

Santa Monica Daily Press

ROCKING THE CRADLE?
SEE PAGE 25

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE TAKING MEETINGS LIKE THEY'RE GOING OUT OF STYLE ISSUE

Dining for DOLLAR\$

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

Believe it or not, there are still ways to **eat on the cheap** in this town

With posh, bourgeois restaurants popping up in the west and north ends of the city seemingly every week, the challenge of grabbing dinner on the cheap in this town is daunting enough to scare away Rachel Ray and her 40 bucks a day.

Famous establishments such as Melisse, Three on Fourth and Michael's, with their pricey menus and elitist air, have given Santa Monica the reputation as a destination for delicious, yet mad-expensive, cuisine. Residents and workers on a budget complain about having to brown bag it for lunch and cook their own dinners.

There is hope. Santa Monica still offers good, cheap eats.

SEE EATS PAGE 16



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Eddie Guerboian

Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, APRIL 14-15, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Surf contest at Westward Beach

Southern end of Zuma Beach, 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Freedom Artists and Surfwise.org present the first in a series of surf contests taking place at Westward Beach in Malibu. All ages are welcome to attend the event, either as a participant or as a spectator. The day will highlight some of the best local talent, as well as fun and prizes for everyone in attendance.

Japanese festival sounds

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. — noon
The Main Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library begins their 1,000,000 Visitors Celebration with Taiko performances by Japanese-American musicians. The program will focus on the uniqueness of the ancient musical art form, the cultural fusion of ancient and modern techniques, and the full impact of Taiko through sound and movement. This concert will take place outside in the North Courtyard.

'Bunny Tales Episode IV: Bunny Wars'

1404 Third Street Promenade, 5 p.m.
West of Broadway Theater Company and Reading Is Fundamental of Southern California present a fresh adaptation of the classic story "The Tale of Peter Rabbit." This updated re-telling combines traditional theater with active audience participation. For weekend reservations, call the Promenade Playhouse at (310) 656-8070, ext. 17.

8th Malibu International Film Festival

1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Films will screen at the Aero Theater on the weekend of April 13 through April 15. Tickets are \$10. To purchase tickets, visit www.ticketweb.com or call (866) 468-3399. For more information on the festival, visit www.malibufilmfestival.com.

Sage Bennet Signing

13400 Maxella Ave., Marina del Rey, 11 a.m. — 3 p.m.
Author Sage Bennet will be signing copies of her new book "Wisdom Walk: Nine Practices for Creating Peace and Balance from the World's Spiritual Traditions" at Barnes & Noble in Marina del Rey.

'Poisoning the Well'

1110 Seward St., Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
Trip Dance Theatre's new work, 'Poisoning the Well,' investigates humankind's relationship with the earth through contemporary dance, sculptural costume design, video imagery, comedic theater and live, original music featuring amplified handmade instruments. Tickets are \$18 when purchased online or \$24 at the door. Visit www.unknowntheater.com to purchase tickets or call the Unknown Theater's box office at (323) 466-7781. For more information, visit www.tripedance.org.

Sunday, April 15, 2007

'Women with Altitude' screening

1328 Montana Ave., 11 a.m. — 1 p.m.
The short documentary "Women With Altitude" by local filmmaker Sarah Vail will screen at the Aero Theater as part of the Malibu International Film Festival. The film follows an all-female mountaineering team climbing a 20,000-ft peak in Bolivia as testimony to women's strength to overcome domestic violence. For more information, call the Aero at (323) 466-FILM.

Book-To-Movie Screening: 'Rebecca'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 1:15 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
The Main Library screens movies based on classic books. This month's chosen film adaptation is Alfred Hitchcock's interpretation of Daphne Du Maurier's 'Rebecca.' This program is free and open to all ages. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

A Morning With Ron Smothermon

1001-A Colorado Ave., 9:45 p.m. — 12:45 p.m.
Ron Smothermon M.D., author of "Winning through Enlightenment" and "Transforming #1" will discuss the tools, perspectives and philosophies of living a transformed life. The event will be an introduction to Dr. Smothermon's contribution to the training curriculum at Santa Monica Zen Center. Admission is free. To register for the event or for further inquiries, e-mail info@smzen.org or call (310) 572-9070.

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.





PRETTY MCFLY FOR TWO WHITE GUYS

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

A couple of teenagers on skateboards hop-a-ride north along the Santa Monica Bike Path on a Ford Mini-Van recently.

Can you spare some time?

Volunteers offer kids some big shoulders to lean on in the Big Brothers and Sisters program

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD As a single mother whose extended family has been scattered across the country as a result of Hurricane Katrina, Kimberly Herron was worried because her 12-year-old daughter didn't have any siblings or cousins to spend time with.

While young Heaven Crawford had met friends at Lincoln Middle School, as well as the Red Cross, where she volunteers twice a week, her mother was looking for a strong, female role model for Crawford to spend time with; someone who could take her to museums and other cultural venues, or just help her with her homework after school.

"She's an only child and I thought it would be a wonderful experience for her to grow up with siblings, like I had,"

Herron said.

The two didn't have to search very far. Near their home, at Virginia Avenue Park, staff had in mind the perfect role model for young Heaven. Through a partnership with the park, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles, they were able to hook up with a young professional named Yasmine, who has proven to be a guiding light for the girl.

"She's very nice and intelligent. We get along great," Crawford said about her big sis. "We go to museums. We saw an IMAX movie. We talk about what's going on in school. It's nice having someone to talk to."

Crawford is one of 10 youth from Santa Monica and surrounding areas who have been matched with a mentor through the partnership. Some have only been in the program for a few months, while others have participated for more than a year, building relationships that will last a lifetime.

"She has really become a part of the family," Herron said of her daughter's mentor. "I don't think we could have picked a better person. She's humble, extremely educated and to come across a young woman like that who is willing to give up her free time, you just have

SEE BROTHERS PAGE 19

Library celebrates a million

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN SM While the identity of the supposed one-millionth person to waltz through the doors of the new main library might remain a mystery forever, that isn't going to hinder plans for a celebration today to mark the landmark visit.

The Santa Monica Public Library opened its doors to the public on Jan. 7, 2006, and city and library officials are inviting the public out today for a six-hour long festival, rejoicing in the one millionth visitor moment, which City Librarian Greg Mullen believes occurred last week.

A counter at all the facility's entrances automatically records and tabulates whenever a person walks in or out. Since visitors both enter and exit the library, the total tabulation is actually more than two million, Mullen said. The library has averaged more than four visitors a minute since opening its doors.

It is estimated that about 75 percent of library visitors either work, live or attend school in Santa Monica.

"I feel pretty confident we're at that milestone and we're trying to celebrate that," Mullen said.

More than one million individual items have been checked out from the library since January 2006, averaging a little more than four individual checkouts per minute in the past 15 months.

Entitled "A Million More: Celebrating our Visitors," the free event today will honor the milestone the new library achieved in just 15 months with family-friendly activities such as face-painting, crafts, games and prizes, and musical performances. One of the feature acts will be a performance of Japanese Taiko drummers.

It's a celebration of all the loyal patrons and an opportunity to invite anyone who has not yet visited the new facility, Mullen said.

"To me, (the millionth visitor) says that we are well received by the community," Mullen said. "That figure is a testament that they're (the public) using this library."

The library was crafted with visions that it would serve as a hub for community activities. Community events including lectures, movie screenings, book signings and storytelling sessions have proven a hit with the public. In February, an evening lecture by former UN Weapons Inspector Scott Ritter packed the library auditorium, forcing several latecomers to watch the talk through a television on

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 18

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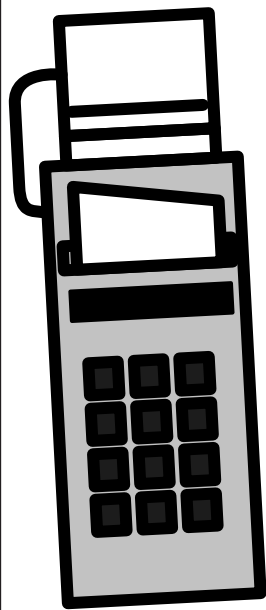
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

White House tackles issues

Editor:
There appears to be some argument over a feather, a hammer and gravity. Gravity makes objects fall at the same speed, though the feather and the hammer fall at different speeds due to the feather being affected by the air. On the moon, they would fall at the same rate, or in any vacuum ... except in an intellectual or moral vacuum. So the experiment would not work in the Oval Office.
Mike Kirwan
Venice

Affordable housing is no bargain

Editor:
This letter is in response to the article in this week’s paper (“Tough to find housing ... Suit alleges that CCSM discriminates in its picks,” April 10). I was on the waiting list with CCSM for four years in a row. The first year, I didn’t hear from them. The second year, I didn’t hear from them. The third year, I got an invitation to view one old, rundown apartment south of Pico. I wrote a letter explaining I could not apply for it because it was out of my daughter’s school district. CCSM took me off the list for the rest of the year. This past January, I applied again and was sent an invitation to view an apartment, like Mr. Baldwin in your article, right next door to a liquor store and smack-dab in gang territory. I was afraid to get out of my car to even apply. I sent another letter to CCSM explaining that I would feel concerned for my and my daughter’s safety living there so I turned it down. I quickly received a letter from CCSM stating they were removing me from their list because “applicants are not allowed to turn down apartments because they don’t like the neighborhood.” I don’t believe CCSM actually has any decent apartments to offer applicants. Whether or not they discriminate against minorities, from my experience, they offer apartments nobody else would consider renting, and they don’t offer them at an affordable price, as their name implies. Santa Monica residents are still in need of affordable apartments and CCSM is not the answer.
Virginia Tura
Santa Monica

Riding the bus? No thanks

Editor:
Regarding the article in SMDP on April 12 (“A rough ride for Council,” page 1), I just wish to thank the council and city manager for increasing the bus fare for students and no more free transfers. Thanks a lot. They just made it a rough ride for the rest of us. This is the way to encourage people to ride?
At the present moment, I am a senior citizen on a fixed income who uses the bus to go to work and to the grocery store. Right now, I pay 25 cents, which is one of the few bargains left in this city. I do need to transfer. So now, what I pay 50 cents a day for, I will have to pay \$1.25 a day for. That happens to be more than double.
I am a busy person and do not wish to utilize the day pass to, as Stephanie Negriff, director of the Big Blue Bus stated, “Get off, enjoy a cup of coffee or some lunch, and then hop on the same line without having to pay again.” Wow. Big deal.
On principal, I will not be riding with the Big Blue Bus after July. Students and others just may start driving again. This is no way to make traffic, exhaust, etc., go away and entice people to ride the bus.
What a greedy little city it is!

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

Looking for a free ride

Editor:
I would like our environmentally conscious City Council to consider ways to offer free bus service in Santa Monica (“A rough ride for Council,” April 12). This would encourage bus ridership. It would significantly decrease the auto emission pollution, alleviate traffic congestion and parking shortages, increase daily communication between residents and help ease global warming.
Susan Belonis
Santa Monica



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

You’re never too old to slay dragons

SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO, I WROTE A “MY Turn” column for Newsweek about the evils of video and computer games. I felt it was healthier, for example, for kids to play real baseball outdoors with other kids instead of virtual baseball by themselves at their screens. I wasn’t the only one who felt this way. Millions of us “baby boomers” had become parents, and we wanted what was best for our kids — and that didn’t include their sitting in front of a computer or video screen all day.

You could probably walk down any street and hear a plea coming from inside the houses: “Stop playing that stupid game. You’ve been playing for hours. I want to talk to you.”

Today, the latest age groups that some game companies are focusing on are “boomers and above.” The same people who yelled at kids to stop playing are spending more and more of their free time playing digital games. What’s next? Are we going to dye our hair blue and refuse to do our homework?

One of the main reasons for the popularity of video and computer games among this age group is because smart marketing people noticed that people are being told that if they can just stay mentally active, they can ward off all kinds of evils. In other words, those of us who are getting older will do anything to avoid getting old — even play video games.

The games specifically designed for this generation are not violent, or sexy, or games that are so complex that only people who are computer experts can play. According to a recent article in the New York Times, the new games for the older players rely on “quick thinking to stimulate brain activity.” Some of these games are crossword puzzles, Sudoku, Boggle, etc. But there are also “virtual” re-creations of bowling, tennis and golf that are popular. In these games, you actually swing your arms, so you do use some physical energy — just not as much as if you were playing “for real.”

How popular are these games with boomers and seniors? The New York Times article talked about a community of retired nuns who have gotten hooked on the games. Some retirement communities have installed game consoles. And Norwegian Cruise Line is installing the game systems on all its ships.

Nintendo, the company that I blasted so many years ago for corrupting our youth, is now as much a friend to people my age as fiber. Another company, PopCap, also makes games specifically for a generation older than the games’ designers. PopCap’s founder, 28-year-old John Vechey, says that he and his colleagues use the “Mom Test.” If their mothers like a new game, they’re pretty sure they have a winner.

In addition to word games and video versions of sports, I can think of several games that would probably be popular with this new demographic. “When Are My Kids Going To Move Out Already?” would be a big seller. “Movies That I Can Actually Hear” and “Foods That I Used To Be Able To Eat” might be popular. I’d probably buy, “I Forgot Where I Parked My Car.” And an update on “Where’s Waldo?” that might catch on would be, “Where’s My Pension?”

THE SAME PEOPLE WHO YELLED AT KIDS TO STOP PLAYING ARE SPENDING MORE AND MORE OF THEIR FREE TIME PLAYING DIGITAL GAMES. WHAT’S NEXT? ARE WE GOING TO DYE OUR HAIR BLUE AND REFUSE TO DO OUR HOMEWORK?

Years ago, when I was first worried about how kids had become so obsessed with video games, I was concerned that these games had become more important to them than reading and being with their family and friends. Guess what? The same thing is happening today with older users.

In a recent survey of people who play computer games, when shown a list of leisure activities and asked to say which ones were important to them, 77 percent of people over 50 chose playing computer games, 73 percent chose reading, and only 65 percent chose “spending time with friends and family.”

In the same survey, 74 percent of those under 50 chose “spending time with friends and family.” So, according to this survey, spending time with friends and family is actually less important to people over fifty who play these games than it is to younger people who play.

