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THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 113

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

QUAKE A WAKE-UP CALL
SEE PAGE 3

THE NOT SO FAST ISSUE

City Council stalls development of Bergamot Transit Village

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Representatives from an international development company went home disappointed just after midnight Wednesday after the City Council shot down initial designs for one of the largest construction projects in the city's history — a 960,000 square foot mixed-use project on the former Papermate site.

The site is part of a massive City Hall-led undertaking to create a transit village around the incoming Exposition Light Rail Line, which will connect Santa Monica to Downtown L.A. by 2015.

The proposal involved cutting up the existing parcel on Olympic Boulevard into five smaller ones, which would incorporate housing, office space, retail and open space, as well as new roads to help direct traffic through the complex rather than around it and onto already-congested roads like Olympic and 26th Street.

"It is the center, the focus and will be the driving force behind the transit center in Bergamot Village," said Planning Director Eileen Fogarty.

It will also be the first and largest test of the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) of the General Plan that puts rigid requirements on how developments fit into both the visual aspect of the city and the stated goal of cutting the impact of cars on traffic and the environment.

As such, the proposal failed in many counts, according to city staff.

The plan developed by Hines, one of the largest private real estate developers in the world, is an insular campus with tall, unvaried buildings with blank walls that in places create a "canyon effect" that was eschewed in community meetings, city staff noted.

SEE VILLAGE PAGE 8



BREAKING THE LAW

Ray Solano *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica police search a car that slammed into a Mercedes parked near the corner of Pico Boulevard and 21st on Tuesday night. The driver, an 18-year-old female, was taken into custody on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol, police said. Witnesses said the driver ran into the Mercedes, which belonged to the owner of A&E Liquor Mart on Pico. The owner said his car was 'totalled' and put the damage at around $10,000.

Campaign contribution limit raised to $400

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The landscape of political campaigns in Santa Monica changed slightly Tuesday night when City Council members voted to raise the limit on campaign contributions and consider charging a fee for candidates running for public office.

Courts have invalidated campaign contribution restrictions placed on candidates by cities when the amount of money is too low to let the candidate build a big enough war chest to "communicate her or his views," according to a city staff report.

Campaign costs in Santa Monica are too

SEE CONTRIBUTIONS PAGE 8

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Samohi's Moriah Faulk named to CIF-SS team

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica High School's Moriah Faulk was named to the All-CIF-Southern Section Division 1AA girls' basketball team, it was announced on Wednesday.

The senior, who committed to play for UCLA next season, was selected after helping lead the Samohi Vikings to the semi-finals of the CIF-SS Division 1AA playoffs early this month.

Faulk averaged 13.7 points for the Vikings this season. Faulk was key in a stunning upset of national powerhouse Long Beach Poly in this year's playoffs, scoring 15 points against the vaunted Jackrabbits.

The selection to the All-CIF-SS team was just the latest honor for the shooting guard.

Faulk was joined by senior point guard Kristina "KJ" Johnson on the All-Ocean League first team. Fellow senior Bianka Balthazar was named to the second team. The Vikings ended the season second in league.

ST. MONICA'S LAGUARDIA GETS CIF-SS NOD

St. Monica's all-time leading scorer in girls' basketball, Cory LaGuardia, was named to the All-CIF-SS Division 5AA team, it was announced on Wednesday.

The scoring title is just the latest in a long list of accomplishments for the sharp-shooting guard. In her four years on varsity, LaGuardia has twice been named to the all-league team. LaGuardia also starred on the school's volleyball team, earning all-league honors in 2009.

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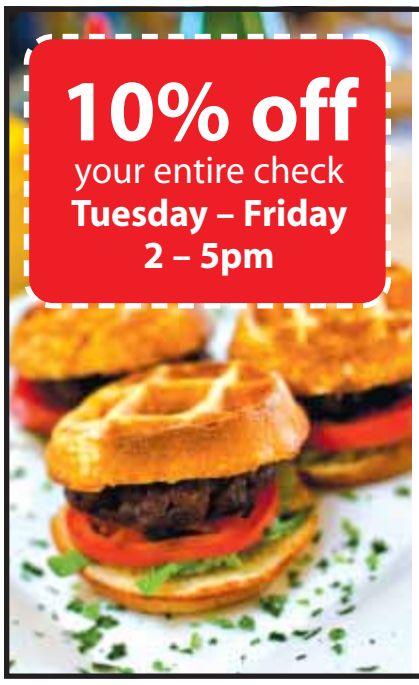


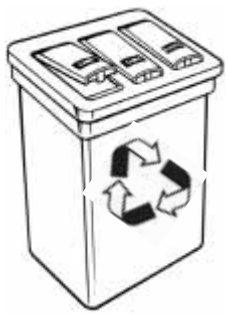
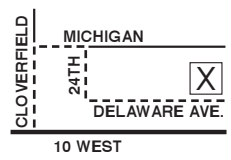
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, March 24, 2011

Minds Matter of L.A. gala
James Grey Gallery
2525 Michigan Ave., 6:30 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Join hip-yet-philanthropic types for an evening of art, music, free cocktails, restaurants tastings and a silent auction to celebrate the launch of Minds Matter of Los Angeles. MMLA helps academically achieving, low-income high school students broaden their dreams for college and beyond with mentoring. For more information, call (310) 721-6228.

In case you missed it
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 2 p.m.
Screening of "Easy A," a comedy starring Emma Stone as a young woman who decides to use the rumor mill to her advantage. For more information about this free event, call (310) 458-8682.

Dance by the bay
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club
1210 Fourth St., 7 p.m.
A free lesson kicks off this ballroom dance followed by dancing on a 3,000-square-foot floor. A partner is not required. Cost of the main dance is $10. For more information, call (310) 487-0911.

Bingo, baby!
Senior Recreation Center
1450 Ocean Ave., 2 p.m.
Come play bingo for prizes during this free event.
For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

Friday, March 25, 2011

'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is a hip musical comedy which follows six young people in the throes of puberty, who are overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, as they learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. At each performance, four audience volunteers are selected and invited on stage to participate in the Bee, making each performance unique. This play also takes place on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

To create your own listing,
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For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed,
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Santa Monica Stories

Tom Viscount — Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Santa Monica History Museum

WAY, WAY BACK MACHINE: **A Southern Pacific Railroad freight train rumbling through a tunnel down what would later become Pacific Coast Highway in Santa Monica.**

Train, Long Wharf make tracks

BACK IN 1895, LONG BEFORE THERE was a Pacific Coast Highway or McClure tunnel, the sight of a Southern Pacific Railroad train rumbling through a tunnel down the bluffs toward the ocean would not be uncommon.

These freight trains originated in downtown Los Angeles and terminated their route at the end of a nearly mile-long wharf, appropriately named Long Wharf, that jutted out into the ocean just south of where Will Rogers State Beach would later be located.

During this time, the Santa Monica Bay had been christened Port Los Angeles and was in a heated competition with the port at San Pedro for dominance in the Los Angeles region. The tunnel itself was 331 feet long and ran below what is now Ocean Avenue and Colorado Boulevard.

Colis Huntington, who replaced Leland Stanford as president of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1890, was the driving force behind making Port Los Angeles in Santa Monica Bay the Southland's dominant port. And, by 1893, building of the Long Wharf and the accompanying railroad had been completed and was now in use.

But after four years of legal and political maneuvers, San Pedro was deemed a better site for a deep sea harbor and all funding was directed in its direction. This led to the slow decline of the Long Wharf as a relevant and working port. In 1908, the entire route from Los Angeles to Long Wharf was converted into an electric trolley system that was touted as "The shortest and quickest line between Los Angeles and the Ocean," and boasted, "101 miles for 100 cents."

