

# Santa Monica Daily Press

MEAGER CATCH  
SEE PAGE 14

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE STREETS OF SANTA MONICA ISSUE



## TO THE RESCUE

Emergency personnel pull a woman out of her car Monday after she suffered a diabetic seizure and lost control, sending the vehicle into oncoming traffic. Police officials said the driver hit two cars, causing her's to flip onto its side.

Photo courtesy Dan Lunsford

# Failing grade

Special ed audit reveals shortcomings in program

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

**SMMUSD HDQTRS** The controversial practice of issuing settlement agreements in the public school district's special education program, an act that has fostered a perception of secrecy in the central office, is problematic and must diminish substantially.

Those are the thoughts and suggestions outlined in a 78-page audit report prepared by Lou Barber and Associates, a consultant that recently evaluated the special education program in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The report, released to the public on Monday, provides observations and recommendations on existing practices in the special education department, which has come under fire by parents in recent years for an alleged lack of transparency.

The report provides an overview of the program, focusing on issues such as staffing, costs and funding

SEE AUDIT PAGE 10

# Clothing business owner dies in crash

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

**SUNSET PARK** A 38-year-old Santa Monica business owner was killed in an early morning car crash on Sunday when the vehicle he was driving ran into a tree on Ocean Park Boulevard.



LUCAS

The Santa Monica Police Department on Monday identified the driver and sole occupant of the sport utility vehicle as Keoni Kai Lucas, a West Los Angeles resident who co-

owned Puinsai Clothing Company, Ltd. with business partner Christian Kennel.

The crash occurred at approximately 1 a.m. in the 2600 block of Ocean Park Boulevard. Officers found that Lucas' 2008 Infiniti FX-35 had crashed into a large tree located on the center median of the corridor, according to Lt. Alex Padilla of the SMPD.

The driver was ejected from the SUV and died at the scene.

The department's Major Accident Reconstruction Team was on the scene

SEE CRASH PAGE 11



Alexis Hawkins [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

**MEMORIAL:** Flowers left by loved ones surround the tree on Ocean Park Boulevard that Keoni Kai Lucas' car struck early Sunday morning. Lucas was pronounced dead at the scene.

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- Update on New Facility & Buses

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- Sunset Ride or Line 7 Rider
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- SMC Student or Staff Member
- JAMS Parent or Staff Member

### When and Where:

Wednesday, April 2 Virginia Park (Thelma Terry Center)  
6-8 PM 2200 Virginia Ave. at 22nd St.

Saturday, April 5 Ken Edwards Center (Room 100 A-B)  
10 AM-12 PM 1527 4th St. at Broadway

Monday, April 7 Santa Monica Main Library  
6-8 PM (Multi-Purpose Room, 2nd Floor)  
601 Santa Monica Blvd. at 7th St.

Tuesday, April 8 UCLA (Ackerman/Viewpoint  
12-2 PM Community Room A201)  
Westwood Plaza, north of Strathmore

Tuesday, April 8 Fairview Branch Library  
6-8 PM 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. at 21st St.

If you cannot attend a meeting,  
you may submit written comments  
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For additional information contact  
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## Calendar

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TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Daily

(310) 829-9597

(corner of 20th & Santa Monica Blvd.)

**1920 Santa Monica Blvd.**

## WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



### In an effort to go green ...

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.

Be part of the solution — educate and empower yourself with simple steps that save our environment and save you money. This six-week Green Living Workshop covers: Water, energy, waste, chemicals, transportation & travel, and shopping & food. To register, contact Barent Roth at Sustainable Works, (310) 458-8716 ext. 1 or [rothbarent@smc.edu](mailto:rothbarent@smc.edu).

### Hanging out with the Kiwanis Club

1332 Sixth St., Noon

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club weekly luncheon features guest speakers. For more information, call (310) 613-1249.

### 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.

### 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.

## Thursday, April 3, 2008

### What's new this week

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad.

### What's really the story?

3116 Second St., 8 p.m.

The Powerhouse Theatre presents the "What's the Story Festival of New Solo Plays." The festival includes a workshop, founded and facilitated by Stacie Chaiken, for the development of personal stories for the stage, the screen, and the page. In their annual festival, 15 writer-performers perform an eclectic array of new work that is deeply moving, hilariously brave, bawdy, brazen and bold. For information, call (310) 396-3680.

### 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 PI, 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.can

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



## CORRECTION

In an article about the SMPD's Citizen Police Academy ("Pulling over to prove a serious point," page 3, March 29-30), it should have stated that Officer Derek Leone participated in the session on traffic stops.

In an article about the Airport Artwalk ("Art takes flight at SM Airport," page 1, March 31), captions for the photos should have stated that artist Rachael McCampbell had artwork on display during the event.

Alexis Hawkins [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

**BIG STAR:** The Pacific Wheel at Pacific Park has been featured in more than 300 movies, television shows and commercials, and publications, making cameo appearances in feature-length films such as 'Stuck on You,' 'The Majestic,' and 'Fat Albert.'

# Memories of the Ferris wheel we left behind

By Daily Press Staff

**SM PIER** Realizing that the iconic Ferris wheel at Pacific Park has been a source of so many fond memories for visitors, staff there decided to give people a forum to express themselves.

Instead of posting notes on the wheel itself, or visiting Pacific Park offices to relay stories of new-found love and friendship, those who wish to reminisce can do so online, posting their thoughts on a message board at [www.pacpark.com](http://www.pacpark.com).

Pacific Park is replacing the current, solar-powered Ferris wheel with an all-new, \$1.5 million contemporary one beginning May 5. The project is expected to be completed by May 22.

"The Pacific Wheel has been a great source of pride for Santa Monicans so we wanted to create a comprehensive memory book of experiences and photos," says Jeff Klocke, director of marketing and sales at Pacific Park. "Guests will stop by our offices, call or e-mail to share stories about milestone celebrations relating to the Pacific Wheel. Now there's

a formal community forum for sharing those moments."

A guest recently posted a letter at the entrance to the Pacific Wheel, which read:

"Dear Santa Monica Pier Pacific Wheel, Several years ago, my boyfriend and I came and rode on you. It was our first date. We were both nervous. We didn't know where this would go.

"Neither he nor I had much money as we were both unemployed, but after buying me a wonderful dinner, he made sure that he had enough money for one ride at the Santa Monica Pier. We chose to ride you.

"The line was long and filled with loud, jostling teenagers; but we could hear, feel, and see nothing but each other.

"We got in the gondola, and began the steep climb up to the top. The view was gorgeous. The sun was setting over the ocean and the sky was aflame. You stopped with us near the top and we could see forever.

"We began to kiss, and didn't notice when the gondola began to move again. We still laugh about that.

SEE WHEEL PAGE 11

## Picture perfect

### Daily Press photog honored by press photographers group

By Daily Press Staff

**SMC** He's come a long way in a short period of time.

Brandon Wise, Daily Press photographer and managing editor of the Santa Monica College Corsair, was named the College Photographer of the Year by the Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles.

Wise, 24, of Santa Monica, started taking photography classes at SMC in 2006 after a friend of his died and left him his Nikon FG, a film camera. He enjoyed portrait and landscape photography his first year, but in spring 2007 took his first photojournalism class. That's when he realized his calling.

"It is photography for a reason," Wise said of photojournalism. "Just taking pictures of landscapes was like doing photography because it made me feel good. With photojournalism, I can work for other people, show them the truth

and serve as a story teller. It has a just cause."

Wise, who joined the Daily Press as a contributor in September of 2007, beat out competitors from four- and two-year schools throughout the L.A. area. It was the first time an SMC student has won the contest, though SMC students have been named as runners up in the past.

The honor came with a \$1,000 award and a brand new Nikon digital camera.

Entry into the competition required Wise to submit a wide range of photos in such categories as sports, spot news, feature photo and photo essay.

"Brandon exhibits a lot of talent and the kind of drive that makes a photographer succeed," said Gerard Burkhart, Wise's photojournalism professor.

While at SMC, Wise has also discovered another passion: Anthropology. And he hopes to wed the two passions with his ultimate goal of shooting pictures for National Geographic or covering war zones for major publications.

In the meantime, he plans to transfer in 2009 to a four-year university, eventually earning a doctorate in anthropology while continuing to be a photojournalist.

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



Photo courtesy Gerard Burkhart

**PROUD MOMENT:** Santa Monica College Corsair newspaper managing editor Brandon Wise (left), also a photographer for the Daily Press, with parents Franz and Linda Wise after receiving the First Place Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles Student Portfolio for 2007 award at the venerable local photojournalism organization's annual awards banquet held at Cal State Fullerton on Saturday. Wise received a \$1,000 check and a Nikon D80 camera kit marking the first time a Santa Monica College student has won first place for the prestigious award after a string of years where Corsair photographers took second place behind other student photographers.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

### Calling out the school district

Editor:

Mastermind of the special education “secret deals,” Tim Walker – one local leader calls him “our own Dick Cheney” – [was] to have his contract renewed for a remarkable four years during closed session at the next Board of Education meeting, Thursday, April 3 at district headquarters.

But try to find the item on the agenda! So much for the Brown Act requirement that the agenda tell the public what’s going on. There’s no way to find anything close to describing Walker’s contract renewal, just an item saying the board will be handling some personnel matters.

Walker’s original job description called for him to implement the Special Education Strategic Plan. But we got gagged contracts in place of education plans for disabled kids. Then came the clever power play in which Walker – even though he has no general education experience – grabbed the position of deputy superintendent after John Deasy skipped town.

Also on Thursday’s agenda is the public presentation of the independent audit of special education, which, among other things, examined Walker’s secret deals. Yet the board agenda call[ed] for Walker’s contract to be renewed before the results of the audit [were] presented. If a member of the public wanted to object to Walker’s contract renewal on the basis of the special education auditor’s report, it would be too late.

