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FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 122

Santa Monica Daily Press

A RICH HISTORY TOLD
SEE PAGE 12

We have you covered

THE WERE YOU FOOLED? ISSUE


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Andrew Thurm
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010
Santa Monica Daily Press
Whale meat came from pregnant female
New gang terrorizes city streets, drivers
Gambling ships return to SM Bay
HOLIDAY FAVORITES

FOOLING AROUND: **Santa Monica Daily Press**

Pranks abound in SM on April Fools' Day

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL As it has for each of the past nine years come April 1, the Santa Monica Daily Press took a break from covering the news and published a full edition of fake stories on Thursday, many of them filled with thinly veiled digs at local public figures and absurd takes on local issues.

This year's April Fools' edition included a

SEE PRANKS PAGE 11

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Samohi's slow start is a bit complicated

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI A slow 4-6 start to the season could indicate that the Vikings are in a rebuilding year.

Yet, Santa Monica High School Head Coach Sheldon Philip-Guide believes that his team's record is a bit deceiving. He admits that his team has yet to play up to its potential, but he said a difficult early season

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 11



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

COMING DOWN: **Demolition of the former Sears Auto Center began this week. The site will be the terminus of the Expo Light Rail Line.**

Expo station site begins transformation

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

COLORADO AVE Construction of the future site of an Expo Light Rail stop at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street is still years away, but in recent days bulldozers have been rolling at the train stop's planned home, as workers continue to demolish the structure that once housed a Sears Auto Center.

The location is the planned end-point for a rail project transportation officials say will link Santa Monica to Downtown Los Angeles by 2015.

The building that is being destroyed to make room for the rail station was more than 40 years old, so the Landmarks Commission had to sign off on its demolition. Though it was listed on the Historic Resources Inventory, it was not deemed a landmark.

"There was nothing significant about it. It was just old," said Nina Fresco, a Landmarks Commissioner.

The building, she said, had been a grocery store before being renovated into an auto center, and it had been significantly altered in the process, diminishing its importance.

"It was really unrecognizable except for the pylon," she said.

City Hall's economic development manager, Miriam Mack, agreed the structure did not warrant preservation.

"Its demolition is not significant to the historic resources of the city of Santa Monica," she said.

The Sears department store a block away, which won't be affected by the rail line's construction, though, is on City Hall's registry of landmarks.

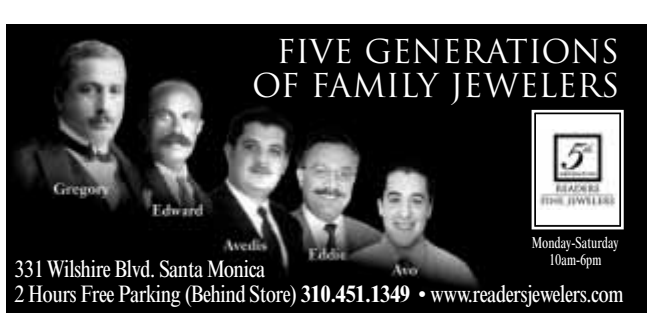
A contractor to build the second phase of the Expo project, which will extend the rail line from the first phase terminus in Culver City to Santa Monica's Civic Center, is expected to be picked at the end of the year.

> **"ITS DEMOLITION IS NOT SIGNIFICANT TO THE HISTORIC RESOURCES OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA."**
>
> **Miriam Mack,**
> Economic development manager

But there could be delays in the rail line's construction timeline.

The Expo's board approved the environmental review of the project's second phase in February but will have to defend the document in court after a coalition of Westside homeowner groups filed a civil suit alleging the study was inadequate.

nickt@smdp.com




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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, April 2, 2010

Acoustic blues duo
Sonny McLean's Irish Pub
2615 Wilshire Blvd., 10:30 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.
The Whiskey Man Band, featuring acoustic/electric six-string guitar, resonator slide guitar, vocals and violin, will play a 45-minute set. The set will include a selection of blues, classic rock and country rock covers. Call (310) 828-9839 for more information.

Art of Santa Monica: Art gala mix and mingle
Archstone Santa Monica on Main
2000 Main St., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Archstone announces the winner of six months free retail space at Archstone Santa Monica on Main for use as an art gallery. The winner will also receive a $1,000 Visa gift card. The reception includes the announcement in addition to the work of local artists. Call (866) 995-4356 for more information.

'King Hedley II'
Santa Monica College Main Stage
1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
Friday is opening night of the story of King Hedley, a man whose self worth is built on self delusion. He spends his time selling stolen refrigerators in the hope of making enough money to open a video store. Getting, spending, killing and dying in a world where getting is hard and killing is commonplace are threads woven into this 1980s installment of August Wilson's renowned cycle of plays about the black experience in America. Tickets are $15 general admission, $12 for students and $10 for SMC students. Call 310-434-4319 for more information.

Spring break splash
Annenberg community beach house
415 Pacific Coast Hwy, 11 a.m. — 3 p.m.
For the next two weekends, the pool will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. All members of a guest's party must be present when purchasing pool passes. Passes are $10 for adults, $5 for seniors, $4 for kids one to 17 and $24 for a family pass covering two adults and two children.

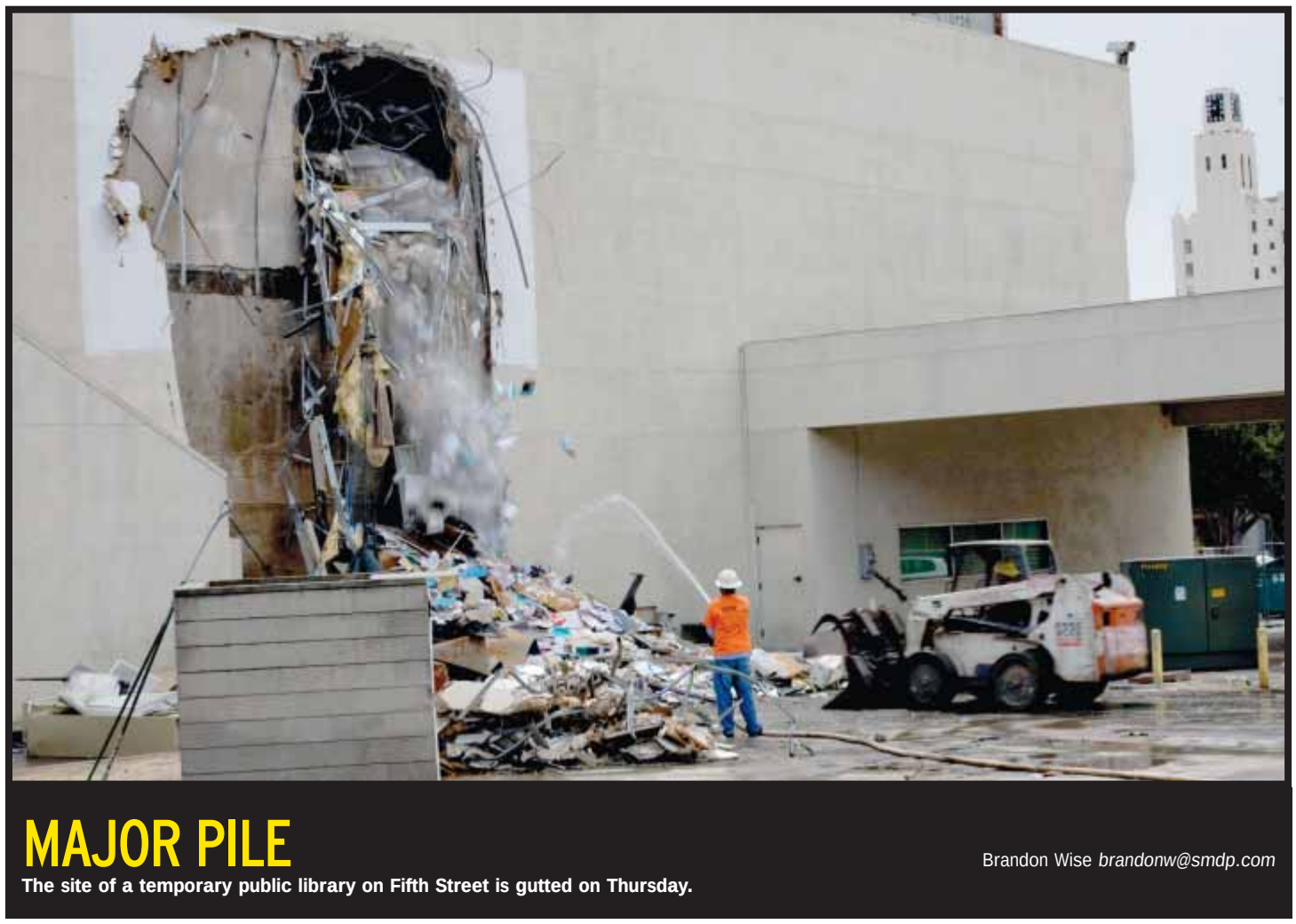
Saturday, April 3, 2010

Paulo Szot
The Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Brazilian opera singer Paulo Szot will sing Broadway standards and classic Brazilian songs. His songs include "Some Enchanted Evening," from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific." Call (310) 434-3412 for more information.

Peter Rabbit Day
Douglas Park
9 a.m. — 12 p.m.
The Santa Monica Junior Chamber presents the 18th annual Peter Rabbit Day at Douglas Park. Kids will be able to get their faces painted, learn how to color Easter eggs and have a chance to participate in the egg-in-spoon race. The Easter Bunny will be there to meet children and give away prizes. The Santa Monica Police Department will also be there with a police car for kids to explore and learn. Admission is free.

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





MAJOR PILE
The site of a temporary public library on Fifth Street is gutted on Thursday.
Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

FIRST PERSON

Trip to Haiti provides harsh reality

BY DR. BITA ZADEH
Special to the Daily Press

HAITI From the moment I saw news footage of the earthquake in Haiti, with those heart-wrenching images of death and devastation, I wanted to help in some way. When my employer sent an e-mail seeking volunteers to go on a relief mission with the U.S. Navy, I responded immediately.

Ever since medical school, I've wanted to go on a mission to help people in third-world countries. I never imagined it would be disaster relief, however, and I had no idea what I was getting into.

On Feb. 14, six UCLA nurses and I flew to Jacksonville for the first leg of our journey. We all wore UCLA Health System polo shirts, leading some people to think we were a women's soccer team. Once they learned of our mission, they sang our praises and offered words of encouragement.

We left Jacksonville the next day with other NGOs (non-government organizations) on a naval flight into Port-au-Prince, where we were taken by military convoy to the shore and then by boat to the ship.

The images we saw as we drove through Port-au-Prince were stunning and grabbed at our heartstrings. This place, which had very little to begin with, now had even less. Every building was leveled and sidewalks were covered with trash. What seemed like an old water canal was now filled with garbage, and tin houses ran along its side. Skinny, sickly children played among the trash in the canal. Huge amounts of rubble from the earthquake were swept to certain areas, serving as a constant reminder of the destruction. Large fields of tents sprawled throughout the area to provide communal living.

Once we got onto the ship, I remember feeling excited. We ate dinner with what seemed like hundreds of other people. Then we were shown our sleeping quarters. They were triple bunks, spaced about two feet apart, and not for the claustrophobic! Any noise or movement would cause us to awaken and knock our heads on the bunk above, thereby waking others. I woke at 4:30 a.m. and could not go back to sleep.

Day two on the ship was orientation and credentialing. Orientation scared me because they talked about potential dangers, including the ship being attacked, sinking or catching fire.

Following orientation, I went to the ship's operating rooms and met the lead anesthesiologist and surgeons. I walked into one of the operating rooms where they were starting a case. It was a young boy, age 6 or so, who had a large open wound on his thigh. The surgeon sighed and said, "another horrible injury."

The third morning was equally challenging for me. At this point, I was severely sleep deprived and my entire body ached. I felt exhausted. In addition, the malaria pills were causing bad side effects. At breakfast, I started questioning myself. Didn't I know

SEE HAITI PAGE 10

L.A. schools contractor charged in hiring scheme

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A contracted construction manager with the Los Angeles school district was indicted Thursday on charges of hiring people he employed in his own firm to work on district building projects then getting kickbacks from their salaries.

Bassam Raslan, 52, regional director of new construction, faces nine counts of conflict of interest in connection with the hiring of workers from TBI & Associates from 2004 to 2007, the indictment states.

The Los Angeles Unified School District said it had placed Raslan on an unpaid leave while officials review the indictment and decide if further action will be taken.

Raslan's attorney Daniel V. Nixon said his client will fight the charges and was confident he would be vindicated.

"He has been a vital part of the school district's school construction program and enjoys a sterling reputation," Nixon said. "He followed school district policy 100 percent."

The indictment said Raslan formed TBI with two colleagues in 2002 to provide construction management personnel for projects in the district's $27 billion building portfolio.

As a project manager and later regional construction director, Raslan recommended hiring many TBI employees to work on school projects, with TBI receiving a portion of their salaries — a conflict of interest, the indictment states.

