



Santa Monica Daily Press

IOC WON'T CROSS THE LINE
SEE PAGE 18

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE COVERING NATURE ISSUE

Report: SM Mountains threatened

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Editor in Chief



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

GETTING OUT INTO NATURE: Running along one of the many trails throughout the Santa Monica Mountains, Doug Olin from Pacific Palisades enjoys what he called 'one of the great natural resources of the Los Angeles area.'

SEE MOUNTAINS PAGE 11

Attorney: Co-defendant too 'simple minded' to be guilty

BY LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES An attorney for one of two elderly women charged in an insurance-murder scheme portrayed her Friday as a victim of her co-defendant who hatched the plan to insure homeless men for profit but never told her it involved killing.

Deputy Public Defender Mark Sklar told jurors that his client, Olga Rutterschmidt, 75, was "simple minded" and was obsessed with Helen Golay, a relatively wealthy woman she met in 1999. He accused Golay, 77, of manipulating Rutterschmidt but said it was Golay alone who committed murder.

Answering evidence about the women's purchase of a car that eventually was tied to the death of transient Kenneth McDavid,

Sklar said, "It's clear that vehicle was used by Helen Golay to run over Mr. McDavid."

"Helen Golay funds the scheme. Helen Golay writes the checks," he said in a final argument which led Golay's lawyer to dub Sklar as "another prosecutor" trying to win his client's acquittal at the expense of her co-defendant.

Sklar said Rutterschmidt had no knowledge of a murder plan and thus could not be convicted of conspiracy or aiding and abetting.

Both Sklar and attorney Roger Jon Diamond, who represents Golay, admitted in their summations to the jury that their clients were guilty of insurance fraud for taking out millions of dollars worth of poli-

SEE GOLAY PAGE 14

Commission rejects condo project

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

OCEAN PARK A proposal to build a series of townhouse-style condominiums in the heart of a beachside neighborhood where development has become a growing concern won't be seeing the light of day any time soon.

At least not for a year after the Planning Commission on Wednesday denied a design permit application, forcing the property owner/developer to wait until next year before he can take another crack at the project.

James Thielen presented a plan to tear down an existing two-story apartment complex at 2721 Third St. — a block comprised of mainly multi-family residential development — in favor of erecting five townhouse-style condominiums, one of which would be sold as an affordable unit.

The commission acted on the recom-

mendation of city planners who concluded that while the density of the proposed structure would be in compliance, it is still out of line with several standards set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, raising issues with its tight parking layout, perceived mass and scale as a result of design, and the distinctively small size and lack of amenities in the affordable unit as compared to the market rate condos.

The project will have to wait a year because it has already received the maximum number of extensions as allowed under city code.

Development has long been a concern in the Ocean Park neighborhood where new projects have been popping up sporadically along Main Street and in residential neighborhood for years, causing residents to be alarmed that the character of their laid-back surf community is in jeopardy.

SEE PROJECT PAGE 15

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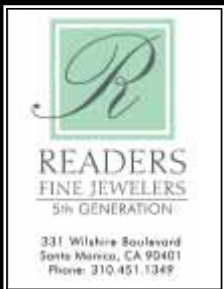




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Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, APRIL 12-13, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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**WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE**

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Celebrate Mother Earth

Third Street Promenade, 10 a.m. — 7 p.m.

This all-day festival includes food, vendors and information on how to help save the environment. Come out and see what you can do to help Mother Earth.

Does the slipper fit?

1211 Fourth St., 12: 30 and 3 p.m.

“Cinderella” is an original Rudie-DeCarlo musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a charming prince, zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning step-mother. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 651.

Santa Monica on two feet

1436 Second St., 10 a.m.

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

Come try it on

2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m.

“The Hundred Dresses “ is a stage adaptation of the 1944 book, a timeless story about the “in” crowd, the painful consequences of teasing, and what is known today as “fashion bullying.” Bring the kids to this special theatrical experience.

Reach out and touch someone

1341 Lake St., Venice, 2 p.m. — 6 p.m.

Planet Social Sports games and matches are followed by team gatherings at local bars, which include discounted food and drinks, along with social activities. Men and women must be 21 to play. Check the Web site for specific times and locations www.planetsocialsports.com.

Sunday, April 13, 2008

Getting together at The Gathering

132 Brooks Ave., Venice, 7 p.m.

Creative, conscious, cutting edge, provocative, these are just some of the words used to describe The Gathering. Born out of a yearning for an oasis for heartfelt expression to converge, thrive, and multiply, Stephen Fiske, has brought together an incredible amount of talent for these upcoming events such as musical acts, poetry, spoken word, art, film and mixed media. For information, call (310) 396-8205.

The other Jerry's kids

1348 14th St., 7 p.m.

Cubensis brings the sights and sounds of a live Grateful Dead concert to 14 Below every Sunday. Cubensis is known for whipping its faithful crowd into a swirling psychedelic mass for three hours straight.

Get it while its fresh

Downtown Mar Vista, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Head out to lovely Mar Vista for the weekly Farmers' Market. Located at the corner of Grandview and Venice boulevards, the market includes fresh fruits and vegetables as well as some prepared foods.

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



Green backs trump cards

Editor's note: For the next five weeks, Editor in Chief Kevin Herrera will be writing a first-person account of what it's like to be enrolled in the Santa Monica Police Department's Citizen Police Academy, which is intended to foster better communication between Santa Monicans and police officers, while giving residents a better understanding of what it takes to preserve the peace.

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Cash only. That's going to be my new motto thanks to Santa Monica Police Department Detective Maury Sumlin, who gave an eye-opening presentation this week on the fastest growing type of crime in history — fraud/identity theft.

Sumlin, a veteran who works robbery/homicide, showed my fellow classmates in the SMPD's Citizen Police Academy how easy it is for crooks to get your personal information without you even knowing you've been compromised.

He spoke of waiters being bribed by tech-savvy thieves looking for credit card numbers that can easily be stored in a cell phone or other device with a simple swipe. Some pay as little as \$20 per American Express card number and \$10 for a MasterCard or Visa. Sumlin showed photos of devices as small as an inch that can be placed inside a kiosk at a gas station and can record thousands of numbers in a single week, resulting in the loss of billions of dollars for banks, which in turn charge customers higher rates.

Identity theft "is every criminal's dream," Sumlin said, because they can do it from the comfort of their own home and less than 10 percent of the perpetrators face charges, and

those that do are mostly given light punishments, such as probation.

"It's frustrating," Sumlin said of the slaps on the wrist most criminals get. "We're the one's who lose here."

In Los Angeles the rate of identity theft is twice as high as anywhere else in the nation, much of which has to do with the size of our population and the fact that many illegal immigrants use someone else's Social Security numbers to gain employment, Sumlin said.

Even if you think you are doing everything you can to protect yourself, you still aren't safe. That's because dumpster divers will scrounge around alleys looking for trash tossed out by local businesses to see if there is any customer information amongst the garbage. That's right, it's not just you who has to be careful with your 411, your favorite bakery, dry cleaner, liquor store and bar have to as well.

Some employees being paid minimum wage will take the risk of getting caught in exchange for being paid good money for handing over credit card information. Some will not be on the take, but will just be careless, exposing your vitals.

Which brings me back to my new motto — cash only.

Paying in cash is pretty much the only way to protect yourself, kind of like how abstinence is the only sure way of protecting yourself from contracting a sexually transmitted disease. But who is really going to spend the rest of their lives without the use of their debit and credit cards? It seems nearly impossible given the popularity of paying with plastic. It's easy, convenient and no one really thinks twice about it. I know I don't. But I will now.



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com
SEARCHING FOR EVIDENCE: Nick Harrison with the Santa Monica Police Department's forensics team demonstrates how to dust for fingerprints by using a magnetic powder.

SEE ACADEMY PAGE 12

Landlord agrees to pay up

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITY HALL A long-time Santa Monica renter who was forced to temporarily relocate from his apartment almost a year ago as it underwent repairs will receive a hefty compensation package from his landlord.

The 88-year-old disabled tenant recently reached a settlement agreement with his landlord under the Santa Monica Tenant Relocation Law, awarding the elderly man more than \$15,000 in lieu of comparable housing, according to the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office, which facilitated the proceedings.

The tenant's name was not made available.

City Hall's ordinance mandates landlords to compensate their tenants when they are displaced for more than 30 days, providing them with temporary housing located elsewhere in Santa Monica. In

cases where the apartments are uninhabitable for less than 30 days, landlords must pay tenants to compensate for housing arrangements, meals and other expenses.

The resident was forced to leave the apartment he had called home since 1969 in April of last year, staying with his sister in Laguna Niguel, which is nearly 80 miles away, residing without the bulk of his belongings and having to reschedule doctor's appointments on the Westside.

He complained to the Consumer Protection Unit at City Hall a few months ago after the landlord refused to compensate the tenant, accept his rent checks or acknowledge his right to reoccupy the apartment unit.

"When we learned of this situation, we immediately contacted the landlord to

SEE TENANT PAGE 15

Samohi baseball win streak reaches three

BY JON HABER
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Led by third baseman Logan Witchurch and relief pitcher Will Dickinson, the Santa Monica High School baseball team came back from an early deficit Wednesday to defeat Bell Gardens in a non-league game for its season-high third-straight win.

The Vikings 6-4 victory brought the team back to .500 (9-9, 2-0) for the first time in nearly one month.

Samohi starting pitcher Matt Lamagna had control problems through his 2 1/3 innings of work. He walked five and gave up four earned runs.

"(Lamagna) struggled a little bit with his control, but he hung in there and battled," said Samohi head coach Rob Duron. "The bottom line is he kept us close."

Dickinson took over for Lamagna in the third inning and escaped a one-out jam with help from catcher Jacob Hattenbach, who threw out a runner trying to steal third base. Dickinson, who finished the game and earned the win, gave the offense the chance it needed to make a comeback.