More secrecy. More disregard of the public’s right to know and to be heard. Unfortunately, the board is consistent.

Walker continues to harass parents by requiring them to sign gagged settlement agreements (in spite of the moratorium called for by the City Council) and by sending his entire special education staff to monitor all meetings of the Special Education District Advisory Committee.

Perpetuating a climate of secrecy that rewards Walker’s strong-arm tactics, the Board of Education once again opens itself to ridicule and scorn.

Never mind that Walker’s biggest cheerleader, board member Kathy Wisnicki, may be leaving soon, if she is elected to the Malibu City Council. The board must postpone its evaluation of Walker until the public has a chance to express its view on whether this is the type of person and management style we want leading our school district.

**Frank Patterson**

Santa Monica

### Which one is which?

Editor:

The March 31, 2008 article “Grow Smart and Avoid State Parks” by Bill Bauer has me confused. He criticizes the grow smart proposal to make streets smaller in order to accommodate mass transit, bikes and pedestrians as Utopian nonsense. He states that we need to make things more accommodating for cars, not less, in order to relieve traffic grid lock. An opinion I agree with. Save us from the Utopians. They have a unique talent for taking a bad situation and turning it into a complete disaster. Hey, but what the hell? They mean well.

Getting back to Bauer’s article. In the second half he derides Gov. Schwarzenegger for proposing to build a toll highway through San Onofre State Beach to “accommodate more cars.” He even characterizes the governor as quote “another cheap politician doing political favors for big money developers and special interests instead of caring about the people and the environment.” This the same type of rhetoric that the grow smart types use. I’m not crazy about intruding into state parks but is there a better alternative for relieving the intolerable traffic congestion? I’d love to hear about it ... . So which is it? I’m confused. Will the real Bill Bauer please stand up.

**John McColgan**

Santa Monica



## Going Postal

Steve “the Mailman” Breen

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

# Spring break at the local movie theater

**WELL, IT WAS A SLOW WEEK OUT THERE.**

The political travails of Democratopian March Madness have assuaged into the finer hijinks of Spring Break; relief from the Lioness of Tuzla, the future Commando in Chief, Hillary Clinton, swiftboating herself on a sniper ridden Balkan tarmac with hunter/killer Sinbad in tow; relief from matinee idol Obama tap dancing his way around the epistolary angst of a racist “relative” while throwing his own grandmother under the wheels of “Uncle” Jeremiah’s minority grievance bus; relief from the steamy B-movie exploits of “Client No. 9.”

It seemed that the only bit of real news was the revelation that Obama was related to Dubya ... and to Dick Cheney?! Does this mean that Dick and Dub are black? Following the deciduous relationships of arboreal genealogy, one can see the resemblance between Obama and Dubya ... look at their ears! Obviously a pronounced family trait. And I wonder how “Uncle” Jeremiah managed the news that his “nephew’s” family had owned slaves? Makes one ponder how that circle squares in a Sunday sermon.

With such a dearth of newsworthy materiel, what’s an op-ed guy gonna do? So I wandered over to the AMC for a matinee showing of the MTV flick “Stop-Loss.” MTV also provides other thought provoking fare as “America’s Next Top Model” and “The Hills.” This flick postured itself as the first anti-war treatise of the current Iraqi War. I call this a “flick” because Americans make “flicks”; the rest of the world makes “films”, especially the French. This flick’s title is derived from the Army policy of keeping a soldier in service after his/her contract of duty has expired. The civilian populace is supposed to express umbrage at this inconvenient truth of military litigious legerdemain and provide yet another reason to extricate ourselves from our responsibilities in the Middle East. You all need gas in your Land Rovers and Prius; yes? Unfortunately, most “sand crabs” (Navy jargon for “civilians”) don’t realize that this contractual feature of “Stop-Loss” has been in place since the Vietnam War. It is explained to a prospective member before one drops the Mont Blanc on the dotted line. It was explained to me before I entered the Navy in 1984. It is not some sort of “SURPRISE ... gotcha” to keep a member from the easy college money in case something crappy happens

that requires and directs you to do your duty.

Yet then again if this inconvenient truth had been known at the outset of pre-production then there wouldn’t be a reason to make a movie, eh?

The biggest slap in the face was director Kimberly Peirce’s depiction of the three main characters returning from their tour of duty to their homecoming in Texas. Never have I seen a complete debasement of military personnel in the tired vein of Vietnam era dysfunctional mythology. Once on leave, all three men proceed to drink, bar fight, DUI, beat their wives/girlfriends and desert their posts because of the stress of war. I take personal offense that the Great State of Texas was chosen for this weak kneed, bed wetting cinematic roadside car bomb as my family is from Texas. One doesn’t need to be a returning war veteran to drink, bar fight or sleep with underage girls when one can find those egregiously misanthropic escapades among civilians ... even here in Santa Monica. And the blatant stereotyping of Texans as redneck yahoos belies the fact that the Dallas Opera is older (1957) than L.A.’s (1968).

My son is currently on his second tour in Iraq with the U.S. Navy as I write this. He looks for roadside bombs for a living, defuses/disables them in marketplaces and schools. Afterward he goes out to look for the jihadist scum-lords who planted them and then deals with them in a very prejudicial manner. He isn’t a drunkard and is excruciatingly polite. When he was here on leave, many folks on Main Street met him and none was served up with a black eye or pistol-whipped because he was having war-induced flashbacks.

He took a lot of naps when he came home.

Additionally, he has more “foreign policy experience” than Hillary or Obama have ever had under their manicured fingernails. For my son, “war” is not an intellectual construct as postured by the “cut and run” crowd.

He believes in what he does as do many more in the rank and file currently in service. Funny that Peirce never bothered to interview him as a consultant for her chick “flick.” It might have made a better “film.”

**STEVE BREEN** is a self-described Reagan Republican and the “best looking mailman in the US Postal Service.” He can be reached at [dulcamarax@yahoo.com](mailto:dulcamarax@yahoo.com).

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## Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

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

# This fool's running for a council seat

I'VE FINALLY COME TO TERMS WITH never moving back to Boston because Santa Monica is clearly the best place in the world. I never get tired of saying the words, "70 degrees and sunny with a little breeze off the ocean" to my snowbound friends back home. We are lucky enough to live in a place where you're never more than a half-hour's walk, bike, or bus ride from a (somewhat) clean, safe beach complete with a boardwalk pier and a Ferris wheel. This city has everything except the one thing that it really needs: Kenny Mack on the City Council. So I am formally announcing my intent to be a candidate in this year's election.

Have you taken a good look at our City Council lately? I'm not saying that they're too old to be in touch with the needs of Santa Monica's young people, but it wouldn't surprise me if they all believe that the Internet is a series of tubes. I bet there aren't more than two iPod owners among the seven of them; and those were probably Christmas presents from grandkids who loaded them up with the greatest hits of Patsy Kline and Frank Sinatra and which haven't been updated since. To be forward-thinking in the planning of the future of this town, the council needs an injection of energy, youth, style, soul, and sex appeal. Electing me accomplishes this in one fell swoop.

You may be wondering why now? It was a recent visit to the Santa Monica DMV that convinced me. If you've never been, I have to tell you that the combination of the free parking, the Baja Fresh across the street, the studios down the block, and the fact that it never takes longer than 25 minutes to get in and out means that you can actually go to the DMV on your lunch hour, grab a bite, and possibly get a picture of Andre 3000 on your camera phone — all in about an hour. As a total coincidence, the place is almost completely staffed by black people who probably don't live in Santa Monica. The way I see it, if they can make a trip to the DMV a pleasurable experience, we owe it to them — and the firefighters, police, teachers, and others who make the standard of living here what it is — to make a place for them in this town. That's why I'm running.

When it comes to the issues, I'll be an advocate for the little guy. City workers, families, students, mom-and-pop businesses, homeless people, and ficus trees will be

safe. Commercial developers, private jet owners, national tenants looking for retail space, and not-for-profit hospitals wanting to expand their real estate portfolios, not so much. If you're concerned about how Santa Monica will survive without the tax revenue from these people, don't be. I have a plan. Once I'm elected, the city of Santa Monica will begin licensing medicinal cannabis dispensaries — and we will tax the pot-smoking crap out of them.

It's a bold plan whose genius is its simplicity. California, being hipper than the rest of the country, passed Proposition 215, legalizing medical marijuana. The city of Santa Monica, being hipper than the rest of California, voted to basically de-criminalize the act of possessing and using marijuana 10 years later with Measure Y, making this a 420-friendly town. Yet the city hasn't licensed even one dispensary. In my humble opinion, that makes us hypocrites. My neighbor suffers from chronic stress and anxiety (he gets stressed and anxious when he can't get chronic) and has a prescription for medicinal cannabis. He spends about \$3,000 per year on his medicine and it's all spent in Venice. What, is his money not good enough for Santa Monica to tax?

The additional revenue could really help pay for some desperately needed services in Santa Monica. How will we keep up with the rising cost of street repairs to keep traffic flowing smoothly? Weed money. How will we maintain our parks and repair, or replace the ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets? Weed money. It's really the gift that keeps on giving.

The benefits would snowball. Smoother roads would mean more visitors, clean and landscaped parks would mean more people recreating, and fewer homeless people to scare them away would mean more people spending more time shopping in our stores and eating in our restaurants generating even more tax revenue for our city. We just need the courage to elect me, Kenny Mack, Independent candidate for Santa Monica City Council.

Thank you for your support.