Easter Sunrise Service at Hollywood Bowl canceled

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Organizers say the Hollywood Bowl's popular Easter Sunrise Service has been canceled due to weak support from donors during the recession.

The nonprofit that organizes the annual service said Thursday that the event usually attracts between 12,000 and 17,000 people.

Trina Herrmann-Boychenko says the event depends on donations from corporations and individuals. She wouldn't specify a dollar amount, but said the cost to stage the event is substantial.

The service has been canceled seven times due to renovations at the Bowl. It has also been held at the Forest Lawn Memorial Park in the Hollywood Hills.

The sunrise service began in 1919 and moved to its current site in 1921.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

L.A. Marathon not good for Santa Monica

Editor:

For residents of Santa Monica, the Los Angeles Marathon was a disaster. Traffic was snarled beyond one's wildest imagination – it took 40 minutes to get from Ocean Park Boulevard and Fourth Street to Wilshire Boulevard and Third Street (and involved detouring east and then north to escape all the barricades) – and served only to foreshadow what's likely to happen, daily, if the City Council approves all the proposed development (and its attendant traffic) throughout the city.

In the weekend edition of the SMDP, your front page story claimed that the marathon didn't "produce the expected bounty." That would be an economic bounty. And that's the problem.

The marathon is a privately-owned, commercial enterprise. Yet it relies on the cities along its path to provide police, fire, sanitation, and emergency services – all at taxpayers' expense. There's something inherently wrong with that, especially for an event that, I'm guessing, appeals to no more than 10 percent of the local population.

[Editor's note: City Hall received $420,000 from the marathon to cover expenses.]

For Frank McCourt, the owner of the marathon and the L.A. Dodgers, there's no difference between making money from one sport and making money from another. With the Dodgers, however, you know that the team plays in a set location, that there's ample access and parking, and that there's no taxpayer subsidy.

For local Santa Monica businesses, the sales pitch that there would be an uptick in revenue turned out to be a hollow promise for the majority of retailers and restaurants. It's a come-on that's so old that, by now, you'd think that business people would see right through it. In the race itself, once the leaders go by, it's impossible to tell (from a static spot along the route) whether they're gaining or losing ground, but it's a certainty that all the people bringing up the rear will be out of the money. That's a good metaphor for what happens once the organizers get approval – it's impossible to tell what other deals they're making, but it's a better certainty that they'll profit than that any of the local businesses whose support they enlisted will realize their "bounty."

So the threat of another marathon-to-the-sea next year is exactly that – a threat. And if it gets approved (which I hope it won't but which I'm sure the politicians will help sell with the same empty promises), I'll be sure to be out of town from Friday through late Sunday night. And there's something wrong with being forced out of one's home because of an unnatural disaster.

Peter Altschuler
Santa Monica

Job well done

Editor:

Thank you again for the witty and hysterical April 1 issue!

Karen A. Baker
Santa Monica

Promises kept

Editor:

Congratulations to President Obama for restoring democracy to the people by breaking the cycle of elitism provoked by the former administration. Under the new student loan reform, more people will be able to go to school and return to school and afford to pay back their student loans, as the payback has been capped to 10 percent of their annual income. Here is the hope we elected him for.

Thank God, somebody is coming through with some of their promises in this post 9-11 government.

Jayne Pitchford
Santa Monica

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Easter, Passover and the Final Four

FOR OPENERS, I'D LIKE TO COMMENT on last week's column about the seventh anniversary of the Iraq War. One reader suggested effusively that I should get a Pulitzer Prize whereas another essentially suggested that I wasn't worthy of a booby prize.

A reader named Jerold was so agitated that he wrote a letter to the editor, worried that "weak-minded individuals" might believe my "liberal-progressive lies." Lies? You mean like WMDs, mobile weapons labs, or Saddam's attempted purchase of Niger yellowcake, none of which were true? As a final slap he added, "Jack is not funny." Lies OK, but not funny?

In Jerold's defense, I did receive a number of e-mails basically asking, "Why do you hate George Bush?" What I hate is what Bush did to America. For example, he inherited the greatest surplus in history and managed to turn it into the greatest deficit. He left us with the worst economy since the Great Depression and, while walking out the door, bailed out Wall Street. I'm sorry Jerold, but those are facts.

With soldiers dying daily or losing limbs, I hated hearing Bush reflect philosophically on his presidency, "Laura and I had the time of our lives." Or that he was looking forward to private life so that he could "replenish the ol' coffers." Or how much he was going to miss meeting with the families of the fallen soldiers because "I always felt so much better afterwards." One would hope that a president's concern would be for the grieving families, not himself.

I hated hearing incessant Bush bully rhetoric like "bring it on," "wanted dead or alive," "I'm the decider," "mission accomplished," "stay the course" and "you're either with us or against us." Even Laura was embarrassed.

And it was hard to watch, while New Orleans was under water, the president of the United States was on a stage in sunny Arizona eating birthday cake with John McCain and playing air guitar. (W reminded me of Mad Magazine's Alfred E. Newman minus the caption, "What me, worry?")

After the Aug. 6, 2001 PDB, "Bin Laden Determined to Strike in U.S." Bush leaped into action. He went on vacation. (He set the record for presidential vacations.) I hated the insidious Stop Loss program which, due to the fine print, forced soldiers to serve multiple tours of duty. (Thankfully Obama ended it.)

I hated Bush's inimitable combination of arrogance and stupidity, his disregard for the environment, tax cuts for the wealthy, illegal wiretapping, the abuses at Abu Ghraib and Bagram Air Base, and such pesky peccadilloes as water boarding, other torture and the homicides of detainees. That's not America, folks. Please rent "Taxi to the Dark Side" and you tell me.

Alas, I fear this might further agitate poor Jerold. And besides, this is a holy week. Naturally, I'm referring to the NCAA Final Four, which starts tomorrow, although clearly Passover and Easter are holy, too.

I watched this year's NCAA tournament with a heavy heart because UCLA wasn't invited. Even if the field had been expanded from 65 to 96 teams, as some suggest (why fix what isn't broken?), the Bruins still wouldn't have been invited. At about 200 they might have been.

For next year, I'm hoping that Bruin coach Ben Howland can pull a rabbit out of his hat. Actually I'm hoping it's a 6'9", 275-pound rabbit which, of course, would require a rather large hat.

I'D CHECK WITH MEL GIBSON ON THE SUBJECT BUT IT'S RUMORED HE CAN BE A LITTLE TESTY.

The opening semi-final game tomorrow features two No. 5 seeds: Indiana's Butler University with a student population of 4,000 against Michigan State, which has 47,000 students. It's being played in Lucas Oil Stadium, which is an odious name. They're expecting 70,000 fans which means 20,000 might actually see the action. I'm rooting for Butler.

In the second semi, West Virginia plays Duke. The last time the Mountaineers were in the Final Four was 1959 with Jerry West! (Interestingly, West's Santa Monica-born son, Jonnie, is on the current squad.)

Duke is coached by Mike Krzyzewski who has won three national championships, which is impressive. (Also impressive is how he's kept the same receding hairline for the past 30 years.) He led the U.S. to Olympic gold in 2008, so I should root for Duke, but I'm pulling for the Mountaineers and then hoping Butler wins the whole shebang.

Sunday, of course, is Easter. What I learned just this week is the Last Supper was very likely a Passover meal. (Bread without yeast sounds like matzo to me.) I'd check with Mel Gibson but it's rumored he can be a little testy. How bunnies and colored eggs got into the Easter tradition, I'm not entirely sure.

Meanwhile, the NCAA Championship is Monday night at 6:15 PDT. Actually, I'm hoping that Jerold's rooting for Butler. Otherwise he might write another letter to the editor.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.



Write Rachel

Rachel Iverson

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Too manly for some men

DEAR RACHEL,

I'm a tomboy who feels more masculine than the men I date. I remodeled my house on my own, while my last boyfriend couldn't even operate a drill. I want to feel like the woman in the relationship for a change. How can I find a man who's manly enough to make me feel feminine?

Signed,
Tomboy

DEAR TOMBOY,

Instead of looking for a macho man to make you feel more feminine, develop your feminine side. Everyone has an inner feminine and masculine side, (also known as yin and yang) and the key is to strike a healthy balance between the two. You've probably received a lot of validation in your life from friends, family and even boyfriends for being a woman with a well-developed masculine side. That's great and that's part of who you are, but that doesn't mean you have to neglect your feminine side completely. If you want to feel more feminine in your dating relationships, practice tapping into your feminine (yin) side by allowing yourself to be more vulnerable, receptive and intuitive with the men you date.

How do these qualities translate into dating behavior? Be receptive to letting your date make the first move, treat you to a nice dinner, and maybe even open the door for you. As a woman, it's not that you can't open your own door or afford your own dinner, but it's nice to give your date an opportunity to express his assertive, masculine (yang) side and be attentive to your needs. Let him open the door for you because he wants to, not because you can't do it yourself.

Once you incorporate feminine/yin qualities into your personality, they will become second nature to you and you'll naturally attract a man who appreciates both the feminine and masculine qualities within you. Find a man who has a balance of yin and yang qualities in himself, rather than a macho caveman who's out of touch with his feminine side and, therefore, unbalanced himself. You don't need a man who's more masculine than you in every way, just enough to occasionally make you feel like the woman in the relationship. You may always be able to out-drill your guy when it comes to power tools, but you can still let him open the door for you at Home Depot.

DEAR RACHEL,

My partner is a workaholic! I know he loves me, but we don't get much one-on-one time as a couple. He works long hours, including most weekends, and when he comes home we eat a late meal and then go straight to bed. When I tell him I want to spend more quality time with him, he gets frustrated and tells me he's working to support our lavish lifestyle. It's true that he treats me to expensive gifts, and I appreciate his hard work, but I wish he'd spend less on presents and spend more time with me. I miss him. How can I get him to make time for our relationship when there are limited hours in a day?

Signed,
Neglected

DEAR NEGLECTED,

Your partner may be the kind of person who expresses his love by providing you with material possessions, rather than through his time or affection. If this is the case, I wouldn't expect him to change anytime soon. Therefore, since your partner has an extremely busy schedule, it's up to you to pencil in some quality time for the two of you on his calendar.

Tell him exactly what you told me — that you appreciate his hard work, but you miss him. Sometimes we assume our partners know what we're thinking, even though we've never said the words out loud. Next, pick a day that tends to be his least hectic and allot some personal time to bond. It may not sound romantic, but it may be the most practical way for you to get some attention from your guy. Make one day your weekly, designated "Date Day" and stick to it. If your partner is a highly structured person, he'll probably appreciate some structure in his personal life as well.

Preplanning a designated Date Day is your best bet for coping with your partner's workaholic ways. You'll be guaranteed at least one day of undivided attention per week, while your partner will feel less pressure to bond at the end of each grueling day at the office.

RACHEL IVERSON is a freelance writer, dating coach and author, who lives with her husband in Venice Beach. Her book, "Don't Help A Man Be A Man: How To Avoid 12 Dating Time Bombs," has been endorsed by Dr. John Gray, author of "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus." For more information on Rachel or her book, visit www.rebelgirlpublishing.com. For dating advice, contact: rachel@rebelgirlpublishing.com.

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The Q Line

Celebrating a half century

The Santa Monica Playhouse is celebrating its 50th year of entertaining the masses.

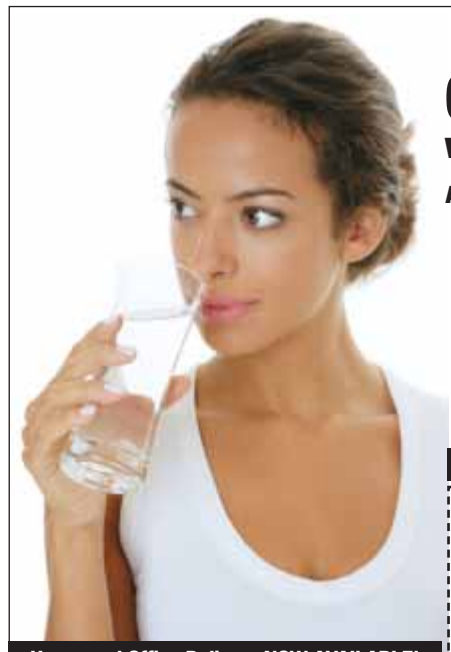
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What is your fondest memory of the venerable playhouse?