Witchurch and centerfielder Terry Wilson wasted no time. Each batter collected two hits a piece in the late innings to spark a rally

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 14

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Smoking invasion

Editor:
I just finished the article on the possibility of Santa Monica making it a law that people cannot smoke in their apartments (“City considers new smoking laws,” page 1, April 10). I realize that may be some time away, but I just have to say that with all the other more urgent matters facing our city, I am, and continued to be baffled by our City Council’s obsession with cigarettes and smoking ... People have always smoked, and always will smoke.

The government tried getting people to stop drinking in the ‘30s with prohibition. As they learned, people found a way to get alcohol and to drink. The same thing will happen with cigarette smoking ... We have an enormous list of things we need to accomplish.

Worrying about whether people smoke in their homes or apartments or not, is in my view, a complete waste of time and an invasion of privacy. If cigarette smoke bothers someone they should move somewhere where there isn’t any. I have to ask these people who are so worried about cigarette smoke, why do they live in one of the most polluted cities in the entire world?

James Lowe
Santa Monica

Benefit of the doubt

Editor:
I know it was your April Fool’s edition, but a congressman is supposed to be free from arrest except for treason, felony or breach of the peace. U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section Six.

Larry Craig was not arrested for any of these. Later, after a jail-house brainwash session and the cops scared for what they had done, they got the senator to plead guilty to disturbing the peace, thinking this would sweep the whole issue under the table. Instead, it swept the story into prime time news.

At the time, I did not see this as a case of a man playing footsie with a vice-squadder under a rest room partition. I know from my own experience (not sexual encounter) this was a case of the local cops playing footsie with the local judge or bail bondsmen. What person would not cough up anything needed to avoid being stranded in Minneapolis?

I feel the public has too much appetite to eat up and swallow anything that suggests another politician has done something wrong.

John O. Legreid
Santa Monica

Toilet paper problems

Editor:
Bathroom toilet tissue dispensers at the Ocean Avenue and Idaho Street bathroom – Palisades Park – are a headache. Most of the time, you just get shreds, and you have to spend five minutes just to get adequate amounts to get the job done.

They should try looking into obtaining the easy-roll, modern-man styles of the ones at Reed Park.

One more thing about bathrooms: If legally the park stays open to midnight, then the bathroom should stay open to at least 10 p.m. – wouldn’t you think?

Ronald Browning
Santa Monica



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

New no-fly zone:
Everywhere in U.S.

THIS PAST TUESDAY, I FLEW FROM SAN Antonio home to LAX. The good news is that I managed to be on one of the last of the American Airlines’ MD-80’s right before the airline grounded all of those planes. The bad news is that I managed to be on one of the last of the American Airlines’ MD-80’s right before the airline grounded all of those planes. By that, I don’t mean that I was unlucky because I might have been in some danger. I mean I was unlucky because I was on a plane.

That’s a comment on the sorry state of air travel these days: I barely reacted to the fact that the plane might not have been properly wired. My major relief was that I had landed almost on time, that my luggage arrived, and that it will be a while before I have to fly again. I’m not singling out one airline or one type of aircraft. Over the last few years, air travel for most of us has gotten more and more miserable.

Remember the days when flying was fun? Or reasonably comfortable? Or at least tolerable? Those days are history. They are of a bygone era — like \$3-a-gallon gasoline, or nurses’ hats.

The airlines put you in a bad mood right when you walk onto the plane. I know I didn’t buy a first class ticket. They don’t have to rub it in. But they do. They force us to walk through first class before we get to our seats. So we have to see people seated comfortably, having drinks from real glass glasses on our way to the torture chamber known as the “coach cabin.” When you check into a hotel, they don’t force you to see the penthouse suite with a spectacular view before you go to your little room near the ice machine. If the airlines cared about the feelings of the majority of people who fly, they could let us use one of the other entrances to the plane, or at least board the first class passengers after coach.

The cliché is that they pack us in like sardines on a plane. That’s an insult to sardines. A sardine doesn’t have to share an armrest with the fish next to him. The airline seat must have been developed by a descendent of the Marquis de Sade. It’s like sitting in a child’s car seat — without little toys to play with.

The air-conditioning on a plane has two settings: Off and Antarctica. And if the plane is delayed taking off or getting to the gate and you’re just sitting there, why do they have to turn off the air-conditioning? I guarantee you the air-conditioning is on in the cockpit.

Hardly a day goes by that we don’t read about some airline going bankrupt or being forced to lay off more employees. One thing you know for sure, they’re not in bad finan-

cial shape because of all that they spend on customer service. It’s almost impossible to get a real person on an airline’s phone, and humans don’t show up to help people at the gate until a few minutes before takeoff.

The passenger-airline relationship is very unfair. If you’re one minute late for your plane, they won’t let you on. But the plane can be four hours late, and all you get is a shrug.

“USA Today” reported recently that the performance of airlines was near a 20-year low. And that was before this recent mess that stranded or “inconvenienced” an estimated 250,000 passengers — so far. Flights are routinely overbooked, bags are lost, and planes are delayed. And delayed. People now spend so much time in airports that pharmacies and walk-in clinics are opening at airports across the country. The industry probably figures that things would become too crowded if they also opened walk-in law offices.

The one solution I can think of to all of these problems is for Congress to pass a law insisting that all airline CEOs fly on their airline’s longest flight in coach class once a week. After a few weeks, they’re bound to either make some changes or leave the airline business. I’d be happy to accept either outcome.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from “Sesame Street” to “Family Ties” to “Home Improvement” to “Frasier.” He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his website at lloydgarver.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

I love those photo booths. Don't we all? Posing for a camera. Practicing for our 15 minutes in front of the paparazzi."

—SMDP columnist Mariel Howsepian wrote in "West Dressed."

It may have been a conscious choice for Keanu to use me as a foil."

—David Ayer, director of "Street Kings," talking about Keanu Reeves.

One thing we noticed that in most complaints we received ... have been from folks who are getting [tobacco] smoke through the walls or through the ceiling and the floors of the units."

—Adam Radinsky, head of the city's Consumer Protection Unit.

Over the last 25 years, the city has approved over nine million square feet of new office, retail and industrial space — far in excess of city projections. This runaway development has substantially contributed to the traffic congestion and other quality of life problems we have here today."

—SMDP columnist Bill Bauer wrote in "My Write."

My Official Groundbreaking Prediction of 2008 is that the Obama inauguration next January will be the cultural, social, and political event of a generation; like Woodstock meets the March on Washington, with every minute of every day covered by talk radio and all three cable news networks. The part I'm really going to like is that Rush Limbaugh and Fox News won't know what to do with themselves."

—SMDP columnist Kenny Mack wrote in "Word in Edgewise."

I had a man come by the store one day and he said it reminded him of the bake shops in the '30s."

—SAmy Berman, owner of Vanilla Bake Shop on Wilshire Boulevard.

I think John [Sibert] is going to do a great job and if it turned out the other way, I wouldn't feel any better. I will go back to serving the students at the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and I love that job, too, so I'm not overly disappointed."

—SMDP columnist Kenny Mack wrote in "Word in Edgewise."



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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED FY 2008-09 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN ALLOCATING FEDERAL CDBG AND HOME FUNDS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Proposed FY 2008-09 One-Year Action Plan. The One-Year Action Plan is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It delineates the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds in order to meet the City's overall housing and community development needs as specified in the Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10) adopted by City Council and submitted to HUD in June 2005. The City is seeking community comments on the Proposed One-Year Action Plan.

Copies of the Proposed FY 2008-09 One-Year Action Plan are now available to the public for a 30-day community review period ending May 13, 2008. Copies are available at City Hall, the Santa Monica Public Library (main and branch libraries), and on the web at smgov.net, or you may contact the Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, telephone (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696. Please send your written comments to the above address by May 13, 2008, or you may present your comments verbally at the City Council public hearing on that date.

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The QLine

THE PACIFIC WHEEL GOES ROUND AND ROUND

This past week, Q-line asked:
What is your most fond memory of the Pacific Wheel at Pacific Park?
Here are your responses:

"I find it interesting to note the things that have come and gone from the Santa Monica Pier over the years, including the pier during a raging storm and to name three others: The boat house, Sinbad's restaurant and the Spade Cooley dancehall. All gone but not forgotten. It is also interesting to note that the world-famous merry-go-round has weathered every form of storms, including earthquakes, and played host to royalty, well-known celebrities, politicians and common folk such as myself plenty times. The Pacific Wheel is a magnificent addition to the pier due to its colorful lighting. The wheel provides a beautiful lighted landmark for aircraft and sailing vessels at sea."

"It's funny that one year it rolled up the pier and ended up in the water, just like it was in the newspaper that day in the Daily Planet. This was April 1, so maybe it didn't happen. But it was still funny."

"My fondest memory of the Pacific Wheel is its major role in Stephen Spielberg's war comedy movie, '1941.' In the movie, the wheel is used as an observation post looking for Japanese invaders. Two City Councilmen of low intelligence, along with a wooden dummy, spot a Japanese submarine, which fires and hits the wheel, causing it to roll down the pier and into the Pacific Ocean. Needless to say, the two councilmen of low intelligence are saved by the wooden dummy. I'm just wondering at \$1.5 million for a new politically correct solar powered wheel and \$14 million for a new-non solar powered breakwater to protect it, what dummy is going to save us the taxpayers?"

"I am 90 years old, and I live about three blocks from the pier. Since I was 2, we, my family, would act like the wheel was real. So when I ever see a Ferris wheel, we talk to each other like he can hear my words and respond. When I was 7, me and my mom went on the Ferris wheel and we saw my house, Catalina Island and tried to see the new Del Mar, which is a fishing boat that I have been on. That is my fondest memory of the wheel."

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STATE BRIEFS

ESCONDIDO

Navy ends criminal probe of missing Marine couple

The Navy has dropped its criminal investigation into the disappearance of a newlywed Marine couple.

The couple disappeared from their Escondido apartment on March 31 and relatives told police they suspected foul play. But police dropped the case five days later, saying it appeared the couple simply packed up and left.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service has now called off its search for Lance Cpl. Margaret McMahon-Reid and Pfc. George Reid II.

