the aquarium's resident two-spotted octopus, a tiny female known for being curious and gregarious with visitors.

The main evidence against the octopus was the dislodged tube in its 10-gallon tank and the steady stream of water flowing out of the tank, said aquarist Brianne Emhiser. The octopus apparently tugged on a valve, allowing water to overflow.

"We're estimating we lost a few hundred gallons of sea water onto the aquarium floor," said Emhiser, who was among the first people on the scene.

The suspected cephalopod weighs about a pound. Its head is about the size of a football and its tentacles are twice as long, aquarium spokeswoman Randi Parent said.

"She's done this before, but this is the first time she's done it while no one was around," Parent said.

The octopus is a small, nocturnal species

SEE OCTOPUS PAGE 8

Wild ride leads home for Santa Monica

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Thankfully for the boys basketball team, Santa Monica College is close to home.

While the site of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division I-A boys basketball semifinal is technically considered a neutral location, the Vikings will certainly play the role of the home team today against Tesoro High School.

"I look forward to playing down the street [at SMC]," Santa Monica High School's Head Coach James Hecht said. "It will be nice not having to get on the 10 Freeway."

The Vikings have literally had a wild ride along the road to the division's final four. Initially, Samohi had to travel to Montclair High School in the first round. Unfortunately, the Vikings got stuck in traffic on the way to the campus and didn't hit the court until just 20 minutes before tip off.

The no. 11 seeded Vikings went on to win the game, 74-53, setting up a second round home game against Chaparral. A buzzer-beating lay-up by senior Kunnu Shofu later and the Vikings were on the way to the third round at Perris High School. The 85-mile ride down the I-10 Freeway ended with a 68-66 overtime victory in the quarter finals.

With all that travel behind them, Hecht and his players are eager to play in front of a home crowd tonight at SMC.

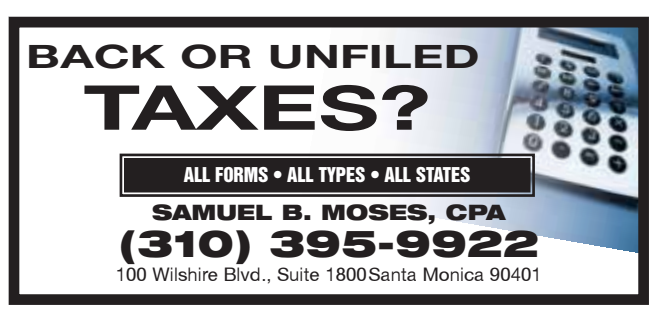
"It was a long trip out there, but our guys kept their focus," Hecht said after practice on

SEE PLAYOFFS PAGE 7





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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

200 Santa Monica Pier, LC-08CA-019, Zoning: RVC (Resident-Visitor-Commercial) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of appropriateness 08CA-019 for design approval of improvements to the Santa Monica Pier in conjunction with the Santa Monica Pier's 100th Anniversary in 2009. Proposed work will include the following: reconstruction of the Carousel building's original 'onion dome' and the restoration of period signage on the building; installation of historic points of interest plaques at various locations on the Pier; installation of ocean-themed seating on the deck east of the Carousel building; and installation of new necklace lighting around the Pier deck. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the Landmark Santa Monica Pier. Applicant: Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation and the City of Santa Monica. Owner: City of Santa Monica. (Continued from the November 10, 2008 Meeting).

When: **Monday, March 9, 2009 at 7:00 pm**

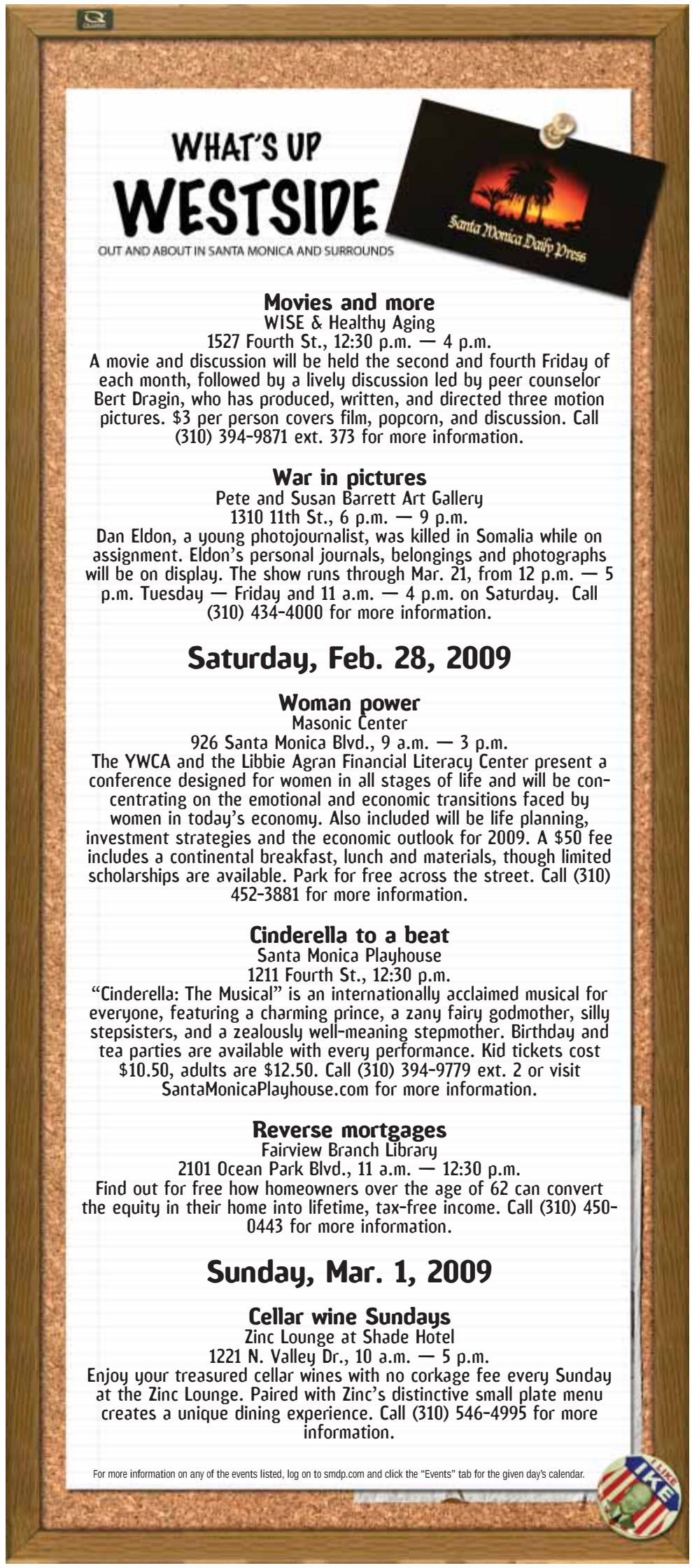
Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Roxanne Tanemori, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Ms. Tanemori by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at roxanne.tanemori@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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Movies and more
WISE & Healthy Aging
1527 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
A movie and discussion will be held the second and fourth Friday of each month, followed by a lively discussion led by peer counselor Bert Dragin, who has produced, written, and directed three motion pictures. $3 per person covers film, popcorn, and discussion. Call (310) 394-9871 ext. 373 for more information.

War in pictures
Pete and Susan Barrett Art Gallery
1310 11th St., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Dan Eldon, a young photojournalist, was killed in Somalia while on assignment. Eldon's personal journals, belongings and photographs will be on display. The show runs through Mar. 21, from 12 p.m. — 5 p.m. Tuesday — Friday and 11 a.m. — 4 p.m. on Saturday. Call (310) 434-4000 for more information.

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009

Woman power
Masonic Center
926 Santa Monica Blvd., 9 a.m. — 3 p.m.
The YWCA and the Libbie Agran Financial Literacy Center present a conference designed for women in all stages of life and will be concentrating on the emotional and economic transitions faced by women in today's economy. Also included will be life planning, investment strategies and the economic outlook for 2009. A $50 fee includes a continental breakfast, lunch and materials, though limited scholarships are available. Park for free across the street. Call (310) 452-3881 for more information.

Cinderella to a beat
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m.
"Cinderella: The Musical" is an internationally acclaimed musical for everyone, featuring a charming prince, a zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters, and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. Birthday and tea parties are available with every performance. Kid tickets cost $10.50, adults are $12.50. Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2 or visit SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com for more information.

Reverse mortgages
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Find out for free how homeowners over the age of 62 can convert the equity in their home into lifetime, tax-free income. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Sunday, Mar. 1, 2009

Cellar wine Sundays
Zinc Lounge at Shade Hotel
1221 N. Valley Dr., 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Enjoy your treasured cellar wines with no corkage fee every Sunday at the Zinc Lounge. Paired with Zinc's distinctive small plate menu creates a unique dining experience. Call (310) 546-4995 for more information.

