



# Santa Monica Daily Press

CAPTAIN AMERICA CHECKS OUT  
SEE PAGE 8

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE WAYWARD WALLET ISSUE



Fabian Lewkowicz [fabianl@smdp.com](mailto:fabianl@smdp.com)

**AFTERMATH:** Police cordon off the street after a woman (under tarp) was killed by a MTA bus Wednesday morning. The incident is still under investigation.

## Deadly commute

### Woman struck and killed by bus outside SM Place

BY KEVIN HERRERA  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**DOWNTOWN** A 40-year-old woman was killed here Wednesday morning after being struck by a bus as she walked through an intersection near Santa Monica Place.

The accident occurred around 8:55 a.m. at the corner of Second Street and Colorado Avenue. The

woman, whose identification was being withheld until her next of kin could be notified, was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the Santa Monica Police Department.

Shortly after the accident, police officers covered the victim's body with a yellow tarp and blocked off a portion of Second Street so that investigators could begin reconstructing the accident. The bus, which was driven by an employee of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, was parked several feet away.

Officials with the MTA said the driver, a

SEE BUS CRASH PAGE 16

## BUSINESS



## SO, WILD OATS...

Customers wonder about popular health market's future following merger  
STORY PAGE 14

Christine Chang [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

**PICTURE OF HEALTH:** Santa Monica resident Helen Bry shops Wednesday at Wild Oats on Montana Avenue. 'With Wild Oats it's easy in, easy out,' she said. 'I usually try to avoid Whole Foods.'

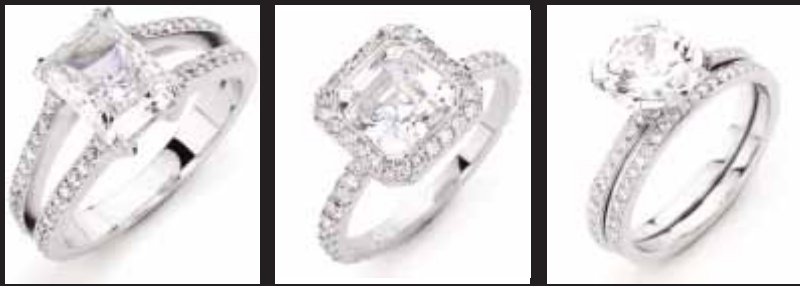


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WHAT'S UP  
WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



## 'What's new this week'

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.

The Fairview Branch of the Santa Monica Library presents a weekly review and discussion of the week's key news stories, at home and abroad; moderated by Jack Nordhaus. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

## 'Sugio!'

1211 Fourth St., 5:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.

The American Cultural Youth Ambassadors will be performing an original bilingual English-Japanese one act show at the Santa Monica Playhouse. "Sugio!" ("Cool!") will be the only local show prior to the company's spring Japan Tour. Tickets are \$5 for this family-friendly event that includes a mini-Japanese language lesson, sing-a-long and Japanese snacks. For tickets, call (310) 394-9779, ext. 2.

## 'Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life' with Arlene Blum

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

Arlene Blum will be discussing her new book, 'Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life' at REI. The book covers her experiences leading the first American — and all-women's — ascent of Annapurna I; leading the first women's team up Mt. McKinley; making the first traverse of the Great Himalaya Range of Bhutan, Nepal and India and hiking the length of the European Alps with her baby daughter on her back.

## Weekly LeTip Business Networking Group

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

Weekly networking over lunch at El Cholo to provide additional leads and referrals to your line of work. Only one person per profession may join.

Call to reserve a spot, (310) 356-7519.

## Church Mice

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

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

## Kundalini Yoga

2309 Main St., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

This class combines the science of movement, posture, breath, sound and meditation. Donations accepted. For more information, please visit [www.shiatsumassage.school.org](http://www.shiatsumassage.school.org).

## 'Junk Drawers'

3301 Pico Blvd., coffeehouse hours

Photography by Richard Gilbert will be on display at the UnUrban Coffeehouse through March 20. For more information on the exhibit, visit [www.osmare.com](http://www.osmare.com).

## Friday, March 9, 2007

## Speaker on Darfur

1260 18th St., 7:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

UCLA History Department Chair Edward Alpers will speak on the current situation in Sudan's Darfur region at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church. The event is free, but donations are welcome to support the outreach of the church.

## Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m.

Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

## Fridays at Santa Monica Bar and Grille

3321 Pico Blvd., 6 p.m. — 1:30 a.m.

Inebriatedinc.com is hosting Friday night at Santa Monica Bar and Grille. Live music until 10:30 p.m. and a DJ until closing time. For more information, visit [www.inebriatedinc.com](http://www.inebriatedinc.com).

## 'Ester Goldberg's The Big Show'

8433 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, 9 p.m. — 11 p.m.

The Comedy Store presents this musical-comedy event, starring Ester Goldberg and featuring her orchestra, The Archibald Leeches. Tickets are available by calling (323) 656-3225. Tickets are \$25, with a two-drink minimum.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to [smdp.com](http://smdp.com) and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

# Nor a lender: Fremont sells off sub-prime

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**OLYMPIC BOULEVARD** Interested homebuyers with bad credit have lost another ally.

Santa Monica-based Fremont General Corporation announced last Friday that it will be selling the sub-prime residential real estate lending portion of the company, hiring Credit Suisse Securities to serve as its financial advisor regarding the sale of the business.

On Wednesday, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation announced it had issued a cease-and-desist order against Fremont Investment & Loan and its parent company, Fremont General Corporation and Fremont General Credit Corporation.

The company was lacking proper risk management policies regarding its sub-prime residential and commercial real estate loans, according to the federal agency. Fremont Investments & Loan was operating its business and providing mortgage loans to sub-prime borrowers in a way that increased the possibility that the borrower would fail on their end of the bargain, the order alleges.

Fremont General Corporation announced later on Wednesday that it was consenting to the terms in the order without admitting to the allegations.

Representatives from both Fremont General Corporation and Credit Suisse Securities declined to comment on the impending sale on Wednesday.

The company's Board of Directors made its decision "in light of recent legislative and regulatory events, as well as changing competitive dynamics in the sub-prime market," according to a release issued last Friday.

Fremont is a financial services holding company, providing loans in 47 states in the fourth quarter of 2006.

The cease-and-desist order requires that the company create a five-year strategic plan and correct its lending practices by adopting a new sub-prime lending policy within 90 days. The order also requires that it analyzes a borrower's ability to repay loans at a fully indexed rate when underwriting future sub-prime loans.

"Our concern has always been that banks make loans that borrowers are able to repay," said FDIC Chairwoman Sheila C. Bair. "We believe that the agreement with Fremont addresses this basic concern."



## The universe is yay big

Fabian Lewkowicz [fabianl@smdp.com](mailto:fabianl@smdp.com)

Jim Mahon speaks about the NASA Mars Rover expedition with a group of 4-year-olds from the Temple Isaiah preschool on Tuesday at Santa Monica College's John Drescher Planetarium. Mahon explained that it took seven months for the rovers to reach Mars and that they have been there for almost three years, much longer than the three months for which NASA planned. The planetarium is open to the public every Friday night.

# One big shot in the arm

## County considers vaccinating all food services employees

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**DOWNTOWN, LA** More than 100,000 food service workers may soon have to take one for the team.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services plans to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether or not all food service workers in the county should be vaccinated for Hepatitis A, an inflammatory viral disease that affects the liver.

The County Board of Supervisors voted

on Tuesday night to direct Jonathan Fielding, county director of public health, and his staff to look into the costs associated with such a wide sweeping health provision.

The announcement comes a week after it was discovered that a Wolfgang Puck Catering employee who worked at the Sports Illustrated party on Valentine's Day in Los Angeles was diagnosed with Hepatitis A.

"It's the extension of the county's effort to ensure safety and protection of the public from food borne illnesses," said Tony Bell, spokesman for Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, who made the motion for the feasibility study.

The virus is usually spread from person to person by consuming something that has been contaminated by the feces of a person infected with Hepatitis A, according to the Center for Disease Control. Symptoms include jaundice, diarrhea, fever, nausea,

abdominal pain, fatigue and loss of an appetite.

The study by the Department of Health Services will also examine the potential impact on small businesses. It is still unclear who would be required to pay for the vaccinations — the county, employer or employee.

The department is expected to report back to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days.

"We want to make sure small businesses aren't overly burdened, nor are workers," Bell said. "At the same time, public safety is a top priority and we do want to ensure that families are confident when eating, when dining out or buying food at the grocery store, that the food is safe and children won't be getting sick."

The potential requirement has members of Unite Here!, a union representing workers

SEE HEPATITIS PAGE 15

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The pier is still the end of the line  
Editor:

Don Gray ("It's a pier, not a parking lot," March 6, page 4) says that Route 66 doesn't end at the (Santa Monica) Pier.

The California Route 66 Preservation Foundation says that:

"... and finally Route 66 ends in Santa Monica at Palisades Park and the famous Santa Monica Pier on the Pacific." (<http://www.cart66pf.org/Map/66west.htm>)

In fairness to Don, they go on to say that:

"Technically, the Santa Monica Pier is not the real end of Route 66. Route 66 ends a block away from the pier at the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and Ocean Avenue. The Will Rogers Highway Dedication Plaque is across the street from here in Palisades Park – the real end of Route 66."

But then, in fairness to me, they go on to say that:

"Ah, but the pier is close enough to count!"

Maybe Don knows better than the Foundation. I don't. I will certify only that my personal authority on the topic of Route 66 is severely limited.

But the point remains that many, if not most, folks join the California Route 66 Preservation Foundation in thinking that Route 66 ends at the pier. And even those who don't, according to the PRC, typically finish a Route 66 trip at the pier.

Regardless of that, the most important point I was making is that, if we're debating the history of the sign, (a) historically speaking, the sign was literally designed to be driven under, and (b) drivers on Route 66 (and the rest of us) have been able to drive under it since it first saw the light of day.

Michael S. Klein

Santa Monica

No urgency in the emergency room  
Editor:

In response to your article on 9-year-old Ariel Astrup ("A tough break for injured children," March 1, page 1), who screamed in the emergency room for eight hours before getting what's supposed to be "professional care": I can relate to the anger and frustrations her parents, Aaron and Anita Astrup, must have gone through.

Last year, I had a similar situation happen at St. John's, while caring for my 82-year-old step-father with Alzheimer's and lack of mobility, due to a series of strokes. Last summer, "Bud" was taken via ambulance to St. John's because he couldn't breathe and was losing consciousness. As the paramedics wheeled him in, we waited to be admitted and evaluated. No one, no "professional team" came to observe my step-father as he waited in the emergency doorway, out in the hallway, for almost an hour. This was an emergency and no one was tending to this dependent, little old man's needs.

The paramedics weren't too happy either. Legally, paramedics cannot be "dismissed" until the patient is admitted. So there we stood, waiting for someone to, at least, look like they were doing something. I couldn't get any straight answers regarding the delay.

Within a few hours, they ran some tests and couldn't find anything wrong, aside from giving him oxygen to help him breathe a little easier. The hospital "policy" is to release the patient. Can you imagine? Luckily, I am a certified lifeguard and if anything more serious should occur, I knew I could hold down the fort until EMT arrived. What about all these other elderly people/patients/victims who don't have someone to simply be at their side "just in case"?

T. Reuther

Santa Monica

Guest Commentary

Diana Hull, Ph.D.

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

Unchecked immigration  
leaves blacks burdened

WHILE BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROVIDED

a nice slice of time to recount the contributions of a community and honor those who made them, not as often discussed last month were the continuing hurdles to success.

One of the major obstacles now to decent wages and upward social mobility for blacks at the low end of the economic stratum is the size of the illegal immigrant community, willing to toil for less and tolerate standard working and living conditions.

The impact of illegal immigration on the black community is a topic rarely articulated. Dr. Stephen Steinlight, a senior policy analyst at the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington D.C., recently addressed this neglected topic as part of a wide-ranging talk on immigration issues with members of Californians for Population Stabilization in Santa Barbara.

It's considered completely politically incorrect to talk of intergroup rivalry that "pits one community of color against another," Steinlight said. Nonetheless, it's tremendously important to have the discussion to understand our history and acknowledge how pervasive inter-ethnic conflict has been and the role it continues to play.

"The fact is that the rising immigrant tide always hits those that occupy the lowest rungs of the ladder hardest," according to Steinlight, "and a very large share of this group has always been and remains African-American."

Mexico contributes both the largest number of illegal aliens and the legal immigrants to the United States, and a study from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government found that Mexicans account for virtually all of the negative immigration impact on low-skilled American workers.

Another study from the National Research Council of the American Academy of Science reports that the cheap labor provided by illegal aliens and impoverished immigrants is responsible for a 44-percent decrease in wages from 1980 to 1994 for the poorest Americans. Yet another study found that for each 1-percent increase in the immigrant share of workers who had not finished high school, the wages for native workers performing the same work dropped by at least 7 percent.

This huge influx of Latinos, driven by demands for cheap labor, is devastating blacks economically, according to Steinlight. The statement is backed up by information from the National Bureau of Economic Research showing that immigration lowers wages and workforce participation by black men significantly. This is in a demographic already battered; unemployment rates for black men between the ages of 19 and 40 in urban centers are more than 50 percent.

The much-repeated line is that illegal

aliens are doing the jobs Americans won't do. Of course, what's missing from that line is "at the rate illegals will work."