A Marine Expeditionary Force spokesman Mike Alvarez says the military agency, which investigates criminal cases, believes the couple is together and unharmed.

Navy investigators on Thursday said the couple had been spotted April 1 on security videotape shopping at a convenience store in Hazelwood, Mo. The Marine Corps then officially classified the it as an "unauthorized absence."

Alvarez says the couple recently contacted family members and updated MySpace pages.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

USC disbanding German department

Auf Wiedersehen.

The University of Southern California is eliminating German as a major and minor over the next three years. Some basic German language courses will still be offered.

Department chairman Gerhard Clausen says the USC German department is relatively small, with three full-time professors, three lecturers, 10 undergraduate majors and 10 minors.

Clausen, who has taught at the university for 32 years, says dismantling the German department will likely harm USC's national reputation for scholarship.

USC College of Letters executive vice dean Michael Quick says the German department could no longer function as a separate entity and the decision to disband was mainly administrative.

AP

SAN DIEGO

Driver of mayor's SUV pleads in drunken driving case

The city worker found slumped behind the wheel of La Mesa Mayor Art Madrid's sport utility vehicle two months ago has pleaded not guilty to drunken driving.

Trisha Turner, who works for the La Mesa finance department, was in the driver's seat Feb. 20 with the engine running and the apparently drunk 73-year-old mayor was lying on the sidewalk near the vomit-splashed SUV.

The lawyer for the 34-year-old Turner entered the not guilty plea on her behalf Thursday via a fax sent to San Diego Superior Court. Turner is charged with misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol.

Police drove Madrid and Turner home without giving them field sobriety tests. The City Council hired an independent investigator to look into whether police followed department policy and the report is expected later this month.

AP

SAN DIEGO

City Council hopeful loses teaching job

The no-contest to lewdness plea by San Diego council candidate John Hartley has cost him his job as a substitute high school teacher.

The San Diego Unified School District removed the 65-year-old Hartley's name from its roster of substitutes. District spokesman Jack Brandais says California education codes prohibit employment of lewd in public offenders.

Hartley, who has pleaded no contest to the misdemeanor lewdness charge, was arrested March 27 after he was allegedly seen urinating into a cup and masturbating on a street in the upscale Kensington neighborhood.

He was placed on three years' probation and fined \$500.

Hartley campaign spokesman Larry Remer has declined comment.

Hartley served on the council from 1989 to 1993. He is running in the June 3 election to replace termed-out Councilwoman Toni Atkins.

AP

OJAI

Lake Casitas boat ban lifted

A month after imposing a boat ban on Lake Casitas, water district officials have decided to allow vessels back if boaters obey stringent conditions designed to prevent infestation of a destructive mussel.

The Casitas Municipal Water board decided on the ban a month ago because of quagga and zebra mussels spreading in other Southern California lakes. Some 30,000 boats are launched at the lake each year.

The mussels can severely damage water delivery systems and change the ecosystem of a lake.

Under the new rules approved Wednesday, boats must be inspected and quarantined for 10 days before they can be launched. The inspection program begins in a few weeks.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Mayor will oversee city's anti-gang efforts

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa will oversee all Los Angeles anti-gang efforts.

The City Council voted 12-0 on Wednesday to turn over all of the city's gang-intervention and gang-prevention programs to the mayor on July 1 for at least 18 months. An estimated \$19 million a year is spent on the programs.

City Controller Laura Chick and Villaraigosa had been pushing for mayoral control of the programs. Councilman Tony Cardenas, who chairs the Ad Hoc Committee on Gangs, had resisted turning over control to the mayor's office.

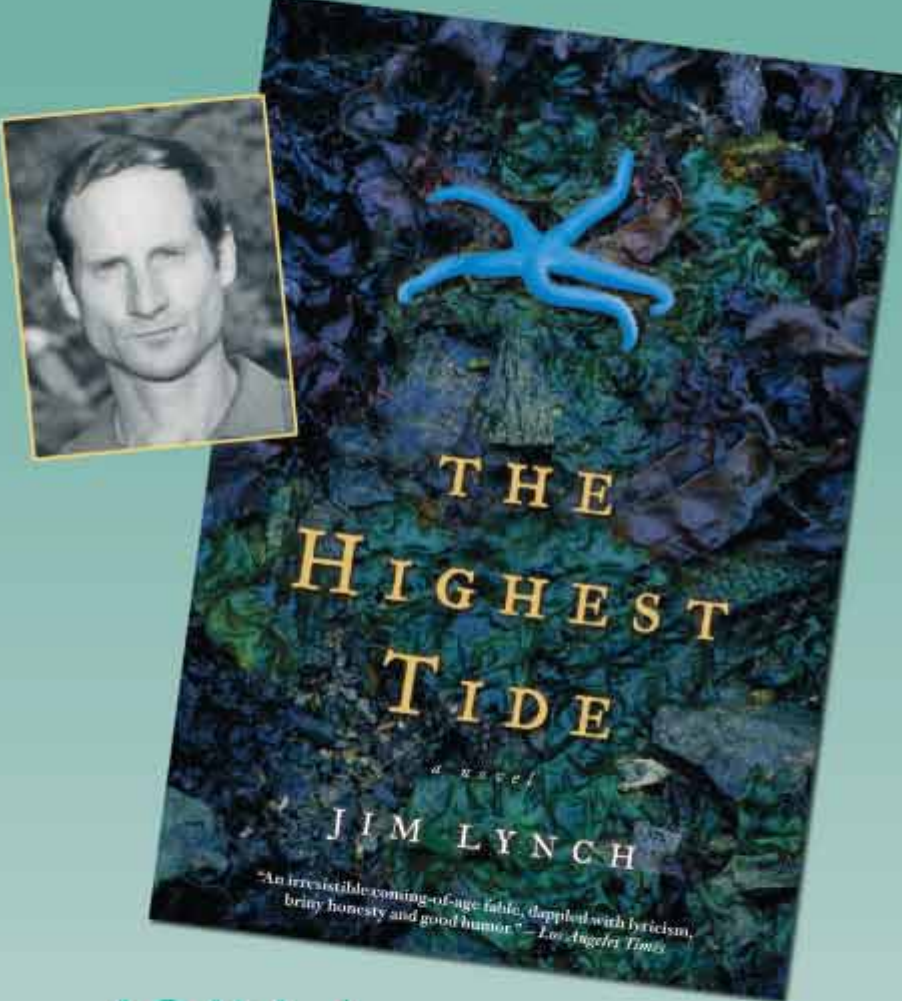
Council President Eric Garcetti and Cardenas proposed the compromise deal with the 18-month time limit, along with quarterly status reports and audits.

AP

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FOOD TO GO & CATERING

Moth spraying may hurt economy

BY GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press Writer

SOQUEL As state officials prepare to spray the San Francisco Bay area with pesticides to fight an invasive moth, politicians are starting to worry not only about the aerial endeavor's potential impacts on human health, but on local commerce.

State environmental health experts announced this week that illnesses reported by hundreds of residents after a first round of spraying on the Central Coast couldn't conclusively be tied to the pest eradication efforts.

Still, public uncertainty alone could be enough to slow summer tourism, drive residents to leave town and cause real estate agents to initiate conversations with their clients about whether they want to buy property in the proposed spray zone, local government officials say.

"If there's spray residue on the grass, are people going to feel safe going to Golden Gate Park?" said Mark Westlund, a spokesman for San Francisco's Department of the Environment. "Tourism is what keeps this city floating, and if people are worried about coming here because they could get sprayed on, that could have an impact."

Last fall, California agriculture authorities invoked emergency powers to send up planes that dropped a fine chemical mist on Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, where the light brown apple moth population was quickly multiplying.

The campaign was meant to safeguard valuable crops and to address the existing woes of infested plant nurseries in Soquel

and neighboring towns, which were losing millions of dollars from a quarantine temporarily grounding their plants.

After the first round of spraying, however, at least 487 people reported feeling symptoms ranging from itchy eyes to trouble breathing.

Despite the state's repeated assurances that their complaints can't be firmly linked to the spray — a low dose of a synthetic pheromone mixture approved for use on organically grown crops — residents and politicians farther north are getting nervous.

In Marin County, real estate agents are considering amending their disclosure forms to tell future home buyers about the aerial sprays scheduled in the Bay Area this summer and advising them to consult a doctor for more information before closing a deal, said Levi Swift, president of the Marin Association of Realtors.

Though analysts say the spray is unlikely to have any lasting effects on properties in the spray zone or on the real estate market, attorneys said it was wise to notify buyers to ward off potential lawsuits.

"If my real estate agent had knowledge of the spraying activity and didn't tell me, I could certainly sue for misrepresentation," said real estate attorney Lewis Feldman, a senior partner with Goodwin Procter in Los Angeles. "The fact that the government says something isn't harmful doesn't prevent people from filing suit."

In Santa Cruz, Mayor Ryan Coonerty said he was hoping local businesses wouldn't take a hit if a rush of people left town or if tourists stayed away in June, when Santa Cruz is scheduled for a second aerial treat-

ment.

Sunita Chethik, who lived in Santa Cruz for 30 years, said pheromone droplets drifted into her bedroom during the first round of spraying in November, causing her immune system to collapse. She recently moved to Santa Fe, N.M. to avoid more exposure, and activists with the California Alliance to Stop the Spray report dozens more people are considering similar relocations.

"The plane was making a pass, and it came in through an open window and landed directly on us. It smelled like Raid," said Chethik, who says she gave up her job as a teacher rather than risk worsening a pre-existing case of chronic fatigue. "They're poisoning people, and the only choice they're giving us is to leave."

So far, the moth has had the most palpable effect on those who can't leave: farmers in counties where crops are quarantined to keep the infestation from spreading.

The Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau estimates wholesale and retail nurseries lost about \$2.8 million in forgone sales and investments toward fighting off the moth from April to December 2007.