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.

A room for those in need

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

ARIZONA AVENUE Celia Myers was already struggling to make ends meet when a doctor broke the devastating news that she has lupus.

Relying on Social Security payments and income from the occasional part-time job to support the family, the single-mother of two children from Bakersfield was met with a financial challenge when doctors advised that she receive treatment in the Los Angeles area.

The 50-year-old faced a dilemma, unable to afford the overnight accommodations or make the exhausting round-trip drive in one day by herself because of the painful effects from the auto-immune disorder.

Myers contacted the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital where she was referred for treatment, informed by its social services director about a program in which families of patients in financial need could stay for free at one of the local participating hotels.

Last August, Myers checked in for a complimentary room at The Ambrose, just a few blocks away from the hospital, visiting the doctor the following day before heading back to Bakersfield. While she was only in town for 24 hours, it made all the difference in the world for a patient dealing with swollen joints and fatigue.

"If you have to go back and forth, there's only so much you can do before you need to reach out for help," she said.

Earlier this month, eight different hotels who have provided free rooms to patients and their families through the "Room at the Inn" program were honored during a luncheon hosted by the medical center.

The program started around 1999 with the Fairmont Miramar Hotel, which offered a similar service in another community. Hotels were added to the providers list as more out-of-town patients began seeking treatment at the hospital and requests for rooms grew.

SEE UCLA PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

YUM! **The Cheng family enjoys lunch at the Lobster restaurant on Ocean Avenue on Thursday afternoon. The Lobster, along with several other Santa Monica eateries, participated in Dine L.A., a marketing campaign in which restaurants offer meals at a discount to attract new customers.**

Dine L.A. performs for local restaurants

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN So, maybe restaurant week was a misnomer.

Santa Monica restaurants are folding up their fixe prix menus today as Dine L.A. comes to a close after a two-week encore.

The event, originally scheduled to end on Feb. 6, got an extension because of the popularity of the reduced-price menus that allowed economy-conscious diners to bust out of their penny-pinching and enjoy a meal out.

The enthusiasm of restaurants to continue with the program encouraged Dine L.A. organizers to extend their promotional activities, although the decision was ultimately up to the restaurant, said Caroline Rustigian-Bruderer of K-Line and Company, the firm that did the publicity and marketing for Dine L.A.

"We threw it out there to the restaurants to extend it because they seemed like they want to. It was offering them such a great opportunity," Rustigian-Bruderer said.

One restaurant, Boa Steakhouse, saw such an upswing in business that it decided to keep its Dine L.A. menu for another two months.

Brent Berkowitz, operations director for Innovative Dining Group, the company that owns Boa, said that this was the restaurant's first positive experience as a participant in Dine L.A. However, the results were so good that the "appetite stimulus menu," as they coin it, will stick around for at least another two to three months.

"Out of a given night, maybe 10 percent would order the ASM," Berkowitz said. "That included guests we wouldn't have otherwise gotten or guests who would have only come in once a month, but maybe came back two times because of this menu."

Megan Sheehy, general manager of Locanda del Lago, was similarly sunny.

"We saw a lot of new faces. It's a good way to reach out to new customers," she said. "In the first two weeks, business was up 20 percent."

These are important gains in uncertain economic times for businesses whose livelihood depends on people's ability to purchase luxuries like a night out.

"They're happy to have a good time and not spend a lot of money," Berkowitz said. "The restaurant business is all about loyalty. You have to show loyalty back. God willing, when the economy gets better, they'll come back."

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EDITORIAL

Showing progress

WHEN IT COMES TO HELPING THE HOMELESS, SANTA Monica is making great strides. Using a multi-pronged approach with an emphasis on housing the most vulnerable and chronically homeless first, City Hall, with the help of social service providers, volunteers, residents, cops and the business community, have been able to reduce the homeless population in Santa Monica by 8 percent, according to a recent survey, the results of which were released Monday.

The survey, which was conducted in January, showed that there are a total of 915 people sleeping in shelters or on the streets of Santa Monica. This is down from an estimated 999 in 2007, and a far cry from the thousands reported in previous estimates.

The Daily Press supports efforts made by City Hall to address this serious problem, which could only get worse if the economy doesn't rebound. The Homeless Liaison Program run by the Santa Monica Police Department is innovative. The housing-first model helps prevent people from falling through the cracks, allowing them to stabilize and seek treatment or access services. The homeless court gives people a fresh start by clearing minor offenses, such as illegal camping, and linking people to services. Identifying the most vulnerable allows us to better focus our limited resources.

It is a tough job working with the homeless, many of whom are mentally ill, drug and alcohol addicted, or both. The Daily Press commends those who are involved in this effort, even if we do not always agree with City Hall. The dedication to this issue, being leaders in the movement by exhibiting compassion and critical thinking, has produced results that are often hard to see given that homelessness has no boundaries.

That said, numbers can be deceiving. While the results of the survey show the numbers decreasing, we have to remember that many of our homeless have found temporary shelter in West L.A. and Culver City as part of the Winter Shelter Program. When this program ends next month, how many of those folks will be back on the streets in Santa Monica? That 8 percent drop could be more like 5 percent or lower. So while it is good to celebrate the success, we must not get complacent. We must continue working toward a regional solution, putting pressure on other cities to get involved.

PLAYING POLITICS

When the Daily Press made endorsements for the 2006 City Council race, we called Gleam Davis a "wild card." We felt that the Harvard Law School grad's intelligence and commitment to the community, particularly in the area of education, made her a stellar candidate, but perhaps one who needed more seasoning in other areas, particularly planning and land use. We suggested she serve on a city commission to prove that she was more than an education candidate. Having served on the Planning Commission following her failed campaign, Davis proved she is committed and will put in the hours to make sound decisions. She does care about the future of Santa Monica, preserving neighborhoods for future generations. Davis will make a good council member.

However, there is some concern that Santa Monicans For Renters' Rights has too much control now that Davis, a co-chair of the ruling political party, is on the council, giving SMRR a 5-2 majority. We don't like any group to have that much control, however, that is how the game is played. Those upset with SMRR's dominance need to walk the walk, form an opposition and do the leg work to compete. SMRR knows how to organize and you can't fault them for that. For those upset, there's always 2010.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL TO: EDITOR@SMDP.COM
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The Soap Box

Bennet Kelley

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Republicans wear sunglasses at night

THE REPUBLICANS RECENT POLITICAL posturing over President Obama's stimulus package and the California budget reminded me of the 1980s pop hit "Sunglasses at Night" about a man who retreats to darkness rather than deal with harsh realities. While the song may be a nostalgic guilty pleasure, it is no recipe for sound public policy. Apparently someone forgot to tell this to the Republicans whose Ray Bans have been in full display.

In California the harsh reality was a $42 billion budget deficit and a requirement that any tax increase pass with two-thirds approval (which meant two Republican votes in each house). The Republicans' blanket opposition to any tax increase caused a four-month stalemate that forced the governor to halt public works projects and issue layoff notices to 20,000 state employees in a state that already has the fourth highest unemployment rate in the country.

With a government shutdown imminent, the Senate Republican leader committed political heresy by endorsing a budget deal with $14 billion in new taxes and conceding that the deficit was too big to be closed without them.

The Senate Republicans responded immediately in Gingrichian fashion by installing a new leader who wanted to reopen negotiations to "pass a no tax budget" (of course without offering any such plan). Luckily, a second Republican stepped forward the next day to support the deal and save the state from a fiscal catastrophe and his fellow Republicans.

That the Republicans would rather deal a body blow to the world's eighth largest economy during a recession than yield an inch on taxes is nothing new. Since the passage of Proposition 13, which cut property taxes and established the two-thirds vote requirement, the Republicans have turned a blind eye to the Mississippification of the once Golden State in pursuing their "all taxes are bad" agenda.

As a result, a state that once led the nation in education and infrastructure for example, now ranks 47th in key education indicators and last in highway spending.

The Sacramento Republicans, however, are mere amateurs when compared to the Ray Ban kings in Washington. Republicans still cling to the myth that tax cuts not only cure all problems but even pay for themselves (something even Bush's budget director conceded was not true). In 20 years of supply-side economic rule, our national debt has grown by $7.5 trillion, which shockingly is $3 trillion more (in current dollars) than during the many challenges and crises of the Roosevelt-Truman era (which included the New Deal, World War II, the GI Bill, the Berlin Airlift and the Marshall Plan).

With the country facing its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, the Republicans' proposed solution was to follow the same policies that have led us to the current crisis.

Even worse, the Republicans argued that the Obama plan would only exacerbate matters claiming that similar efforts under the New Deal had prolonged the depression. While there is no doubt Roosevelt left the Republicans in a deep depression, by his second year in office GDP was up a remarkable 17 percent — an increase that only Roosevelt himself surpassed during World War II.