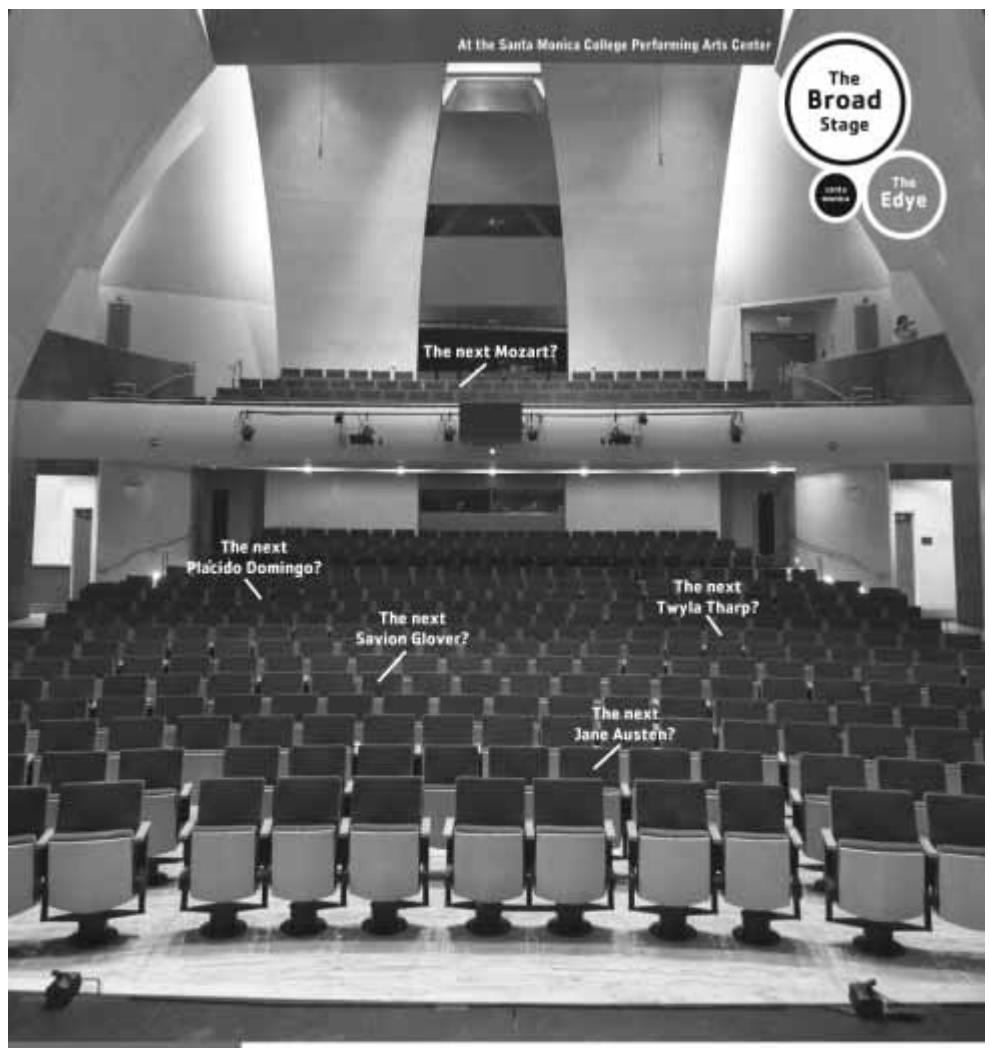
Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.


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Highlights from the Redcat International Children's Film Festival
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Few places are as inspiring as the 499-seat, surprisingly kid-friendly Broad Stage in Santa Monica. Don't miss the Redcat International Children's Film Festival. And its G-rated movie magic from all corners of the world. For details, take a quick trip to our website.
The Broad Stage 1310 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401
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Community Meeting for Proposed
AMC Theatre Development Agreement
1318-1320 Fourth Street, Santa Monica

Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:00 PM

Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica
Room 103

You are invited to attend a community meeting to review and provide feedback on the concept plans for a new 12-screen/auditorium movie theater proposed for construction at 1318-1320 Fourth Street by AMC Entertainment, Inc., and Metropolitan Pacific Capital, Inc. The proposed project consists of the following key components:

- Construction of an approximately 83,000 square foot, 12-screen theater building which includes approximately 2,197 theater seats; an approximately 2,100 SF retail tenant space; and an interior restaurant that will be open to the public.
- Removal of 325 existing parking spaces in Parking Structure #3 (demolish structure).

This meeting is the part of the preliminary concept phase of the Development Agreement process where residents, property owners, and interested parties will have the opportunity to provide direct feedback to the developer and to City staff regarding to the concept plans.

This meeting is also the first step in the Development Agreement "float-up" process and occurs prior to the Planning Commission and City Council discussions of the concept plans. For more information, please contact Roxanne Tanemori, AICP, Senior Planner, at (310) 458-8341.

RSVP appreciated to (310) 458-8341.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation.

ESPANOL
Esto es una noticia de una reunión de la comunidad para revisar el diseño de la applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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

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

200 Santa Monica Pier, LC-10CA-002, Zoning: RVC (Resident-Visitor-Commercial) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness 10CA-002 for the construction and installation of an onion dome shaped structure on the cupola of the Looff Hippodrome Building (Pier Carousel Building). The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the designated City Landmark. Applicant: City of Santa Monica. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

128 Hollister Avenue, 03LM-002, Zoning: OP2 (Ocean Park Low Multiple Family) District. In accordance with Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.36.120(f), the Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider correcting the inadvertent omission of the Landmark Parcel at 128 Hollister Avenue from the Statement of Official Action that was adopted by the Landmarks Commission in 2003 when it designated the American Foursquare styled residence on the parcel as a Landmark. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: Britt Allcroft Trust.

When: **Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:00 pm**

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

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

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

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

California's Sierra snowpack slightly above normal levels

SAMANTHA YOUNG
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Winter storms have blanketed the Sierra Nevada with snow, leaving California with a snowpack slightly above normal and better than expected water supplies.

The Department of Water Resources also said Thursday that cities and farms will get 20 percent of the water they have requested. It's a 5 percent increase from what was allocated earlier this year but still well below normal.

"Clearly we're going to have water shortages this year," DWR director Mark Cowin told reporters on a conference call. "We all need to conserve water."

Cowin said water deliveries would be slightly increased because the snowpack was in good shape.

The water content of the Sierra snowpack is 106 percent of the normal level for this time of year across the 400-mile mountain range. This time last year, the reading was 81 percent of normal for the date.

The department monitors the snow's water content because California depends on spring snowmelt from the range to supply water to roughly two-thirds of the state and farmers in the Central Valley. The snow is usually at its peak in April.

Three drought years have left Lake Oroville, the largest state-owned reservoir, less than half full. It also snowed and rained more this winter in areas other than the Feather River watershed, which feeds into Lake Oroville.

By comparison, the federal government's Shasta Reservoir is about 85 full because more rain and snow fell in that region.

Terry Erlewine, general manager of the State Water Contractors, said water agencies around the state have been relying on limited reserves.

"It's like a family trying to survive on 20 percent of its annual income," Erlewine said.

The drought is largely to blame for water shortages, but federal restrictions on pumping to protect fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are curtailing state water deliveries by about 10 percent, Cowin said.

"Obviously that makes a difference to us," Cowin said of the pumping restrictions. "But we still are primarily suffering from the dry conditions of the last three years."

Farmers critical of the pumping restrictions had tried to get relief in federal court but were turned down Wednesday. U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger said the current pumping levels risked killing endangered salmon and steelhead moving through the delta.

As a result, only one of the five pumps at the state-federal pumping plant south of the delta will run for the next two months, said Pete Lucero, a spokesman at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Paul Wenger, a Modesto almond and walnut grower and president of the California Farm Bureau Federation, said the limited pumping has caused hardship for farmers.

"We have gone through droughts before and not had this much land put out of production," he said.

At a meadow near Echo Summit in the northern Sierra Nevada, water officials measured the snow at 65.7 inches. The water content was 25.9 inches, which is 92 of the average for this time of year.

Electronic sensors show water content the northern Sierra measured about 126 percent of normal for the entire northern region, 92 percent of normal in the central region and 105 percent of normal in the southern region to the Kern River.

If the northern part of the state gets more rain and snow as forecast over the next month, cities and farms could get as much as 40 percent of their water deliveries from the state, Cowin said.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation last month announced it would deliver 30 percent of the amounts farmers requested.

GOP not down with legal pot

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO The California Republican Party is just saying no to a November ballot initiative that would legalize marijuana in the state.

The less-than-surprising news that the state GOP would oppose a measure known as the Tax Cannabis Act was announced Wednesday on the party's Web site.

The announcement did indicate the approach the measure's opponents may take as debate over the proposal heats up in coming months.

Party chairman Ron Nehring said the health and public safety costs of expanded marijuana use would far outweigh any tax revenue raised from legalizing the drug.

A California Democratic Party spokesman said the party would likely consider its official position on the measure at an executive board meeting in July.



Jobs, manufacturing reports boost surging stock market

TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Stronger reports on jobs and manufacturing boosted stocks Thursday ahead of the government's March employment report.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 70 points to a 2010 high on the final day of a shortened week. The stock market will be closed Friday and the bond market will close early for Good Friday.

Major stock indexes rose for a fifth straight week, giving the Dow its longest winning streak since mid-April last year.

Economists expect the Labor Department will report that employers added 190,000 jobs last month. That would mark on the second month of jobs growth since the recession began in December 2007. Government hiring for the 2010 census could provide a temporary boost, but an increase would still be welcome news for stock investors.

"Just getting a number with six digits — over 100,000 — is, I think, very much encouraging to a lot of folks who really believe that none of this counts until we start creating jobs," said Jeffrey Kleintop, chief market strategist at LPL Financial in Boston.

Confidence grew Thursday after the Labor Department said that initial claims for unemployment benefits fell last week. A four-week average of clams dropped to its lowest level in 18 months.

Manufacturing figures also raised expectations that a recovery is gaining steam. A trade group's report found that U.S. manufacturing grew in March at the fastest pace in 5 1/2 years. Manufacturing reports from China and Europe also indicated that factories are busier.

The market has been climbing with little interruption for a year. In the past seven weeks, the gains have been marked by steady increases that are adding up.

FBI says ruse created to arrest militia members

JEFF KAROUB & MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press Writers

DETROIT Members of a Midwest Christian militia accused of conspiring to overthrow the government were arrested after the FBI lured them to a warehouse to attend a phony memorial service, where they would be unarmed, Michigan's chief federal agent said Thursday.

The ruse Saturday in Ann Arbor was part of a series of weekend raids in several states that resulted in the indictment of nine people in the alleged plot, officials said.

"We basically set up a scenario where we were able to draw them all to one location," Andrew Arena, head of the FBI in Detroit, told The Associated Press. "And the reason we did that was to obviously get them away from their weapons."

Nine suspected members of a group called Hutaree were charged this week with seditious conspiracy, or plotting to levy war against the U.S., attempting to use weapons of mass destruction and other crimes.

They planned to make a false 911 call, kill responding police officers and set off a bomb at the funeral to kill many more, according to prosecutors. The FBI said it broke up the plot with the help of an undercover agent.

Also Thursday, a federal judge said he needed more time to decide whether eight of the nine people in custody in the Detroit area will remain locked up until trial. The ninth defendant is in custody in Indiana. A decision was expected Friday.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Donald Scheer heard a second day of arguments and denied a request by defense attorneys to force FBI agents to testify. He said prosecutors could make their case for pre-trial custody without calling witnesses.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph Falvey Jr. argued that there was nothing wrong with owning guns or hating the government. But it's illegal, he added, when "people with dark hearts and evil intents" gather to discuss ways to commit violence.

Releasing the defendants would allow them to regroup and raise their fear of law enforcement, Falvey said.

Defense lawyers told the judge that no evidence against the group has been aired outside the indictment.

"If this group was so dangerous ... then where were the witnesses?" attorney Lisa Kirsch Satawa said.

COMMUNITY
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
APRIL 2, AT 12:10 P.M.
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Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,095,000	$825,000
South of Wilshire	=	$869,000	$642,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,249,000	$573,500
Ocean Park	=	$1,522,000	$599,000

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: April 5, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB09-567, 1343 Oak Street: Residential
- ARB10-076, 2425 Colorado Avenue: Office
- ARB10-089, 1502 Fourth Street & 1555 Second Street: Parking Structures
- ARB10-104, 2025 Wilshire Boulevard: Restaurant
- ARB10-111, 3250 Olympic Boulevard: Storage

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

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Deadline looms to spend federal foreclosure money

TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press Writer

LEHIGH ACRES, Fla. With a use-it-or-lose-it deadline just months away, communities have spent less than half of $4 billion available under a federal program to redevelop abandoned and foreclosed properties.

Some city, state and county officials say they've been stymied by confusing and ever-changing federal rules for the money, awarded in the midst of the nation's foreclosure crisis.

A year after the Neighborhood Stabilization Program started, about a third of more than 300 local governments given the help have barely made a dent in their funds, according to a recent U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development report.

As of March 16, only 38 percent of the grant money had been "obligated," meaning a municipality has a formal contract at a specific address in place — say, a contract to buy a foreclosed home. Governments must commit the money to projects by September or it's gone.

Some communities have used their money to buy, renovate and resell homes to low- and moderate-income families. Others demolished eyesores or bought multifamily apartment buildings and rented them out. Some used non-profits to manage the program.

But local officials in other areas say they've been obstructed by the rules, overwhelmed by starting a new program and, in many cases, outbid by cash investors when trying to buy foreclosures. Under HUD rules, grant recipients must pay 1 percent less than the appraised value of any property.