To illustrate that point, Steinlight noted that last year after a raid at a Crider Inc. facility in Stillmore, Georgia — which found that 75 percent of the Latino workers were illegal aliens — the poultry plant had to hire Americans for the jobs. These jobs were easily filled, predominantly by African-Americans. As a consequence of hiring Americans, hourly pay increased, and the company started offering free transportation to work, as well as providing a dormitory and shower facilities.

THE MUCH-REPEATED  
LINE IS THAT ILLEGAL  
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THAT LINE IS "AT THE  
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WILL WORK."

This economic tug-of-war at the lowest rungs of the workforce is further charged with racist views of native-born blacks by recent immigrants, according to research conducted by Paula McClain. "Anger on the black street about Latino immigration is raw," said Steinlight, who cites a variety of personal, anecdotal and survey-based data, including a multi-city survey of urban inequality indicating that African-Americans see themselves in a battle with both Latinos and Asians for economic opportunity.

Ultimately, the results of mass immigration of poor and uneducated workers either showcase or bury — depending on where one chooses to look — what Steinlight calls America's "unfinished business." The United States continues to be challenged by inequality and poverty, with generations of black men lost to the criminal justice system. There is a moral obligation to American citizens to redress the situation and no commensurate one to Mexicans.

DR. DIANA HULL is president of Californians for Population Stabilization (CAPS). She can be reached at [info@capsweb.org](mailto:info@capsweb.org) or (805) 564-6626.

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## STATE BRIEFS

VENTURA

### Pimp granddaddy: Elderly man ran prostitution ring

An elderly Thousand Oaks man will be sentenced to six months in jail for operating a \$300-an-hour prostitution ring.

Craig Fawcett, 75, pleaded guilty Tuesday to conspiracy to commit a crime by operating the prostitution enterprise.

On April 24, Superior Court Judge Bruce Clark will sentence Fawcett to six months in County Jail.

Without the plea deal, Fawcett would have faced a possible three-year prison term if convicted by a jury.

"He is not going to go to prison. We reached an agreement where he would do 180 days in the County Jail followed by 36 months formal probation," Deputy District Attorney John Barrick said.

Fawcett used the Internet site Craigslist to solicit customers to homes and a yacht at Marina del Rey, investigators said.

"Men would respond to these and call for appointments. He handled the money. It was your basic prostitution ring," Barrick said.

The Sheriff's Department investigation into the operation run by Fawcett and co-defendant Bonnie L. Weiss, 50, of Agoura Hills began June 28, 2005. Weiss pleaded guilty and served her jail sentence, Barrick said.

Investigators said two women worked for Fawcett and Weiss, who charged clients \$300 an hour or two hours for \$500 for sex.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONG BEACH

### Cal State student contracts meningitis

Antibiotics and vaccinations were offered at California State University, Long Beach, because a female student contracted bacterial meningitis.

Students in the woman's residency hall, as well as her classmates and teachers, were informed of the diagnosis, university spokeswoman Toni Beron said Tuesday, adding there were no other suspected cases of the infection.

Spinal meningitis, an infection of the fluid in the spinal cord and the fluid that surrounds the brain, is spread through contact with mucus, such as by kissing or sharing drinks, toothbrushes or utensils.

A doctor who treated the infected woman at the student health center March 1 recommended that she go to the hospital, which confirmed the diagnosis on Monday, Beron said. The student was "doing well," she said.

Students who experience fatigue, headache and fever are urged to seek medical attention at the student health center or elsewhere, she said.

Many students had already been vaccinated for the disease before the woman was infected, Beron said.

AP

BERKELEY

### World's largest winemaker, Ernest Gallo, dies at 97

Ernest Gallo, the marketing genius who parlayed \$5,900 and a wine recipe from the public library into the world's largest winemaking empire, died Tuesday at his home in Modesto. He was 97.

"He passed away peacefully this afternoon surrounded by his family," said Susan Hensley, vice president of public relations for E&J Gallo Winery.

Gallo, who have been 98 on March 18, was born near Modesto, a then-sleepy San Joaquin Valley town about 80 miles east of San Francisco. He and his late brother and business partner, Julio, grew up working in the vineyard owned by their immigrant father who came to America from Italy's famed winemaking region of Piedmont.

They founded the E&J Gallo Winery in 1933, at the end of Prohibition, when they were still mourning the murder-suicide deaths of their parents. Ernest and Julio rented a ramshackle building, and everybody in the family pitched in to make ordinary wine for 50 cents a gallon - half the going price. The Gallos made \$30,000 in the first year.

It grew to become the world's largest wine company by volume, a title since taken by Constellation Brands of New York. But Gallo remains second, selling an estimated 75 million cases under more than 40 labels.

"My brother Julio and I worked to improve the quality of wines from California and to put fine wine on American dinner tables at a price people could afford," Mr. Gallo told The Modesto Bee on his 90th birthday. "We also worked to improve the reputation of California wines here and overseas."

AP



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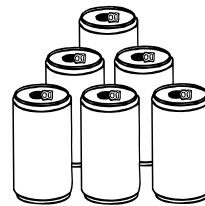
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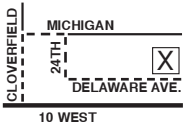
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The Q-Line

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### How are we publishing?

Running a daily newspaper is hard work. This is by no means an excuse, but a fact of covering the news. We'd like to think we're doing a good job of representing our coverage area, but we often find ourselves in opposition to the general reading public. It's hard to please everybody at once or so the saying goes. So, what are we to think?

This week's Q-Line question asks:

**What kind of job do you believe the Santa Monica Daily Press is doing in covering the subjects and events that shape our lives?**

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



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#### Thursday, March 8

- 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm
- UCLA, Student Activity Center, Room B05, Conference Room 1–2

#### Saturday, March 10

- 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- Ken Edwards Center, Room 100 A–B, Santa Monica

#### Monday, March 12

- 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Virginia Park (Thelma Terry Center), Santa Monica

# Gas tops \$3

## Motorists across U.S. keep a watchful eye on California costs

BY JORDAN ROBERTSON

AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Motorists are seeing a gasoline price spike months ahead of the busy summer driving season, with the price for a gallon of unleaded regular already over \$3 a gallon in some parts of California and Hawaii and on its way everywhere else.

"It kills me," said Gloria Nunez, 53, as she filled her Ford Explorer SUV at a San Jose gas station. Nunez, a clerk for a communications company, has started working a couple hours of overtime each week to help soften the blow.

"All of a sudden you kind of have to watch your pennies," she said.

Analysts say drivers should brace for more increases in the coming weeks as higher demand coupled with refinery maintenance issues and normal seasonal fears about a spring shortage continue to drive up prices. The West Coast will take the hardest hit, they say.

"The West Coast will certainly be the wild, wild west this year," said Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst for the Oil Price Information Service. Extensive maintenance work at West Coast refineries has curtailed supplies and exacerbated the typical "preseason rally" spurred by jitters about a shortage.

"In the rest of the country it's just petro-noia; they're worried that they won't have enough gasoline," Kloza said. "But on the West Coast the concern might be warranted."

Fuel prices are still below their historical highs — most of which were set in 2006 — but are inching higher weeks earlier than usual.

Wailuku, on the Hawaiian island of Maui, currently has the highest price for a gallon of regular unleaded at about \$3.20.

On the mainland, the title goes to San Francisco, where a gallon is going for \$3.10, a jump of about 34 cents from a month ago

but still off the high of \$3.36 set in May 2006, according to the AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report for Wednesday.

The California cities of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Oakland are also all above \$3 a gallon. Most other areas of the state are just a few cents away from cracking that milestone, and motorists say they're cutting back to save money.

"I take the bus," said Hector Esqueda, an 18-year-old justice administration student from Los Angeles who has stopped driving his gas-guzzling, older-model Lincoln Continental to save money. "Other people

**IN THE REST OF THE COUNTRY IT'S JUST PETRO-NOIA; THEY'RE WORRIED THAT THEY WON'T HAVE ENOUGH GASOLINE."**

Tom Kloza  
chief oil analyst,  
Oil Price Information Service

are doing the same thing. The bus is packed."

Nationwide, the price for a gallon of regular unleaded is up about 32 cents from a month ago, to \$2.50, according to the AAA report. That's more than 55 cents shy of the all-time high recorded in September 2005, after hurricanes Katrina and Rita damaged the Gulf of Mexico refinery infrastructure.

Part of the reason is rising demand. The U.S. Energy Information Administration said Wednesday that gasoline demand has averaged more than 9.1 million barrels per day over the past month, a 3.3 percent jump over the same period last year.

Oil prices jumped by more than \$1 per barrel after the agency also reported an unexpected drop in crude oil inventories as import levels reached their lowest point since 2005.

Across the country, drivers are grappling with how to manage the sudden spike.

## Schwarzenegger wants to thin herd

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS

Associated Press Writer

NORCO, Calif. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger toured a prison for low-level offenders and drug addicts this week while campaigning for an \$11 billion reform and building package that he says will alleviate severe overcrowding at the state's 33 prisons.

The governor toured parts of the California Rehabilitation Center and met with Warden Guillermina Hall before speaking with reporters in the prison yard. He was accompanied by Assemblyman Todd Spitzer, R-Orange, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Secretary James Tilton.

The prison, which sits on a hilltop below the snowcapped San Bernardino Mountains about 50 miles southeast of Los Angeles, was built for 2,300 prisoners but now holds 4,500. A gym that was meant for rehabilitation and job training now holds 300 metal, double-decked bunk beds, while 335 inmates are on a waiting list for substance abuse programs there.

Schwarzenegger said such overcrowding leads to California's 70 percent recidivism rate because inmates are not given adequate job training and addiction counseling.

"It's dangerous for the inmates and it's dangerous for the staff. There's no room for rehabilitation in some of these facilities," he said. "Here, they're doing the best job but they will all tell you if they had more room, more beds available ... they'd be able to do a better job."

California's prisons were designed for 100,000 inmates but hold nearly twice that number.

The overcrowding is the subject of three separate lawsuits filed in federal courts throughout Northern California. One of the judges has set a mid-May deadline for the state to produce a plan to deal with the crowding.

Two judges said they could seek to cap the inmate population, leading to the early release of inmates or keeping convicts longer in county jails, unless the state acts to solve the overcrowding.

Options for an immediate fix are few.

# Lawmakers take liking to early primary date

BY SAMANTHA YOUNG  
Associated Press Writer

**SACRAMENTO** The California Legislature on Tuesday sought to give the nation's most populous state a greater voice in the race for the White House by moving the state's presidential primary from June to February.

The Assembly approved the bill 46-28, largely along party lines, and sent it to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has said he supports the concept.

The effort to move the primary has been cast by its supporters as an attempt to force presidential candidates to campaign in California, rather than merely coming to the state to raise money.

"We need to do this because as long as I can remember California is basically an ATM for presidential candidates," Assembly Charles M. Calderon, D-Whittier, said during the Assembly debate.

"California is an important state in this union, and we need to be involved in who the next president of the United States is."

The assemblyman's brother, Sen. Ron Calderon, D-Monterey Park, wrote the early primary bill.

Opponents said moving the primary to February is merely a smoke screen for the personal agendas of lawmakers who want to extend their terms. A proposed measure that would go on a February ballot would allow legislators to serve longer in their respective houses.

"It's about termed-out legislators getting one more bite at the apple to extend their time here," said Assemblyman Doug La Malfa, R-Willows.

Republicans, who are in the minority in the 80-seat chamber, opposed the measure because it does not guarantee funding for counties that would administer the additional election. A third election is expected to cost California taxpayers an additional \$60 million to \$90 million.

They tried to amend the bill to require reimbursement from the state, but the effort failed. Even with the state's presidential primary in February, elections for state and congressional candidates would continue to be held in June, with the general election in November.

Schwarzenegger, who is supportive of an early presidential primary, is waiting to see the final bill before deciding whether to sign it, his spokesman said.

"He supports moving the California primary up so we can be more relevant in the presidential primary," Schwarzenegger spokesman Aaron McLearn said before Tuesday's vote. "As it stands now, California is an afterthought. They come here just for our money."

Feb. 5 is shaping into a new "Super Tuesday," with more than a dozen states considering moving their primaries to that day. Primaries in New Hampshire and South Carolina, as well as caucuses in Iowa and Nevada are scheduled before Feb. 5.

Political experts say California's influence could be diluted with so many other states considering moving their primaries to February next year.

But the move by California, the most populous state and the one with the greatest number of electoral votes, has concerned smaller states that fear candidates will pass them by.

# Prosecutor fights to keep dog mauling murder rap

BY KIM CURTIS  
Associated Press Writer

**SAN FRANCISCO** Calling two 100-pound plus dogs that fatally mauled a San Francisco woman in 2001 "predatory killing machines," a prosecutor Tuesday asked the California Supreme Court to uphold a second-degree murder conviction against a lawyer who owned the dogs.

"The defendants were fully on notice they had wild, uncontrollable dogs who were virtually certain to attack," said Amy Haddix, a deputy state attorney general who argued that a judge erred in reducing Marjorie Knoller's conviction to manslaughter.

Knoller's lawyer, Dennis Riordan, disagreed, saying his client had to know the Presa Canarios, Bane and Hera, were more than just dangerous — she had to know they were going to kill someone.

