

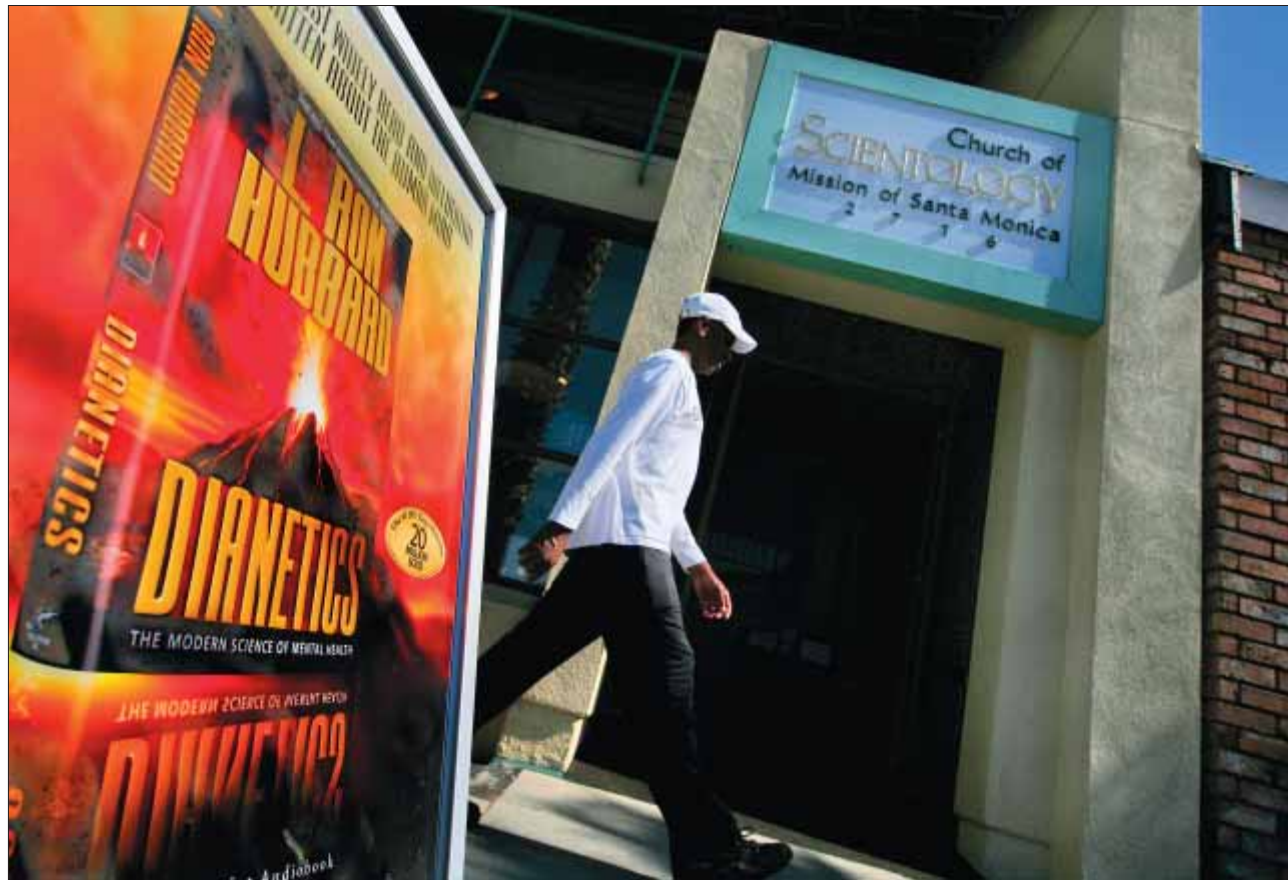


SURFS (FEES) UP
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE GENERATOR ISSUE



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

WEB WAR: Darren Norman, a Los Angeles resident, walks past the Santa Monica Center for the Church of Scientology at 2716 Wilshire Blvd. Monday afternoon. "I have heard a lot about Scientology, most of it from the media or from he-said she-said sources," said Norman, when asked about the organization, which is inviting people to come and watch videos about the church in the wake of negative publicity.

Scientology's PR campaign

Combatting critics, church creates new TV channel online

BY JON HABER

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN In the midst of recent protests surrounding the Church of Scientology's decision to force YouTube to remove a video of Tom Cruise praising the controversial religion, the Santa Monica Scientology center is inviting everyone to drop in and watch the church's new video channel.

The video channel, which scientologists say allows people to capture the true essence of the church's philosophy, consists of 82 different videos, adding up to almost three hours of content. It was launched earlier this month on the group's official Web

site, www.scientology.com.

"There's a lot of misinformation out there," said Vicky Walker, scientologist at the Santa Monica Mission. "We want to give people an opportunity to get information directly from the church on the Internet."

According to the church's Web site, "Scientology is about the individual man or woman. Its goal is to bring an individual to a sufficient understanding of himself and his life and free him to improve conditions in the way that he sees fit."

The videos further explain these beliefs and define the concepts of "thetan" and "the eight dynamics." Scientologists feel these new videos can offer a philosophical overview to people who want to know more.

The Santa Monica Mission is offering a viewing of the video channel every day from 1 p.m. — 6 p.m.

Scientologist Gene Dell said the church made the videos available on

**WE WANT
TO GIVE
PEOPLE AN OPPORTU-
NITY TO GET INFOR-
MATION DIRECTLY
FROM THE CHURCH
ON THE INTERNET."**

Vicky Walker

Santa Monica scientologist

its official Web site to save people the trouble of going through search engines.

"It makes it easy. It's just something

SEE SCIENTOLOGY PAGE 9

Time to make a decision

FAA, City Council to discuss safety enhancements, jet ban

MELODY HANATANI

DAILY PRESS STAFF WRITER

CITY HALL The long-standing safety issues involving the fastest jets at the Santa Monica Airport will take center stage tonight as the City Council and federal aviation officials attempt a solution to quell fears about a possible runway overshoot.

Kirk Shaffer, the associate administrator for airports, and city officials are expected to meet during the council meeting over the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) proposal to install a security buffer system at the west end of the runway. The proposal was submitted on March 7, just days before the council was scheduled to ratify an ordinance banning the fastest jets from the airport, a decision that could be legally contested by the FAA.

The council is again expected to take up the ordinance tonight.