**KENNY MACK** is a writer, comedian, and candidate of the people living in Santa Monica. He also loves April Fools and hopes his readers can take a joke. He can be reached at [kennymack@gmail.com](mailto:kennymack@gmail.com)

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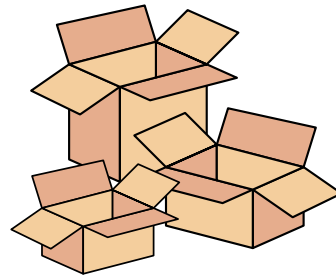
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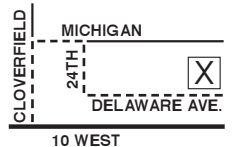
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### The Q-Line

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The City Council last week passed a ban of the largest and fastest jets that operate out of the Santa Monica Airport. The Federal Aviation Administration has vowed to challenge the ruling.

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## Camps support kids facing challenges

BY MELORA MAYO, R.N.  
Special to the Daily Press

Carol LeBoeuf will never forget it ... the day her 12-year-old son David came running out of the Clara Barton Day Camp in North Oxford, Massachusetts, yelling, “Mom, they’re all just like me!” David, who has had Type 1 diabetes since early childhood and has been attending the Heard Street Discovery Academy in nearby Worcester where he is the only child with diabetes in a school of 260, had made a discovery of his own. There were other kids just like him. And he — and they — could have a serious medical condition, one that is alarmingly on the rise in this country, and still enjoy the carefree summer activities of normal children.

Carol says, “David has always been a serious child. Sometimes he meets girls who have his condition, but rarely boys. At camp he met a counselor named Kevin who also had Type 1 diabetes and bonded with him instantly. He began to relax to the point where he got the ‘Barton Boy Award’ as the most happy camper.”

Carol, too, had a positive experience. As a registered nurse, she had given up working to be on call for David’s school because the Heard Street Academy has no nurse on staff. While David was at camp, she said she felt confident about his safety away from home for the first time since he was diagnosed.

### CAMP CAN BE THE COMMON BOND

Across the country, among families dealing with serious diseases, the camp movement for children with such conditions is on the rise. Whether it’s juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, diabetes, or lifelong challenges such as blindness, through camping their conditions have become the common bond that helps them to not define themselves by their diseases but to view themselves as kids first.

Major diseases and disabilities burden the childhood of tens of thousands of youth each year. One in five hundred children suffers from either Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. It is the most expensive major disease known, costing over \$100 billion for treatment and its complications. Juvenile arthritis affects an estimated 285,000 children under age seventeen and 50,000 of them have juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. And, cancer is the leading cause of nonaccidental death among children.

### A JOYFUL DISCOVERY

In experiencing camp with other children affected by the same condition, David is not alone in his joyful discovery. Claudia Uppendahl, 10, who has had Type 1 diabetes since she was five and has attended the Clara Barton Camp since she was 6, feels the same way: “I feel happy knowing I’m not the only one and that I can be a regular kid. The counselors treat everyone the same.”

Claudia’s mom, Laura, is a single parent who gave up her floral business and moved in with her parents to care for her daughter

full time. She says that camp is a place her daughter can be totally herself “while I sit back and relax ... a total break for me. Also, Claudia learns how to do one major thing for herself each summer. Last year she learned how to give herself an insulin shot in her abdomen.”

### CAMPS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ARE ON THE RISE

Clara Barton Camp has served close to 30,000 children during its seventy-year history of managing day and overnight summer camps for girls and boys. To meet increasing demand, it recently expanded its summer programs to co-ed day camps in nearby Worcester, the Boston area, New York, and Connecticut.



**I FEEL HAPPY  
KNOWING I’M  
NOT THE ONLY ONE AND  
THAT I CAN BE A REGU-  
LAR KID. THE COUN-  
SELORS TREAT EVERYONE  
THE SAME.”**

Claudia Uppendahl,  
Camp attendee

What’s going on? Shelley Yeager, executive director emeritus of the Barton Center for Diabetes Education that administers the camp programs, explains: “Diagnoses of children with both Types 1 and 2 diabetes are rising astronomically in this country. But a diagnosis is only the beginning. Parents need help in coping. A child and her or his family and friends must learn to adjust to the many changes in lifestyle necessary to enable a child to live as normal a life as possible. Camping is the best way we know to help make that realization happen.”

Currently, according to American Camp Association (ACA) files, there are more than two hundred camps for children with special diseases such as diabetes and cancer. The camps serve those with a range of diseases, including HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, cystic fibrosis, and cerebral palsy. Several of these camps include those with related conditions, such as spina bifida, blindness, and hearing loss.

Camps may be sponsored on a national basis, such as those funded by the Lions Clubs International Foundation. They may also be supported by local chapters of national charitable organizations, such as the Southern California chapter of the national Juvenile Arthritis Foundation, or, as part of a special division within an organization, such as the American Cancer Society’s Camping Center of Excellence.

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## Market Matters

Brian Hepp

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# Maintaining in turbulent times

WHILE IT IS ALWAYS IMPORTANT TO maintain a diversified portfolio, it is especially vital to remain diversified during volatile market conditions. As an investor, you should be careful not to get caught up in any panic selling and should maintain your focus on long-term goals. This point is especially key if you have already built a well-diversified portfolio. If you are concerned about any particular securities, it may be better to discuss these with your financial advisor before cashing out.

Although no one can be certain about how the market will react long term, history shows that cataclysmic events that prompted short-term market losses later led to a more stable investing climate across all industry sectors. But still keep in mind that past results are not indicative of what will happen in the future.

The more your portfolio is diversified, the less chance you have of one security or investment having a detrimental effect on your entire investment strategy. Bonds, stocks and cash are the three major asset classes. Analyzing your investment objectives and tolerance for risk with your financial consultant will help determine the right mix of these asset classes for your situation. Within these asset classes, you can diversify further by owning stocks in different industries and countries; purchasing different types of bonds and different types of short-term cash instruments.

Defensive stocks typically outperform in a slowing economy or recession. These are typically stocks of companies that provide necessities like food, utilities, pharmaceuticals, toiletries or other consumer products with a short shelf life. The theory is that consumers will continue to buy necessities like food and address their medical needs regardless of economic conditions. As a result, companies that sell these types of products should not be as negatively affected by a slowing economy as

companies that produce more discretionary types of products.

It also is important to remember that even in good times the value of stocks and bonds go up as well as down. When the market is experiencing more volatile movements, gains and losses can seem enormous. It is important to keep your long-term strategy in mind when experiencing these changes and realize that they can balance themselves out over time.

Unfortunately many investors associate a weak or volatile period in the economy as being the same as a weak time in the stock market, a perception that is not always correct. Not all market declines lead to a recession.

The truth is that the United States economy is cyclical, meaning that it moves through stages of growth and decline, varying in duration. A mistake made by many investors is that they buy and sell securities based on fluctuations in the economic data currently being reported rather than anticipating what the economy will look like in six to 12 months (based on a variety of factors including leading economic indicators) and making their investment decisions based on that outlook.

Most successful investors take a long-term view — at least three to five years — rather than expecting stellar returns overnight or panicking when the value of their securities declines. A long-term diversified investment strategy based on your investment goals and risk tolerance can create a winning approach for you regardless of whether the economy is booming or experiencing a brief downturn.

You should talk with your financial advisor about what the best combination of investments is to accomplish your long-term goals.

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

## TRANSPORTATION

# Virgin launches new flights

By the Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Virgin Blue said Monday it will begin offering nonstop flights between Los Angeles and Sydney, making it part of a recent wave of international operators adding routes through Los Angeles to lure foreign travelers eyeing trips to the U.S. amid a weak dollar.

Eight carriers have started or announced new international service to Los Angeles since October, while other foreign airlines, including Australia's Qantas, have expanded flights.

The Los Angeles airport hasn't seen such a surge in international flights in at least a decade, Paul Haney, the airport's executive director, told the Los Angeles Times.

The new Virgin flights, under the title of V Australia, would begin in mid-December and cost up to 16 percent less than existing services, the company said.

Virgin intends to operate 10 weekly non-stop round-trip flights between Los Angeles and Sydney.

"The trans-Pacific route is in dire need of competition and a good shake-up, and that's a challenge we are always keen to take on," said Sir Richard Branson, founder and chairman of the Virgin Group.

The addition and expansion of international flights through Los Angeles represent a boost for the Southern California economy.

A daily, round-trip overseas flight from Los Angeles generates about \$623 million, on average, over the course of a year and sustains about 3,100 jobs in a six-county region of Southern California, according to a study by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp.

Some 80 percent of the economic windfall referenced in the study stems from Southern California companies exporting goods on the flights, the group said.

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# SEAL receives posthumous honor

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER  
Associated Press Writer

**SAN DIEGO** The family of an elite Navy SEAL who threw himself on top of a grenade in Iraq to save his comrades say they will celebrate his life as he lived it — without regret — when they accept the nation's highest military tribute in his honor.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Monsoor will be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by President Bush during an April 8 ceremony at the White House, a presidential press secretary announced Monday. He is the fourth person to receive the honor since the beginning of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

"He loved what he did. He had no regrets in anything he did. He always knew what he was getting into," Monsoor's sister, Sara, told The Associated Press by telephone shortly after the announcement.

"We're very thankful and honored that he is even being acknowledged. We really look at all of this as a celebration of Mike."

Monsoor, from Garden Grove, Calif., was 25.

Monsoor was part of a sniper security team in Ramadi on Sept. 29, 2006, with three other SEALs and eight Iraqi soldiers, according to a Navy account. An insurgent fighter threw the grenade, which struck Monsoor in the chest before falling in front of him. Monsoor then threw himself on the

grenade, according to a SEAL who spoke to The Associated Press in 2006 on condition of anonymity because his work requires his identity to remain secret.

"He never took his eye off the grenade, his only movement was down toward it," said a 28-year-old lieutenant, who suffered shrapnel wounds to both legs that day. "He undoubtedly saved mine and the other SEALs' lives, and we owe him."

Two SEALs next to Monsoor were injured; another who was 10 feet to 15 feet from the blast was unhurt. The four had been working with Iraqi soldiers providing sniper security while U.S. and Iraqi forces conducted missions in the area.