In a few years Long Wharf was formally closed as a port of entry for ocean-going vessels and now served only as a tourist destination. By 1913, the Long Wharf was now in serious disrepair, and officials decided to tear down the farthest most 1,600 feet of it and leave the remaining 3,120 feet primarily as a fishing pier.

Over the next few years a series of landslides buried the tracks at different points below the bluffs, forcing continuous clean-up and stabilization work. In July, 1920, railroad officials finally decided to dismantle the entire pier, citing the excessive maintenance costs that would not have covered any expected revenue. And by early 1921, after 27 years in existence, the Long Wharf and Port Los Angeles was no more.

The electric trolleys did still run as far as Santa Monica Canyon up until 1933, when the tracks and electric poles were finally removed along the former route. All that is left from this era is a sign you pass if you are heading north on PCH just south of Temescal Canyon Road, acknowledging it as the former site of Port Los Angeles. But I am confident that Santa Monicans past and present are more than pleased that we missed our chance at being a monstrous, industrialized shipping port. Just think of all we would have missed — and I'm not just talking about "Baywatch" and that famous red bikini, Dogtown or Muscle Beach.

TOM is a longtime Santa Monica resident who enjoyed a fulfilling 10-year career with the Santa Monica Red Cross. Tom currently is a writer and disaster management and recovery expert. Tell him your Santa Monica stories. He can be reached at tomviscount@yahoo.com.

KCRW's Kleiman keynote speaker for Sustainable Quality Awards

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN Evan Kleiman, renowned chef, best-selling author and host of KCRW's Good Food radio show, will give the keynote address at the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce 2011 Sustainable Quality Awards Luncheon themed "Sustainable Food."

The luncheon is scheduled to be held at the Sheraton Delfina Hotel in Santa Monica on April 27.

The Sustainable Quality Awards were created in 1995 to honor businesses in Santa Monica that have made significant achievements in the areas of sustainable economic development, social responsibility and stewardship of the natural environment.

"The way to empower change in our collective eating habits is to educate the public on issues of sustainability," said Laurel Rosen, president of the chamber. "At this year's event we have the opportunity to showcase our chefs who lead the way in offering organic, seasonal foods to their customers and modeling best sustainable practices in the community."

Sustainable food is a passionate topic for Kleiman, who is a member of the Los Angeles Food Policy Council and the Stewardship Council of Roots of Change, as well as the founder of L.A.'s Slow Food Chapter.

In addition to Kleiman, co-chef and owner of the Border Grill restaurant and Border Grill Truck, Mary Sue Milliken, will speak about the importance of embracing sustainable practices as a business, to reap both the economic and environmental benefits.

Celebrating its 16th year, the Sustainable Quality Awards (SQA), a successful collaboration between the chamber, Sustainable Works and the city of Santa Monica, is pleased to announce this year's final nominees:

SEE **AWARDS** PAGE 10

Japan quake a wake-up call for Californians

JASON DEAREN
Associated Press

OAKLAND The devastating earthquake in Japan has served as a painful reminder of the fact that California has struggled on a number of fronts to protect the state from the next big one, namely when it comes to bolstering at-risk buildings.

California's five-year-old program for helping cash-strapped public schools seismically retrofit their most vulnerable buildings has so far disbursed only a tiny portion of the $200 million set aside under the effort. The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, damaged in the 1989 earthquake, still hasn't been replaced. Thousands of old hospitals and apartment buildings remain despite being at serious risk in a quake.

"Everybody owns risk if you live in earthquake country," said David Bonowitz, a structural engineer. "And individuals have to be responsible for their own risks just like public policymakers and city officials have their own responsibilities."

Since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in San Francisco Bay area and the 1994 Northridge temblor near Los Angeles, billions of dollars have been spent on retrofitting thousands of unreinforced brick buildings, roads, bridges and university buildings.

Still, experts say thousands of potentially dangerous concrete school buildings, high-rise apartments and hospitals that were built before California changed its building code in 1976 have not even been identified. The especially vulnerable buildings were made with "non-ductile" concrete, which was used in older structures and did not hold up well after the recent quake in New Zealand.

Craig Comartin, a former president of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, said the state has 25,000 to 30,000 non-ductile concrete buildings.

Bonowitz said the main mistake planners have made in the state's approach to preparedness is thinking everything can be addressed before the next disaster. Earthquake safety experts now realize the focus should be on shoring up structures that will help a community rebound quickly — hospitals, large apartment buildings and schools.

"Go after buildings the community will need after the earthquake that are key to community resilience," Bonowitz said. "Structural problems are important, but we need to know the occupancy and use of the building too."

Meanwhile, $7.2 billion will be spent to replace the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, which is scheduled to be opened to traffic by the end of 2013, and has become the largest public works project in state history.

But California has still not met its preparedness goals for school buildings.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Follow the money

Editor:

Thanks again to Bill Bauer for keeping your readers abreast of our city's latest monuments and their cost ("City Hall's spending spree," My Write, page 4, March 21).

With a few calculations on my 30-year-old HP12c, I learned that our new public parks of 7 acres have a wonderful budget of $35.9 million. This works out to $117.73 per square foot. And this is just for improvements; City Hall already owns the land.

City officials are in favor of participation and have had meetings with the public in past months on the plans for the park. Please city administration, publish in the Daily Press the budget details of where this $35.9 million is going, particularly since construction starts in about six months. Please exclude the cost of the ficus trees from the Third Street Promenade area (remember the six trees that were boxed up and not cut down) that are to be planted there.

Could City Hall, just for general information, include the names of the contractors, architects, consultants, banks, outside attorneys, etc. Then Bill Bauer can let us know if they have donated any monies in the past elections and how much.

Bob Wolff
Santa Monica

Urban legend

Editor:

I am writing to correct misinformation in Kitty Costa's letter ("Calling a spade a spade," Letters to the Editor, March 12-13, page 4) in which she rages against school board member Oscar de la Torre, children with disabilities, and columnist Bill Bauer.

First of all, using the word "Teflon" to describe Oscar de la Torre implies that he is guilty of wrongdoing. The facts are that Mr. de la Torre submitted to an independent review of his police investigation by a highly respected outside agency and was found innocent of any wrongdoing in the way he handled a fight between two students that occurred last year behind the Pico Youth & Family Center.

As to the statement that Mr. de la Torre has done "a whole lot of nothing" to help special education, Ms. Costa couldn't be more wrong. Mr. de la Torre has been steadfast in his commitment to represent all students, which is exactly the position a school board member should take.

As to her statement that "special ed parents move to Santa Monica because they know that SMMUSD has some of the best special education programs," there is no data to support this. This is an urban legend that I have heard since I moved here 20 years ago. Actually, 12 percent of our students have individual education plans, which is the same or less than LAUSD, Beverly Hills, and many nearby school districts.

Finally, Ms. Costa says "you'd think that Bill Bauer would know better after observing him (de la Torre) for all of these years." I, for one, am glad that the columnist judges people by their actions. It seems like the sign of an open mind, which Ms. Costa has not.

Beau Marks
Santa Monica



Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

With a friend like that, who needs enemies?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I had what I thought was a very good friend for over 10 years. We hung out together and did social things either with small groups of other friends or just the two of us. We spoke frequently on the phone and shared personal information.

Suddenly this friend stopped speaking to me and often asks friends of mine to do things without inviting me. It started when I was late to meet her for a movie. We were going to meet 15 minutes early, but I arrived during the trailers because I got stuck with a last-minute work assignment. I apologized profusely.

I am stunned by the mean behavior and don't understand how anyone could be so angry over this one event. I am not sure that I would want this friendship back at this point, but I would like to know if there is something I am missing or what would make someone act this way.

I am no saint and I do have a tendency to run late, but I have racked my brain to think of anything else I might have done and honestly can think of nothing.

Signed,
Stunned

DEAR STUNNED,

First off, I would imagine that you are feeling hurt as well as shocked, that is unless you have not gotten to that stage yet. This is a loss and sounds like a rejection of you as well.