The FAA is proposing to install an Emergency Material Arresting System (EMAS) — a series of concrete blocks that give way under the weight of an aircraft, slowing it down in case it overshoots the runway — that could handle a plane traveling at 70 knots. The FAA's offer adds onto a previous proposal to install an EMAS that could accommodate a plane traveling up to 40 knots, a suggestion that city officials said was not sufficient.

The 70-knot buffer would be designed to stop roughly 97 percent of the operations at the airport, including 90 percent of C and D classified jets, which are the categories of aircraft that would be banned under the ordinance. The enhanced safety measure would consume more runway than the 40-knot EMAS, which the FAA previously opposed.

City Manager Lamont Ewell responded to the FAA's letter on March 12, expressing concerns about the absence of an EMAS at the east end.

Ewell adds that while the FAA indicates about 97 percent of the airport's operations occur on the west end, City Hall data places that figure between 94 and 97 percent, leaving a 3 to 6 percent margin of activity on the east side.

SEE FAA PAGE 9

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Rolling with Ray

Westside, 1 p.m.

Novelist Raymond Chandler gravitated to sin and debauchery, so Santa Monica in the 1930s was a frequent stop for Philip Marlowe, one of his most popular characters. From shady doctors to second wives with pasts to crooked cops with a loathing for a mouthy private eye, this tour has it all. Chandler's canonization of sin, wealth and sunshine on L.A.'s Westside fed the abiding myths of the American hard-boiled genre and play into the popular conception of the region. For information, call (323) 223-2767.

Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. — 11 a.m.

The Ocean Park Branch Library brings back their music and story program for toddlers aged 24 — 36 months. Registration and an accompanying adult are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call (310) 392-3804.

Getting wild on the Westside

Noon — 5 p.m.

For the first time, the true crime archeologists of the 1947project have set their sights on points west of Robertson Boulevard, and the results are truly astonishing. In this new tour spotlighting some of the weirdest, most horrific and downright unbelievable crimes of historic West Los Angeles. Seats are \$55 a person. For more information, call (323) 223-2767.

Santa Monica on two feet

1436 Second St., 10 a.m.

The Santa Monica Conservancy leads a two-hour tour that explores more than 130 years of Santa Monica history from its wild west frontier beginnings to the metropolis of today. Starting from the 1875 Rapp Saloon, the route includes many landmarks and concludes at the 2003 NRDC building. For information, call (310) 496-3146.

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

12 Steps for Everybody

16370 Bollinger Dr., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Every Wednesday, 12 Steps for Everybody holds a 12-Step writing meeting for all 12 Step Programs or anyone with a habitual problem or illness. Every third Saturday, 12 Steps for Everybody has 3-hour writing workshop. For more information, call (310) 454-5138.

Rotary Lunch Time

12 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the diverse ethnic makeup of members. Those interested in attending the club's regular lunch should call (310) 917-3313.

Lose Weight for Good

Saint John's Health Center, 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Saint John's Health Center presents "Lose Weight For Good," a comprehensive program for healthy weight management. It's a sound approach to lasting lifestyle solutions. Instructed by a dietitian, the 13-week series costs \$300. To register, call (310) 829-8453.

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



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COMMUNITY BRIEF

Downtown

And the nominees for Outstanding Woman are ...

The Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women is now accepting nominations for its 2008 Outstanding Woman Leader Award, an annual award presented by the commission to women who have demonstrated exceptional personal and/or professional dedication to improving the lives of females in Santa Monica.

"The Commission is honored and excited to once again celebrate the important and often unrecognized work women are doing to serve the community and benefit the lives of other women and girls," said Andrea Lipton, chair of the commission.

Past award recipients have included Mimi Lind, founder of the Safe Families Domestic Violence Intervention Program at Venice Family Clinic and former director of the Westside Domestic Violence Network; Susan McCarthy, former city manager for Santa Monica; Toni Reinis, executive director of New Directions, a center providing services to homeless veterans; Kelly Snyder, Santa Monica High School student leader and founder of Schools for Schools; and Gloria Curiel, Guadalupe Castro, Maria Leon-Vazquez and Rita Morales, founders of the Latina Youth Conference.

Nominees must meet the following criteria to be considered for the award:

- The candidate has gone above and beyond in her effort to provide outstanding service to the women and girls of Santa Monica.
- She has demonstrated commitment to women's issues.
- She has made a positive, lasting impact on the community.
- She has done work directly benefiting the women and girls of Santa Monica.

Women of all ages are eligible. Applications are available at www.smgov.net. Nominations must be received by May 31, 2008. Winners will be honored in late summer.

The commission works to enhance the status of women in the community through the investigation of, advocacy for and policy development regarding issues relevant to women and girls, and by creating leadership and career advancement opportunities for females.

DAILY PRESS

Surfing camp fee proposed

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

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Much like regular folks, City Hall has to make money to spend money.

Sandwiched in a lengthy City Council agenda in which officials will be asked to spend roughly \$3.7 million tonight is an item that could bring in nearly \$40,000 in

the next fiscal year.

Aside from expenditures that include a new contract for para-transit services and a new crime-mapping software, the council could adopt a revenue-maker in a fee schedule for surfing instruction and camps on Santa Monica State Beach.

The council opted for more regulation of commercial surfing instruction and youth camp at the beach in January, approving a measure that would require permit holders to pay a fee and/or percentage of gross receipts to City Hall, according to a staff report. The staff with the Community and Cultural Services Department is seeking a permit fee of \$150, an amount based on staff time to evaluate and process applications.

"The proposed fee is similar to the fee

charged by Los Angeles County for surfing instruction permits throughout the rest of LA County," the staff report states.

The new fee structure is expected to bring in roughly \$39,700 for the 2008-09 fiscal year, approximately only one-third of which will be collected in the current fiscal year because of its late adoption.

A DAY FOR THE POLICE

The council will be asked to approve a series of police department-related items, ranging from adjusting the equity level in the contract for the Santa Monica Police Officers Association, to purchasing a new crime mapping supplement to an existing

SEE CONSENT PAGE 10



SAY CHEESE

Danny Leclair, owner of Studio DNA hair salon in Santa Monica, watches his two 6-week-old Chihuahua puppies Cagney and Lacy take photos with the Easter bunny outside the Three Dog Bakery located on Saturday. Photos cost \$15, with the proceeds going to Perfect Pet Rescue.