Chris Pavlos manages a nursery in Soquel, just south of Santa Cruz, where seven larvae were found rolled into tiny, sleeping bag-like sacs nestled in individual plant leaves.

The moths didn't defoliate or visibly damage any of the plants. But the discovery triggered a two-day shut down of the nursery, which caused a \$50,000 loss in sales.

He's spent an equal amount hiring an in-house crew of moth hunters, who scour

Soquel Nursery Growers' 14 acres looking for larvae and treating shrubs with insecticides.

"It's very difficult to get any real rest when they're inspecting you every two weeks," said Pavlos, as he walked through rows of flowering bougainvillea on a recent afternoon. "Even so, we're just not seeing the kind of damages to plants they keep talking about."

According to the U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture, the Australian insect threatens more than 2,000 varieties of California plants and crops and could destroy up to \$560 million worth of fruits and vegetables in a single year.

If moths spread into the fertile San Joaquin Valley, authorities warn many of the state's fruit and vegetable crops could have a hard time finding markets abroad.

"We've been fortunate that Canada and Mexico are the only countries that have imposed apple moth restrictions on us so far," said Larry Hawkins, a spokesman for the USDA. "That doesn't mean there won't be other countries restricting produce later."

Spraying is only set to occur in areas that can't be treated through other ground-based strategies. Still, state Secretary of Food and Agriculture A. G. Kawamura says the effort is necessary not only to protect the agriculture industry, but to save landmarks like Golden Gate Park, home to many species the USDA considers host plants.

"One side says it's a voracious pest and the other side says it isn't," said Ken Corbishley, the agriculture commissioner in Santa Cruz County. "The one thing that is true is that local folks are being impacted."

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Advocates say feds need to pony up to buy land

FROM MOUNTAINS PAGE 1

volunteers to perform tasks that Park Service staff should be doing, such as patrolling the park and staffing the visitor center, but doesn't have the resources to do, Sundergill said.

The recreation area's base budget has declined by 10 percent annually in inflation-adjusted dollars since 1980, leading to cuts in educational programs for schools and park maintenance.

Federal officials are in the midst of budget discussions and the NPCA is hoping the report will draw more attention to the lack of funds necessary to complete the park, which is made up of a series of parcels owned by various entities, including the city and county of Los Angeles, the state and the federal government.

"The Park Service needs an infusion of financial support from Congress and the (Bush) Administration in order to carry out its mission of preserving and protecting this park while providing enjoyment and educational opportunities for residents of the greater Los Angeles area," said Sundergill, who urged people to write letters, make phone calls and send e-mails to their representatives in Washington, D.C., in particular U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who chairs the Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, which oversees the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The fund was established by Congress in 1965 and designates a portion of receipts from offshore oil and gas leases for state and local conservation, as well as for the protection of national treasures (parks, forest and wildlife areas). Money from that fund is used to acquire land.

The state is doing its part, said Woody Smeck, superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, which has a boundary of 153,000 acres that includes the entire city of Malibu.

"The state, because of bonds passed by voters, almost outspends the federal government 3 to 1," Smeck said. "We need to put forward and equitable effort."

Funding for land purchases has all but dried up, Smeck said. In the 1980s and 1990s there was roughly \$22 million a year available for land acquisition in the Santa Monica Mountains, but around 2000, the funding stopped, much of which had to do with a change in philosophy at the National Park Service under the Bush Administration. The philosophy now is to spend more money on maintaining parks already in the system instead of using that money to expand. There are currently \$6 billion in repairs and upgrades that need to be made to improve conditions at national parks, said Smeck, who has served as superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains for the last 15 years.

"The challenge for us is that (the Santa Monica Mountains) is a relatively new national park and is still being built and put together," Smeck said. "To shut off all acquisition dollars hurts the new parks that are still in formation ... Los Angeles deserves a great national park. We still have a lot to do here."

A spokesman for Feinstein's office said the senator has worked hard over the years to secure as much funding possible for preserving open space and protecting wildlife. Last year Feinstein helped increase the budget for land acquisition and conservation by more than \$20 million.

Some have questioned whether or not

large sums of money should be spent on acquiring privately-held lands within public parks when those lands are located in areas that could not possibly be developed.

Officials with the Parks Service said whether or not a parcel can be developed does not factor in to the decision on whether to acquire land. What is more important is whether the land has the potential to be an outdoor recreation area or connects habitats, or has some historic significance. Some sellers are more willing to part with their land than others too, which also plays a role.

Even if the land cannot be developed, it still must be purchased so that the public and animals can cross from one terrain to another, Smeck said.

Laura Plotkin, state Sen. Sheila Kuehl's district director who serves on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy on the senator's behalf, said some will question if spending money on these lands is appropriate, but what critics must realize is that if the land is not purchased now, the price will only go up later.

"Even if it does seem costly, it is still cheaper than its going to be if the land is developed," Plotkin said. "The whole point is to save (this land)."

State Assemblymember Julia Brownley (D-Santa Monica), who also serves on the Santa Monica Conservancy, said she is concerned about the federal government's lack of funding for land acquisition and pledged to do whatever she can to bring more privately-held land into the park system.

"The Santa Monica Mountains are always under threat, if not outright assault, by those who would destroy this fragile and unique ecosystem with development that belongs elsewhere," Brownley said. "The land conservancies, trusts, and park agencies are constantly looking for opportunities to work with property owners, especially those whose land is critical to protect habitat, link wildlife corridors, align hiking trails, etc. Many come to understand the value that their property has toward the goal of enhancing the park, and become willing sellers as scarce public funds become available. Unfortunately, there are a few who buy up the most critical parcels and then callously use the threat of development to market them to park agencies for far above fair market value."

"We're talking about private development within a National Recreation Area," Brownley added. "As a legislative participant on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, it's been painful to see acquisition money dry up when the need is greatest."

Sundergill said that proposed legislation such as America's Historical and Natural Legacy Study Act (H.R. 3998), which was recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives, would help. If passed by the U.S. Senate, the Park Service would be authorized to study the feasibility of significantly expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, potentially doubling its size, and providing additional habitat for wildlife and recreation opportunities for visitors.

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Debunking myths about forensics

FROM ACADEMY PAGE 3

That doesn't mean I'll go walking around with wads of cash on me, because that isn't smart either, but I will make an effort to shred all my receipts, stay up on the latest scams and always carry \$20 just in case — something my grandma always told me to do, but naturally I didn't since it's what she told me to do.

Speaking of relatives, Sumlin told the class about the story of Samuel Jackson, a gay man from the other side of the country who pretended to be the son of the famous actor of the same name. Over the span of three months, Jackson the con man was able to get roughly \$300,000 in goods and services that included clothes from top designers like Louis Vuitton and plane tickets from United Airlines.

The scam was pretty simple. Jackson would walk into major hotels and ask for a suite. When he went to pay, his card would naturally be declined. He would throw a fit — "Don't you know who my father is?" — and then would call his buddies, who would pretend to be a bank. These buddies would give the hotel clerk a series of numbers that would be entered into a computer and then authorize Jackson for any credit amount he wanted, or something like that. The one thing that was fascinating was that Jackson's buddies came up with a series of numbers that would override any machine, giving Jackson unlimited amounts of money.

That is until he went to Loews. A clerk

there remembered reading a bulletin about a man pretending to be Samuel Jackson's son who was running up bills all over the country. This clerk called the SMPD and a sting was set up. Jackson was apprehended after a long foot chase by Sumlin and proceeded to tell him how he scammed so many people.

Basically a con man (which stands for confidence man) has to dress the part, drive the right car and make a stink, hence the Louis Vuitton, Escalades and BMWs, and the "Don't you know who my father is?" rap.

Jackson ended up spilling the beans and is serving three years in prison and faces federal charges in Florida.

"There's a special place in hell for people like that," Sumlin said of thieves who target the elderly and unsuspecting.

Following the identity theft presentation, the class moved down stairs to the forensics crime lab where the SMPD's version of "CSI" takes place. Nick Harrison, Jennifer Kapala, and Macey Dye talked about their duties as crime scene investigators, which includes dusting for fingerprints, making molds of footprints and taking photographs — stupid one-liners not included.

They immediately tackled the "CSI Effect," which is basically the public's demand for immediate results when in fact forensics is often hit and miss. After dusting for my own prints it became clear that these investigators have a tough job. Getting a good, clean print is hard.



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

CAUGHT IN THE ACT: A fingerprint found on the sticky side of a piece of tape. There are many chemical methods used to make prints visible. The proper one to use depends on what material the print is on and the substances that make up the print according to police investigators.

Kapala said shows like "CSI" give the public the wrong impression of their work. They don't get to carry guns nor do they make arrests. They work behind the scenes in a lab. They don't wear short skirts or low-cut tops and high heels. Instead, they dress in baggy black cargo pants and polos

with their hair pulled back. It's not glamorous, but definitely important to police work. The smallest print can lead to a major arrest. They are the unsung heroes of the SMPD.

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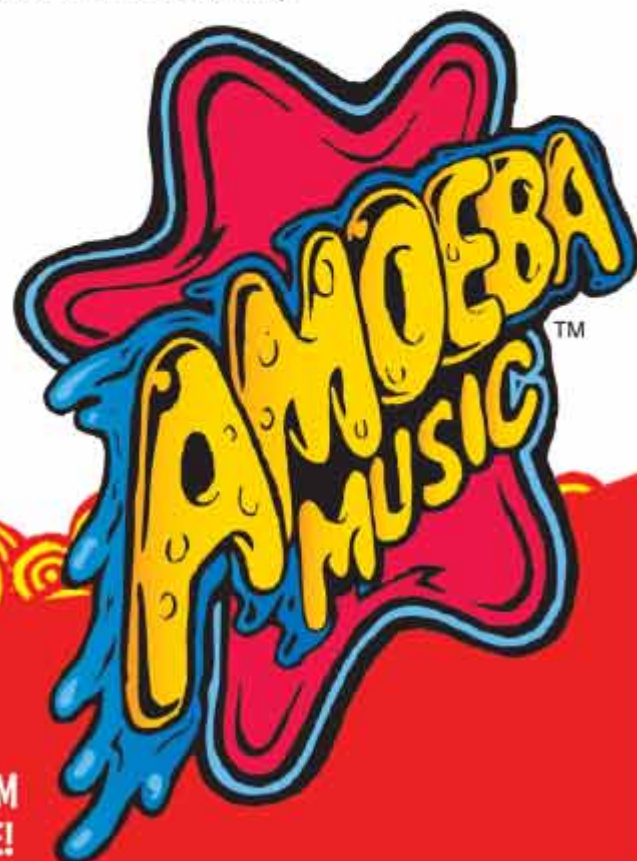
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A child is calling for help.