Lt. Cmdr. Seth Stone, who was with Monsoor the day he died, said the SEAL could have easily saved his life by ducking around the corner of the roof. But it likely would have meant the death of the two SEALs near him.

"Petty Officer Monsoor distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism on Sept. 29, 2006," presidential press secretary Dana Perino told reporters during a briefing aboard Air Force One. The announcement came as President Bush was on his way to the Ukraine, Romania, Croatia and Russia in a trip built around the NATO summit in Bucharest, Romania.

Monsoor's sister said that although the family was aware of the type of work he did, they did not know the specifics. After his death, though, she said people shared stories about his life as a SEAL. She said they were different stories but

they all had the same ending — how her brother helped people.

"When Mike deployed, we all knew that if something like this were to happen there would be no doubt in his mind that he would do something like this," she said. "We all had a sick feeling in our stomach. ... We weren't surprised."

She said the family was still coping his death.

"We still talk about Mike. We miss him and we love him. There's not really anything we can do right now other than remember him. We just kind of carry on," she said.

Monsoor, a platoon machine gunner, had received the Silver Star, the third-highest award for combat valor, for his actions pulling a wounded SEAL to safety during a May 9, 2006, firefight in Ramadi. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star for his sacrifice in Ramadi.

Sixteen SEALs have been killed in Afghanistan. Eleven of them died in June 2005 when a helicopter was shot down near the Pakistan border while ferrying reinforcements for troops pursuing al-Qaida militants.

There are about 2,300 of the elite fighters, based in Coronado and Little Creek, Va.

The Navy is trying to boost that number by 500 — a challenge considering more than 75 percent of candidates drop out of training, notorious for "Hell Week," a five-day stint of continual drills by the ocean broken by only four hours sleep total. Monsoor made it through training on his second attempt.

## DOJ asks Supreme Court to review court decision on sonar

BY ERICA WERNER  
Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** The Justice Department on Monday asked the Supreme Court to review a federal appeals court decision limiting the Navy's use of sonar off the Southern California coast because of potential harm to dolphins and whales.

The Justice Department petition argues that the decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco jeopardizes the Navy's ability to train sailors and Marines for service in wartime.

The agency also contends that national security interests can trump those of marine mammals, and that its use of mid-frequency sonar in training exercises hasn't caused any documented harm to dolphins or beaked

whales in the waters where they're conducted.

"We believe that this is an issue that is absolutely essential to national security and that a Supreme Court review of this case is warranted," said Cmdr. Jeff Davis, a Navy spokesman. He said sonar was the only way to detect quiet diesel electric submarines used by potential adversaries. The Navy has argued the restrictions could possibly prevent certification of some naval strike groups preparing to deploy to the Persian Gulf.

The Natural Resources Defense Council, which sued the Navy over the issue, contends that exposing dolphins and beaked whales to sonar can hurt them by disrupting their feeding and mating patterns and, in the worst case, can kill them by causing them to beach themselves.

NRDC attorney Cara Horowitz noted that

lower courts had concluded there would be near certain harm to marine life in Southern California if the Navy went ahead with sonar exercises as planned. The appellate court said the Navy has estimated that its Southern California exercises would expose more than 500 beaked whales to harassment and would result in temporary hearing loss to thousands of marine mammals.

"That's why in our view it's critical the Navy take all reasonable steps to minimize harm to marine life as the lower courts ordered," Horowitz said. "We expected the Navy to seek review in the Supreme Court but we'd be surprised if the court agrees to take the case."

An injunction by a federal judge in Los Angeles early this year created a 12-nautical-mile no-sonar zone along the coast and

ordered the Navy to shut off all sonar use within 2,200 yards of a marine mammal. That prompted President Bush to step in and sign a waiver exempting the Navy from a section of the Coastal Zone Management Act so the training could continue as the Navy appealed the injunction.

But the 9th Circuit sided with the lower court and said the Navy must abide by the injunction. However, while the litigation was under way the appeals court gave the Navy leeway to lessen the restrictions if it determined it was in a critical maneuver point, so that sonar shutdown would begin at 1,000 meters (about 1,093 yards) and full sonar shutdown would come at 200 meters (about 219 yards). Those are the restrictions the Navy is currently operating under.

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# Opposition leader declares victory

BY ANGUS SHAW

Associated Press Writer

**HARARE, Zimbabwe** The main opposition leader insisted Tuesday he has won Zimbabwe's presidential election outright and denied persistent reports he was negotiating to ease out President Robert Mugabe, who has led the country from liberation to ruin.

In his first public comments since Saturday's election, Morgan Tsvangirai said he was waiting for an official announcement of the results from the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission before he would enter any talks with Mugabe.

A businessman close to the state electoral commission and a lawyer close to the opposition said earlier the two men's aides were negotiating a graceful exit for Mugabe, the country's leader of 28 years. Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. Several diplomats said they had heard similar reports of secret negotiations but could not confirm talks were under way.

"There are no discussions," Tsvangirai said. "Let's wait for ZEC to complete its work, then we can discuss the circumstances that will affect the people."

Deputy Information Minister Bright Matonga also denied it, telling the British Broadcasting Corp. "There are no negotiations whatsoever, because we are waiting for the presidential results, so why do we need to hold any secret talks?"

Tensions rose as people stayed away from work to await results. A senior police officer, Wayne Bvudzijena, went on state radio to

say: "Our forces are more than ready to deal with perpetrators of violence."

Paramilitary police have stepped up patrols in Harare and Bulawayo, the second-largest city, and several roadblocks have been set up at strategic entries to the capital. The opposition has most of its support in urban centers.

Tsvangirai said he had won more than the 50 percent simple majority needed for victory. Mugabe has made no statement about the election.

The businessman said Mugabe has been told he is far behind Tsvangirai in preliminary results and that he might have to face a runoff. He said the prospect was too humiliating for the 84-year-old Mugabe, and that was why the president was considering ceding power in this Montana-sized country in southern Africa.

The Zimbabwe Election Support Network, a coalition of 38 Zimbabwe civil society organizations, said its random representative sample of polling stations showed Tsvangirai won just over 49 percent of the vote and Mugabe 42 percent. Simba Makoni, a former Mugabe loyalist, trailed at about 8 percent.

In Washington, Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the National Security Council, said "it's clear the people of Zimbabwe have voted for change. It's time for the Zimbabwean Electoral Commission to confirm the results we have all seen from the local polling stations and respected NGOs."

At his news conference, Tsvangirai spoke as if he already had been declared president:

"For years we have trod a journey of hunger, pain, torture and brutality," he said. "Today we face a new challenge of governing

and rehabilitating our beloved country, the challenge of giving birth to a new Zimbabwe founded on restoration not retribution, on love not war."

As Zimbabweans wait for the returns, "our country is on a precipice, on a cliff edge," said Tsvangirai, head of the Movement for Democratic Change.

The situation remained fragile and could deteriorate without a Mugabe resignation.

Martin Rupiya, a military analyst at South Africa's Institute for Strategic Studies and a former lieutenant-colonel in the Zimbabwe army, said he had heard of the military's involvement in negotiations for Mugabe to step down.

The election result "has compelled the military, the hawkish wing and the other moderate, to begin to reconsider accommodating the opposition," he said. "Because of the nature of the wins they have been forced to reassess."

Political analyst John Makumbe said he had learned from military sources that they would respect the results of the elections. The day before the elections, security chiefs had warned they would not serve anybody but Mugabe and would not tolerate an opposition victory.

The electoral commission has released results for 182 of the 210 parliamentary seats — giving Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change 92 seats, including five for a breakaway faction, to 90 for Mugabe's ruling party. At least six Cabinet ministers have lost their seats, according to the official results.

The commission has offered no results in the presidential race.

Zimbabweans still fear that Mugabe may declare himself winner, as he has in previous elections that observers said were marked by rigging, violence and intimidation.

Should he consider stepping down, he would have to weigh the concerns of those who have profited from his patronage, a group that includes top military leaders, party officials and business people. They receive mining concessions, construction contracts and preferential licenses to run transport companies and other businesses.

Marwick Khumalo, head of the Pan-African Parliament observer mission, told South African radio that leading members of Mugabe's party were contemplating defeat with trepidation.

"I was talking to some of the bigwigs in the ruling party and they also are concerned about the possibility of a change of guard," he said. "ZANU-PF has actually been institutionalized in the lives of Zimbabweans, so it is not easy for anyone within the sphere of the ruling party to accept that 'Maybe we might be defeated or might have been defeated.'"

At independence, Mugabe was hailed for his policies of racial reconciliation and development that brought education and health to millions who had been denied those services under colonial rule. Zimbabwe's economy thrived on exports of food, minerals and tobacco.

The unraveling began when Mugabe ordered the often-violent seizures of white-owned commercial farms, ostensibly to return them to the landless black majority.

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# Consultant advises against practice

FROM AUDIT PAGE 1

streams. But the center of contention and the catalyst for the audit were complaints from parents about the practice of settlement agreements and confidentiality clauses related to their children's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), which outlines specialized services that the particular student will receive during the school year.

The settlement agreements are normally entered into after there is an impasse in the IEP process, parents meeting with a senior district administrator to resolve their differences. Within the settlement agreement is a confidentiality clause that bars the parents from speaking to a third party about the services outlined within.

"Many parents reported feeling physically ill because they felt forced to sign a document that they did not agree with but 'had to sign to get their child services,'" the report states.

**IT INDICATES  
THAT AS OF  
TODAY, IT'S BUSINESS AS  
USUAL WITH THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION"**

**Lee Jones,**  
Co-Chair, Special Education District  
Advisory Committee

The audit was made mandatory by the Santa Monica City Council last year in order for the school district to receive a \$530,000 increase in city aid. The council, after hearing from several special education parents who claimed a culture of fear exists within the district, demanded the Board of Education conduct a comprehensive assessment of the program.

