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Volume 10 Issue 124

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE?
SEE PAGE 2

THE NEWS, NEWS, NEWS ISSUE

Congress directs FAA to play nice with City Hall



WAXMAN

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMO The Santa Monica Airport took the national stage Friday when Congressman Henry Waxman got an amendment passed through the House instructing the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct "good faith" talks with City Hall.

Waxman attached the amendment to the FAA Reauthorization Bill of 2011, which passed the House of Representatives 223 to 196. The Senate has yet to approve the bill.

Waxman specifically targeted local concerns surrounding the lack of runway safety areas at the end of the two-way runway despite densely populated neighborhoods with some homes as close as 250 feet from the airport itself.

"The amendment I offer today is simple and straightforward," Waxman said Friday. "It urges the FAA to continue its discussion with the City of Santa Monica to identify a meaningful solution to address serious safety concerns at the Santa Monica Airport."

Although the amendment does not include specific instructions or any kind of framework for future discussions between the FAA and City Hall, it "puts the FAA on notice that Congress is dissatisfied and wants to see this issue addressed and resolved once and for all," Waxman said Tuesday.

The FAA and City Hall have been negotiating on how to address the lack of runway safety areas at the airport for many years. SMO predates the administration, and as a result, its runway was grandfathered in

SEE WAXMAN PAGE 13

School board narrows supe search to one

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

VICEROY HOTEL After 15 hours of interviewing and discussion this passed weekend, the Board of Education narrowed down the

SEE SEARCH PAGE 13

Board to examine Samohi project

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS The Board of Education will get a crack at the scope of work proposed for a $56 million project meant to renovate or replace sports and cultural facilities on Santa Monica High School's campus at its meeting tonight.

As planned, the money will go to demolish an old gym facility and replace it with a larger facility containing new basketball and volleyball courts, dance and yoga rooms, a pep studio and support buildings like restrooms, showers and dressing areas.

It will also rehab the existing Greek

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 11



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

DARTS: **Matthew Franco was effective against Oak Park during a 4-1 victory at home Tuesday.**

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Vikings win second straight

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI It may just be two straight wins, but it's a winning streak none the less.

Santa Monica High School's baseball team has won consecutive games for the first time this season with a 4-1 victory over Oak Park at home on Tuesday. The win improves Samohi's overall record to 3-12, but more importantly, it gives the Vikings a 2-1 record in the Babe Herman Tournament.

The pair of wins has the Vikings optimistic that they may be ready to put early season struggles behind them as they prepare for the Ocean League season, which begins next week.

For Head Coach Sheldon Philip-Guide,

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 11

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Verdugo staying with Samohi

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI After announcing plans to leave his post as the head coach for Santa Monica High School's girls' basketball team earlier this year, Marty Verdugo is reversing course and has decided to stay at the school for "the long haul."

"I measured the quality of life, the school district and what I'm good at and decided that the best thing for me would be to stay at the school," Verdugo told the Daily Press on Tuesday. "I have all of that right here and I have a great group of girls."

Verdugo planned to leave the job originally because he felt that he had accomplished what he set out to do when he took the position five years ago, but realized after weighing his options that he saw a new set of challenges ahead if he stayed.

In those five years, Verdugo has built Samohi's program into a SoCal powerhouse culminating in the school's first CIF-Southern Section title in the sport last year. This season, he led the Vikings back to the postseason, making an appearance in the semi-finals of the Division 1AA playoffs where they lost to eventual champ Mater Dei.

"I needed to make a move and decided this was it," Verdugo said.

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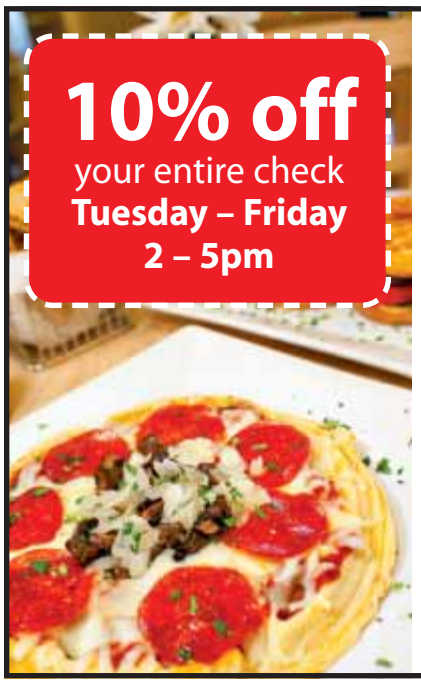
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

An night with Suzy
Danny's
23 Windward Ave., Venice, 7 p.m.
Suzy Williams, a throwback to a more hip era, brings her unique jazzy stage show to Danny's. For more information, call (310) 450-6052.

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

Thursday, April 7, 2011

An Evening of Peter Brook
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Combining two of his most revered recent works in one extraordinary run, acclaimed director Peter Brook delivers the West Coast premieres of "Fragments" by Samuel Beckett (co-directed with long time collaborator Estienne), and "The Grand Inquisitor" from Dostoevsky's The Brothers Karamazov featuring the astonishing Bruce Meyers. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com/brook.

Gaga for Bollywood
VLounge
2020 Wilshire Blvd., 8 p.m.
blue13 dance company presents "Gaga for Bollywood," a wild club night of performances, drinking, and dancing to the music of DJ's Tej Gill and Sandeep Kumar spinning the latest and greatest Bollywood, pop, Bhangra and hip hop tunes of today. The fundraising event will benefit blue13 dance company, a non-profit organization, with a portion of the evening's proceeds benefiting the Red Cross' Japan Tsunami Relief Effort and to the Dancers Care Foundation, whose mission is to raise funds to prevent cancer, raise awareness and ultimately find a cure. For more information, visit blue13dance.com.

Friday, April 8, 2011

'Locked and Loaded'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
"Locked and Loaded," Todd Susman's first published play, stars stage and screen personalities Paul Linke, Andrew Parks, Tarina Pouncy, Terasa Sciortino and Sandra Thigpen and is helmed by award-winning director Chris DeCarlo. For more information, visit santamonicaplayhouse.com.

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

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



Dad's porn career inspires one-man show

BY MELODY GERDING
Special to the Daily Press

18TH STREET ARTS CENTER The way Bobby Gordon always saw it, his dad was just like all the other dads, ordering the children to clean their rooms, cheering at little league games and filling the home with toys found at garage sales.

But to the kids in the neighborhood, the classmates at school and the fellow players on the baseball team, Howie Gordon wasn't just Bobby's father, he was Richard Pacheco, the former award-winning pornographic actor and one-time Playgirl Magazine "Man of the Year."

And they never let the younger Gordon forget it.

"To me, it seemed incredibly normal," the Santa Monica resident said of his father's career. "To the rest of the world, it seemed incredibly strange and that (for myself) was hard to reconcile.

"I never really knew how to deal as a kid."

Just how Gordon handled growing up in the "shadow of his dad's erection," getting prank calls in middle school and being told by society that porn is taboo, will be the topic of a one-man show at Highways Performance Space at the 18th Street Arts Center on April 8 and 9.

Titled, "Debbie Does My Dad," the show will take the audience through vignettes of Gordon's life, including the relationship with his parents, his discovery and interest in sex and the ultimate realization of the kind of man he wants to be.

"The purpose of this show is that it's about redefining manhood where sexuality and sensitivity are not mutually exclusive," Gordon said.

Howie Gordon was married, living in Berkeley and working in construction when he was offered his first pornographic role in the 1978 film, "The Candy Stripers."

The aspiring actor's foray into pornography was in part from living out a fantasy of meeting an x-rated woman and having sex in an elevator, a dream that came following a childhood that Gordon said was spent as an overweight and repressed "Quasimodo," later blossoming into "Robert Redford" during the sexual revolution.

"Women who were saying no were saying yes," the elder Gordon said. "I had a lot to make up for."

After filming more than 100 sex scenes and winning numerous awards, Gordon retired from the industry as a precaution shortly after cases of AIDS were reported in the United States in the 1980s. He became an AIDS information officer and started a second career as a writer. Along with his wife, Ashley, a marriage and family therapist, the couple remained in Berkeley where they raised three children, the youngest of whom is Bobby.

When it came to talking about sex and his career, Gordon was open with his children and gradually disclosed information. He recalls the time when both his daughters, then ages 12 and 10, found out about his films.

The younger daughter asked if her father's "grown-up movies" involved sex, which Gordon confirmed.

"She started jumping up and down saying 'Daddy makes sex movies,'" thinking she had discovered uranium," Gordon said.

Combing her sister's hair was the eldest daughter, who in a moment of sibling rivalry, curtly replied, "so what."

It was the kind of attitude that the children had over the years as overly excited classmates would pepper them with questions about their father's experiences in pornography.

"To me it was normal and to the other (kids) it wasn't normal and that got old," Bobby Gordon, who was born after his father retired, said.

SEE **SHOW** PAGE 13



Photo courtesy Denis Lincoln

COMMON INTERESTS? **Solo performance artist Bobby Gordon and his dad, former porn star Howie Gordon, on stage.**

Richard Branson hatches plan for submarine venture

NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press

NEWPORT BEACH Billionaire adventurer Richard Branson on Tuesday unveiled a new single-person submarine that he said will be used to set new world records by exploring the five deepest parts of the world's oceans.

Branson said that over the next two years, the solo craft will go to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic's Puerto Rico Trench and South Sandwich Trench, the Diamantina Trench in the Indian Ocean and the Molloy Deep in the Arctic Ocean.

Branson's fellow explorer, Chris Welsh, plans to make the first descent later this year to the Mariana Trench, which at 36,000 feet is deeper than Mount Everest is high. Branson then plans to explore the 28,000-foot-deep Puerto Rico Trench.

While the pilots for the other three trips have not been chosen, Branson said they hope to set as many as 30 Guinness World Records with the dives.

"The last great challenge for humans is to explore the depths of our planet's oceans," the Virgin Atlantic founder said at the Newport Harbor Yacht Club.

A news release said there was only one frontier left for Branson's Virgin brand, which has reached "the seven continents of the earth, up into the jet stream and soon, even into space."

"If someone says something is impossible, we like to prove it's possible," Branson said. "I love learning and I'm just very fortunate to participate in these kinds of adventures."

Branson unveiled the submarine, a nearly 18-foot long, white-and-blue airplane-like craft with stubby wings and a cockpit.

The carbon fiber and titanium craft will be capable of cruising for about 6.2 miles (10 kilometers) and can stay down unaided for 24 hours. The sub and its accompanying catamaran cost an estimated $17 million.

Branson said his so-called Virgin Oceanic expedition will have a scientific and educational purpose. He hopes the voyages will help to educate the public about mankind's impacts on the world's oceans and marine life.

He is partnering with Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and Moss Landing Marine Labs in Northern California as well as other research institutions. Scientists hope to study the tectonic plates and eventually use lander vehicles to bring back water, microbes and possibly small creatures from the ocean depths.

"We have 800 pounds of moon rocks and not one drop from the bottom of the ocean," said Alex Tai, Virgin Group director of special projects.