If you are feeling as if your friend's behavior is mean, then it probably is designed to be. This would tell me that she is consciously or unconsciously getting even with you. For whatever reason, you must have really hurt her. I have no way of knowing, but I suspect she had some expectations for what that 15 minutes might hold, or at the very least she took your being late very personally.

You did say that you tend to run late and that is something you might want to take a look at because it is not respectful of other people's time. Maybe in the future, don't say you will be there unless you are sure. Maybe try saying, "I will do my best to be there by such and such time but it could be 10 to 15 minutes later." Always call if you are late because it helps the other person prepare and understand. All of us here in L.A. are late from time to time; there is so much that cannot be anticipated. A good rule of thumb is to leave 20 minutes early. It makes for safer driving and a good chance of being on time. I realize that this may be difficult if you are really busy like so many of us but it is a suggestion.

Getting back to your friend, if there truly is no other history to contribute to her getting so angry and now behaving in a mean way, there is a good chance that she has some major emotional issues to resolve. You said you shared personal information, do you know anything about her other relationships? Family relations and histories with other friends is usually a pretty good predictor of what you can expect from someone.

If you step back from it, do you think this friend was someone who had worked out past hurts and resentments? Resentment literally means re-sentiment or feelings sent again … and again. Resentment sends us into a dark place where we cannot see clearly and our emotional reactions are anything but intelligent.

In any relationship, you want to make sure that you have come common goals, good communication and that you like the character of the other person. In takes time to assess this but one way to know is by how well you can work things out when conflict occurs. Also, if the other person is resentful, are they working on it and finally, how do they treat others?

Maybe going forward you might want to assess these things in potential friends. This way you won't be stunned, you will either have a clue on what to expect and keep some distance or you will decide that this is not a friend worth having.

I wish you the best of luck in all your future relations.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. You can visit her at www.drbarge.com or send your questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.



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

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

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Overcrowding at area hospitals worsens

The new Los Angeles County hospitals chief says overcrowding at two public medical centers is getting worse.

Dr. Mitchell H. Katz told the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday that he's concerned overcrowding at County-USC and Harbor-UCLA medical centers will persist after the federal healthcare reform law is implemented in 2014.

The Los Angeles Times notes that contradicts with the assessment by recently-retired hospitals chief Carol Meyer, who indicated overcrowding would diminish after 2014 because newly insured patients, once offered a choice, could opt to seek care at a private facility.

Katz says new research shows Massachusetts public hospitals serving as the safety net for the poor saw more crowding once that state required near-universal health insurance five years ago.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Study: No heart risk from mercury in fish

A new study has found that mercury from eating fish does not raise the risk of heart disease or stroke.

Past research on the topic has yielded contradictory results.

The latest government-funded work analyzed mercury levels in tens of thousands of toenail clippings. They're considered a good gauge of long-term mercury exposure.

The findings appear in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Mercury is found in many types of fish especially shark, swordfish and king mackerel, which tend to accumulate the toxic metal.

The American Heart Association recommends that adults eat fish at least twice a week. But pregnant women and young children should avoid fish with the highest mercury concentrations.

AP

ESCONDIDO

Some SoCal cities embrace immigration scrutiny

A city that has taken numerous steps to crack down on illegal immigration is at it again — this time joining a string of Southern California municipalities that are signing up to tap a federal database aimed at tighter scrutiny of employees' immigration status.

Escondido's measure is modest compared with how others have embraced the online E-Verify tool, which is used voluntarily by employers nationwide. The San Diego suburb began checks on new hires this month and would require the same of city contractors under a proposal before the City Council on Wednesday.

The City Council is also considering urging — but not requiring — private businesses to perform enhanced checks on new hires. Last year, Lancaster became the first Southern California city to require private businesses to use E-Verify.

AP

SAN DIEGO

Agents nab immigrants, others posing as military

Two Border Patrol agents with military experience foiled an attempt by smugglers and illegal immigrants who tried to pass a checkpoint by taking elaborate steps to disguise themselves as U.S. Marines.

In court documents, the agents said they were suspicious when the driver did not know the birthday of the Marine Corps — a date all troops know from the day they enter basic training.

In the federal complaint made public Wednesday, the agents also said the group did not act or talk like Marines when the van was inspected at a checkpoint in San Diego County on March 14.

Three U.S. citizens pleaded not guilty to alien smuggling. Three immigrants are in custody as material witnesses. The others were returned to Mexico.

CERES

Mother caught on video encouraging fight

Police in Central California have arrested a woman who was seen and heard on a YouTube video egging on her young son to batter another boy.

After receiving an anonymous tip about the video, Ceres police arrested 33-year-old Jennifer Zuniga on Tuesday on suspicion of child endangerment and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

The video shows Zuniga yelling profanities and encouraging the boys, who appear to be teenagers, to wrestle on the ground and exchange punches. At least four other teens are also visible on the video watching the fight.

The Q Line

Running things

The L.A. Marathon returned to Santa Monica this past week with its boon to business and its companion traffic and parking struggles.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks: Considering the mixed bag it brings with it, do you think that the marathon should return for a third year in 2012?

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

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Gulf probe: Blowout preventer was flawed

HARRY R. WEBER &
MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS The blowout preventer that should have stopped the BP oil spill cold failed because of faulty design and a bent piece of pipe, a testing firm hired by the government said Wednesday in a report that appears to shift some blame for the disaster away from the oil giant and toward those who built and maintained the 300-ton safety device.

At least one outside expert said the findings cast serious doubt on the reliability of all the other blowout preventers used by the drilling industry.

The report by the Norwegian firm Det Norske Veritas is not the final word on the Deepwater Horizon disaster last April that killed 11 workers and led to more than 200 million gallons of oil spewing from a BP well a mile beneath the Gulf of Mexico.

But it helps answer one of the lingering mysteries nearly a year later: why the blowout preventer that sat at the wellhead and was supposed to prevent a spill in case of an explosion didn't do its job.

The report cast blame on the blowout preventer's blind shear rams, which are supposed to pinch a well shut in an emergency by shearing through the well's drill pipe. In the BP crisis, the shear rams couldn't do their job because the drill pipe had buckled, bowed and become stuck, according to the DNV report.

The 551-page report suggested that blowout preventers be designed or modified in such a way that the shear rams will completely cut through drill pipe regardless of the pipe's position.

The blowout preventer was made by Cameron International and maintained by Transocean Ltd.

The report suggested that actions taken by the Transocean rig crew during its attempts to control the well around the time of the disaster may have contributed to the piece of drill pipe getting trapped.

"This is the first time in all of this that there has been a clear design flaw in the blowout preventer cited," said Philip Johnson, a University of Alabama civil engineering professor who did not take part in the analysis. "My reaction is, 'Holy smokes, every set of blind shear rams out there may have this problem.'"

In response to the report, Cameron spokeswoman Rhonda Barnat said the blowout preventer "was designed and tested to industry standards and customer specifications." She added, "We continue to work with the industry to ensure safe operations."

In a statement, Transocean said the findings "confirm that the BOP was in proper operating condition and functioned as designed." It added: "High-pressure flow from the well created conditions that exceeded the scope of BOP's design parameters."

BP spokesman Daren Beaudo said the oil company supports efforts by regulators and the industry to make blowout preventers more reliable.

Speculation on why the blowout preventer failed has persisted during the year since the disaster.

Documents emerged early in the probe showing that a part of the device had a hydraulic leak, which would have reduced its effectiveness, and that a passive "deadman" trigger had a low, perhaps even dead, battery.

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Gas demand boosts stocks

DAVID K. RANDALL & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Stocks edged higher Wednesday after a government report showed stronger demand for gasoline.

Indexes had been lower earlier in the day but rallied after an Energy Department report showed that gasoline consumption continues to grow despite sharp price increases at the pump. It's a possible sign that motorists have handled higher fuel costs without cutting back.