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

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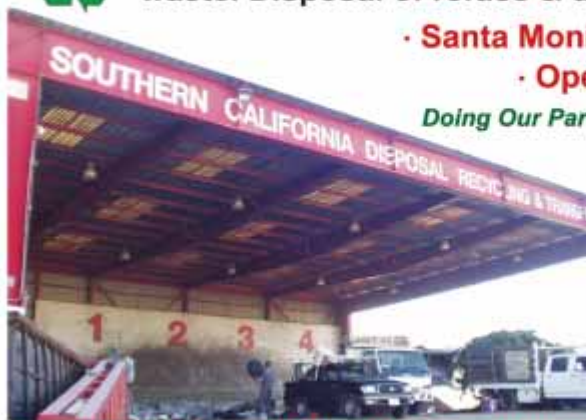


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Not so fun with Dick and Jane

Editor:

To the couple who stole our bikes off our truck St. Patrick's Day. I thought maybe you would want to know us better. My wife is a special needs early childhood teacher. I work construction. It took several weeks of work to pay for those bikes that you stole in minutes.

We were able to watch you on the security camera tapes; obviously well dressed and obviously experienced at stealing. We want you to know that you did not totally ruin our vacation, but you put an awful damper on it. We are able (at most) to take one trip a year. We live where we have winter weather from October until June so it is nice to go to sunny California and thaw out. We bring our bikes and ride, as it is our favorite thing to do there. You stole our bikes just as we got there. We did not get a chance to ride even once on the beach path.

Now, I don't wish you harm but I hope some day (sooner than later) you have a Karmic moment and realize the pain your actions have caused others. You have ruined a vacation, you have caused financial harm, and you created sadness. We live a life of generosity. We give of ourselves in many ways. It is hard to understand why somebody like you came into our life. We have referred to you as the not so fun with Dick and Jane couple.

To the Mayor and Community: This was a return trip to Santa Monica for us. We have been coming to California for many years. This year we made a special trip to the [Fort] Rosecrans [National] Cemetery to pay tribute to a nephew we lost in the current war, then we drove up to Santa Monica for a few days of R and R. It was ruined by an older (perhaps mid 30's) well-dressed white couple who stole our bikes. We won't come back to Santa Monica. That experience has left us with a bad feeling for your community. We will not return.

To the not so fun Dick and Jane – please stop, don't ruin more people's vacations/lives by your selfish and greedy actions taking what is not yours and causing harm to others.

Rick Davis

Glenwood Springs, Colo.



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Spring-ing into a new line of work

SPRING IS HERE AND A YOUNG MAN'S fancy turns to quitting his job and being his own boss. The same goes for the young ladies, each one searching for more free time and independence.

This time of year breeds an urgency in one to get out of the office, to begin to play in the sand, to find a summer lover and enjoy the warm days ahead with a sandwich from Bay Cities while watching the tides roll in.

The flowering of spring, the turning of the season motivates most of us to renew those January resolutions to lose weight, clean out the storage unit that we've been paying on for a year and haven't visited once since we put that junk in there, and to take a look at our life and re-evaluate where we are professionally.

With this thought of renewal and fresh starts, comes the desire to clean up our personal lives. For some of us that means finally dumping that loser boyfriend, throwing in the towel on the marriage that was dead 2 years ago, or quitting that go nowhere job.

Some people choose to review their professional lives and see if there is room for improvement. This is the time when many are looking at their work and wanting to start a new business to have more time for oneself.

The false impression that being one's own boss is a life of fishing and playing with the kids is singularly the most damaging lie that Madison Avenue has ever sold to the American public.

I know that the multi-level marketing companies like Amway and Avon paint the scenario to the frustrated worker that they can work from home and make \$10,000 a month working part time. I've seen the franchisors pitches that buying a franchise from "Billy Joe's Carpet Cleaners" is a "sure-fire" way to retire in 5 years.

The companies are relying on an age old trick of comparing apples to staplers. The pitch starts out like this, "Wouldn't it be great to retire in 10 years? Can you imagine how rich you'd be if you bought one of the first McDonald's franchises?" That's the bait. Dreams of riches and relaxation, as your business operates making you money. The hook is the McDonald's franchise connection.

For most of those who invested in the beginning, they made millions. They put in large sums of money up front, worked twice as long and hard as they ever did before, and somewhere down the line they were able to retire and relax.

But that's the problem that a frustrated, spring fever sufferer, won't see. They won't see the 80 hour work weeks, the waking up in the middle of the night wondering how they are going to make payroll tomorrow.

That's the downside of being your own

boss. The good side, as I was reminded of while speaking with my law partner, is that being your own boss gets in your blood and you find it impossible to work for others. We've been in practice for almost 10 years now. Ten years of paying the rent, the phone bill, the postage bills It's years of rubber chicken dinners and getting your hopes up that this next client will be the one that pays off big time.

Being your own boss is incredibly reward-

BEING YOUR OWN BOSS IS INCREDIBLY REWARDING, I LOVE THE FLEXIBILITY I HAVE TO TAKE OFF FOR A WEEKEND AND GO SNOW SKIING OR JET SKIING, OR SCUBA DIVING WHENEVER I WANT.

ing, I love the flexibility I have to take off for a weekend and go snow skiing or jet skiing, or scuba diving whenever I want. But it also comes with a price. Sleepless nights, constant worry about deadlines and payrolls, and the ever present search for new clients, are the companions of the entrepreneur.

I understand and relate to the desire to be my own boss. I still have the last note my last boss wrote me framed in my office. My assistant and I had just made the company an extra \$10 million, so we went out to celebrate, and for her one year anniversary with the company. The note reads, "David, What did you and C*** have for lunch that cost \$151.25 for 2 people? This is a bit excessive and please use better judgment next time. If you do have any questions about what you should spend please ask. For a 1-year anniversary, lunch for 2 you should of [sic] spent no more than \$60."

My resignation was on her desk the next week.

It's hard to be your own boss, and as someone who has other people relying on him so they can make their mortgage payments, pay their baby-sitter, and put food on the table, it never gets easy, but you do avoid demeaning notes from your boss.