The dives will be dangerous and the pilots will likely be down in the dark and cold ocean depths for hours will little communication with the outside world. Rescues will be impossible, Welsh said. Still, he was clearly more excited than wary of the prospect, saying there is a magic to exploring new places.

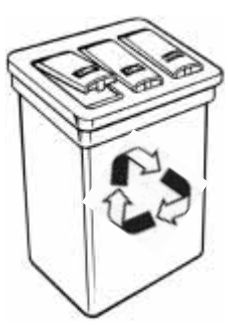
"It's like going to the moon and having the lunar rover to explore around," Welsh said.

The dives also will be recorded and uploaded to Google Earth, said John Hanke, the Internet search engine's vice president of product management.

"Our mission for Google Earth is to create an interactive virtual globe and enable users to visit places that they've never explored, including the world's oceans," he said.

The submarine originally was commissioned by

SEE **VENTURE** PAGE 12

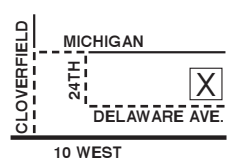


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Courteous cyclist

Editor:

Hallelujah! And thank you to the one and only cyclist in Santa Monica who actually obeys the law! Thank you long blond-hair-ponytail woman! Thank you for actually stopping at the stop sign at California and Seventh and waiting your turn to go through the intersection!

To all the rest of you cyclist out there that blow through every stop sign, ride on the sidewalks, and are indignant when I honk at you and tell you off – bike me!

Scott Bellomo
Santa Monica

Pruning problem

Editor:

Week after week, month after month we keep seeing reports about city trees that have been pruned so severely that the damage is unrecoverable and the trees must be destroyed. The language in the reports is always in the passive voice: the trees have been pruned; the roots have been cut back; the branches have been trimmed excessively. Always some anonymous malefactor appears to have committed the dirty deed, only to have the damage discovered by city staff just in time for the trees' destruction.

But these are city trees, maintained by City Hall, and cared-for by city employees. Someone prunes these trees. Some specific person, acting on instructions, trims their roots. Some individual, working for the city, cuts the branches back. And now, again, we read in your article "Reed Park junipers on the chopping block," April 5, page 1: "Last week, a community forester examined the trees again, Stinchfield said. The trees had been pruned to the point that they had lost structural integrity, and had brown leaves and signs of ill-health, she said."

Well, who did the pruning, Ms. Stinchfield? Was it the hapless homeless folks in their sleeping bags? This city is beginning to show signs of ill-health itself, and after all the work and efforts to save the urban forest it is long past time that this absurd waste of taxpayers' money be brought to a halt. If the community forester's office is not capable of maintaining trees properly, keeping trees from getting excessively pruned to the point of destruction, then perhaps it is time to do some judicious pruning in City Hall.

Dan Jansenson
Santa Monica

Blast from the past

Editor:

I was running a random Google search on myself when I came across a letter to the editor in your Oct. 24-25, 2009 Weekend Edition of the Santa Monica Daily Press titled "Who is Tommy Surko?" To answer Mike Kirwan of Venice's question, Tommy Surko was my father. His full name was Thomas Paul Surko. The funny thing about when he wrote that is any girl who could put up with his quirky antics was "his kind of girl!" He didn't really have just one in mind – he loved all women. He did eventually get married ... to my mom ... they ended up divorced 10 years later and he passed away in 2000 from Lou Gehrig's disease. Not a very romantic ending I know, but for what it's worth, his tombstone, which resides in Beacon, N.Y., reads "Thomas 'Tommy' Surko, Your Kind of Guy."

Warmest regards,

Tammy (Surko) Bellman
Clarksburg, W.Va.



Your column here

Mustafa Eck — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Why the West should embrace civil unrest in the Middle East

BACK IN JANUARY, WHEN THE STREETS of Cairo began to fill with young men chanting slogans against Hosni Mubarak's government, many Americans were alarmed. Sweat slowly started to pour off the faces of Egypt's ruling class, and soon thereafter the White House began to feel the pressure of the crowds swelling downtown Cairo in a blatant display of defiance, especially since much of the foreign funding for Mubarak's 30-year reign originated in Washington. It was a familiar sight on TV: disgruntled Middle Eastern men shouting something indiscernible; this was quickly interpreted as being unbeneficial to the United States. I mean why else do Middle Eastern men chant anything in the street?

On Jan. 25, 2011, Egyptians, for the first time in their history, just as their Tunisian brothers had done that same month, banded together and demanded something no one predicted: democracy! Democracy sounds a little different in Egyptian Arabic. Perhaps this is why so many people in the U.S. seemed reluctant to support the crowds of people that continued to throng Tahrir Square by the hundreds of thousands. No nation was more tight-lipped or hesitant to support Egypt's cries for freedom than Israel — the self-titled "only democracy in the Middle East." Why is it that so many were unwilling to support the Egyptians' cries for self-determination?

The street scenes in Cairo undoubtedly roused memorable images from the Islamic revolution that rocked Iran in 1979. In fact, this is the very reason many people worried about the latest episode of unrest in the Middle East. The line of reasoning is that if anyone in that part of the world is in the streets, it's usually not to our benefit. To the contrary, the U.S. — and the West — has little reason to view the uprising in Egypt with too much hesitancy. Improvements in human rights and heightened democratic institutions can only bridge gaps between east and west. Modernizing the Middle East will discredit fundamentalists who often recruit uneducated, impoverished people.

Let it be some indication that while Egyptians finally stood together against the Mubarak government, the largest, most well-organized opposition political party in Egypt had little presence. The Muslim Brotherhood didn't even know about the planned protests until after they started. Further, they didn't publicly support the protests until they understood the scale of the uprising. In Egypt the focus of the protests and the protesters was the desperate need for a change. Conversely, the American media spent a great deal of time trifling as to the likelihood of the Muslim Brotherhood taking power and establishing an Islamic state.

The simple reality is that a group of young people, who have little-to-no interest in religiously-infused politics, gave birth to these protests. These protests actually oppose and undermine the very concept of religious fundamentalism. The initial organizers of this revolution, people like Google executive Wael Ghonim, are democracy craving, technology consuming, secularists, who wish for nothing more than a higher level of government accountability. Reference those YouTube videos of Tahrir Square and you'll notice a good number of women chanting alongside their male counterparts. Woman chanting in the streets, democracy and secularism are concepts exceedingly opposed to the dogma that Al-Qaeda preaches, which essentially advocates rewinding the clock to the 14th century; and the popularity of these cries for democracy should be a good indication of the average Egyptians interest in extremism.

Extreme religious groups exist in the Middle East because they are the hardest to squash. Regimes like Mubarak's have maintained their overextended rule by forbidding any political opposition to form — this includes extremists and liberals. Because religious groups can meet in the privacy of a mosque for prayer, it is nearly impossible to prevent some sort of religiously inclined political groups to form. All other groups, however, don't have this luxury and have therefore been unable to advance their cause. Some of the support for groups like the Muslim Brotherhood can be attributed to the fact that it was the only standing oppositional force to Mubarak and his authoritative rule.

What people watching from the sidelines should hope for Egyptians — for all people of the Middle East — is a real change toward more democratic institutions and fair elections. I don't fantasize to think that Egypt can have a Western-modeled democracy overnight; significant political change takes time and it must be realized by its own people. Remember that Europe was overrun for centuries by tyrannical monarchs before evolving into the beacon of self-determination that it is today. Egypt must likewise take its own steps to rid itself of tyranny and corruption. Until the world sees a new Egyptian president elected through legitimate means, Egyptians will continue to be in the streets and we should hope to see them there.

MUSTAFA ECK is an Egyptian-American filmmaker based in Santa Monica. He was in Cairo just days before the recent Egyptian revolution filming an Egyptian hip-hop video and an upcoming documentary about misconceptions of the Middle East titled "Ana Mish Fahim" or "I don't understand."



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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

New royal wedding details unveiled

IT WAS REVEALED LAST WEEK THAT PRINCE William and his fiancée, Kate Middleton, have officially registered for their wedding, which is later this month.

But unlike most couples who enter their wedding wish list at places like Bloomingdales, Williams-Sonoma or the bank (yes, some people actually pass out their checking account number for people to deposit cash on their behalf), the future King of England and his bride have asked people to donate to a list of 26 pre-selected charities near to their heart instead.

Which is a lovely gesture, of course. Especially because if they had actually asked invited guests for two sets of 300-thread-count percale bedding or a dozen stemless wine glasses, for example, that would have been potentially awkward. After all, is it really appropriate to buy a blender for the guy who stands to inherit Buckingham Palace? Isn't it safe to assume there's already one there, and if not, that there's someone whose sole job it is to jump up and down to make milk into a shake on demand? It's unclear how a request for a malted would be handled, but surely it's been thought of before now.

William and Kate have decided to eschew a cake-cutting ceremony in which the bride and groom are meant to smear some of the featured dessert all over each other's faces. Particularly since they're serving a fruitcake and no one wants to be scratched by an errant nut. Yes, the classic Yuletide punchline confection is what the fortunate 600 who have been invited to the wedding luncheon reception of the century will have to force down at the end of the event before they attempt to pilfer the flower arrangements on their tables to take home. The hired videographer has already signed an agreement that states that if the bride ends up with part of a raisin between her teeth, he must turn off his camera and hand her a compact mirror and some dental floss before he may continue shooting.

Because she's marrying into the highest possible society, Kate will not wear the traditional garter belt for William to seductively strip off her leg in between the Yorkshire and plum-pudding courses and toss to the present bachelors, according to early indications from royal watchers. Because that wouldn't be classy. Instead the young prince will saw off her chastity belt and present it on a velvet-draped sterling silver heirloom platter to his grandmother in a nod to the traditional values she holds in such high regard, despite the fact that the second-in-line to the throne and his betrothed have been living in sin off and on since college.

And instead of Kate throwing her floral bouquet into the crowd, she will do for the first time publicly what every other commoner who has married into royalty has done before her in private: she will be encircled by the spinsters in the room and point and laugh because she landed a prince and they are destined to either be alone forever or with a man who is most certainly not a prince, or at least not the prince. It will leave most in attendance wondering if they really witnessed it. But a week later she will be photographed holding orphaned AIDS babies in Africa and the moment will be mostly forgotten, even if some will continue to talk about it for generations to come, although much like the JFK or MLK conspiracies, there will be no hard proof except for some grainy cell phone video images that some historians and pundits will argue were taken out of context.

The wedding band Kate will don when she becomes a Mrs. is being made out of part of a nugget of Welsh gold that has been in the family for years and was given to William by Queen Elizabeth as a gift. For his part, William will not wear a wedding band, as his father and most of the men in his family advised him that despite the pervasiveness of the urban myth, it's actually much harder to pick up chicks with a noose around your finger than it is when you go ringless.

In addition to being commemorated on stamps, coins, tea towels, mugs, flags and a refrigerator, the handsome twosome will be the subject of countless motion pictures, including a Lifetime movie, a Hallmark miniseries and a film entitled "The Royal Romp," which is currently the subject of a bidding war between Cinemax and the adults-only section in every local video store and Redbox kiosk.

Finally, Kate will have six hairdressers on hand for the big day (two for the south side of her head and one each for the east, west and north, and one dedicated to her face and body) and William will have two private bartenders on duty — one for each hand — as he only recently learned that he's marrying a woman who apparently requires six hairdressers.