If this trend continues, soon you’ll be able to walk down any street and hear, “Stop playing that stupid game. You’ve been playing for hours. I want to talk to you, Grandma.”

LLOYD GARVER writes the “Modern Times” column for CBSnews.com’s Opinion page and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.

PUBLISHER Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com
EDITOR Michael Tittinger editor@smdp.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR Daniel Archuleta daniela@smdp.com
STAFF WRITERS Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com
Melody Hanatani melodyh@smdp.com
PARENTING Nina Furukawa nina@smdp.com
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com
PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN Christine Chang news@smdp.com
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Robbie P. Piubeni rob@smdp.com
Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com
ADVERTISING ASSISTANT Cynthia Vazquez advertising@smdp.com
OPERATIONS MANAGER Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com
PRODUCTION MANAGER Tessa Vergara tessav@smdp.com
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Frances Casareno production@smdp.com
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1427 Third Street Promenade, #202
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STRA Y talk

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

"I had to sneak into the back of my brother Todd's car — eight months pregnant — and lie down on the floor. Just so we could go to Target."

— Gwen Stefani, on not wanting to look bad in front of paparazzi

"It's getting to the point where I might not be able to afford food."

— An unidentified woman, filling up at the Arco station on Cloverfield and Michigan, on rising gas prices

"Where are the repercussions for Rosie O'Donnell's hateful, idiotic accusations that President Bush was behind the 9/11 attacks?"

— From a posting by Tom Delay on his Web site, asking why O'Donnell hasn't been fired like radio shock jock Don Imus

"It made me sick. It's very graphic. I can't tell you how graphic because I have two children standing right here."

— Kim Grivakis, mother to two children who attend a Chicago elementary school, where a two-and-a-half hour DVD of the school's principal and a teacher having sex was mailed to parents. The person who planted the camera in the principal's office has yet to be identified.

"One of the things I realized when I started [researching] trash is it is an infrastructure taken for granted."

— Santa Monica resident Ben Rehkl, on preparing for his screenplay about the tumultuous relationship between a New York City sanitation worker and his son. Rehkl will attend the TriBeCa Film Festival in New York to pitch his work.

"One day, you feel really good because one of these guys ends up going to a nice home up in the Palisades. But on other days, you get frustrated because a new dog will come in and you start all over."

— Junko Elwell, a volunteer at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter

Quotations captured and compiled with care by Cynthia Vazquez.

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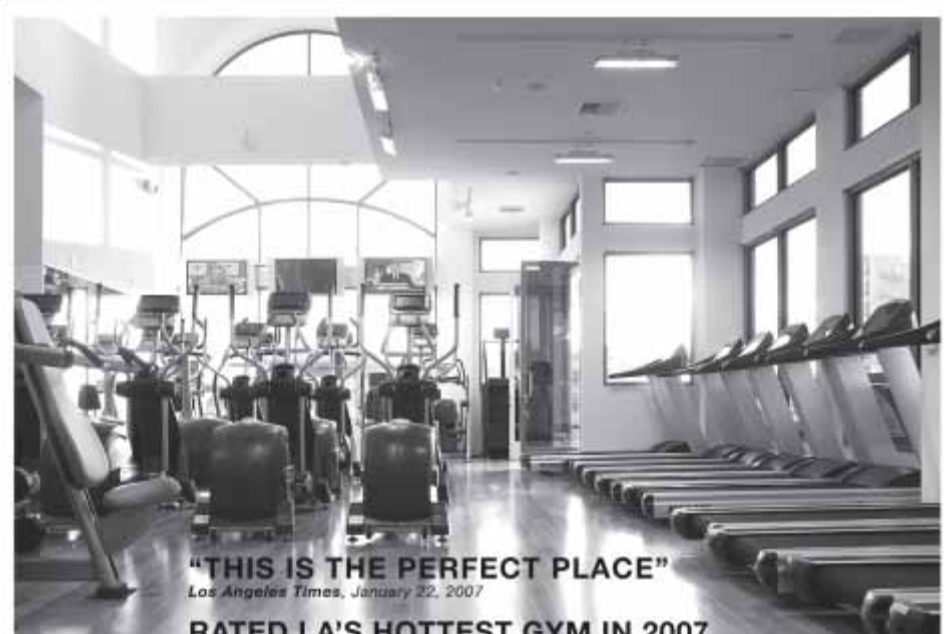
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The QLine

HOMELESS SITUATION A POLARIZING ISSUE

This past week, Q-line asked:
What should be done to improve the homeless situation in and around the city?

Here are your responses:

"THE HOMELESS SITUATION IN THIS CITY has gone way beyond tolerable and manageable. We do not have the money nor the facilities to cope with the thousands we have all over town. Large facilities and institutions need to be established outside the city limits and residential areas. With the associated help available: Drug and alcohol counseling, health care and live-in facilities for the ill. The freeloader bums need to be sent back to the countries, cities and places they came from. We have no more housing for these out of towners. We have way too many [homeless] as it stands."

"THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS should stop trying to deceive people about the homeless as being somehow special. The Santa Monica Daily Press should stop demonizing homeless people. It should consider that they are human beings and should stop trying to whip up hate against them. The Santa Monica Daily Press is the biggest source of hate for poor people in this city."

"WHY BE AS KIND AS POSSIBLE WHEN answering? Many of us are sick and tired of the homeless. The facts are in and a lot of them are not just down and out, but they are criminals with criminal records. What a shame that the citizens, tourists and police have to deal with this daily. We should lock all the trash and recycle bins and use the money from the program and not raise taxes. Wow, what a concept. Of course, we all know that the City Council has no intentions of fixing the problem."

"I THINK WE DO QUITE A BIT FOR THE homeless. But I think we should do more to fix the city's streets so people like the homeless can live more safely on the streets."

"STOP TOLERATING IT. THE HOMELESS should be arrested. Let's clean up this city, we are an embarrassment to the country."

"OFTEN THE ONLY THING THAT SEPARATES a homeless person from anyone else walking down the sidewalk is the homeless person's unkempt appearance. A shave and a haircut or a perm would make a big difference unless the ACLU finds fault in it. The various branches of the military has surplus clothing. This surplus clothing is suitable for wearing once washed and ironed. The city of Santa Monica should research the availability of surplus clothing."

"THE QUESTION CONTRADICTS ITSELF. Either be kind or do something about the problem. Well, we can't do both. The only thing to do is run a few of them out of town. Clean them up and put them on a one-way bus to Florida. It's nice and warm there. Let Florida deal with it."

"YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE WHAT I SAY Santa Monica. We have a rule that we're not allowed to hose down the sidewalks, but this is one thing we could do about the stinky, sticky sidewalks. Clean the sidewalks with very strong bleach. I love what they did at City Hall. They cleaned it with strong bleach and it seemed to work. People are always complaining about the stinky sidewalks, but hello people, you can't use water on sidewalks in this town."

"THERE NEEDS TO BE A CENSUS OF THE homeless population in Santa Monica. Those who are just down on their luck and who need some sort of subsidy to find an apartment should get a subsidy paid for by eliminating all the city's subsidies to private entities. As for those who don't want housing, they should be turned over to professionals to see if they need help."

"THE COUNCIL HAS TAKEN A MINOR problem 20 years ago and turned it into a huge problem today. To use a bad analogy, bums are like cockroaches. Feed and keep them warm and they will multiply. Enlarging the homeless by city council social engineering results in high-paying managerial jobs at homeless shelters. Cheap moral platitudes by religious socialist leaders don't help. All tax payer donated money should go to fund the Salvation Army and Los Angeles Rescue Mission. They provide a higher morale stability than most services. Time for the city council to stand and deliver. Make hard decisions and do something to help Santa Monica for once."

"THE CITY SHOULD START ENFORCING the laws they already have on the books and take the lead of other cities by not allowing people to sleep in public. Take these people in and put them in a shelter. Find something to make them work. They shouldn't be allowed to just loiter around. The city shouldn't be enabling this kind of behavior."

"ONE SOLUTION TO THE HOMELESS problem would be to stop free feeding programs. We should provide an alternate place for them to go."

"DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO DEAL with the homeless in Santa Monica, we are about to be swept under a tidal wave of now homeless people thanks to two events. First is the gentrification of Skid Row in Los Angeles which is disbursing a flood of homeless people to outlying communities including ours. And the Iraq war which will attract tens of thousands of veterans to the VA center in Westwood. If only there was somebody in our community that has connections to the governor. It is shame that we don't have anybody in our community with those sorts of connections."

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City to remember Columbia

BY ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

DOWNEY For decades, engineers worked behind the gates of a sprawling plant in this blue-collar city, designing and building parts for America's space program including the shuttle Columbia.

The 160-acre complex closed in 1999 and with it, the city's reputation as an aerospace hub.

Now the city is reclaiming its aerospace past by converting part of the site into a memorial and the first education center dedicated to the 2003 Columbia disaster that killed seven astronauts.

The Columbia families say it's appropriate because the astronauts spent 16 days in orbit conducting science experiments. Shuttle flights since have focused on finishing construction of the international space station.

"This crew, in particular, has always been an ardent supporter of education. A science center would certainly be a fitting tribute to

their legacy," said Dr. Jon Clark, an ex-NASA flight surgeon and widower of astronaut Laurel Blair Salton Clark.

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the Columbia Memorial Space Science & Learning Center was scheduled Thursday. The site for the \$12 million center, paid for by NASA and the city, was chosen by a congressional resolution in 2004. It's expected to open in summer 2008.

Design plans reveal a futuristic-looking, two-story building nestled in a 13-acre park on the former site that has since been redeveloped into a shopping center, movie studio and medical complex. The facade will be made of steel, glass and aluminum to invoke the feeling of openness.

"The goal is to give the impression of space and the space shuttle," said Alex Guerrero, executive vice president of Tower General Contractors, which is building the science center.

Interactive exhibits are planned including a simulated space mission and a Mars robotic lab.

Columbia broke apart during re-entry on Feb. 1, 2003, raining debris over Texas and Louisiana. Investigators determined its left wing was gashed by fuel-tank foam insulation during liftoff, allowing fiery gases to penetrate the shuttle.

A SCIENCE CENTER WOULD CERTAINLY BE A FITTING TRIBUTE TO THEIR LEGACY."

Dr. Jon Clark
Ex-NASA flight surgeon

The Downey complex, 20 miles south of downtown Los Angeles, opened in 1929 and was primarily involved in aircraft manufacturing and missile design. During the space

race, it played a key role in development of the Apollo program and later, the space shuttle fleet.

The shuttles' fuselage, crew compartment and other parts were made at Downey by several firms under the contract of Rockwell International. The parts were then shipped to Palmdale in the Mojave Desert for assembly.

At its height there were some 30,000 aerospace engineers and scientists on the complex. Rockwell later sold most of its defense and space business to Boeing Co., which closed the plant in 1999.

"All roads lead back to Downey," said Scott Pomrehn, assistant to the city manager.

Downey's science center is not the first remembrance of the Columbia crew. In 2005, the city of Houston dedicated a granite memorial in a downtown park for the Columbia astronauts near a tribute to the crew killed in the 1986 Challenger explosion.

Individual memorials have also been built in several of the fallen astronauts' hometowns.

Officials issue warnings on aging gas, oil terminals

Massive upgrades will be necessary if state is going to replace current infrastructure

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A tanker was unloading a highly flammable chemical when the wake from a passing ship pulled the vessel 20 feet from the dock. The tanker's hoses were stretched almost to the breaking point before the vessel slammed back into its aging berth, splintering more than a dozen beams, state officials say.

That happened last August in the Port of Los Angeles. There was no spill, but the incident focused attention on what state officials say could be an environmental catastrophe in the making.

Many of the marine terminals handling millions of gallons of petroleum products every day in California were built in the early 1900s, when oil was carried by ships one-tenth the size of today's tankers. And many of them are in disrepair and vulnerable to devastating spills and fires, particularly in the event of an earthquake or other calamity, state officials say.

"The disasters are out there waiting to happen," said Gary L. Gregory, chief of the California State Lands Commission's

Marine Facilities Division, which oversees terminal safety.

And terminals in New York, Texas or other parts of the country are not "distinctly better or worse," said Larry Cunningham, a vice president at the New York-based marine engineering company Halcrow HPA. "I would say there's nothing unique about the facilities in California."

Last year, California's 34 marine oil terminals handled an average of about 100 million gallons of petroleum products every day, including gasoline, crude, diesel and lubricating oil, Gregory said.

It took the better part of a decade for the State Lands Commission to get the funding and develop first-of-their-kind standards for marine terminals, then two more years to get enforcement power. That occurred last year.

Now the state is starting to take action. It has embarked on an inventory of terminals considered most dangerous. Once that is completed next year, repairs can be ordered. The agency can also recommend fines of as much as \$250,000 for violations that go unrepaired.

State officials are refusing to allow ExxonMobil to reopen the berth damaged last summer, even though the pilings have been repaired. The commission says an engineering study should be done to make sure the berth, built in 1922, can handle today's tankers.

"The incident was a hair away from a major catastrophe," said Martin Eskijian, an engineering supervisor with the commission. Eskijian likened the repairs to taking two aspirin to fight cancer: "It doesn't do you a lot of good."

ExxonMobil questions the need for additional work.

Spokesman Brian Dunphy said the berth routinely passed state inspections and has a long history of safe operation.

"When enhancements are made regularly and consistently, there is no reason an older facility cannot be operated safely into the future — whether it be a building such as the Empire State Building, a sports stadium such as the Los Angeles Coliseum, or a marine terminal," he wrote in an e-mail.

Dunphy blamed the passing ship for the incident. The company wants the commission to require other ships to pass its terminal at a greater distance and more slowly.

Dennis Bolt, a spokesman with the Western State Petroleum Association, an oil industry group, said he knows companies that are dedicated to safety and "have invested tens of millions of dollars to upgrade their docks over the decades."

Tankers unloading their cargo pull up to terminals and are tied to berths. A pipeline or a hose then is hooked up to pump the ship's cargo into a storage tank or refinery. The berths rest on dozens of wooden, concrete or steel pilings that can become rotted, cracked or corroded.