Lou Barber was retained late last year to perform the audit and began conducting interviews with parents, teachers and administrators earlier this year. Barber estimates speaking to more than 50 parents.

"Some had very intense stories about

things that happened to them or their children, the feeling of frustration, of trying to ever get settled on what their child would be receiving in service," Barber said in an interview on Tuesday.

Barber said he doesn't believe the district deliberately tried to create a hostile atmosphere, but believes that is the perception that many parents have.

"One parent said to me it's like standing on a floating device, you're never secure," Barber said. "You don't know where you can stand and can't stand."

In speaking with surrounding school districts, issuing a settlement agreement is a practice that does occur, though not as frequently as in SMMUSD, Barber said in the report. The SMMUSD has entered into more than 140 settlement agreements in the past three years.

While the practice of settlement agreements and confidentiality clauses is not illegal, there are concerns with its over reliance, the report states.

In addition to lessening the practice of such agreements, Barber recommends that the services outlined in the document be transferred to the IEP, another concern raised by parents in the past.

The failure to include those services raises several issues, including the inability to maintain an accurate history of the student's educational history.

"Stay-put provisions, which ensures that a student's placement will not change absent a signed IEP, no longer guarantees a child's actual placement because the child's actual service and perhaps placement are not identified on the IEP," the report states. "This becomes even more problematic should a child move out of the district."

Lee Jones, the co-chair of the Special Education District Advisory Committee, said on Tuesday that she was encouraged by the special education report, which confirms the complaints and concerns of parents for years.

"The most important area of concern to us — the private settlement agreements and the fact that services were not written into the IEP — has been addressed and strongly recommended by the consultant that it be rectified," Jones said. "The process that cur-



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

**DISTRICT ANNOUNCES FINDINGS: SMMUSD officials hired Lou Barber and Associates to conduct an audit of the district's controversial special education program. Barber found that the program has a number of shortcomings that need to be addressed.**

rently exists needs to be corrected."

School Board President Oscar de la Torre said he was surprised to learn that costs have actually increased in special education when the student population has decreased. He was under the impression that the settlement agreement was a means to avoid a costly legal battle with parents over the IEP.

"We use it almost as a first resort and it shouldn't be a first resort," de la Torre said.

## CONTRACT EXTENSIONS RAISE CONCERNS

Several parents voiced concerns last week when they noticed that there was an agenda item to extend a senior district administrator's contract in the closed session portion of the school board meeting this Thursday night, the same night the audit is scheduled to be discussed. That administrator, Deputy Superintendent Tim Walker, was the figure at the center of controversy in the special education allegations when they broke out in 2006.

The item, which did not specifically name the administrator or the position, has since been pulled from the agenda.

De la Torre confirmed on Tuesday that it was Walker and Assistant Superintendent

Mike Matthews' contracts that were scheduled to be discussed in closed session.

"I think it would be premature to extend the contract before we have an accountability session regarding the findings of the audit," de la Torre said. "Furthermore, it doesn't rest well with other district employees when we are laying off so many teachers and at the same time extending administrators' contracts 18 months in advance."

Jones said the closed session agenda item demonstrates there hasn't been much change in the district with regards to transparency.

"It indicates that as of today, it's business as usual with the Board of Education," Jones said.

The council is also expected to discuss the audit during an upcoming meeting this month. The results of the audit could also determine whether the council will decide to withhold funding from the district.

"The council is going to listen to it to see if there are any concerns," Mayor Herb Katz said. "Half a million dollars isn't chicken feed. It's chopped liver, but it isn't chicken feed."

melodyh@smdp.com



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Alexis Hawkins [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

**SOON TO BE HISTORY:** The iconic Pacific Wheel at Pacific Park is scheduled to be removed.

# Special memories of wheel go online

FROM WHEEL PAGE 3

"He and I are married now. We've dedicated our lives to each other. And I just thought you should know that it was riding in your gondola that I realized I was going to spend the rest of my life with him.

"Thank you, Heather."

The Pacific Wheel debuted May of 1996 with the opening of Pacific Park and was reintroduced as the world's first solar-powered Ferris wheel in November 1998. The nine-story Pacific Wheel was later selected "Best Solar System" in the Reader's Digest Best in America 2006.

Forever in the spotlight, the Pacific Wheel has over 300 celebrity appearances including

105 photo shoots, 71 television commercials, 69 television shows, 28 feature films, 13 music videos and top billing in the opening shots for NBC's "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and appears on television's no. 1 program, "American Idol."

The Pacific Wheel, which has provided more than 3 million rides in its 12 years of operation, stands 130 feet above the Pacific Ocean, features 20 gondolas with a maximum eight riders per car and can accommodate up to 600 riders per hour.

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

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

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

# Cause of accident remains unknown

FROM CRASH PAGE 1

investigating the accident and estimates that the vehicle was traveling at around 85 mph.

Padilla said on Tuesday that toxicology results are pending and will not be available for several weeks.

The Puinsai Clothing Company, located on the 2300 block of 14th Street, was founded in 1994, the idea spawned by Kennel while he was working at Duke's Canoe Club on Waikiki Beach in 1993, according to the company's Web site.

Kennel decided as an act of gratitude for the Waikiki Beach Boys accepting him into their family, he printed 100 shirts as a gift, each emblazoned with the group's favorite term, "PUINSAI."

"The Beach Boys wore them with pride and soon locals and visiting tourists alike were approaching Christian to see how they could get their own T-shirts," according to the Web site.

Overwhelmed by the number of requests to produce shirts, Kennel enlisted the help of his co-worker, Lucas. The pair founded the company a year later.

The company honored their late co-founder's memory, posting on the main page a photo of Lucas, sitting near the ocean and looking far off into the distance. Beside him is the phrase, "Spread the Aloha," the company's tagline.

The investigation of the accident is ongoing.

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# Nuclear Commission responds to petition

BY DAVE GRAM

Associated Press Writer

MONTPELIER, Vt. The nuclear energy watchdog group New England Coalition has been waiting a long time, a very long time, for the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to pay attention to its concerns.

The agency has just replied to a petition concerning safety and radiation exposure that the coalition filed in 1975.

"No petition before its time," said NRC spokesman Eliot Brenner.

As if being ignored for three decades weren't enough, the NRC denied the group's petition.

The coalition had been urging federal regulators to consider, as part of their environmental review of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, the full effects of nuclear power — from mining uranium to burying radioactive waste. The plant opened in 1972.

After two federal court decisions favoring critics of nuclear power, the NRC developed a table detailing its estimates for radiation exposures from various parts of the nuclear "fuel cycle," including mining and processing uranium fuel.

The coalition filed its petition Nov. 19, 1975, saying the commission's table "seriously underestimates" the impact on human safety and health "by disregarding the long-term effects of certain long-lasting radioactive materials, especially radon, an NRC document said.

NRC spokesman Neal Sheehan said his agency had addressed the issues raised in the petition in other contexts, including a generic environmental review of nuclear power plants. But it wasn't until the agency began reviewing a batch of applications for new reactors in the last two years that it began to address the coalition's concern head-on.

Sheehan said the NRC formally denied the petition March 11 because the agency did not see a "high safety significance" in connection with radon.

Raymond Shadis, technical adviser with the coalition, said knowledge about radon has grown in recent decades and there is more reason to worry about it now than was known in 1975.

The Environmental Protection Agency said in 2003 that radon from natural sources can accumulate in buildings and is responsible for an estimated 21,000 deaths from lung cancer in the United States each year.

"At least the NRC is, if not prompt, consistent," Shadis said. "They got it wrong the first time and after 32 years of sleeping on it, they got it wrong again."

Sheehan and Brenner said the NRC shelved the petition while it responded to what it considered more pressing matters.

Shadis argued that the First Amendment's right of the people to "petition the government for a redress of grievances" isn't worth much if the government doesn't respond.

"It's supposed to be sometime soon, not 32 years down the road," he said.

## Waivers could impact borderlands

BY ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN

Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. A Homeland Security Department decision to waive environmental laws to try to finish building 670 miles of fence bordering Mexico by year-end could significantly impact Arizona's public borderland areas, including the endangered Sonoran pronghorn.

DHS plans to build part of its high-tech virtual fence — officially the Strategic Border Initiative network — on areas including the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, their directors said.

DHS has been requesting access to the refuge to install towers and access roads that would damage the environment. The agency's timeline for completion is so close that waivers are needed to avoid protracted environmental assessments.

"We're in a problematic situation, because the SBI towers are slated to go through the middle of the refuge, and it could cause serious impacts to our efforts to recover and maintain the endangered Sonoran pronghorn population," said Roger DiRosa, the Cabeza Prieta's retiring manager. "We hope that DHS will work with us to minimize the impacts."

Hardened roads would be required within the wilderness-designated refuge for equipment to build and maintain perhaps a dozen towers, DiRosa said.

The Organ Pipe Monument likely would get a comparable number of SBI towers, superintendent Lee Baiza said.

But DiRosa also said Kirk Evans, the

SBI project director, "has met with us, he's open to our concerns, and his office is considering potential options to minimize impact."

Federal biologists are spearheading a captive breeding program on the refuge to save the pronghorn, North America's fastest mammal. DiRosa said DHS has no plans to put towers near a square-mile captive breeding pen.

DHS' virtual fence contractor, the Boeing Co., installed its pilot program last year — nine 98-foot towers with an array of radars, cameras, sensors and communications equipment along 28 miles of land near the southern Arizona town of Sasabe.

Their intent is detect illegal immigrants, smugglers and potential terrorists crossing the border to help Border Patrol agents capture them.

But "Project 28" has been rife with problems, and the DHS and Government Accountability Office officials told a congressional committee in late February that the fence doesn't meet contract requirements for detecting border intrusions. They said technological deficiencies would delay system expansion until 2011.