DAVID PISARRA is a divorce and child custody lawyer in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Bill Bauer, David Pizarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Seth Barnes, Taylor van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Ryan Hyatt, Steve Breen, Mark Marchillo, Ken Tarr, Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp, Mariel Howsepian and Cynthia Citron

NEWS INTERNS

Chiara Canzi
news@smdp.com

Jon Haber

news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS

Geoffrey Dunn
news@smdp.com

Morgan Genser

news@smdp.com

Alexis Hawkins

news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Julie Martinez
juliem@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Tessa Vergara
tessav@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Oliver Kupper
production@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER

Annie Kotok
anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
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410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Florida could be a case of deja vu

IMAGINE, IN 2008, WITH ALL OF THE media safeguards and the sophisticated voting technology, the Democratic nomination for president may come down to arcane paper ballots to make the selection ... in guess which state — yes, Florida, again. Yogi Berra was right, it may be deja vu all over again, in the Sunshine State, eight years later from the last election fiasco, which the country still has not recovered from. Fresh from her three primary wins in Rhode Island, Texas, and Ohio, a reinvigorated Senator Hillary Clinton is pushing for the delegates that Florida Democrats recently voted for her to be seated at the national convention and have their votes count, thus perhaps giving her the margin needed to win the Democratic nomination. She has gained a very important ally in seeking to allow her delegates to be counted at the national convention — Florida Governor Charlie Crist. Some tactical and neutral observers suggest that Crist's strange involvement in the Democratic selection process is that Clinton's nomination would aid his friend and potential running mate Sen. John McCain because most polls show that Clinton would be easier for McCain to beat in the general election, than the delegate leading Sen. Barack Obama.

If Clinton is successful in her venture, will it be the first time that a candidate in a national race has pulled victory out of the jaws of defeat in terms of delegate vote count to earn their party's nomination? No, there is precedent. For only the most senior of baby boomers, there is memory of the 1952 Republican Convention when General Dwight Eisenhower pulled off a similar coup against Ohio Sen. Robert A. Taft, who was known and beloved by party regulars as "Mr. Republican," but was seen as dull and unelectable by others in the party. Eisenhower, the conqueror of Germany and supreme commander of NATO, returned to the United States from Europe with the backing of New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Massachusetts Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge and expected to sweep the primaries. Yet many of the party's old guard loved and revered Taft. In Texas, and several other southern states, the local parties awarded the delegates to Taft despite the fact that Eisenhower had won the pop-

ular vote in a way the party did not consider legitimate. At the Chicago convention, things looked bleak for Eisenhower unless he could change the rules and have the delegates seated. Lodge and Dewey, with help from California's Sen. Richard M. Nixon, used the terms "Fair Play" and "Thou Shall Not Steal," and the argument that Taft could not win (something we hear the Clintons saying about Obama's chances against McCain) and with assistance from some favorite son candidates overturned the rules, thus nominating Eisenhower.

So, the feisty and determined Clinton machine charges forward, "taking no prisoners" and remembering the Eisenhower precedent. Perhaps her relentless campaign tactics are intended to be a refutation of her presidency, if she did in fact get that 3 a.m. call in the White House.

If there is re-vote, Floridians are well aware that there are no surplus state funds available for such a \$20 million election. As Gov. Crist said, the state has already paid for one election that had a record turn out and Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean, while saying a re-vote might be a good idea, the DNC can't afford to pay for the re-vote. So if most of the powers that be — Sen. Clinton, Republican Gov. Crist (and we can assume Sen. McCain), and Sen. Obama, if only by his silence — want the Florida delegates to be able to vote, what are the available options? Most observers do favor a re-vote of some kind. Since no one is offering up the required money, probably the only realistic option is a mail, paper vote. Talk about Florida again cornering the national and international headlines for another critical presidential election. One has to wonder why the Sunshine State can't seem to get this thing called voting, right?

One observer recently said why have an election every four years? Why not make it easy, less trouble and simply let Florida decide the election? It will be the same result anyway, with Florida being the final decision maker in the election.

BOB MCKNIGHT is a former state senator and state representative from Florida, and the author of "The Golden Years." More information can be obtained at www.bobmcknight.com.

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The Q-Line

Adding numbers

A pair of homicides last week has the usually safe city on edge. While murders don't happen very often in this city by the sea, the recent murders raises more than a few poignant issues regarding safety.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Are you going to do anything different to protect your self in light of the recent pair of murders?

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



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SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

A summer camp survival guide for kids

BY IRENE MANAHAN
Special to the Daily Press

Flashlight. Check!
Sleeping bag. Check!
Vaseline. Um ...

When Joey Drozd was a kid, he attended a lively and memorable Polish summer camp. The typical standbys like flashlights and sleeping bags weren't the only things on his list of what to pack for the week-long overnight camp.

"We'd bring Vaseline and then rub it all over the door knobs so that counselors and other kids couldn't get into our cabin," Drozd said with a laugh.

Ah yes, and let the shenanigans begin! For those like Drozd, now 21, it's prank or be pranked at summer camp.

For other campers, like Wellington Phillips, the camp checklist was limited to bug repellent, shower shoes, jackets and socks.

Camping tools ought to be necessities when getting ready to head off into the wilderness, but every camper has those little extras also in mind.

"Watch out for bullies and the occasional trouble-starters who like to do pranks," warns Phillips. "I've seen kids get sent home."

Phillips, now 25, is an overnight camping vet, attending six summers as a kid with his church and boys and girls club. He sometimes even went to two camps a summer.

"I would go to one, like, say Sunday to

Friday, then to another one the next Sunday, two days later," Phillips said.

For him, it's expert against amateur.

Whether you consider yourself a camp trickster or just someone looking to have a good time, you'll need to know some things to survive summer camp.

When picking a summer camp, first, make sure it's one you really want to go to. There are many choices out there: Space camp, sports camp, theatre camp ... the list goes on and on.

Do the research and choose one that both you and your parents think is cool.

"We offer quite a few camps," said Tatiana Morrison, staff assistant for the City of Santa Monica's Community Programs. "This summer, we will be offering surf, chess, dance, art — it's just across the board! We never can really tell which will be the most popular."

The City's Department of Community Programs provides for the youth day camps. The summer session can last from six to 10 weeks, depending on the variety of camp. The activities promote mental and physical fitness.

"We hate to use the word 'camp,'" said Cammy Truong, director of education for the Santa Monica Playhouse, "because it has a different connotation."

The Santa Monica Playhouse is 31-year-old program that offers month-long performance art-oriented workshops for kids from 4- to 17-years-old.

"It's more of a balance. We don't want the kids to feel like they're just going back to school," Truong said. "The word 'camp' gives the idea 'drop off and pick up,' where parents send them off with a roll of toilet paper. Here, we want the parents to be part of the process, encourage lines of communication."

Morrison reminds kids and parents to register very early.

"There are many popular camps and they should become aware of what's available and when to register," she said. "Get on the ball! It's heartbreaking for us to turn kids away if the camps are full, but it's their safety, first and foremost."