In California, the repair of many terminals is the responsibility of the oil companies that hold the leases. Port authorities can also be responsible for repairs.

The Port of Long Beach periodically inspects berths above and below the water line.

Tracy Egoscue, who sits on the state-appointed Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee, said it could take a long time to get the terminals fixed.

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Brothers are comfy with their business

BY DAVID COLKER

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES By a window with a view of a lake, two men hand-stitch a mattress pad in a time-honored manner by passing a foot-long sewing needle back and forth through a frame.

Nearby, a worker stuffs a pillow casing with pure wool while another attaches mattress springs, one by one, to a grid.

But this is not a quaint bedding museum.

It's the factory of Vivetique Sleep Systems in Arcadia, a company that makes mattresses, box springs, pillows, comforters and other sleep products the old-fashioned way with natural fabrics and stuffings.

There isn't a speck of polyurethane foam, by far the most common filling for modern mattresses, in Vivetique's 31,000-square-foot factory across from a rock quarry (thus the man-made lake) in a nondescript industrial park that includes manufacturers, public storage units and a couple of strip clubs.

"Foam is a dirty word around here," quipped Scott Carwile, 47, who co-owns the company with his twin brother, Steve.

Although the Carwiles say they are devoted to ecological causes, their decision to specialize in natural materials has more to do with making a name for themselves in a highly competitive industry.

"You can't directly take on Goliath with his marketing money if all you have is a pebble. We had to pick a good, strong niche," Steve said.

It seems to be working. Vivetique's sales shot up 36 percent last year to about \$6 million at a time when the mattress industry is in a bit of a rut: The number of mattresses sold in the U.S. last year rose 1.5 percent, according to the International Sleep Products Assn. Revenue was up 7.5 percent, with the increase reflecting an upswing in expensive mattresses.



THERE IS AN ALLURE, A SEXINESS IN A NEW SOLUTION IN SLEEP."

Ryan Trainer

executive vice president of the sleep products

Still, Vivetique's results are dwarfed by industry leader Sealy Corp.'s annual revenue of more than \$1.5 billion.

David Perry, bedding editor of the weekly Furniture/Today trade publication, said the trend toward natural mattresses, though small, seemed genuine.

"There have been isolated cases of natural being tried in the industry over the years without much success," Perry said. "But now you have Whole Foods and hybrid cars out there. This will probably be a bigger and bigger movement as we go forward."

Natural often means high-priced, and Vivetique is no exception. Although the average mattress costs about

\$400, according to the international sleep products group, Vivetique's queen mattresses start at \$1,200 and go up to \$10,000.

Much of the price premium is attributable to the hand labor involved in making a mattress of natural materials that can't withstand assembly line machinery. Although it takes a modern factory about eight minutes to make a mattress, Steve said, it takes Vivetique about 45.

Ryan Trainer, executive vice president of the sleep products group, said the demand for premium product had been increasing. "As people get older, they are encountering sleeping problems," he said. "Getting a good mattress is a cheaper way of dealing with it in the long run than drugs."

On top of that, novelty sells when it comes to bedding. "It's like people who buy a new car every couple of years," Trainer said. "There is an allure, a sexiness in a new solution in sleep."

Cathy Strull, a retired television producer living in Encino, bought a Vivetique mattress and box spring about 18 months ago, shortly after she moved into a new home with her husband.

"When we first got together, he had a bed that was so soft we kept meeting in the middle," said Strull, 52.

They bought a natural bed set for about \$4,000 from Mary Cordaro, a North Hollywood-based consultant on environmental and allergy issues. She has a line of bed sets, made by Vivetique, that carry her private label.

About 30 percent of Vivetique's output is made for retailers usually promoting themselves as sensitive to environmental issues that put their own names on the products.

"The bed is so comfortable, physically," Strull said.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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California's new way-off data base

State contract data base is plagued with many errors

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD

AP Political Writer

LOS ANGELES The state Mental Health Department agreed to pay a Los Angeles hotel \$877 million in 2005 to hold a two-day training conference, according to state records. \$877 million? For a two-day conference?

It's wrong — not even close. The actual contract was \$36,200 and the agency spent only about \$21,000, invoices show.

Inclusion of the dramatically higher amount in a vast computerized index of state contracts was an honest mistake, the result of a worker typing a billing code where the contract's value should have been listed, officials say. An attempted fix created a duplicate listing, leading to confusion rather than clarity.

Those problems point to a larger issue: The database set

up to provide a window into how California spends billions of taxpayer dollars is badly flawed. The inventory of tens of thousands of contracts and purchases is littered with typographical errors and jargon, undercut by omissions and weakened by uncertainty over what gets listed, when and by whom, an investigation by The Associated Press has found.

The General Services Department, which runs the giant system, acknowledged "gaps" in the records and said that after AP inquiries it is notifying all departments "to precisely follow the guidelines" for entering information and to report errors immediately. DGS "will continue to make improvements," the statement said.

Interim Director Will Bush declined an interview.

The genesis for the database was a 2002 audit finding a \$95 million software contract with Oracle Corp. — pitched as a way to save money — was in essence a \$41 million rip-off. Several days after the no-bid contract was signed, Oracle gave a \$25,000 campaign contribution to then-Gov. Gray Davis. After an outcry, the contract was dropped and Davis sought to make amends.

"I am determined to ensure that taxpayers get their money's worth and that all state contracts withstand scruti-

ny," Davis said in announcing plans leading to the database.

Dubbed the State Contract and Procurement Register System, the system was set up in 2003 as a way to record nearly every dollar the state spends on goods and services — a sort of giant balance sheet documenting everything from helicopter rentals and solar panels to eggs and body armor.

"We really didn't know what the state was buying," said Clothilde Hewlett, a former interim director of the General Services Department. "Each department was like its own silo, and that didn't bode well for transparency."

Today, the state still doesn't have a complete picture of what it spends.

"I don't think there is a reliable number," said state technology chief J. Clark Kelso. "Errors creep into all these things."

Indeed, big mistakes can occur with a missed keyboard stroke and there is no comprehensive way for General Services to find and correct them. The agency says the responsibility for accuracy rests with each state department, in what amounts to an "honor system."

There isn't anything close to 100 percent compliance, AP found while reviewing entries on thousands of contracts.

Indian gaming sweetens the pot for state's Democrats

BY AARON C. DAVIS

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Democratic lawmakers carrying bills that would launch a massive expansion of Indian gambling in California have benefited from \$1.6 million in tribal donations in recent years, according to an Associated Press review of campaign finance reports.

The contributions helped Democratic senators' campaigns and political causes, either directly or through donations to independent committees that supported them.

The AP review of tribal donations comes as the Legislature is considering a series of gambling-expansion bills similar to ones that died last year when they had Republican sponsors. The bills returned this year with new sponsors, all members of the

Legislature's majority party.

The donations raise questions about how closely the Democrat-controlled Senate will scrutinize the bills.

Critics, including the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office, say the agreements will not deliver as much tax revenue as promised.

Questions raised during a recent legislative hearing further indicated the agree-

ments would limit the state's ability to test whether slot machines are being run fairly and will roll back union protections for tens of thousands of casino workers.

Two freshmen Democratic senators who were elected last year with the help of \$540,000 in contributions from tribes are carrying bills that would let those tribes more than triple — to 7,500 — the number slot machines they can operate.

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Court rulings on environment go against Bush administration

Recent rulings buck trend of siding with current executives

BY JEFF BARNARD

AP Environmental Writer

GRANTS PASS, Ore. A string of federal court rulings in recent weeks has gone against Bush administration environmental policies, and critics say they are proof that the White House regularly circumvents laws designed to protect the nation's air, water, forests and endangered species.

"They (courts) are finding in case after case after case that the Bush administration is violating the law," said Trip Van Noppen, vice president of litigation for Earthjustice, a public interest law firm that represents environmental groups suing the government.

Not so, say administration officials, who are claiming their own share of court victories and say they prefer negotiation to litigation.

Topping the list of administration setbacks was the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on April 2 telling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency it could not opt out of enforcing carbon dioxide emissions — a major component of the greenhouse gases blamed for global warming — under the

Clean Air Act.

Here are other court rulings against Bush administration environmental policies in recent weeks:

— The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the administration's 2004 plan for balancing endangered salmon runs against federally owned hydroelectric dams in the Columbia Basin. The ruling characterized NOAA Fisheries' plan as a "sleight of hand" that counted dead fish as if they were alive. The court added that the plan ignored a provision of the Endangered Species Act that requires the agency to consider whether salmon can be expected to thrive, not just survive, under dam operations.

— A federal judge in San Francisco tossed out new Bush administration rules that gave states a chance to seek logging and other commercial projects in roadless areas of national forests previously off-limits to most development.

— On the same day, a U.S. judge in Seattle ruled that the Bush administration illegally suppressed and misrepresented the views of dissenting scientists when it eased logging restrictions designed to protect salmon under the Northwest Forest Plan.

— Other rulings have struck down mountaintop coal mining in West Virginia, efforts to avoid listing new threatened and endangered species, and EPA emissions standards for brick and ceramics kilns.

In what some are calling a major mile-

stone, the Supreme Court told federal officials — and by extension the states — that the Clean Air Act gave them the power to control carbon emissions. The Bush EPA had maintained it had no authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate carbon dioxide.

Kieran Suckling, policy director for the Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson, Ariz., said that case and others demonstrated that the administration has gone from trying to "tweak" environmental laws to ignoring them altogether.

"It's really an imperial administration that fundamentally believes that whoever is in power gets to make all the rules," Suckling told The Associated Press.

But James Connaughton, head of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, dismissed the Supreme Court ruling as "somewhat moot," because President Bush is already committed to regulatory changes increasing automobile fuel efficiency and renewable fuels to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

"There is an example of a decision that appears negative on the face but is relatively inconsequential in that the president is already committed to regulatory action," Connaughton said.

He noted that the Supreme Court upheld the administration's position when it ruled that Duke Energy had to follow EPA directives to install pollution control equipment on aging coal-fired power plants.

WTO should be considered in farm bills

By the Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. Ignoring the World Trade Organization when writing a farm bill amounts to letting the WTO set U.S. agriculture policies and could shut the country out of foreign markets, Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said.

The farm bill, which is recast every six years as the underlying legislation that guides all U.S. government farm programs, comes up for review this year. Johanns is drafting the administration's farm-policy proposals.

Johanns told the National Agricultural Law Center at the University of Arkansas School of Law on Thursday that the WTO recently struck down U.S. programs on cotton, declaring them an unfair subsidy, and is reviewing U.S. corn and rice policies.

"It makes no sense to write farm policy that paints a bulls-eye on the back of our farmers," he said.

Scrutiny by the organization is a fact of life in international trade, and ignoring it in the ongoing revision of farming legislation is not wise, Johanns said.

"We're either going to write our policies in the U.S. with this in mind, or we're going to let the WTO do that" by striking out portions of U.S. farm policy it does not approve.

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Report: BLM committed no wrong doing

BY PAUL FOY

Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY The Department of Interior's chief investigator found no wrongdoing in private discussions Bureau of Land Management officials held with promoters of oil and gas development in Utah.

"We found no evidence to substantiate that BLM officials engaged in any behavior that could be characterized as improper dealings for the purpose of promoting local economic interests at the expense of wilderness protections," said Inspector General Earl Devaney.

Devaney released his finding in an April 4 letter to U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey, D-N.Y., sponsor of Utah's 9.5 million-acre Red Rock Wilderness Act, a bill held up in Congress for years.

Hinchey had asked Devaney to look into an e-mail written by a lobbyist who gave an account of a private meeting in Vernal last

summer when, the lobbyist said, BLM officials promised to fix bureaucratic problems holding up oil and gas development on public lands.

The federal government owns 64 percent of the land in Utah.

In the e-mail leaked by wilderness

then acting director of the BLM in Utah, to a promise to "fix" land-use plans that guide development and use of federal lands.

Many of those plans remain on hold after a federal judge in Salt Lake City ordered the BLM in August to give more study to wilderness characteristics of public lands proposed

Hughes, swore out statements "denying they had made any commitments to county officials."

Weidner did not immediately respond to an e-mail Friday from The Associated Press. In an earlier interview, he said wilderness advocates were trying to make hay out of his breezy remarks and that he should have used more diplomatic language.

Steve Bloch, an attorney for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, said the group still has concerns about cozy relations between government officials in Utah and the oil and gas industry.

"We certainly appreciate that the inspector general took up Mr. Hinchey's request for an investigation," Bloch said Friday. "We look forward to these issues being investigated by oversight hearings in Congress."

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send letters to editor@smdp.com

WE CERTAINLY APPRECIATE THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL TOOK UP MR. HINCHEY'S REQUEST FOR AN INVESTIGATION."

Steve Bloch

an attorney for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

groups, Robert Weidner, a lobbyist for rural Utah counties, said the Bush administration was "on the same page" with oil and gas interests.

Weidner advised his clients to "strike while the iron is hot" and hold Henri Bisson,

for oil and gas leases.

Bisson was on loan by the BLM from Alaska; he now is the agency's deputy director for operations in Washington, D.C.

The inspector general said that Bisson and BLM's former national deputy, Jim

New energy source blows into southern Colorado town

By the Associated Press

DURANGO, Colo. The city has signed an agreement with its electric utility to boost the amount of wind-generated power it buys from 10 percent to 100 percent, officials said.

The additional cost of about \$120,000 per year should be offset by savings stemming from an energy audit by the La Plata Electric Association aimed at helping the city improve conservation and energy efficiency, said City Manager Bob Ledger.

"This is the right thing to do," he said in a statement.

He said one option to reduce power use could be change rates at the Chapman Hill ice rink to encourage people to use the rink at times when energy consumption elsewhere is low.

Utility officials said Durango is the first government in its service area in La Plata and Archuleta counties to commit to buying only wind-generated power.

Greg Munro, the utility's chief executive officer, said under the agreement, the city is buying power generated

by wind turbines rather than energy credits.

The company's Web site says the utility gets its wind-generated power Tri-State Generation and Transmission, which buys renewable energy from wind farms across the West.

Since 1998, Tri-State has given members including the La Plata Electric Association an option to provide wind-generated and other renewable energy to customers who agree to pay an additional \$1.25 per 100 kilowatt-hours each month.