The acknowledgment came less than a week after DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff announced approval of the first virtual fence.

"We're not comfortable with the fact that Project 28 has not been proven out and yet Boeing wants to build all this technology and lay out all this infrastructure" on the refuge, DiRosa said.

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

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

# Boomers nurture fragile bonds of family members

BY MELISSA KOSSLER DUTTON

Associated Press Writer

Bethany Salomon knows her 77-year-old mother wants to spend time with the youngest members of their family.

So Salomon does what she can to ensure that Mary Chaitoff is prepared when her 5-year-old great-granddaughter, Macaela Salomon, comes to visit. The two women bought special toys for Macaela to keep at Chaitoff's Pepper Pike, Ohio, home. They look for television shows or videos they can enjoy together. And they plan day trips to Cleveland to visit museums.

"There's a very strong bond," said Salomon, 57, of Pepper Pike. "They have their own set of things they do together. They learn from one another. They modify themselves for one another."

With Americans living longer than ever before, many children now have the opportunity to know their great-grandparents. It's a relationship, however, that other family members can help along; the very young and the very old often are wary of each other. Great-grandparents may worry that youngsters will break something or disrupt their household. Children might be put off by an older person's wheelchair, smell or frailness.

Grandparents and parents can be a good go-between. With a bit of planning, it's possible to make the encounters enjoyable for everyone.

Chaitoff, a relatively young great-grandmother, said spending time with Macaela has revitalized her and her husband, Harold, who are retired.

"I feel like we've emerged," she said. "We're back to feeling like we're doing something worthwhile. But we're getting more than we're giving."

Children have just as much to gain, said Susan Bosak, director of the Legacy Project, an online resource for families looking to build generational bonds.

"These relationships give you something you can't get any place else," said Bosak, who writes about the grandparent bond in her latest book, "The Little Something" (TCP Press, March 2008). "Children have a better sense of who they are."

Before getting the oldest and youngest generations together, engage in some "casual planning," recommended Robin Hewitt, who wrote "The Joyous Gift of Grandparenting" (Random House, April 2008) with her husband, Doug.

Having a few activities ready will give the visit some structure and keep children from getting restless.

The schedule might include playing video games, looking at old photos or giving everyone a disposable camera to take family portraits. Don't worry if the great-grandparents have never picked up a joystick. The kids will be excited to show them how to play. Then let the great-grandparents teach everyone a card game.

When the youngest and oldest members of the family exchange knowledge, it builds

respect and affection.

Ask children to demonstrate a few ballet steps, perform a gymnastics routine or recite their multiplication tables, said Doug Hewitt, of Mayodan, N.C.

"Kids love to show off," he said. "Praise them, no matter how they do."

The Hewitts also encourage families to foster conversation by having great-grandparents tell stories and encouraging them to ask youngsters open-ended questions. Tell great-grandparents about the kids' activities, school assignments and friends' names before the visit, suggested Brian Wolf of Andover, Minn., who gives seminars under the nickname "The Grandparent Coach."

"If great-grandma was calling to ask me what I ran in my high hurdle race, I'd love to talk about that," he said.

**THERE'S A VERY STRONG BOND. THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SET OF THINGS THEY DO TOGETHER. THEY LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER. THEY MODIFY THEMSELVES FOR ONE ANOTHER."**

Bethany Salomon,  
Ohio resident

Help great-grandparents reinforce what they have in common with children, he added. If the child is upset about an error made on the ballfield, ask the great-grandparents about the time they might have lost the big game.

"It creates common denominators," he said. It says, "I am like you."

Wolf also advises great-grandparents to pick one skill or interest that they'd like to pass on to the younger generations.

"Make your wishes known," he said. "Say, 'I'm the grandma in charge of teaching the kids how to cook, bake or use the computer.'"

Even great-grandparents who are less active can contribute, said Dr. Arthur Kornhaber, founder and director of the Foundation for Grandparenting. Encourage quiet activities such as reading, cuddling or back rubbing.

"Just to be with them and feel their wonderful warmth is extremely nourishing" for children, he said from his home in Ojai, Calif.

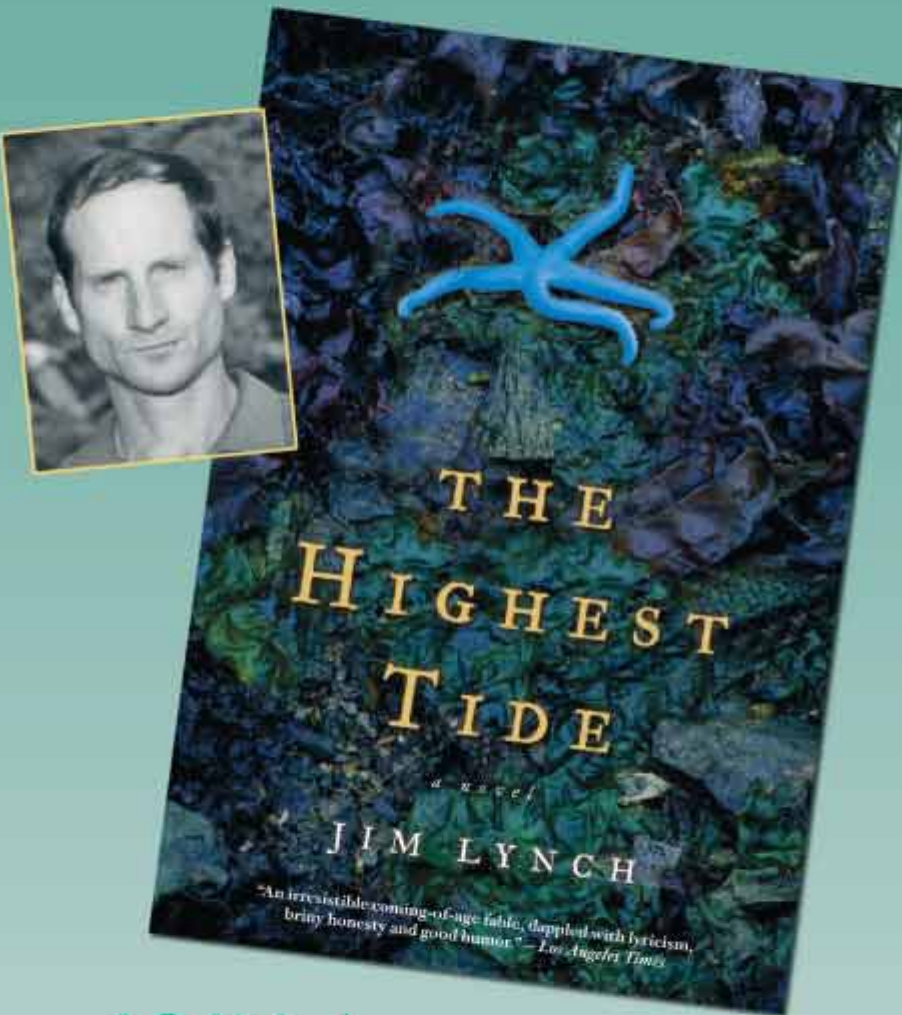
When possible, bring great-grandparents to the school play or the soccer game. Their presence lets children know they are loved.

"They don't have to do anything but sit and watch," he said.

SANTA MONICA

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## CITY WIDE



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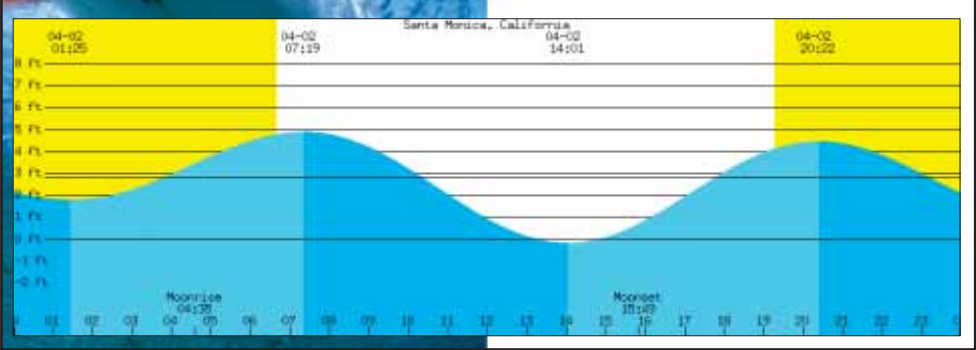
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Today will see a modest swath of southern hemi swell from a New Zealand storm, bringing waist to possibly chest high waves from 200 degrees. Early AM sessions might see fair conditions, but a storm will bear down on the region. Weather models tonight have delayed the ETA until the afternoon or evening. But, southerly winds will likely increase throughout the morning.

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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 -- 3

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 21

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 22

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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 | 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                                       | F   | F   |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth                     | F   | F   | Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain                     | A   | A+  |
| 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                          | B   | A+  | Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain                   | A+  | A+  |
| Puerco State Beach at creek mouth                                    | A   | F   | Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain                                 | A   | F   |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco 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                   | A   | B   |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon                                    | A+  | A+  | Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth                     | A   | A+  |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)              | B   | 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   | C   | 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



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MLB

# Giant fish

## Rodriguez reels in more than entire Florida Marlins roster

BY RONALD BLUM  
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK Alex Rodriguez makes more this year than his hometown Florida Marlins.

Boosted by his new deal with the New York Yankees, A-Rod tops the major league baseball salary list at \$28 million, according to a study of contract terms by The Associated Press. The 33 players on the Marlins’ opening-day roster and disabled list total \$21.8 million.

“The Marlins? It’s amazing,” Rodriguez said. “And they still seem to find a way to be very competitive. They have a great pool of talent; they made some unbelievable trades, so they have great personnel people. To win two championships in 11 years, that’s really admirable, and I’m very proud of that organization, being from Miami.”