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

We have to ask

The Daily Press recently published its annual April Fools' Day edition, something that gives us a chance to poke fun at the things we cover.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What did you think of this year's issue? Anything we missed?

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



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BOYS GOLF				
Apr 6	V	Serra	Serra	3pm
Apr 11	V	BMHS	Rancho	3:18pm
TRACK				
Apr 6	V	St. Bernard	CSHM	3:15pm
BOYS VOLLEYBALL				
Apr 7	JV/V	St. Paul	St. Paul	5/6:30pm
Apr 9	JV	Sylmar Tournament	Sylmar	TBA
Apr 12	JV/V	Mary Star	SMCHS	5/6:30pm
GIRLS SOFTBALL				
Apr 7	JV/V	CSHM	CSHM	3:15pm
Apr 9	V	St. Matthias	St. Matthias	12:00pm

Santa Monica High School

Date	Team	Opponent	Location	Time
BOYS BASEBALL				
Apr 6	V	Crescenta Valley Tournament		TBA
BOYS VOLLEYBALL				
Apr 7	V	Beverly Hills		3:15pm
GIRLS SOFTBALL				
Apr 7	V	Downey	Downey	3:15pm
BOYS GOLF				
Apr 7	All	Beverly Hills	Rancho Park	1:30pm
COED TRACK				
Apr 7	All	Beverly Hills		2:30pm
Apr 8	All	4/8- 4/9 Arcadia Invitational (Selected Varsity Only)		TBA

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KB Home loss grows on fewer home deliveries

ALEX VEIGA
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES The success of a housing tax credit that helped spur home sales is haunting homebuilders a year later.

KB Home is the latest builder to report a sharp drop in home orders for the December-to-February quarter, against year-ago results that were bolstered by the government incentive. Rival Lennar Corp. saw its orders drop 12 percent during the period.

The trend underscores a persistent obstacle to a housing turnaround: Absent a compelling incentive, many would-be homebuyers are not in any hurry to commit, deterred by concerns that home values could drop further, as well as by high unemployment, strict lending standards and a slow economic recovery.

KB said its new home orders fell 32 percent from a year earlier, while the number of homes it delivered sank 28 percent. The weak sales figures and several one-time charges led to a bigger quarterly loss for the Los Angeles-based company and prompted management to say it doesn't expect the builder will turn a profit for the year.

"While the economy is improving, it is unclear whether the broader housing market is bouncing along the bottom, stabilizing or improving," said KB Home President and CEO Jeffrey Mezger.

He noted that buyers remain cautious and are taking significant time scouting the market, visiting the builder's home developments several times before making up their minds. Still, Mezger said traffic by prospective buyers rose during the quarter versus a year earlier, on a per community basis. And while down overall, the pace of new home orders improved as the quarter progressed, a trend echoed in March.

The average sales price of homes delivered during the quarter rose to $206,000 from $198,000.

The improving sales pace and price is encouraging in light of the so-far lackluster spring home-selling season, the traditional peak period for home sales. Even so, KB doesn't expect its March or April home orders will eclipse those months' prior-year totals, which got a boost from the tax credit.

New home sales plummeted last year after the tax incentive expired at the end of April and remained weak throughout the summer and much of the fall. Even with the tax credit, new home sales in 2010 fell to the lowest level on records going back 47 years. The weak sales trends have continued this year, with sales falling in January and February. Winter weather received some of the blame, but other signs also point to a soft start to this spring's home sales.

KB expects it will post annual sales increases beginning in May and through the rest of the year, when the builder will have easier benchmarks and it opens up additional new communities.

"This should also set us up with a larger backlog and momentum as we enter 2012," Mezger said.

KB Home builds homes to order for entry-level and move-up buyers and seniors in 12 states.

STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Fan beaten at Dodger game may have brain damage

Doctors say a San Francisco Giants fan who was beaten and badly injured at Dodger Stadium is showing signs of brain damage and remains in critical condition.

A Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center neurosurgeon said Tuesday that Bryan Stow of Santa Cruz suffered a severe skull fracture and bad bruising to his frontal lobe.

Dr. Gabriel Zada said Stow remains in a coma and that he's showing signs of "brain injury and dysfunction."

Meanwhile, Los Angeles Police Det. Jose Carrillo said investigators are checking an unconfirmed report that three men in Giants gear were struck by the same attackers before Stow was knocked to the ground and hit his head on the pavement.

Stow's relatives said they do not blame Dodger fans for the attack.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Officer improves after being shot in standoff

A police officer who was shot in the face during a lengthy siege improved Tuesday but remained in critical condition.

Steven Jenkins was sedated on a breathing machine at Providence Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills, hospital spokeswoman Patricia Aidem said.

The 22-year department veteran was shot in the jaw and shoulder Monday at a Sylmar home after officers responded to a domestic violence report.

A trauma surgeon listed Jenkins as critical but stable, Aidem said. His wife, an LAPD sergeant, was at his side.

Doctors said that barring unexpected complications, he was expected to survive and might need further surgery.

AP

SAN FRANCISCO

Survivors of explosion to address regulators

Survivors of a deadly natural gas explosion in a San Francisco suburb are preparing to testify before state regulators, as officials seek input on how to strengthen crucial safety rules for the pipeline industry.

The Sept. 9 blast in San Bruno killed eight people, injured dozens and sparked a fireball that consumed part of a neighborhood overlooking the San Francisco Bay.

Residents are anxious for state and federal officials to determine what caused the 44-year-old transmission line to rupture, and how to prevent that kind of accident from happening again.

The California Public Utilities Commission will listen to testimony from residents and elected officials on Tuesday evening. Regulators also will hold public hearings on pipeline safety this spring in Los Angeles and Santa Rosa.

AP

Grim Sleeper serial killer may have more victims

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A South Los Angeles mechanic charged with the "Grim Sleeper" serial killings of 10 women over two decades might have killed eight other women, police said Tuesday.

Detectives have uncovered evidence that connects Lonnie Franklin Jr., 58, to six women missing from 1982 to 2006, a police news release said.

Three of the women were linked to Franklin by "strong circumstantial evidence" found at his home, while the other three were known to have frequented Franklin's neighborhood prior to their disappearance and "shared similar lifestyles," the statement said.

Most of the 10 known homicide victims were prostitutes who worked an area just blocks from Franklin's home.

The seventh new victim is unidentified, but investigators believe she is linked to the killings because of evidence discovered at Franklin's house. Police are asking for the public's help in identifying the woman.

Detectives also believe Franklin may be responsible for the unsolved slaying of Inez Warren, who was killed in 1988 in a similar way to the 10 homicides Franklin is charged with. Police said they need additional information before making a definite connection to Franklin, who has pleaded not guilty to the 10 original killings.

Four of the eight newly identified women had been previously not been connected to the case, police said.

The Grim Sleeper, named as such because the killings appeared to stop in 1988 and resurfaced in 2002, shot or strangled black women ages 14 to 36 in South Los Angeles. Their bodies were found dumped in alleyways off Western Avenue, an area known for prostitution.

Franklin, whose criminal record listed 15 arrests for burglary, assault and other crimes but who was never sentenced to prison, was arrested last summer through a familial DNA search of prison inmates.

Although Franklin's DNA had never been entered into the state database, investigators last June found a partial match to his son, recently convicted of weapons possession, leading them to Franklin.

During subsequent searches of his modest bungalow, police found hundreds of sexually explicit photographs and home videos in the house and in a camper in his backyard where neighbors said he would meet women.

Other evidence seized included guns, handcuffs, ammunition and car seats.

Neighbors said Franklin was well known as a backyard mechanic and for showing his photo collection.

In December, police posted photos of about 160 women online and on billboards, asking for the public's help to identify them so they could be eliminated from or added to a possible victim list.

Those photos have been whittled down to 56 women who remain unidentified.

Sheen moves to trademark phrases

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES Not everyone may have Charlie Sheen's "Adonis DNA" but people may soon be able to wear it, chew on it, drink it and experience it in a videogame.

Within two weeks of Sheen's firing from television's top-rated comedy, a company with ties to the actor applied to trademark 22 of his catchphrases, including "Duh, Winning," "Vatican Assassin," "Tiger Blood" and "Rock Star From Mars."

The former "Two and a Half Men" star introduced the world to many of the phrases during a media blitz in February and early March that Sheen dubbed a "Media Tsunami." That trademark is still up-for-grabs, but the applications point to a possible merchandising blitz.

The phrase, "I'm not bi-polar, I am bi-winning," could end up on cell phones, in comic books, on wallets, purses, stickers and pens and pencils. Other potential items where the phrases may be emblazoned include bras, pens and pencils, pet foods and even alcoholic drinks.

There may even be something for gamblers — "Winning" could end up on slot machines.

Sheen's spokesman, Larry Solters, said Tuesday that how the trademarks are used if they are approved will be determined later.

Records show Hyro-gliff, a California company formed last month, filed trademark applications between March 19 and 22. In filings, the company lists its address as the offices of Sheen's attorney, Marty Singer, who is pursuing a $100 million lawsuit against Warner Bros. and "Men" creator Chuck Lorre.

The company also applied to trademark Sheen's name and signature, as well as his nicknames for his home (Sober Valley Lodge) and his girlfriends (Sheen's Goddesses.)

A pair of applications cover the title of the actor's current stage show, seeking protection for the phrases "Violent Torpedo of Truth" and "Defeat is Not an Option."

The filings do not guarantee that any of the products will ever be made, but if approved they will protect Sheen's name and interests from others who try to make merchandise from his sound bites.