WITH THE COUNTRY FACING ITS WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION, THE REPUBLICANS' PROPOSED SOLUTION WAS TO FOLLOW THE SAME POLICIES THAT HAVE LED US TO THE CURRENT CRISIS.

The Republicans' denial is part of a pattern of pretending that problems that do not fit their neat little world view either do not exist (e.g., global warming) or can be easily solved (e.g., abstinence will prevent the spread of AIDS). This is, after all, the party that had three presidential candidates who refuse to believe in evolution.

While the Republicans at least agree that the world is not flat, by failing to offer any meaningful alternatives to our current problems other than the very policies that created them (or merely parroting sound bytes from the Reagan era) the party is engaging in its political equivalent.

The same is true for threats by Republicans governors, such as South Carolina's Mark Sanford (whose state has the third highest unemployment rate), to refuse stimulus money for their struggling states.

Sacrificing their citizens at the altar of ideology merely demonstrates how out of touch the party has become.

If the Republicans are going to ever regain political supremacy, they are going to have to take off their sunglasses and recognize the wreckage they have caused and, ultimately, that taxes (and even government itself) are not always bad.

Republicans also would be wise to study rather than deny the New Deal, since in a matter of four years the party went from controlling the White House and Congress to holding only 17 Senate seats and 89 House seats. If they continue with their Ray Ban induced, "world is flat" politics, the Republicans may face a similar fate and be left "Dancing with [Them]selves".

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Greed is really a four-letter word

EACH WEEK IN THESE COLUMNS I TRY TO add a bit of humor. (The operative word being "try.") When I'm struggling, occasionally I'll analyze just what makes something funny. But humor is like sex. Too much analysis can be counter productive.

Growing up I was always drawn to comedy. With my late father, whose youth came during the Great Depression, humor was something we could share. My dad's favorite comedians were Groucho Marx, W.C. Fields and Jackie Gleason. On Sundays, if we were in the car, there might not be much conversation but there was a good chance Jack Benny or Amos 'n Andy was on the radio.

Years later it was my turn as I tried to get my father to see Woody Allen movies with little success until "Annie Hall," after which he became a big fan. But for me, during the past 15 years, Allen's making movies that aren't comedies is like Michael Jordan playing sports that aren't basketball. They both can do it, but why bother?

To Woody's credit, he's already hired "Slumdog" beauty Freida Pinto to star in his next movie. This could be bad news for Scarlett Johansson or good news for fans of international cinematic three ways (as long as Woody isn't one of the three).

My greatest comic hero was Lenny Bruce. Until Lenny, standup comedy was basically "Take my wife, please." From politics to religion, Bruce felt there was no subject from which he couldn't mine humor. I generally agree, but the plight of a reader of mine tests that theory. As I write this, Cynthia Smith, who has lived in Santa Monica with her son for the past 14 years, is in court about to be evicted and possibly end up homeless. Other than all that, I'm full of mirth.

There are generally two sides to every story (sometimes three) but here's what seems to have occurred. Cynthia (friends call her C) said she dropped her January rent check in the box on the second, but inexplicably, on the fifth, received a three-day notice. She left phone messages with the manager and landlord about the missing check but didn't get a return call.

The last year or so hasn't exactly been a picnic for C. She suffered a stroke in 2007, was found on the floor of her apartment by her son, and rushed to the hospital. C was paralyzed and blind in one eye, but four brain surgeries later, she's made an amazing recovery (other than $40,000 in medical bills, despite having health insurance). Call me wacky, but if you were C's landlord for 14 years, and one particular month the rent was late, wouldn't you at least call to see that she's not unconscious on floor?

On Jan. 8, C put a second rent check in the mail. Big mistake. If you ever get a three-day notice, hand deliver the check pronto. As a lawyer friend advises, "Do not pass go, run, don't walk."

On Jan. 10, C got the envelope back from the USPS marked "incomplete address." Frantic, she finally reached the landlord on the phone. Daniel, the office manager, said "not to worry" that he was coming by Venice (where C runs a small public relations business) and would pick up the check. Ten minutes later, the landlord, Ziggy Dromy, called, and allegedly said C had to bring the rent that day or he would "fine and evict her!" (Eviction wasn't enough?)

C offered to Fed-Ex the rent, but nothing doing. Should she have cancelled her clients and raced to Beverly Hills? Obviously. Legally, a landlord can refuse the rent after the three days have elapsed. And yet on Feb. 1, C gave the manager's wife two checks, one for January and one for February, while a friend of C's videotaped the transaction.

So, depending on what happens in court today, we may have two more homeless in Santa Monica — just what we need in this economy. All that could be worse is if it were Christmas.

To get his side of the story, I called Ziggy Dromy and left numerous messages. Finally Daniel called back but would only say, "The matter is being litigated for non-payment of rent." Sometimes what we humans do to each other in the name of God or money is downright repulsive. (As Lenny Bruce used to say, "I hope I'm not out of line.")

This apparent greed somehow reminds me of my previous landlord many years ago. I broke the news to him that one of our tenants had passed away during the night. His first words were, "Did he have a one-bedroom, or two?"

Lastly, if you catch any typos in this column, it's quite likely it's because I've got my fingers crossed in hopes that C doesn't get evicted.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Making tracks

The Expo Light Rail Line is coming to Santa Monica, but which route it takes is still a subject of debate. The pair of routes being kicked around would either have the line make its way down Colorado Avenue to the terminus or travel along Olympic Boulevard.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Which route do you think the rail line should take and why?

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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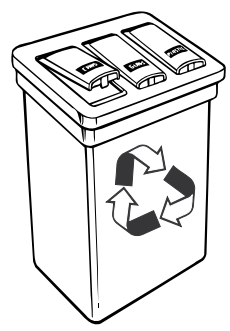
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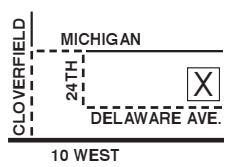
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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Review and Discussion of Preliminary Concept Designs for the Ocean Park Boulevard Streetscape Project, and Review and Discussion of the Proposed Property Acquisition Associated with the Redevelopment of the Edison Language Academy

The Planning Commission will review and discuss preliminary design concepts for the Ocean Park Boulevard Streetscape Project, which provides a range of physical and programmatic improvements to Ocean Park Boulevard between Lincoln Boulevard and Neilson Way. Two concept alternatives have been developed based on input from an extensive public outreach process that includes community workshops, meetings and web-based communication. In addition to enhancing the Boulevard's functional and aesthetic qualities, both alternatives incorporate significant sustainability measures that seek to reduce urban runoff pollution from discharging into the Santa Monica Bay. (Planner: Peter D. James, email: peter.james@smgov.net)

The Planning Commission will review, discuss and make a written recommendation on the acquisition of two residential parcels that are included as part of the proposed redevelopment of the Edison Language Academy located at 2425 Kansas Avenue. The parcels, located at 2508 and 2512 Virginia Avenue are proposed to be demolished and incorporated into the redevelopment plan as a parking lot and pre-school facility. (Planner: Peter D. James, email: peter.james@smgov.net)

The Planning Commission will discuss general policy matters pertaining to the City's ongoing effort to prepare new Land Use and Circulation Elements of the City's General Plan.

Regular policy discussion meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of each month. Discussion topics are set in advance of the meeting, and may change up to 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Information on current meeting topics is available at City Hall and online at www.smgov.net/planning.