For the first time in baseball history, the average salary topped the \$3 million mark. The 855 players on opening-day rosters and the DL averaged \$3.15 million, up 7.1 percent from last year’s starting average of \$2.94 million.

Florida’s highest earner doesn’t even make the average. Pitcher Kevin Gregg tops the Marlins at \$2.5 million.

“My best friend came into town, and he mentioned something about Johan Santana making \$15 million more than our five starters combined,” Marlins catcher Matt Treanor said. “It’s something to laugh at, but at the same time, it is what it is. Those guys put on the uniform like us. When it comes time to start the game, it doesn’t matter how much money the Yankees or whoever make.”

Treanor’s friend was exaggerating a bit — Santana makes \$12 million more than Florida’s rotation. Still, the Marlins’ payroll was less than half that of the No. 29 team, Tampa Bay (\$43.8 million).

“They’ve won a championship more recently than we have as an organization. So there’s many different ways to skin a cat,” said Yankees general manager Brian Cashman, whose team lost to Florida in the 2003 World Series. “Alex earned that contract in the negotiation. Right now, the Marlins are in a different place. But they’ve got a stadium coming on board and they’re going in the right direction, and I think they’ve already proven they know how to build something.”

The Yankees, not surprisingly, topped the payroll list at \$209.1 million, and A-Rod was

No. 1 in the majors for the eighth straight year. New York first baseman Jason Giambi was second at \$23.4 million, followed by Yankees short-stop Derek Jeter (\$21.6 million) and Boston left fielder Manny Ramirez (\$18.9 million).

Boosted by the acquisition of Miguel Cabrera and Dontrelle Willis, Detroit shot up to second in the major leagues at \$138.7 million. The Tigers’ payroll at the end of last season was 12th at \$98.5 million.

“This isn’t one of those teams, ‘I can’t believe we didn’t pick up this player, or this guy.’ We’ve got no excuses,” Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. “It’s all about us, because the main man has done everything and more that you could ask.”

“THEY’VE WON A CHAMPIONSHIP MORE RECENTLY THAN WE HAVE AS AN ORGANIZATION. SO THERE’S MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO SKIN A CAT.”

Brian Cashman,  
Yankees general manager

The New York Mets were third at \$138.3 million, up from \$121 million at the end of 2007, and the World Series champion Boston Red Sox were fourth at \$133.4 million.

Bunched together after that were the Chicago White Sox (\$121.2 million), Los Angeles Angels (\$119.2 million), Chicago Cubs (\$118.6 million), Los Angeles Dodgers (\$118.5 million) and Seattle Mariners (\$118 million).

Although the average increased, the median salary — the point at which an equal amount of players fall above and below — remained at a record \$1 million for the third straight opening day.

There were a record 434 making \$1 million or more, breaking the record set in 2001 and matched last year. And there was a big boost at the top with 85 players reaching \$10 million — up from 66 last year.

Payroll figures don’t include cash transactions between clubs. Figures included salaries and prorated shares of signing bonuses and other guaranteed income, and for some players, deferred money was discounted to present-day value.

The average salary usually declines during the season as veterans get released and are replaced by young players.

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2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:15  
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day (PG-13) 1hr 32min  
2:40, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35  
The Grand (R) 1hr 35min  
2:40, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35

1:10, 3:30, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05  
The Other Boleyn Girl (PG-13)  
1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55  
Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns (PG-13) 1hr 40min  
2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40  
Under the Same Moon (PG-13) 1hr 49min  
2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00  
21 (PG-13) 2hrs 03min  
1:00, 2:15, 3:45, 5:00, 6:30, 7:50, 9:30  
Stop-Loss (R) 1hr 53min  
1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:50

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12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15  
Married Life (PG-13) 1hr 30min  
1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10  
Snow Angels (R) 1hr 46min  
1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
The Band's Visit (PG-13) 1hr

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA

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Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who (G) 1hr 28min

29min  
12:45, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE

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Drillbit Taylor (PG-13) 1hr 42min  
11:30am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 10:00  
Vantage Point (PG-13) 1hr 30min  
11:50am, 2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
10,000 B.C. (PG-13) 1hr 49min  
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20  
Be Shutter (PG-13) 1hr 25min  
12:10, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50  
Run Fat Boy Run (PG-13) 1hr 40min  
11:40am, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30  
Superhero Movie (PG-13) 1hr 25min  
12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:10

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**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
★★★★ You thought you were on course, only to find an error in judgment. Take your time thinking and understanding. Investigate possibilities. Think positively. Tonight: Inventory time.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
★★★ You have assumed a very prominent role lately. If you stop and think, events might encourage you to go down another route. Everything is all right. Tonight: In the whirlwind of opportunity.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
★★★ You see what others don’t. Getting others to respond in what you deem an appropriate manner might be close to impossible. In this context, the only way to get a job done is to do it yourself. Now is the moment. Tonight: In charge, Gemini.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
★★★★ Investigate and honor some changes. You will see a considerable difference if you relax. Others will change their tune, especially given space. Tonight: Smile, relax and enjoy a movie or music, or surf the Net.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
★★★★ Rethink events and possibilities. Consider what is happening within a group. Perhaps you will be able to relate to a key individual. Tonight: Understand the other side of an issue.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
★★★★ You might want to recharge your batteries and understand what is going on. Events allow you to view a project, risk, romance or relationship far differently. Tonight: Others say a lot.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
★★★★ Your ability to understand goes way beyond the average person’s, if you apply these skills. Inevitably, you make changes that make a difference here. Tonight: Write down your to-dos.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
★★★★ Communication is revitalized. Unfortunately, for some, the issue is far deeper and more profound. An event could stop you dead in your tracks. Tonight: Pretend as if there is no tomorrow!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
★★★★ You want to understand what is happening within a financial situation. Use good sense and care, and turn away from a risk. You’ll see a new, sounder perspective evolve. Tonight: Luck knocks on your door.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
★★★★ You might wonder what hit you. Suddenly, you could feel a need to transform a situation or take another look at an issue. Relax and don’t feel compelled to do everything immediately. Tonight: Easy does it.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
★★★★ Act, even if you feel pressured. Try to gain information instead. You need to open up to other ideas, as events or statements will indicate. Tonight: Treat yourself to a new spring item.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
★★★ Postpone, postpone, postpone. How often do you get advised to do that? In fact, holding off is a good policy. You will know more later in the day. Go with the tides, knowing what you want. Be happy and strong. Tonight: Aim high.

Happy Birthday

Express confidence this year. If you want, transform your role in the community or at work. If you don’t honor your needs, events will encourage you to do so this year. Open up to new ways or approaches. Be willing to make adjustments. If you are single, you enter a period in which you shouldn’t make commitments until the following year, as there could be many external events to deal with. You also might discover that someone is not who you think at a later point. If you are attached, say when you need time alone, but also be willing to make time alone for the two of you. This balance will be important. PISCES reads you cold.

JACQUELINE BIGAR’S STARS

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

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

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



City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica

Ordinance Number 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, and 2256 (CCS)

(City Council Series)

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256 (CCS) prepared by the City Attorney:

Ordinance Number 2251 (CCS) conforms use of the Santa Monica Municipal Airport, which has runway ends very close to residences and has no runway safety areas, to the Airport’s federally designated specification of ARC B-II by prohibiting aircraft in the C&D categories from using the Airport in order to protect the safety of Airport neighbors and users.

Ordinance Number 2252 (CCS) makes permanent, with three modifications, an interim ordinance implementing state law regarding density bonuses for affordable housing projects. The three modifications clarify the law by specifying: that it applies to projects with four or more units; that an applicant may seek a 10% increase in first floor parcel coverage; and that, while the Planning Director may approve use of incentives from the established “menu”, the Planning Commission must approve other incentives or the waiver of development standards.

Ordinance Number 2253 (CCS) permanently incorporates into the Municipal Code an interim provision waiving certain development standards for residential rental units that were created without permits but are registered with the Rent Control Board; this law legalizes those units which are or can be made safe for occupancy in order to preserve the affordable housing stock and clarify the units’ legal status.

Ordinance Number 2254 (CCS) permanently incorporates into the Municipal Code an ordinance requiring that any business establishments with an alcohol CUP must obtain a new CUP if operations are ceased for one year or for six months in the CM District; the ordinance protects the City’s ability to impose conditions to meet current needs.

Ordinance Number 2255 (CCS) amends the Municipal Code provision on placing furniture and other items on the public sidewalk in commercial areas by specifying that furniture may be placed within specific parameters and that some merchandise may be displayed in vestibules on Main Street and Montana Avenue.

Ordinance Number 2256(CCS) extends a initial interim ordinance clarifying that only one new multi-family construction project is allowed within a five hundred foot radius in the City’s multi-family districts, subject to a limited exception applicable to affordable housing projects.

These ordinances will all become effective thirty days after their adoption.