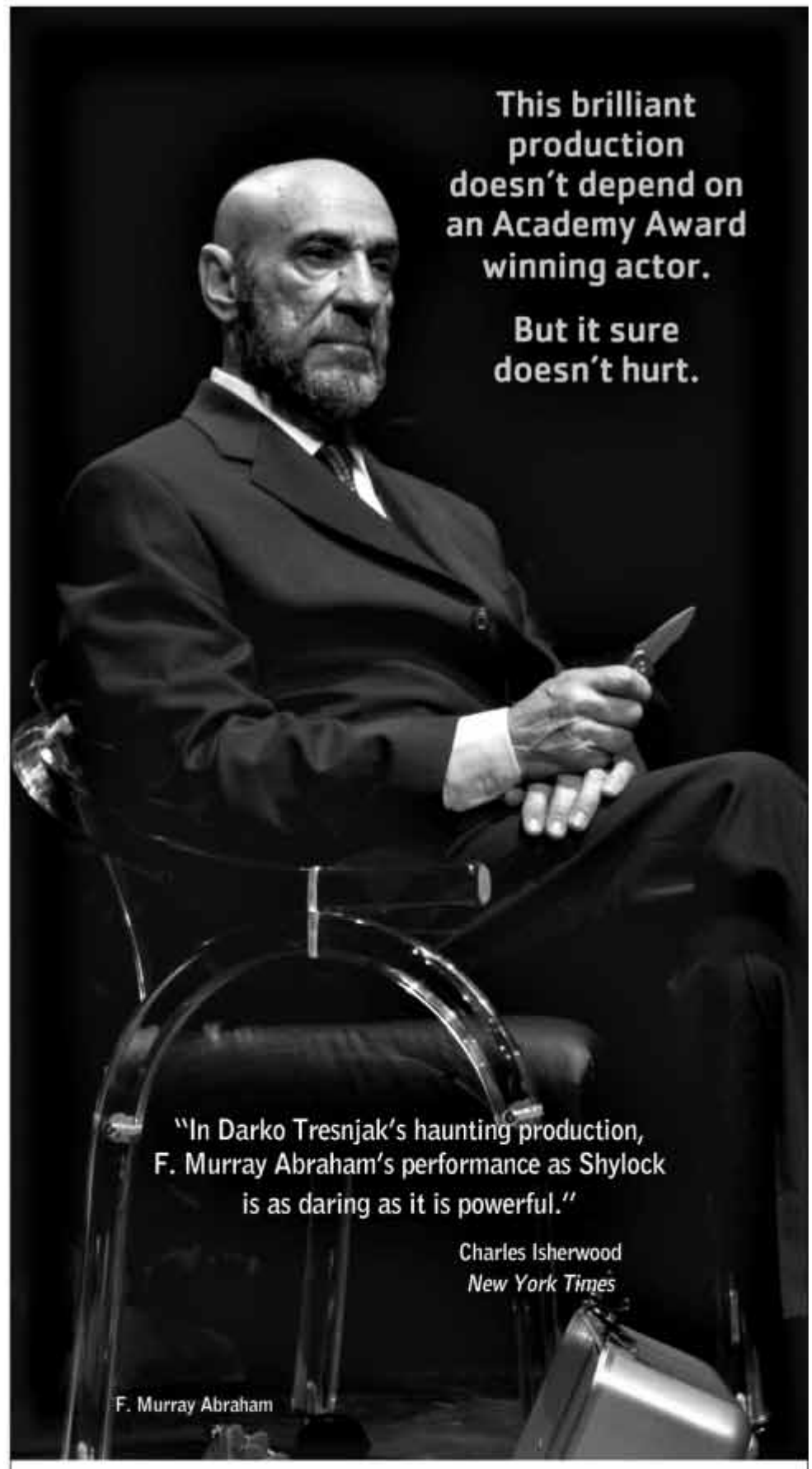
There's already plenty of competition for Sheen-isms. Two other people sought to trademark "Adonis DNA" before Sheen, listing potential uses on clothing and as a nutritional supplement. Thirteen others, including Jimmy Buffett's company, have sought to trademark "Tiger Blood" for use on nutritional and alcoholic drinks.

If Sheen gets the trademarks, it could help fill some of the financial void left by his firing from "Men," which reportedly paid him $1.8 million per episode.

The actor has already been selling T-shirts and other merchandise on his website using some of the phrases. That would give him an advantage in claiming trademark rights, said attorney Aaron Moss, a partner with the firm Greenberg Glusker, which specializes in intellectual property cases.

Sheen's distinctive use of some of the phrases will also fend off competitors. "He has become solely identifiable as the source of these catchphrases," Moss said.

It could take a year or more for the government to register the trademarks, but the fact Sheen is selling merchandise with the phrases protects his interests, Moss said. "He's going to have a much stronger claim to those trademark rights than any third party," he said.



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Stocks end day with little change

DAVID K. RANDALL & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK A quiet day on Wall Street left stock indexes little changed after minutes from the most recent meeting of the Federal Reserve's policy committee showed few signs that the central bank plans on making changes to its stimulus program. Trading volume continued to be light.

The minutes, from the Fed's meeting on March 15, confirmed that members of the central bank are split about whether it needs to tighten credit later this year to ward off inflation. All of the committee's members agreed that the economy is improving.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 6.13 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 12,393.90. The S&P 500 index was down 0.24 at 1,332.63. The Nasdaq composite gained 2, or 0.1 percent, to 2,791.19.

Companies that make basic materials rose as traders anticipated more price increases for commodities. Aluminum maker Alcoa Inc. rose 2.8 percent, Newmont Mining Corp. rose 4.4 percent and Dow Chemical Co. rose 1.3 percent.

"I think the market is concerned that (Fed) Chairman (Ben) Bernanke doesn't share the same level of concern regarding inflation that it might wish him to, and that is leading to stronger commodity prices," said Howard Ward, the chief investment officer for GAMCO Investors.

Many investors have been more focused on the policies of the Federal Reserve rather than the threat of a government shutdown if Republicans and Democrats do not reach an agreement on federal spending levels. "There is a game of chicken going on in Washington right now to see who will move first," Ward said.

Stocks had edged lower in early trading, following most world markets, after China raised a key lending rate and the rating agency Moody's lowered Portugal's credit rating. A survey from the Institute for Supply Management reported growth at service companies last month but at a slower rate than analysts were expecting.

Technology companies climbed after Texas Instruments Inc. said it planned to buy National Semiconductor for $6.5 billion in cash. National Semiconductor soared 71 percent.

After falling more than $10 earlier in the day, Apple Inc. regained most of its losses. Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. announced a rebalancing of the Nasdaq-100 Index next month that will cut Apple's weighting in the index from 20 percent to 12 percent. That will likely force some money managers to reduce their holdings.

Trading in the largest stocks of the Nasdaq index may be more volatile before the rebalancing takes effect, but will may make index funds that are based on the Nasdaq more appropriate for lay investors, said John DiBacco, global head of equity finance at UBS.

Lawmaker wants to suspend deportation of gay spouses

GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press

HADDONFIELD, N.J. U.S. Rep. Rush Holt is pushing the Obama administration to halt deportation proceedings against the same-sex spouses of U.S. citizens.

The Democrat wrote a letter to the federal Department of Homeland Security on Tuesday to make the request on behalf of a couple who live in his central New Jersey district. An estimated 36,000 bi-national same-sex couples are in the U.S., and all have reason to be worried if deportations are not stopped, the couple's lawyer says.

The case underscores the ambiguous status of the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as the union of a heterosexual man and a heterosexual woman. Earlier this year, Attorney General Eric Holder said the government would no longer defend the law in court. But the administration continues to enforce it.

In New Jersey, Princeton University political science graduate student Josh Vandiver was married last year in Connecticut, where same-sex marriage is legal, to Henry Velandia, a citizen of Venezuela and professional salsa dancer.

Velandia's visitor visa expired, and he said he hasn't been able to get a green card, or permanent resident status, through an employer. Because the federal government doesn't recognize the couple's marriage, Vandiver cannot sponsor Velandia as a heterosexual person could sponsor a spouse.

Now Velandia is facing possible deportation and could be returned to his home country after a hearing May 6.

Some members of Congress want to repeal the law, and many advocates expect a federal court will invalidate it. But neither measure is likely to happen quickly.

"In light of Attorney General Holder's new guidance, I am asking you to suspend the deportation of all spouses of citizens in a same-sex marriage until a decision is reached on DOMA," Holt wrote in a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. "This is the right thing to do for Henry, Josh and countless others who are being victimized by this discriminatory and unconstitutional law."

Homeland Security did not immediately comment on Holt's request.

His plea follows confusion last week over how visas should be handled. The government briefly allowed applications for immigrant benefits for same-sex couples, then reversed course days later after a review of the laws.

Lavi Soloway, attorney for the New Jersey couple, says that at any given time, a few hundred couples in similar situations as his clients face deportation proceedings.

"All of them live with the fear that what Josh and Henry have on May 6 will one day be on their schedule as well," said Soloway, who practices in New York and Los Angeles. "They all have this barrier to resolving their immigration status."

He said that if the Defense of Marriage law is struck down, same-sex couples legally married in any state will be recognized as married by the federal government. As a practical matter, that would bring not only immigration status but tax benefits for some couples.

Meanwhile, Vandiver, 29, and Velandia, 27, gain moral support through a Facebook page dedicated to keeping Velandia in the U.S. It has more than 10,000 supporters, some of them with similar frustrations.

"Many of them, you can feel their sadness," Velandia said. "It's so beautiful to see their support. It's good to be their voice."

Companies use microbes to transform coal into gas

MEAD GRUVER
Associated Press

GILLETTE, Wyo. New scientific research has a pair of energy companies betting that the future of the U.S. natural gas industry lies in persuading microorganisms to treat old coal deposits like all-you-can eat buffets.

Coal, researchers have found, is full of microbes that consume the fossil fuel and break it down into methane gas. Two companies want to take advantage of this naturally occurring phenomenon on a large scale to create vast amounts of natural gas in energy-rich places like Wyoming.

"Once you figure out the recipe that feeds the bugs and gets them reactivated, it's pretty simple," said Bob Cavnar, chief executive of Luca Technologies.

Luca and Ciris Energy have begun experimenting with using this type of microbe-friendly formula in gas wells drilled into coal deposits years ago. The companies have been spiking the wells with substances including calcium, magnesium, phosphate and glycerol, which encourage the micro-organisms to reproduce, feed and release the coveted methane gas.

The hope is to get old and nearly tapped-out coal-bed methane wells to double or perhaps triple gas production.

The process works on a smaller scale, said Michael Urynowicz, a researcher at the University of Wyoming who has studied using microbes to turn coal into methane.

"The question is, at the field scale, how economically viable it will be?" he said.

Some worry it will contaminate the groundwater that supplies more than 6,000 area homes. What Luca calls "nutrients," Jill Morrison of the Powder River Basin Resource Council calls "chemicals."

"They make it sound like it's yogurt and granola or something. It's not," Morrison said. "I'm not saying that maybe this technology doesn't have some promise at some point. But I don't think we're there, and we don't know enough about it."

The experiment comes in the midst of a natural gas boom that has seen companies in several states just begin to tap vast gas deposits only now being recognized for their enormous potential.

To many, those reserves look all the more attractive while the Japanese nuclear crisis raises worries about nuclear energy and the Gulf oil spill casts doubt on tapping the nation's best remaining oil deposits.

But drilling for gas can require multimillion-dollar investments to bore thousands of feet into the ground. Such wells produce a lot of gas quickly, Cavnar said, but production falls off before long, requiring companies to drill more and more sites to remain profitable.

If successful, the microbe technology could help prolong the future of Wyoming's gas industry, which supports tens of thousands of jobs and provided $1.1 billion in tax revenue to the state in 2009.