WHEN: **Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

City of Santa Monica

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about the meeting agenda, please contact Kyle Ferstead, Planning Commission Secretary by e-mail at kyle.ferstead@smgov.net or by telephone at (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net/planning. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
http://www.shapethefuture2025.net (Land Use and Circulation Element)

MOTION

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Man busted sharing pot with juveniles

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

SUNDAY, FEB. 22, AT 12:27 A.M.,
A Santa Monica police officer on patrol in the 1100 block of Court 15 spotted a suspicious vehicle parked in the alley. The officer approached the vehicle and discovered a young male adult inside the car with three male juveniles and two female juveniles. The officer smelled the strong odor of marijuana and searched the vehicle. The officer discovered the adult in possession of over 80 grams of pot, a digital scale and a large amount of cash. The juveniles were released to their parents and the man was arrested for possession of marijuana for sale, transportation of marijuana, furnishing marijuana to minors and violation of probation. The suspect was identified as David Judah Azaria, 18, a transient. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21, AT 1:10 A.M.,
Officers in the 2900 block of Pico Boulevard – Lares Restaurant – responded to a report of vandalism. The restaurant manager told officers that a man was banging on the front door of the restaurant and vigorously shaking it. The manager told the man the restaurant was closed. The man didn't seem to care and continued shaking the door until he eventually broke it, police said. He walked away. Officers spotted the suspect a short time later and tried to detain him. He allegedly fought with officers, who eventually placed him under arrest for felony vandalism, resisting arrest and violation of probation. He was identified as Donald Wesley Mosley, 46, a transient. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21, AT 1:08 A.M.,
Officers on patrol in the 1300 block of Seventh Street noticed a vehicle that was parked in an odd manner with headlights on. The officers made contact with the driver of the vehicle and learned he had at least one alcoholic beverage that evening. Officers searched the suspect and discovered he was in possession of a small baggy filled with cocaine. The man was placed under arrest and booked for possession of a controlled substance. He was identified as Manuel Francisco Cubillas, 37, of Chatsworth. His bail was set at $10,000.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20, AT 3:27 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1500 block of Second Street – McDonald's – regarding a report of an assault and battery. A restaurant employee told officers that she was punched several times by a female suspect after she asked the woman to leave. The manager intervened and stopped the suspect's alleged assault. The suspect fled and was located a block or so away by officers, who placed her under arrest for assault and battery. The suspect was identified as Bridgette T. Briggs, 29, a transient. Bail was set at $20,000.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, AT 12:20 P.M.,
While on patrol near the corner of Cloverfield Boulevard and Delaware Avenue, an officer saw a death threat against a Santa Monica police officer written in gang graffiti on a wall. Officers later obtained several search and arrest warrants for those believed to be involved in the death threat. Contraband was found and several arrests were made. The first suspect arrested was identified as Abel Jimenez, 24, of Santa Monica. He was booked for making criminal threats, vandalism, engaging in felonious criminal conduct in furtherance of a criminal street gang and violation of probation. His bail was set at $80,000. The second suspect arrested was identified as William Edward Crishon, 19, from Santa Monica, who was booked for possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance for sale, being in a place where a controlled substance was used, possession of drug paraphernalia, felonious criminal conduct in furtherance of a street gang and violation of probation. His bail was set at $60,000. The third suspect arrested was identified as Rafael Ramos, 18, of Santa Monica, who was booked for possession of drug paraphernalia, being in a place where a controlled substance was used and violation of probation. His bail was set at $10,000. The fourth and final suspect was identified as Kenneth Keith Jones, 18, of Santa Monica who was booked for possession of drug paraphernalia and being in a place where a controlled substance is used. Bail was set at $500.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, AT 1:50 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 2900 block of Main Street regarding a report of a theft. The alleged victim told officers her purse, which contained her car keys, was stolen from inside a bar. The woman went to check on the status of her car and reported seeing an unknown man sitting in the driver's seat. She later discovered items were missing from her car. Officers detained the man and two others believed to be involved. All three were booked for auto burglary and conspiracy to commit a crime. Officers later discovered that some of the victim's property was found in the possession of the suspect believed to have been in the car. The first suspect was identified as Raafat Maher Bikhit, 23, of Santa Monica. He was also booked for possession of stolen property. His bail was set at $20,000. The second suspect was identified as Juan Carlos Solis, 22, of Santa Monica, who was also booked for violation of probation. His bail was set at $20,000. The third suspect was identified as David Nicholas Szyszkowski, 23, of Los Angeles. He was also booked for being in possession of marijuana. His bail was set at $20,000.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, AT 1:18 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 2400 block of Montana Avenue regarding a report of a traffic services officer who was allegedly struck by a vehicle. When officers arrived, the traffic officer said they gave a man a warning for being parked illegally. He refused to move his car and as the traffic officer was about to issue the driver a ticket, he allegedly struck the officer with his vehicle and drove off. The traffic officer was not injured. Officers located the driver in the area. He was positively identified and booked for assault with a deadly weapon. The vehicle was impounded. The suspect was identified as John Chien, 44, of Malibu. His bail was set at $30,000.

Editor in Chief KEVIN HERRERA compiled these reports.



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

GETTING PHYSICAL: **Santa Monica High School's Danilo Toskovic battles for a rebound against a Chaparral defender during a second round playoff game earlier this postseason.**

Vikings make it to final four

FROM **PLAYOFFS** PAGE 1

Thursday. "I'm proud of our guys."

The travel may have got to the Vikings as they struggled during a first quarter that ended with Samohi down 9-16. Trailing by seven at the half, Hecht said his players settled down and began to climb back into contention.

Up by three with seconds to play, the no. 11 seeded Vikings had a win within reach when Perris hit a three-pointer at the buzzer sending the game into overtime.

Senior Donte Bowie came up big in overtime, scoring four of the Vikings' 10 points. Bowie finished the game with 14 points. Shofu tallied 21 in the victory. Soloman Singer added 10.

"We had good contributions from a lot of guys," Hecht said. "We just kept chipping away."

With the excessive travel behind them, the Vikings now have to contend with a Tesoro team that is the no. 2 seed in the division. Hecht said he expects Tesoro to put up a serious fight.

"They have a good basketball program," Hecht said. "They are very patient with the ball, very deliberate with their offense."

After reviewing video of a couple of Tesoro's games, Hecht came to the conclusion that its post players are going to test his big men.

"We're going to stick to our style," he said. "We'll have to pull something out of our bag of tricks to win this one."

daniela@smdp.com

PLAYOFF ROUNDUP

• Pacifica Christian High School's boys basketball team continues its impressive playoff run against Tarbut V'Torah in the semifinals of the CIF-SS Division VI-AA playoffs today at Culver City High School. The Seawolves are the no.3 seed team in the division. Pacifica Christian qualified for the semifinals by defeating Capistrano Valley Christian, 64-38 on Tuesday.

Cameron Bell, Pacifica Christian's primary post presence, expects the game to test his squad's resolve.

"We're going to have to keep our heads," Bell said during practice earlier this week. "We just have to stay calm and collected."

While the Seawolves rely on an up-tempo style of play, Bell thinks the game will be decided in the post.

"We have to physically take it for ourselves," the senior said. "We have to show (Tarbut V'Torah) who has worked harder and who wants it more."

• The season has come to an end for the boys soccer team at St. Monica. The Mariners lost, 0-2, to St. Margaret's in the second round of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division VII on Wednesday at Airport Park. St. Margaret's advances to play Avalon in the quarterfinals on Friday. Avalon defeated Santa Monica's Pacifica Christian in the first round of the playoffs. The Mariners qualified for the playoffs as the second place team in the Camino Real League.

– DANIEL ARCHULETA



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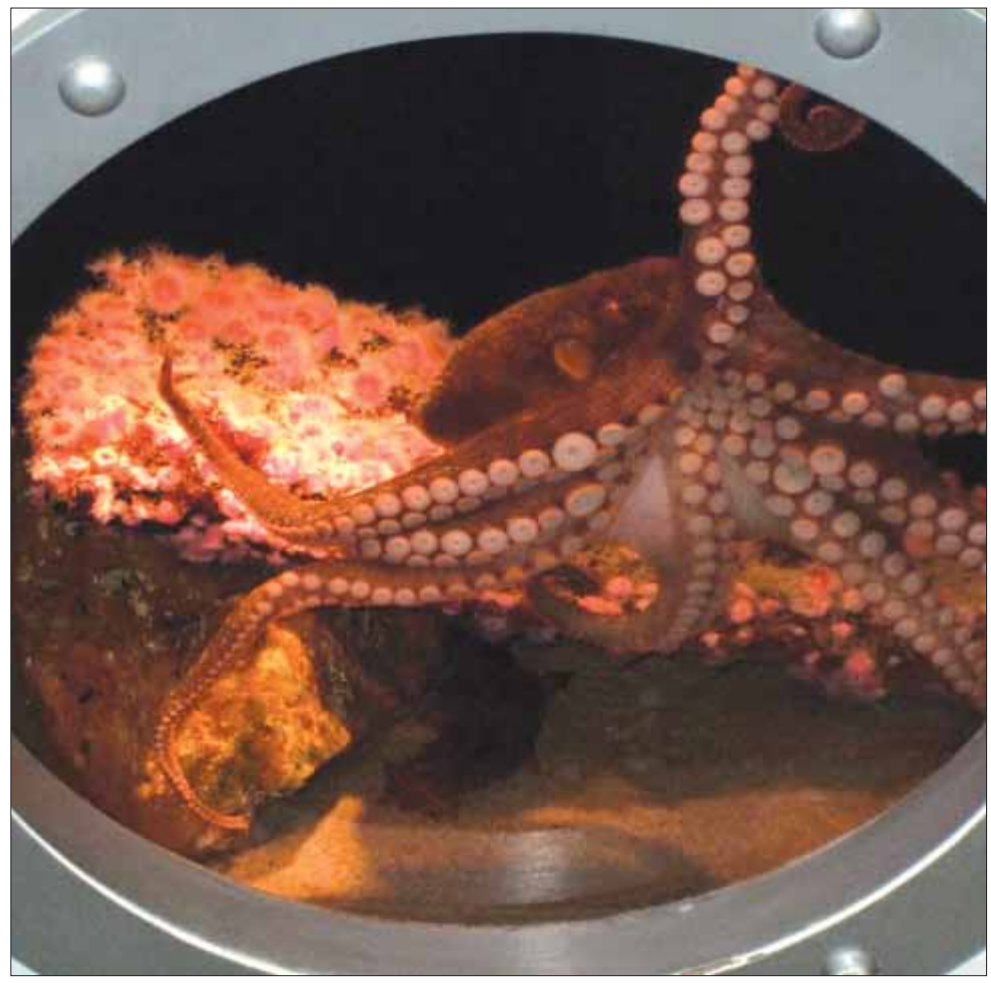


Photo courtesy Tara Crow

THE PRIMARY SUSPECT: **Heal the Bay Santa Monica Pier Aquarium's two-spotted Octopus surveys the damage after it turned a valve in its tank on Thursday that released roughly 200 gallons of salt water, creating quite a mess for staff to clean up.**

Flood hits aquarium

FROM **OCTOPUS** PAGE 1

native to the California coast, named for the two eyelike spots just below its eyes.