In reviewing Knoller's murder conviction, the high court's seven justices were asked to more clearly define the concept of implied malice. Is it enough to consciously disregard someone's safety? Or must a defendant know an action is likely to cause death?

The fatal attack took place in the hallway of a Pacific Heights apartment building where Knoller and her husband lived down the hall from Diane Whipple, 33, a college lacrosse coach.

Jan. 26, 2001 with groceries when the pair of muscular hounds pulled their owner down the hallway to attack her. They tore her clothes off and left her bleeding to death.

The case quickly became national news because of the viciousness of the attack and the seemingly cavalier attitudes of Knoller and her law partner and husband, Robert Noel, who blamed Whipple for the incident. They also said they were keeping the canines on behalf of a white supremacist accused of running an attack dog ring from his state prison cell. The couple eventually adopted the prisoner, Paul "Cornfed" Schneider, as their son.

A jury convicted Knoller of second-degree murder and Noel of manslaughter, but a judge quickly overturned Knoller's verdict, saying she didn't realize her actions were likely to cause Whipple's death.

But the 1st District Court of Appeal disagreed and reinstated the conviction. Knoller appealed that decision, sending the case to the high court.

In their questioning Tuesday, high court justices seemed to think the appeals court standard for implied malice in second-degree murder — an awareness that an act is likely to result in great bodily injury — was too low, but that Superior Court Judge James Warren's standard — knowing an act was likely to cause death — may be too high.

"How high does that risk have to be," asked Justice Carol A. Corrigan.

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| Between Wilshire & Montana                  | = No Listings       | \$ 894,959        |
| South of Wilshire                           | = \$ 1,023,200      | \$ 703,498        |
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# A tough nut to crack for sleuths

BY OLIVIA MUNOZ

Associated Press Writer

FRESNO If these cops got their own TV show it would be a bit like "Law & Order" meets "Green Acres."

While the work of solving farm crimes is hardly on the minds of average Californians, nevermind Hollywood producers, it has captured the attention of other states looking to crack down on their own agricultural crime waves.

California's Agricultural Crime Technology Information and Operations Network is a one-of-a kind, multi-agency coalition that has expanded beyond the Central Valley, where farmers and ranchers suffered a reported \$12 million in farm thefts last year, said William Yoshimoto, director of the ACTION project and a Tulare County prosecutor.

"People think it's just swiping a few oranges from the roadside stand. We're talking about making off with tractors," Yoshimoto said. "It's not a small thing any more."

Investigations such as metal thefts, which are a national trend, keep local law enforcement officials busy constantly, said Fresno County Sgt. Mark Bray. "And here, you've got farm after farm. It's real easy to be out of the city and into an open farm by the side of the freeway in just a few minutes," he said.

ACTION tracks criminals and recovers equipment through a numerical code stamp that labels farmers property. Satellites track marked, stolen animals and putting out alerts across agencies when large loads — such as a truck filled with more than

\$400,000 worth of almonds — are stolen.

The district attorney's offices in these largely rural counties also tell law enforcement officers what type of evidence to look for to make it possible to prosecute a crime.

The project publishes details of its findings on a Web site and has begun collecting data for other states such as Florida and New Mexico, which are working to establish similar projects.



## THAT'S NO SMALL HURDLE. FARMERS ARE A DIFFERENT LOT OF PEOPLE."

Officials in Florida, where thieves have made off with crates of oranges and drums of fuel, have looked at the ACTION program as a possible model.

The Center for Criminology and Public Policy Research at Florida State University recently concluded a four-year study of the ACTION program with the Washington, D.C.-based Urban Institute.

One of the most significant things ACTION did was get farmers to trust in law enforcement, said Daniel Mears, one of the researchers on the project.

"That's no small hurdle. Farmers are a different lot of people," Mears said. "They don't trust law enforcement, with good reason. Their concerns were ignored for a long time."

In 2005, 47 percent of farmers in ACTION's coverage area reported thefts, up from 30 percent in 2004, according to the study.

It's helped that district attorneys' offices in the ACTION counties — many of which rely on agriculture as their main industry — are partners in the program, he said.

The study looked at the project in terms of applying it to Florida, but found that it would be beneficial in other states too, such as Wisconsin and Texas, which have high rates of agriculture crimes like calf thefts, Mears said.

Daniel Mears, ACTION project researcher

Those states have to rely on local law enforcement or trade organizations. The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association launched a program in December called "Operation Cow Thief" that rewards people who call in a tip that leads to an arrest or indictment. Investigators with the group helped recover nearly 5,200 animals in 2005.

Officials in California have worried about funding for ACTION. A federal grant is set to run out in September.

The agency was established in 1999 and depends on a federal earmark for its one million dollar a year budget, Yoshimoto said.

Many earmarks distributed through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, a branch of the Department of Justice, cannot be renewed this year because there is no more funding, said Eileen M. Garry, deputy director.

# Bam! Captain America, 89, bites the dust

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK Captain America can't save the day today.

The New York Daily News reports the superhero is killed in the issue of his comic book that hits newsstands Wednesday.

The newspaper says the stars-and-stripes-wearing hero is gunned down by a sniper as he leaves a courthouse.

After 65 years fighting villains, his downfall ends a long run.

"Breaking news: Few details are clear at this time, but the scene outside the Federal Courthouse in Manhattan is a portrait of chaos and confusion as a former superhero has been shot," Marvel comics said on its website.

Captain America was created in 1941 to embody patriotic feeling during the Second World War. His alter ego is Steve Rogers, born on the U.S. Independence Day holiday, July 4, 1917.

And, over the years, an estimated 210 million copies of Captain America comic books have been sold in 75 countries.

His demise is a blow to one of the men who created him.

Ninety-three-year-old Joe Simon says: "We really need him now."

And he could be back at some point.

The company has said it's developing a Captain America movie.

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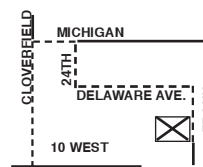


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# Dogging it

Emergency physician heeds call of the wild, hooked on Iditarod

BY MARY PEMBERTON  
Associated Press Writer

**NIKOLAI, Alaska** Randy Cummins' life took a turn a few years ago that put the doctor-turned-musher on the Iditarod trail.

Cummins, a 50-year-old Texan who until a few years ago was an emergency care physician in Spokane, Wash., competed in the 1,100-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race for a second time this year.

Competing may be too strong a word.

Even before he scratched Tuesday, Cummins said he didn't have a chance of winning this year unless all the other mushers "amazingly drop out of this race and I keep plugging along."

Cummins was among 82 teams that left the restart Sunday in Willow, where the top mushers get serious about getting to Nome first, putting their strategy to work and slowly pulling away from mushers like Cummins, the ones who hope to finish and not be last. Tough trail conditions have led to 14 mushers — including Cummins — to scratch in the first three days of this year's race.

Last year, Cummins finished in 66th place — not last — taking 15 days, 11 hours and 46 minutes. His time was more than six days behind four-time champion Jeff King of Denali Park.

"We were way in the back," Cummins said. "People like me do it for the experience, knowing they will never win the race."

Cummins said his pivotal moment came in 2001 when he timed a visit to Alaska to see his girlfriend, Kim — now his wife — to watch the ceremonial start of the Iditarod in downtown Anchorage.

That's all it took, Cummins said. He was hooked.

He was living in Washington state at the time and practicing medicine when his obsession began benignly enough. He didn't think he'd end up with a 46-dog kennel living in a 20-foot by 20-foot cabin just 2.8 miles off the Iditarod trail in Alaska.

He thought he'd get a few sled dogs and have some fun with them. He traveled to Colorado and got four dogs from a woman who was getting a divorce and couldn't keep them.

It was rough going in the beginning. The dogs were large, powerful sprint dogs. They took him on some wild rides.

"Those were some magnificent crashes

back in those days because I didn't know what I was doing," Cummins said. "They were just so fast and strong."

Cummins got two more dogs within six weeks. Shortly after that he got three more dogs and then four more.

Mushing was getting hold of him. He had 18 dogs and had to drive about 100 miles to find good snow to run them.

In 2003, Cummins, who graduated from Southwestern Medical School in Dallas in 1986, quit his medical practice and moved to Alaska.

He doesn't have regrets.

"Sometimes, I get out on the trail on training runs and I think this is a heck of an office. Going to work is a whole new ball game now," he said.

During the summers, Cummins gives sled dog tours for tourists visiting Skagway. His wife is a registered nurse and her income helps keep Cummins' new life afloat.

**“THOSE WERE SOME  
MAGNIFICENT  
CRASHES BACK IN THOSE  
DAYS BECAUSE I DIDN'T  
KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING.  
THEY WERE JUST SO FAST  
AND STRONG.”**

Randy Cummins  
doctor-turned-musher

He acknowledges making a "stupid mistake" his rookie year when he got off the Iditarod trail. He hunkered down for the night. At daylight, he could see the trail just three-quarters of a mile away.

Instead of going back the way he came, he thought he would just go across this small valley and through some brush. It took him three hours whacking away at 2-inch willows with an ax to go the short distance.

"That was pretty stupid," he said.

Cummins vowed that this would be his last Iditarod. It costs about \$10,000 to run the race, and then there's the rigorous training that is required, he said.

Next winter should be more relaxed.

"I want to go out and set up my tent and just goof off and look at the northern lights some more," Cummins said.

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## Star Trek's voyage runs aground

By The Associated Press

**KODIAK, Alaska** Star Trek voyaged where no ship's captain wants to go.

The fishing vessel — bearing the same name as the science fiction television series — ran aground on the beach of Island Bay on the Alaska Peninsula early Wednesday morning.

A Coast Guard helicopter rescued its crew of three, and the men — whose names have not been released — were returned to

Kodiak uninjured.

Kodiak Harbor Master Marty Owen spoke with the Star Trek crew, and said they reported they were in good shape and happy that nobody was lost. However, the 32-foot fishing boat with a ripped hull is probably a total loss.

The cause of the Star Trek's grounding is still under investigation, but the Coast Guard reported there were high winds and 20-foot seas.

The crew of Star Trek, which has its home port in Homer, was fishing for cod.

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# Tribe bridges Grand Canyon gap

BY CHRIS KAHN

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX An Indian tribe fastened a massive glass-bottomed walkway to the edge of the Grand Canyon on Wednesday as part of an ambitious tourism center that has angered environmentalists and some tribal members.

The Hualapai (pronounced WALL-uh-pie), an impoverished tribe of about 2,200 people at the canyon's remote western edge, allowed a private developer to construct the \$30 million Skywalk in hopes of luring tourists to the region.

The tribe will open it to the public later this month, charging \$25 per person in addition to other entry fees. Organizers expect the Skywalk to become the main draw in a community of tribal attractions that includes a cowboy town, an Indian village, helicopter tours and Hummer rides through the outback.

"The Grand Canyon has name appeal, and since part of the reservation lies in that, it only seems natural that we use the attraction to the benefit of the tribe," Hualapai Chairman Charlie Vaughn said.

At 1.07 million pounds, the Skywalk is about as heavy as four Boeing 757 jets stacked on top of each other. It was perched at the canyon's edge using an elaborate system of pulleys connected to four tractor-trailers.



**YOU HAVE TO BE REAL GENTLE WITH THE LAND. IT'S A LIVING BEING, AND IT CAN FEEL THOSE THINGS."**

David Jin, a Las Vegas developer

Underneath, hydraulic "shoes" lifted the Skywalk above a cement track, rolled it across a bed of metal rods, and set it onto four steel anchors that were drilled deep into the canyon rock. Workers then welded the walkway to the anchors.

While it was pushed out, the walkway was not anchored to the canyon wall. To keep it from tipping over the side, engineers loaded the back end with a half-million pounds of steel cubes as counterweight.

Debra Wilkerson, an assistant operations

manager for Grand Canyon West, the agency that supervises the Skywalk, said Wednesday that the rollout was finished without any problems. "Just smooth as glass," she said. "It's awesome."

The Skywalk extends about 75 feet over

of the profits.

As it was being built this year, some Hualapai elders said they began to question the wisdom of the project. The tribe considers the canyon sacred ground, and the construction cut into land scattered with Hualapai burial sites.

"You have to be real gentle with the land," said Hualapai spiritual leader Frank Mapatis. "It's a living being, and it can feel those things."

Environmentalists also have criticized the project for diminishing the canyon's majesty.

Kieran Suckling, a policy analyst for the Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson, Ariz., called the Skywalk a "tacky tourist attraction."

If the Hualapais need to boost their economy, they should follow the national park's example and build their attractions away from the rim.

"The tribal leadership is turning the Grand Canyon into a zoo," Suckling said. "It's unbelievable."

**ON THE NET**

www.grandcanyonskywalk.com

# And howl: Wolf delisting fires up residents

BY ALICIA P.Q. WITMEYER

Associated Press Writer

BOISE, Idaho Pitting memories of wolves howling at the moon against dead cattle and failing ranches, more than 150 people drove from across the state Tuesday evening to voice their opinions on the proposed removal of gray wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains from the federal endangered species list.

Backers of the delisting process say the wolf recovery effort in the northern Rockies has been a wild success, and it's time to take the animals off the list before they do damage to the state's livestock industry and wild elk herd.

But most of the testimony was against removing the animals from the list, calling it a politically driven decision that would undo all the progress made in the state over the last 11 years.