"We're competing with the marketplace for foreclosed properties," said Kurt Bressner, the city manager of Boynton Beach, Fla., which as of mid-March had only spent $11,000 of its $3 million grant. "By the time the properties end up in the listings, they're gone."

Boynton Beach was one of nearly 100 municipalities that had obligated less than 25 percent of its grant money as of mid-March. The state of Florida — which received $91 million — lags behind all but three other states in using the money.

"I'm not satisfied with the progress," said U.S. Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Tampa.

Castor's district is one of Florida's larger metropolitan areas and a place where home values have plummeted 42 percent since 2006. She said officials have run into problems not forming necessary relationships with banks that held mortgages on foreclosed properties.

The program has been so dismal in some areas, like Las Vegas, that HUD has "embedded" its workers to help use the money.

"These are people who are fluent in how to acquire property, rehabilitation, land banking and demolition," said spokesman Brian Sullivan.

In March, dozens of officials converged on Harvard University for a forum sponsored by Living Cities, a philanthropic collaborative of large foundations and financial institutions. The two-day session was all about how to spend NSP funds quickly.

"The problem is so much bigger than the effort we've been able to put up against it," said Ben Hecht, the CEO of Living Cities. "It's too early to tell whether the NSP program is going to fully achieve its promise because a lot of the work has just started."

Indeed, the federal government issued a second wave of money in January 2010. But those awarded the latest money had to prove they had a track record of handling, and spending, large amounts of cash on foreclosure relief programs. Only 56 communities received those grants, and places like Las Vegas were not among them.

Congress mandated that all states receive the first wave of money. Even those less hit by foreclosures got at least $19.6 million. The harder-hit areas got more cash.

In Kane County, Ill. — which hasn't yet obligated a cent of its $2.5 million grant — officials are asking contractors, real estate agents and developers to submit proposals for spending the money.

"We're in the process of ramping up our program now," said Development and Community Services division manager Scott Berger. "We're not housing developers."

Many communities say they are not at risk of losing the money, even though they've lagged behind.

And others have found ways to make the NSP programs successful. In Lee County, Fla., where vast overbuilding on the edges of Florida's Everglades left entire communities awash in empty, foreclosed homes, many of which were never lived in.

Brian Bissell, an out-of-work luxury home contractor, was hired to be one of the county's two "rehabilitation specialists."

Bissell spends time cruising around Lehigh Acres in his white pickup, looking for deals. Because of the hard-earned relationships he's forged with local bankers and real estate agents, he's been able to find and buy foreclosures before investors.

So far, Lee County has obligated 67 percent of its $18.2 million grant.

Bissell even bought one tiny ranch for $1 — it had been infested with 100 cats — and then rehabbed it with $60,000 of grant money. The home is under now under contract.

"When you walk that person who is buying the house inside, it makes all the problems worth it," he said. "I get goose bumps every time I think about it."

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Keys to a not-so-healthy relationship

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, AT 8:10 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1500 block of Santa Monica Boulevard – Lexus of Santa Monica – regarding an assault and battery. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who said an ex-fiancé came into the dealership. As the woman walked toward him she threw her keys and struck him in the head, police said. The woman cursed at the man and hit him in the head and face with a closed fist. As she pursued the victim, two witnesses stepped in. The woman left the location. She was located a short distance away and placed under arrest for battery on a person with whom they had a dating relationship. She was identified as Jennifer Resnick, 37, of Marina del Rey. Her bail was set at $20,000.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, AT 2:32 P.M.,
Officers responded to the area of Ocean Park Boulevard and Main Street regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, they made contact with a witness who told them he saw a man write something on three different objects with some type of pen or marker. He provided officers with a description of the suspect, who was located a short distance away. Officers made contact with the suspect and searched him. Officers said they found him to be in possession of two blue paint pens, a credit car and an ID that did not belong to him, along with Xanax. Officers were able to determine that the suspect had written his moniker on a well, electrical box and a drainpipe. Officers said the suspect was in possession of his roommate's credit card and ID without consent and he did not have a prescription for the Xanax. The suspect, identified as Matthew Scully, 18, of Santa Monica, was arrested for vandalism, possession of a controlled substance, and grand theft. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, AT 6 P.M.,
Officers responded to 1 Pico Blvd. – Shutters on the Beach – regarding an employee in possession of an illegal substance. When officers arrived, they contacted staff who stated that the suspect had found a purse in the ballroom foyer. Money was missing from inside the purse, police said. During a voluntary search of the employee by hotel staff, they found what later turned out to be cocaine and amphetamines in the employee's possession. Officers placed the employee under arrest for drug possession. He was identified as Ernesto Batres, 41, of Arizona. His bail was set at $10,000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, AT 2:06 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding a burglary suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who said the suspect entered the store, removed clothing items valued at $127.94 and placed them in a bag she allegedly had hidden in her jacket pocket and then left the store without paying for the items. The suspect, Sandra Herlinda Mendez-Lopez, 39, of Los Angeles, was detained and brought back into the store. Officers took custody of her and booked her for burglary. Her bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, AT 5:19 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 2900 block of Main Street – Pagilaris Liquor – regarding a fight in progress. When officers arrived, they found the suspect, a female, lying on the ground. The victim, an employee at the store, said the suspect entered, went to a cooler and removed a 20-ounce beer. The suspect then allegedly tried to leave the store without paying. The employee confronted the suspect and a struggle ensued. During the struggle, the beer and Chex Mix fell to the floor. The suspect tried to leave the store as the police arrived. The suspect, Joseline Nowosielski, 26, a transient, was arrested for robbery. Her bail was set at $50,000.

MONDAY, MARCH 22, AT 2 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling the area of 17th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard when they observed an individual involved in vandalism. As officers approached the suspect, he allegedly fled to a waiting car in an alley. Officers were able to detain the suspect, Daniel Galvan, 19, of Santa Monica, and placed him under arrest for vandalism and resisting. His bail was set at $10,000.

MONDAY, MARCH 22, AT 8:56 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding an employee in custody for theft. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said that they saw the employee bring nine items to the register and only paid for six. When officers contacted the employee, she said that she had been doing this for about two years, police said. She gave officers consent to search for items she had stolen in the past. The suspect was arrested for burglary. She was identified as Claudia Lizama, 30, of Venice. Her bail was set at $20,000.

NEWS@SMDP.COM

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3003 – FURNISH AND DELIVER THREE (3) NEW AND UNUSED HYDROSTATIC DRIVE--HIGH PRESSURE JETTER TRUCKS

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
- **Submission Deadline is April 19, 2010 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-2211, or by e-mailing your request to kimberlie.nimori@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

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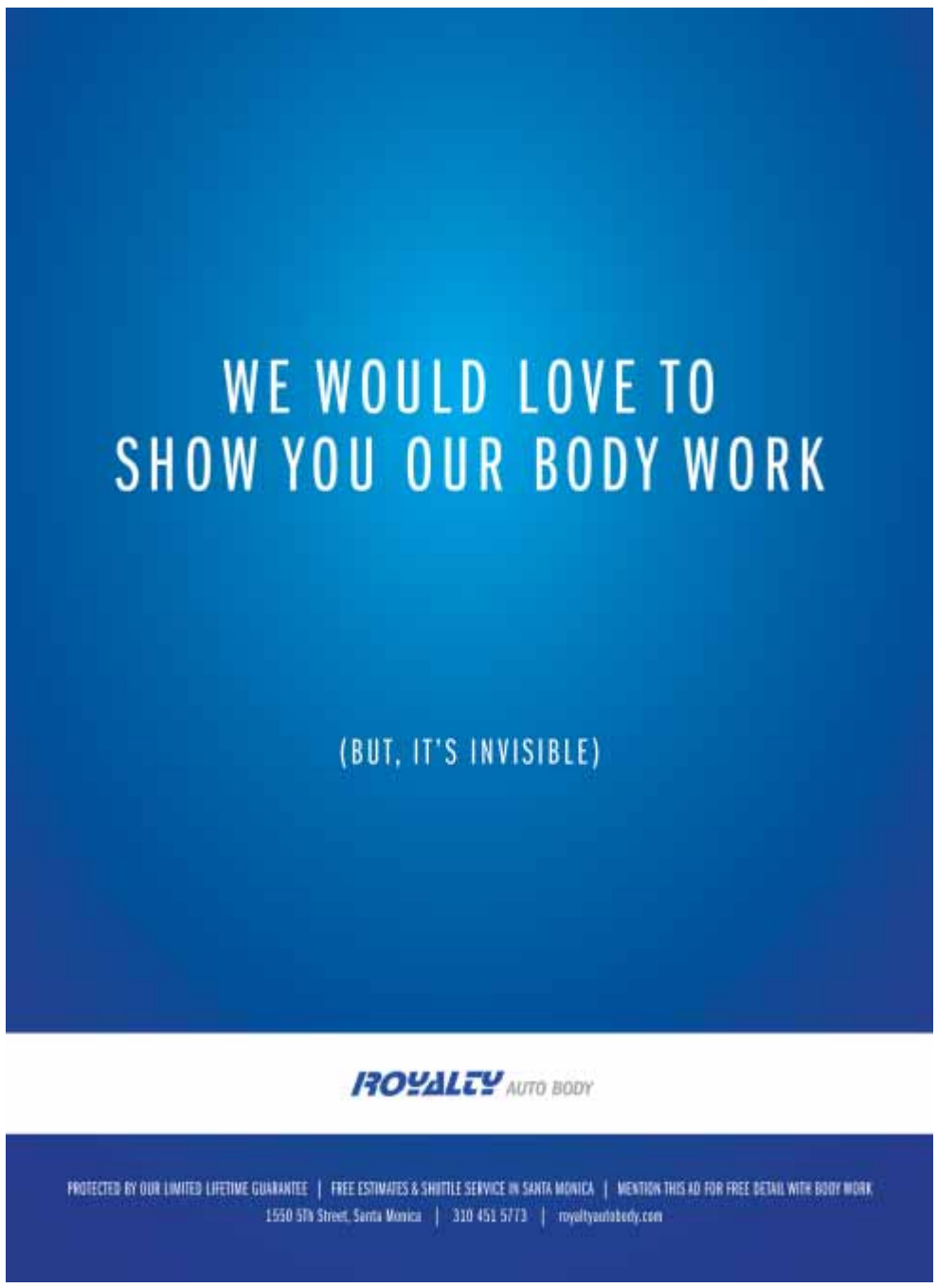




Photo courtesy Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center

RELIEF: **Dr. Bita Zadeh (left) poses with a young earthquake victim during her visit to Haiti.**

Haitians humble, warm even in tough times

FROM HAITI PAGE 3

what I was getting into? Will I be able to handle this? I had no idea it would be so challenging.

Someone sitting at the same table turned and asked me how I was doing? With hesitation, I stated how miserable I felt. Many volunteers at the table shared similar feelings. It was such a relief to realize that I was not alone in my thoughts.

I went to the OR and met my first patient, a 42-year-old male who needed revision of his foot amputation. His eyes were kind and full of grace. As poor and unfortunate as the Haitians are, they have so much pride. His only concern was not to lose more of his foot. After I talked with him via a translator about the anesthetic, he looked at me, put his hand gently on my forearm and said, "Thank you for coming to help us. We are very grateful."

After hearing him, I felt re-energized. I realized that what I've experienced in the last three days is nothing compared to what these earthquake victims had endured. My ailments paled in comparison with their plight. From that moment on I had a constant flow of energy and felt renewed. Once he woke up, we told him we had saved his leg. Most of the staff in the recovery room cheered in support of him.

Haiti is not accommodating to the disabled. They don't have paved sidewalks, let alone wheelchair ramps. Most Haitians make their living via manual labor and any disability, especially an amputation, hinders their chances of survival.

Amputations are tragic enough, but also a spiritual horror for the Haitians, who are primarily Catholic or Protestant, but still believe in voodoo. One common belief is that an amputation is the source for evil spirits to enter the body. I heard of a chilling, hair-raising event where a child was brought out of surgery into the recovery room, and when the parents noticed the child was now an amputee, they started beating on the child to remove the evil spirits.

One of my patients left an indelible mark on my memory. He was a 22 year old who was getting a second surgery to fix broken bones in his leg. When I asked via translator if he had any questions about the anesthesia, he replied, "Will I be awake for this surgery too?"

My heart fell, as I realized he had been given no anesthesia for his previous surgery. I gave him a full dose, and when he awoke, he was screaming violently: "Stop it already, I've had enough. Stop cutting me." He was displaying post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)-type behaviors. I can hear his violent screams to this day.

The first time I walked into the ship's Intensive Care Unit, I just stopped and stared. There were about three patients in comas from various causes, including brain injury and catatonic state. One was a little boy, about 4 years old, who was in a large bed. He was connected to monitors, but no ventilator and no other life-supporting medication. He had a gastric tube to feed him. One of the nurses tried playing with him, and he attempted to smile, but could not.