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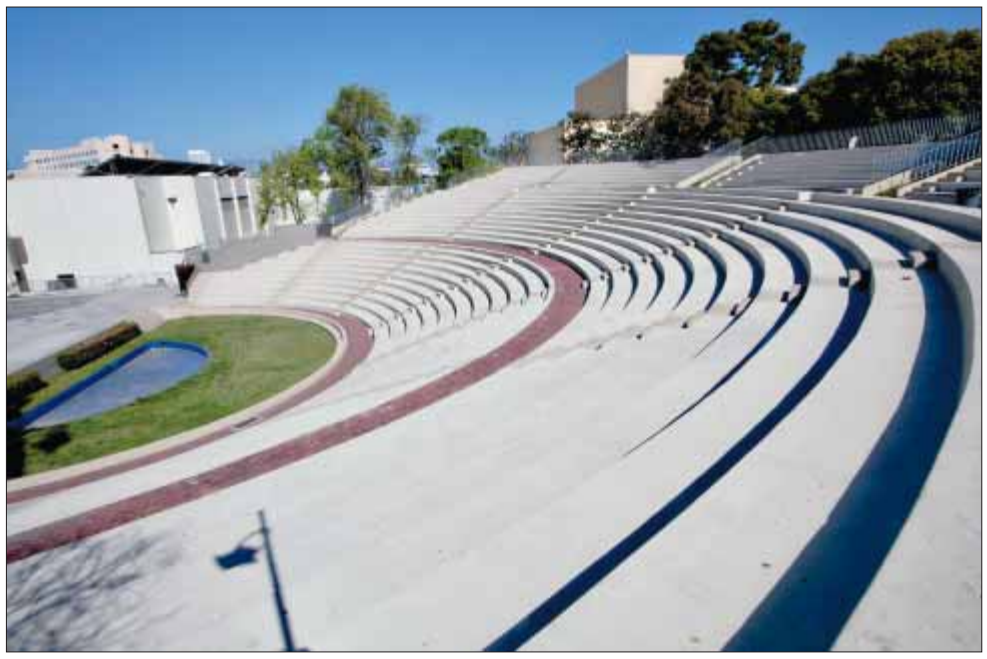


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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

IN THE WORKS: **The school board Wednesday will get another opportunity to comment on the proposed $56 million renovation of Samohi, including a rehab of the Greek Theatre.**

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

Theatre, and replace the football field with synthetic turf.

The project budget of $56 million includes construction improvements, allocations for planning, design services and project management.

It's the first time the board will have seen an update on the multi-million dollar project in almost a year, said board President Jose Escarce.

"The last time we went through it was in June 2010," Escarce said. "The truth is, the vision of Santa Monica High School that has been envisioned and imagined by the architects that have been working with us is really breathtaking. Anything that can move us closer and closer to that vision is a wonderful thing."

The proposal is referred to as "phase one" of a $234 million project called the Civic Center Joint Use Project, which uses Redevelopment Agency funding to improve facilities on the Samohi campus in return for public access after school hours.

City Hall would manage the properties after school.

The City Council approved a $57 million expenditure for that phase, of which $1.084 million has been disbursed so that the district could begin environmental review work, said Kate Ginsberg, assistant director of community and cultural services.

"It doesn't fully fund the environmental process, but it enables them to kickstart the work," Ginsberg said.

Thus far, engineers have taken 10 soil samples — five 40 feet deep and five 75 feet deep — to make sure that the design of the new structures fits the capacity of the soil beneath it.

When that analysis is complete, the district will be able to use it in a future environmental review document to back up its decisions of what buildings or uses to put on what section of campus.

Tonight's meeting will be the first presentation of that space programming to the board, with hopes that the final decisions will be made by the end of April.

Although architects have created provisional plans for the entire $234 million project, it's unclear whether or not the project will continue past the first phase.

The design came with explicit instructions from City Hall to "keep the campus whole" as the district moves forward with phase one.

Problematically, the money needed to complete upgrades to the entire campus is expected to come from the Redevelopment Agency, which has come under fire from Gov. Jerry Brown's office.

The governor's budget proposes axing redevelopment agencies across the state to recoup $1.7 billion to be used to cover gaps in MediCal and courtroom costs.

It gives the district incentive to move as quickly as possible through the process.

"The uncertainty regarding the RDA has cast a shadow over all of this," Escarce said.

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BASEBALL
FROM PAGE 1

he doesn't think that the team is doing anything differently, he believes the difference is more subtle.

"It's all about attitude with these guys," Philip-Guide said. "They want to show people that we're not as bad as our record indicates."

Aside from the better attitude, it doesn't hurt when little-used players step up to make big contributions.

The Vikings were the beneficiaries of a steady performance by junior relief pitcher Matthew Franco, who was making just his second varsity appearance since being called up from JV two weeks ago. Franco entered the game to relieve senior starter Brandon Hirschberger with the Vikings up, 2-1.

The junior, who pitched three innings of scoreless relief, finished the day with four strikeouts and collected the win.

"I just tried to throw a lot of strikes," Franco said. "But, my curve wasn't on."

Despite the strong play, Franco did walk a pair of batters in the fifth inning, putting runners at first and second with one out and the Vikings clinging to a 3-1 lead, but outfielder Alex Turner was able to end the scoring threat when he fielded a pop-up by Oak Park's Conner McKenzie and promptly doubled up Chris Koch, who was caught lingering off the bag.

The flub of a scoring opportunity for Oak Park continues a trend for the Eagles.

"We had lots of chances," Oak Park head coach Scott Hall said. "But, scoring has been tough for us all year."

Franco wasn't the only surprise player to contribute on Tuesday. Third baseman Albert Garcia entered the game in the fourth inning as well and finished the day with a pair of sacrifice fly balls that plated two runs.

Next for the Vikings is a home game today as part of the Babe Herman Tournament. The opponent hasn't been decided. The game is scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m.

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VENTURE

FROM PAGE 3

Branson's close friend and fellow adventurer Steve Fossett, who died in 2007 while flying a plane over the Sierra Nevada. Fossett had intended to complete the first solo dive to the Mariana Trench, Branson said.

Branson also said he plans to create a larger submarine that can hold more people and offer trips to tourists for a sizable fee.

Last year he unveiled a three-person submarine called the Necker Nymph, which is available for $2,500 a day for guests of his private resort in the Caribbean. The submarine, created by San Francisco-based Hawkes Ocean Technologies, is capable of going almost 100 feet deep. In a subsequent interview with Popular Mechanics, Hawkes officials said they were also working with Branson on submersibles capable of high-speed deep sea travel.

Branson has also been working on a space tourism venture with the construction of a $209 million spaceport in New Mexico. The British businessman has said he expects to launch the first suborbital flights from Spaceport America between mid-summer 2011 and spring 2012. Many of the 500 people that have signed up to be astronauts have expressed interest in being "aquanauts," he said.

While most of the country is still dealing with the daily realities of a struggling economy, University of California, Berkeley professor Robert Reich said the super-rich are richer today than they have ever been and there is a market in selling them new adventures.

High-end retailers such as Tiffany & Co. and Neiman Marcus continue to do well despite the economy, he said. And even as NASA experiences budget cuts, the extraordinary wealthy are willing to pay small fortunes to go into space or into the depths of the ocean, said the public policy professor.

"People who are selling to the super-rich basically can't lose," said Reich, former Secretary of Labor during the Clinton administration. "Richard Branson can dig a hole to the center of the earth and charge a million dollars a day to go through it and he'd find people to take him up on the offer."

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WAXMAN
FROM PAGE 1

despite the fact that it does not live up to FAA guidelines.

In an attempt to address safety concerns, the FAA put forward an offer to create an engineered material arresting system, or EMAS, at one end of the SMO runway in 2007.

The system was meant to stop planes at speeds up to 70 knots that fouled up a take off and prevent them from going into the densely populated neighborhood beyond the runway.

In a 2008 letter, the FAA claimed that the system would cover 97 percent of the airport's operations, including 90 percent of the large jet craft, called cateogory C and D jets, that City Hall later tried to ban outright.

The FAA later reneged on that offer, which City Hall had declared insufficient because it only covered one end of the runway, said Kate Vernez, assistant to the city manager on government relations.

Conversation between the two entities was minimal after the FAA filed an injunction in April 2008 against a Santa Monica ordinance banning the largest jets from using the airport.

Waxman had introduced an amendment similar to this one in 2009, without success.

This year, a decade since his activism on the part of Santa Monica began, the timing was right.

The end of litigation between City Hall and the FAA dovetailed with the Reauthorization Bill, which "created a timely opportunity to bring this issue back to the fore," Waxman said.

The effort was well-received by Santa Monica officials who celebrated it.

"Safety is the prime issue at the airport," said SMO manager Robert Trimborn. "I'm pleased that the congressman has included his amendment to the FAA Reauthorization to work with the city on this issue."

Mayor Richard Bloom viewed the amendment as a healthy step in moving past the same old arguments to find creative solutions to the safety problems.

"I think that the city is by necessity taking a new look at where we're coming from on this issue because litigation has not been successful," Bloom said. "The FAA, at the same time, should have more than enough motivation to want to engage in good faith discussions."

To a degree, those "good faith discussions" have already begun.

Last week, City Manager Rod Gould and City Attorney Marsha Moutrie met with members of the FAA to discuss the visioning process for the future of the airport begun by the council in February, as well as to reinforce community objections against a change in flight path which forced more planes over Santa Monica homes.

While community members were happy to see Waxman addressing the problems at SMO, some felt that the amendment didn't go far enough.

At no point did it mention pollution dangers, said Martin Rubin, member of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution.

The group met with Waxman in September 2010 to encourage him to address the issue.

"It was not enough, it was a weak amendment," Rubin said. "What we asked the congressman for when we met with him last year, and he seemed agreeable, was to make a rule that would set a minimum distance between where jets can be blasting off and where homes were."

That minimum distance would mean that jets would have to move further down the runway, which probably isn't enough space for a safe take off for jets, Rubin acknowledged.

"It will get rid of the jets, the convenience travel for the well to do and even some congressmen," Rubin said.

Waxman did request an environmental impact study in September for a flight path change that the FAA experimented with for six months, which lessened the amount of wait time for planes to take off, and prevented polluting idling on the runway.

Santa Monicans protested, however, because the new path, which changed the flight angle from 210 degrees to 250, sent more planes over Santa Monica homes.

The FAA has yet to complete a full analysis of the information it gathered during the six-month test.

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SHOW
FROM PAGE 3

It wasn't until a few years ago that Gordon took a step back and decided to look at his family through a new set of lenses, asking for the first time why his father acted in porn.

The result was a show that debuted at the Drama for Life Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa last fall and a follow-up with the father and son at the Center for Sex and Culture in San Francisco in November. The performance at Highways will be a never-before-seen retooled version of the show.

"(Bobby) is working out some critical issues of his own growth and sexuality which have helped him transition from boy to man," Howie Gordon said about the show. "It's great to see him playing things out and coming to peace with things that have caused him consternation in his youth."

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SEARCH
FROM PAGE 1

field of potential candidates for the position of superintendent to one.

Additional reference checks and a site visit will take place to validate the decision, and then the board can begin negotiating a contract, said Board President Jose Escarce.

Officials would not release the name of the finalist.

"Our sense from the previous week that we had a very strong pool of candidates was blown out and confirmed," Escarce said.

A nationwide hunt for a new superintendent began in September 2010 when current Superintendent Tim Cuneo announced that he would be leaving the position in June 2011.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District board hired a firm to conduct the search in January.

Cuneo has led the district since 2008 through a tumultuous time marked by cuts in state funding, a failed attempt to pass a $198 parcel tax, an attempt to overhaul special education and a grassroots effort to try to raise money to save teachers' jobs.

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City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2351 (CCS) (City Council Series)

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2351, which was adopted by the City Council on March 22, 2011.

Ordinance Number 2351 modifies certain zoning code requirements to facilitate the construction of new municipal parking structures in the Downtown, including Parking Structure #6, in a manner consistent with the goals of the LUCE and the Bayside District Specific Plan. Specifically, this ordinance allows structure height up to 84 feet, allows modification of the depth requirement for ground floor uses, modifies stepback and envelope requirements, and increases the allowed slope in parking areas.