Have your parents contact the camp ahead of time to see what you're allowed to bring and not allowed to bring (like electronics or food).

"With the majority of our classes, materials are already provided, like surfboards, music, arts and crafts. But it really depends on the camp," said Morrison. For example, at the city's surf camps Morrison suggests snacks, water and adequate sunscreen.

"The first thing I would do is ask the specific camp about what the kids can and can't bring," said Karen Thurm Safran, vice president of Marketing for iD Tech. "A lot of kids like to bring electronics, like cell phones or Game Boys. So it's good to find out what's allowed and what isn't. That way, kids won't get off to a negative start right in the beginning."

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Internal Drive, or iD Tech Camps, is the nation's largest, most recommended summer computer camp, offering courses to learn how to build robots, make 2D and 3D video games, or make Web sites or movies in just a week.

At iD Tech, camps provide students with high-end industry standard products, so Thurm Safran suggests other, personal things for them to take.

"Kids should bring cell phones so that they could communicate with parents, especially in the case of homesickness," Safran said. "Even if they don't end up using them, it's important to feel connected. They can call out if they need to."

Depending on the rules of the camp, e-mail is also very important. Kids may not know their parents' e-mail addresses. So Safran suggests parents write down on paper the cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses of relatives and close friends.

However, at the UCLA Recreation Center, electronic equipment is discouraged.

"Those are solitary activities," said Tracie Lockwood, director of youth for Recreational and Instructional Programs for the UCLA Recreation Center. "We promote adventure and social programs. We encourage interaction and a sense of community between the



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SUMMERFUN

kids and discourage individual play.”

The UCLA campus has two different youth camps. The athletic department provides instruction-based camps for specific sports that suit their interests, for example, lacrosse. The recreation center houses all the general day camps — instruction noncompetitive, science, theatre — for kids ages 4 to 18.

Some camps provide the materials you'll need, but these are some necessities that camp supervisors and campers alike agreed upon.

THINGS TO BRING:

1) Sunblock

We all know how it feels to get a sunburn. Ouch!

“On cloudy days, it's almost easier to get a sunburn” because we often forget that the shine breaks through the clouds, said Safran.

2) Layers of comfortable clothes

Even if it's warm out, you never know when it could get cold.

“Even in California, it can get chilly,” Safran said. “Even if it's just a day camp, I encourage parents to pack layers of clothes. Check the weather. It might get cold.”

It's better to have more than not enough.

3) Group activity

“Bring a game of some sort, like a deck of cards so they could be involved in a group activity,” suggests Safran. “It can make it easier for them to make friends and sometimes produce an almost instant bonding with other kids and inspectors. Food, if it's allowed, pretty much things that they can share.”

4) Snacks

“There were bag checks for food because one year some idiot brought a mini feast and

a bear ravaged our tent,” recalled Phillips.

6) Medicine (if you need it)

Have a good attitude and knock yourself out. You may not realize it while you're there, but some of your best memories (and even friends) will be made at camp. While some necessities may have changed, one piece remains — bringing along a good attitude and interest in meeting new people and doing new things.

“Bring a good attitude and a willingness to be a part of a community. Kids should bring a willingness to try new things and be ready to be pushed out of their normal experiences and normal comfort level,” said UCLA's Lockwood. “We encourage them to interact with kids of different social backgrounds; kids in different peer groups that they don't regularly meet with.

“We really don't require that they bring any physical items. It's really just that they bring a positive and cooperative attitude ... and, of course, a willingness to try something new.”

Being open to doing new things is key, according to veteran camper Phillips.

“I never went hiking or canoeing except for camp and it was fun, he said. “I still talk with my camp buddies 10 years later ... even some of the ladies still call every now and then.

“For me, camp was about meeting new friends and girls, even though I was too shy to do anything but say ‘hi’” said Phillips. “I learned a lot about being a team player and about caring for one another and looking out for people.”

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City officials expected to meet with FAA tonight

FROM FAA PAGE 1

"It remains the city's position that maximizing the safety for operators of aircraft, passengers and for residents living adjacent to the airport by applying FAA standards for runway safety areas is vital to the long-term interests of the airport," Ewell states in the letter.

Residents living in the Sunset Park neighborhood, where the airport is located, have expressed concerns about safety risks associated with jet activity and the lack of precautionary measures on the runway, fueling fears about a plane one day overshooting the airstrip and landing on homes.

There have been at least two runway accidents in the past seven years at the airport, most recently in January when a single-engine model kit airplane rolled off the west end of the runway and landed on a service road. There were no reported injuries. In 2001, a Cessna crashed into the service road's guardrail after attempting to take off,

killing all occupants on board.

The FAA's offer letter also includes a proposition to reduce noise and pollution by changing the alignment of aircraft on Runway 21 where the majority of flights take off, adjusting the line of planes so the emissions go away from the neighborhoods. The FAA is also offering adding information about the noise abatement procedures and lack of runway safety areas through electronic notifications sent to pilots who file their flight plans into or out of Santa Monica.

The agency is also testing a new departure procedure where pilots taking off from Santa Monica would not need clearance from LAX. Aviation officials say they expect the result to be less aircraft idling on the ground.

news@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com



DIVING IN

Sara Ritz of the Santa Monica College women's diving team looks back as she completes a back flip during one of her dives at the Santa Monica Swim Center last Friday as SMC hosted Ventura and Los Angeles Valley College in a western conference swimming and diving meet.

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

Scientology fights back

FROM SCIENTOLOGY PAGE 1

people are really interested in," Dell said. "We've had these videos in different formats for a long time. This just puts them all together."

The video launch comes at a time when the Church of Scientology is coming under fire by critics who claim the church exploits its members and suppresses free speech.

According to www.news.com, Anonymous, a group of Internet users who post on message boards under unidentified names, declared war against Scientology in January after the church tried to remove clips of Cruise speaking about the philosophy. Some have referred to Scientology as a cult.

Despite the attacks, Dell said the video launch was not a response to Anonymous' or others' criticisms.

"(Anonymous) has had very little effect on our productivity, and the important thing we're doing with Anonymous is making sure they don't disrupt our daily and weekly religious activity," Dell said. "I haven't been told [the video launch] was put up into response with that."

Dell tried to look at the attacks as a positive. "All of this has shown us one thing," she said. "People are very interested in what we are doing."