Economists have been concerned that the recent spike in oil prices could imperil the economic recovery.

Oil prices reached their highest level since Sept. 26, 2008. West Texas Intermediate crude rose 78 cents to settle at $105.75 per barrel.

Stocks had been weighed down by news that the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan will be the most expensive natural disaster in history. Financial stocks were lower after the Federal Reserve rejected Bank of America's plan to increase its dividend.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 67.39 points, or 0.6 percent, to close at 12,086.02.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 3.77 points, or 0.3 percent, to close at 1,297.54.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 14.43, or 0.5 percent, to 2,698.30.

The Japanese government estimated that rebuilding costs for the earthquake could be as high as $300 billion. The widespread devastation is expected to drag the growth rate of the Japanese economy down by 0.5 percent this year. Japanese companies such as Toyota and Honda have suspended production at some plants.

Bank of America Corp. fell 1.7 percent after the Federal Reserve rejected its plan to raise its dividend in the second half of the year. The Fed allowed several major banks to increase their dividends last week after they passed stress tests. Banks slashed their payments to shareholders during the financial crisis to save cash. Bank of America said it expects to submit another request to increase its dividend this year.

"This was obviously a disappointment," said Todd Salamone, the director of research at Schaeffer's Investment Research. "There seemed to be a growing consensus that financial stocks were looking more attractive based on the prospect of dividend increases."

In the latest bad news on the housing market, the Commerce Department reported that sales of new single-family homes plunged to the lowest on record in February. Home sales fell 17 percent to 250,000, well below the 700,000 rate that economists consider healthy. On Monday the National Association of Realtors said weak sales of existing homes and a high number of foreclosures pushed the prices of existing homes down to their lowest level in nearly 9 years.

General Mills lost 1.8 percent. The company beat analysts' profit estimates but sales in its cereal division were down 6 percent.

Rising shares outpaced falling ones by a slight margin. Consolidated trading volume was 3.9 billion shares.

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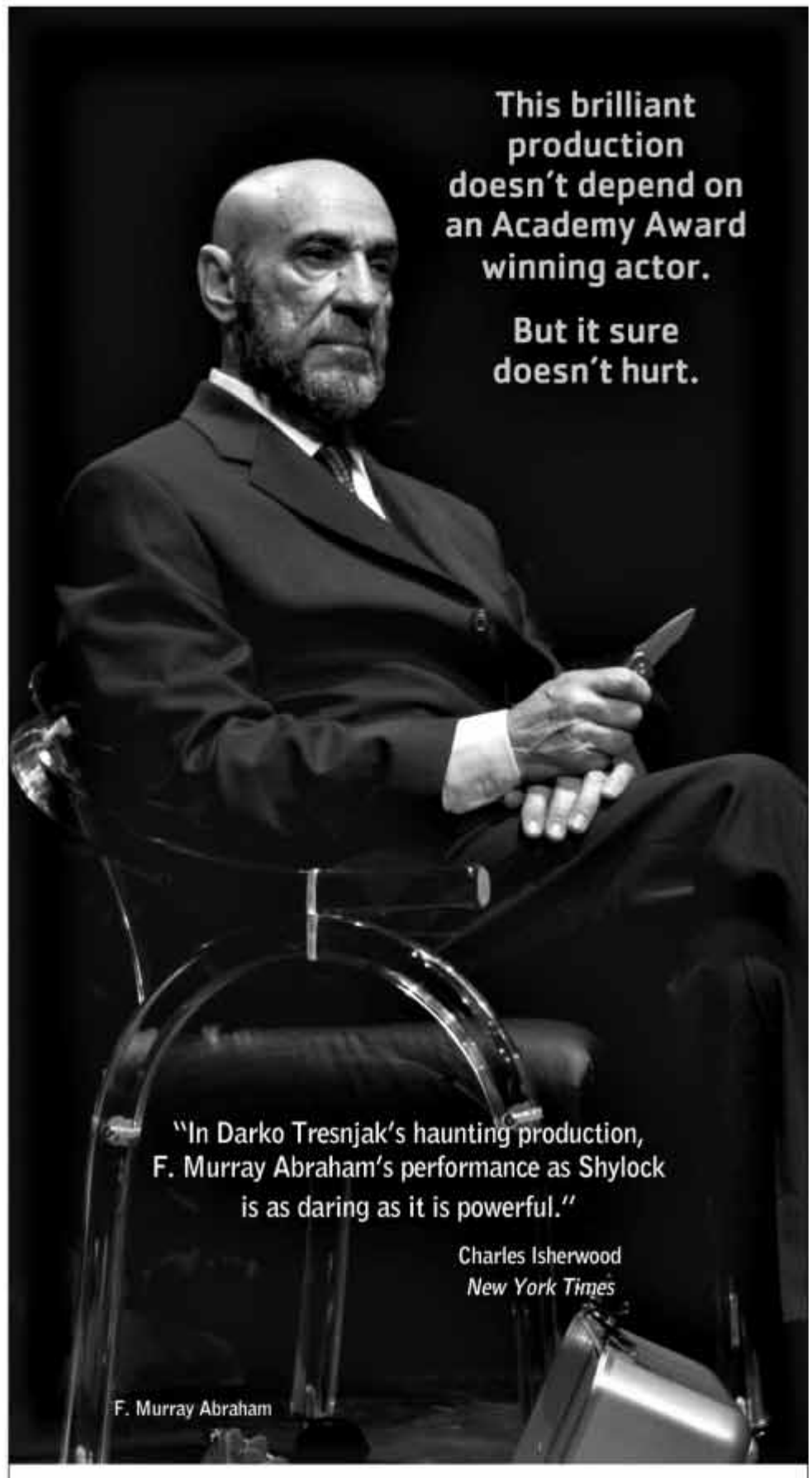
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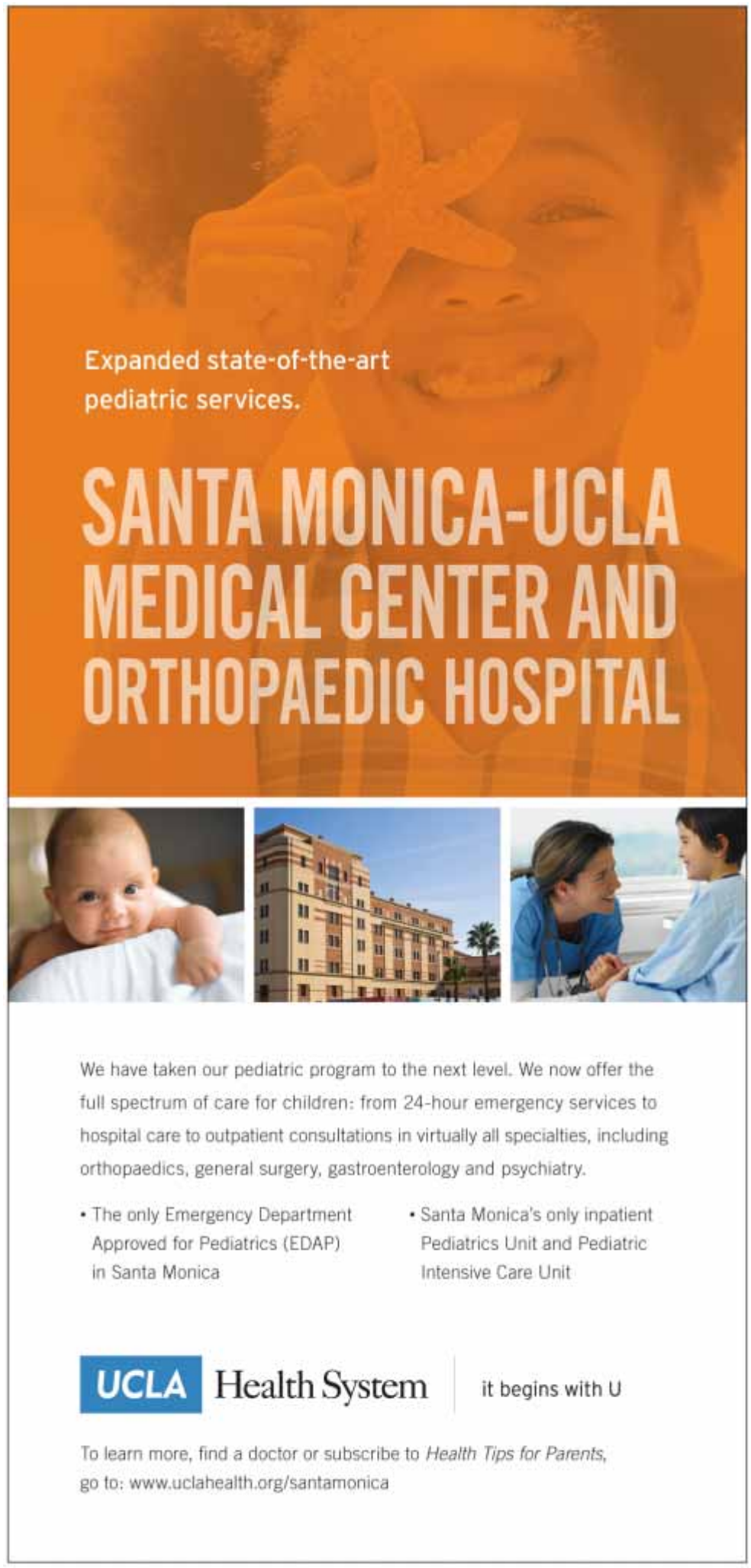
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VILLAGE