Octopuses are generally intelligent and agile but this particular one is especially outgoing and mischievous, Parent said.

"Some are very shy. When you have them on display, they'll hid under a rock. But she likes to interact with people walking by. If you put your finger on the glass she'll follow your finger," she said.

No sea life was harmed by the flood, but the water reached the aquarium's offices, where newly installed eco-friendly floors got drenched.

"Even after two hours of cleaning up, we still have salt water seeping up between the tiles every step we take," said public programs manager Tara Crow. "It's actually quite comical. I think the whole staff is still laughing about the ordeal."

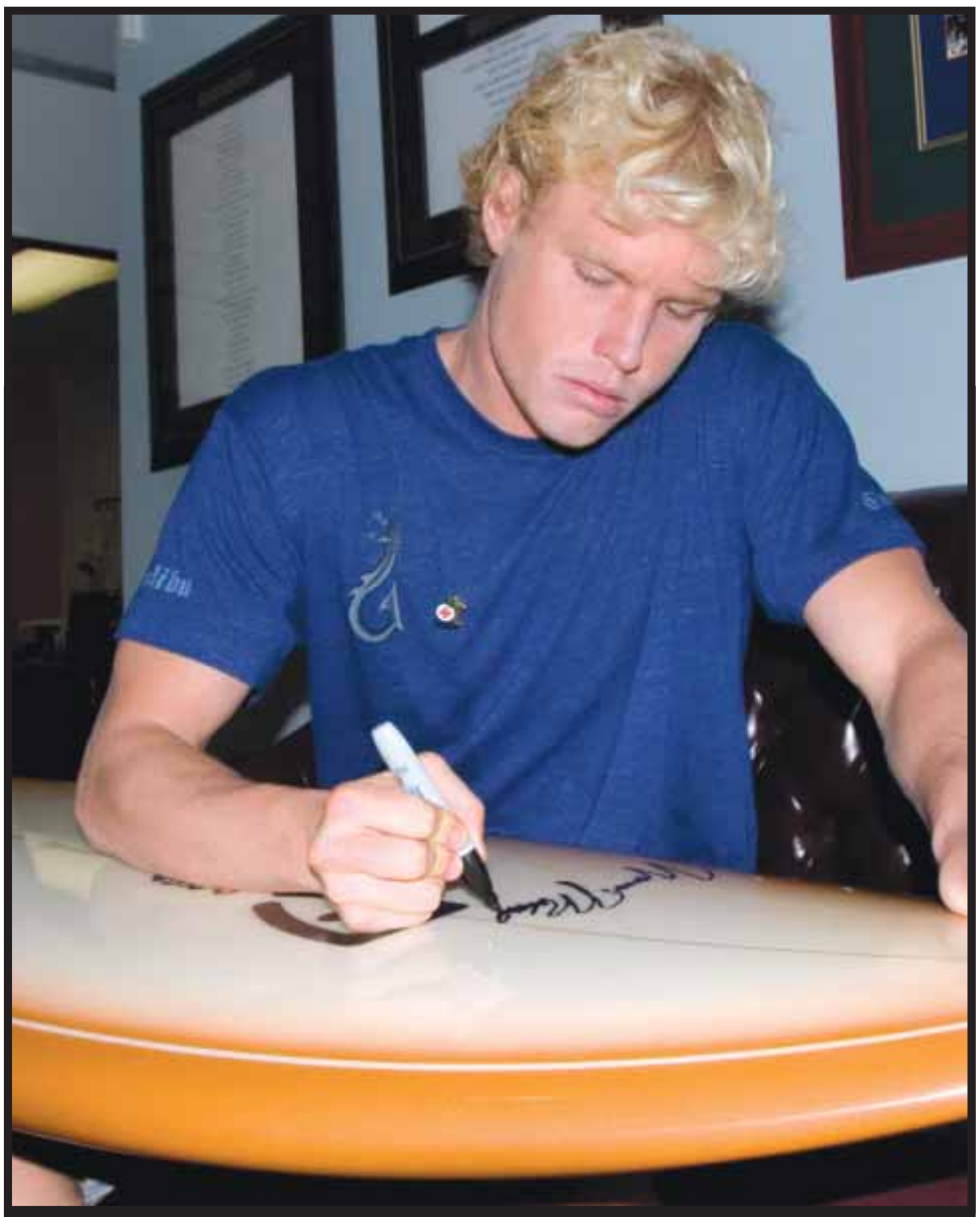
Staff rushed to clean up the wet mess before the first school group was scheduled to arrive for a marine-themed field trip.

When the octopus greeted the first-graders, it seemed oblivious to the massive mess it caused just hours before, Parent said.

"She's already been fooling with the valve again," she said.

In 1994, a giant octopus was found dead in an empty tank at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium after the 58-pound animal apparently pulled out a tube and drained the tank during the night.





SIGNING DAY

Fabian Lewkowicz *Fabian@FabianLewkowicz.com*

Warren Metcalfe, 24, an internationally ranked professional surfer and model, autographs a 9:Fish Barracuda model surfboard worth $700 that was donated by 9:Fish for auction at the Santa Monica Red Cross Red Tie Affair fundraiser. Metcalfe will throw in private surfing lessons to complete the package at the third annual gala, which is being held on March 28.

Program provides financial relief to patients during stressful times

FROM UCLA PAGE 3

Since 2005, the Fairmont Miramar has accommodated 43 families for approximately 93 room nights.

"By participating in this program we are able to give back to the community and help those families in need during difficult times," Ellis O'Connor, the general manager of the Fairmont Miramar, said in a statement.

The roster includes hotels in close proximity to the hospital, such as The Ambrose and Best Western Gateway, and luxury accommodations near the beach, like Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel and Shutters on the Beach. Other program participants include the Hotel Carmel, Casa del Mar, and Doubletree Guest Suites.

The Best Western Gateway, which has already been providing complimentary rooms for families in need at nearby St. John's Health Center, joined about five years ago.

"It's a great cause and being part of the community is very important to us," Hany Sabongy, the general manager at the Best Western Gateway, said.

Request for rooms first go through Gail Abarbanel, the director of social services for the hospital, who, after determining the family's need, then contacts Jean McNeil Wyner, the community liaison for the hospital. Wyner then contacts the various hotels to see which one has a room available.

Approximately 150-200 families have been assisted over the life of the program. Gladstone's Restaurant in Malibu has also donated gift cards to families.

"Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital has always been a community hospital and this is a reflection of what the community really means — people coming together to help others who need assistance," Abarbanel said. "Our patients get help not just in the hospital, but within our community."

More than 30 families were accommodated in 2008.

Myers said she hopes the program will continue to provide for other families who need help.

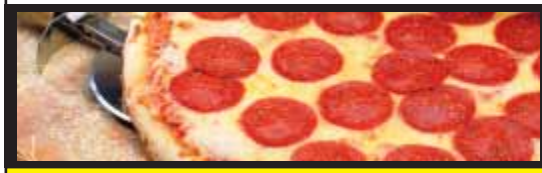
She still has bad days when her blood pressure drops and jumps to dangerous levels, forcing Myers to stop working temporarily. While two doctors have advised she return to Santa Monica, Myers is hoping to find treatment in Bakersfield.