This ordinance will become effective thirty days after its adoption. The full text of the ordinance is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone (310) 458-8211.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #3037 - FURNISH AND DELIVER PLEXIGLAS WINDOW GUARDS AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.
BID #3038 - FURNISH AND DELIVER TIRES AND RELATED SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY VARIOUS DIVISIONS.
BID # 3039 - PROVIDE TOWING SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.
BID #3040 - PROVIDE PAINTING SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY VARIOUS DIVISIONS.
BID #3042 - PROVIDE JANITORIAL SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.
Submission deadline for bids listed above is April 21, 2011 at 3:00PM Pacific Time.

BID #3030 – FURNISH & DELIVER REBUILT MAIN AND SIDE BROOM SEGMENTS FOR MOBILE SWEEPERS (ELGIN EAGLE MODEL 600) AS REQUIRED BY THE FLEET MANAGEMENT DIVISION
BID #3031 – FURNISH AND DELIVER VEHICLE BATTERIES AND PICK UP OLD BATTERY CORES AS REQUIRED BY THE FLEET MANAGEMENT DIVISION.
BID #3045 – PROVIDE VARIOUS STEEL-TOED/NON-STEEL-TOED SAFETY WORK BOOTS & SHOES AND MISCELLANEOUS ACCESSORIES AS REQUIRED BY THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA.
BID #3046 – PROVIDE GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES AT VARIOUS CITY OF SANTA MONICA LOCATIONS AS REQUIRED BY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE
Submission deadline for bids listed above is April 26, 2011 at 3:00PM Pacific Time.

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm

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) 458-2201, ext. 5898, or by e-mailing your request to thomas.poon@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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Mexican restaurant says 'Si' to Passover menus

MICHELLE LOCKE
For The Associated Press

Do salsa and gefilte fish mix?

They do if you're Howard Greenstone a "nice Jewish boy from Jersey," who is CEO and president of Rosa Mexicano, a small chain of upscale Mexican restaurants.

The idea of offering Passover-themed food came up seven years ago when some of Greenstone's investors, who are from Mexico, began talking about the tradition of Jewish culture in Mexico City.

"I thought it would be great," says Greenstone. "I grew up eating Eastern European Jewish food — not the highest flavor profile you'll ever find."

Working with his chef at the time he developed a menu and "people loved it. It was pretty amazing."

According to the National Jewish Population Survey, two-thirds of U.S. Jews hold and/or attend a Passover seder. Restaurants serving kosher-style food like Rosa Mexicano wouldn't be suitable for the 21 percent of U.S. Jews who keep kosher, according to the survey. But its menus do make use of traditional ingredients while avoiding things like mixing meat and milk or serving leavened bread.

The Rosa Mexicano menus also follow guidelines for Sephardic Jews, the Jews of Spain, Portugal, North Africa and the Middle East and their descendants vs. those for Ashkenazi Jews, the Jews of France, Germany, and Eastern Europe and their descendants. A key difference is that during Pesach, or Passover, which begins at sunset April 19 this year, Sephardic Jews can eat corn and rice.

Mind you, mixing Passover and the restaurant experience can bring challenges. Pairing wines with traditional Passover foods, for example, isn't easy, says Scott Pactor, owner of Appellation Wine & Spirits in New York City. Luckily, the number of high-quality kosher wines has been growing in recent years, meaning there's a lot to choose from.

If the menu has some kick to it, like Rosa Mexicano's food, he would recommend something with a little residual sugar, like the White by W white blend from Weinstock Cellars. Another choice is a lighter-bodied red such as cabernet franc or pinot noir.

For starchy traditional dishes such as potato kugel and noodle kugel, blends of savory and sweet, Pactor would go again with a wine that has a little residual sugar to complement the cinnamon often found in noodle dishes.

Matzo, the unleavened bread which commemorates the hurry with which the Jews left Egypt and slavery — they didn't have time to wait for bread to rise — is a key ingredient at Passover, and also presents a bit of a pairing challenge.

"It makes me think of Thanksgiving. You have a number of different foods that dry out the palate. I would keep the wines light, aromatic and juicy — gamay (the red grape found in Beaujolais wine), pinot noir, cabernet franc," Pactor said.

For those seeking a fuller-bodied red, malbec from Argentina or sangiovese (the grape found in Chianti) would be good choices.

Going out to eat during Passover is popular, but finding a certified kosher restaurant open on Passover can be tough, says Elan Kornblum, publisher and president of Brooklyn, N.Y.-based Great Kosher Restaurants Magazine, which deals only with fully kosher restaurants.

To get certification for Passover, a restaurant has to be strictly supervised by kosher authorities and follow a number of labor-intensive procedures, including blow-torching the surface of the ovens to remove any food residue from before the holiday. The handful of restaurants in Manhattan that are certified are "just slammed" during the eight days of Passover.

While few restaurants go to those lengths, kosher-style meals seem to becoming more popular, offering items like matzo ball soup and brisket for people who want to get the feeling of the Passover meal. "This is, for them, a connection of Passover," he says.

On the menu at Rosa Mexicano restaurants this year (in New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Atlanta, Miami and New Jersey) there'll be corned beef flautas with a spicy mustard salsa verde. "I'm sure whether you're Jewish or not there will be lots of folks that will try it," says Greenstone.

Another option, brisket baked in a banana leaf and stuffed cabbage. In this case the stuffing will be salmon and it will be served with a Veracruzana sauce, a traditional Mexican sauce made from tomatoes, capers, olives and jalapenos.

Or how about a pickled herring salad? "We're shaving jicama really thin, like a little round taco and we put homemade pickled herrings on top with a green bean pico de gallo."

"We like to have some fun with it and we like to showcase some Jewish foods, authentic Jewish foods with a little bit of a Mexican twist," says Greenstone.

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Sea radiation latest blow to Japan's fishermen

MALCOLM FOSTER & RYAN NAKASHIMA
Associated Press

TOKYO Fishermen who lost their homes and boats in Japan's tsunami now fear radioactive water gushing into the Pacific Ocean from a crippled nuclear plant could cost them their livelihoods.

The contaminated water raised concerns about the safety of seafood in the country that gave the world sushi, prompting the government to set limits for the first time on the amount of radiation permitted in fish.

Authorities insisted the radioactive water would dissipate and posed no immediate threat to sea creatures or people who might eat them. Most experts agreed.

Still, Japanese officials adopted the new standards as a precaution. And the mere suggestion that seafood from Japan could be at any risk stirred worries throughout the fishing industry.

"Even if the government says the fish is safe, people won't want to buy seafood from Fukushima," says Ichiro Yamagata, a fisherman who lived in the shadow of the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant. "We probably can't fish there for several years."

Fukushima is not a major fishing region, and no fishing is allowed in the direct vicinity of the plant. But experts estimate the coastal areas hit by the massive wave account for about a fifth of Japan's annual catch.

India announced Tuesday that it was halting food imports from Japan out of fear of radiation contamination. Few countries have gone so far, but India's three-month ban reflected the unease created by the nuclear crisis among consumers.

India said the ban would last three months or until the risk subsides. It planned to review the situation weekly.

Yamagata, whose home is within the 12-mile (20-kilometer) evacuation zone around the plant, is staying in a Tokyo soccer stadium with his wife and about 140 other refugees. He expects his fishing days are over.

After the magnitude-9.0 earthquake on March 11, he ran outside and watched the second floor of his house collapse, then fled with his family when tsunami warnings sounded.

Since then, he hasn't been allowed to return to check on the 5-ton boat he used to troll for flounder. He assumes it's gone, too. The tsunami killed up to 25,000 people and left tens of thousands homeless as it swamped about 250 miles (400 kilometers) of the northeastern coast and knocked out power to the plant.

Workers there have been desperately trying to cool down overheated reactors, but the effort has required spraying large amounts of water and allowing it to gush out wherever it can escape, sometimes into the sea.

Radioactivity will continue spewing into the air and water until cooling systems are restored.

The new limits on radioactivity in fish were imposed after plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. announced water tested near the plant Saturday contained levels of radioactive iodine 7.5 million times the legal limit. That level had dropped to 5 million two days later.

Past readings were lower, but they were also taken farther from the plant, so the new readings did not necessarily mean that contamination was getting worse.

Japan said some fish caught last week about 50 miles (80 kilometers) from the plant would have exceeded the new limits, which may change as circumstances do.

The radiation standards for fish will be the same as for vegetables. After spinach and milk exceeded safety limits following the quake, health experts said people would still have to eat enormous quantities of tainted produce or dairy before getting even the amount of radiation contained in a CT scan.

Japan imports far more fish than it exports, but it sent the world $2.3 billion worth of seafood last year.

Some people were undaunted. At Sushizanmai, a sushi bar just outside Tokyo's famed Tsukiji fish market, customers were still eating Japan's famed raw fish delicacies Tuesday night.

But chef Seiichiro Ogawa said the fuss over radiation could hurt business. His restaurant is trying to get more fish from the western part of Japan, which has not been affected by the nuclear crisis.

"Japanese customers are especially sensitive to this kind of thing, so I'm worried they'll stop eating sushi," said Ogawa, who has already seen his business drop 50 percent after foreigners stopped visiting the city after the quake. "We need this nuclear problem to be resolved."

Back at the nuclear plant about 140 miles (220 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo, there was a rare bit of good news Tuesday: Japan's nuclear safety agency said injections of coagulant seemed to be slowing the flow of highly contaminated water that was spilling directly into the ocean from a crack discovered over the weekend.

Previous attempts to find the leak using milky white bath salts failed, but TEPCO now believes it was able to trace the leak to an area somewhere below a cracked maintenance pit.

TEPCO also said this week it is purposely dumping more than 3 million gallons of low-level radioactive water into the sea to make room in a storage tank for more highly contaminated water that it needs to remove before workers can restore important cooling systems.

That announcement angered Fukushima's federation of fisheries groups, which sent the company a letter of protest.

"Our prefecture's fisherman have lost their lives, fishing boats, piers and buildings due to the Great Eastern Japan Disaster," federation chairman Tetsu Nozaki said in the letter. "This low-level contaminated water has raised fears among fishermen that they will never be able to fish in our prefecture's waters again, and we absolutely want you to stop."

TEPCO's reputation has taken a serious hit in the crisis. On Tuesday, its stock dropped 80 yen — the maximum daily limit, or 18 percent — to just 362 yen ($4.30), falling below its previous all-time closing low of 393 yen from December 1951. Since the quake, the share price has plunged 80 percent.

In what could be an effort to counter the bad publicity, Takashi Fujimoto, TEPCO's vice president, said it was offering 20 million yen ($240,000) in "apology money" to each town or city affected by the mandatory evacuation zone around the plant.

That's likely to be little comfort to fisherman Yamagata and his wife, Chiharu, who are angry with TEPCO over the situation.