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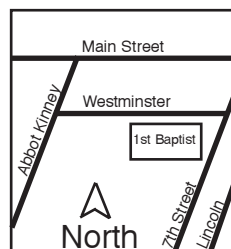
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Most tax filers do it electronically

BY WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Most people file their tax returns electronically because it's convenient, despite lingering concerns about the security of their most sensitive financial information, according to a new AP poll.

The tax filing deadline is next Tuesday, April 17, because April 15 falls on a Sunday this year and April 16 is Emancipation Day, a legal holiday in Washington. D.C. Only 19 percent of the public knew early this month about the two-day grace period, the AP-AOL Money & Finances poll found.

Half of those surveyed said they use a professional tax preparer to file their returns, a quarter use a software program, 15 percent do the returns the old fashioned way with pen and paper and 8 percent ask a friend or family member for help, according to the survey conducted by Ipsos, an international polling firm.

And almost half grouse that their taxes are unfair.

"When I look at my paycheck and see how much goes out, it makes me sick," said Kimberly Hahn, a nurse from Bloomington, Ind. "It's like you're paying to charity without deciding where it's going."

Like most people, Hahn wasn't aware of the extra two days past April 15 to file, but she said her husband would be

filing their return electronically on time. "He doesn't want to give it to the government until he has to," she said.

Whatever the deadline, the frantic ritual of racing to the Post Office to get envelopes postmarked just in time is giving way to the online age.

Some 54 percent of tax filers say their returns are sent electronically, and that number is rapidly growing. Most say e-filing is "very convenient," but people are less convinced it's "very safe," the poll found.

"As of right now, I still trust doing it the old-fashioned way," said Joe Nichols, a nuclear medicine technician from Memphis. "I hear horror stories about the Internet, people getting your identification numbers."

About 45 percent of returns were filed electronically through the first week of April 2001, according to the IRS. This year, that number was close to 70 percent at the same point. In all, the IRS expects more than half of returns to be filed electronically.

More than six in 10 who were polled April 2-4 said they had already filed their taxes. The average time spent on preparing their returns was just over eight hours. Only about one in 10 admitted to being a procrastinator who would barely make the deadline.

Those expecting refunds were much more likely to have filed their returns early.

Some people were pushing the deadline — and admitted

to feeling stressed.

"I haven't done my taxes yet for the first year in a long time," said Dianne Smith of Broken Bow, Okla. "I can't handle it. I've always gotten mine done in February or March, but I started a new teaching job ... and it's taken the life out of me. I feel very guilty."

Two-thirds said they expect to get money back.

"We generally apply it to some kind of debt," said Sharon Caughron, a schoolteacher from Kenly, N.C., who has already filed electronically.

The most popular use of tax refunds is to pay off bills or pay down debt, followed by saving the money or investing it.

More than half of those polled, 53 percent, said they think their taxes are fair, according to the poll of 1,000 adults. It had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Middle-income earners were more likely to feel the taxes they pay are fair than those with high incomes and those with low incomes, who were about evenly split on that question.

Ken Weeks, an architectural draftsman from Dayton, Ohio, was generally satisfied.

"I'm one of the people who doesn't mind paying taxes," said Weeks. "I read a lot about what the world is really like. Things aren't great for everybody here, but people in this country are generally doing pretty well."

Reno woman sues pet food maker for death of her cat

BY SANDRA CHEREB
Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. A Reno woman has filed a federal lawsuit against the manufacturer of recalled pet food, claiming Iams brand food killed her 20-year-old cat, "Patches."

Marion Streczyn seeks unspecified damages from Ontario, Canada-based

Menu Foods in the suit filed in U.S. District Court in Reno.

Menu Foods spokesman Sam Bornstein said Friday that the company would have no comment.

The company, which makes "cuts and gravy style" dog and cat food sold under nearly 100 store labels and major brands, recalled 60 million containers in mid-March

after cats fell sick and died during routine company taste tests.

The recall has since expanded to include earlier dates and other brands, and at least six pet food companies have recalled products made with imported Chinese wheat gluten tainted with an industrial chemical. The Food and Drug Administration said tests indicated the

food was contaminated with melamine, which is used as a fertilizer and in the manufacture of cutlery and kitchenware.

FDA officials, however, have cautioned that it's uncertain whether the chemical has caused the deaths.

While the FDA has confirmed about 16 pet deaths from tainted food, other sources put the death toll much higher.

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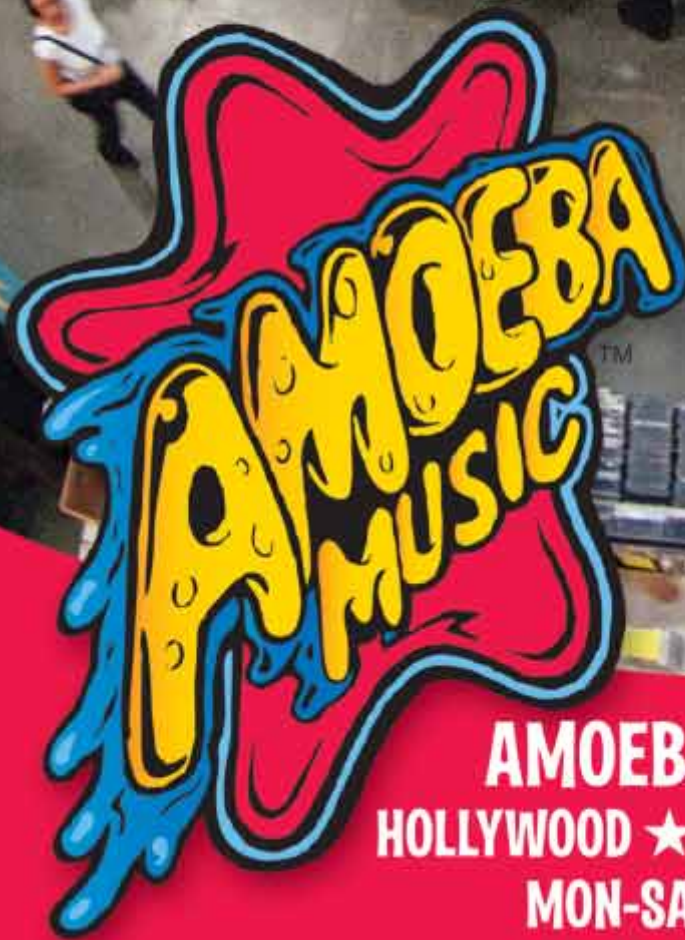
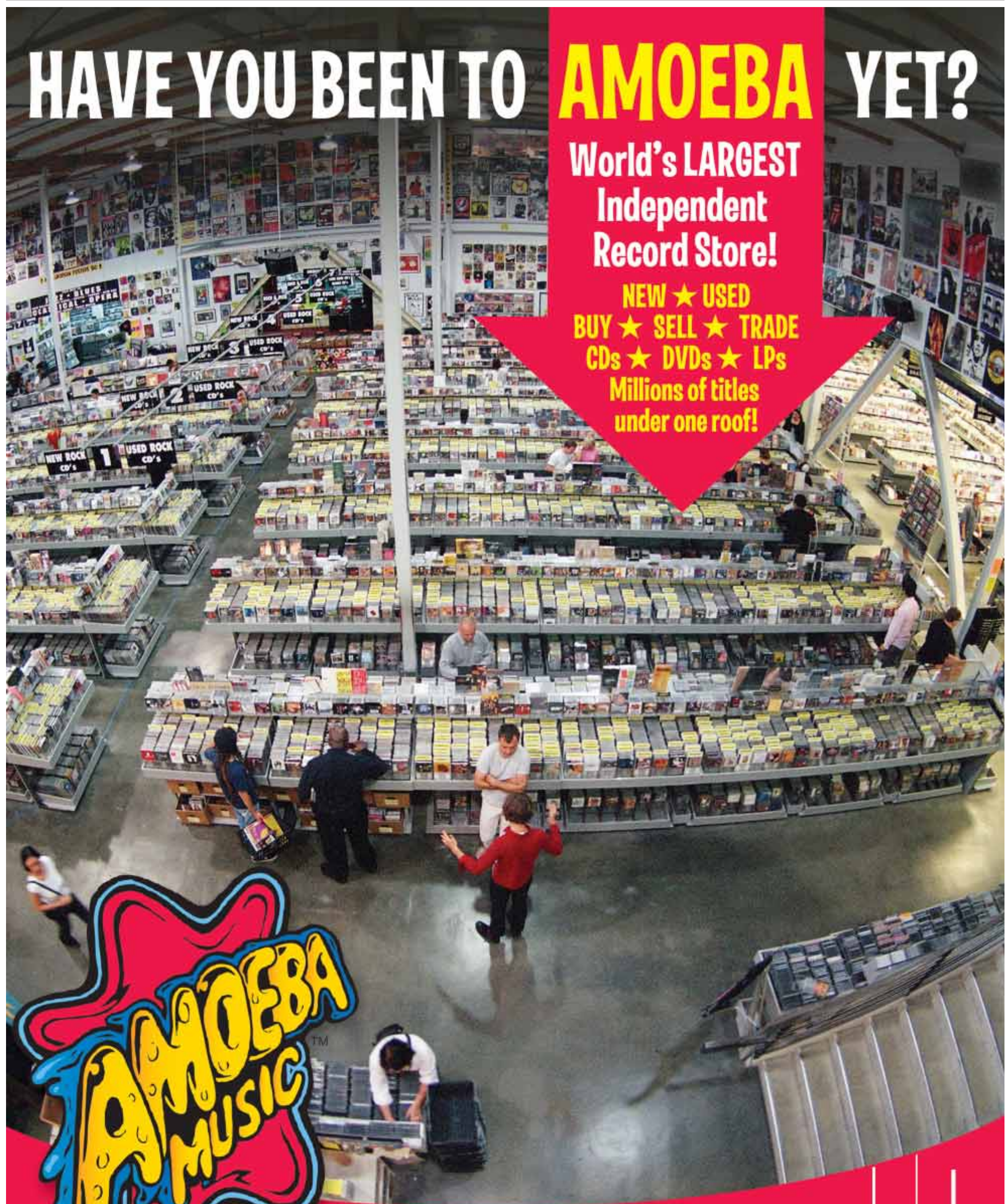
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Delicious food for less than \$10?

FROM EATS PAGE 1

Though it doesn't sound feasible, out of the more than 300 licensed eateries in this city by the sea, there are places that offer a complete meal for less than \$10.

"It depends on what you select on the menu, but there are quite a few places," said Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce President Jim Lynch. "The further you get away from the beach, the better luck you'll have."

The Daily Press went out in search of those hidden gems, those neighborhood spots that still cater to the not-yet famous and the diehard denizens, talking to local residents, workers and people just walking around about where they go to grab their favorite eats on the cheap.

IT'S A PLACE WHERE YOU REALLY JUST PIG OUT AND NOT CARE ABOUT WHO'S EATING AROUND YOU."

Jason Chu on Big Jo's, Santa Monica

DOWNTOWN DINING

Downtown Santa Monica seems to be the most difficult place to find a meal for less than \$10.

"I work in a restaurant and I can tell you there is no place around here [downtown] where you can eat for less than \$10," said Rodrigo Vega, a server at Rosti on Montana Avenue.

Waiting for a bus to pick him up for work on Friday morning, Vega, said the only affordable places he knows of in Downtown Santa Monica are the chain fast food establishments.

But there are hidden gems located here and there in downtown, bargain hunters just need to expand their horizons and food preferences.

Whenever Camillia Zecchetto and her coworkers at Wasteland want to grab a bite to eat, they head over to the Promenade Cafe or Le Pain Quotidien, both located on Santa Monica Boulevard. At Le Pain, Zecchetto orders the soup, priced at below \$5, and at the Promenade Cafe, she usually orders the daily special — a sandwich and salad for about \$8.

"It's all organic and vegan and it actually tastes good," Zecchetto said of the soup at Le Pain.

Some downtown workers can't seem to find their way out of the cheaper chain restaurants.

"I just go to Subway or Jamba Juice if I'm not that hungry," said Alyssa Tuthill who works at Bay Cities Beauty Supply. "I can't afford to have an expensive meal. I'm limited to those restaurants."

NO MO EXPENSIVE EATING

In the North of Montana neighborhood, Il Dolce Cafe seems to be the consensus hot spot to grab a tasty meal for less than \$10.

A New York City native, Susan Holland, who owns a boutique on Montana Avenue called The Quilted Monkey, was saddened

when she moved to Los Angeles 3 1/2 years ago to find that the food here just couldn't hold a candle to Manhattan.

But then, she visited Il Dolce, an Italian restaurant located across the street.

"I said, 'this is it,'" she said of her visit to Il Dolce, now one of her favorite restaurants.

The restaurant received similar rave reviews from other workers of Montana Avenue stores.

Sitting on the steps in front of the Montana Avenue doctor's office where she works, Dawn Dooley was eating a salad she purchased earlier from Whole Foods Market. Whenever Dooley's in the mood for some cheap eats, she heads over to Pioneer Boulangerie, a bakery she praised as serving "great sandwiches." Other options include Rosti, where Dooley orders the turkey

chopped salad, priced at under \$9, or the Blue Plate for some soup and sandwiches.

For Quinn Hoeffler, an employee of Kids Bizz on Montana Avenue, there's no better place to grab a cheap and delicious meal than from Patty's Gourmet Pizza, which offers a delectable selection of sandwiches.

"Everywhere else on the street is more pricey," Hoefflerle said.

MID-CITY DELIGHTS

Follow the work force.

From the outside, the Water Gardens and the Yahoo! Center appears to be huge complexes stacked with offices. While both centers are stacked with offices, they also offer a number of dining options for their employees.

A Yahoo! employee, Clark Cummings said he enjoys dining at Cafe Bizou in the Water Gardens. Though the regular menu is considered to be on the expensive end, the bar menu offers cheaper selections, allowing patrons to order a grilled chicken sandwich and a soda for less than \$10. But not including tip.

"It's not just regular bar food, like French fries and fried zucchini or something like that," he said. "They have some pretty good selections and they are open pretty much all day and into the evening so I can grab lunch or an early dinner without having to spend too much... It's pretty solid."