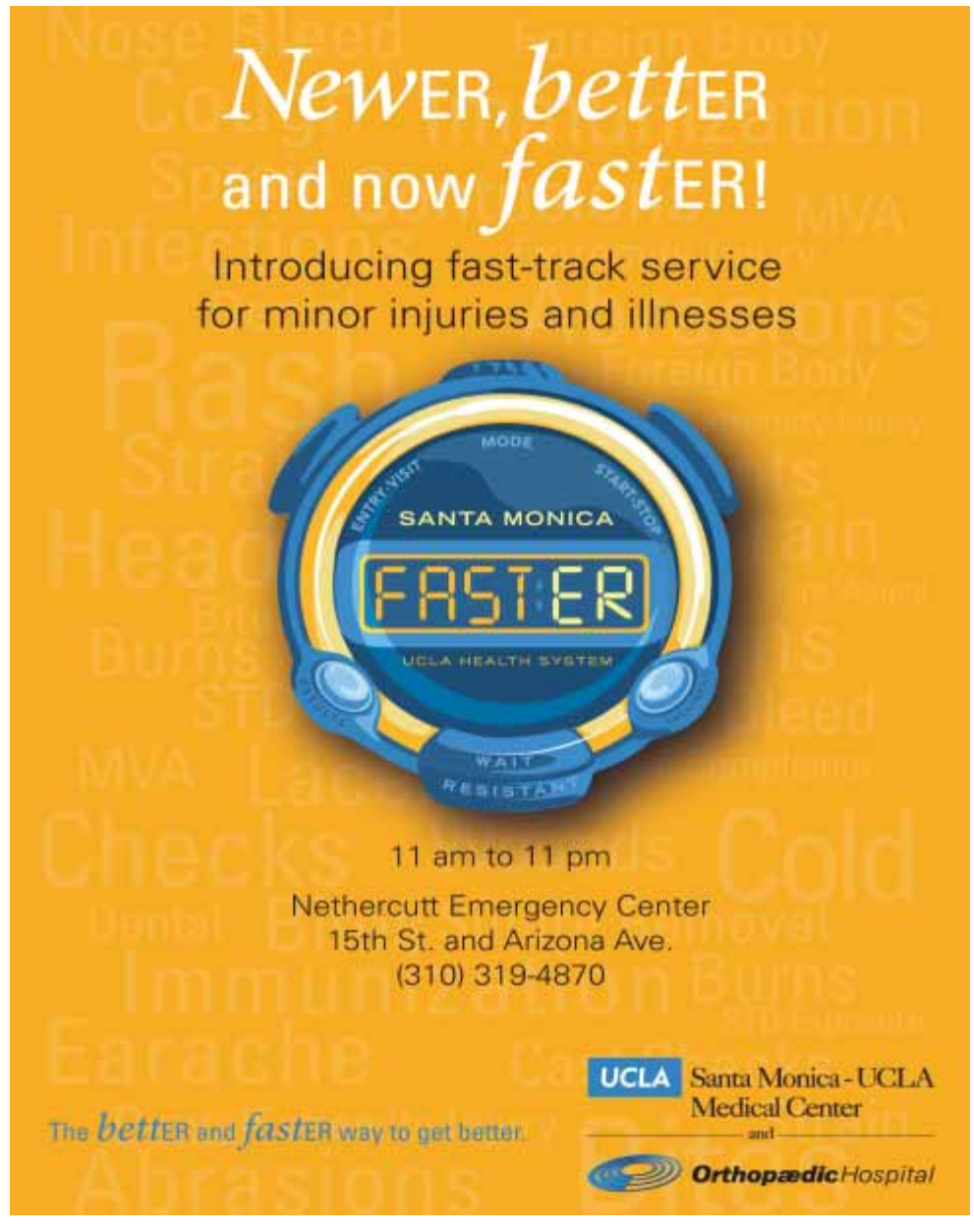
But if she does return, Myers said she will look to the program for help again.

"I pray this program will continue to help others who are out of town from UCLA," she said.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING

DATE/TIME: March 2, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:
- ARB 08-566, 519 Santa Monica Boulevard: Mixed Use
- ARB 09-016, 1331 23rd Street: Multi-Residential
- ARB 09-022, 1220 3rd Street Promenade: Commercial
- ARB 09-034, 150 Pico Boulevard: Commercial
- ARB 09-048, 2800 28th Street: Commercial
- ARB 09-065, 1301 Ocean Avenue: Hotel

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The request a disability-related accommodation, please contact 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9, serve City Hall.



West Dressed

Mariel Howsepian

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No Bjorks at this year's Oscars

I KNEW IT. I JUST KNEW IT. LAST year, when I saw "The Duchess," I said to my husband, "This is gonna' win best costumes. Watch." How could it not?

John Harkness, author of "The Academy Awards Handbook" explains (in seven registered trade marked pages) how to win your office Oscar pool. In the categories of Art Direction, Costume Design, and Makeup, Harkness says, "Period films and epics are always the best bet."

Not only is "The Duchess" a period piece, it's a period piece about a royal fashionista. Last weekend, "The Duchess" won the Oscar for Best Costume Design. It was up against — or, it was an honor just to be nominated for — "Australia," "Revolutionary Road," "Milk," and "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."

With breasts spilling from her beaded corset, Sarah Jessica Parker presented the award (along with Daniel Craig) to designer Michael O'Connor. Parker and Craig cited five factors that go into determining which film should win Best Costumes: Color, cut, fabric, style, and authenticity.

Sunday night, I was reminded of one of the big reasons why I am fascinated by fashion. Clothes are buildings for individual bodies, three-dimensional mobile sculptures, and the world is one big installation.

My first semester of college, I signed up for a class called 3-D Art. My prof was a woman with silver hair, buzzed, except for a single curl pig-tailing from just behind one ear. For our first assignment, we were required to buy wire strippers. We had to build an object from wire, and I chose a clay turtle whistle.

I thought I had done my best, but my prof was less than pleased. I had evidently failed to capture the turtle's line quality.

For our next project, she told us to bring in a fruit or vegetable. I brought in a radish. I spent hours, angry hours, constructing a paper mache radish. I was in college, for Pete's sake. The last time I had made anything with paper mache had been in sixth grade.

After my class had constructed our produce, the prof split us in two groups and made us take our fruits and veggies outside. Group A went off in one direction, and Group B went off in the other.

Each group had to create an installation, an exhibit of our stupid fruits and vegetables. My group had no idea what we were doing. We lacked passion. We set our fruits and veggies under and in trees, and then told the prof we were going for an Alice in Wonderland kind of thing.

The other group walked through our installation, and then it was our turn to walk through theirs. To our surprise, they had created an anatomically correct man, utilizing a six-foot banana. (The banana had been built by a young man I'll call Cy. Cy was in the process of getting divorced because his wife had left him for another woman. Can you imagine him constructing anything other than a six-foot banana?)

After the installation, we gave our crop unnatural textures and paint jobs. The class only served to make me feel completely inartistic.

The day before the Oscars, I watched a 1968 foreign film by Soviet director Sergei Paradjanov called "The Color of Pomegranates." I can't explain the plot, and the best I can describe the movie is to say that it's what I imagine being on shrooms is like.

Sunday night, while watching women walk the red carpet, I hoped to see something memorable, but there were no Bjorks. There were fishtails, giant earrings, hair set in old Hollywood waves, tiny glittery clutch purses, and ivory tones, but no glorious Bjorks.

I couldn't help but think about my shroomless shroom experience. A true artist doesn't construct something that will fit in among all of the other fruits and vegetables, and a true fashionista doesn't wear a safe gown.

QUICK TIP

■ To see some of the costumes from "The Duchess," and other nominated films, head over to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) for the 17th annual "Art of Motion Picture Costume Design" exhibition. The exhibition is free to the public and runs Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 29.

MARIEL HOWSEPIAN digs black coffee, fairy tales and a man in coveralls. She lives in Santa Monica and can be reached at Mariel_Rodriguez@antiochla.edu.



Shantytown welcomes home 'Slumdog' kids

BY GAUTAM SINGH
Associated Press Writer

MUMBAI, India From the shantytown's corrugated tin roofs to its squalid streets, proud relatives and neighbors cheered, celebrated and warmly embraced the two child stars of the Oscar-winning "Slumdog Millionaire" who returned home Thursday.

Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail, who portrays Salim, the hero's brother, displayed some fancy Bollywood moves as he danced to the throbbing music from the movie, embodying the exuberant spirit of its popular song, "Jai Ho" — "Be Victorious."

His father, Mohammed Ismail, wore a spotless white shirt and trousers and looked on in pride as the 10-year-old entertained the crowd in the Bandra slum, north of Mumbai.

Young Azharuddin — Azhar to his friends — did some more dancing after arriving at his lean-to of plastic tarpaulins and moldy blankets.

Rubina Ali, 9, who plays the film's heroine, Latika, as a child, was carried on her father's shoulders, waving at people who gathered on the rickety roofs and on balconies draped with rugs and filthy plastic sheets.