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Los Angeles 90046
(323) 653-9009

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www.DiamondAndGoldExchangeUSA.com

Santa Monica


Hollywood




SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

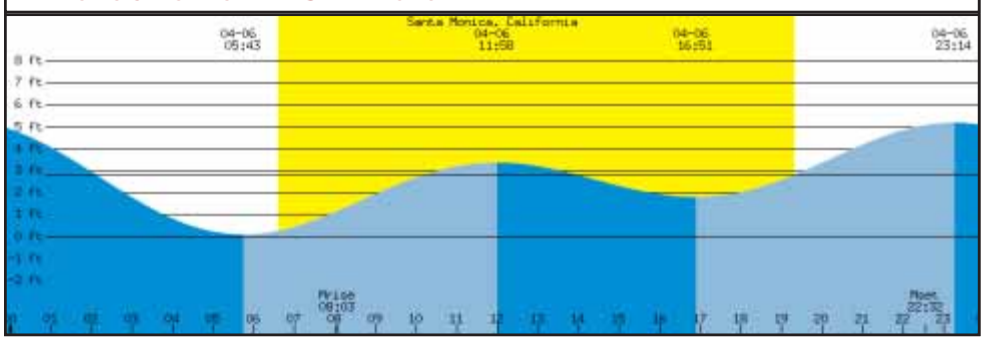
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

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 30, 2011**

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 -- 15
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 23
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 14 / 19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
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.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	F	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	C
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).	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	B

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'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.

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

Heal the Bay

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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.

MLB

Feds rest in Bonds trial after losing bid on secret tape

PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Prosecutors rested their case against Barry Bonds on Tuesday as the judge turned down their late bid to get a newly discovered audio tape of two key witnesses heard by the jury.

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston refused to let the panel listen to a tape recording of a conversation between Bonds' orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Arthur Ting, and his former business partner, Steve Hoskins.

Prosecutors had hoped to use the recording win back some of the momentum they lost last week when Ting directly contradicted Hoskins, who was a star witness and claimed the pair had repeatedly discussed the home run king and steroids.

Illston, however, said much of the tape was inaudible, and what could be heard was irrelevant and inadmissible.

Prosecutors finished presenting their evidence by having court staff read a transcript of Bonds' December 2003 grand jury testimony.

The former baseball star is charged with three counts of lying during that court appearance when he denied knowingly taking steroids and human growth hormone. He is also charged with one count of lying when he testified that only Ting has ever injected him with any substance and one count of obstruction.

After the grand jury transcript was finished, Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Parrella told the judge "at this point, the government rests." Asked about the defense's case, Bonds lawyer Allen Ruby said that if the slugger were to testify it would be Wednesday, though that had not been decided.

Earlier Tuesday, the 10th day of the trial, four lab employees testified about the handling and testing Bonds urine samples collected in 2003. One of those samples later yielded a positive test for the designer steroid THG, which is also known as "the clear."

Bonds' attorney Allen Ruby told the jury during opening statements two weeks ago that Bonds unknowingly took steroids. Ruby said that Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson, provided him with designer steroids that he was misled to believe were flaxseed oil and arthritis cream.

Prosecutors' task has been to prove that Bonds knew he was taking performance-enhancing drugs when he was breaking the single season home run mark in 2001 and Hank Aaron' career home run mark, which he did in 2007.

Bonds' former mistress, Kimberly Bell, testified that he once told her that he used steroids and that she witnessed the slugger undergo physical and behavioral changes prosecutors allege are side effects of steroid use.

Defense attorney Cristina Arguedas tried to portray Bell as a vengeful ex-girlfriend who posed nude for Playboy magazine and appeared on tawdry radio and television talk shows to get back at Bonds.

Prosecutors also hoped to rely on Hoskins' testimony to show Bonds knew he was taking steroids.

Hoskins testified that in 2003 he was becoming increasingly concerned that Bonds was using steroids, and that he had about 50 conversations with Ting regarding those fears. He also testified that he secretly recorded one of those conversations, but had lost it shortly afterward.

Last week, Ting flatly denied ever discussing steroids and Bonds with Hoskins.

On Sunday, Hoskins found the recording he thought he lost and turned it over to prosecutors. On Tuesday, prosecutors urged the judge to let them play the recording for the jury.

"Hoskins's credibility on the issue of his conversations with Ting is critical to the government's case that the defendant's statements to the grand jury were knowingly false and for the purpose of obstructing justice," prosecutors wrote in a brief filed with Illston.

Bonds lawyers argued that the recording was illegally made — state law requires both parties consent to a recorded conversation — and was done at a time when Hoskins was under investigation for defrauding Bonds. Bonds complained to the FBI in early 2003 that Hoskins was selling Bonds' memorabilia without his permission.

"If the recording is indeed of a Hoskins-Ting conversation, it was made in an attempt to extort Mr. Bonds after Bonds fired Hoskins in the spring of 2003," Bonds' attorneys wrote.

The judge simply said the tape was mostly inaudible and that the conversation appears to be a one-sided exchange, dominated by Hoskins discussing news coverage of the federal raid of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative in September 2003. BALCO was the center of a steroids distribution ring that included Anderson, Bonds' trainer.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #3028 COPY PAPER AS REQUIRED BY THE WAREHOUSE & PRINT SHOP.
BID #3032 PROVIDE DEBRIS HAULING SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY VARIOUS DIVISIONS.
BID # 3033 PROVIDE TRANSIT AIR CONDITION REPAIR AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.
BID #3035 FURNISH AND DELIVER NEW OR REMANUFACTURED OEM CUMMINS ENGINE PARTS AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is April 18, 2011 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, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@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/

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Insidious (PG-13) 1hr 42min
1:30pm, 4:00pm, 7:05pm, 9:40pm

Kill the Irishman (R) 1hr 46min
1:30pm, 4:40pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm

An Affirmative Act (NR) 1hr 40min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
12:30pm, 3:15pm

Sucker Punch (R) 2hrs 00min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Hop (PG) 1hr 30min
11:05am, 1:35pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Paul (R) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:05pm, 7:40pm, 10:10pm

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (PG) 1hr 36min
11:15am, 1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
11:50am, 2:25pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:05pm

Metropolitan Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor Encore (NR) 4hrs 20min
6:00pm

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

Barney's Version (NR) 2hrs 12min
3:20pm, 8:30pm

Win Win (R) 1hr 46min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Super (NR) 1hr 36min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:10pm, 6:20pm

King's Speech (PG-13) 1hr 51min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

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

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:15am, 12:55pm, 2:00pm, 3:45pm, 4:45pm, 6:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:15pm, 9:50pm

Jane Eyre (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
11:05am, 1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm

Trust (R) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:05pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Don't push your luck tonight, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You notice just how lucky you are right now. Put your best foot forward, and watch everything -- well, nearly everything -- tumble as you would like, if not better. Taking a risk today is OK. Going to extremes could backfire. Tonight: Indulge in a favorite pastime.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Take a hint from Aries. Recognize just how far you push others. Step back and know that you can undo any of the damages -- and that is exactly what you should do. Be kind to someone who serves as a benefactor or a very caring individual in general. Tonight: Just wish upon a star.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Recognize what is happening around you. Continue to watch and observe while clearing your mind of as many judgments as you can. You could be taken aback by how much comes up for you. Tonight: You might try airing out some of your thoughts with a trusted friend or respected individual.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You definitely know where you are going and how to handle a key situation. Take charge, as others sense your savvy in this area. A meeting could prove to be instrumental. A friend -- most likely male -- wants special time or attention. Tonight: Where the gang is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You will come out on top if (1) you decide to assume the lead and (2) if you explain how you perceive an event or situation. You see what others don't. Your high level of charisma speaks for itself. Tonight: Could be a late one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Start combining your mind and emotions more often, especially when dealing with partners. As odd as it seems, soon you will need to be a mind reader in order to figure out what another person wants. Let others think they dominate. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your knowledge helps others achieve more of what they want. Realize everyone has limits, but at this point a key associate doesn't appear to be restricted in any way, shape or form. Enjoy being a follower. Tonight: Take the lead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others simply demand to run with the ball. That is the only way they will accept what is happening. Your ability to clear out a problem right now needs to take a backseat. You understand a lot more than what is obvious. Stay mum. Tonight: Don't push your luck.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Whether dealing with a risk or a loved one, you must be carrying a magic wand, as everything somehow works out beautifully for you and everyone else concerned. Wherever you are, at work or off, makes no difference. Tonight: Love the moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Remain upbeat. You seem to have an unusual resilience right now, which does make a difference in various situations. You might want to rethink an offer that involves an investment. Tonight: Light up the moment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You have such a convincing manner that someone who decided earlier to give you a "no" in response to a request will say "yes." Make sure this person won't change his or her mind later, or keep it in mind that this is a possibility. Tonight: Head home -- all smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You could be mixing apples and oranges, despite the fact that you are sure you aren't. Remain optimistic, but do a better job of listening to associates. If everyone is saying the same thing, but not what you think, look again. Tonight: Hanging out is fun.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you are more forthright and direct. Others respond well to your actions, thoughts and personality. Remain confident. You are entering a very lucky year and an 11-year life cycle. If you need to, clarify your desires and long-term goals. You are likely to achieve at least one of your goals. If you are single, you attract many people's attention. Think before leaping. Ask yourself if this is the type of person who can give you what you desire. If you are attached, make it a point to spend more quality time with your loved ones. TAURUS tries hard but can be as hardheaded as you.



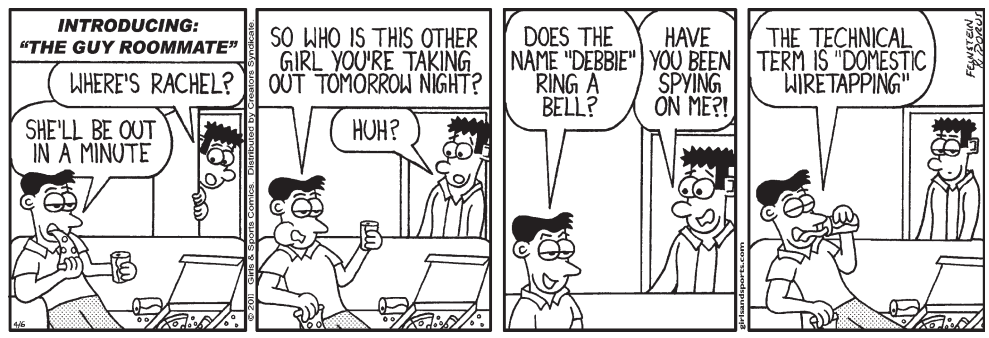
MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

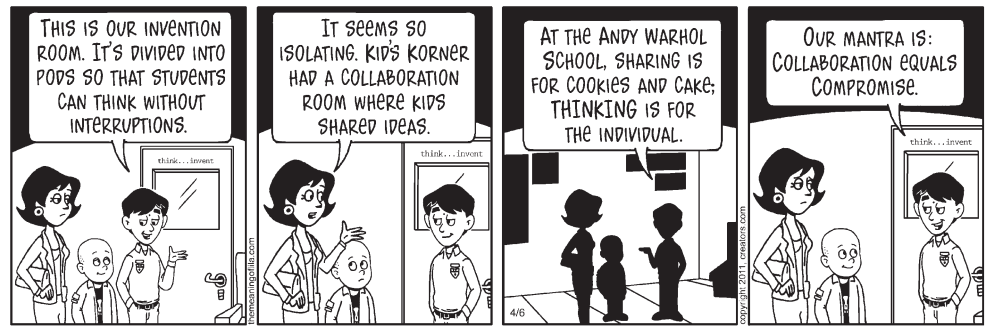
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