FROM PAGE 1

The overall look of the project needed to be re-thought to involve a variety of roof heights to create a skyline, a mix of looks and a variety of visual elements to break up the big, blocky feel that the current project creates, city staff said.

Staff also took issue with the placement of certain roads, which they felt didn't take advantage of a potential north-south connection to Olympic Boulevard.

In essence, the project complies with some portions of LUCE, but needs work on others, Fogarty said.

"The timing is right for a project like this to go forward. The location is certainly right. The mix of uses is very close," Fogarty said. "The connections being created now with the blocks are an improvement over what is there today."

However, she said changes need to be made in terms of circulation, the scale of buildings, uses and locations.

Colin Shepherd, who heads business activities for Hines in the region, had 10 minutes to respond to criticism.

He said Hines made a number of changes to the look of the project in response to a January, 2010 Planning Commission meeting where commissioners demanded changes in the look and flow of the project, specifically moving public space up to the fore and trying to make the project more of a "village" and less of a business park.

The most recent staff report included many suggestions that the developer could comply with, but others that would be difficult to include in the final plans from a business point of view, representatives from Hines said, including cutting up buildings to improve visual variety in such a way that corporate tenants would find them unappealing.

"We've met with a handful of businesses that say if they had spaces like this, they would stay here, not leave the city," Shepherd said of Hines' design. "When you start going to smaller floors, you create great inefficiencies."

Hines created the plans while LUCE was still in development, Shepherd said, and maintained that the project was "entirely in compliance with the parameters of the LUCE."

Approximately 30 onlookers took issue with that statement during public comment.

Speakers ripped the project based on its size, stating that it was incongruous with the small-town feel of Santa Monica.

"This project looks like the boxes the Water Garden came in," said Roger Swanson of the Ocean Park Association, speaking as an individual. The Water Garden is a large office complex off Olympic and Cloverfield boulevards that has been criticized by some residents because of its size and the traffic it generates.

Planning Commissioner Ted Winterer concurred, describing the proposed buildings as uninspiring and unprovocative.

"Submit revised plans that address the needs of the staff and community," Winterer said. "Then maybe you'll solve our problem, and not just the applicant's."

Council members were similarly unimpressed, although some showed varying degrees of restraint.

"Why are you here tonight?" Councilmember Kevin McKeown asked. "Do you expect us to reverse the discussion with community and staff?"

Councilmember Gleam Davis focused on the potential of the project, asking Fogarty if the plan as conceived could be redesigned to meet staff's standards.

"Is it your opinion that we can get this project to meet the requirements of LUCE?" Davis asked.

Fogarty confirmed that with a redesign, it could.

The council voted unanimously to direct staff to work with Hines to redesign the project to address concerns raised by residents and planning staff.

ashley@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

high to continue with the strict $250 campaign contribution limit, and leaving the restriction in place opens City Hall up for a lawsuit, said City Attorney Marsha Moutrie.

"Our issue is with what the court decisions say," she said. "They look to how much elections cost in a place."

The proposed solution was to raise the campaign contribution limit to $400 from the $250 limit previously in place.

That limit was set in 1991.

The proposal drew ire from community members, who felt that raising the limit would increase the power of business interests while decreasing the influence of the average citizen.

"I'm against raising the campaign limit because I think more people are apt to give the limit if it's $250 rather than $400," said Julie Lopez Dad, a ranking member of the Santa Monica Democratic Club. "We have a lot of people of modest means, and people do like to give to multiple candidates."

Councilmember Kevin McKeown was also against raising the limit outright, instead proposing to leave it at $250 and allowing it to creep up with cost of living increases. That motion failed for lack of a second.

"We don't have a lawsuit right now, so let's not solve a problem before it happens," McKeown said.

Other council members opined that increasing the limit might encourage larger donors to give directly to council members, who can control their own expenditures, rather than to independent expenditure committees, which can accept unlimited funds and are beholden to no candidate.

"Expenses go up and up and up," said Councilmember Bob Holbrook, continuing to say that candidates and the political process lose out when engaged citizens couldn't give enough money for candidates to run a viable campaign.

"I don't find there's a big sigh of relief going up," said Councilmember Bobby Shriver. "It helps local donation because the big money goes to the [independent expenditures]. You could argue it helps raise

SEE CONTRIBUTIONS PAGE 9



CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM PAGE 8

money for individuals."

Independent expenditure committees gained infamy in the recent election when misleading mailers were sent out, which allegedly mischaracterized the endorsements of local political groups.

Later on in the evening, members of a new political group called The Santa Monica Transparency Project brought some of those independent expenditures to the front, pointing out contributions made by the Hines 26th Street IEC to various councilmembers. Hines 26th Street is affiliated with the Hines development firm, which was vying for a development agreement for the former Papermate site on a later item on the Tuesday night agenda.

According to Jeanne Dodson, chairperson of the Neighborhood Council and member of the SM Transparency Project, the group began work informally in November of 2010 to comb through campaign disclosure statements to find Hines contributions to council members.

Dodson and Anjuli Kronheim of Common Cause read a statement by the new group, calling out the $46,373 donated to the campaigns of Councilmembers Terry O'Day, Holbrook, Gleam Davis, Pam O'Connor and Mayor Richard Bloom.

"The Hines project focused us," Dodson said. "It's the first big project since the LUCE passed."

A 2010 Supreme Court decision, Citizens United vs. the Federal Election Commission, invalidated all attempts to regulate contributions to independent expenditure groups, so the council was not required to vote on the issue.

When it came time to vote on the issue, only McKeown voted against the increase.

Also discussed was a fee of $200 on people that want to run for City Council.

Twenty-five dollars would go to paying the state filing fee, and the additional $175 would go toward the cost of printing the candidate statement.

Should a person not raise the 100 signatures required to get on the ballot, the $175 will be refunded.

The reasoning, according to a staff report, is the sheer cost placed on City Hall when large numbers of individuals decide to run for public office.

Since 1974, City Hall has paid for all printing, translating, handling and mailing of candidate statements. That totaled $924 per candidate just for printing the pamphlets and translating them into Spanish during the last election cycle.