Wolves were reintroduced to the northern Rocky Mountains after being hunted to near-extinction, and now number more than 1,200 in the region. The region where wolves would no longer have federal protections would include all of Idaho, Montana, eastern Washington and Oregon and a small sliver of northeastern Utah.

The predators have thrived in Idaho since 35 of them were reintroduced in 1996 and far exceeded federal recovery goals. Now, there are estimated to be more than 700 living in the state's backcountry, with 46 breeding pairs.

Those who back delisting say that's more than enough to keep the wolf population healthy, and the process has been a long time coming. Debbie Lord, who raises cattle in the Danskin Mountains area, said she lost two calves to wolf attacks, and would have lost another, had it not been discovered by her teenage daughter.

"I don't hate wolves, I don't want to kill them all, but I

do want the opportunity to be able to protect my cattle," Lord said.

Others said the process was coming too soon, particularly in a state where elected officials have said they strongly favor controlling the population. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter recently said he wants to hunt the current population down to 100 wolves, and that he will be first in line to purchase a tag to kill one of the animals.

"Basically, what's going to happen is there's going to be a scorched earth policy with hunters as tools," said Katie Fite, biodiversity director with the Western Watersheds Project.

The delisting couldn't come soon enough for Mike Keithly, 59, who lives north of Cascade. Those who don't want to see the animals off the endangered species list should visit his town, where he says he carries a loaded weapon to fend off potential wolf attacks, and once shot an animal that went after his dogs.

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# Libby prepares for fight; White House keeps mum

BY MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Attorneys for convicted former vice presidential aide I. Lewis “Scooter” Libby began working on a request for a new trial Wednesday as the Bush White House tried to knock down speculation about a possible pardon in the CIA leak case.

Libby, the former chief of staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, was found guilty of perjury and obstruction in the investigation into the 2003 leak of CIA operative Valerie Plame’s identity. He is the highest-ranking White House official convicted in a government scandal since the Iran-Contra scandal two decades ago.

Government prosecutors led by Patrick Fitzgerald spent nearly four years investigating the case, but never charged anyone with the leak. Libby will be the only one charged in the case, Fitzgerald said.

Libby’s attorneys tried to use that during the trial to persuade jurors that, since nobody was charged in the case, Libby didn’t fear prosecution for the leak and so he had no reason to lie. Juror Denis Collins summed up the dilemma that he and his associates faced behind closed doors.

“There was a frustration that we were trying someone for telling a lie apparently about an event that never became important enough to file charges anywhere else,” he said Wednesday on ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

At the White House, President Bush was guarded in his comments.

“This was a lengthy trial on a serious matter, and a jury of his peers convicted him. And we’ve got to respect that conviction,” the president said in an interview with CNN En Espanol. “On a personal note, I was sad. I was sad for a man who had worked in my administration, and particularly sad for his family.” He said he could not comment further because it was an ongoing legal matter.

Snow said Bush is not necessarily stingy, but “careful” about giving out pardons. “These are not things to be treated blithely,” Snow said, stressing that Bush takes the pardon process very seriously. “He wants to make sure that anybody who receives one — that it’s warranted, but I would caution against any speculation in this case,” Snow said.

In 1992, as Bush’s father, former President George H.W. Bush, was preparing to leave office, he granted



**ALL OF THIS CONVERSATION, SPECULATION ABOUT A PARDON, I KNOW, MAKES FOR INTERESTING SPECULATION, BUT IT’S JUST THAT.”**

Tony Snow, Press secretary

Press secretary Tony Snow brushed off questions about whether Bush would entertain a pardon for Libby, saying the case remains under legal review. Snow also said Cheney’s stature within the administration has not changed or waned as a result of the verdict.

“All of this conversation, speculation about a pardon, I know, makes for interesting speculation, but it’s just that,” Snow said. “Right now, Scooter Libby and his attorneys have made clear that they’re going to try to get a retrial and if they don’t get that, they’re going to get an appeal.”

pardons for former Reagan administration officials caught up in the scandal that grew out of arms sales to Iran and the diversion of proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels.

Attorney William Jeffress, meantime, said that Libby’s defense team has begun reviewing the monthlong trial and preparing the request for a new one. It’s a common request among defense attorneys and one that’s not often granted. U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton had made several rulings in the case over the objection of defense attorneys.

## Aloha! Female prisoners island-bound

By The Associated Press

HONOLULU Under a bill half way through the state Legislature, 174 female prisoners from Hawaii now held on the mainland would be returned to Hawaii prisons by mid-2009.

The bill was approved by the full Senate Tuesday and now heads to the House.

It directs the Public Safety Department to prepare a plan that would return all female prisoners to the islands by July 1, 2009. The department would also need to identify three potential sites for keeping women prisoners in the islands.

Last year Gov. Linda Lingle announced that she would not try to build any more prisons in Hawaii, in part because she said she couldn’t “envision a community coming forward to support building a new prison facility of any size in this state.”

In January, Iwalani White, interim public safety director, told the Senate Public Safety Committee that the administration “appreciates the overall concept of this bill as it includes initiatives supportive of our goals. But we are concerned about the cost implications.”

In a committee report issued Monday, senators said it is important both for the female prisoners and their families to return the prisoners to Hawaii from the Otter Creek Correctional Center in Kentucky.

The legislation would not cover the nearly 2,000 male prisoners held in other mainland facilities. In addition to Kentucky, Hawaii prisoners have been held in privately run prisons in Arizona, Oklahoma and Mississippi.

“Children are the unintended victims of policies which house women out of state,” said Lorraine Robinson, executive director of the prisoner support program TJ Mahoney. “Allowing women to restore family ties, through taking responsibility for their negative choices and making amends is extremely difficult while women are housed in mainland facilities.”

In written testimony, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs sided with Senate Public Safety Committee Chairman Will Espero, D-Ewa-Ewa Beach-Lower Waipahu, who said that female prisoners have a better chance of rejoining society if they are in contact with their families.

But OHA also said “opportunities for program services are more available in mainland correctional facilities than in Hawaii and they would prefer to stay in the mainland facilities.”

A report last month said it costs the state \$62.05 per day for each mainland prisoner, or about \$48 million a year.

### ON THE NET

■ Hawaii Legislature, SB917: [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov)

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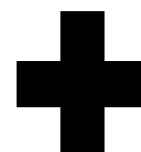
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**City of Santa Monica**  
**Ordinance Number 2220 (CCS)**  
**(City Council Series)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AND THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2220 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2220 (CCS) (“the Ordinance”) authorizes an amendment to the contract between the City and the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees’ Retirement System to provide Government Code Section 21354.5 retirement benefits (2.7% @ 55 Full Formula) for local miscellaneous, non-safety, members.

Ordinance Number 2220 (CCS) was adopted on February 27, 2007, and shall become effective 30 days after its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310)458-8211.



**City of Santa Monica**  
**Ordinance Number 2219 (CCS)**  
**(City Council Series)**

AN INTERIM ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA EXTENDING AND AMENDING THE MODIFICATIONS TO FENCE, WALL AND HEDGE STANDARDS, INCLUDING CHANGES TO THE HEDGE DEFINITION, ALLOWABLE HEDGE HEIGHTS, DEFINED FRONT YARD AREA, FRONT YARD ORNAMENTAL STRUCTURES, FRONT YARD SAFETY GUARDRAILS, AND TERRACED WALLS; GRANDPARENTING EXISTING NONCONFORMING HEDGES, FENCES AND WALLS, AND ESTABLISHING ADMINISTRATIVE AND DISCRETIONARY HEIGHT MODIFICATION PROCEDURES

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2219 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2219 (CCS) (“the Ordinance”) is an interim ordinance that extends the provisions of Interim Ordinance Number 2169 (CCS) relating to fence, wall and hedge regulations until September 30, 2007. The Ordinance also provides that all appeals of Zoning Administrator objection determinations scheduled to be heard by the Planning Commission are stayed pending further review of the Ordinance by the City Council. In addition, nothing in the Ordinance precludes any person from seeking any other remedies, penalties or procedures provided by law.

Ordinance Number 2219 (CCS) was adopted on February 27, 2007, and shall become effective 30 days after its adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

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# Bomb kills soldiers

## U.S.: Three are killed by roadside bomb; Shiites still targeted

BY LAUREN FRAYER  
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq Three American soldiers were killed Wednesday by a roadside bomb, and attacks on Shiite pilgrims showed no sign of easing, with at least 11 slain as they streamed toward a Muslim shrine ahead of a weekend holiday.

The violence came a day after two suicide bombers exploded themselves among pilgrims lining up at a checkpoint, killing at least 120 people and wounding about 190, police and hospital officials said.

The U.S. soldiers were killed by the roadside bomb as they patrolled a well-traveled route northwest of Baghdad to clear it of explosives, the military said. Nine soldiers died in two separate attacks on Monday — the deadliest single day for Americans in Iraq in nearly a month.

Meanwhile, mourners carried coffins through Hillah, about 60 miles south of Baghdad, where a main street became a swamp of blood and debris after Tuesday's twin attack. Bodies in plastic bags were lined up outside the city's hospital, where the wounded lay on gurneys in crowded hallways.

The Hillah bombings and other attacks on Shiites have been blamed on Sunni insurgents, trying to destabilize Iraq's Shiite-dominated government.

The victims had been headed to Karbala,

50 miles south of Baghdad, for weekend rites marking the end of a 40-day mourning period for the death of Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad. Hussein died near Karbala in a 7th century battle.

Abbas Ghatie Ali, a 32-year-old pilgrim walking from Baghdad to Karbala on Wednesday, tied a list of emergency contacts around his neck in case he was hurt along the way.

"I'm wearing this card to identify me if I'm killed during the journey to Karbala," Ali said. He said he would continue to walk despite attacks on fellow pilgrims, because Shiites are "the majority and will defend our ideology and doctrine."

secured, and I call upon the pilgrims to follow the instructions of the security forces and let them do the necessary searches," Iraq's minister of state for national security, Sherwan al-Waili, said in Karbala.

"Terrorists are adapting and improvising new ways of hurting people. Preparations have been made in hospitals to receive emergency cases," he said.

Karbala Gov. Aqeel al-Khazalie said 10,000 policeman had been deployed in the city.

The head of the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq, Abdul Aziz al-Hakim, condemned the Hillah bombings and called for more government security during the holiday.

“WE CALL ON THE SECURITY SERVICES OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ... TO CHASE THE MASTERMINDS WHO CARRY OUT THESE UGLY CRIMES.”

Abdul Aziz al-Hakim, head of the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq

Another pilgrim, Khadija Tawfek Mouhsin, said his brother was killed last year en route to Karbala, but that he was determined to make the journey. "The terrorists give us the chance to go to paradise," the 39-year-old Shiite pilgrim said.

Community leaders in Karbala met to discuss how to better provide security for the pilgrims, according to a statement from Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's office. The Defense Ministry said Tuesday it would deploy soldiers along the pilgrim-age route.

"All the city's entrances have been

"We call on the security services of the central government and the local authorities ... to chase the masterminds who carry out these ugly crimes," al-Hakim said.

Al-Maliki on Tuesday called the Hillah bombings an "ugly crime against unarmed citizens" that "would not pass without punishment."

Some Shiite leaders have expressed anger at the government for not doing enough to prevent the killings. "The government bears some responsibility for this," complained Shiite lawmaker Bahaa al-Araji. "It has not provided enough security to protect the pilgrims."

# Wild birds out to get the better of gas drillers

BY MATTHEW BROWN  
Associated Press Writer

BILLINGS, Mont. Federal efforts to protect wild birds from natural gas drilling in Wyoming's Powder River Basin ran into resistance Tuesday from industry workers, who claim drilling restrictions have contributed to thousands of layoffs in recent weeks.

More than 150 coal-bed methane workers protested the restrictions outside the Bureau of Land Management field office in Buffalo, Wyo., for several hours Tuesday morning, agency officials and industry representatives said.

Coal-bed methane is a type of natural gas pumped from coal seams.

"I love driving around and looking at the deer and antelope and other wildlife. That's part of what's cool about working in this state. But when do you put that above the people working?" asked Glen Wise, a working foreman for Dan Hart Patrol Services, an oil and gas services company out of Upton, Wyo.

State labor and employment officials could not immediately provide recent unemployment data for the industry.

In the last decade, almost 24,000 coal-bed methane wells were drilled in the Powder River Basin, the nation's fastest-growing coal-bed methane field.

The BLM imposes seasonal shutdowns on drilling in areas where endangered sage grouse, eagles and other birds are nesting or breeding. For sage grouse, for example, drilling is barred within two miles of breeding areas from March 1 to June 15.



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Christine Chang news@smdp.com

**GRANOLA GRIST:** Following its sale to rival Whole Foods, the future of most Wild Oats locations, like this one on Montana Avenue, remains unclear. Some stores will be closed and others revamped.

# Wild Oats customers in dark

Merger with Whole Foods is expected to be approved in April; some worry about a monopoly

**BY KEVIN HERRERA**  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**FIFTH STREET** Health-conscious consumers may have to flip-flop a little further to get their wheatgrass and organic lasagna now that the two largest natural-food retailers have decided to join forces.

As part of the \$700 million merger between Whole Foods Market, Inc. and Wild Oats Markets, some stores may be closed, especially in areas where there is a high concentration of both. In Santa Monica, there are two Wild Oats stores and one Whole Foods.