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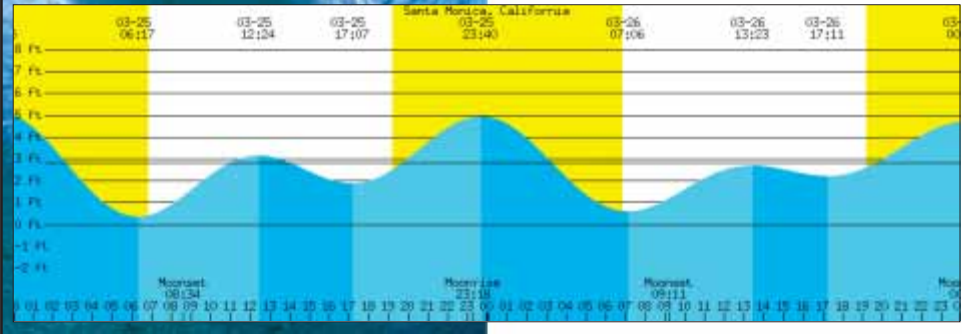


SURF CONDITIONS
WATER TEMP: 54-58°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)
Today should get a little bit of action from the Gulf, helping west facing breaks with some waist to chest high peaky waves. South facing spots look much smaller. Winds look rather calm for the AM. Tide runs rather low at dawn, building to a modest high around lunchtime.

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NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

March 18, 2008

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 8

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 19

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 24

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

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken



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

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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.

Seniors, disabled get new transport

FROM CONSENT PAGE 3

software application.

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) is seeking a contract with The Omega Group to provide and maintain the CrimeView Web and CrimeView Community software applications, a five-year agreement that would cost up to \$120,130.

The CrimeView mapping system, which the Crime Analysis Unit has used since 2001, helps authorities identify crime trends in the city.

“The CrimeView Web will allow for all police department staff to perform their own queries, thereby permitting Crime Analysis staff to focus more on the analysis of data versus producing maps and reports for others,” the staff report states.

The SMPD could also get some new equipment if the council decides to appropriate approximately \$194,000 in State Citizens’ Option for Public Safety (COPS) funding to purchase digital records, license plate readers and a new recording system for the Crisis Negotiation Team.

COPS grants are used for expenditures that are otherwise not included in the general fund budget process.

The council will also be asked to give the police officers union a 1.74 percent equity adjustment in its contract, resulting in an additional \$276,000 cost to City Hall during the current fiscal year. This possible action will also include an increase to City Hall’s contribution to medical insurance premiums, resulting in an approximately \$169,000 increase for the next budget year.

IMPROVING WATER RUNOFF ON BICKNELL

A one-block stretch of Bicknell Avenue, between Ocean Avenue and Neilson Way, could serve as a demo for a new concept called “green streets,” a sustainable storm water strategy. The mainly grant-funded demonstration includes improving water quality by installing landscape infiltration strips, reducing the quantity and improving the quality of storm water runoff, according to the staff report.

The council will be asked to modify a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, adding a \$106,000 item to pay the firm for design services.

Bicknell is an ideal location for the project because of its width — 56 feet — allowing enough room to reduce the size of the street by adding 6-foot-wide infiltration strips without affecting pedestrians and traffic, the staff report states.

“By constructing the improvements at this location, stormwater runoff is collected and water quality is improved from a larger area of the city beyond the one block of Bicknell Avenue,” according to staff.

CREOSOTE FOUND AT ANNENBERG

Construction crews working at the Annenberg Community Beach Club, formerly the Marion Davies Estate, recently discovered hazardous creosote-containing materials during excavation. The council could add \$495,000 to a contract with Midwest Environmental Club for abatement services.

The council last month approved a separate modification to the same contract to remove asbestos discovered at the site.

Creosote, which can be harmful in high doses and can cause burning in the mouth when mixed in with water, was discovered

during rehabilitation of the east and north sides of the property at 415 Pacific Coast Highway.

TRANSPORTING DISABLED SENIOR CITIZENS

Disabled senior citizens hitching rides with the Santa Monica Dial-A-Ride program could soon see a new face in their driver.

The council will be asked to award an estimated \$1.8 million three-year contract to MV Transportation to provide the curbside paratransit service, ending its current relationship with Transportation Concepts. The two companies submitted proposals to offer the Dial-A-Ride service but MV Transportation was chosen because of cost, and wages and benefits afforded to its employees. Transportation Concepts, which has worked with City Hall since 2000 and has provided good service, was proposing an approximately \$2 million contract, according to staff.

The program is available to any resident who is at least 60 years of age or who is disabled and at least 18 years old. The fare is 50 cents each way and personal attendants have a reduced fare of 25 cents.

NEW HOMELESS INFORMATION SYSTEM

In line with its recently-approved action plan to address homeless in the city, staff will be asking the council to allow the purchase of a new Homeless Information Management System software for approximately \$120,770.

If approved, the software license will be purchased from Bowman Systems, which will offer data hosting for one year with two additional one-year options of up to \$44,760 each.

Seven homeless agencies that receive funding through the Community Development grants program currently use the existing HMIS program, according to staff.

The new software will enable these agencies to conduct unduplicated counts of individuals that receive their services and allow them to interact with other local and regional data systems.

MORE MECHANICS NEEDED

The Fleet Management Division is expected to ask the council to hire temporary mechanics to maintain vehicles as seven full-time and as-needed positions become filled in the next few weeks. The estimated \$131,000 request will keep the division staffed with mechanics while the new employees are hired.

Five of the positions have already been filled and employees will be put to work in the next few weeks while the two as-needed mechanics will be hired in the next four weeks, according to the staff report.

The cost will be offset by savings from the vacant positions.

FUNDING THE GENERAL PLAN

The update of the Land Use and Circulation Element, the general plan that will dictate development and transportation in the city for the next 20 years, will receive the aid of the Phipps Group if the council approves a \$104,000 contract with the planning firm.

The firm, which currently works with City Hall, will also be tasked with helping prepare a chapter on workforce housing.