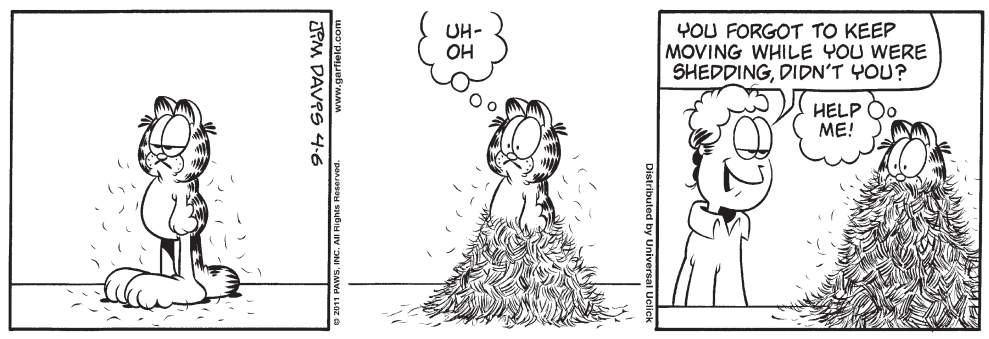
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★

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

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

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• Access to your full contract value, including your bonus, as a lump sum – without surrender charges – after 10 years
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Annuities are designed to meet long-term needs for retirement income. They provide guarantees against the loss of principal and credited interest, and the reassurance of a death benefit for beneficiaries. 1The bonus is subject to a 10-year vesting schedule. None of the bonus is vested during the first contract year. 10% of the bonus will become vested on each contract anniversary until the beginning of the 11th contract year, when 100% will be vested. If you surrender your contract before the 11th contract year, or if you begin annuitization prior to the sixth contract year (or for fewer than 10 years), you will lose the portion of the bonus that is unvested. Bonus annuities may include higher surrender charges, longer surrender charge periods, lower caps, higher spreads, or other restrictions that are not included in similar annuities that don't offer a premium bonus feature. During the first 10 contract years, we will apply a surrender charge and an unvested bonus reduction if you partially or fully surrender your contract. The same would apply if you begin annuitization, which means receiving regular income payments over a specified period of time, prior to the sixth contract year (or for fewer than 10 years). These charges may result in a loss of bonus, indexed interest and fixed interest, and a partial loss of principal (your premium). Any amounts taken from your contract may be subject to ordinary income taxes and, if taken prior to age 591/2, a 10% federal tax penalty. Products are issued by Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. Guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claims-paying ability of Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America.
C52575 | CR52575 | Product and feature availability may vary by state. (R-3/2011)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Soccer or polo
6 New Mexico resort
10 Accolade
11 Razz
12 "Luck Be ___"
13 Nostalgic song
14 Valley
15 Urban force
16 Mine yield
17 Suffer
18 TV's Danson
19 Like many home networks
22 ERA or RBI
23 Hind's mate
26 Indefatigable
29 Physique, in slang
32 Wee bit
33 Belly
34 Bare one's soul
36 Eric of "Troy"
37 Lukewarm
38 Labor camp
39 Hag
40 Cartoon genre
41 Loathe
42 Solemn

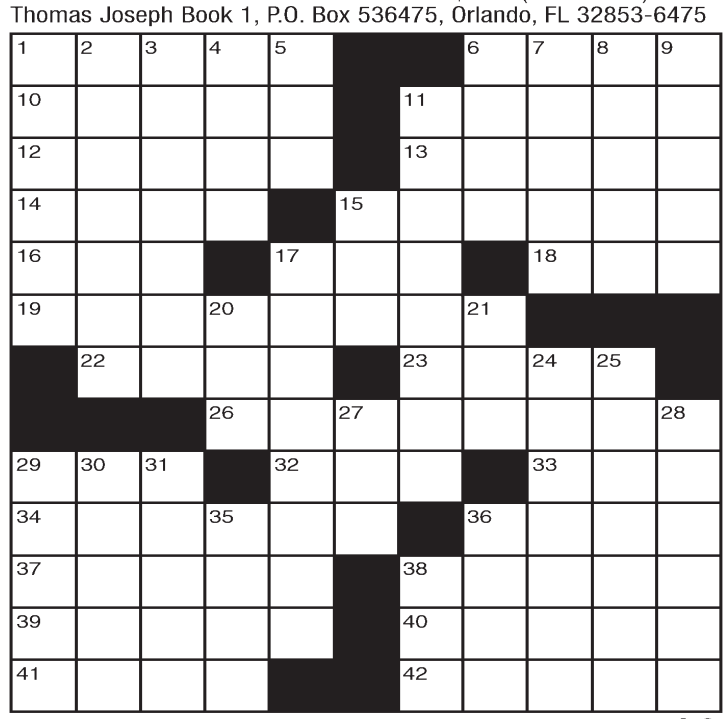
DOWN

1 Sundial reading
2 Sailor's star
3 Ready for deployment
4 Took the bus
5 Attempt
6 Statuesque
7 Accounting check
8 Kept in reserve
9 Spirited horse
11 Mower's place
15 Slapstick weapon
17 Height
20 Put away
21 Gal of song
24 Royal trappings
25 Tidal wave
27 Jay-Z's music
28 Put on
29 Bungle
30 Sung story
31 Train stop
35 Muses count
36 Batting ploy
38 Balloon fill

P	A	C	T	S	■	P	A	T	H	S
A	G	A	I	N	■	A	R	R	O	W
C	A	L	L	I	N	G	T	I	M	E
E	T	E	■	F	E	E	■	S	E	E
R	E	B	A	T	E	S	■	T	I	P
■	■	■	W	E	D	■	F	A	C	E
C	H	E	E	R	■	L	I	N	E	R
H	E	N	S	■	F	O	G	■	■	■
E	R	R	■	S	A	U	S	A	G	E
C	O	O	■	P	U	N	■	M	A	X
K	I	L	L	I	N	G	T	I	M	E
I	N	L	E	T	■	E	A	G	E	R
N	E	S	T	S	■	S	N	O	R	T

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



4-6

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

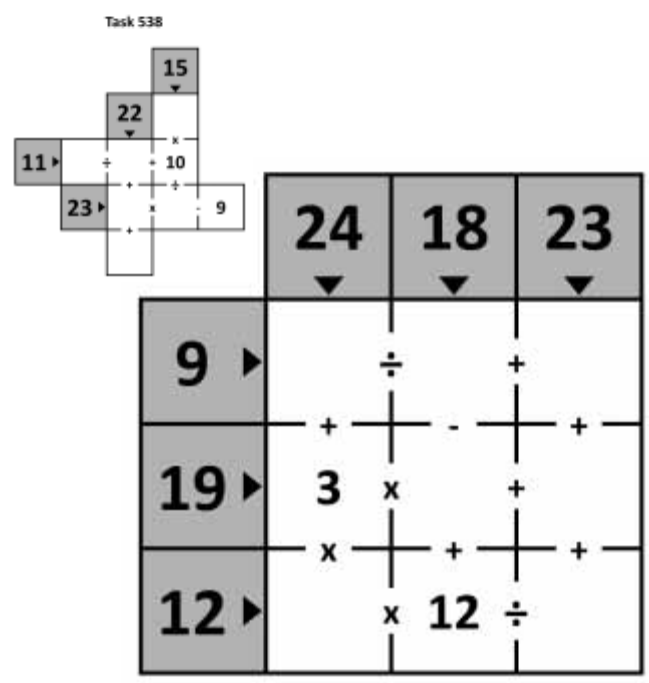
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

3, 5, 5, 8, 9, 9, 10



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 19 20 31 36 Meganumber: 9 Jackpot: $30M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 5 10 30 35 43 Meganumber: 1 Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5: 5 6 8 24 35

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 8 2 EVENING: 0 7 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 05 California Classic 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:46.89

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In late 2010, a Georgia utility contractor discovered an elaborate "Internet-controlled network of web-accessible cameras" and three shotguns aimed into a food-garden plot on a Georgia Power Company right of way (as reported by the Augusta Chronicle in January). The Georgia Wildlife Resources Division and U.S. Homeland Security took a look, but by then, the structure had been moved. (Homeland Security speculated that the set-up was to keep feral hogs away from the food stock.)

■ Principal Angela Jennings of Rock Chapel Elementary School in Lithonia, Ga., resigned after an investigation revealed that she had temporarily unenrolled 13 students last year for the sole purpose of keeping them from annual statewide tests because she feared their scores would drag down her school's performance. (When the test was over, Jennings re-enrolled them.) The resignation, effective in June, was revealed in February by Atlanta's WSB-TV.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1580 One of the largest earthquakes ever recorded in the history of England, Flanders, or Northern France, takes place.

1652 At the Cape of Good Hope, Dutch sailor Jan van Riebeeck establishes a resupply camp that eventually becomes Cape Town .

1667 An earthquake devastates Dubrovnik, then an independent city-state.

1776 American Revolutionary War: Ships of the Continental Navy fail in their attempt to capture a Royal Navy dispatch boat.

1782 Rama I of Siam (modern day Thailand) founds the Chakri dynasty.

1793 During the French Revolution, the Committee of Public Safety becomes the executive organ of the republic.

1808 John Jacob Astor incorporates the American Fur Company, eventually leading him to become America's first Millionaire.

WORD UP!

irascible
\ ih-RASS-uh-buhl \ , adjective;
1. Prone to anger; easily provoked to anger; hot-tempered.

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Notice Requesting Qualifications
RFQ No. 8902-006 Engineering and Construction Management Services
The Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority is seeking Statements of Qualifications and proposals to provide engineering and construction management services in support of Phase 2 of the Exposition Line Project. Selected Offeror will assist the Authority in the management, oversight and close out of Phase 2 of the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. A goal of 18% Small Business Enterprise participation has been established for this contract. To obtain copies of the Request for Qualifications, go to the Authority website www.buildexpo.org/opportunities-2/ RFQ No. 8902-006 Engineering and Construction Management Services. A Pre-submittal meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on April11, 2011 at 707 Wilshire Blvd. Training Room LBL Level of the Aon Building.
Questions regarding this RFQ should be directed in writing to Cheryl Johns, Senior Procurement Manager, FAX (213) 243-5553 or cjohns@exporail.net

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110243738 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 03/14/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ANGELICUM HOME CARE SERVICES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: MICHELLE CABERTE 16737 MAGNOLIA BLVD ENCINO, CA 91436. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:MICHELLE CABERTE; PRESIDENT/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 03/14/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 03/16/2011, 03/23/2011, 03/30/2011, 04/06/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110345332 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 03/07/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH RESALE. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: DANELLE SHERIDAN 10601 WILSHIRE BLVD, STE 1601 LOS ANGELES, CA 90024. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:DANELLE SHERIDAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 03/07/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 04/06/2011, 04/13/2011, 04/20/2011, 04/27/2011.

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480630A/045404
$17995

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R900509/481313
$17995

08 HONDA ACCORD LX
480799A/060783
$19995

08 HONDA ACCORD
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$19995

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$8999

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306092a/083831
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