Located in the same complex is Il Forno, where Lupe Mendoza was waiting to pick up her lunch on Wednesday. For under \$10, she can order a Linguine Alla Trevi and a Coke at Il Forno.

Finding an affordable meal in the Mid-city region is not an easy task, Mendoza said, who added that eating out does put a dent in her finances.

"But it's hard to cook for yourself," she said. "Often, it's cheaper to just go out because you end up buying a bunch of groceries and then half of it goes to waste because you're just cooking for one person."

"I'm not a big fan of leftovers," she added.

Another favorite restaurant is Star Wrap, where Matt Elias, an employee at MTV, often buys the rotisserie chicken wrap and soda for about \$8.

Appearing like a dive from the outside but known to serve some of the best burgers in Mid-city is Big Jo's, where architect Jason Chu loves to grab the chili cheese burger.

"It's not pretentious at all," Chu said. "It's a place where you really just pig out and not care about who's eating around you."

NORTHEAST FAVORITES

Locals in this region of the city seem to love Snug Harbor, serving American dishes like hamburgers and sandwiches.

It's one of the restaurants of choice for Scott Harrington, who was spending an afternoon at Douglas Park on Thursday.

"I really don't go out much for food anymore," Harrington said. "I've resorted to eating at home."

Restaurants like Snug Harbor and Bread and Porridge aren't exactly inexpensive, they are more decently priced than many restaurants, Harrington said.

Though it might be difficult to find food in this region of the city, there are some hidden gems that do whip up affordable meals, including Earth Wind and Flour, said Max Roblatt.

"It really depends on where you go, but there are still a lot of cheap places around that sell good food," he said.

PICO IS A CHEAP EATER'S PARADISE

From Gilbert's to Campos, the Pico Neighborhood is filled with good cheap eats.

An Ocean Park resident who spent Wednesday afternoon in Virginia Avenue Park, Lisa Martines listed Lares Restaurant and the Lazy Daisy as affordable restaurants. But Lazy Daisy, serving sandwiches and soup and other cafe menu items, comes with a warning.

"You see customers waiting outside because it's not big inside," Martines said of Lazy Daisy.

A Pico resident of five years, Delilah White-Clayton loves Gilbert's, a Mexican restaurant on Pico Boulevard that serves good enchiladas and margaritas, she said.

Rivalling Gilbert's is Campos, another Mexican restaurant on Pico Boulevard. The restaurant serves delicious tostadas, burritos and tacos, said Esmeralda Lopez, who has lived in the neighborhood for seven years.

SUNSET PARK

Perhaps one of the most famous restaurants in Santa Monica and in this neighborhood is The Counter.

Praised by talk show queen Oprah Winfrey as being one of the best burger joints in America, The Counter offers its customers countless burger combinations through a small sheet listing different condiments and ingredients.

For less than \$10, excluding tax and tip, a meat eater can feast on a 1/3 pound burger that will keep them coming back for more.

OCEAN PARK CRAVINGS

Perhaps one of the best taco stands in this neighborhood, receiving rave reviews from Ocean Park residents, is Main Street's very own Holy Guacamole.

For less than \$10 and under 20 minutes, a Mexican food lover can chow down on a

Eat your heart out, not your wallet

These are the Daily Press' picks for the top-10 cheap eats in the city, in no particular order. Yes, Virginia, you can eat well for 10 bucks or less.

- The Counter (Hamburgers), 2901 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Tacos Por Favor (Mexican), 1406 Olympic Blvd.
- Il Dolce Cafe (Italian), 1023 Montana Ave.
- Holy Guacamole (Mexican), 2906 Main St.
- Yangtze Restaurant (Asian), 1333 Third Street Promenade
- Big Jo's (American), 1955 Broadway
- Fritto Misto (Italian), 601 Colorado Ave.
- Swingers (American), 802 Broadway
- Cha Cha Chicken (Caribbean), 1906 Ocean Ave.
- Bay Cities Italian Deli & Bakery (Italian), 1517 Lincoln Blvd.

Did we miss any? Weigh in at editor@smdp.com.

carne asada burrito and drown it in the restaurant's wide selection of hot sauces.

Another local favorite is Caribbean restaurant Cha Cha Chicken, located on Ocean Avenue.

"Since I'm a vegetarian, I get rice and black beans, potatoes, carrots, celery and onions with a side of plantains," Brittany de Guzman said of Cha Cha Chicken.

She washes down her Caribbean meal with an agua fresca, flavored water with chunks of cantaloupe.

"It's really good, especially during the summer," deGuzman said.

Located further east in Ocean Park is Pancho's Tacos, where almost everything in the menu is under \$10.

For Marcos Salazar, Pancho's Tacos serves the best menudo pozole, a soup that he says is "great for hangovers."

"There's not that many places in Santa Monica to go for menudo pozole," he said.

PRICES ON THE RISE?

Menu prices for restaurants in general are on the rise, mainly due to the recent minimum wage increase, which raised the minimum wage to \$7.50 on Jan. 1, said California Restaurant Association spokeswoman Jordan Traverso.

Other government-required regulations like labor law and health care mandates will also cause restaurants to adjust their menu prices.

About 160 restaurants in Santa Monica are members of the association.

"The cost of business is increasing for restaurants," Traverso said. "Those kinds of things are going to be seen in the consumer market by pushing prices up."

Even though there are expensive restaurants in Santa Monica, the majority of eateries are reasonably priced, Lynch said.

"They wouldn't be in business if they were unaffordable," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

With reports by Kristin Mayer, Irene Manahan and Kevin Herrera

SMASHMOUTH RUGBY

The Santa Monica Rugby club played against Back Bay on Back Bay's home turf in Newport Beach on April 7, 2006. Back Bay won the first game 23-16, and the second game ended early due to a neck injury.

Christine Chang news@smdp.com



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Library to celebrate one millionth

FROM LIBRARY PAGE 3

the second floor.

"Our programming has increased exponentially since we opened the library," said Edward Edwards, chairman of the Library Board. "Every day of the week, there is something to do at the library."

Additional reasons to visit the new library are the Bookmark Cafe and the Friends of the Library Book Store, features that didn't exist in the old library facility.

Located near the courtyard where the Bookmark Cafe sits, the bookstore raked in approximately \$68,000 in sales of books donated from the Santa Monica Library and the public last year. All proceeds are used to fund library programs at all branches, said Rosita Mal, a bookstore volunteer.

The bookstore has benefited from the traffic to the main library.

"Some of us who work in the library as volunteers will encourage (visitors) if they can't find the a book, to come into the bookstore," Mal said. "Some don't know we're here and find out as they go into the library."

Though the main library can thank the cafe, bookstore and expanded lecture series for adding traffic through the doors, many visitors still use the library for the purpose of checking out a book or as a place of study.

"We're a very literate city," Mullen said.

The event will take place at the Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit the library Web site at www.smpl.org.

melodyh@smdp.com



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

READERS GALORE: Cruz Castillo, a page at the main library in Downtown Santa Monica, files books on tapes back into their proper order last year. The library is marking it's one millionth visitor with a day of celebrations on Saturday.



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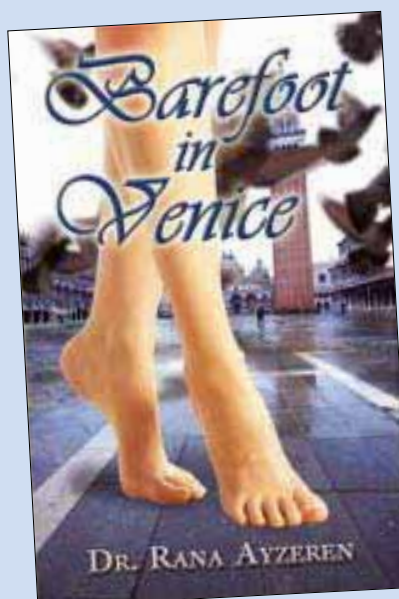


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Locals make a difference

FROM BROTHERS PAGE 3

to be grateful."

The partnership between the chamber and Big Brothers/Big Sisters emerged from a series of meetings in 2005 with State Sen. Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) as a means of keeping kids away from gangs and on the path towards success. Since that time, at least 10 kids have been paired up with volunteers.

In families where there is only one parent in the home, a mentor can be a very positive influence and offer youth an outlet and someone to confide in, according to Scott Wasserman, administrator for neighborhood and park initiatives.

"Mentoring has always been recognized as the best practice for youth development and the idea is to provide a stable, adult mentor for a child to provide homework assistance, tutoring or just being a positive influence," Wasserman said. "Most adult volunteers tend to be women ... so we are looking for more guys."

Those looking to sign up can do so at the park or by calling the chamber or Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Becoming a big bro or big sis requires a substantial commitment. Volunteers are expected to do more than just take their kids to the movies or the beach. There's homework assistance, evening phone calls, long conversations about family, financial struggles and puberty.



Photo courtesy

THUMBS UP: Big Brother volunteers and their protégés were on hand April 1 at Virginia Avenue Park to celebrate the one-year anniversary of a partnership between the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles. So far, at least 10 children have been paired with adults, like Thomas Khammar (top right), an entrepreneur.

The bigs are not just playmates, they are truly members of the family.

That reality hit hard for big brother

Thomas Khammar, an entrepreneur who runs two companies and has a girlfriend to spend time with in addition to his little

brother Casey Hunter, an 11-year-old whose parents recently divorced.

"One of my biggest struggles, at first, was asking myself if I really wanted to do this, if I had the time to give to Casey," Khammar said. "You don't ever want to let a kid down. I thought about it and decided to give it my all and it turned out to be a real blessing."

"It forces me to relax and see life in a different light."

When the two are at the movies or riding go-carts, Khammar said all of his attention is focused on Hunter.

"I look forward to hanging out with him," Khammar said. "It takes my mind off stress at work. He just wants to have fun."

For the parents, the bond between their children and their big brothers and sisters has proven very beneficial. Their children are better behaved, perform well in school and seem to have a better attitude.

"He's so much happier. Loves to go out with his big brother and just can't wait to see him," said Leticia Tirado, whose 8-year-old son, Fortino, has been matched up with Brent Parsons, a real estate agent in Santa Monica. "He's been getting a lot of advice and I like that because (Parsons) has a good career and everything going for him."

"I would really love to see my son follow in his footsteps."

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Council seeing red, liking the results

Plan to shorten meetings is making lawmakers happy

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Elected officials are seeing red, and it has nothing to do with finances.

During the last two City Council meetings, members have been handed agendas featuring estimated times for each item printed in red to remind those on the dais to be brief and stay on point.

"It seems to be working," said Mayor Pro Tem Herb Katz, who along with Mayor Richard Bloom, has been working with city staff to better plan agendas and set time-sensitive goals for the council to reach.

"It forces us to be more conscientious and to talk with staff about questions we have beforehand, rather than coming to the meeting cold turkey, putting staff on the spot," Katz added. "That can save quite a bit of time right there."

While the two most recent meetings of the council — March 20 and April 10 — have indeed been noticeably shorter, adjourning at 9:38 p.m. and 9:58 p.m., respectively, the sessions have also been devoid of the types of hot-button issues that might draw residents by the dozen to speak before Council.

In addition to the new red agendas, members voted earlier this week to draft a form

for members of the public seeking money, asking them to fill them out rather than e-mailing particular council members with their requests. That was done with the hopes of getting the requests to city staff earlier so that any questions about funding can be addressed prior to meetings.

Council members have been periodically addressing the length of meetings and how they can be shortened in the interest of public participation. The move began in earnest earlier this year when members floated several ideas during a council study session. The ideas ranged from placing time limits on elected officials during debates, to holding a separate meeting for closed session items, which generally include personnel matters, lawsuits and real estate negotiations.

The length of the meetings, which routinely go on past 11 p.m., has long been a contentious issue with residents, business owners and elected officials, who complain about the inability of the public to have input. There is also a concern about the ability of elected officials to do their jobs properly and not be hindered by fatigue, especially when they are making decisions that involve millions of dollars.

Katz and fellow councilman Bob Holbrook went so far as to file a lawsuit last year claiming the length of the meetings violated the Brown Act and the U.S. Constitution because it prevented the public from participating since public comment is reserved for the end of the meeting, leaving some people unable to speak their minds until well after midnight on issues not already on the agenda.

The lawsuit also said the long meetings violated the California Occupational Safety and Health Act because it forces employees to work excessively long hours.

Holbrook and Katz were eventually defeated, however, the lawsuit did spark discussion on how to cut back on the marathon sessions.

of people in the audience who wish the speak, then the public is allowed three minutes per comment.

While the new red agendas are forcing members to be mindful of the time, there is no policy in place that forces the council to vote on an item if they are running late.

"I think the long-term goal is to have all



IT FORCES US TO BE MORE CONSCIENTIOUS AND TO TALK WITH STAFF ABOUT QUESTIONS WE HAVE BEFOREHAND RATHER THAN COMING TO THE MEETING COLD TURKEY, PUTTING STAFF ON THE SPOT."

Herb Katz, mayor Pro Tem

The council voted in 2001 to start meetings earlier, at 5:15 p.m., however, that didn't last very long as many members were unable to get to City Hall in time because of their day jobs. Normally, meetings start around 5:45 p.m., but even then some members show up late because of traffic.

The council cannot start without a majority of members present.

To shorten meetings, the council already limits the amount of time members of the public have to speak to two minutes if 15 or more wish to comment on one item, or if 40 or more people are speaking on any combination of items. If there is not that number

of our meetings run efficiently and try to make sure we are finishing at a reasonable time," said Mayor Richard Bloom, whose job it is to manage the meetings and keep council members from being long-winded. "The fact of the matter is, we have a lot of weighty issues and there is more we can do to be more efficient, but we have to take the time needed to conduct business so that everyone's voice is heard.

"This is definitely a work in progress."

kevinh@smdp.com

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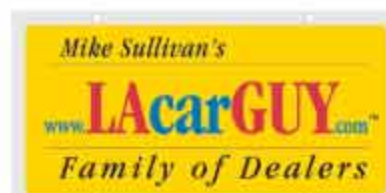
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OLYMPICS

USOC to decide between Chicago and L.A.