Sea Kings up next for Samohi Vikings

FROM BASEBALL PAGE 3

for the Vikings.

After the game, Duron was proud of the way his players fought back, despite falling behind early.

"The kids are starting to work hard, starting to see some things ... We were down a couple runs, and they just kind of hung in there. They kept working at it and battled back," he said.

Duron, who returned to the Vikings as head coach in fall 2007, also said his players are starting to come around.

"They're starting to believe some of the things I'm telling them to do and do some of the things I ask," he said. "It's a growing process on both ends. [But] we're finding our way a little better now."

Samohi's next test comes Saturday against Palos Verdes in the Redondo Tournament. The Vikings split the first two games of the tournament — a 6-2 win over El Segundo followed by a disappointing 2-0 loss to Downey — and will face their toughest competitor yet in the Sea Kings, who boast a 15-3 record after Wednesday's 19-2 blow out win against Palos Verdes Peninsula.

"We're going to start (Paul) Salazar," Duron said. "He's a pretty good pitcher whose really stepped up and taken charge of the pitching staff."

"But [Palos Verdes] can play. None of the games in this tournament are gimmies at all. There's no easy steps along the way."

Saturday's matchup will be the third of five scheduled games in the Redondo Tournament for Samohi. The Vikings will take on Chaminade High School April 19 for the fourth game, and the fifth-game matchup is yet to be determined, but it is based on the team's tournament record.

The matchup between Samohi and Palos Verdes begins at 2 p.m. today in Palos Verdes.

news@smdp.com

Murder suspects' defense begins closing arguments

FROM GOLAY PAGE 1

cies on homeless men and then collecting on them when they died. But they insisted the women were not murderers.

Rutterschmidt and Golay originally were charged with federal insurance fraud but the charges were dropped when state murder charges were filed. Golay and Rutterschmidt are charged with two counts each of murder and conspiracy to commit murder for financial gain.

McDavid, 50, died on June 21, 2005, and Paul Vados, 73, on Nov. 8, 1999, in what prosecutors allege were murders staged to look like hit-and-run incidents.

The prosecution is not seeking the death penalty.

Golay's lawyer pointed the finger of blame at Golay's daughter, Kecia, and also alleged for the first time that the women were set up by the Auto Club to be blamed for murder because they had collected \$810,000 in insurance from the organization.

"This case is about the insurance industry retaliating against Helen Golay and Olga Rutterschmidt," said Diamond. "They don't like the fact that two little old ladies are involved in an insurance scam. They are going to teach them a lesson."

He added, "I gotta tell you. Triple A is not happy with Helen Golay. They feel they got hoodwinked."

"This is a nightmare for her," he said, standing behind his client with a hand on her shoulder. "It's unfortunate that two men are dead. She didn't do it. But she did involve herself in insurance fraud and she should be punished for that."

Diamond was to finish his closing argument on Monday before the case goes to the jury.

The prosecutor told the jury Thursday that the women took out multiple insurance policies and supported the men until they were killed, then collected \$2.8 million. Deputy District Attorney Truc Do also argued that the defendants were guilty of murder whether or not they actually at the crime scenes and carried out the killings.



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Developer upset by decision

FROM PROJECT PAGE 1

ardly of losing its identity.

There are several development issues currently brewing in the neighborhood, including just one block north of the proposed project, home of the Third Street Historic District where neighbors are arguing over plans to build an addition to the rear of a bungalow.

Among the concerns for the project at 2721 Third St. is the scale of the structure and holes in its architectural style — designed by Beverly Hills architect Homay Naraghi in the Spanish Mediterranean manner, which is one of three approaches often found in the Ocean Park neighborhood, according to associate planner Grace Cho.

City planners found that while the architecture of the proposed project does borrow from design features found in the surrounding homes, there are atypical elements, including the multiple gabled roof line, the awkward location of windows and doors and lack of detail that is characteristic of Spanish Colonial and Mediterranean homes, Cho said.

“The eight gabled roof accentuates the massing and emphasizes the upsloping condition of the property,” she told commissioners.

Cho added there was also concern with the saw-tooth roofline design.

Thielen said the roofline was jagged to give it the look of individual units.

The size of the building was the central concern for the neighbors, who argued that the condos would be out of scale with the surrounding apartments, obscuring the view for some residents.

Erin Nico, who lives next door to the south, complained that the development as proposed would block her view of the Santa Monica Bay and Santa Monica Mountains.

“For all of the people in my building, the view will be blocked because of the size,” she said. “The building is now close, but it will be coming a lot closer to us and will be higher than our building.”

Commission Chairman Gwynn Pugh pointed out that the building is going to be further setback compared to the original building so there will actually be more light and air for the neighbors.

Karen Blechman, who lives in the Third



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

RULING: A plan to turn a property located at 2721 Third St. into townhouses was rejected by the Planning Commission on Wednesday.

Street Historic District, said she was concerned about the loss of affordable housing in building this project, feeling there aren't enough inexpensive options in the city.

“If this project were developed, some of my neighbors would probably have to move out of the city and would probably start commuting into the city as a result,” Blechman said.

While the building does offer one affordable unit, it actually does not comply with the city's affordable housing law, which dictates that the unit could be reduced in size or interior amenities as long as there isn't a significant difference between the affordable unit and market units from the outside. The project's lone affordable unit is proposed to be half in size as the market unit and does not include the bulk of the same amenities, lacking a fireplace, laundry room, family room and walk-in closets.

Thielen said he was under the impression from his attorney, Rosario Perry, that it was in compliance.

“I was told the unit had to be basically a two bedroom, one bath and 850 square feet and didn't require a parking space at the beginning of this process, but obviously the rules have changed,” he said.

Both Thielen and the architect also argued that they had no prior knowledge of there being issues with the project until they saw the staff report shortly before the hearing.

“This was never even faxed or e-mailed or [nobody] even called,” Naraghi said, waving the staff report. “We just got this from the desk 10 minutes ago.”

Commissioners defended the staff report, saying they had never heard of an associate planner not making themselves available for the developer.

Julie Lopez-Dad noted that the staff report had been available on the Internet for two weeks and that there were community members who were well aware of its existence.

“The responsibility is on the developer, not on the staff and not on the public,” she said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Tenant receives payment

FROM TENANT PAGE 3

advise her of the law and get her side of the story,” Paula Rockenstein, the consumer affairs specialist, said.

The landlord agreed to comply after realizing that City Hall could file a Suit.

As stipulated, the landlord will continue to pay the tenant the equivalent of comparable housing until the unit is ready, accept rent payments, allow the resident to return and complete the repairs in a timely fashion.

The issue just might have been a matter

of misunderstanding.

Deputy City Attorney Eda Suh said the landlord was cooperative once she realized that the relocation law applied to her.

“It turned out that both the landlord and the tenant were unclear about the relocation law and all of its requirements,” Suh said. “It's a great example of how educating our residents about the law can help to bring these problem situations to a good resolution.”

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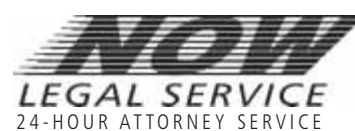
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<http://www.smgov.net/farmers%5Fmarket/pdf/Musician%20RFQ%202008.pdf>

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City of Santa Monica, Farmers' Market Division

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Experts say YouTube not to blame

BY ANICK JESDANUN

AP Internet Writer

NEW YORK Eight Florida teenagers charged with beating another teen so they could post the "animalistic" attack on YouTube got exactly what they had wanted — worldwide exposure.

But that doesn't mean YouTube or any other media company should get the blame, legally or ethically, for the attack, media experts said Friday.

In fact, they have a duty to share the video, said Kelly McBride, the ethics group leader at the Poynter Institute journalism think tank in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"The fact that the video was shot because they were seeking publicity was secondary," McBride said. "A crime was committed in our community, and if there's a videotape of it, I want some information. That video was incredibly revealing. It told more truth about what happened than any other form of reporting could have told."

The teenagers have been arrested on charges that they beat the teen so they

could make a video of the attack to post online. One of the girls struck the 16-year-old victim on the head several times and then slammed her head into a wall, knocking her unconscious, according to an arrest report.

"It's absolutely an animalistic attack," Sheriff Grady Judd said earlier this week. "They lured her into the home for the express purpose of filming the attack and posting it on the Internet."

On Friday, a judge set bail for each of the defendants at \$30,000 during the teens' first court appearance. Prosecutors said seven of the girls will be tried as adults in the March 30 attack in Lakeland, Fla. They face charges of kidnapping, battery and witness tampering.

It's not clear who posted the video on the Internet. But the Polk County sheriff's office released a clip that has been widely circulating online and on television, including The Associated Press' video network.

Those who blame YouTube or news organizations should blame themselves first, said Steve Jones, a communications profes-

sor at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

"The public is culpable as well because they are paying attention," he said. "There is no medium that forces them to pay attention."

CNN spokeswoman Barbara Levin said the cable news network has tried to place the video in the proper context.

"In reporting the story, we have gone to great lengths to explain that these young women face severe consequences for their actions, and in fact may be facing harsher sentencing because the videotape provides evidence of the nature of the attacks," she said in a statement.