On the flip side, Whole Foods is expected to make significant investments in remodeling stores before eventually re-branding them, meaning Santa Monica's locations could be bigger and better than ever.

"Before making any decisions, however, Whole Foods Market will review each store individually to see where it fits in the overall plan," said Ashley Hawkins, a spokesperson for Whole Foods. "In some areas, remodeling and re-branding or relocating stores will happen quickly; in others, the change will happen over time and is expected to take up to two years.

"We are committed to making sure there are many convenient locations for our shoppers."

Outside of Wild Oats on the corner of Fifth Street and Wilshire Boulevard, many shoppers expressed concern over the future of their beloved, "granola" grocery store. While many shop at both Wild Oats and Whole Foods, many hate to see the Wild Oats brand go, and hope that whatever happens with the merger, the locations in Santa Monica remain open.

"If they close this place down, that would be very inconvenient," said Jo Tastula, a yoga instructor who travels from her home in Venice to buy groceries in Santa Monica. "I shop at Whole Foods too, but this is just closer to my studio."

Jeff Goldberg, who also works near the Wild Oats on Wilshire Boulevard, said he is concerned about rising prices.

"I try to eat organic foods when I can and I like Wild Oats because they have good, quality food and supplements that I can't find anywhere else," Goldberg said. "Now that there is going to be some sort of a monopoly over the organic, natural foods market, I'm worried that prices may go up."

If the merger is approved in April as expected, Stanz hopes Whole Foods keeps the juice bar at all Wild Oats locations.

"If they took that away, it would be a drag," he said. "I think they should keep all of the stores. You can never have too many of them."

Mike Dominguez, a loyal shopper at both outlets, said the Wild Oats location on Wilshire Boulevard should stay, while the location at 14th Street and Montana Avenue could go if necessary, since a Whole Foods is located nearby at 22nd Street and Wilshire Boulevard.

"Downtown shoppers need a place to go to buy gro-

**NOW THAT THERE IS GOING TO BE SOME SORT OF A MONOPOLY OVER THE ORGANIC, NATURAL FOODS MARKET, I'M WORRIED THAT PRICES MAY GO UP."**

Jeff Goldberg, consumer

Goldberg said if the cost of groceries rises too high, he might be tempted to look at more traditional markets, such as Ralphs or Vons.

Scott Stanz had a different take on the merger. He believes that by joining forces, organic markets will be stronger and more able to compete with big box stores like Wal-Mart.

"We need more variety," Stanz said, holding a bag full of wheat-free cookies and goat's yogurt. "These stores support life. So what if you have to pay a little more for the quality."

eries," Dominguez said. "As you can see, this location (on Fifth Street) serves a lot of people who are on foot. A lot of locals walk to this location and I think that's better than having more people driving in their cars."

With sales of approximately \$1.2 billion, Wild Oats is one of the leading natural and organic foods retailers in North America. The company, founded in 1987, currently operates 110 stores in 24 states and British Columbia.

kevinh@smdp.com

# Food workers face the needle

FROM HEPATITIS PAGE 3

in the hotel, restaurant and food services industries, concerned about the impact on the workers that don't have health insurance, said Paulina Gonzalez, a spokeswoman for Unite Here! Local 11 in Los Angeles.

Approximately 13,000 food service workers in the county have free health insurance under Unite Here!, but there are tens of thousands of non-union workers that aren't covered.

"If they're going to be forced to foot the bill for these vaccinations, (the county) is going to put undue burden on them and their families and costing jobs for these people," Gonzalez said. "A visit to the doctor alone can run close to \$100. If you're making \$7 an hour, that is almost two days of work for you to just pay for a doctor's visit."

The California Restaurant Association (CRA) has yet to take a position on the proposed requirement.

"At this time, we don't know how many people it will affect or if the proposal includes all food handlers or all restaurant workers," said Kearsten Shethard, spokeswoman for the CRA. "We're planning to work with the health department to ensure the safety of customers in more than 87,000 restaurants (in California)."

In Santa Monica, the proposed vaccination effort was met with open arms by restaurant managers.

"Safety first," said Lauren Stone, the manager at Jinky's Cafe on Second Street. "I would say the owner of the restaurant should pay for it."

Over at the Ye Olde Kings Head Shoppe on Santa Monica Boulevard, General

Manager Peter Dolan believes all employees should be vaccinated, but wonders how the county will keep track to be sure that all food service workers are vaccinated.

General Manager Mike Butler, of the Enterprise Fish Company on Kinney Street, wonders whether the vaccination is such a great idea. There are other ways to make restaurants safer, Butler said.

**A VISIT TO THE DOCTOR ALONE CAN RUN CLOSE TO \$100. IF YOU'RE MAKING \$7 AN HOUR, THAT IS ALMOST TWO DAYS OF WORK FOR YOU TO JUST PAY FOR A DOCTOR'S VISIT."**

**Paulina Gonzalez**

Spokeswoman, Unite Here! Local 11 Los Angeles

A lot of health problems don't come from the workers themselves, but from the ingredients, he said.

"If it becomes a law, it's something that we will obviously abide by," Butler said. "I don't think it's a bad idea, but I'm wondering where the expense is. Who will pay for it?"

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Fabian Lewkowicz [fabianl@smdp.com](mailto:fabianl@smdp.com)

**REENACTMENT:** Members of the Santa Monica Police Department investigate the scene of a fatal accident involving a MTA bus on Wednesday morning. A 40-year-old woman was killed.

# Bus driver 'shaken-up' by fatal crash

FROM BUS CRASH PAGE 1

10-year-veteran, was "shaken-up" following the collision and was speaking with a crisis counselor on Wednesday. He has been placed on leave with pay until the results of a drug and alcohol test are confirmed. If the results are negative, the driver could be allowed to return to work.

"We are still conducting an investigation into the incident to determine who was at fault," said Rick Jager, a spokesman for the MTA. "It would be premature to discuss any type of discipline at this point."

If it is determined that the driver was responsible, MTA officials will weigh his driving record and other factors to determine what actions to take, Jager said.

SMPD will be the lead agency investigating the accident.

The bus involved was running along Line 4, which uses Santa Monica Boulevard to travel between downtown Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

[kevinh@smdp.com](mailto:kevinh@smdp.com)

Fabian Lewkowicz [fabianl@smdp.com](mailto:fabianl@smdp.com)

**FLASHBACK:** Investigators replay the events of a deadly bus accident on Ocean Avenue in April of 2005. The incident was the last bus crash fatality in Santa Monica until Wednesday morning's incident, in which a woman was killed just outside Santa Monica Place.



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# On the move

## Reporter frets about state of pop culture

BY ALISON TULLY

Special to the Daily Press

**DOWNTOWN** Sometimes uncovering the effects of popular media culture is like learning the right way to boil a frog.

"You can't just put a frog in hot water, because he'll jump right out," said Gloria Goodale, an arts and culture reporter for the Christian Science Monitor, while speaking at the Main Library last weekend. "Any good French chef would tell you that you need to put him first in cold water and slowly turn the heat up, until the frog doesn't notice."

Goodale, an arts and culture reporter who has worked for the newspaper almost two decades, was on hand Sunday as part of the library's series on "Women Moving Us Towards History," a month-long celebration in honor of Women's History Month.

Goodale's frog reference served as a metaphor for popular culture: Once the water or culture gets racy enough, people or readers get used to it. She reported learning that lesson after her 12-year-old daughter had received a gift from Hustler magazine.

"She was given a pink coin purse that read 'Hustler' with a tag to suggest that she visit the Hustler Web site," said Goodale.

The incident inspired Goodale to write an article focusing on the surplus of erotic and sexual imagery in society. She cited the piece as an example of one of the Monitor's guiding principles: "To shed light, not heat." Her talk at the library, entitled "Out of a Woman's Life: A Newspaper," was delivered by Goodale along with the Monitor's Los Angeles Bureau Chief Daniel Wood.

"The paper was created in response to yellow journalism — the kind of tabloid sensationalism that panders to the most primitive side of humanity," Wood said.

Mary Baker Eddy founded the Christian Science Monitor in 1908. Eddy, recently named one of the 100 most influential people by The Atlantic Magazine, started the paper at the age of 87. The paper marked the end of her life-long commitment to exploring the connection between the mind and the body.

"Eddy's vision remains relevant today," Goodale said. "We live in a similar world to when Eddy founded the paper; a world that is chaotic and full of unreliable sources."

The paper's ability to rise above local interests to provide a larger, global perspec-



tive is one of many reasons why people choose to read the Monitor, she said.

Readers like Northwestern Sociology professor Charlie Moskos, 72, turn to the paper to get informed on topics like the war in Iraq.

Moskos, who has contributed to The Iraq Study Group and is still in contact with Multiforces Commander Lt. Gen. David Petraeus said, "When the general asks me what's going on, I tell him about information I read about in the Monitor."

**WE LIVE IN A  
SIMILAR WORLD  
TO WHEN EDDY FOUNDED  
THE PAPER; A WORLD  
THAT IS CHAOTIC AND  
FULL OF UNRELIABLE  
SOURCES."**

Gloria Goodale  
arts and culture reporter,  
Christian Science Monitor

"The Monitor's coverage is completely unbiased and fair."

Monitor freelance writer Jill Carroll's Iraq coverage is a good example of the kind of in-depth reporting the paper provides, according to Wood. Carroll was detained in Iraq for 82 days after armed men rushed her car and killed her translator. After being released, Carroll took a leave from the paper and is now a fellow at Harvard University. She recently received the Courage in Journalism award from the International Media Association. She declined to accept the award, however, because she didn't want to become the story.

"Carroll is respected because she chose to live in the country for three years, where she learned Arabic and wore traditional garb to really try to understand it," Wood said. "She learned the story by reporting from the ground up."

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The 14 users currently in the teen chat room.

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| good2hug:     | 14, female, Daytona, FL    |
| joey16:       | 16, male, Hackensack, NJ   |
| robbieW:      | 38, male, Daytona, FL      |
| b-ball_tommy: | 15, male, Pocatello, ID    |
| tu_tu:        | 16, female, Burlington, VT |
| duffme:       | 44, male, Minneapolis, MN  |
| QTpie:        | 30, male, Chicago, IL      |
| ty1989:       | 15, female, Naperville, IL |
| harrys_irl:   | 12, female, Appleton, MN   |
| slugger20:    | 17, male, Jackson, MS      |
| qtrback21:    | 26, male, Brooklyn, NY     |
| suzie14:      | 14, female, Portland, OR   |
| hiphopper:    | 13, female, Plano, TX      |
| paperboy:     | 41, male, Beaverton, OR    |

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.



## Market Matters

Brian Hepp

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Word up: How to get through a stock report

**NEWSPAPERS, BUSINESS NEWS SHOWS** and the Internet are all helpful resources that can help you gather data on publicly-traded companies. Another important source lies in the research reports written by analysts who make a living following various companies and reporting on their financial activities. However, if you're not familiar with these reports, at first glance, it may appear that they're written in another language.

A few of the terms you'll come across are defined below. Remember that no one financial measure will give you enough information to decide on a company's investment value.

**Market Capitalization** — The total market value of the company, this figure is commonly referred to as market "cap" and is calculated by multiplying the stock price by the number of shares outstanding. This figure is often used to segment stocks when looking to build or diversify a portfolio. Generally speaking, companies with a market capitalization greater than \$10 billion are often referred to as "large cap." Companies in the \$2 billion to \$10 billion range are considered "mid-cap," and those with capitalization of less than \$2 billion are known as "small-cap."

**Float** — The total number of shares available for trading divided by the total shares outstanding lets you know what percentage of a company's stock is not held by insiders. The stock price of shares with a low float may be more volatile, particularly when stocks have few shares outstanding or are thinly traded, and they also may be subject to sharp price swings if large trades hit the market.

**Earnings per share (EPS)** — Taking the annual net income and dividing by the aver-

age common shares outstanding gives you the earnings per share. EPS should also be considered together with the stocks price, or compared with prior years' EPS and future EPS to estimate what the rate of earnings growth might be going forward. EPS are normally reported on a diluted basis, which takes into consideration potential ownership claims such as bonds that are convertible into stock.

**Price / Earnings ratio (P/E)** — The stock's market price divided by its EPS, this ratio is one of the most widely known measures. The P/E ratio shows how much you have to pay for \$1 in earnings. A P/E multiple alone doesn't have much meaning; it needs to be compared with something, such as the P/E of the broad market, the P/E of competitors or the company's own P/E from prior years.

**Dividend Yield** — This is an important figure for investors who want or need current income, and is found by dividing the annual dividend by the current stock price. Investors with current income as an objective can compare the dividend yield and the prospects of future dividend increases with the income returns available from alternative investments.

These are just a few of the terms you may find in a research report. Hopefully, we've given you a good idea of where to start, but there's still plenty of information you can glean from research reports. Talk with a financial consultant about receiving copies of these reports, and to discuss how stocks may fit into your overall portfolio.

**BRIAN HEPP** is a financial consultant for A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. He can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at [brian.hepp@agedwards.com](mailto:brian.hepp@agedwards.com).

## American honey production at lowest level in 35 years

BY BLAKE NICHOLSON  
Associated Press Writer

**BISMARCK, N.D.** Dry, hot weather soured honey production in the nation's top two bee-keeping states last year, leading to one of the smallest U.S. honey crops in at least 35 years.