Another teenage patient was sleeping with her arms over her head. Her grandmother was squatting on the floor at the foot of her bed. I watched the grandmother mumbling to herself while deep in thought. Then she started mumbling faster and faster, and the young woman opened her eyes wide to look around before closing them again. She started hitting herself in the head with both hands while shaking her head "no!"

I can only imagine her thoughts. Was she recalling her terror as the earthquake struck? It terrifies me to think about what she must have thought and felt during this violent ordeal.

Patients were allowed an escort, usually a family member, to stay with them on the ship, but most of them had no family members to accompany them. The patients, especially children, often came to the OR accompanied by a Red Cross volunteer. Some adults did not know their children's whereabouts or if they were still alive. Many had lost daughters, sons, fathers, mothers, husbands or wives; some had lost everyone.

Almost all of the patients we treated were living on the streets. Most were severely malnourished and therefore very, very skinny. Nevertheless, the Haitians are humble, warm and prideful people who manage to maintain those traits even under the worst imaginable circumstances.

At breakfast, lunch and dinner, we shared stories about our patients' amazing tales of survival and grace under stress. Many had been buried under a house or rubble for days before being rescued. One patient who had become a paraplegic from the earthquake said she lost her entire family, and all I could think about was who would take care of her?

One nurse was telling me about a patient of hers who had lost both arms. The nurse was concerned about how this patient would survive once she got off the USNS Comfort. How would she protect herself against rape? It was too painful to think about.

After almost two weeks, our mission had ended and we returned home. When I came back to Los Angeles, it took me a few weeks to absorb everything and to start talking and writing about it. I was emotionally drained!

Now, I appreciate everything I have a little more. I don't sweat the small stuff as much and have become more grateful than ever for my comforts at home.

City Hall has resident April Fools' prankster

FROM **PRANKS** PAGE 1

story about gambling boats being allowed into Santa Monica Bay, a man being set on fire by a neighbor after an argument over secondhand smoke and Santa Monica High School's Viking mascot becoming the target of racism allegations.

It's all in good fun, though of course it's a tradition that gets mixed reviews among readers.

Publisher Ross Furukawa said the edition has been a staple of the paper since its first run in 2002, months after the paper was founded.

"It's our time to have some fun with the town," Furukawa said. "We've certainly had threats of lawsuits and we've had some people take it really personally, but every time somebody's gotten really upset, after about an hour they start to laugh and realize it's April Fools' Day. Usually people have just as much fun as we do."

On Thursday, Editor in Chief Kevin Herrera received a steady stream of e-mails and phone calls about the issue.

Many, including a handful of those lampooned in the fake stories, wanted to say thanks for a good laugh. A few who didn't get the joke sent in outraged e-mails. And a few others thought the gags were in poor taste. Also, more than a few readers were duped by the gag stories.

"The majority were people who were definitely pleased with our performance and thought that the April Fools' edition was a laugh riot," Herrera said.

But why does a newspaper that aims to be Santa Monica's paper of record transform itself into a humor publication once per year?

Furukawa said the Daily Press aims to cover the issues Santa Monicans care about and "create the conversation in town" 364 days out of the year, "so we're allowed one day to have some fun."

While the goal is to put out something that readers enjoy, the tradition has also become a favorite among employees.

"It wasn't only fun for the readers but a great time was had by all in the editorial department," Herrera said. "In a way this is our only opportunity to vent as reporters on things that occur in the city."

And the Daily Press wasn't alone in going in for pranks April 1.

> **"IT'S OUR TIME TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH THE TOWN."**
>
> **Ross Furukawa,**
> Daily Press publisher

Google announced to its millions of users on its Web site it was changing its name to Topeka — a reference to the Kansas town's recent decision to temporarily rename itself "Google" in an attempt to win the Web search company's contest for a free high-speed Internet system (Santa Monica has also entered the contest).

Even City Hall has its own prankster in residence in Web master Keith Kurtz.

This year, Kurtz marked the occasion by posting a fake announcement on the city's Web site that said: "As part of a public policy training exercise, the students in Mr. Widget's government classes at Santa Monica High School will be controlling all city traffic signals from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. today. Please drive defensively."

"I hope I'm putting stuff up that's so out there people won't believe it," he said.

If you cross the line and actually trick people or make jokes that are offensive, "it stops being funny pretty quickly," he said. Kurtz has plenty of experience pulling off April Fools' jokes, having manipulated City Hall's computers in jest on April 1 since the early 1990s, before the advent of Wed sites as we know them today.

While the "kids directing traffic" gag was online for all to see, on Thursday Kurtz also posted an employees-only prank on City Hall's intranet. The fake posting notified employees about a renovation to the Fourth Street exit of Interstate 10 that would create a "launch ramp" to get commuters to the Civic Center in record time.

"I've always enjoyed April Fools' Day since before I can remember, and my children loved it, too," he said.

nickt@smdp.com

Samohi baseball working things out

FROM **SAMOHI** PAGE 1

schedule against some of the top talent in Southern California has factored into his win-loss percentage.

"It seems to me that when we play these difficult teams we make more mistakes than usual," Philip-Guide said.

Another factor for his team's somewhat slow start is the fact that not many prospective opponents wanted to play at Samohi. Although it's hard to own up to for school officials, Samohi's baseball field has for years been considered a poor playing surface by visitors and more than a few Vikings players and coaches. That has resulted in just three home games for the Vikings this year.

Philip-Guide, in his first year coaching the team, has been quick to rectify that through fundraising efforts. He and a small group of parents and alumni banded together during the off-season to create the Santa Monica Diamond Club to coordinate fundraising efforts. The group's efforts have brought in tens of thousands of dollars, some of which have been used to improve the field's condition.

The team and coaching staff is happy with the results, but the efforts were too late in the process to use it to entice non-league teams to play at Samohi.

"Lots of teams didn't want to come play us at home for obvious reasons," Philip-Guide said. "Hopefully next year we'll turn it around."

The team played on Wednesday against St. Francis. Samohi lost, 9-7, but Philip-Guide said he liked the way his team hung in there.

"We played them tough and I think there are things that we need to work on, obviously," Philip-Guide said. "We're working on it."

The Vikings will get another opportunity to continue its work in progress on Saturday against Buena High School. The game is part of the Babe Herman Tournament.

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City of Santa Monica

Notice Inviting Proposals
Café/Restaurant on the
Santa Monica Pier

The City of Santa Monica seeks proposals from interested and qualified entities to lease and operate a limited service non-formula convenience restaurant with or without alcohol service at 330 Santa Monica Pier. The City of Santa Monica offers the experienced restaurateur the opportunity to plan, design renovate, operate and maintain the restaurant in one of Southern California's most famous and distinctive seaside environments.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) contains the key questions and informational requirements for respondents to address. To download the RFP, please go to http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearchform.cfm?StateID=52, or call the Economic Development Division at (310) 458-8906 to request this package. A site visit is scheduled for Apri1 15, 2010 at 10:00a.m.

Proposals are due by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19, 2010. They may be delivered by mail or by hand to the City of Santa Monica Economic Development Division, 1901 Main Street, Suite E, Santa Monica, CA 90405 to the attention of Donna Rickman.

This was our message in the 1970's...
Some things just don't change

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Staying awake for 'The Wake'

"THE WAKE" IS A PLAY WITH A LOT OF P'S IN IT: politics, philosophy, polemics, passion, and pathos. And enough plot for two plays. In fact, "The Wake" is two plays. One is the love story: boy loves girl, girl thinks she loves boy, girl loves girl, boy waits it out, girl chooses, everybody loses. The other story is the political one that started in 2000 with the arrival of George W. Bush. Headlines and images adroitly projected on a proscenium arch chronicle the march to war, the belligerent rhetoric, and the disintegration of democracy (both American and Iraqi), mirrored by the anti-war marches, political tirades, and emotional disintegration of our heroine, Ellen (an earnestly passionate Heidi Schreck).

Ellen is aware that she has it all: a loving live-in boyfriend (a beautifully low-key Carson Elrod), his sister and her wife (Andrea Frankle and Danielle Skraastad) just two floors away, and a job she enjoys. But still she yearns for something more.

As she broods in periodic monologues about the "blind spot" in our lives that none of us ever foresees, she also engages in fervent discussions with her cynical, disillusioned friend Judy (Deirdre O'Connell), newly returned from helping out at a refugee camp in Guinea. Judy has given up on Ellen's world: she doesn't vote, doesn't follow current events, doesn't participate. In fact, she spends most of her time out on Ellen's fire escape, smoking and avoiding the chaotic discussions going on inside the apartment.

Contrary to what you might assume, "The Wake" has nothing to do with Irish funerals or narrative by James Joyce. It refers to the path we make and the upheaval and debris we leave behind us as we maneuver our way through life. It's a perfect title for this provocative, overly long-winded journey.

Lisa Kron, who wrote this play, is a founding member of the Obie Award-winning theater company The Five Lesbian Brothers and is the author of the much-acclaimed and Tony-nominated play "Well". She currently teaches playwriting at the Yale School of Drama.

Leigh Silverman, who directed Kron's play "Well" on Broadway, also directs "The Wake" during its world premiere run here in Los Angeles and for its upcoming run at New York's Public Theater. Silverman manages to keep the audience's attention through the very long introspective speeches---but just barely. At 2 hours, the play is way too long and could really use a judicious wielding of scissors. Especially in the first act, which takes so long to get into gear that you almost lose hope---and interest.

The production qualities are first-rate, however. David Korins has designed a fully functional East Village apartment, Alexander V. Nichols has organized the lighting and projection design superbly, and Cricket S. Myers has done her usual expert job on sound.

This play is not for those who are uncomfortable contemplating their own navel, but for those who are, and who have the patience to stick with it, "The Wake" provides much food for thought. And a lot of debris.

"The Wake" will continue at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, 9820 Washington Blvd. in Culver City Tuesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. through April 18. Call (213) 628-2772 for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

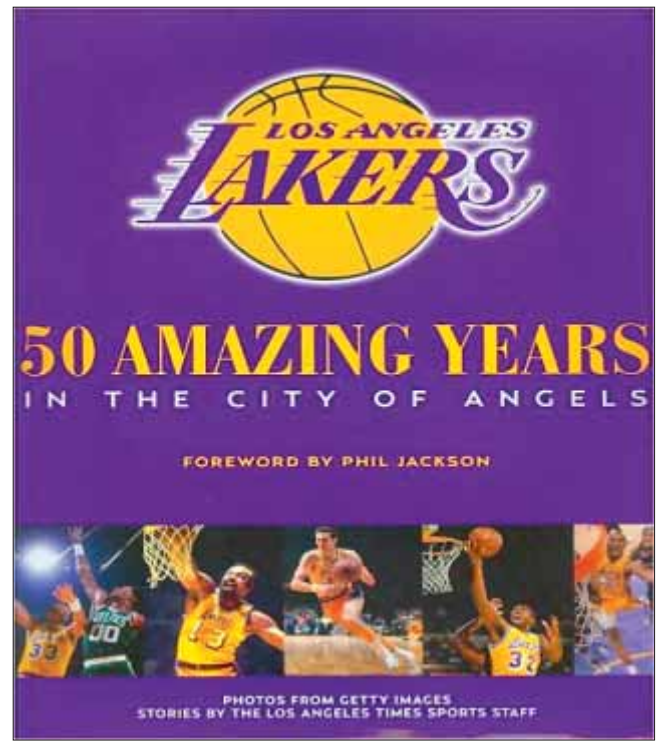
BOOK REVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



'50 Amazing Years in the City of the Angels'

By The Los Angeles Times Sports Staff • Time Capsule Press



When we talk about basketball we all say Lakers. At least we do in Los Angeles. Everyone likes the story of a winner. When we say Lakers we think of the countless NBA championships and we admire that. Champions come from someplace and this table sized book takes us from 1960 to 2009

They haven't always been on the winning end of the game. The wins, the losses, the human interest stories are all here chronicled in the pages of the Los Angeles Times' sports section over the years. This book even has a forward by Phil Jackson, the team's current head coach, entitled, "Lakers' Destiny" where he states, "The circle will be unbroken — these young men had formed a bond that solidified them for life."

This year, 2010, marks 50 years the Lakers have been a Los Angeles team. Fifty years is a long time to be in one place. During this time a lot has happened. Sports fans like to remember. A book such as this should help.

There were the early years in Los Angeles against the Celtics who were able to walk all over the Lakers back in 1963. This book details through the sports columns written in the Los Angeles Times sports section the journey they went through to be what they are today. Like all good teams it took time and practice to become what they are.

This is a great book to have for trivial pursuit. For example, where did they come from? Which player later retired and then became the coach? When did the Lakers girls appear? Which Laker would play in his horn-rimmed glasses?

Sure there were some losing years. That is recorded here, too. But they were able to recoup and come back and win again. They had good players and some who were just players who assisted. Every player was important and every player was needed. Basketball is a contact sport and there were injuries. Even now we can read in the paper about Kobe Bryant and his finger. In spite of his pain he was able to play and make baskets, as he showed Dec. 15 when he tallied 42 points in the game against the Chicago Bulls. And we have the game on Dec. 16 against the Milwaukee Bucks when Bryant saved the day at the buzzer.