YouTube, owned by Google Inc., declined to comment on the video, but said its general policies call for the removal of clips that show someone getting "hurt, attacked or humiliated."

From a legal standpoint, YouTube and other online service providers are largely exempt from liability because of a 1996 anti-pornography law. One provision says Internet service providers are not considered publishers simply because they retransmit

information provided by their users or other sources.

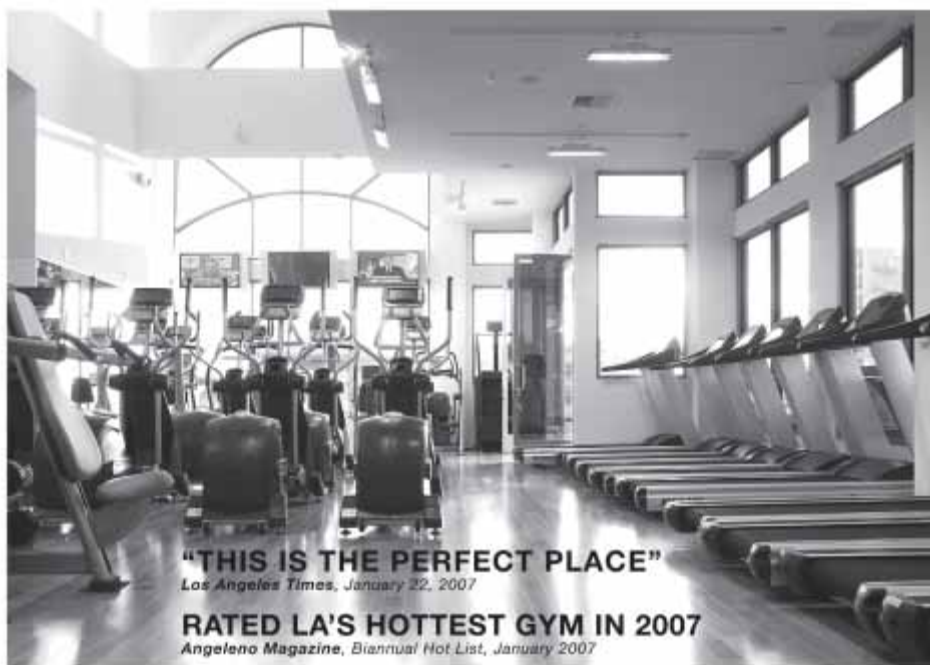
Federal courts have applied that broadly to cover not just Internet access providers, but also video-sharing sites, message boards and other online services.

Even without that provision, there doesn't appear to be anything illegal about the video, said John Morris, senior counsel with the Center for Democracy and Technology, a civil-liberties group in Washington, D.C.

"There is no legal reason this video cannot be shown. It is obviously distasteful, abhorrent what the teenagers did to the victim, but it doesn't really make sense (to ask), 'Should YouTube have taken it down?'" Morris said.

Even if there were a claim of illegality, he said, the courts should be the ones deciding, not YouTube.

"Many of those assertions are really very difficult, legal determinations that YouTube has no ability to make," Morris said. "Really, YouTube is not in a position to be a traffic cop."



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Soaring prices lead to unrest

BY JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press Writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti Joseph Francois has a cupboard filled with dishes but rarely takes them out, even at the best of times.

The food riots that gripped Haiti this week made scrounging something to eat even harder. A frenzy of violence and gunfire kept the unemployed father of two from venturing out to beg for three days.

By Thursday afternoon, after the bandits and looters retreated, Francois was able to spend 67 cents on a small bowl of rice to be shared by his two young children. There was nothing left for himself or his girlfriend.

"Most of the time we get up and have nothing to eat. We just pray for the sun to go down so we can go to sleep," said Francois, frayed jeans hanging loosely on his scrawny frame beneath a Jimi Hendrix T-shirt.

Hunger has long been a fact of life in the overcrowded slums that ring the Haitian capital, but soaring food prices have made the struggles of Haiti's poor unbearable. Francois buys rice from a woman whose prices have more than doubled over the past six months, from 27 cents to 67 cents for a small bowl. Other staples like spaghetti have doubled as well. The violence has only made things worse.

"The country was upside down. I couldn't go out, so the kids had no food," said Francois, who lives with 3-year-old Bechina, 4-year-old Charlie and his girlfriend Betty Joseph in an abandoned one-room schoolhouse in a slum called "Ideal City."

The dark cement-block structure has been home since their own house burned down in December.

The only light comes from a fluorescent bulb rigged to an electrical wire outside; a television set plays dubbed American movies. No food could be seen, and the metal pot used for cooking on a charcoal burner in the alley outside was empty.

Globally, food prices have risen 40 percent since mid-2007. Haiti, where most people live on less than \$2 a day, is particularly affected because it imports nearly all of its food, including more than 80 percent of its rice.

Much of Haiti's once-productive farmland has been abandoned as farmers struggle to grow crops in soil decimated by erosion, deforestation, flooding and tropical storms. To make a profit, the farms that remain often price their crops sharply higher than imported American products, which benefit from generous U.S. government subsidies.

Some aid was on its way Friday. Brazil, which has about 1,200 peacekeepers serving in Haiti, sent an air force plane with 14 tons of food, including beans, sugar and cooking oil. France pledged food and other aid worth \$1.6 million. The U.N.

World Food Program, which had collected only 15 percent of its Haiti budget before the riots, appealed for donations to meet its \$96 million goal.

But the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization said Friday that high food prices in the developing world are unlikely to subside anytime soon as price speculation and market failures counteract increases in food production.

This spells disaster in a nation where the World Bank says per capita income is just \$480 a year.

Francois, gaunt and balding at 32, doesn't even have that much. Hired as a "transportation inspector" last year by the mayor of the nearby Cite Soleil slum, he has no salary — just an identification card that can be used in the slums to exact bribes or collect fees. His 25-year-old girlfriend also does not work. With no education or skills, their job prospects aren't good in a place where most eligible adults are unemployed.

Mostly, Francois depends on handouts from neighbors and friends. He begs in the street. If all else fails, he hunts for scraps in the garbage piles at the nearby La Saline market, in view of towering stacks of U.S.-produced rice he cannot afford.

Francois and Joseph weren't impressed by the much-anticipated national address of President Rene Preval on Wednesday, delivered as gunshots rang through the capital and protesters yelled for his resignation.

The U.S.-backed leader blamed soaring food costs on Haiti's dependence on foreign imports and a badly damaged infrastructure that makes shipping difficult. A trained agronomist, Preval also pledged to build up Haitian agriculture and make the country more self-sufficient, offering government loans to help farmers afford fertilizer.

His message was lost on this couple. Like thousands of urban poor in the capital, they fled the hopelessness of the countryside in their youth. At age 10, Francois was given away by his rural parents to a family in Port-au-Prince, who forced him to work as a servant until he turned 18.

For them, promises to grow more food in the increasingly barren countryside are meaningless.

"By the time rice grows here, we'll all be dead," Francois said. "Preval is a country man. He should go plant rice."

In Haitian slang, Francois and Joseph describe their hunger pangs as "eating Clorox" because of the burning sensation in their guts. Flashing a sheepish smile, Joseph said they sometimes resort to a traditional hunger palliative — cookies made of dirt, salt and butter.

Charlie, in a red T-shirt, shorts and plastic sandals, held his head up with his hand and appeared weak as he walked slowly to the door. Bechina, in a Winnie the Pooh shirt and matching underwear, started to cry, her big eyes welling up.

"Look at my children," Francois said. "They are hungry."



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SURF REPORT

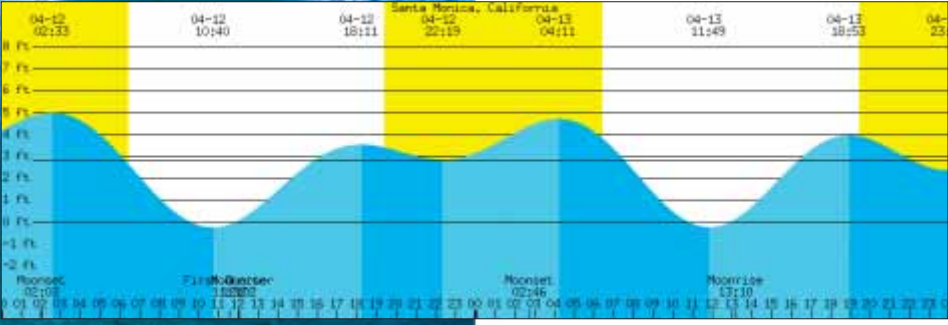


SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 51-56°**

SWELL FORECAST (4-6 FT)
Today we have some south swell due from a system that recently broke off Antarctica south of Easter Island. This should be enough to give us some 180-degree swell with 14- 16-second periods and waist to chest high sets, but infrequent with few waves per set and long lulls between sets. It should get a little better though on Sunday. NW swell should drop to nil. Saturday should be the peak day of the offshore event, but so far, even that is looking mild wind-wise.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
LIGHT SOUTH SWELL DUE THIS WEEKEND

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 four weeks up to the ending date of

April 1, 2008

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 0
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / ns
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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



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

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OLYMPICS

IOC head says he won't intervene

BY STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

BEIJING The International Olympic Committee will not intervene to pressure China on Tibet or other political issues in the countdown to the Beijing Games.

IOC president Jacques Rogge reiterated that stance Friday, saying it was not up to the Olympic body to get involved in the host country's political affairs.

"This is the line we do not have to cross," he said at the close of a two-day IOC executive board meeting in the Chinese capital.

China's recent crackdown in Tibet has fueled protests that have disrupted the global torch relay for the Beijing Games. Rogge has expressed hope for a peaceful resolution of the turmoil in the Himalayan region. But he said Thursday that he would not press China to open talks on Tibet, calling that a "political matter in which the IOC cannot enter."

"This is a sovereign matter for China to decide," he added.

Rogge, who met Wednesday with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, described the talks as "very useful ... frank and open and candid."