North Dakota and California typically vie for the honor of top honey state. In North Dakota, production in 2006 fell 23 percent from the previous year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said. The state held onto its top ranking, however, because production in California plummeted 34 percent.

Orin Johnson, president of the California State Beekeepers Association, blamed a mid-summer heat wave for shortcomings of the state's beehives.

"Bees don't work. They just shut down," he said.

The 2006 California honey crop was just under 20 million pounds. North Dakota beekeepers produced about 26 million pounds.

Most production areas were below average, said Bonnie Woodworth, past-president of the North Dakota Beekeepers Association.

"The Bismarck area was very, very dry, and production ... in that area was way down," she said.

Nationwide, production totaled about 155 million pounds last year, down 11 percent from 2005, USDA said.

"It's one of the smallest honey crops in history," Johnson said. "It was just an off year."

Aside from California, much of the country's production comes from the Upper Midwest. North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana, which produced more than a third of the nation's honey crop last year, all struggled with dry weather.

Though a bee ailment known as colony collapse disorder was spotted in several states, it wasn't a major factor in last year's decline in the honey crop, Johnson said.

Some scientists believe the problem might have been around as early as a couple of years ago. Woodworth said she also believes that the ailment is not new.

"We've all had our turn at it in the last five, six years," she said.

Johnson said some speculate that colony collapse disorder might be the same thing as a bee ailment in Southern states in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The cause of that ailment was never determined, he said.

Johnson said he does not worry that the disorder will affect this year's honey production.



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BASEBALL

# Angel eyes

Moreno may be first owner to understand sport's steroid mess

BY TIM DAHLBERG  
AP Sports Columnist

Unlike most baseball owners, Arte Moreno has shown he knows a little something about public relations. He also seems to understand that perception is often just as important as reality.

That's why one of the first things he did when he bought the Angels a few years ago was lower the price of beer at the ballpark. Fans, he said, got irritated paying \$8.50 for a bottle of beer they could get at a nearby convenience store for a buck-fifty.

Moreno also figured out there was a lot more money to be made by claiming Los Angeles to be the home of the Angels. They may play in Anaheim, but now the perception is they're connected to a much more important city.

So it's not a big surprise that Moreno might be the first owner in any sport who finally gets it when it comes to players suspected of improving themselves through the use of modern chemistry.

The epiphany comes at a price: Moreno spent \$50 million to sign Gary Matthews Jr. a few months ago, confident that he would be the Angels' center fielder for the next five years.

That was after Matthews, a career .249 hitter, came out of nowhere last year to post career highs in batting average (.313), home runs (19) and RBIs (79).

Which, of course, was before agents raided an Alabama pharmacy and reportedly found out that Matthews was a customer there and, according to a report in SI.com, was sent a shipment of human growth hormone in 2004.

Matthews has yet to be charged with anything, and may never be charged with anything. Investigators say they are concentrating on the suppliers of performance-enhancing drugs in the probe, not possible users.

And it should be noted that baseball had not yet banned HGH at the time Matthews allegedly bought the substance.

But perception is often reality, and Moreno knows that as well as anyone. And in family-friendly Anaheim, just down the street from squeaky-clean Disneyland, the reality is the Angels need is a new center fielder linked to a drug scandal about as much as Pinocchio needs a longer nose.

Enter Moreno, who, unlike other owners, seems intent on doing something about it.

On Saturday, he issued a statement saying he was disappointed by Matthews being linked to the probe. In the same statement, he urged the outfielder to answer all questions and come clean.

IT'S GOING TO BE RESOLVED BY OPENING DAY, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. I PROMISE YOU THAT."

Arte Moreno  
Angels owner

At the same time Moreno was urging his \$50 million man to clear the air, Matthews was in the midst of hiring a criminal defense lawyer who promptly told him to shut up.

Not exactly the way to please your new boss.

"It's going to be resolved by opening day, one way or the other. I promise you that," Moreno told the Los Angeles Times in Monday's edition. "I'm not a very happy guy. It should have already been resolved."

Just what Moreno meant by saying he wanted it resolved one way or another isn't exactly clear. His options will be limited, and likely don't include the possibility of terminating a contract for wrongdoing.

But what seems clear is that for the first time an owner has stepped up and challenged a player to stop hiding behind lawyers and tell the truth.

BASKETBALL

# Artest reportedly slapped woman

BY DON THOMPSON  
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Sacramento Kings forward Ron Artest slapped a woman's face and grabbed her repeatedly, causing visible injuries, according to a sheriff's report made public Tuesday.

Artest was arrested Monday after a woman inside his home in a Sacramento suburb called 911 and said she had been assaulted. In a portion of the 911 tape released by authorities, the woman described injuries to her hand and leg.

"Victim sustained visible trauma after being repeatedly grabbed by Artest and pushed to the floor," said the Placer County Sheriff's Department report. "Artest then slapped victim's face (and) by use of force prevented victim from leaving."

The report also said Artest took a phone from the woman the first time she tried to call 911.

Artest was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence and using force or vio-

lence to prevent the woman from reporting a crime. He was released from custody after posting a \$50,000 bond and is awaiting a March 22 arraignment.

In the 911 tape, released Tuesday by the sheriff's department, the woman calls a police dispatcher upset that Artest is leaving in a vehicle. After learning it's registered in both their names, the dispatcher says Artest has the legal right to take the vehicle.

The woman starts to hang up, then mentions "domestic violence."

"Ma'am, is there some fighting going on right now?" the dispatcher asks.

"Yeah, and he's upset," the woman replies.

"Did he hit you?" he asks.

"Oh, yeah, my hand is bleeding; I've got a scratch on my leg," she replies.

"Do you need medical, ma'am?"

"No. No. My finger's just bleeding. It's not stopping, but it's just bleeding. I'm not worried about my finger," the woman says.

The department released the initial 82 seconds of the call, which continued for about 15 minutes until deputies arrived.



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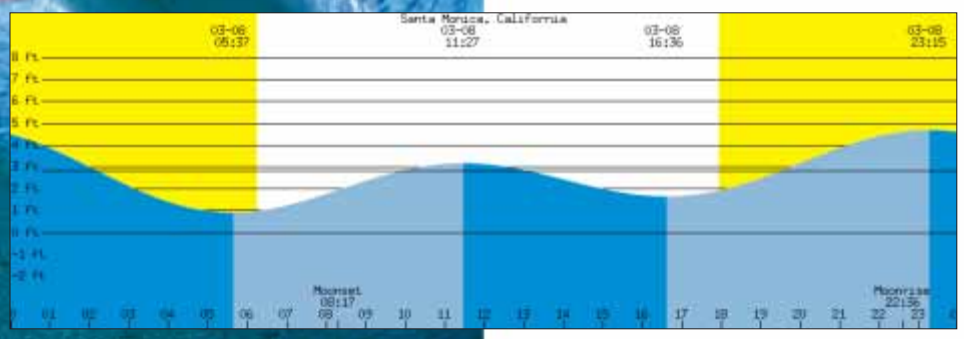
### SURF REPORT

**SURF CONDITIONS**

**SWELL FORECAST ( 3-4 FT )**  
Today we're expecting some NW to come our way from localized activity off the coast. We're expecting some chest high, 280-degree swell with 11+ second periods, but mostly wind-swell-like with peaky conditions at direct west facing breaks. Trace amounts of southern hemi SW should remain in the background for knee high+ stuff at south facing breaks. Winds will likely be an issue.

**LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS**  
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**TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA**



### BEACH REPORT CARD



## NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

**February 28, 2007**

**HEAL THE BAY** - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - [www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org) - [brc@healthebay.org](mailto:brc@healthebay.org) - 800 HEAL BAY

**QUICK STATS**  
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 9

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 4

Number of wet days -- 12

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 27 / 31

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 16 / 15

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 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth                     | A+  | A+  | Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence      | A+  | C   |
| Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth                    | A+  | A+  | Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain               | F   | A+  |
| El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks        | A+  | A+  | Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain                  | F   | F   |
| Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach                             | A+  | A+  | Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua) | F   | F   |
| Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth                                   | A+  | A+  | Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain                          | A+  | A+  |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth                                       | A+  | A   | Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain                        | D   | A+  |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)                   | F   | A+  | Santa Monica Municipal Pier                                       | C   | D   |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth                     | A+  | A+  | Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain                     | F   | F   |
| Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach                  | A+  | A+  | Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)      | A+  | C   |
| Latigo Canyon Creek mouth                                            | A+  | A+  | Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain                            | B   | A   |
| Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach                          | A+  | A+  | Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain                   | D   | A+  |
| Puerco State Beach at creek mouth                                    | B   | A+  | Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain                                 | A+  | C   |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.        | C   | A+  | Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain                               | D   | A+  |
| Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence                               | A+  | A   | Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south                              | A+  | C   |
| Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily                             | F   | F   | Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.                           | A+  | C   |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east                                          | D   | F   | Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower                   | A   | B   |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon                                    | F   | C   | Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth                     | A   | B   |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)              | F   | A+  | Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain                      | A+  | A+  |
| Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs                                   | B   | A+  | North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach           | A+  | A+  |
| Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach                                 | B   | A+  | Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)          | A+  | C   |
| Tuna Canyon                                                          | A+  | A+  | Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain                      | A+  | A+  |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth                                   | F   | F   | Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant               | A+  | D   |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach                          | B   | A+  | Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain                        | A+  | A+  |
| Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach                          | F   | A+  |                                                                   |     |     |
| Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain) | A+  | A   |                                                                   |     |     |

**LEGEND**

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

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

**ns** -- no sample taken



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

Heal the Bay

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# Balance the budget, Libra

## JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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



### ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You move, and others respond. Knowing when to stop is a sixth sense, and one to tap into. There is much more going on than you realize. You also get a lot of the fundamentals. A friend might be wild and centered. Instincts ride high. Tonight: Say "yes."

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Others head in another direction, but one that is tenable. Listen to friends or one specific friend who always has surprising news. Evaluate and think before you make a decision. You are more positive than you realize. Tonight: Determine what you want.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You might want to think before you decide to take action. Realize what needs to happen. Listen to your inner voice with someone you frequently put on a pedestal. Actions speak louder than words. Tonight: Easy does it.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ How you view a situation could change radically if you allow it to. Think in terms of gains or growth. Creativity puts an interesting spin on a touchy matter. Relate on an intimate, one-on-one level. Tonight: Weekend fever could begin.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You are happy-go-lucky and full of energy. Others might feel uneasy with this happiness or positive attitude that sometimes emanates, rain or shine. Perhaps consider keying down and being slightly more subtle. Tonight: Anchor in.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Speak your mind. Jump over situations rather than get tangled up in others' issues. You will be happier as a result, as will others. Your energy could easily be misplaced if you aren't careful. Tonight: Out and about.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to think twice before you act on a situation involving security, emotional well-being and finances. You might be right-on, but there could be an innate risk that you aren't seeing. Ask someone you respect to be a sounding board. Tonight: Balance the budget.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You might want to see life from a more animated and happy point of view. Just because someone challenges you doesn't mean he or she is right – or wrong. Absorb the information rather than question his or her attitude. Tonight: A little passivity goes a long way.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Know when to turn around and say "enough" or "no." You will appreciate the end results, as will others. You know what is functional and works. Listen to your inner voice rather than get involved in a volatile situation. Tonight: Get some extra sleep.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Others cheer you on. Just be careful dealing with someone who might be pushing you to spend more than you want to. This action could be a problem ultimately. Can someone care about you and act like this? Tonight: Easy does it.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You might decide to attempt to relate to someone on another level. Don't be surprised if your heartfelt attempt plunges into failure. You might be hurt, but keep your chin up – this reaction could be a passage to where you want to go. Tonight: Out late.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You might want to relate to someone you cherish in a more direct manner. If you are holding back feelings, you might not be allowing the normal give-and-take of a situation. Be clear with your choices. Tonight: Talk. Express yourself.

## Born Today

**Model Kathy Ireland (1963)**

**Actor Freddie Prinze Jr. (1976)**

**Actress Lynn Redgrave (1943)**

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

Often this year, you might be surprised by the variety of your reactions to different situations. You also might not be sure what needs to happen or why something does happen. You could discover there is another perspective. Think positively and be willing to learn and grow in new ways. Irritability will mark your actions if you aren't connected to your feelings. If you are single, you head in a new direction and meet a new type of person. How nice for you. If you are attached, relationships can sometimes be volatile if you aren't in touch with your feelings. Be clear about your vulnerabilities.

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# Boy, oh, boy

## Actress Jolie moves to adopt a 3-year-old Vietnamese boy

**ANGELINA JOLIE** plans to adopt a young Vietnamese boy and he probably will be moving to the United States in no more than three months, Vietnam's top adoption official said Wednesday. Jolie chose the boy, who is between 3 and 4 years old, during a recent visit to the Tam Binh orphanage on

the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City, said Vu Duc Long, the head of the justice ministry's international adoption department in Hanoi. Under ordinary circumstances, it takes about four months to process an adoption after the forms arrive, Long said. If the prospective parent already has chosen a child, the adop-

tion can be completed in just three months. "Three months would be the longest," Long said, adding that Jolie's case could be processed faster than that. Long confirmed last week that Jolie had filed adoption papers, but did not provide any details about the child or how long the process would take.