The pair and other child actors from the film traveled to Los Angeles for Sunday's Academy Awards ceremony, where the rags-to-riches tale won eight Oscars, including best picture.

Rubina, who less than a week ago walked the red carpet at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles and romped through Disneyland, came back to her home that sits above a sea of trash.

They were promised a party, and the people of Bandra delivered. What it lacked in Hollywood glitter it made up for in enthusiasm as throngs turned out for what turned into a joyous reunion.

Reporters and photographers mobbed the two children, and Azharuddin fielded questions like a veteran.

"An Oscar award is such an award that big stars dream of getting these awards," he said. "Eight awards! Even one award makes one feel so high, we have got eight awards. So, our movie has become such a super hit."

Azharuddin added: "I am saying so much — if I say more, I will start crying with tears of happiness."

What the future will hold for the child actors is, in many ways, a difficult question. Any sudden wealth can cause immense problems in families like theirs, with jealous relatives and neighbors demanding loans and gifts.

Azharuddin said he would finish his studies before continuing his film career.

"First, I will study. Education is important if I want to be an actor. So, first, I shall study in a school, college, and then I will become a big actor," he said.

Danny Boyle, the British director, said before the Oscars that he wanted Rubina and Azhar to get an education rather than a jackpot — what he called a "slow nurturing" instead of "a sudden dash for glory."

So the moviemakers have gotten them places in a nonprofit, English-language school for underprivileged children in Mumbai, given their families small monthly stipends, and set up trust funds that Rubina and Azharuddin can tap once they graduate.

NFL

City of Industry City Council approves stadium proposal

BY JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Council members in the city of Industry unanimously approved a proposal Thursday for a pro football stadium intended to lure a team back to the Los Angeles area.

The vote helped clear the way for developers of the $800 million venue to begin talks with NFL teams about a possible move to the industrial and warehousing city 15 miles east of Los Angeles.

Majestic Real Estate Co. managing partner John Semcken said the company would begin shopping for a team on April 1, the deadline for opponents of the project to file a lawsuit.

At least eight franchises, including the Oakland Raiders, Buffalo Bills and Minnesota Vikings, have been identified as possible targets for relocation, he said.

Developers are confident the NFL would approve a move by a team, he said.

"They understand the stadium, they understand the economic opportunity," Semcken said. "All they want is certainty. They want to make sure our stadium is getting built."

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said the league was monitoring potential stadium developments in the Los Angeles area but declined to comment on specific sites.

"We would like to return to the area but only under circumstances that would benefit both the community and the NFL," he said.

Majestic intends to pay for the stadium with private funds and start construction as soon as a team has committed to playing there.

> **"THEY UNDERSTAND THE STADIUM, THEY UNDERSTAND THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY."**
>
> John Semcken
> Majestic Real Estate Co. managing partner

The neighboring cities of Walnut and Diamond Bar, fearing traffic-clogged streets and rowdy fan behavior, have threatened lawsuits to stop the project.

Walnut Councilman Joaquin Lim said officials in his city would likely decide whether to file a lawsuit on Wednesday, after Industry had filed stadium documents with the county.

Two Walnut council members were targeted with recall papers this month by critics who said they had not opposed the stadium strongly enough.

Diamond Bar City Manager Jim DeStefano did not return a call seeking comment.

Semcken said Walnut officials have refused to meet with Majestic representatives.

The company had been negotiating with Diamond Bar officials over paying to widen streets and hire additional security guards to ease concerns in that city, he said.



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 56°

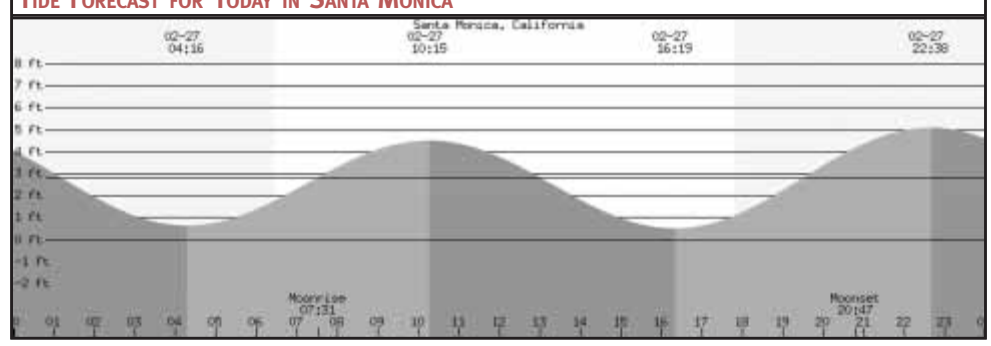
SWELL FORECAST (1-1 FT)

Friday the 27th some light, WestPac NW swell is due. But, as mentioned earlier, not much of this energy is expected to come into SoCal.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

SATURDAY THE 28TH THE WESTPAC SWELL SHOULD PEAK WITH WAIST TO CHEST HIGH WAVES AT WEST FACING BREAKS WITH SOME PLUSES AT STANDOUTS. SETS THOUGH ARE LOOKING TO BE INFREQUENT.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



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BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **February 18, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 18
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 39 / 4
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / 40

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

The Godfather (R) 2hrs 55min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

Echelon Conspiracy (R) 1hr 46min
2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50

Fuel (NR) 1hr 55min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:15

Milk (R) 2hrs 08min
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (PG-13) 1hr 36min
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) 1hr 52min
11:15am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

Fired Up (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:45am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10

Coraline 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
10:50am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20

Push (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:30am, 4:45, 10:30

Friday the 13th (2009) (R) 1hr 35min
11:55am, 2:50, 5:35, 8:00, 10:40

The Pink Panther 2 (PG) 1hr 32min
2:15, 7:40

Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience (G) 1hr 16min
10:30am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Doubt (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:50, 7:20

Waltz With Bashir (R) 1hr 30min
4:30, 9:50

Slumdog Millionaire (R) 2hr 1min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

The Wrestler (R) 1hr 45min
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Class (Entre les murs), The (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

The International (R) 1hr 58min
1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 10:20

Gran Torino (R)
11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

Taken (PG-13) 1hr 33min
12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13) 1hr 43min
11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
12:50, 4:05, 7:00, 10:10

The Reader (R) 2hrs 02min
1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40

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

Where the gang is, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You might have a problem coming to terms with an offer that's too good to be true. Know when to say "impossible" as well as when to greet change. Your strong presence, wit and energy could put the final touches on what might be a great idea or happening. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You can be mellow and an observer. You don't need to know everything. Those around you seem to know what to do. Your instincts also serve you very well. Count on your abilities to come through. Tonight: Keep your own counsel.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want with the help of your supporters. Knowing what is needed, you don't want to do something halfway. Keep on smiling, and remain sure of yourself and your choices. Look past obvious problem-solving strategies. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Take charge. A partner gives you feedback and direction. You might wonder what you can do to change directions and ideas. How you deal with someone could change radically because of his or her response. Tonight: A must appearance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You are able to move a project forward and handle a personal matter far differently than in the past. You now see what at first had not been obvious or possible. By removing your blinders, you take charge. Tonight: Go for adventure.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Deal with people on an individual level. Your concern and attention might mean a lot more than you originally anticipated. Know that everything is possible if you relax. Another's smile melts your reservations. Tonight: Be a team.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Let others run with the ball. You'll grasp a whole different perspective when you observe rather than participate. You give feedback to a child or help stimulate someone's perspective. Discussions revive a relationship. Tonight: Sort through your many options.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Your efforts will pay off in a strange but most effective manner. How you deal with someone could change radically. Pitch in and help with a project or do whatever is needed to make a situation work. Others will respect your effort. Tonight: Easy does it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Touch base and enjoy what is being offered. Creativity and imagination merge, allowing many new options. On some level, you might feel like a kid in a candy store. Communication excites you. Tonight: In the thick of life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Basics count far more than you realize. Don't tease yourself or believe that the impossible can occur. A financial hunch could pay off in an unprecedented manner and leave you wondering. Tonight: Close to home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your expressiveness is most appreciated by many. Understanding your limitations could be difficult, and so can seeing your possibilities. Ask for what you really want. Do only what you feel passionate about. Tonight: Chat, flirt and visit. See what happens.