BY EDDIE PELLIS

AP Sports Writer

Pacific Ocean or Lake Michigan. Sunset Strip or Magnificent Mile. L.A. glitz or Chicago brawn.

One of America's two iconic cities will get the nod Saturday as the country's candidate to host the 2016 Olympics. Although winning this part of the selection process will be something to celebrate, it will only be the start of the hard work.

The real race is in the quest to win over the International Olympic Committee and earn 60 votes in 2009, when the games are awarded. The field is expected to also include Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, Rome and Tokyo.

Finding a way to win those 60 votes has been the crux of every speech, every presentation, every detailed list of instructions the U.S. Olympic Committee leaders have given the cities since the USOC commandeered and retooled the domestic selection process 21 months ago.

"The winner will be the city our board will believe has the competence to sell 60 international voters," USOC chief executive officer Jim Scherr said.

Neither Scherr nor Bob Ctvrtlik, who led the USOC effort to refocus its selection process, would handicap Saturday's vote in Washington.

"We don't have enough time for me to start doing an analysis," Ctvrtlik said.

Basically, the decision comes down to which strengths the 11-person USOC board of directors wants to highlight in its bid and which risks it feels it can more easily obscure. There are big differences, which figure to once again come to the fore when the cities give their final, 40-minute presentations before the vote.

In Los Angeles, the USOC would have a candidate with major venues already in place — a spruced-up LA Coliseum

would host opening and closing ceremonies and track — and a long record of hosting big events, including the 1984 Olympics, the first to turn a profit.

There's also the glitz factor. But the Summer Games have already been there twice, and the typical concerns about LA sprawl and logistics certainly will factor in.

**WE UNDERSTAND THAT
THE REST OF THE WORLD
AND THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT
THINKS THE UNITED STATES IS AN
IMPORTANT MARKET,"**

Jim Scherr

USOC chief executive officer.

In Chicago, the USOC would have a first-time host for the Olympics that offers the promise of a compact games with gleaming new facilities set across the backdrop of Lake Michigan.

But the venues, including a \$366 million stadium, aren't built. Nobody at the USOC can forget the 2012 Olympics selection process debacle, when financing for a New York City stadium fell apart a month before the IOC vote.

One of the most telling moments in this process came last November when San Francisco dropped out after learning its hopes for a stadium had been scuttled when the 49ers unexpectedly nixed negotiations for a new downtown venue.

Worse, the news broke while the USOC was holding a

seminar for the cities, emphasizing the need to avoid big surprises.

"I think it's a testament to our process that San Francisco chose not to go forward when we were insistent on a high level of guarantees," Ctvrtlik said. "The guarantees that have come from both of the cities are, by far, the highest level of security ever provided by a U.S. bid city."

Both cities are relying mainly on private financing, with government guarantees backing parts of the bids.

There was, however, a little hiccup when Chicago officials acted surprised at the USOC's requirement of millions in government guarantees should the Olympics not turn a profit. Ctvrtlik said the IOC would want to see governments "have some skin in the game."

The Chicago City Council eliminated any doubt about its commitment by voting recently to provide up to \$500 million in government money to underwrite the games. The California government also just authorized \$250 million in state money.

Assuming the USOC board is comfortable with both bids' financing, the vote then will come down to which city can promise the best experience and leave the best post-Olympic legacy.

Mostly, though, the board members must vote for the city they think can win in 2009. Nobody within the USOC is taking that as a given.

"We understand that the rest of the world and the Olympic movement thinks the United States is an important market," Scherr said. "But we don't think we have a leg up in the process, and we don't think we're entitled to host the Olympics. We've got to make a good-faith bid, and we've got to do it in a way that helps us earn that right."

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NBA

Warriors battle for rare playoff berth

BY GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND The Golden State Warriors had just begun celebrating a blowout win over Utah this week when somebody pulled the fire alarm at Oracle Arena.

The sirens didn't have a prayer of drowning out the boisterous behavior in a locker room that hasn't been this much fun in at least 13 years.

The Warriors just laughed and shouted even louder as Stephen Jackson skipped into the room, shouting gleefully to his teammates: "Oh, no! They don't want us to make the playoffs!"

NBA

Bobcats are going to have to pay Wallace

By the Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. With every acrobatic dunk, athletic steal and off-balance jumper he makes, Gerald Wallace's price goes up.

Wallace, an unknown benchwarmer three years ago in Sacramento, has become invaluable to the Charlotte Bobcats — just in time to stuff his wallet.

Wallace, Charlotte's leading scorer at 18.2 points per game, has averaged nearly 29 points the past five games. Earning just more than \$5.5 million this season, Wallace will almost certainly opt out of the final year of his contract and become an unrestricted free agent this summer.

"If Wallace opts out, obviously you have to do something," Bobcats part-owner Michael Jordan said recently.

Wallace, who would make \$6 million next year with his current contract, could command \$10 million a year, or more, on the open market.

"I haven't even thought about it," Wallace said Thursday. "That's something I leave up to my agent (Rob Pelinka). Once things are over, I'm looking for a place to go vacation.

When he calls me and tells me it's time to deal with it, that's when I'll start thinking about it."

But Wallace realizes now may be the best time to go on the market.

"I'm pretty sure it would be, but I like it here," Wallace said. "Anything is possible."

Wallace's hesitation stems from his fierce loyalty to the Bobcats, who rescued him from obscurity when they took him in the 2004 expansion draft. The 6-foot-7 Wallace, who played just one season at Alabama before turning pro, barely got off the bench in three seasons with the Kings. He never averaged more than five points or played in more than 54 games in a season.

But Bobcats coach and general manager Bernie Bickerstaff saw the untapped talent and gave him free rein to learn and make mistakes.

Wallace steadily improved. He averaged 11 points in his first year with Charlotte, 15.2 last season and has taken his game to a whole new level this year.

A slashing forward who can score in traffic, Wallace also is seventh in the NBA in steals and averages 7.2 rebounds a game, second on the team.

SPORTS BRIEFS

HEALTH
Wooden released from hospital, resting at home

John Wooden was resting at home Friday after his hospital release. The 96-year-old former UCLA coach had been hospitalized since Sunday.

“He is at home and doing well,” daughter Nan Muehlhausen said in a statement from UCLA.

She said he was thankful for people’s thoughts, prayers, cards and notes.

“Dad needs his rest, so we are asking people not to visit or call him on the telephone at this time,” she added.

Wooden was taken to the hospital when he began to have symptoms similar to those from a year ago when he was hospitalized for diverticulitis, an inflammation of pockets in the colon.

Doctors later believed he had a reaction to a combination of medications, including one for arthritis, according to his daughter. He also had an elevated heart rate Thursday.

Wooden coached the Bruins to 10 NCAA championships in a 12-year span before retiring in 1975 with a 620-147 record in 27 years at UCLA.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEGAL
Former Bush landlord decides not to sue

The former landlord for Reggie Bush’s parents won’t sue the football star and his family, a dispute that raised questions about whether Bush received improper benefits while playing at Southern California.

“I was instructed not to proceed,” attorney Jordan Cohen, who represents Michael Michaels, said Friday. “I’m not commenting any further.”

The NCAA is investigating the possibility of improper benefits but has been hampered because of the threat of lawsuits.

David Cornwell, the attorney for the Bush family, didn’t immediately return phone calls and an e-mail message.

Michaels has alleged that Bush’s parents lived rent-free in his San Diego-area house for a year while Bush was playing at USC. He has said the arrangement came with an understanding that Bush would be the key figure in New Era Sports & Entertainment, a fledgling marketing agency co-founded by Michaels and Lloyd Lake.

Bush signed with other representatives. Michaels and Lake claimed to be out \$300,000, including \$100,000 in cash disbursements to the Bush family.

Lake’s attorney, Brian Watkins, has said for a year that he planned to sue Bush. He said Friday that he hasn’t done so yet because of “a variety of factors.”

AP

MLB
Rangers activate closer Gagne, places Wright on DL

The Texas Rangers activated closer Eric Gagne from the disabled list Friday and placed starter Jamey Wright on the disabled list with shoulder inflammation.

Gagne, a right-hander signed in the offseason, made three appearances including two starts for the Rangers’ Double-A Frisco RoughRiders. He was 0-1 with a 3.38 ERA and retired all three batters he faced in his last outing Tuesday.

Wright was placed on the DL retroactive to Wednesday.

The right-hander has made one start with the Rangers, a no-decision against Tampa Bay on Tuesday. He allowed five runs on five hits, including one homer, and has a 16.88 ERA.

AP

MLB
Ramirez out with swollen wrist, goes to doctor

Third baseman Aramis Ramirez, one of the Chicago Cubs’ hottest hitters during the first eight games, was out of the lineup with a swollen right wrist Friday and was sent to a hand specialist to be examined.

Ramirez had jammed the wrist in spring training but had shown no effects in the early going this season, batting .406 with a homer and five RBIs.

“Let’s hope it’s not serious, but he’s got a lot of swelling,” manager Lou Piniella said Friday before the Cubs opened a three-game home series against the Cincinnati Reds.

The Cubs haven’t played in two days. Their Wednesday game with Houston was postponed by snow and rain and they had an off-day Thursday. But when Ramirez came to the clubhouse Friday, his wrist was swollen.

Second baseman Mark DeRosa was also out of the starting lineup after his back locked up but was available for emergency duty.

Right-hander Mark Prior, who was optioned to Triple-A Iowa at the end of spring training and then put on that team’s disabled list, was scheduled to see orthopedic specialist Dr. Lewis Yocum on Friday afternoon. Prior had to leave his first start of extended spring training Thursday with shoulder soreness.

“It’s disappointing you know. We were hoping to get him on track,” Piniella said.

The Cubs’ other often-injured right-hander Kerry Wood, who started the season on the disabled list, visited Dr. Dave Altchek, an orthopedic specialist with the New York Mets.

Wood was told he has tendinitis but does not need surgery, general manager Jim Hendry said.

Wood, who chose over the offseason to rehab a partially torn rotator cuff, has been sent back to Arizona. Hendry said the Cubs’ hope is to get Wood’s shoulder pain free, so he can resume throwing as soon as possible.

Wood threw 18 pitches in his last spring training outing out of the bullpen March 25.

AP



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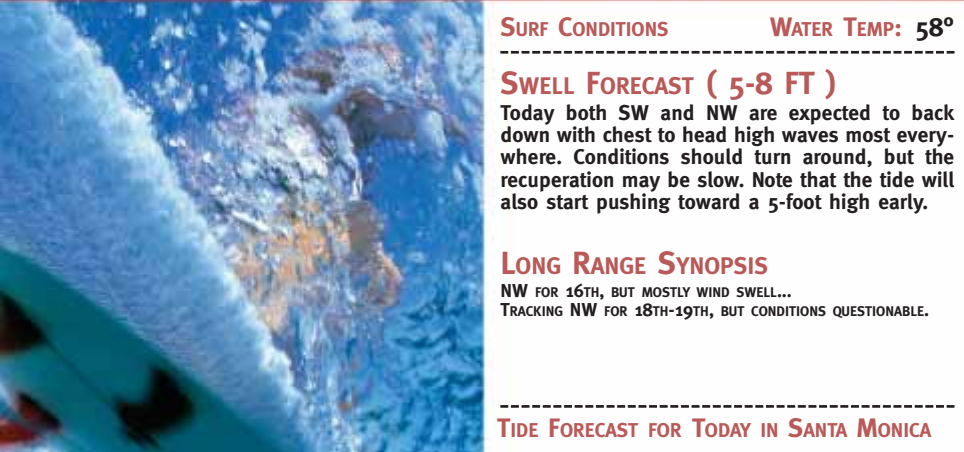
SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS

SWELL FORECAST (5-8 FT)
Today both SW and NW are expected to back down with chest to head high waves most everywhere. Conditions should turn around, but the recuperation may be slow. Note that the tide will also start pushing toward a 5-foot high early.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
NW FOR 16TH, BUT MOSTLY WIND SWELL...
TRACKING **NW** FOR 18TH-19TH, BUT CONDITIONS QUESTIONABLE.

WATER TEMP: 58°



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 **March 27, 2007**

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 3

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

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36/ ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10/ 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	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	B	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	D	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	B	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	F	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	F	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers’ Beach- lifeguard tower	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	F	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	C	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	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			

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken



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

Heal the Bay

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Vanish while you can, Aries

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Know when to kick back – whether you suddenly realize a key understanding or need to huddle up with your taxes. Accomplishment becomes your middle name. You might want to rethink a situation. Excessive understanding takes you to a new level. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. You might want to see a situation from a renewed perspective, especially as someone reveals more of him- or herself. Others, especially a special friend, sorely tempt you to join in on the mischief. Why not? Tonight: Where the action is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Take a stand and do something very different. You might want to think through a relationship that often takes a lot out of you. For whatever reason, you feel the need to step up to the plate. Others try to draw you into their mirthful mood. Tonight: A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Reach out for new ideas. Clear your mind. Take off for a drive or go for a walk. Let go of stress. Your abilities to visualize and gather information will take you to new ground. Understanding will emerge if you can pull yourself out of a situation. Tonight: Try a new spot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Others force you to open your eyes. You might not have all the answers, as someone clearly lets you know. Let your ego out of the mix, and you very well might come to a new understanding. A heavy discussion could define your day. Tonight: Easy does it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your popularity soars. You might want to try something different, and others encourage you to walk in a new direction. Listen to others – certainly some fun ideas that you might want to pursue will be sprinkled in the conversation. Tonight: Say “yes.”

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Right now you might want to get into a project or two. Share a favorite hobby. Let others just hang out with you. Much that goes on around you could be opening your mind. Take a risk. Tonight: Find the party or happening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might not be as sure of yourself as you'd like to be. Avoid taking shopping or another emotionally driven behavior to an extreme. Look at the issue creatively. Brainstorm with a buddy or two. Solutions will head your way. Tonight: Ever happy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Deal with basics only. You might be overly tired. You might want to decide which way to go. Spend a cozy day or two at home. Bring others toward you. Consider your options carefully. Tonight: Entertain at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Reach out for others. Your perspective opens up new opportunities. Visit with friends. Dynamic, fun and wild conversations seem to happen with ease. Talk up a storm. Recognize what happens. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Curb a need to be possessive and perhaps touchy. Friends plug levity into a situation. Are you ready for the glee and good will? You might be delighted by what comes to pass if you just let go of your stuff. Tonight: Easy does it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You feel your Wheaties and feel downright great. You might want to rethink certain details and get on top of your game. A must appearance ends up being much more fun than you originally had thought. Tonight: Easy does it.