Jolie initiated the adoption process in the United States, but her application only arrived at Long's office last week. His department has approved the application and sent it to officials in Ho Chi Minh City, who also must review it. Jolie and her partner, Brad Pitt, have three children: 5-year-old Maddox,

adopted from Cambodia; 2-year-old Zahara, adopted from Ethiopia; and another daughter, Shiloh, who was born to the couple in May. The pair made a surprise visit to the Tam Binh orphanage at Thanksgiving, when they were spotted cruising around Ho Chi Minh City on a motorbike.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Timberlake producer says Spears would be a welcome addition

**TIMBALAND**, who's crafted hits for Justin Timberlake and Nelly Furtado, wants to help Britney Spears reclaim her once-stellar career. "I feel her pain, it really bothers me," the 34-year-old rapper-producer says in an interview in Entertainment Weekly magazine's March 16 issue. "I'm the type of person who tries to save the world. I just want to take her away, go overseas, and work (it) out." Timberlake says he invited Spears' ex-boyfriend, to be part of that plan. "I asked Justin, 'How would you

feel about me working with Britney?' I had to ask him that," Timbaland is quoted as saying. "I said, 'Would you do it with me?'" The 26-year-old "SexyBack" singer said he would, according to Timbaland, who notes: "She's just gotta be serious." Timberlake's spokeswoman, Sonia Muckle, referred inquiries to Timbaland's spokeswoman, Monique Idlett, who didn't immediately respond to a phone call Wednesday from The Associated Press. Gina Orr, a publicist at Jive Records, Spears' label, didn't immediately respond to

an e-mail message. Last month, Spears, 25, checked into Promises Malibu drug and alcohol rehabilitation center in California, capping a week of bizarre behavior in which she entered and exited rehab twice, shaved her head bald and went out clubbing with friends. "I just want to hold her hand," Timbaland says.



AP

### THE WRITE STUFF



**LANCE BASS** "tells all about his life, his music and his sexuality" in an upcoming autobiography, the publisher announced Wednesday. "Out of Sync" is scheduled for publication in October, said Simon Spotlight Entertainment. The publisher promises a behind-the-scenes look at the 27-year-old singer's days in boy band 'N Sync, as well as his headline-making venture to undergo astronaut training for a Russian space mission, which didn't pan out because he couldn't come up with the funds for the trip. Bass announced in July that he is gay. He has said that he didn't reveal this earlier because he didn't want to affect 'N Sync's popularity.

AP

# Reality TV star gets real prison term

**JASON WAHLER** was sentenced to two months in jail for punching a city worker and tow truck driver during an altercation last year. Wahler, 20, star of MTV's "The Hills" and "Laguna Beach: The Real Orange County," was also ordered to attend a one-day program at the Museum of Tolerance for uttering racial slurs during the September incident, authorities said.

Wahler is white. Two of the victims are black, authorities said. According to prosecutors, Wahler was traveling in a car with friends when their vehicle was blocked by a tow truck attempting to move an illegally parked car. Wahler jumped out of his vehicle and began yelling at the city worker and one of two tow truck drivers. Wahler, whose blood alcohol level was .22 percent at

the time, then punched one tow operator, as well as the city worker, authorities said. One of Wahler's companions also kicked the tow operator and spit in his face, the City Attorney's office said Tuesday. Wahler pleaded no contest to one count of battery. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail, and was ordered to attend anger management classes and

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Wahler was arrested late Friday in Greenville, N.C., for underage drinking and resisting a public officer during a raid against a local nightclub. He was released on \$1,000 bond several hours later. The Associated Press was attempting to reach a representative for Wahler on Wednesday.

AP

# O'Donnell depressed about Columbine

**ROSIE O'DONNELL** says she began being treated for depression after the Columbine school shootings and hangs upside down for up to a half-hour a day to improve her mental state. When gunmen killed 13 people at Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999, O'Donnell said she felt as if it had happened to her children. "I couldn't stop crying," she said on an episode taped for ABC's "The View" and due to air Friday. "I stayed in my room. The lights were off. I couldn't get out of bed and that's when I started taking medication." Anyone concerned about the stig-

ma of taking medication for depression should know that "it saved my life," she said. When she began taking antidepressants, O'Donnell, 44, said she began yoga and "inversion therapy," where she hangs upside down by a swing for 15 to 30 minutes a day. She demonstrates it on "The View." O'Donnell said she also has seasonal affective disorder, often called SAD, the wintertime blues that can strike when the days grow short. SAD is characterized by recurrent major depressive episodes during the fall and winter. She's "instantly happy" on sunny

days but feels as if she's being tortured when it's cloudy. She feels the most important thing to do when you're feeling depressed is to get up and move. "Like in 'The Wizard of Oz' the color goes out," she said. "That is what happens in depression. Everything gets gray." Friday's episode of "The View" is devoted to women and depression. Actress Linda Dano, who was diagnosed with clinical depression after her husband and mother died within 10 days of each other two years ago, is a guest.

AP

## MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE  
1328 Montana Avenue  
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Friday  
The 4th Man  
7:30  
Turkish Delight  
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4  
1441 3rd Street  
(310) 458-1506

Amazing Grace (PG)  
1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:45  
The Astronaut Farmer (PG)  
4:30, 10:05  
Dreamgirls (PG-13)  
1:30, 7:10  
Pan's Labyrinth  
(El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)  
2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:15  
Reno 911!: Miami (R)  
2:05, 4:15, 7:40, 9:55

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA  
1310 3rd Street  
(310) 289-4262

Black Snake Moan (R)  
11:10am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40,  
10:30  
Breach (PG-13)  
11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20,  
10:00  
Bridge to Terabithia (PG)  
11:45am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25,  
9:50  
Wild Hogs (PG-13)  
11:00am, 12:05, 1:45, 2:35,  
4:25, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:35,  
10:15  
Zodiac (R)  
11:20am, 12:15, 2:45, 3:40,  
6:15, 7:10, 9:45, 10:35

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE  
1314 Wilshire Blvd  
(310) 281-8223

Factory Girl (R)  
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30,  
10:00  
The Last King of Scotland (R)  
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

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

Letters From Iwo Jima (R)  
3:35, 9:35  
The Lives of Others  
(Das Leben der Anderen) (R)  
1:55, 5:00, 8:15  
The Painted Veil (PG-13)  
12:45, 6:45  
The Queen (PG-13)  
1:45, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50  
Starter for 10 (PG-13)  
4:25, 9:55  
Volver (R)  
1:35, 7:10

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE  
1313 3rd Street  
(310) 395-1599

Children of Men (R)  
11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50,  
10:40  
The Departed (R)  
3:50, 7:10, 10:30  
Ghost Rider (PG-13)  
11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00,  
9:50  
Happy Feet (PG)  
11:00am, 1:25  
Music and Lyrics (PG-13)  
11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20,  
10:00  
Norbit (PG-13)  
11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40,  
10:20  
The Number 23 (R)  
11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30,  
10:10

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty  
BRONZE

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

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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

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

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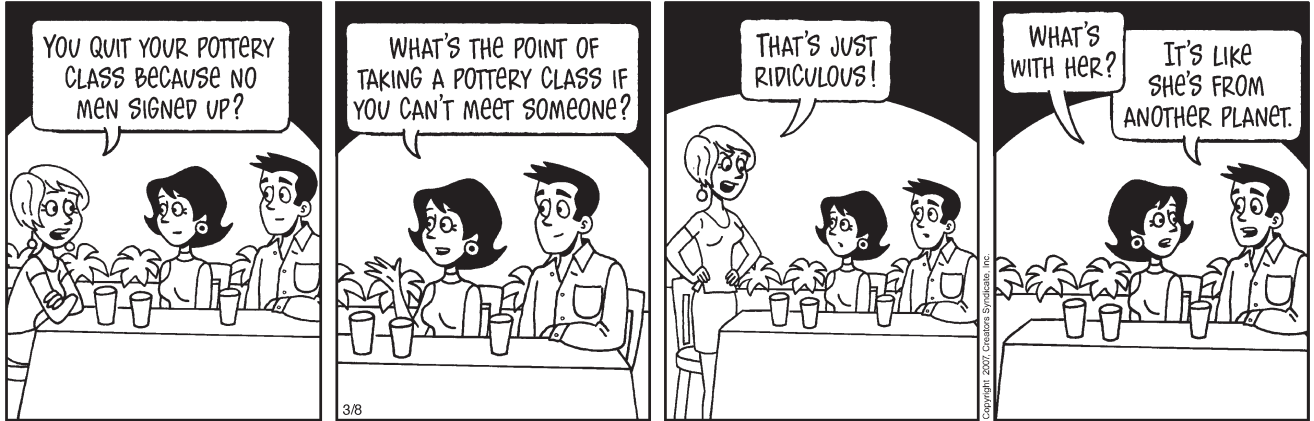
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



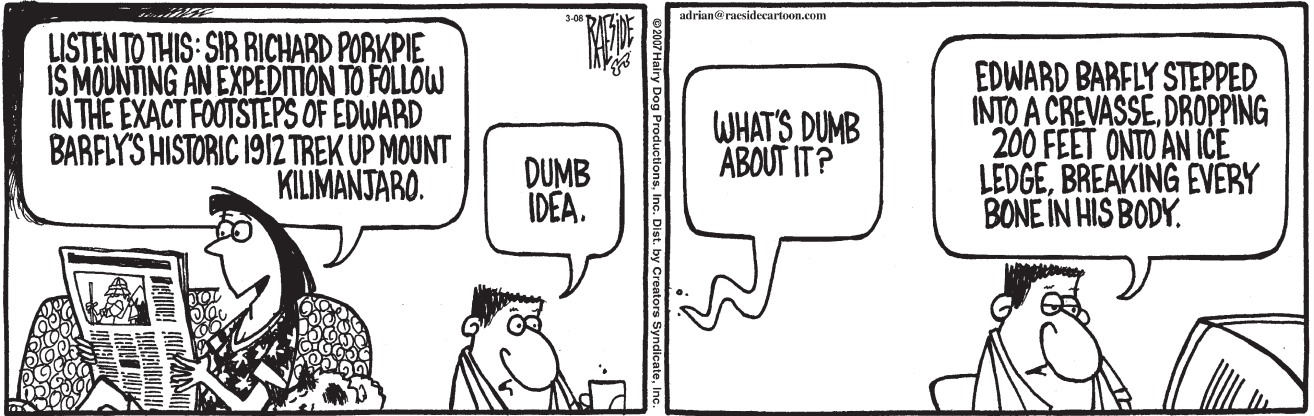
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



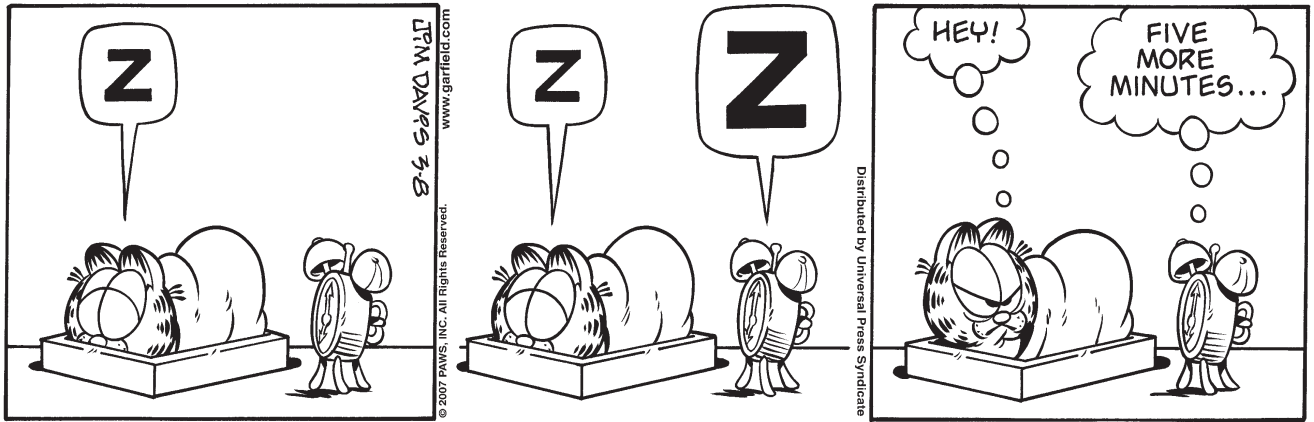
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