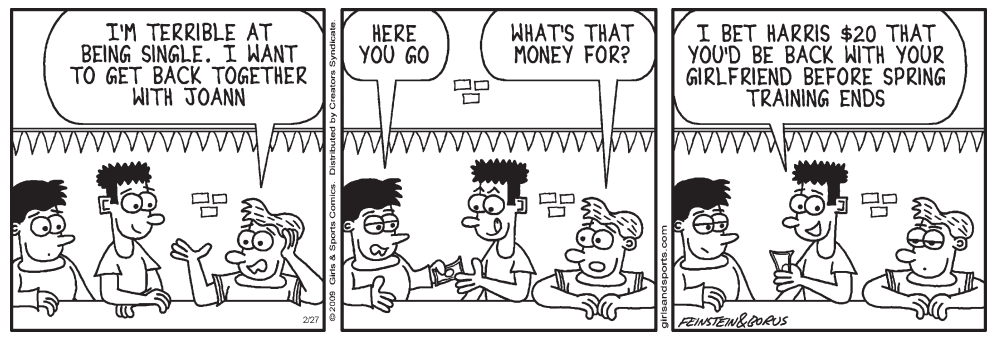
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You might be surprised by the alternatives that head in your direction. With prior knowledge of what can happen, center yourself and make strong decisions. You might be surprised by the possibilities. Tonight: Your treat.

Happy birthday

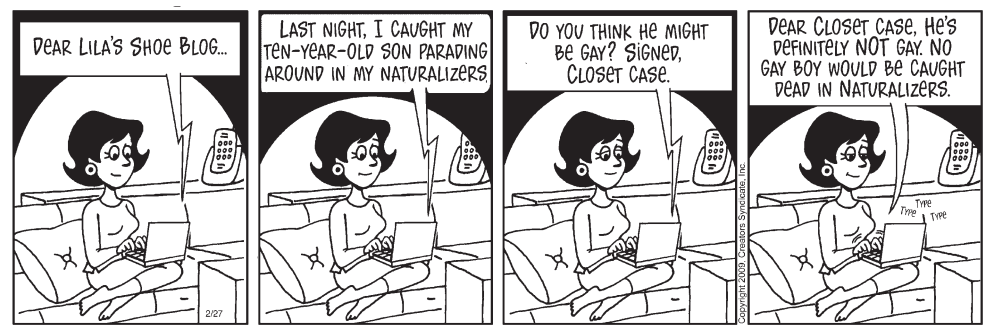
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

You have the power and opportunity to turn your life in a new direction if you so choose. Your smile and upbeat ways will make a distinct difference to those around you, impacting not only your popularity but your entire year. Know clearly your priorities and what works in your life. Kiss what is no longer functional goodbye. Your instincts play a big role in your next year. If you are single, you will greet new friends, but be careful who you choose. This person might not be all that he or she projects. Be aware. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from more quiet time spent together. Love builds. ARIES can be possessive.

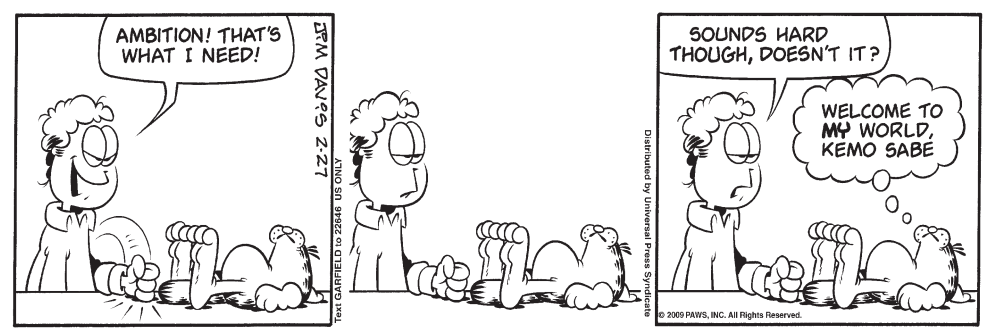
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured gets a pat on the back from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Port setting
6 Creature
11 Different
12 Aisle worker
13 Nary a soul
14 Yarn
15 May honoree
16 Cardinals' home
18 Saloon order
19 — Paulo
20 Collector's goal
21 Very bright
23 Toddlers
25 Rage
27 Flop
28 Georgetown team
30 Donate
33 Old French coin
34 Outlaw Kelly
36 Torment
37 Casablanca setting
39 — nutshell
40 Earthen brick
41 GI tender
43 Crew member
44 Choose
45 Theater awards
46 Teams

DOWN

1 Swindler
2 "Becket" actor
3 1993 Kathy Bates film
4 Capitol Bldg. worker
5 Lock of hair
6 Field trip group, perhaps
7 "— Perpetua" (Idaho motto)
8 Lincoln said it "cannot stand"
9 TV show
10 Rendezvous
17 Bar bill
22 Dissenter's vote
24 Pester
26 Ball participants
28 Bad luck
29 Jiffy
31 City of canals
32 Demands
33 Stylish
35 Stadium tops
38 Heed
42 Yalie

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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					■	44				
45					■	46				

2-27

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 27 28 35 40 Meganumber: 6 Jackpot: $171M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 13 19 23 25 Meganumber: 12 Jackpot: $12M

FANTASY 5: 2 11 32 33 34

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 1 0 EVENING: 1 6 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 07 Eureka 2nd: 02 Lucky Star 3rd: 10 Solid Gold RACE TIME: 1.43.24

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

■ Australia's Queensland Rail agency disclosed in January that it would quickly offer refunds to passengers on a Cairns-to-Brisbane train that crashed just outside Cairns, but reiterated at the same time that it would not pay refunds to survivors of a November 2008 Brisbane-to-Cairns train crash that killed two and injured nine. The difference, according to a Queensland Rail general manager, was that the 2009 trip was just getting underway from Cairns when it crashed, but that the 2008 trip, also near Cairns, was "95 percent over" by the time the deadly crash occurred (and thus, the survivors had basically reached their destination).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1860 former Illinois Congressman Abraham Lincoln delivered a widely acclaimed speech in which he argued against the expansion of slavery into the western territories, telling listeners at Cooper Union in New York that "right makes might."

1861 in Warsaw, Russian troops fired on a crowd protesting Russian rule over Poland; five marchers were killed.

1922 the Supreme Court, in Leser v. Garnett, unanimously upheld the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guaranteed the right of women to vote.

1939 the Supreme Court, in National Labor Relations Board v. Fansteel Metallurgical Corp., outlawed sit-down strikes.

1951 the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, limiting a president to two terms of office, was ratified.

1960 the U.S. Olympic hockey team defeated the Soviets, 3-2, at the Winter Games in Squaw Valley, Calif. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

1973 members of the American Indian Movement occupied the hamlet of Wounded Knee in South Dakota, the site of the 1890 massacre of Sioux men, women and children. (The occupation lasted until May.)

WORD UP!

declaim \di-KLEYM\, *verb*: to orate; to speak in a loud and emotional manner

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Obituaries

Lucas Matthew Mackay



Lucas Matthew Mackay entered this world 27 years ago in a little house at 405 Miller Street, Tillamook, Oregon. He passed away Febuary 16th in Santa Monica, California. Born October 4th, 1981 to loving and proud parents, Lori Blaser and Rick Mackay, his unique gifts brought family, friends and even strangers together. In 1992, his Tillamook family was completed when he and sister, Kalie, were blessed by the marriage of their Mom to Tim Carpenter. As a family, they navigated difficult times with strength, a sense of humor and amazing support from family and friends.

Lucas grew up in Tillamook and graduated from Tillamook High School in 2000. After graduation, Lucas set out on countless adventures that took him across the country and back. Seeking sun and life's answers became a quest that comforted Luke when family and friends were far away physically, but ever present in his heart. Lucas was happiest when deep in conversation or with a basketball on a sunny day.

Lucas is survived by parents, Lori and Tim Carpenter, Rick and Gloria Mackay, and sister, Kalie King, Grandparents Bob & Helen Blaser, Jacky Carpenter & Mary Helen Molter. Numerous other relatives, including; Wendi & Bennet Downing, Juli & Jason Sager, Traci Blaser, Laura, John & Amy Niederhofer, Patrick Carpenter, Greg, Tammy, Kelly & Dave Mackay. Lucas especially cherished his girls, Natalie Richie, Amy Downing, Kirby Mackay, and Dani Lopez, as well as an amazing group of friends. He is preceded in death by brother, Aaron Blaser King, Grandpa Jack Carpenter, Grandpa Jack Molter and close friends that have all welcomed him home.

A celebration honoring Lucas' life will be held at the Tillamook High School Gymnasium on March 7th, 2009 at 1:00 PM. A gathering will be held at the Oceanside Community Club following the service, with a fire on the beach at sunset.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make contributions to the National Alliance on Mental Health, (NAMI, Oregon) 3550 SE Woodward St., Portland, OR 97202-1552.

Arrangements in care of Waud's Funeral Home, Tillamook.

Employment Wanted

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20090087772 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as CASUAL COMPUTING; CASUALCOMPUTING.COM, 824 4TH STREET, #102, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : YOUSRI M. EL FATTAH, 824 4TH STREET, #102, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: YOUSRI M. EL FATTAH This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 1/22/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 2/20/2009, 2/27/2009, 3/6/2009, 3/13/2009

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