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

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty  
GOLD

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

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



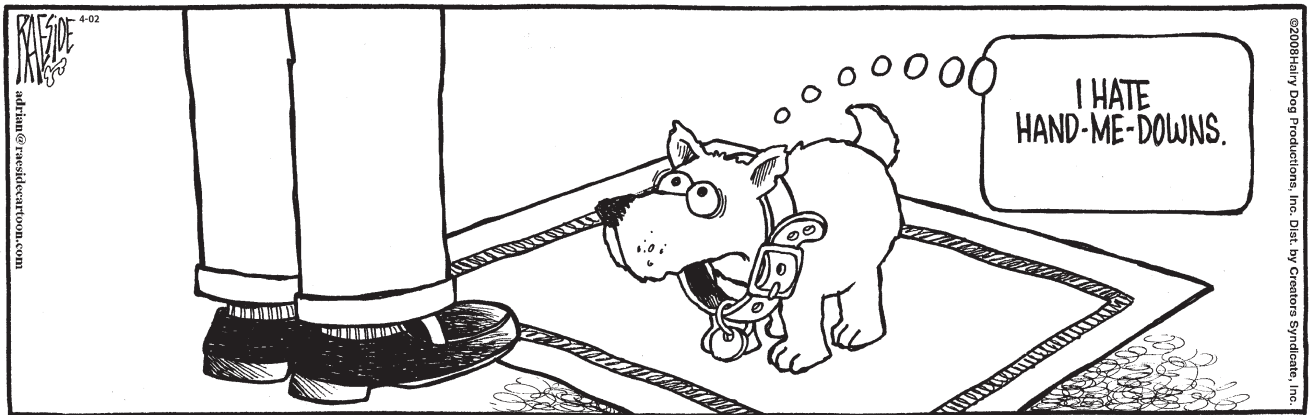
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



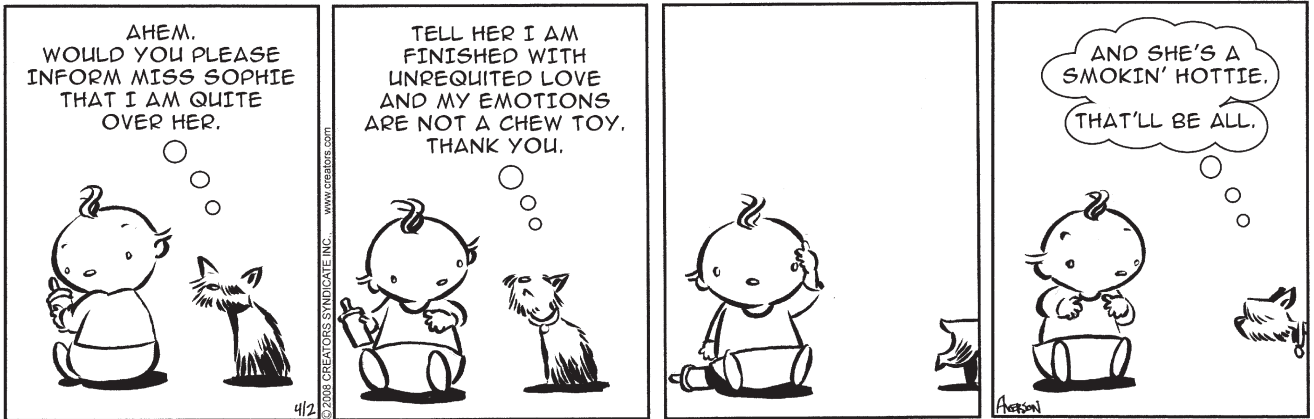
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

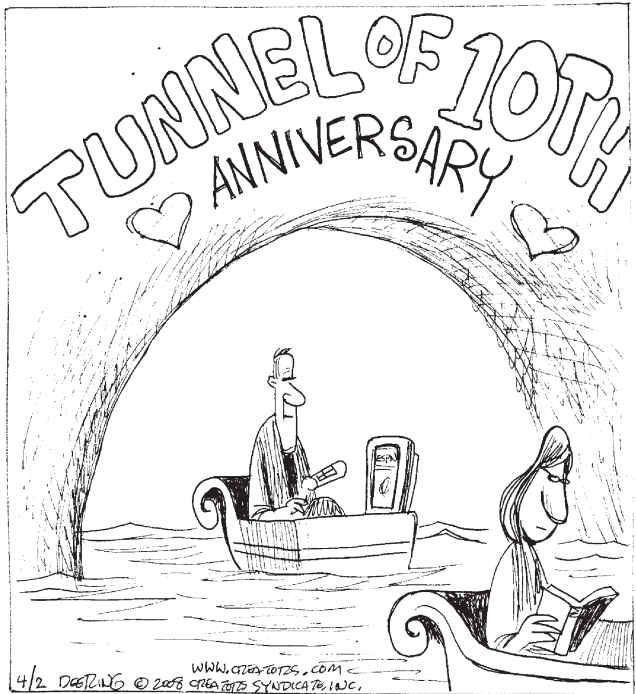
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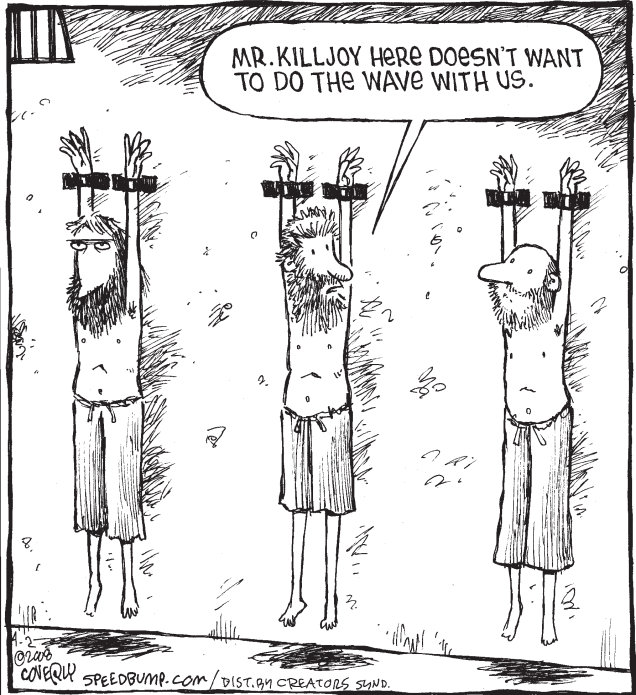
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The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com).

CROSSWORD  
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Church leaders
  - 7 Swindle
  - 11 Patch type
  - 12 Church leader
  - 13 High points
  - 14 Sign of a sort
  - 15 Champagne bottle
  - 17 Walk nervously
  - 20 Deplete
  - 23 Antique auto
  - 24 Reception aid
  - 26 Belief, in brief
  - 27 Welcome sight
  - 28 Ballroom maneuver
  - 29 Firm
  - 31 Seventh Greek letter
  - 32 Some swords
  - 33 Bard's creations
  - 34 Like Russian dolls
  - 37 Tom's pal
  - 39 Serving as a symbol
  - 43 Under-standing words
  - 44 Book blunders
- DOWN**
- 45 Designer Oldham
  - 46 Did some house-work

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

Yesterday's answer

- 10 Fellows
- 16 Peculiar
- 17 Tag number
- 18 Man of morals
- 19 Began
- 21 Join
- 22 Half of a 1960s rock group
- 24 Run up
- 25 One of the Bobbseys
- 30 Glanced
- 33 Smells
- 35 Even
- 36 Beige
- 37 Batter's goal
- 38 Gl-entertaining org.
- 40 — "King" Cole
- 41 Mineral suffix
- 42 Scoundrel

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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 |    |    |    |    | 44 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 45 |    |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |    |    |    |

DAILY LOTTERY

|                      |                                                                                           |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MEGA MILLIONS</b> | 4 17 26 46 56<br>Meganumber: 25<br>Jackpot: \$135M                                        |
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| <b>Fantasy 5</b>     | 10 14 25 32 37                                                                            |
| <b>DAILY 3</b>       | MIDDAY: 6 4 4<br>EVENING: 4 2 8                                                           |
| <b>DAILY DERRY</b>   | 1st: 09 Winning Spirit<br>2nd: 08 Gorgeous George<br>3rd: 07 Eureka<br>RACE TIME: 1.44.43 |

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD  
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

India's middle class is humming with "brand freaks" obsessed with luxury labels like Prada and Louis Vuitton, according to a February Washington Post dispatch, even though more than half the country lives in "abject poverty" (and even though Gandhi got along fine with just a loincloth!). Said one super-consumer, "I'll spend my whole salary for a really swank brand and eat (steamed rice cakes) for the rest of the month." According to the newly launched India edition of Vogue, the country's "Me Culture" has taken over, where, on an Ahmadabad road underneath towering billboards for Tag Heuer and Mont Blanc pens, barefoot kids with begging bowls tap on car windows. Though animal rights activists estimate that the country has more uncar-ed-for dogs on the streets than any other in the world, Gucci dog bowls are for sale in New Delhi.

TODAY IN HISTORY

**1968** the influential sci-ence-fiction film ``2001: A Space Odyssey," produced and directed by Stanley Kubrick, had its world premiere in Washington.

**1513** Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon landed in present-day Florida.

**1792** Congress passed the Coinage Act, which authorized establishment of the U.S. Mint.

**1865** Confederate President Jefferson Davis and most of his Cabinet fled the Confederate capital of Richmond, Va., because of advancing Union forces.

**1908** actor-dancer Buddy Ebsen was born in Belleville, Ill.

**1917** President Wilson asked Congress to declare war against Germany, saying, ``The world must be made safe for democracy." (Congress declared war four days later.)

**1932** aviator Charles Lindbergh and John Condon went to a cemetery in New York, where Condon turned over \$50,000 to a man called ``John" in exchange for Lindbergh's kidnapped son. (The child was not returned, and was found dead the following month.)

**1974** French president Georges Pompidou died in Paris.

**1982** several thousand troops from Argentina seized the disputed Falkland Islands, located in the south Atlantic, from Britain. (Britain took back the islands the following June.)

WORD UP!

**jollification** \joh-ih-fuh-KAY-shuhn\, *noun*: Merrymaking; festivity; revelry.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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|----------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|
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| North of Montana           | = | \$ 3,667,360        | \$ 2,101,550       |
| Between Wilshire & Montana | = | \$ 1,860,444        | \$ 996,459         |
| South of Wilshire          | = | \$ 862,300          | \$ 751,083         |
| Sunset Park                | = | \$ 1,372,437        | \$ 718,692         |
| Ocean Park                 | = | \$ 1,810,321        | \$ 1,146,963       |

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