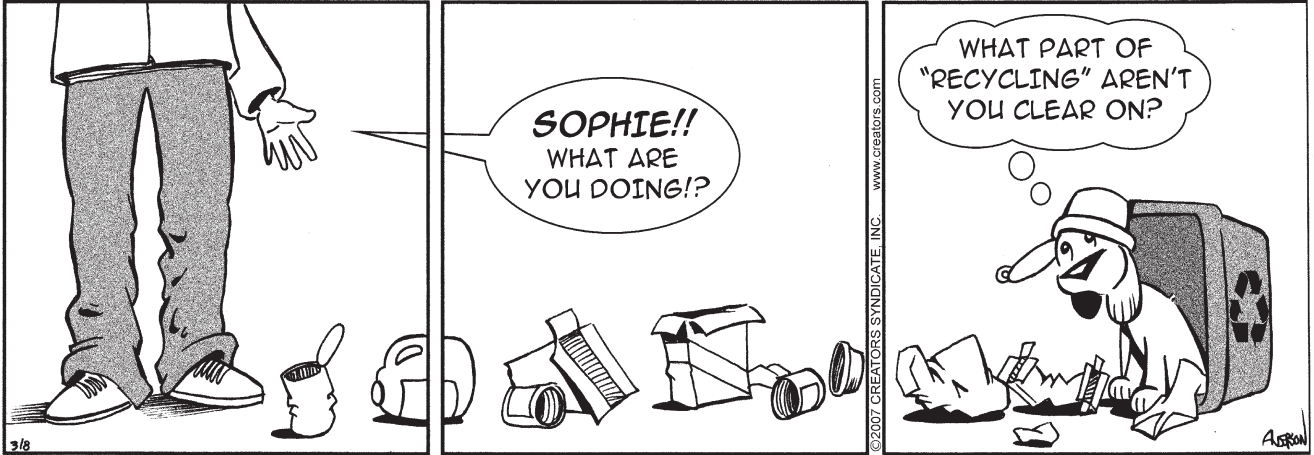
Garfield

By Jim Davis

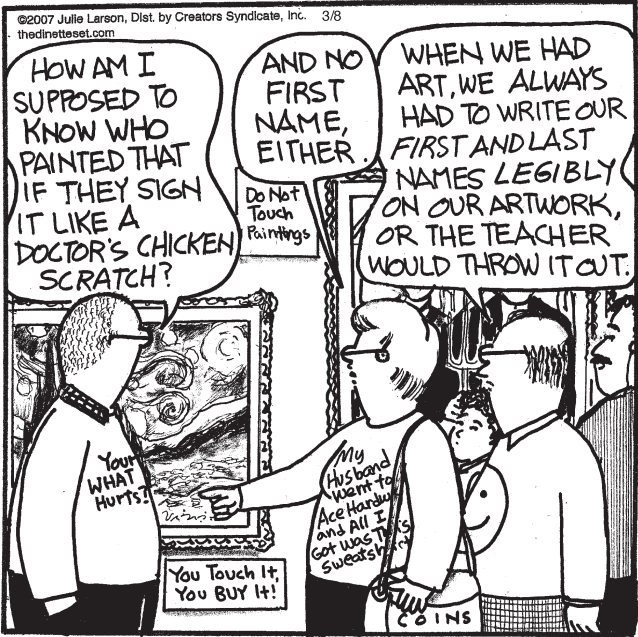


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace

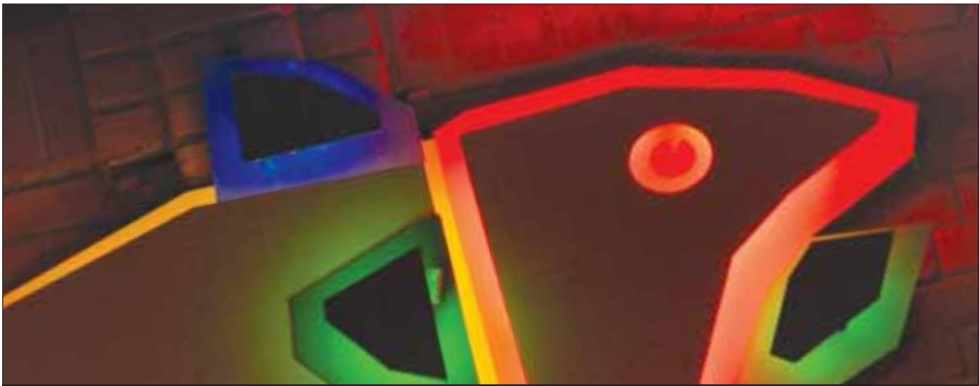


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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**  
1 Gulf War missile  
5 Secret store  
10 Asian capital  
12 Chip choice  
13 Leaves off  
14 Church sight  
15 Sopping  
16 "Hannibal" star  
18 Famed cellist  
20 Afternoon hour  
21 Cordial  
23 Tacit approval  
24 Desert sight  
26 Org.'s kin  
28 Filming spot  
29 Similar  
31 ET's craft  
32 Abutting  
36 Fast-food freebies  
39 Objective  
40 Used a towel  
41 Inferno describer  
43 Visibly shocked  
44 Heart, for one

45 Busybody  
46 Massive amounts

DOWN

1 Flamboyant  
2 Onyx piece  
3 Oneness  
4 Dash's partner  
5 Center's duty  
6 Radio format  
7 Deeds  
8 Irish river  
9 — around (misbehaved)  
11 Bible outcast  
17 Rowing need  
19 Hold  
22 Copes  
24 Dickens' Madame  
25 Perfect  
27 Scandal subject  
28 Calendar column  
30 Hostel  
33 Sensuous dance  
34 Mythical giant  
35 Signs  
37 Retained  
38 Inkling  
42 Museum topic

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | E | A | S | T | S |   | A | C | I | D |
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| B | A | T | M | A | N |   | T | R | O | Y |
|   |   |   | M | Y | S | T | I | C |   |   |
| R | A | C | Y |   |   |   | U | S | U | R |
| A | L | A |   | R | U | S | T | L | E | R |
| P | O | L |   | A | S | K |   | A | G | O |
| I | N | C | I | T | E | S |   | T | A | P |
| D | E | U | C | E |   |   | G | E | L | S |
|   |   |   | L | E | S | S | O | N |   |   |
| D | R | A | B |   |   |   | A | V | O | I |
| A | U | T | O |   |   |   | G | A | M | B |
| N | M | E | X |   |   |   | S | L | E | E |

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|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |
| 36 |    |    | 37 | 38 |    |    |    | 39 |    |
| 40 |    |    |    |    |    | 41 | 42 |    |    |
| 43 |    |    |    |    |    | 44 |    |    |    |
| 45 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |

3-8

**DAILY LOTTERY**

**MEGA MILLIONS**  
16 22 29 39 42  
Meganumber: 20  
Jackpot: \$12M

**Super LOTTO**  
5 25 26 39 41  
Meganumber: 25  
Jackpot: \$57M

**Fantasy 5**  
16 20 25 29 30

**DAILY 3**  
MIDDAY: 2 5 9  
EVENING: 9 9 1

**DAILY DERRY**  
1st: 11 Money Bags  
2nd: 03 Hot Shot  
3rd: 06 Whirl Win  
RACE TIME: 1:47.53

**NEWS OF THE WEIRD**  
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ An international team of biblical scholars learned recently that the sect thought to have been responsible for the Dead Sea Scrolls (the Essenes) became extinct because they were too modest about their toilet habits. According to a November report in London's Independent, the researchers found evidence of heavy fecal bacteria in a secluded area (which was also a graveyard) and deduced from the scrolls that the Essenes rejected defecating in the open (which would have allowed sunlight to kill the bacteria).

■ A January National Geographic TV special revisited an underreported Cold War struggle between Soviet and U.S. scientists rushing to perform head transplants. Russian Vladimir Demikhov, working in secret in the 1950s, grafted the head and upper body of a puppy onto the neck of a large mastiff (and both reportedly bemusedly tolerated the other for the four days that the "puppy" lived). American Robert White of Cleveland, Ohio, reportedly transplanted a dog's brain into another dog's neck and noted which characteristics transferred with the brain (until the dog died days afterward). (When even limited word got out about White's 1970 rhesus monkey head transplant, the public outcry forced his lab to close.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

**1618** Johannes Kepler discovers the third law of planetary motion.

**1817** The New York Stock Exchange is founded.

**1884** Susan B. Anthony testifies before the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives arguing for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote.

**1911** International Women's Day is celebrated for the first time.

**1918** The first case of Spanish flu occurs, the start of a devastating pandemic.

**1921** Spanish Premier Eduardo Dato is assassinated while exiting the parliament building in Madrid.

**1936** The first stock car race is held in Daytona Beach, Florida.

WORD UP!

**collegial** \kuh-LEE-jee-uhl; -juhl/, adjective: 1. Characterized by or having authority or responsibility shared equally by each of a group of colleagues. 2. Characterized by equal sharing of authority especially by Roman Catholic bishops. 3. Of or relating to a college or university; collegiate. 4. Characterized by camaraderie among colleagues.

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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
**ROBERT M. JACOBS**  
CASE NO. SP007074

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROBERT M. JACOBS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by KATHLEEN K. CHRISTENSEN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KATHLEEN K. CHRISTENSEN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 05/04/07 at 9:15AM in

Notices

Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner  
ROGER L. LUND  
GOSE, LECHMAN & LUND  
1200 PASEO CAMARILLO #295  
CAMARILLO, CA 93010  
3/1, 3/2, 3/8/07

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SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
**FLOYD A. CARTER**  
CASE NO. SP007077

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of FLOYD A. CARTER.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MICHAEL F. CARTER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MICHAEL F. CARTER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 05/11/07 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner  
LAWRENCE J. VANNI, ESQ.  
MCCOLGAN & VANNI

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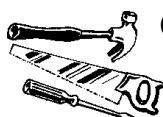
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# Infiniti of SANTA MONICA

One of the Largest Volume Dealers  
and Service Centers in the United States

**No Reasonable Offer Refused!**

**HUGE SELECTION • FANTASTIC SERVICE • GREAT VALUE**

## The ALL NEW 306-hp 2007 INFINITI G35 SEDANS

MODEL #90517

• JOURNEY • SUNROOF  
• PERFORMANCE TIRE & WHEEL PACKAGE

- Beyond Performance
- Beyond Refinement
- Beyond Machine

**2 AT THIS LEASE \$399** per mo. + tax  
**36 MONTH LEASE ON APPROVED CREDIT**

\$1,990 due at lease signing; plus tax, license, bank acquisition fee and first payment. No security deposit required. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10,000 miles per year at 20¢ per mile over. VIN#705110, VIN#705093



★ One of the Largest Infiniti G35 Inventories on the West Coast ★

### NEW 2007 INFINITI G35 Coupes

MODEL #99217



**2 AT THIS LEASE \$379** per mo. + tax  
**24 MONTH LEASE ON APPROVED CREDIT**

\$1,990 due at lease signing; plus tax, license, bank acquisition fee and first payment. No security deposit required. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 12,000 miles per year at 20¢ per mile over. VIN#901804, VIN#907147

### EVERY NEW 2006 INFINITI QX56 2WD

MODEL #86216



**4 AT THIS REDUCTION \$10,000 OFF**  
**MANUF. SUGG. RETAIL PRICE ON ANY INFINITI QX56 2WD PURCHASE**

VIN#813010, VIN#800883, VIN#801476, VIN#801927

### NEW 2007 INFINITI FX35 2WD

MODEL #87217 IN STOCK



**2 AT THIS LEASE \$349** per mo. + tax  
**36 MONTH LEASE ON APPROVED CREDIT**

\$1,990 due at lease signing; plus tax, license, bank acquisition fee and first payment. No security deposit required. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10,000 miles per year at 20¢ per mile over. VIN#100829, VIN#100627

## QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

|                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>'05 FORD F150 SUPER CAB STX</b><br>V8, auto, air, power locks, CD player, bed liner, alloys (P1521/A33199)<br><b>\$15,593</b>                  | <b>'04 TOYOTA TACOMA PRERUNNER DBL CAB</b><br>Auto, air, power group, CD player, wide tire, bed liner, alloys (I6474A/427067)<br><b>\$18,593</b> | <b>'04 INFINITI G35 COUPE</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, multi-CD player, dual power seats, moonroof, alloys (P1522/803121)<br><b>\$22,193</b> | <b>'03 PORSCHE BOXSTER CABRIOLET</b><br>Tiptronic auto, air, power group, leather, CD player, spoiler, power seats, alloys (P1508/622256)<br><b>\$22,893</b> | <b>'06 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER</b><br>Auto, air, power group, CD player, 3rd seat, roof rack, used (P1489A/149716)<br><b>\$23,593</b>                | <b>'03 INFINITI FX45 AWD</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, multi-CD player, power sunroof alloys (P1492/001466)<br><b>\$25,993</b> |
| <b>'04 INFINITI G35 COUPE</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, Navigation, multi-CD player, moonroof, alloys (P1507/803667)<br><b>\$26,523</b> | <b>'02 PORSCHE BOXSTER S CABRIOLET</b><br>Tiptronic auto, air, power group, leather, cassette, alloys (P1513/660260)<br><b>\$26,853</b>          | <b>'04 BMW 530i SEDAN</b><br>Auto, premium pkg, air, power group, leather, CD player, moonroof, premium wheels (P1510/066827)<br><b>\$28,693</b>        | <b>'04 BMW 525i SEDAN</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, CD player, moonroof, alloys (I6442A/849273)<br><b>\$29,193</b>                                 | <b>'05 BMW X5 3.0i AWD</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, CD player, moonroof, dual power seats, alloys (P1530/U46958)<br><b>\$30,153</b> | <b>'04 LEXUS GX 470 4X4</b><br>Auto, air, power group, leather, mnrf, CD auto-changer, alloys (P1504/046531)<br><b>\$32,953</b>          |

■ Sales ■ Service ■ Selection ■ Great Value

# Infiniti of SANTA MONICA

**1-866-507-7253**

**900 Santa Monica Boulevard**

[www.infinitiofsantamonica.com](http://www.infinitiofsantamonica.com)

All vehicles subject to prior sale plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, dealer document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge. Offers good through Sunday, 3/11/07