The sports staff writers included here are; Ted Green, Scott Howard-Cooper, and the legendary Jim Murray, to name a few.

The Lakers have had 18 Hall of Famers (15 players, two head coaches, and a broadcaster) all who have contributed to the organization. This is a must have for fans of the "forum blue" and gold.

Keep reading. Contact me at smdp_review@yahoo.com.

L.A. struggles to save arts centers

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A petition, letters and other pleas to the City Council helped keep open two arts centers that are part of the famed landmark Watts Tower complex.

But the fate of seven other cultural facilities, including a 1931 Art Deco theater, remained uncertain Wednesday.

The city is seeking private partners to take over the community arts centers and theaters as it struggles to plug a projected $400 million-plus budget deficit.

If nonprofit arts organizations cannot be found, the facilities may be forced to shut down. Ten of the city's 25 community arts centers, which offer a range of programs for children and adults from piano to painting, are already run by nonprofits.

The prospect of privatizing the arts centers sparked opposition in Watts, a poor neighborhood where two facilities were on the closure list — Watts Tower Arts Center and Charles Mingus Youth Art Center.

Both are part of the Watts Tower complex. The nationally recognized folk art monument features 99-foot steel spires and other structures decorated with shards of glass and pottery. The structures were built by Italian immigrant Simon Rodia from 1921 to 1954.

Fearful the center would be closed, residents and supporters launched an online petition, a Facebook page titled "Watts Tower Arts Center Rescue," and turned out at City Council meetings to deluge officials with letters.

"Every nonprofit arts organization is in some type of financial difficulty right now," said Edward Landler, who made a documentary on the towers and is a board member of the Friends of Watts Towers.

"In a community like Watts, which is particularly deprived, it's got to be an even harder slog to find an appropriate nonprofit," he said.

The community campaign worked. Officials crossed the Watts centers off the list.

One nonprofit has stepped up to take over the city's Warner Grand, an ornate 1,500-seat theater built in 1931 in San Pedro.

The Grand Vision Foundation, which currently runs the marketing and restoration of the theater with the city, is willing to take on the daily operation, although it will mean doubling fundraising efforts, said Liz Schindler Johnson, foundation executive director.

Olga Garay, general manager of the city's Department of Cultural Affairs, said she is hoping money can be found to keep other theaters and arts centers running.

The City Council is exploring a temporary reprieve with money from the Public Arts Redevelopment Tax Fund, which earmarks money for art at the sites of new buildings, Garay said.

If permitted, some of that money could be redirected to operating the arts centers for 24 months while permanent solutions are found, such as nonprofit operators, she said.

Hollywood crowd says no to box office gambling

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Think you're better than Hollywood at gauging whether an upcoming flick will be a box office bomb or a sleeper hit? You'd get a chance to put your money behind that under two proposals that movie studios are denouncing as legalized gambling.

The proposals the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission are expected to rule on this month would let movie fans, industry executives and speculators bet on expected box office receipts. Investors profit if their predictions come true and lose if they don't.

These online trading forums would be similar to futures markets common for commodities such as corn, pork bellies, natural gas and silver. Although goods are rarely exchanged directly through such markets, they let buyers and sellers reduce risks by locking in prices months ahead of time. A corn farmer might want to do that in case a bumper crop pushes prices down too low.

Now, two companies want to bring that concept to Hollywood, a notoriously risky industry in which big-budget productions can go bust in a single weekend and independent movies can become unexpected hits. But the investors most likely to benefit from such an exchange — the six major Hollywood studios — have rallied against the proposals.

Although the companies behind the exchanges still plan to proceed, regulators pushed back a decision on one of the proposals, Trend Exchange from Veriana Ventures, amid the last-minute opposition. A ruling could now come Friday, more than a week later than originally expected.

A decision on the other proposal, Cantor Fitzgerald LP's Cantor Exchange, is expected around April 20.

The studios' trade group, the Motion Picture Association of America, argues that the proposals tarnish the reputation and integrity of the movie industry by authorizing "legalized gambling on movie receipts."

The organization also complained that so many people screen movies before they are released that it would be "virtually impossible" to prevent insider trading.

The backers of the proposals say they don't need studios' involvement to succeed, though that's akin to corn farmers staying out of the futures market for corn.

"The studios only represent a small part of the hedging community," said Rich Jaycobs, president of the proposed Cantor Exchange.

Russ Andersson, Veriana's director of risk management, said other players with large stakes in movies, such as directors, actors, financiers and theater owners, might have doubts about the box office potential of some projects and would be willing to take part.

Cantor Fitzgerald already runs the Hollywood Stock Exchange, a virtual market in which shares of celebrities and movies rise and fall with their popularity. But while that market trades on "Hollywood Dollars," those using Cantor Exchange would use real currency to bet on a movie's prospects.

(Cantor Fitzgerald is also behind a venture that lets people use wireless devices to bet on sporting events while roaming around casinos. The devices, approved by Nevada gambling regulators, also casino mainstays such as black jack as well.)

Under both proposals, no actual goods or shares in films would change hands. Trading would simply offset deals made in the real world. Movie fans and others without a direct interest in the films would be able to participate as well, absorbing some of the risks from producers and other investors.

Investors would be able to hedge against potential flops by preselling a share of future box office receipts. The exchanges could even guard against likely hits such as the upcoming "Harry Potter" and "Twilight" sequels falling short of projections.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **09APP-014 (Appeal of Conditional Use Permit 09-005)**
2219 Ocean Avenue

APPLICANT: John K. Heidt
APPELLANT: Scott Spell
PROPERTY OWNER: John and Donna Heidt

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Appeal of the Planning Commission's December 2, 2009 approval of Conditional Use Permit 09-005 to allow the operation of a bed and breakfast facility at 2219 Ocean Avenue. The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to allow the intermittent operation of a bed and breakfast facility. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.52.040(a) "bed and breakfast facilities" are permitted in the Ocean Park Medium Multiple Residential District (OP3) subject to the approval of a Conditional Use Permit.

The appellant is appealing the approval of the Conditional Use Permit related to the appropriateness of the bed and breakfast facility at the specified location and the specific conditions of approval imposed by the Planning Commission. In addition, the appellant believes that the request is non-compliant with City code requirements.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, April 13, 2010, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 09APP-014
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at scott.albright@smgov.net. The Landmark Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2010**

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

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

Fence/Wall Modification 09FWHM-0008, 625 California Avenue. The applicant requests approval of a height modification to construct an 8-foot tall driveway gate and wall/fence structure within the required front yard setback. Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.02.080 specifies that fences, walls, or hedges cannot exceed the maximum height of 42-inches in the front yard area. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(e), the owner may request that the Zoning Administrator grant a modification to the height limitations in the front yard area. [Planner: Grace Cho] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER:** Ken Sherman.
This item was considered and continued by the Zoning Administrator on the February 9, 2010 hearing.

Use Permit 09UP-019, 401 Wilshire Boulevard. The applicant requests approval to install, operate, and maintain an unmanned wireless communications facility on the roof of an existing twelve-story office building located at 401 Wilshire Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica. The proposed facility includes twelve (12) panel antennas and nine (9) base telecommunication (BTS) cabinets and associated cables and GPS equipment. As proposed, the project does not comply with the requirements for non-parabolic antennas contained in Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.06.110(a). Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.06.110(b), the Zoning Administrator may approve modifications to the requirements for non-parabolic commercial antennas through the approval of a Use Permit application. [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **APPLICANT:** Verizon Wireless. **PROPERTY OWNER:** Douglas Emmett 1995, LLC.
This item was considered and continued by the Zoning Administrator on the March 9, 2010 hearing.

Fence, Wall Height Modification FWHM 10-0001, 1517 Ashland Avenue. The applicant requests approval of an existing 48 inch aluminum and wire fence that sits atop a 30 inch retaining wall located in the front of the property. The combined height of the fence and retaining wall is 78 inches, which exceeds the front yard fence height limit of 42 inches. The fence and retaining wall are setback 2.5 feet from the front property line and are 12 feet from the sidewalk. SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(e) permits a modification to the height limitations in the front yard area, subject to approval by the Zoning Administrator. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER:** Matthew and Erin King.

Fence, Wall, Hedge Height Modification FWHM 10-0002, 730 Kensington Road. The applicant requests approval to construct a nine-foot tall wood fence along the east side property line, along the east side of the front yard area, and along the rear (south) property line. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080, fences, walls, or hedges cannot exceed the maximum height of 42-inches within the required front yard, and 8 feet along the side and rear yards, as measured from the lowest grade. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(e), wall height modifications are subject to approval by the Zoning Administrator. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER:** Rob and Nina Fresco.

Use Permit 10-002, 228 Marguerita Avenue. The applicant requests approval to retain an existing curb cut providing street access to an on-site parking space on the subject parcel which has an adjacent rear alley. This proposal is requested in conjunction with the demolition of an existing single-family residence and the development of a new two-story residence with an attached two-car garage. The applicant requests approval to allow vehicle access onto the property from Marguerita Avenue. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.08.02.040(d), the applicant may request a Use Permit to allow a curb cut for purposes of providing street access to an on-site parking garage on parcels located within the North of Montana neighborhood with an adjacent rear alley having a minimum right-of-way of fifteen feet. The subject property is located in the North of Montana neighborhood and it has an adjacent rear alley that is 20 feet in width. [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **APPLICANT:** Merolo Abrera. **PROPERTY OWNER:** Sina Mehdyzadeh.

Variance 10-003, 966 Palisades Beach Road. The applicant requests approval of a variance to allow the modification of front and side yard setback requirements to permit an existing second floor balcony above a garage to be enclosed and add an additional 115 square feet in conjunction with a single-family residence remodel. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(d), the applicant may request a variance to the setback when a parcel has a lot depth less than 90-feet or a lot width less than 39-feet. The subject property has a lot width of 30-feet. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT:** Paul Williger. **PROPERTY OWNER:** Kirk Lazarus.

VARIANCE 10-005, 735 Navy Street. The applicant requests approval of a variance to allow the modification of a side yard setback requirement for construction of a flue for a wood burning stove. The flue will have a 9-inch diameter and will project 11-inches into the required 4-foot west side yard setback. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(d), the applicant may request a variance to the setback where a parcel has a lot depth less than 90-feet or a lot width less than 39-feet. The subject property has a lot depth of 80-feet and a lot width of 25-feet. [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER:** Michael W. Folonis.

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Zoning Administrator public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the Zoning Administrator at the meeting.

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #7 and #8 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar applicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.



Tornante
Steve Parker
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Turning over a new Leaf

MUCH-ANTICIPATED NEWS HAS BEEN what Nissan's 2011 Leaf EV will cost and when it really goes on sale. Well, now we know.

Leaf is all electric; the five-door hatchback doesn't even have a tailpipe and inside the fuel filler door is a plug. Leaf can hit speeds of up to 90 mph and has a range of around 100 miles. Because most commutes to and from work are much less than that, Nissan thinks Americans will take to it quickly.

The all-electric Leaf will be base-priced at $32,780 or leased at $349 a month when it hits California showrooms in December, Nissan said earlier this week. There will be two models available, a base car and an upgraded Leaf with solar panels and a few other goodies.

That sounds like and is a lot, but federal and state incentives will lower the base price for the standard Leaf in California to $20,280.

There's a federal tax credit of $7,500 for electric vehicles. And Californians are eligible for an additional $5,000 rebate through the state Air Resources Board. Most, if not all states, have created incentives to encourage people to buy low- and no-emission vehicles.

Leaf comes to market in late 2010 for fleet and private use in targeted markets, rolls out nationally in early 2011 and will be commercially available globally by 2012. Nissan says they can build 80,000 a year for the U.S. market and will have at least three factories making them for the world; in the U.S., Japan and the U.K. Nissan just received a $1.4 billion loan from Washington, D.C. to help pay for modifications to one of its existing Smyrna, Ga. plant which will make Leafs (Leaves?) for this country.

You'll also be able to buy (or lease) home charging stations for Leaf made by AeroVironment, located in Monrovia. AeroVironment will also install the units. The stations will cost around $2,200 and there's a federal incentive of up to 50 percent available. You can order the charging station at the same time you buy or lease the car at a Nissan store.

Interested? Be sure to sign up first (like right now) at NissanUSA.com. Dealers will start taking reservations April 20, similar to what Toyota did with their first Prius.

By the way, Leaf stands for: Leading, Environmentally Friendly, Affordable, Family Car.

Santa Monicans, get in line!



Photo courtesy Nissan Motor Co.
NISSAN LEAF

TOYOTA, THE BAD AND THE GOOD

From the "What the hell else can happen?" file comes this news from the boring world of trademarks:

Toyota just found out that they will not be able to trademark the name Prius in India for automotive use. The drama all occurred in a Delhi, India court, last week.

The Delhi High Court refused on March 24 to give Toyota exclusive rights to use the name for cars in India because a Delhi-based auto accessory maker — Prius Auto Industries — had registered the brand under India's Trade Mark Act in 2002. Prius Auto Industries makes chrome plated accessories for car manufacturers including General Motors, India's giant Mahindra and Hyundai.