Born Today

Actress Sarah Michelle Gellar (1977)
Baseball player Pete Rose (1941)
Actress Julie Christie (1941)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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Happy Birthday!

Your get-up-and-go defines this year. Stopping you might be challenging, if not downright difficult. Keep it that way. Reach out for others and don't make all your decisions simultaneously. The more feedback you get, the better. You open up to new possibilities and opportunities this year. Take your time pursuing more exciting directions. Time might be a hidden ally. If you are single, very different types of people will enter your life. Be willing to walk another path. If you are attached, you'll break into new turf if both of you let go of your issues. PISCES reads you cold.

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Promo Mike Tyson to dance to Bollywood beat in promotional video

A diamond heist, a Bollywood dance routine and **MIKE TYSON** make an unlikely combination. But the former heavy-weight boxing champion is set to groove to Indian pop music in a promotional video for “Fool and Final,”

THE RUMORS ARE TRUE

After months of building Internet buzz, this can finally be reported as fact: **SHIA LABEOUF** has been cast in the upcoming “Indiana Jones” movie. Producer George Lucas and director Steven Spielberg announced Friday that LaBeouf will appear alongside Harrison Ford in the fourth installment of the adventure franchise, scheduled for release May 22, 2008. Production is set to begin in June. “We are excited about bringing Shia into our Indy family,” Spielberg said in a statement on the “Indiana Jones” Web site. “His talent has impressed not only his audiences throughout his young career but the directors, producers and fellow actors who have worked with him in his television career and now his film career.” Paramount, a division of Viacom Inc., declined Friday to say what role LaBeouf would be playing. The 20-year-old actor told The Associated Press in March that the persistent Internet rumors about his casting in the film were just that – rumors. “The way that thing started, it’s just wild how it snowballed,” LaBeouf told the AP then. “I don’t have a deal on the table, it’s just a rumor. Would I do it? In a second. It’d be working for a legend and working with legends. Who wouldn’t? But is it something I’m doing right now? No. I’m an out-of-work actor.” It’s a busy weekend for the up-and-coming actor. He stars in “Disturbia,” a high-tech, teen version of “Rear Window,” which opened Friday; then he’s hosting NBC’s “Saturday Night Live.”

AP

an upcoming Bollywood comedy, the film’s media consultant said Friday. Tyson, 40, will shoot the promo in India, said N. Chattani, who is in charge of publicity for the movie’s producer, Firoze Nadiadwala. “It’s finalized,” Chattani

said. “Tyson will be shooting the music promo with the entire cast.” Why Tyson? Aside from instant publicity, action hero Sunny Deol stars as a boxer in the film, directed by Ahmed Khan. “The movie is a laugh

riot, and the filmmakers thought Tyson would be great in the promo,” Chattani said. In 1986, a 20-year-old Tyson became the youngest heavyweight boxing champion in history. He was convicted of rape in

Indiana in 1992 and pleaded no contest to misdemeanor assault charges in Maryland in 1999. By 1997, Tyson’s career hit a low point when he bit Evander Holyfield’s ear during a fight.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rock paternity case moved

A woman who claims **CHRIS ROCK** is the father of her child is withdrawing a lawsuit filed last month in Georgia and will refile it in New York, according to a published report. Kali Bowyer claims the 42-year-old actor-comedian is the father of a child she had 13 years ago. The

lawsuit filed in Bulloch County asked for child support, medical coverage and attorney fees. Bowyer told the Statesboro Herald on Thursday she decided to refile the lawsuit in New York after consulting with her attorney, Brett Kimmel. She has an unpublished

phone number in the Statesboro area and could not immediately be reached by The Associated Press for comment Friday. Jodi Kimmel, an attorney for Bowyer in New York, declined to comment. Bowyer claims she and Rock “were friends and we spent time together.”

AP

There was no immediate response from Rock’s publicist, Leslie Sloane, to an e-mail from the AP seeking comment. Rock and his wife, Malaak, have been married for 10 years. They have two young children and live in the New York City borough of Brooklyn.

Spice Girl claims Murphy is the daddy

Former Spice Girl **MELANIE BROWN** has listed Eddie Murphy’s name on the birth certificate of her infant daughter, her publicist said Friday. The 31-year-old Brown, known as Scary Spice when she was in the megahit

group of the 1990s, gave birth to the child April 3 in Santa Monica, Calif. Brown’s publicist, Nadine Bibi, didn’t immediately respond Friday to an e-mail from The Associated Press asking for details. Arnold Robinson, a

spokesman for Murphy, declined comment. Brown has said ex-boyfriend Murphy is the father. The 46-year-old “Dreamgirls” star has said he isn’t sure, while Brown has said there is “absolutely no question that Eddie is

the father.” Brown has an 8-year-old daughter, Phoenix Chi, from her marriage to Jimmy Gulzar. Murphy has five children from his marriage to Nicole Mitchell Murphy.

AP

Imus’ wife still hosts fundraising event

Rutgers women’s basketball coach **C. VIVIAN STRINGER** said Friday the team had accepted radio host Don Imus’ apology. She said he deserves a chance to move on but hopes the furor his racist and sexist insult caused will be a catalyst for change. “We, the Rutgers University Scarlet Knight basketball team, accept – accept – Mr. Imus’ apology, and we are in the process of forgiving,” Stringer read from a team statement a day after the women met personally with Imus and his wife. “We still find his statements to be unacceptable, and this is an experience that we will never forget,” she said. The team had just played for the NCAA national championship last week and lost when Imus, on his nationally syndicated radio show, called the players “nappy-headed hos.” The statement outraged listeners and set off a national debate about taste and tolerance. It also led his firing by CBS on Thursday.

“These comments are indicative of greater ills in our culture,” Stringer said. “It is not just Mr. Imus, and we hope that this will be and serve as a catalyst for change. Let us continue to work hard together to make this world a better place.” Imus was in the middle of a two-day radio fundraiser for children’s charities when he was dropped by CBS. On Friday, his wife took over the show and also talked about the meeting with the Rutgers players. “They gave us the opportunity to listen to what they had to say and why they’re hurting and how awful this is,” author Deirdre Imus said. “He feels awful,” she said. “He asked them, ‘I want to know the pain I caused, and I want to know how to fix this and change this.’” Deirdre Imus also said that the Rutgers players have been receiving hate e-mail, and she demanded that it stop. She told listeners “if you must send e-mail, send it to my hus-

band,” not the team. “I have to say that these women are unbelievably courageous and beautiful women,” she said. Stringer declined to discuss the hate mail Friday. Rutgers team spokeswoman Stacey Brann said the team had received “two or three e-mails” but had also received “over 600 wonderful e-mails.” The team members respected Imus’ willingness to apologize, but they also wanted him to understand how they were hurt, said the Rev. DeForest Soaries, Stringer’s pastor, who joined the meeting. Imus tried to explain what he meant, “but there was really no explanation that they could understand,” Soaries said on NBC’s “Today” show. The cantankerous Imus, once named one of the 25 Most Influential People in America by Time magazine and a member of the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame, was one of radio’s original shock jocks. His career took flight in the 1970s and with a cocaine- and vodka-fueled

outrageous humor. After sobering up, he settled into a mix of highbrow talk about politics and culture, with locker room humor sprinkled in. Critics have said his remark about the Rutgers women was just the latest in a line of objectionable statements by the ringmaster of a show that mixed high-minded talk about politics and culture with crude, locker-room humor. Imus apologized on the air late last week and also tried to explain himself before the Rev. Al Sharpton’s radio audience, appearing alternately contrite and combative. But many of his advertisers still bailed in disgust, particularly after the Rutgers women spoke publicly of their hurt. On Wednesday, a week after the remark, MSNBC said it would no longer televise the show. CBS fired Imus Thursday from the radio show that he has hosted for nearly 30 years. Sharpton praised Moonves’ decision Friday and said it was about time.

AP

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Call theatre for showtimes.

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Grindhouse (R)
1:00, 4:50, 8:45, 9:30
The Lookout (R)
2:15, 4:45, 7:05
Pathfinder (R)
2:00, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
Slow Burn (R)
1:50, 4:00, 7:15, 9:45

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

300 (R)
11:05a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
Are We Done Yet? (PG)
11:10a.m., 1:25, 3:40, 5:55, 8:10, 10:25
Blades of Glory (Pg-13)
11:00a.m., 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 8:30, 10:15, 10:45
Disturbia (PG-13)
11:20a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50
The Hoax (R)
11:10a.m., 1:55, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
Reign Over Me (R)
11:20a.m., 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Black Book (Zwartboek) (R)
1:00, 4:30, 8:00
Killer of Sheep (1997) (NR)
12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

The Lives of Others (Das Leben der Anderen) (R)
1:10, 4:20, 8:00
The Namesake (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
The TV Set (R)
12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00
Year of the Dog (PG-13)
12:45, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

The Hills Have Eyes 2 (R)
4:30, 10:00
Meet the Robinsons (G)
11:40a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
Meet the Robinsons in Disney Digital (G)
11:00a.m., 1:30, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00
Music and Lyrics (PG-13)
1:50, 6:50
The Reaping (R)
11:30a.m., 12:10, 2:30, 4:20, 5:00, 7:30, 9:20, 10:10
Shooter (R)
11:10a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:40, 10:30

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

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

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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

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

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310 993 2727 CALL NOW
www.ePrepNow.com

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

I KNEW IT WOULD BE TOUGH BEING WITH SOMEONE NEW, BUT NOT THIS DIFFICULT

WE HAVE NO CHEMISTRY, AND NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU JUST THROW SOMETHING AWAY THAT YOU CARE ABOUT

BRADLEY BROKE UP WITH JOANN AND IS DATING A NEW GIRL?!

NO, HE SWITCHED PUTTERS



4/13

girlsandsports.com

FEINSTEIN & BORUS

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

SO, HOW WAS THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST?

NOT BAD. I MET A NICE DIVORCÉ.

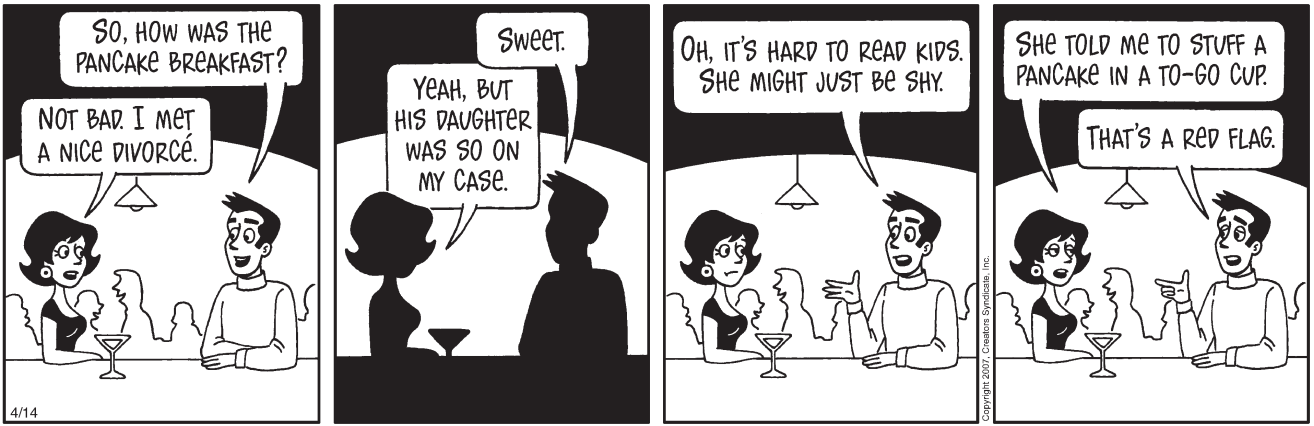
Sweet.

YEAH, BUT HIS DAUGHTER WAS SO ON MY CASE.

OH, IT'S HARD TO READ KIDS. SHE MIGHT JUST BE SHY.

SHE TOLD ME TO STUFF A PANCAKE IN A TO-GO CUP.

THAT'S A RED FLAG.



4/14

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The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW DANGEROUS THAT IS? YOU KIDS COULD REALLY HURT YOURSELVES ON IT!

FOR LIABILITY REASONS, THE CITY HAS NO OPTION BUT TO REMOVE IT IMMEDIATELY.

WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT A TIRE ATTACHED TO A ROPE COULD BE SO DANGEROUS?

YET IT'S OK TO ATTACH ONE TO A CAR WITH A 400-HORSEPOWER ENGINE?



adrian@raesidecartoon.com

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4-14

Garfield

By Jim Davis

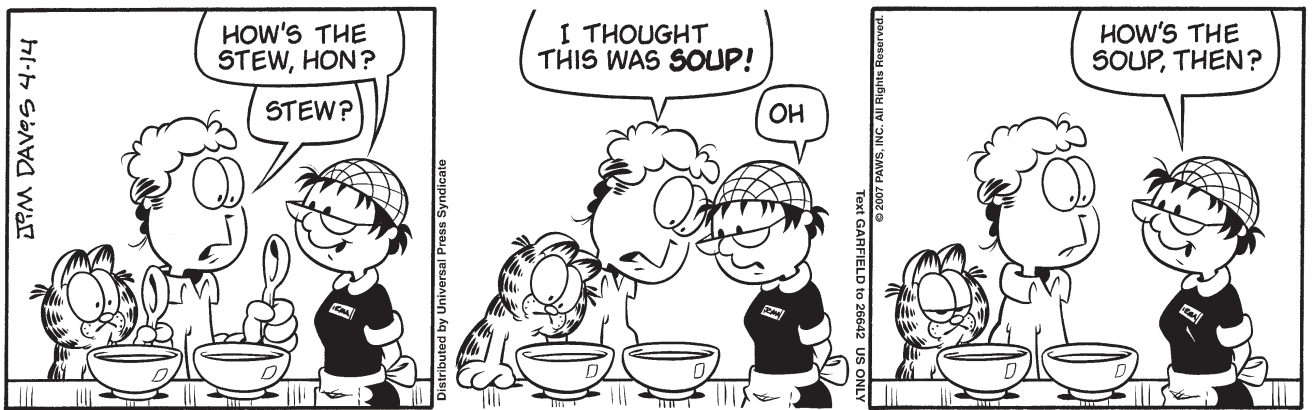
HOW'S THE STEW, HON?