McKeown, against staff recommendation, motioned to not implement the change, and instead have staff study efficacy of candidates collecting small donations to a certain threshold. Holbrook also requested studying the alternative of simply collecting more signatures.

The motion passed five to one, with O'Connor against.

ashley@smdp.com





AWARDS
FROM PAGE 3

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• LAcarGUY: Owner and operator of 10 automotive dealerships throughout greater Los Angeles and the number one hybrid dealer in the world.

• Library Alehouse: Local craftsman brewery that offers 49 bottled and draught beers.

• Lotus East-West Medical Center: Holistic medical center that combines acupuncture, naturopathy, medical doctors and psychotherapy.

• Minarc: Award-winning design studio that specializes in modern, innovative, and sustainable architecture and design.

• Mt. Olive Lutheran Church: A local church that shares a commitment to worship, service, education, support and the arts.

• PS #1 Elementary School: Private school that honors diversity and socioeconomic differences to inspire learning.

• Schaffer's Genuine Foods: Fine event catering service that supports local, organic and sustainable farms and purveyors for healthy produce, poultry, meat and fish.

• The Yard: Neighborhood "gastropub" specializing in drinks and American tapas made from only fresh ingredients from the Santa Monica Farmers' Market.

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LEGAL NEWS

Bonds friend says he saw Barry and trainer with syringe

PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO A key government witness in the Barry Bonds perjury trial testified Wednesday that he saw the home run king's personal trainer leave Bonds' bedroom at spring training with a syringe in 2000.

Steve Hoskins said that when he saw Bonds and his personal trainer, Greg Anderson, coming out of the master bedroom he assumed Anderson had injected the star player with steroids. He testified that he saw the two disappear into that room "once or twice" at each spring training over three consecutive years beginning in 2000.

He also told the jury of eight women and four men that, a year earlier, Bonds had ordered him to research the benefits and side effects of a steroid after the slugger had undergone elbow surgery.

Hoskins was a childhood friend of Bonds' and traveled with him as an assistant until 2003. Hoskins testified that Bonds' significant weight gain concerned him so much that he secretly recorded a conversation with Anderson about steroids so he could convince Bonds' father, Bobby Bonds, that his son was using the drugs.

Bobby Bonds, a former baseball star himself, was suffering from cancer in 2003. Hoskins said he made the recording in front of Barry Bonds' locker in March of that year "to show Bobby actually what really was going on."

"That was the only way to prove it to him," Hoskins said.

Portions of that recording were played for the jury in federal court Wednesday afternoon.

At one point on the recording, Anderson is heard discussing what prosecutors allege are designer steroids he supplied to Bonds. Says Anderson: "But the whole thing is ... everything that I've been doing at this point, it's all undetectable."

Soon after the material was played for the jury, Bonds' attorney Allen Ruby went to work trying to erode Hoskins' credibility. Ruby accused Hoskins of planning to extort Bonds after the player severed business ties with Hoskins during a March 27, 2003, meeting. Bonds accused Hoskins of forging his name on memorabilia.

Under cross examination, Hoskins said he did sign Bonds' name on occasion — but only with Bonds' permission. Hoskins also said he secretly recorded conversations with Bonds' doctor and business lawyer. Hoskins said his recording of Dr. Arthur Ting was made in late 2003 or 2004, in hopes of dissuading Bonds from using steroids.

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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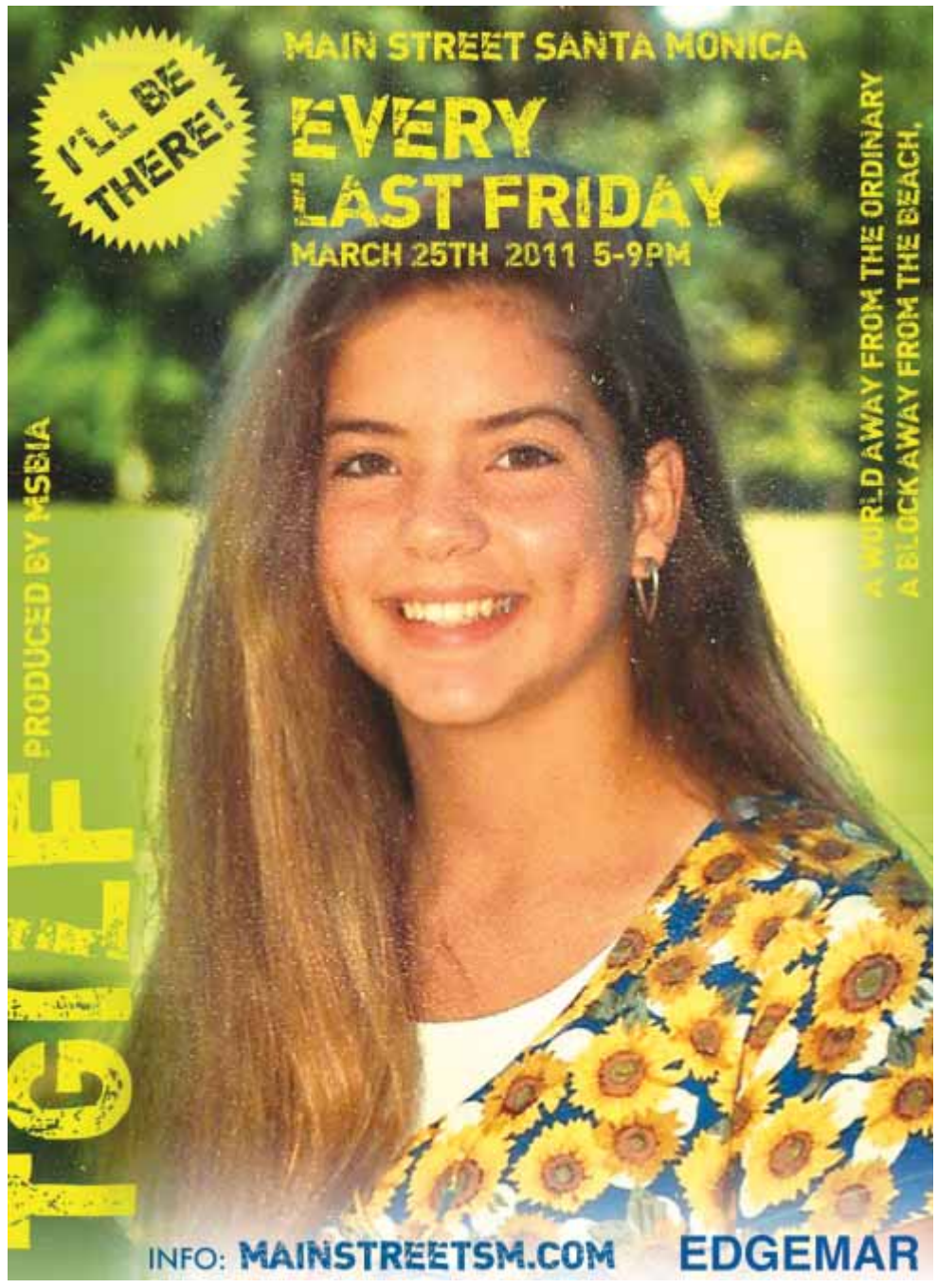
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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast

Southerly ground swell should bring chest to at times head high waves to south facing breaks. Westerly wind swell though is expected as well, chest to head high at west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Wind and ground swell are expected to increase, bringing most west facing breaks in surf running head high+.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **March 16, 2011**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 32
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 12 / 13

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation
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Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	A
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	B	A
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	D	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	D	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. 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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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card® is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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

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Guide to Starting a New Business

Forming a new business is a challenging and exciting process. Putting the time and effort into the formation process will help set the tone for a sustainable and prosperous business. Below is a brief list of some of the first steps you will need to take, from a legal perspective, in order to start off right.