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Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who (G) 1hr 28min
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) 1hr 32min
12:40, 2:55, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
The Grand (R) 1hr 35min
12:50, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
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(310) 289-4262

College Road Trip (G) 1hr 23min
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Doomsday (R) 1hr 45min
12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who (G) 1hr 28min
1:10, 3:30, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05
Jumper (PG-13) 1hr 28min
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13)
1:45, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15
Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns (PG-13) 1hr 40min
12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50
Under the Same Moon (PG-13) 1hr 49min
2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Funny Games (R) 1hr 48min
1:25, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Married Life (PG-13) 1hr 30min
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Paranoid Park (R) 1hr 20min
1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15
Sleepwalking (NR) 1hr 41min
1:40, 7:10

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

10,000 B.C. (PG-13) 1hr 49min
11:30am, 12:30, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30,
8:00, 9:30, 10:30

Never Back Down (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:15 a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:20

Semi-Pro (R) 1hr 30min
2:10, 7:10

Shutter (PG-13) 1hr 25min
12:10, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

More information email news@smdp.com

Indulge, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ How you handle a partner could transform quickly. Trust what you are hearing and act on an insight. Tonight: Hot talks over dinner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Visualize much more, and create some of those flights of fancy. Tonight: Where people are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Pull back and relax. Use your ingenuity to bypass a problem and make getting what you need done easier. Consider delegating much more. You might not have the whole story. If you sense that fact, act on it. Tonight: Plug in a little physical exercise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your creativity delights many, especially a child and other loved ones. If you are single, the emphasis is on flirtation and relationships. You could be bummed should you take a financial risk. Tonight: Act like there is no tomorrow. Let the kid in you out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Someone might be playing with your head. You could be enjoying all the flights of fancy and just not care. It might be wise to let this person know that you know what is happening. Tonight: Order in. Find your favorite chair.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Don't hold back so much. Your feedback is important, even if someone else might not be happy. Tonight: Return calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Expenses mount, and you could be exhausted by more requests heading in. Clearly

something needs to give, and it isn't you. Establish boundaries and let others know what you can and cannot do. Tonight: Indulge someone without spending.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You add that intensity and insight that others enjoy and respect. Be aware of your limits, but don't use them as an excuse. Let others see how much you embody energy and creativity. Solution-finding is easy like that! Tonight: What would make you happy?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★ Much goes on behind the scenes, which the wise Sag will not share. You also gain information through your power of observation. Confusion surrounds communication. Clarify and verify. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, and only ones that please you. Create more of what makes you happy. Use an unexpected development or insight for your well-being and happiness. Think as if you are lucky. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Others often seek you out when they need advice, support or someone to help take on a burden. You, on the other hand, don't always accept more than you have to. Remember that you too have a life. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ If you tune in to your reactions, you will be forced to take another look at what you are hearing and perhaps seeing. Detach and gain a better perspective. Don't hesitate to find an expert or two. Tonight: Allow your imagination to decide.

Happy Birthday

Partners play an unusually strong role in your year. Evaluate before solidifying these ties – be it business or personal. Should your partner not be in sync with you, more problems could arise. The individuality of each partner defines the possibilities. If you feel limited working with someone, consider adjusting the bond. Remember, not every agreement is forever! Brainy ideas come in from out of left field. Trust your insights, without giving long explanations. If you are single, you will learn to work with others much better. A relationship becomes likely through someone you meet at work. If you are attached, really be a team. Your life will show the difference. SCORPIO understands you too well!

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

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

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Difficulty
SILVER

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

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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

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

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Commercial

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

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NAH. I'M NOT GIVING THOSE CASINOS MY HARD-EARNED MONEY. I'M JUST BRINGING \$150

AND AN EXTRA \$40 IN MY SOCK FOR AN EMERGENCY...

AND I HAVE \$30 IN MY HAT IN CASE I CATCH A REALLY COLD STREAK...

AND \$50 IN MY SLEEVE AS A SUPER BACKUP FUND. AND \$25 IN MY OTHER SHOE IF ALL ELSE FAILS...

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

QUESTION 164: DO YOU VOLUNTEER FOR CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS?

YES.

YOU DO NOT.

IF PEOPLE DIDN'T LIE, CHARMONY WOULDN'T HAVE ANY CUSTOMERS, I'M LYING TO KEEP THEM IN BUSINESS.

I'LL PUT THAT UNDER ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

YOU'RE VERY SELFLESS.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT IN CASE OF A GLOBAL CATASTROPHE, THIS CAVE IN THE ARCTIC CONTAINS SEEDS FROM EVERY TYPE OF FOOD ON THE PLANET?

EXCEPT BROCCOLI.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

HONESTLY, JON, WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU EVEN VACUUMED?

WHAT IS THIS "VACUUM" THING OF WHICH YOU SPEAK?

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

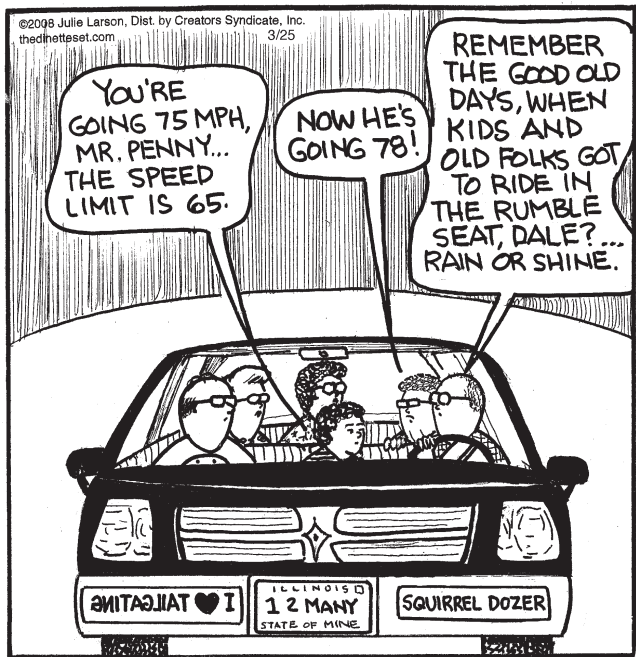
ZZZ

BA-ROOOF!

ZZZ

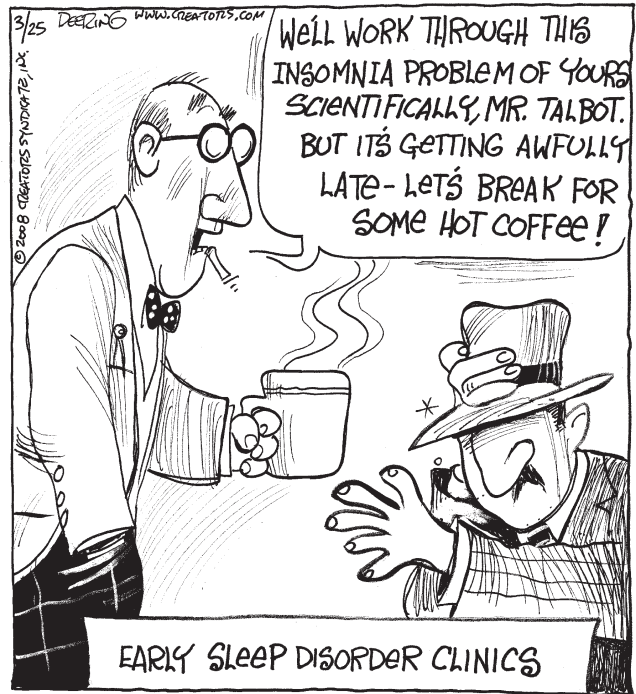
WHATEVER YOU'RE PUTTING IN HIS FORMULA, KEEP IT UP. IT'S WORKING.