STEW?

I THOUGHT THIS WAS SOUP!

OH

HOW'S THE SOUP, THEN?



Jim Davis 4-14

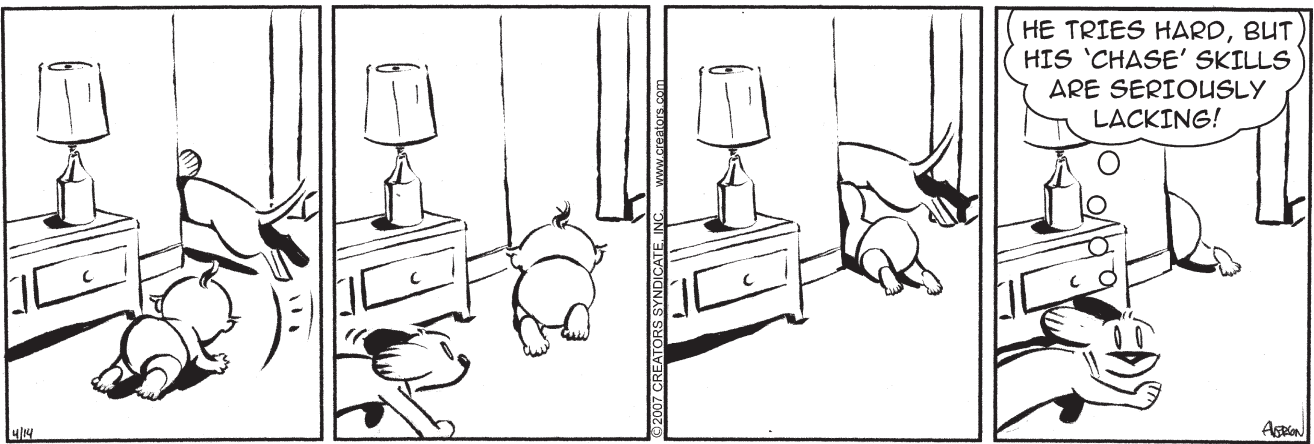
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Text GARFIELD to 26642 US ONLY

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



HE TRIES HARD, BUT HIS 'CHASE' SKILLS ARE SERIOUSLY LACKING!

4/14

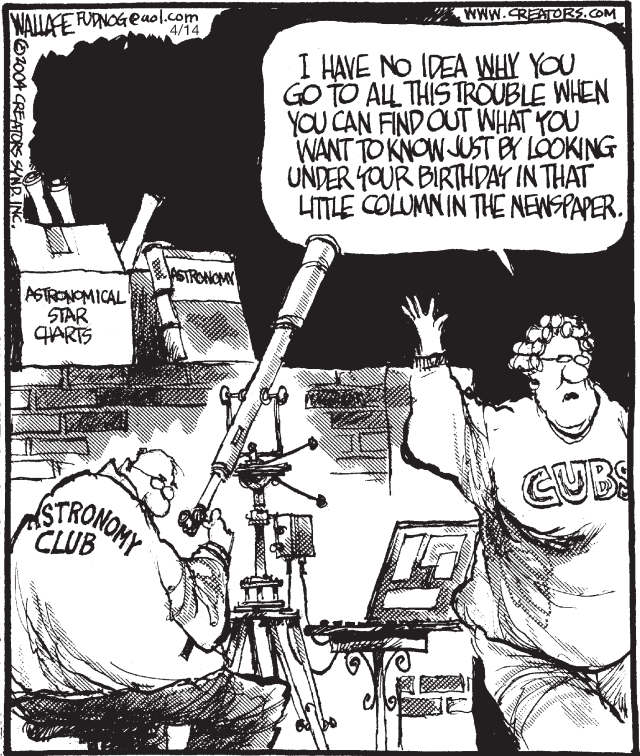
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Anderson

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Natural Selection By Russ Wallace



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Entices
 - 7 Thin cut
 - 11 Incarnation
 - 12 Air
 - 13 Ladies' man
 - 14 Positive thinker's mantra
 - 15 Of service
 - 16 Ecstasy
 - 17 Tempo
 - 18 Interact
 - 19 Othello, for one
 - 21 Newsman Potter
 - 22 Annie Potts series
 - 25 Word on a bill
 - 26 Spot in the sea
 - 27 Lacking variety
 - 29 Crimson Tide, for short
 - 33 Play the banjo
 - 34 Africa's largest nation
 - 35 Beame and Burrows
 - 36 "See ya!"
- DOWN**
- 37 Musical symbol
 - 38 Go by
 - 39 1969 Series champs
 - 40 Vacillate

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

- 8** Colleague of José Plácido
9 Fretting
10 Prepared for trouble
16 Emerald, for one
18 Comic tribute
20 Loathing
22 Opie's caretaker
23 Most available
24 Interstellar clouds
25 Defuse
28 Shows disuse
30 Take on
31 Parson's house
32 Rage
34 Shoe part
36 Fixed

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					

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 11 14 21 25 26
Meganumber: 33
Jackpot: \$17M

Super LOTTO 5 13 19 27 33
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: \$22M

Fantasy 5 6 16 27 28 36

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 4 4 9
EVENING: 6 4 3

DAILY DERRY 1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1.45.02

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Doug Guetzloe, one of central Florida's most prominent political operatives (and a subject of investigations by the Florida Elections Commission and a highway agency in Orlando), had long eluded criminal charges by denying any knowledge of unethical activities that prosecutors were sure he was involved in. However, late last year, Guetzloe missed a payment on his rental storage locker, and 50 boxes of his personal and professional records were seized and auctioned for \$10 to a curious citizen, who then gave them to Orlando's WKMG-TV, which had several earlier investigations of Guetzloe still pending. Based on early readings of the storage-locker papers, Guetzloe was indicted for felony perjury in March, and the case continues.

■ A federal appeals court in March turned down Ruth Parks' challenge to her re-election loss in 2001 as the recorder-treasurer of Horseshoe Bend, Ark., which she blamed on a conspiracy by the mayor and police chief. The court concluded that voters, not a conspiracy, had defeated her, perhaps because of the prominence of her belief in UFOs and the conflicting views of her and her husband as to whether she personally had ever been abducted by aliens: She said she hadn't, but her husband said she had, many times, and that the aliens had left scars.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1028 Henry III, son of Conrad, is elected king of the Germans

1434 The foundation stone of Cathedral St. Peter and St. Paul in Nantes, France was laid.

1828 Noah Webster copyrights the first edition of his dictionary.

1849 Hungary declares itself independent of Austria with Louis Kossuth as its leader.

1865 U.S. President Abraham Lincoln is shot in Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth.

1881 Four Dead in Five Seconds Gunfight erupted in El Paso, Texas.

1915 The Turks invade Armenia.

1962 Georges Pompidou becomes Prime Minister of France.

1986 In retaliation for the April 5 bombing of the La Belle Discotheque in West Berlin in which two U.S. servicemen were killed, Ronald Reagan orders major bombing raids against Tripoli and Benghazi, in Libya, which kills 60 people.

WORD UP!

spoonerism \SP00-nuh-riz-uhm/, *noun*: The transposition of usually initial sounds in a pair of words.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Obituaries

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Obituaries



SYLVIA A. Westlund
age 92, Wittenberg died on Friday, March 30, 2007 at the Homme Home of Wittenberg under the care of Aspiurus Comfort Care and Hospice Services.

She was born on July 18, 1914 in Mt. Horeb, WI, the daughter of the late Edward and Randine (Chestelson) Westlund.

Sylvia attended the Sunny Side grade school and the Wittenberg High School. She was confirmed at the First Lutheran Church, Wittenberg. Sylvia was a nurse's aide, living and working in Chicago. During World War II, Sylvia worked in defense plants as well as the American Red Cross. She then settled in Santa Monica, CA where she worked at the famous St. John's Hospital where she met many celebrities. Sylvia enjoyed traveling to foreign countries. She visited Israel four times, China, Egypt, Russia and many other places. She then returned to Wittenberg.

Sylvia enjoyed music, singing and playing guitar. Her family was important to her and she was very giving of herself and her time.

Survivors include two sisters, Amanda (Fred) Schmid, Santa Monica, CA, Eva Genter, Stillwater, MN, one niece, four nephews, four grand nieces and three grand nephews. In addition to her parents, Sylvia was preceded in death by one brother, Sigurd and one nephew, Steven Westlund.

Funeral services will be held at 2PM on April 4, 2007 at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wittenberg. The Rev. Ken Schlueter will officiate. Interment will be in the Parish cemetery. Friends may call on Wednesday from 1PM until the time of services at the church. Schmidt-Schulta Funeral Home, Wittenberg is assisting the family with arrangements. The family guestbook and online condolences available at www.schmidt-schulta.com

In lieu of flowers, memorials to Redeemer Lutheran Church would be appreciated.

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Creating new ways to utilize the KKJZ website, updating and maintaining the website, overseeing all print design and maintaining the membership database.

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Writing, underwriting copy, station promos and public service announcements, and editing KKJZ's official publication.

■ OPERATIONS MANAGER

All technical aspects of putting programming on the air, such as working with the Chief Engineer to ensure that equipment is functioning properly and working with the Director of Traffic and the on-air staff to ensure proper broadcasting of content responsible for scheduling on-air staff.

■ PRODUCTION MANAGER

Receiving all underwriting copy and public service announcements, ensuring that on-air content is organized, and supervising recording of underwriting and public service announcements.

■ DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC

Responsible for overseeing station logs, entering the data regarding underwriting and public service announcements with the on-air staff.

■ ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE (2)

Account Executives Servicing current underwriting accounts and for obtaining new underwriting accounts.

■ DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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■ PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Researching and selecting all music and managing all on-air announcers.

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Responsible for all promotional activities conducted on behalf of KKJZ. The Promotions Director Will be expected to coordinate with CSULB, including the College of the Arts, the Jazz Studies Program, and the California Institute for the Preservation of Jazz in order to ensure that KKJZ promotes CSULB events. Expected to coordinate promotional efforts with the account executives, the Director of Underwriting, the Marketing Director and the Director of Development.

■ MARKETING DIRECTOR

Responsible for all marketing activities conducted on behalf of KKJZ. The Marketing Director will be expected to coordinate with CSULB, including the College of the Arts, the Jazz Studies Program, and the California Institute for the Preservation of Jazz in order to ensure that KKJZ promotes CSULB events. Expected to coordinate marketing efforts with the account executives, the Director of Underwriting, the Promotions Director and the Director of Development.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Info: 310.649.0499

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EOE

Miscellaneous



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Hours: 6:30am
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Employment

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Spin on cinema
Assess the arts
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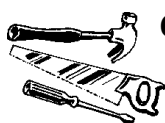
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04 MERCEDES-BENZ C230 #457356	\$27,861
06 MERCEDES-BENZ C230W 18K MILES #A883810	\$29,631
00 MERCEDES-BENZ S430 SEDAN 52,975K MILES, #A109390	\$31,951
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E320W #A193796	\$33,211
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E320W 28K MILES #X100082	\$33,444
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E500 SEDAN LOW MILES, #A214479	\$34,141
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E500W 33K MILES #A227196	\$34,651
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E320W 18K MILES #A313143	\$35,211
03 MERCEDES-BENZ E320 #181816	\$35,321
02 MERCEDES-BENZ S55 AMG #230761	\$41,754
03 MERCEDES-BENZ CL55 AMG 34K MILES #A033963	\$64,221

Mercedes-Benz
Certified Pre-Owned

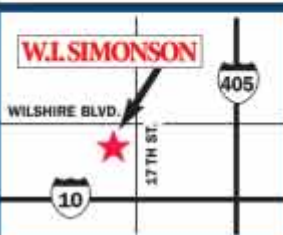


MERCEDES-BENZ CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED PROGRAM INCLUDES 7 DAY/500 MILE EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE, 1 YEAR/100,000 MILE WARRANTY. TERMS AND CONDITIONS VARY. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.

06 MERCEDES-BENZ C230W 15K MILES #A854560	\$29,401
06 MERCEDES-BENZ C230W #A881975	\$29,401
04 MERCEDES-BENZ E320 WAGON #496407	\$34,652
04 MERCEDES-BENZ ML500 #A513584	\$34,951
04 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK320 15K MILES #F099398	\$35,751
04 MERCEDES-BENZ E320W 21K MILES #A508493	\$36,521
04 MERCEDES-BENZ SLK320 #F306351	\$36,541
04 MERCEDES-BENZ E320 #512085	\$36,721
04 MERCEDES-BENZ E320W #A468927	\$36,751
04 MERCEDES-BENZ E500W 19K MILES #A466192	\$39,561
04 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK320A #022277	\$43,181
07 MERCEDES-BENZ ML350 10K MILES #A157852	\$43,731
05 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK320A #F147489, 33K MILES	\$44,571
04 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK350A 18K MILES #T059810	\$48,811
04 MERCEDES-BENZ S500V 36K MILES #A419628	\$58,421
07 MERCEDES-BENZ ML500 #A164507, 5,469 MILES	\$63,541
06 MERCEDES-BENZ CLS500 #A012416, 11K MILES	\$63,971
06 MERCEDES-BENZ CLS500 #A017623, 14K MILES	\$64,831
07 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK63A 512 MILES #080706	\$93,221

BEAUTIFUL NON MERCEDES-BENZ PRE-OWNED SPECIALS

04 LEXUS RX300 #40001846	\$27,521
04 BMW X5 3.0 #LU41721	\$35,911
03 LEXUS LS430 #30123030	\$36,841
03 DODGE VIPER 23K MILES #V500094	\$54,951



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