CREATE YOUR BUSINESS PLAN
The first step in creating your new business is often to compile all of your ideas and goals into one comprehensive business plan. Your plan is a unique roadmap that will help guide you in forming and running your company during those first critical years. Sections that you may want to include are: the business purpose, marketing plan, an analysis of the competition, operating procedures, employment needs, insurance needs, financial data including a balance sheet, proforma income projection, and a three-year operating budget, and copies of all documents that you create during the start-up phase such as your licenses, articles of incorporation, and bylaws.

DEVELOP POLICIES
The beginning stage of any organization is a critical time to develop policies that the organization will utilize in its decision making process. Policies should include: conflict of interest, employment, director and officer compensation, ideological or social entrepreneurial values, organizational ownership and management.

INCORPORATE
The first step in this process is deciding upon a name for the business and performing a name availability search to ensure that the name is not already in use in the location where you will be operating. Secondly, the business will need to determine what type of entity to form – whether it's a corporation, LLC, PC, LLP, L3C, Benefit Corporation, sole proprietorship or partnership. Choosing the type of entity will depend upon the purpose of the organization and the tax and legal status of its owners and stakeholders. Once the entity type is chosen, the next step is to draft, ratify and file the appropriate documents with state and local agencies and draft either Bylaws or an Operating Agreement.

PROTECT YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
In a competitive world, it is important to assess whether it is necessary to protect your brand and products with trademarks, copyrights or patents. It is also important to ensure that your new business does not infringe upon other companies protected rights.

ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LAWS
Finally, your new business will need to ensure that it is in compliance with all applicable laws including: employment, wage and hour laws, licensing requirements, zoning regulations, tax reporting and withholding laws.

At the law Office of Becki Kammerling, we can assist your business with every step of this process. Contact us through the Legal Grind to schedule a consultation.

This column was prepared by Becki Kammerling, a Business attorney. She can be reached through the Legal Grind at 310-452-1860 or referral@legalgrind.com

Disclaimer: this article does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney client relationship.

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MONDAY	
4:00–5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
5:00–6:00pm	(2nd & 4th Monday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
12:00-2:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Tribute to director Peter Yates
Bullitt (PG) 1hr 53 min
The Friends of Eddie Coyle (R) 1hr 42min
7:30 p.m.

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
1:35pm, 4:10pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm

Unknown (PG-13) 1hr 49min
4:30pm, 9:45pm

Hall Pass (R) 1hr 38min
1:45pm, 7:10pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
12:30pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Kill the Irishman (R) 1hr 46min
2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

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

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:05pm

Paul (R) 1hr 40min
10:55am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:45pm, 9:45pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:05am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Mars Needs Moms in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15am, 1:35pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Red Riding Hood (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:50pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Sucker Punch (R) 2hrs 00min
12:01am

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

Desert Flower (Wustenblume) (R) 2hrs 00min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Barney's Version (NR) 2hrs 12min
7:20pm, 10:15pm

Cedar Rapids (R) 1hr 26min
5:20pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:30pm, 3:40pm, 5:50pm, 8:00pm, 10:10pm

Magic Flute at La Scala Opera House LIVE (NR)
12:00pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
12:30pm, 3:25pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:00am, 12:15pm, 1:30pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:45pm, 9:45pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
10:50am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

I Will Follow (NR) 1hr 28min
10:55am, 1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

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

You are the cat's meow, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Let your imagination soar once more. Someone will force you to land. This could happen without any flights of fancy, so don't worry about what is said. This person could be in a grumpy mood. Detach and keep repeating your mantra. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your ability to move through situations and not get bogged down makes you a tremendous asset in whatever walk of life someone encounters you. Display sensitivity when interjecting your insights. Tonight: Dinner and a chat for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Others want to take a more active role in a key event or happening. This position on their part might force you, in your opinion, to back off some. You are right; you will. Be gracious and do just that for the betterment of the whole. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Understand what is happening within your immediate circle, be it at the gym, at work or within your circle of friends. Take an opportunity to help others manifest more of what they desire. You feel pressured by whatever is going on. Relax and don't worry about it. Tonight: Do for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your spontaneity could surprise you as you land on turf you never expected or maybe never wanted to be. Knowing when to call a halt could save the day. You don't need to be serious — just a little self-discipline goes a long way. Tonight: Ever-playful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Certain situations make you feel pressured, especially if you are powerless. At the moment, worry less. Someone else will get a situation under control. You can count on that. Be careful with spending, as you could get caught up in the tide of the moment. Tonight: Head home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Keep the dialogue between you and a loved one or partner going. You might need to think in different terms and open up to more positive, optimistic thinking. Let your creativity emerge as well. Suddenly you understand exactly what your partner is saying. Tonight: Hang with friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ No one can blame you for over-indulging. The question remains in which realm of life this emotional extravagance will emerge. Being optimistic and happy about what you want before it becomes a reality could be troublesome. Don't spend the check you just got before it clears! Tonight: As late as you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your personality adds that zing to a situation. Don't hold back. A meeting could start out quite serious but end on an extremely friendly and playful note. A flirtation could become more if you are ready! Tonight: You are the cat's meow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Retreat into your mind if you so choose. Right now, verbalizing could cause a problem if you share everything you think. A family member's jubilant personality helps you relax and become more open. Tonight: Not with a lot of people.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Where your friends are is generally where you can be found. Meeting upon meeting could find you making friends with people you hardly know. What you say in gesture could easily be misunderstood. Remain sensitive to others. Tonight: Hanging out is fun.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You might feel as if you will never clear what is on your plate. Some of you might also be thinking about taxes. Worrying can only take up time — one project at a time. Relax, and you will get through what you must. Tonight: A must appearance.

Happy birthday

This year, your fiery spirit allows greater give-and-take. If you suppress your feelings, especially anger, you could get yourself into trouble. Learn an appropriate way to express these less-than-comfortable feelings. Your creativity allows you many, many options. If you are single, you could meet someone different. It is quite possible this person is a foreigner. If you are attached, the two of you might plan that special trip. SAGITTARIUS understands more than you realize.

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Heidi's home
5 Streetcars
10 Losing plan
11 Close tightly
12 Bailiwick
13 Sloppy
14 Silky monkey
16 Egg-laying mammal
20 Ill humor
23 Before, to Byron
24 Coin call
25 No longer a minor
27 Print measures
28 Medusa's hair
29 Mammal with a long snout
32 Nut collector
36 Closest star
39 Roof feature
40 Attack
41 Caustic substances
42 Portents
43 Spring period

2 Old Italian coin
3 Gaze
4 Ready to send
5 Principle
6 Tattered
7 Clay, later
8 Clay's cousin
9 Bond, for one
11 Teri's "Desperate Housewives" role
15 Flamenco cries
17 High point
18 Longing
19 Beholds
20 Citi Field's forerunner
21 Ivy League school
22 Survive
25 "Dedicated to the — Love"
26 Actor Colin
28 Publicity act
30 German steel city
31 Blue hues
33 Comic Martha
34 Tied up
35 For fear that
36 Even if, briefly
37 Deli meat
38 Cain's mother