India is expected to be one of the biggest world markets for hybrids and EVs, and right now Toyota has a marketing problem, at least in India.

In the U.S., NASA, the National Academy of Sciences and NHTSA will all work together to try and find the cause, whatever it may be, of Toyota owners' reports of unintended acceleration. Also, NHTSA is investigating to see if at least two of its engineers were wooed to Toyota to allow that company to make inroads into the federal agency.

On the good side, the entire industry was up 24 percent in March sales over that month in 2009, and Toyota was responsible for a good deal of that climb. In March (and you might have noticed if you're' on the Web, watch TV or read newspapers) Toyota, for the first time in memory, began offering money-saving gimmicks like 0 percent interest for five years and other come-ons which brought the prices of many cars and trucks down as much as $3,000. Other manufacturers followed suit, making March a great time to buy or lease a car. Toyota sales nationally were up 41 percent totaling 186,683 sales compared to 132,801 in March, 2009. That's almost 54,000 units, a lot even for the world's biggest car maker.

STEVE PARKER is a two-time Emmy Award-winner who has covered the world's auto industry and motor racing for over 35 years. Contact Steve through his own automotive issues Website at www.SteveParker.com.

it's the homeless... it's the city council... it's the taxes... it's the business... it's the water... it's the smog... it's the trash... it's the bureaucracy... it's the second hand smoke... it's the street performers... it's the alcohol... it's planning and zoning... it's the police... it's the pier... it's the Pico neighborhood... it's the tourists... it's NoMo... it's the stairs... it's the merchants association... it's the elected officials... it's losing it's soul... it's the public schools... it's private schools... it's the MPG... it's the MTbE... it's SMMR... it's CCSM... it's RAND... it's OPCC... it's the Chamber... it's CRAAP... it's BLAH... it's runaways... it's The Promenade... it's the alleys... it's Step up on Second... it's the unions... it's Macerich... it's rent control... it's redevelopment... it's the cost of living... it's the living wage... it's the gentrification.. it's Dogtown... it's the organic food... it's the fast food... it's Farmer's Market... it's the dog parks... it's the affordable housing... it's the meters... it's parking tickets... it's hybrid cars... it's urban runoff... it's SMC... it's too expensive... it's healthcare... it's day laborers... it's the urine... it's the feces... it's the bike paths... its not enough... it's too much... it's not me, its you... it's the gangs... it's the nightclubs... it's the intersections... it's the no camping laws... it's recycling... it's movies on the pier... it's loud... it's the smell... it's the bad drivers... it's the bus lanes... it's chain stores... it's raw food... it's public bathrooms... it's the homeless... it's the city council... it's the taxes... it's the business... it's the water... it's the smog... it's the trash... it's the bureaucracy... it's the second hand smoke... it's the street performers... it's the alcohol... it's planning and zoning... it's the police... it's the pier... it's the Pico neighborhood... it's the tourists... it's NoMo... it's the stairs... it's the merchants association... it's the elected officials... it's losing it's soul... it's the public schools... it's private schools... it's the MPG... it's MTbE... it's SMMR... it's CCSM... it's RAND... it's OPCC... it's the Chamber... it's CRAAP... it's BLAH... it's runaways... it's The Promenade... it's the alleys... it's Step up on Second... it's the unions... it's Macerich... it's rent control... it's redevelopment... it's the cost of living... it's the living wage... it's the gentrification.. it's Dogtown... it's the organic food... it's the fast food... it's Farmer's Market... it's the dog parks... it's the affordable housing... it's the meters... it's parking tickets... it's hybrid cars... it's urban runoff... it's SMC... it's too expensive... it's healthcare... it's day laborers... it's the urine... it's the feces... it's the bike paths... its not enough... it's too much... it's not me, its you... it's the gangs... it's the nightclubs... it's the intersections... it's the no camping laws... **shut up and vote.** it's recycling... it's movies on the pier... it's loud... it's the smell... it's the bad drivers... it's the bus lanes... it's chain stores... it's raw food... it's public bathrooms... it's the second hand smoke... it's the street performers... it's the alcohol... it's planning and zoning... it's the police... it's the pier... it's the Pico neighborhood... it's the tourists... it's NoMo... it's the stairs... it's the merchants association... it's the elected officials... it's losing it's soul... it's the public schools... it's the private schools... it's the MPG... it's the MTbE... it's SMMR... it's CCSM... it's not in my backyard...

READ ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT WILL SHAPE YOUR FUTURE.
Santa Monica Daily Press **VOTE LOCAL 2010**

PGA

Tiger's sponsors hope for rebound

EMILY FREDRIX
AP Marketing Writer

NEW YORK Sponsors who stuck by Tiger Woods are ramping up to profit from his return to the golf course.

Upper Deck Co. will sell memorabilia like signed red shirts with price tags upward of $1,800. Electronic Arts Inc. has a new browser-based version of its Tiger-themed video game coming out next week. And Nike Inc. reportedly has a TV commercial featuring Woods in the works, though it won't confirm that.

The big question is whether his tarnished image can work anything close to its old magic for them and the golf industry, which has been going through tough times of its own because of the weak economy.

It could be that all publicity is good publicity — as time passes since his admissions to extramarital affairs and he returns to golf after four months at the Masters, starting next Thursday.

Woods' value as a pitchman who embodied professional perfection may have suffered. He became sports' first $1 billion earner, but lost top endorsements from companies such as Accenture LLP and AT&T Inc. as the scandal unfolded.

But it's hard to see much falloff in sales of some Woods-branded wares.

Golfsmith, the nation's biggest chain of golf stores, and sports card and memorabilia maker Upper Deck Co. say Woods' scandal that erupted in late November didn't dampen demand for his products.

Golfsmith International Holdings Inc. says sales of Woods-branded hats, shirts and belts (all made by Nike) grew 8 percent from October through mid-March this year compared with last year. Most of that period came after word spread that the quiet, clean-cut golfer had a sex addiction and partook in serial infidelities.

The company sold 9,564 Woods-branded hats, belts, shirts and other products made by Nike from October through mid-March, compared with 8,855 in the same period the previous year.

Woods' leave from golf will end in about a week at the Masters, the season's first major tournament. It's about time for an industry that has seen its retail sales drop as its main participants trim their tee times and spending habits in the recession.

"The tour wants him back. The players want him back. His endorsers want him back and like anybody with an economic interest in him, we want him back," said Golfsmith CEO Marty Hanaka.

Tiger has been good for golf. He's brought more interest to the game from even casual players, and boosted television ratings and sponsorships — which has translated into higher payouts for Woods and his fellow golfers. In 1995, the year before Woods turned pro, the Masters' total prize payout was $2.1 million. Last year, it reached $7.5 million.

The sport is in need of a boost again. The industry has seen an unprecedented slump because of the weak economy and unseasonably wet weather, which also depresses playing, said Tom Stine, co-founder of Golf Datatech LLC, a market research firm.

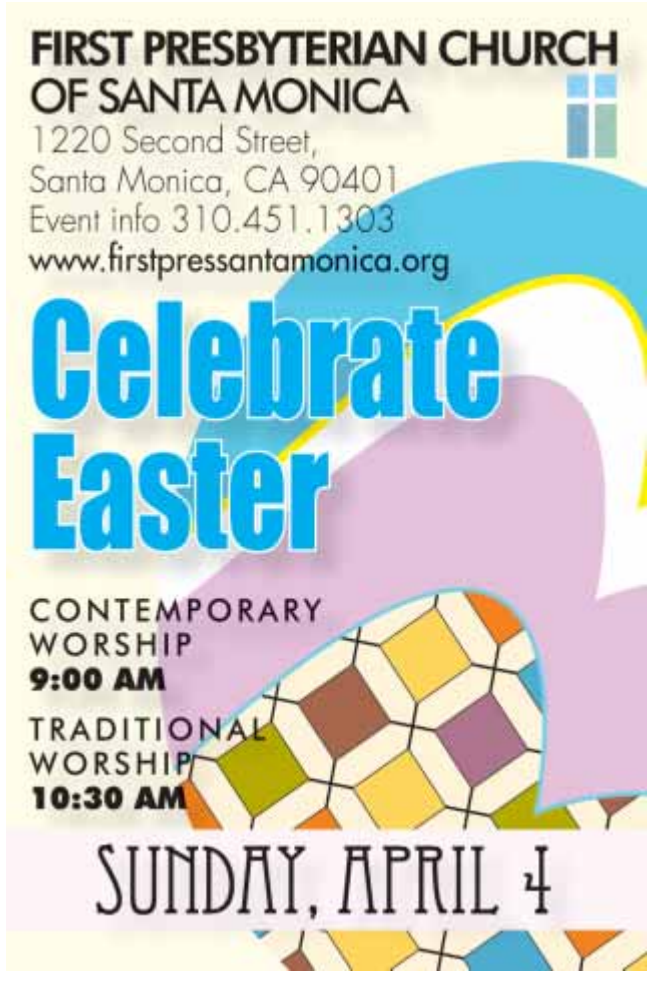
Total revenue for the golf industry was $2.4 billion last year, down 11.6 percent from $2.8 billion in 2008, the firm said. People are delaying equipment purchases but they're still playing golf, said Stine, who expected minimal effect from Woods' return.

EA is releasing the browser version of "Tiger Woods PGA Tour" on Tuesday. The timing is good, though coincidental: the video game maker announced the launch date a day before Woods announced his return and now figures his return will just add exposure for its sites for the game and its Woods franchise.

"Sometimes you just get lucky," said Craig Evans, marketing director of the game, who added visits to the company's Woods sites have risen "significantly" since Woods said he'd return.

Former sponsors Accenture, AT&T and others who dropped Woods after his personal problems became public late last year have declined to say if they'll make any changes once he returns. Accenture merely referred to its December news release that announced it would drop Woods.







SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58°

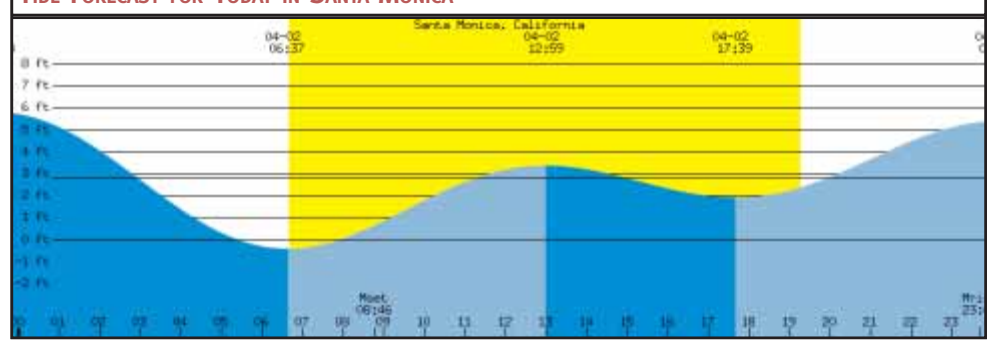
Swell Forecast

Should see remnants of the stormy swell, likely at least 2-3 feet overhead. Some light southern hemi comes into the mix then but at chest high max, it'll likely be overshadowed by stronger NW wrap at south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

NW SHOULD BACK OFF TO AROUND CHEST HIGH AS SOUTHERN HEMI SOUTH SWELL HELPS SOUTH FACING BREAKS SEE SIMILAR SIZE.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **March 23, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 30
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / 12

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Solaris (NR) 2hr 47min
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Chloe (R) 1hr 36min
11:15 am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Greenberg (R) 1hr 47min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:35pm

Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:45am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:45pm

The Runaways (R) 1hr 45min
1:30pm, 7:30pm

Shutter Island (R) 2hr 18min
4:15pm, 10:15pm

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

Diary of a Wimpy Kid (PG) 1hr 33min
10:15am, 12:45pm, 3:15pm, 5:45pm, 8:15pm, 10:40pm

The Bounty Hunter (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Alice in Wonderland (in Disney Digital 3D) (PG) 1hr 49min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:45, 10:45pm

Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:30pm, 10:00pm, 11:15pm

The Last Song (PG) 1hr 47min
10:30am, 1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Hot Tub Time Machine (R) 1hr 40min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

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

The Greatest (R) 1hr 53min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

The Ghost Writer (PG13) 2hr 23min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

A Prophet (R) 2hr 44min
1:50pm, 5:10pm, 8:30pm

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (NR) 2hr 49min
1:00pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm

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

Repo Men (R) 1hr 51min
2:20pm, 7:50pm

Green Zone (R) 1hr 55min
1:10pm, 3:50pm, 6:40pm, 9:20pm

Remember Me (PG-13) 1hr 53min
11:40am, 5:10pm, 10:30pm

How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 1hr 38min
12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) 1hr 38min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:05pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

She's Out of My League (R) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too (PG-13) 2hr 1min
1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:20pm