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



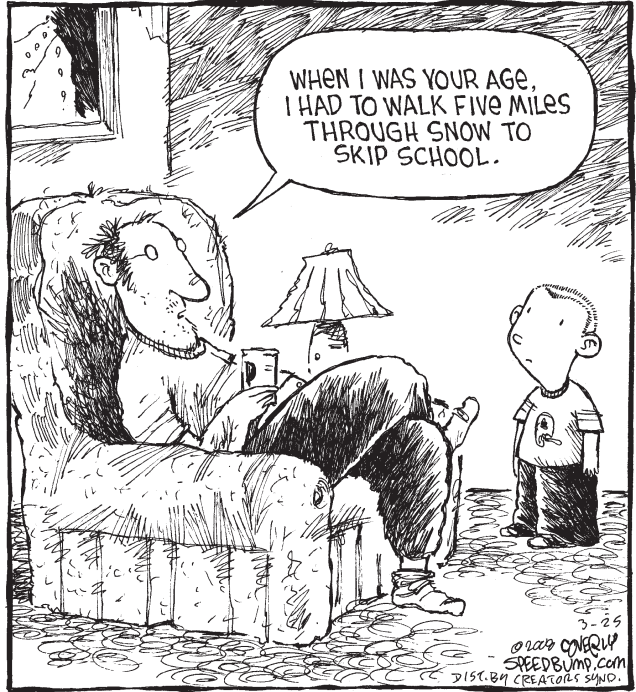
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By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Attractive person
- 7 Saudi native
- 11 Anger
- 12 Hemingway nickname
- 13 Fan magazine reader
- 15 Extra
- 16 Parka
- 18 Luggage
- 21 History book topics
- 22 Anger
- 24 Nest item
- 25 Young one
- 26 Father's Day gift
- 27 Hit with a pitch
- 29 "Fight Club" star
- 30 Ginger cookie
- 31 Collections
- 32 Trattoria sauce
- 34 Gregarious sort at the bistro
- 40 Bassoon's kin
- 41 Smitten
- 42 Latest word
- 43 Requisite

DOWN

- 1 Charter
- 2 Unbroken
- 3 Mine find
- 4 Topeka's state
- 5 Sphinx setting
- 6 Singer McEntire
- 7 Attraction
- 8 Jay-Z's music
- 9 Big galoot
- 10 Saloon
- 14 Satellite path
- 16 Canary homes
- 17 Heart or liver
- 19 "Understand?"

- 20 Business wear
- 21 Fly catcher
- 22 Scepter
- 23 Parrot or puppy
- 25 Conical home
- 28 City near Capri
- 29 Folks
- 31 Pebble

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

Yesterday's answer

- 33 Leg part
- 34 Cargo unit
- 35 Lincoln nickname
- 36 Cellist's need
- 37 Okra holder
- 38 Abel's mother
- 39 Wine choice

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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	35	36						37	38	39
40					41					
42					43					

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Roy Chamberlin, 29, has been charged with 1,100 criminal counts in connection with what Pennsylvania police said was a series of nearly 200 rapes against a married woman in Potter Township (and had his first court hearing in January). According to the police report, the woman said she was too terrified ever to report the crimes to police or to her husband. Once, said the husband, he came home unexpectedly about 9 a.m. and found the bedroom door locked and a struggle occurring inside (hearing "Get off me!" and "You're hurting me!"). After the husband pounded on the door, Chamberlin walked out, leaving the wife "crying hysterically and trembling." However, the husband said that his wife declined to explain the situation and that he didn't question her (not wanting to upset her further, since she had recently had surgery).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1965 the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 marchers to the state capitol in Montgomery, Ala., to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks.

1634 English colonists sent by Lord Baltimore arrived in present-day Maryland.

1894 Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of unemployed from Massillon, Ohio, to Washington to demand help from the federal government.

1918 French composer Claude Debussy died in Paris.

1911 46 people, mostly female immigrants, were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. in New York.

1975 King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew with a history of mental illness. (The nephew was beheaded in June 1975.)

1988 in New York City's so-called "Preppie Killer" case, Robert Chambers Jr. pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter in the death of 18-year-old Jennifer Levin. (Chambers received a sentence of 5 to 15 years in prison; he was released in February 2003.)

1990 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raced through an illegal social club in New York City.

1998 Shaken by horror stories from the worst genocide since World War II, President Clinton grimly acknowledged during his Africa tour that "we did not act quickly enough" to stop the slaughter of up to a million Rwandans four years earlier. The FCC netted \$578.6 million at auction for licenses for new wireless technology.

2003 The Senate voted to slash President Bush's proposed \$726 billion tax-cutting package in half, handing the president a defeat on the foundation of his plan to awaken the nation's slumbering economy. Former Waterbury, Conn., mayor Philip Giordano was convicted by a federal jury of violating the civil rights of two preteen girls by sexually abusing them. (Giordano was later sentenced to 37 years in federal prison.)

WORD UP!

plethora \PLETH-uh-ruh/, noun: 1. An abnormal bodily condition characterized by an excessive amount of blood in the system. 2. Excess; superabundance.

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Letter from Seller:

"Hi Kate, I do want to thank you for all that you have done to sell my house, all the advice and patient explanations of real estate details to a distant novice who loved her home and was reluctant to leave it in someone else's hands. My Daughter, my Financial Advisor and my CPA also think highly of you. I would certainly recommend you to anyone in Santa Monica who is thinking of selling their house in these troubled times."

- Louise

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

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,312,625	\$ 1,300,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,732,261	\$ 2,044,714
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,881,900	\$ 1,000,510
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 873,966	\$ 768,653
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,416,583	\$ 720,231
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,778,900	\$ 1,126,256

Statistics updated every Friday

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