DOWN

1 Cain's father

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

Yesterday's answer

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

3-24

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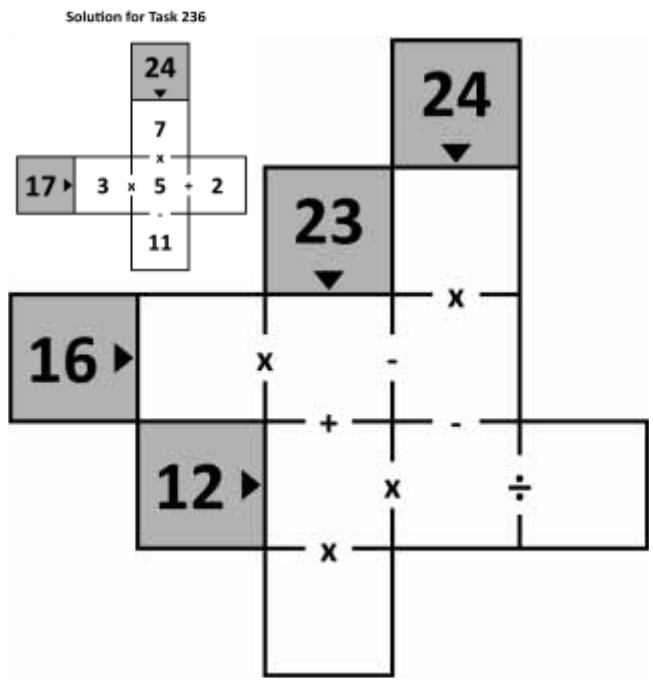
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand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

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 8, 12, 12

Solution for Task 236



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 14 35 50 53 Meganumber: 43 Jackpot: $304M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 27 28 32 45 Meganumber: 1 Jackpot: $15M

Fantasy 5: 1 7 18 29 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 2 5 4 EVENING: 1 0 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 01 Gold Rush 2nd: 08 Gorgeous George 3rd: 07 Eureka RACE TIME: 1:41.05

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Just How Bad Was Mom? In Brooklyn, N.Y., Judge Bernard Graham recently awarded custody of an estranged couple's teenage boy to the father even though the father was at the time homeless and living from night to night in shelters and storefronts. The mother, Jeannette Traylor, who earns $90,000 a year as a courthouse employee, was even denied visitation rights. (Judge Graham insisted the arrangement was in the boy's best interest, but Graham was later transferred to non-divorce cases.)

■ Apathy is a problem with many homeowners' associations, but at the annual meeting of the Hillbrook-Tall Oaks Civic Association of Annandale, Va., in June, 50 people sleepily voted for Ms. Beatha Lee as president, thus electing (in a legitimate, by-the-book process) a Wheaten terrier belonging to former association officer Mark Crawford. Crawford said that Beatha, as a manager, "delegates a lot."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1923 Greece becomes a republic.

1934 U.S. Congress passes the Tydings-McDuffie Act allowing the Philippines to become a self-governing commonwealth.

1936 The longest game in NHL history is played between Detroit and Montreal. Detroit scored at 16:30 of the sixth overtime and won the game 1-0.

1944 Ardeatine Massacre: German troops kill 335 Italian civilians in Rome.

1944 World War II: In an event later dramatized in the movie The Great Escape, 76 prisoners begin breaking out of Stalag Luft III.

1958 Entertainer Elvis Presley is conscripted into the U.S. Army.

1959 The Party of the African Federation is launched by Léopold Sédar Senghor and Modibo Keita.

WORD UP!

eschew
\ es-CHOO \ , transitive verb;
1.
To shun; to avoid (as something wrong or distasteful).

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Notices

Free depression treatment at UCLA for teens, adults, and seniors! (310)825-3351 www.DepressionLA.com

TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER
Case No. 04402627
FILE DATE: NOV 6 2010
COUNTY UTAH, STATE: UTAH
4TH DISTRICT STATE OF UTAH
Petitioner: DOROTHEA SIDLO, Address: 3033 OLD BRIDGE ROAD, PROVO, UTAH 84604
Petitioner's Date of Birth 08/18/1958
RESPONDENT (person Petitioner is protected from): Paul Sidlo
Other names used: Relationship to Petitioner: Husband (father of 3);
Address: 2460 Euclid Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405
Describe Respondent:
Sex: M, Race: White (not Hispanic), DOB: 07/04/1956, Ht: 6'0, Wt: 205, Eyes: Green, Hair: Blackish gray
The Court Orders the Respondent to obey all orders
Initiated on this form and to not abuse, or threaten to abuse, anyone protected by this order
Warning to the respondent:
This is a court order. N one except the court can change it. You can tell your side when you go to court, if you do not obey this order, you can be arrested, fined, and face other charges.
This order is valid in all U.S. states, and territories, the District of Columbia, and tribal lands. If you go to another U.S state, territory and tribal land to violate this order, a federal judge can send you to prison.
To Paul Sidlo
Go to the court hearing on the date listed below. If you do not go to the hearing, the judge can make orders without hearing your side
Date: 3/25/11, Time 10 am, Judicial Officer: Faulkner
Address 125 N 100 W Provo, Room: UNK
Notice of Hearing:
Date: March 25, 2011 Time: 8:30AM
The address of the court is 4th District Court –Provo Utah County, State of Utah
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.
Date: March 8, 2011
FAULKER
SUPERVISING JUDGE
3/10/11, 3/17/11, 3/23/11, 3/31/11

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smdp.com/**dba**
smdp.com/**search**

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110228813 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/10/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as TWENTIETH CENTURY OBJECT. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: MICHAEL CRISPEN 835 SOUNT OXFORD STREET LOS ANGELES. CA 90005. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:MICHAEL CRISPEN; OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/10/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 03/10/2011, 03/17/2011, 03/24/2011, 03/31/2011.

Miller Honda CULVER CITY

05 SATURN ION
468441A/136985
$8995

03 SATURN VUE
480162A/906080
$10995

08 HONDA CIVIC LX
900501/514166
$16995

07 HONDA ACCORD EX
900493/015006
$17950

10 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
PREVIOUS RENTAL
R900514/078385
$17995

08 HONDA ACCORD LX
480630A/045404
$17995

09 NISSAN ALTIMA
PREVIOUS RENTAL
R900509/481313
$17995

800-614-3020

Miller Toyota CULVER CITY

01 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
306175DTB/557361
$7998

03 HONDA CIVIC
306347A/599089
$8495

05 TOYOTA COROLLA CE
306297A/483652
$9499

06 SCION XB
306249A/035561
$9999

98 LEXUS ES300
306465A/028827
$10998

08 FORD FOCUS
306463A/142742
$11998

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New Listing! North of Montana!



336 7th Street
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$1,299,000
Open Sunday
March 27th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Rare Find in Ocean Park!



2226 6th Street # A
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath + Loft
$1,199,000
Open Sunday
March 27th
2:00 pm- 5:00 pm

Contemporary Light & Bright!



401 California Ave. # 7
3 Bed, 2.75 Bath
$1,279,000
Easy to Show!
Call for Private Showing

Perfect Home to Expand in Sunset Park!



2310 31st Street
2 Bed, 1 Bath
$795,000
Open Sunday
March 27th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Vintage Vibe w/ Modern Updates!



948 16th Street # A
2 Bed, 1.5 Bath
$ 699,000
Open Sunday
March 27th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Price Reduced to $845,000! Gorgeous Townhome!



1520 16th Street #101
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath + Loft
$845,000
Open Sunday
March 27th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from ALL Agents from ALL Companies Listed for Sale As of Mid March 2011

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,125,000	$2,999,000
North of Montana	$2,975,000	$1,399,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,995,000	$819,475
South of Wilshire	$749,000	$499,000
Sunset Park	$984,000	$622,500
Ocean Park	$1,274,500	$939,000
Statistics Updated Every Monday		

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FRANKLIN Elementary School

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Open Sunday!



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4 Bed, 3 Bath
$1,595,000
Open Sunday
March 27th 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Ocean & Park Views!



515 Ocean #505 South
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$1,399,000
Ocean Park Plaza
Please Call for Private Showing

Ocean & Park Views! Pool, Spa, Gym, Valet, & Much More!



515 Ocean #507 South
3 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$1,629,000
Ocean Park Plaza
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Four New Construction TownHomes!



1814 12th Street

Unit 1	$859,000
Unit 2	$839,000
Unit 3	$839,000
Unit 4	$799,000

All Units have 3 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths

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March 26th & 27th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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