"The IOC expressed its view to the prime minister concerning the preparation of the Olympic Games," he said. "It was definitely a good meeting for the outcome of the preparation of the Olympic Games."

Also Friday, China expressed indignation at a U.S. congressional resolution calling on Beijing to stop cracking down on Tibetan dissent and talk to the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu labeled the resolution passed Wednesday by the House of Representatives anti-Chinese, saying it "twisted Tibet's history and modern reality ... seriously hurting the feelings of the Chinese people."

"The Chinese side expresses its strong indignation and resolute opposition toward this," Jiang said in a statement posted on the ministry's Web site.

The resolution sponsored by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called on Beijing to "end its crackdown on nonviolent Tibetan protesters," along with cultural, religious, economic and linguistic "repression."

In Tibet, the recent demonstrations against 50 years of Chinese rule have been the largest and most sustained in almost two decades. The Dalai Lama said he has always supported China's hosting of the Olympics, but Beijing cannot suppress protests in Tibet with violence.

Despite the torch protests, the Olympic relay will go through Tibet as planned, Rogge said. The flame is scheduled to be taken to the summit of Mount Everest in May and return in June to the Tibetan capital of Lhasa.

"We have agreed to a route for the torch that goes through Tibet," Rogge said. "This is a position that the IOC confirmed yesterday."

Rogge appeared more upbeat than on Thursday, when he declared the Olympics were in "crisis" because of the torch relay disruptions and politically charged buildup to the Aug. 8-24 games.

Asked when the crisis would end, he smiled and said, "I have no crystal ball but I'm optimistic the games will be a great success."

The relay encountered anti-China protests in London, Paris, San Francisco and elsewhere. The torch was carried through Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Friday amid heavy security.

Rogge said the protests were driven by the media attention attached to the Olympics.

"It is clear that it is the importance of the Olympic Games that attracts the events we are seeing now," he said. "In the lead-up of the games, you have a very increased media attention. Today, I'm quite sure I can say that no one is attacking the games, but some are using the games."

Rogge said he has asked Chinese leaders to fulfill the "moral pledges" they made during their winning bid for the games seven years ago, including progress on human rights.

Rogge played down the prospect of world leaders skipping or boycotting the opening ceremony in a show of protest against China's policies.

"If that eventually would happen — and I repeat wait and see — I think that the athletes will be disappointed because the athletes of a particular nation would not have their political leaders applauding them," he said. "But even that would not harm the quality and success of the games for the games are about the athletes."

There has been no push for a sports boycott.

"The sport movement says no to a boycott," Rogge said. "I'm saying adamantly that public opinion around the world does not want a boycott. They are against a boycott because they know that the only victims are the athletes themselves and the athletes are innocent."

Rogge spoke a day after the Chinese government said police uncovered a criminal ring in the western Xinjiang region that planned to kidnap athletes, foreign journalists and others at the Beijing Games.

Rogge had no comment on that specific case, but added, "We have received reassurances from BOCOG and the authorities that there will be the necessary and appropriate level of security for the games."

Chinese state media, meanwhile, labeled a group linked to the Dalai Lama's India-based government-in-exile a "terrorist organization" — building on claims that recent anti-Chinese protests were part of a violent campaign to overthrow Chinese rule and sabotage the Olympics.

The congress organized recent protests in India and elsewhere overseas coinciding with demonstrations inside Tibet that began peacefully on March 10 among Buddhist monks in Lhasa before spiraling into violence four days later.

Scholars say the Chinese accusations help the government justify its crackdown and demonize the opposition, while driving a wedge between the government-in-exile and groups like the Tibetan Youth Congress that have challenged the Dalai Lama's policy of nonviolence.

TYC Vice President Dhondup Dorji said China had no evidence for the claim.

"The Chinese officials, after seeing that the Tibetan Youth Congress is the most potential force today in the peaceful movement in exile, have been trying to brand it as a terrorist organization for many years without any basis," he told The Associated Press.

MOVIETIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Avenue (323) 466-FILM The Red Balloon & White Mane (NR) 4:00 Then She Found Me (R) 1hr 40min 7:30 AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third St. (310) 458-1506 The Bank Job (R) 1hr 50min 11:35 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 Stop-Loss (R) 1hr 53min 11:15 a.m., 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00 Street Kings (R) 1hr 47min 11:25 a.m., 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25 Under the Same Moon (PG-13) 1hr 49min 11:00 a.m., 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40	AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262 Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who (G) 1hr 28min 11:40 a.m., 1:55, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15 21 (PG-13) 2hrs 03min 11:10 a.m., 12:40, 2:00, 3:40, 5:00, 6:40, 7:50, 9:40, 10:40 Nim's Island (PG) 1hr 35min 11:05 a.m., 1:35, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30 The Ruins (R) 1hr 31min 11:00 a.m., 1:15, 3:30, 6:05, 8:30, 10:50 Prom Night (PG-13) 1hr 38min 11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:10, 2:20, 3:30, 4:40, 6:00, 7:05, 8:20, 9:25, 10:45 LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741 Bra Boys (R) 1hr 30min 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15 Remember the Daze (R) 1hr 41min 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15 The Counterfeiters (NR) 1hr 38min	1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 Smart People (R) 1hr 33min 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 Drillbit Taylor (PG-13) 1hr 42min 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10 10,000 B.C. (PG-13) 1hr 49min 11:40 a.m., 4:30, 9:40 Run Fat Boy Run (PG-13) 1hr 40min 2:10, 7:00 Superhero Movie (PG-13) 1hr 25min 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30 Leatherheads (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:50 a.m., 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 Shine a Light (PG-13) 2hrs 02min 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00 The Take (NR) 1hr 36min 12:40, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20
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For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Say yes, Sagittarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You are direct, hence confusion is minimized. The unexpected lurks in the background. Brainstorm. Listen to feedback. Tonight: Remain centered. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ The unexpected occurs. You are recycling a lot of energy, ideas and possibilities. If you feel that you cannot find the right path, don't worry. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You might want to understand what motivates you as well as others. Avoid overspending by having an important talk. You might not have the right answers. Tonight: Your treat. CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Your personality melts barrier after barrier. What you don't understand could easily be clarified. Take a stand if need be, and others will respond in a very rewarding manner. Nearly everything will work out if you relax. Tonight: Take a stand. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Walk backward and try to understand the dynamics of what appears to be a touchy but important situation. You don't need to have all the answers. Trust your judgment. Continue maintaining a low profile, for the sake of all parties involved. Tonight: Rest up. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ The more people you have around you, the merrier. Open up conversations with someone you often get mixed messages from. Your creativity flows, creating a great time. Know when to say you have had enough. Tonight: Be where you want to be, with whomever you want.	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Be sensitive to key people in your life. In your opinion, a parent or authority figure could be overly demanding. Ask for exactly what you need – nothing less and nothing more. Tonight: Out and about. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You are full of energy and drive. Your perspective changes as you go through the many different vistas of your day. If you revise your thinking and attitude, a problem could be eliminated. Just give it a shot. Tonight: Do whatever relaxes your mind. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You might be surprised by someone's effort. How you see a situation could vary substantially because of today's events. Loosen up and remain directed. Your perspective takes you in a new direction. Tonight: Say yes to a special invitation. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Certainly you have quite a few options, though deciding where, when and who could take the State Department. Tonight: Let others make suggestions first, then choose. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ You might need to finish off a pending project and can't wait any longer. You will feel much better if you don't hesitate and go for a bottom line. Tonight: Choose the most relaxing option. You need some downtime. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ How you view an event defines your experience. You could decide to be grouchy, or you could decide what a different and wonderful experience you are having. You define your life. Tonight: Allow the flirt within you out.
--	---

Happy birthday

Sometimes others don't understand why you have become such a recluse or such a private person. This year, use opportunities to increase your emotional and financial security. You might be focused on matters involving your home or real estate. Certainly, if you can work from home, do. If you are single, you will desire a comfortable relationship rather than a wildly romantic bond. It would be best to have both. If you are attached, invest in your home or buy a new home. You'll become far closer. CANCER can be centering but also boring.

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



City of Santa Monica

Santa Monica Police Activities League



Saturday April 12, 2008

Kids Fit & Fun Challenge at 7:00 a.m.

SRLA Running Program at PAL

Teens ages 12 - 17 years

Participants must train three (3) nights a week: Mondays & Wednesdays- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The Students Run L.A. program is to challenge students to experience the benefits of goal-setting, character development, and improve health by providing a truly life-changing experience by training for and

completing the City of Los Angeles Marathon - 26.2 miles.

*A medical examination is required for all participants in the SRLA Program.

All trips will leave the PAL Youth Center (1401 Olympic Blvd) and returns to the PAL Youth Center upon the completion of the race.

For more information please call PAL at (310) 458-8988.



The PAL Youth Center is accessible to wheelchairs. If you have any disability-related requests, please contact (310) 458-8988 or (TTY: 310/458-8696) at least 24 hours prior to the trip. Santa Monica Blue Bus Lines #5 & #11 serve the PAL Youth Center.