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

Hang out with friends, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Rethink a financial matter. Get needed feedback. Certain partners or associates might not have the savvy you do, but they have grounded ideas. If you believe you need an expert, find one. The unusual holds appeal. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You will put in your two cents! You could confuse a boss or older relative, but others get it. Look to getting more results. Input from a partner or associate could be most worthwhile. Brainstorm away. Tonight: Dinner and a chat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your noble effort to complete certain projects, return calls and/or clear your desk might be frustrated. News from a distance might distract you. A child or loved one helps you center. Communicate your feelings. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ How you deal with your imagination and use this gift reflects your uniqueness. Some of you might be looking to play out your fantasy weekend, whereas others stretch their imagination to see new ideas and solutions. Drop self-imposed mental filters. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ If you can, try to work from home once more. Otherwise you might want to add a plant or two to make your office more homey. Use your ingenuity with weekend plans or work. You cannot sit on your fun nature. Tonight: Be your naughty self.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Clear out calls and meetings as soon as you can. Tap into your people skills, as by the afternoon, you might want to retreat. Confusion surrounds the late afternoon, and you might want to head home early. Use caution with your finances. Tonight: Happy at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Be careful about going overboard. Try not to go to extremes, especially in the morning. Communication flourishes as long as you don't have to put on the brakes with your style. A meeting, though it has a combative tone, adds to the possibilities. At the same time, you are energized. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Use the morning, when you are energized. Work with confusion on the home front. You might be wondering what someone hasn't told you. Give the situation space, and more information will float up. Put 100 percent into a meeting with a boss. Tonight: Treat your friends. TGIF.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision this morning. Any backtracking needs to happen before the afternoon. In the p.m., you will be in the mood to launch a project. You could be close to unstoppable. Tonight: Dive into the weekend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Make the most of the morning, and focus on a meeting and a key project. You might not be sure about expenses. Work through a project and clear out unneeded paperwork. You will accomplish a lot if you decide to focus. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Be willing to assume the driver's seat, especially if you want events to flow in a certain way. No one will do a job the exact way you might desire. In the afternoon, you'll gain through others. A meeting could easily flow into a social happening. Network all you want. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Put the final touches on an idea or project. A discussion in the afternoon might draw many people's attention. Make sure you have all the needed facts. Others will respond quite well. A difficult associate could agree begrudgingly. Tonight: Where the action is.

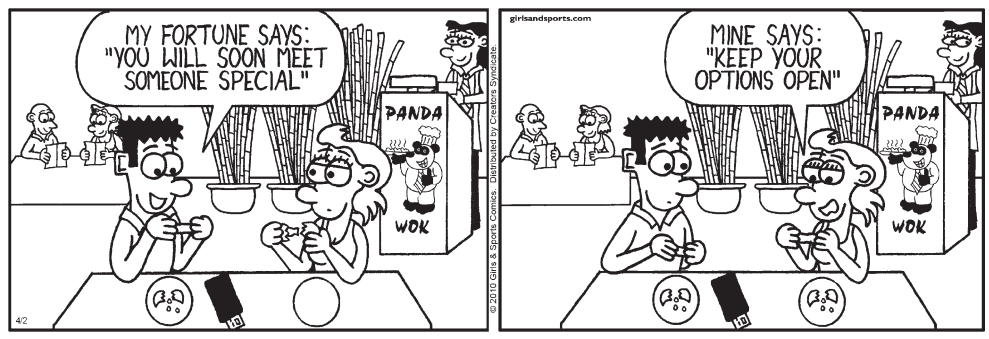
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

Happy birthday

This year, willingly work with a key associate. The connection might be far more powerful than you realize. Understanding evolves. If this is your significant other, you will want more downtime together. Be willing to look at situations from many different perspectives. Let go and allow others to be more dominant. Travel and/or education open your mind. If you are single, a foreigner or someone very different enters your life. You open up to a new way of thinking and acting. SAGITTARIUS opens mental doors.

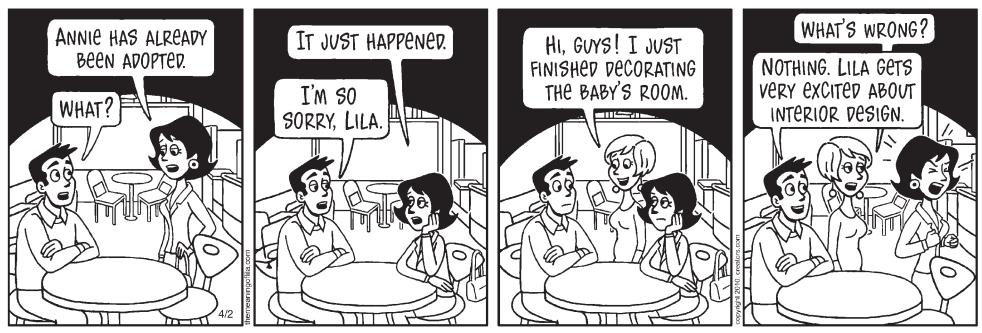
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



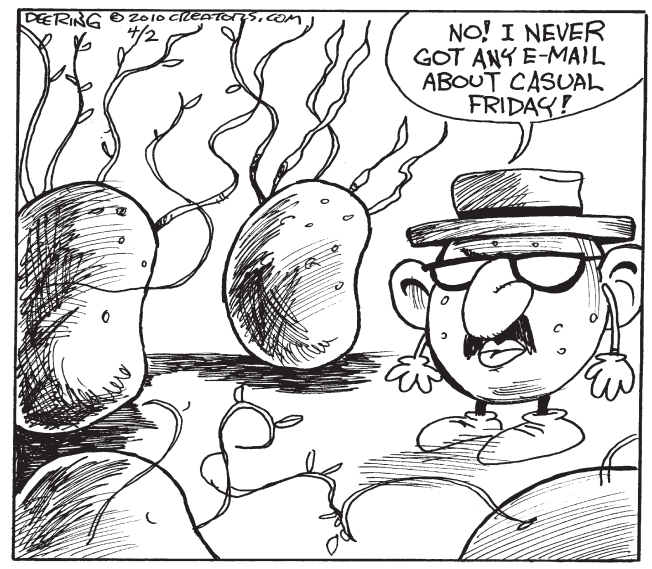
Garfield

By Jim Davis



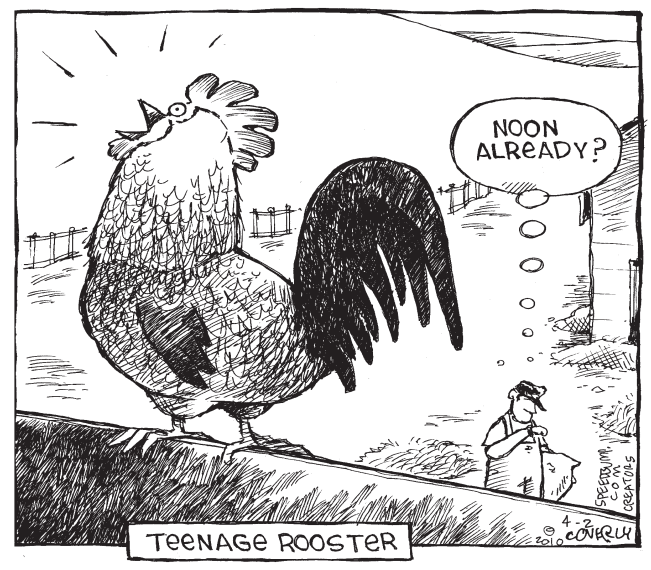
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

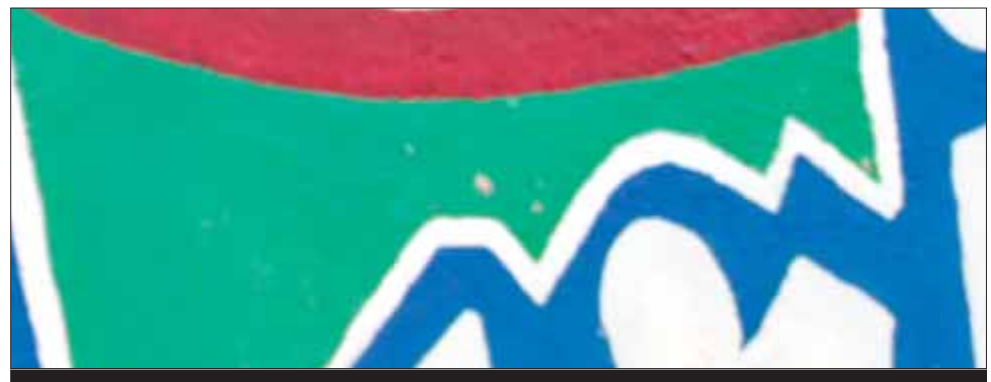
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Natural fuel
5 Folder features
9 Holiday visitor
11 Toss out
13 Blue Grotto setting
14 Alma —
15 Teutonic cry
16 Choir member
18 Flower parts
20 Sulky state
21 Deli counter sight
22 Church service
23 English cathedral city
24 Roadster
25 Jargon
27 Page of music
29 Ignited
30 Keeps
32 Speedy horse
34 Busy one in Apr.
35 Whiskey drinks
36 Soothe
38 Blender setting
39 Jury makeup
40 Layer
41 Regarding

DOWN

1 Layout units
2 Makes law
3 Third-brightest star
4 Old salt
5 Office helpers
6 Cracked
7 Escaped electrons
8 Play makeup
10 In a sage manner
12 Easy runs
17 Unbroken
19 Brewing need
22 — Hari
24 Brief snooze
25 Brooch part
26 Ventilate
27 Casserole bit
28 To some extent
30 Stair part
31 Authority
33 "Desperate Housewives" role
37 Pasture

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	■	■	5	6	7	8	■
9				10	■	11				12
13					■	14				
15			■	16	17					
18			19				■	20		
■	21					■	22			
■	■	23			■	24			■	■
25	26			■	27				28	■
29			■	30						31
32			33				■	34		
35					■	36	37			
38					■	39				
■	40				■	■	41			

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SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 17 23 36 38 46 Meganumber: 18 Jackpot: $37M

FANTASY 5: 7 8 10 31 32

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 9 3 1 EVENING: 5 4 0

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1.47.55

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Modernization Kept at Bay: (1) Despite Fiji's strides into the 21st century, the island nation's court system remains relatively primitive, according to a January report from Agence France-Presse. Transcriptions of court proceedings are still made by ordinary reporters, writing out the dialogue by hand and thus calling on judges, lawyers and witnesses to periodically slow down or repeat themselves when they speak. (2) Papua New Guinea retains many of its historical tribal conflicts, and one flared up in January, according to a dispatch by an Australian Broadcasting Corp. reporter. Two people were killed in skirmishes that were provoked in a quite contemporary way -- when a member of one tribe sent a member of another a pornographic text message.

■ Japan's Mantokuji temple in Gumma province was historically the place where women went to cleanse themselves in divorce, aided by the temple's iconic toilets, into which the bad spirits from the failed liaisons could be shed and flushed forever. The toilets have been modernized, according to a February Reuters dispatch, and today the temple is used by the faithful to rid themselves of all types of problems. (The upgrades also permitted a solution to a longstanding annoyance at the temple, of visitors mistaking the iconic toilets for regular commodes.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1956 As the World Turns and The Edge of Night premiere on CBS-TV. The two soaps become the first daytime dramas to debut in the 30-minute format.

1972 Actor Charlie Chaplin returns to the United States for the first time since being labeled a communist during the Red Scare in the early 1950s.

1973 Launch of the LexisNexis computerized legal research service.

1975 Vietnam War: Thousands of civilian refugees flee from the Quang Ngai Province in front of advancing North Vietnamese troops.

WORD UP!

hugger-mugger
\HUH-guhr-muh-guhr\ , noun;
1. A disorderly jumble; muddle; confusion. 2. Secrecy; concealment.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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For Rent

12746 Pacific Ave. unit 6 1+1 stove, fridge, dishwasher, wall ac, carpet, blinds, laundry,intercom entry, parking, no pets. $1150.move-in special $700 off (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $700 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

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1+1, st, dw, cpt **$1400**
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2+1, st,cpt, pkg **$1800**

WEST HOLLYWOOD
8206-C DeLongpre
1+1, st **$1100**

MAR VISTA
12754 Pacific, #1
2+1, st,w/dhu,gar,lwr **$1400**

WEST L.A.
1657 Federal Ave, #1
BACH, st, fr, ln, **$750**
11321 Massachusetts, #4
Sgl, kit, no pkg **$850**
1800 Kelton Ave, #1,4,5,7
TWO WEEKS FREE RENT
1+1, st, fr, cpt, pkg **$1025**
11321 Massachusetts, #9
1+1, st, fr, pkg **$1050**
1920 Manning Ave, #6
TWO WEEKS FREE RENT
2+1.75, st, fr, hdwd **$1425**
1766 Malcolm Ave
TWO WEEKS FREE RENT
2+1, st, fr,cpt, pkg,ln **$1425**
11757 Kiowa, #4 & #7
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WLA 1+1 2656 South Barrington Ave. unit 7, $1025. Stove, fridge, dishwasher, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets. $700 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

For Rent

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