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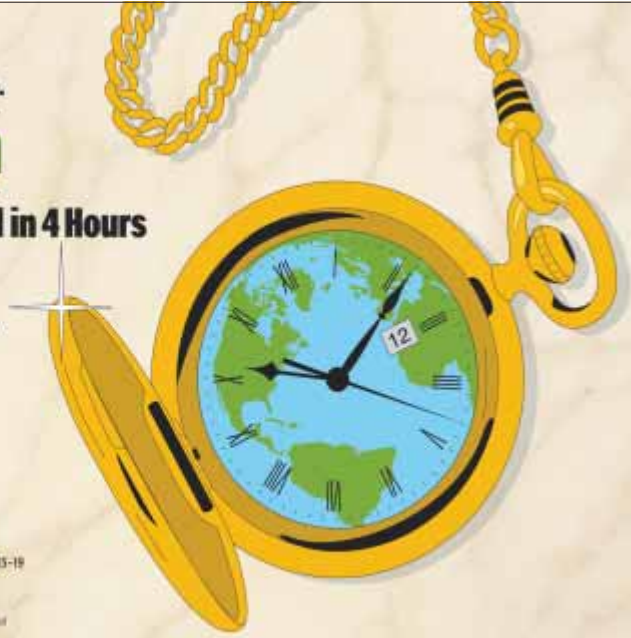
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SUMMER GUIDE RATES

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	Black & White	Color	12 Insertions	36 Insertion	52 Insertions
Full Page	\$1438.00	\$1610.00	\$598.00	\$556.00	\$483.00
Half Page	\$805.00	\$978.00	\$326.00	\$300.40	\$278.00
Quarter Page	\$489.00	\$604.00	\$169.00	\$163.00	\$150.00

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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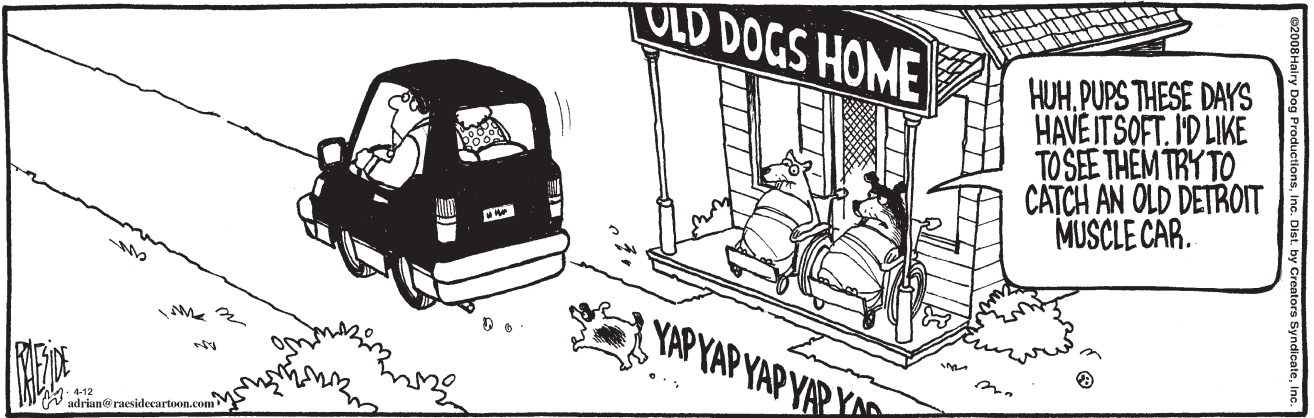
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



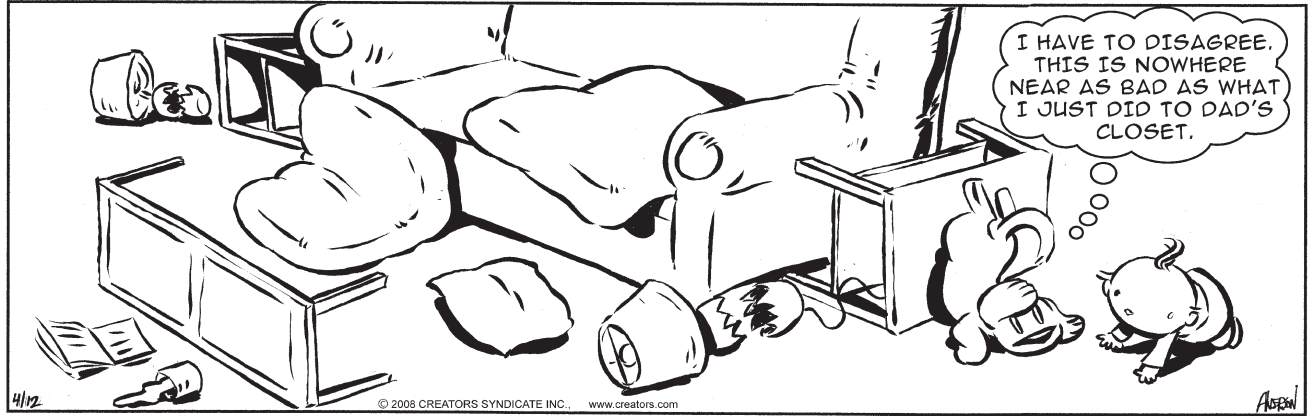
Garfield

By Jim Davis

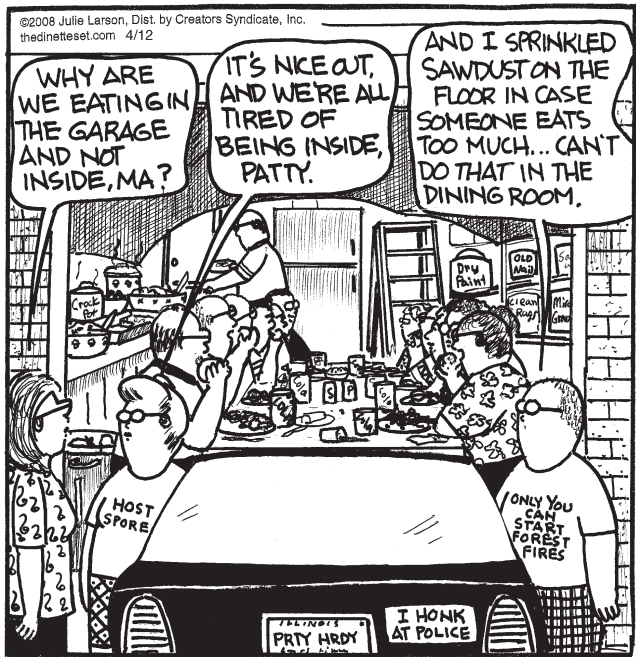


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Out-pourings
- 7 Dance move
- 11 Jai alai ball
- 12 Long-eared runner
- 13 Sulky
- 14 Hockey's Bobby and family
- 15 Hand makeup
- 16 Moroccan city
- 17 "Sesame Street" regular
- 18 Sense of taste
- 19 Be patient
- 21 Chestnut husk
- 22 Play-ground sight
- 25 War-room feature
- 26 "Casa-blanca" role
- 27 California team
- 29 Moon goddess
- 33 "Uncle Miltie"
- 34 Frenzied
- 35 Wax-coated cheese
- 36 Gauguin's home
- 37 Mine find

- 38 Delighted
- 39 Lusty look
- 40 Orna-mental shrubs

DOWN

- 1 Mace, e.g.
- 2 Jail-related
- 3 Trepida-tion
- 4 Hierarch-ical
- 5 Seine seasons
- 6 Used a couch
- 7 Sandbar
- 8 Toni Morrison book
- 9 Printer's goof

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

Yesterday's answer

- 10 Annoy company
- 16 Speeds personi-fied
- 18 Tablets
- 20 Like bugs
- 22 Unidenti-fied bugs him
- 23 Software woman
- 24 Grail seeker
- 25 Phone
- 28 Fuse
- 30 Gun-powder ingredient
- 31 Gun-powder ingredient
- 32 Lab liquids
- 34 Shopper's mecca
- 36 Assam export

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

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

Comics & Stuff

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS	4 18 27 31 42 Meganumber: 8 Jackpot: \$27M
Super LOTTO	5 17 23 42 43 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: \$7M
Fantasy 5	7 15 22 35 36
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 5 0 6 EVENING: 7 7 0
DAILY DERRY	1st: 11 Money Bags 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 09 Winning Spirit RACE TIME: 1.41.38

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 October, the government of Singapore, anxious about the city's declining birth rate, began teaching its high school polytechnic students in formal courses on how to flirt. Said Isabel, 18: "My teacher said if a guy looks into my eyes for more than five seconds, it could mean that he is attracted to me, and I stand a chance," according to a March Reuters dispatch. The course includes "love song analysis" and how to chat online. ■ Officials in the Shiwuri district of India's Madhya Pradesh state, need a promising program to slow the country's still-booming birth rate.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1606 England's King James I decreed the design of the original Union Flag, which combined the flags of England and Scotland.
1776 North Carolina's Fourth Provincial Congress authorized the colony's delegates to the Continental Congress to support independence from Britain.
1877 the catcher's mask was first used in a baseball game, by James Tyng of Harvard in a game against the Lynn Live Oaks.
1908 fire devastated the city of Chelsea, Mass.
1934 "Tender Is the Night" by F. Scott Fitzgerald was first published in book form by Charles Scribner's Sons after being serialized in Scribner's Magazine.
1945 President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Ga., at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.
1955 the Salk vaccine against polio was declared safe and effective.
1961 Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.
1981 the space shuttle Columbia blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on its first test flight.
1983 Chicagoans went to the polls to elect Harold Washington the city's first black mayor.

WORD UP!

caesura \sih-ZHUR-uh; -ZUR-\\, noun; plural caesuras or caesurae \sih-ZHUR-ee; -ZUR-ee\\: A break or pause in a line of verse, usually occurring in the middle of a line, and indicated in scanning by a double vertical line; for example, "The proper study || of mankind is man" [Alexander Pope, An Essay on Man].



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Notices

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Date of Filing Application: JANUARY 23, 2008
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: TASTING ROOM LLC THE.
The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 312 WILSHIRE BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401-1312.
Type of License(s) Applied for: 47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE.
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 2008

BOLD IT! MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20080399542 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LIMOUSINE 2000, LIMO 2000, 2240 CRENSHAW BLVD, LA, CA 90016; LA COUNTY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : CHARLES BENNETTE, 2240 CRENSHAW BLVD, LA, CA 90016 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/ CHARLES BENNETTE
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/7/2008. 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 4/5/2008, 4/12/2008, 4/19/2008, 4/26/2008

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Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Mid April 2008

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,081,278	\$ 1,300,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 4,144,793	\$ 1,779,238
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,699,250	\$ 938,639
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 873,967	\$ 738,150
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,349,348	\$ 744,550
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,692,615	\$ 1,270,589

Statistics updated every Friday

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This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.