



PLAY LIKE JIMI
SEE PAGE 17

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE TIRED SAYINGS ISSUE

TRAFFIC

SLOW YOUR ROLL

SMPD clamps down on intersection blockers
STORY BY KEVIN HERRERA PAGE 3



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

Green is fabulous at SMC campus

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE Green is one “fabulous” color. In a delayed observance of Earth Day and a celebration of the release of a year-long environmental study, Santa Monica College hosted its first “EcoFabulous” event on Tuesday, showcasing local bio-friendly non-profit organizations.

The atmosphere was festive at the college’s clock tower as hundreds of people swarmed in and out of the small square on the southeast part of campus.

Some were supporters, others were students who were just hungry for free food.

Booths sponsored by non-profit organizations and city and county departments were situated on the perimeter of

the square, with some volunteers soliciting help and others distributing information about their programs.

Hungry students waited in a long line for a small piece of organic pizza, others threw their best fastball to hit a target on a dunk tank. Most missed.

Props scattered the square, including a green-colored electric Rav 4, whose license plate read “sun powered,” and “zero waste” stations with trash and recycle bins.

Brandishing a bright smile, Katura Reynolds of the Beverly Hills-based non-profit Tree People, sat at a booth, informing people of an organization that has planted two million trees in Los Angeles County over the past 30 years.

Across the way, Margaret Kemp, an outreach coordinator with Flexcar, was handing out pamphlets on their



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

NEXT STOP: SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang encourages students to ride the Big Blue Bus during a campus event Tuesday.

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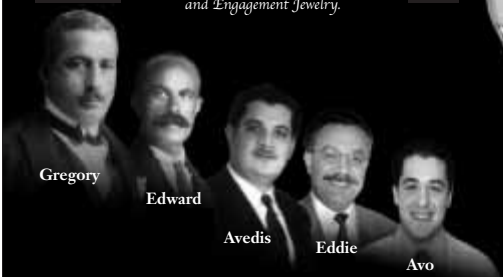
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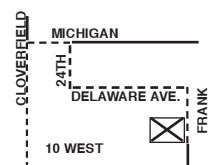
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Calendar

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A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Single-Parents networking party at Spitfire Grill

3300 Airport Ave., 7 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Meet single moms and dads from the Westside and have fun while helping schools. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door; includes food, refreshments and 'Speed Networking' games. Purchase online tickets and receive more information by visiting www.westsidesingleparents.com.

Exploring artists' books and their authors

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

This year's Citywide Reads-featured author, Audrey Niffenegger, also teaches the art and design aspect of artists' books. The Getty Research Institute's Joyce Pellerano Ludmer joins the Santa Monica Public Library to explain this unique art form. This all-ages program is free. Event to be held in the auditorium of the Main Branch Library.

Sustainable Works Green Living Workshop

1744 Pearl St., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Join Sustainable Works' next Green Living Workshop, a six-week course designed to help residents learn about important environmental issues, save valuable resources, lower utility bills and protect household health. Cost is a suggested donation of \$25 for the full six weeks; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. To reserve your space today, call Anna Cummins at (310) 458-8716, ext. 1 or e-mail her at Cumminsanna@smc.edu.

Montana Avenue Branch Book Club

1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

This year's Citywide Reads selection, "The Time Traveler's Wife," by Audrey Niffenegger, will be discussed.

AsomBroso tequila tasting dinner at Border Grill

1445 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — midnight

Border Grill is combining Mexican food with AsomBroso Tequila. Cost is \$65 per person; limited seating. For more information, visit www.bordergrill.com or call (310) 451-1655.

Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting

1332 Sixth St., noon — 1:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club holds its weekly luncheon with guest speakers at the YMCA. For more information, call (310) 828-1766.

Thursday, April 26, 2007

'Make It Work with Tim Gunn'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

The Main Branch Library hosts an author presentation and book signing with "Project Runway" style mentor Tim Gunn and Kate Moloney, co-authors of "Tim Gunn: A Guide to Quality, Taste and Style." This is a free program. All ages are welcome, but seating is limited. Tickets for Auditorium seating will be available one hour prior to program; no reservations.

Benefit concert at Rusty's Surf Ranch

256 Santa Monica Pier, 8 p.m. — midnight

Michelle Holmes of Crazy Aunt Mary and Kelly Z of Kelly's Lot are hosting a concert to benefit Madalyn Sklar, founder of GoGirls Music. Crazy Aunt Mary and Kelly's Lot will be joined by Lauren Adams and Dig Jelly to raise funds for Sklar's recovery from surgery. Admission for this all-ages show is \$5 (all proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to Sklar). Tickets are available at the door. For more information, call (310) 393-PIER or visit www.rustysurfranch.com. For more information on Sklar or GoGirls, visit www.gogirlsmusic.com.

'The Italian in Me'

1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m. — 9:45 p.m.

Dina Morrone's accelerated, full immersion Italian lesson about Cinema, Sex and Saints, and Federico Fellini is currently playing at the Santa Monica Playhouse for one night only. "The Italian in Me" follows a naive girl as she pursues her Roman dream, which becomes an everyday sexual obstacle course filled with perverts, priests and pinches, until her life-altering encounter with the 'Maestro' Federico Fellini. Post-show reception immediately after the show. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling (310) 394-9779, ext. 1 or by visiting www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com. This show is for mature audiences.

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.





CASE OF THE BENDS

Participants stretch it out on Main Street before taking part in the 80-mile AIDS/LifeCycle Training Ride on Saturday. Riders were gearing up for a seven-day ride that will take them 545 miles through California, from San Francisco to Los Angeles, between June 3-9.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Making the light not so bright

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Drivers here had better start learning to work together and being considerate, or else the police will hand them an expensive lesson in manners.

The SMPD is out in force looking for those who are inattentive behind the wheel, pulling into an intersection without taking notice whether or not there is room for them on the other side.

Those spotted blocking an intersection will be issued a citation and be forced to pay

\$35 under the department's Gridlock Abatement Program, or GAP. While the citation will not appear on one's driving record, nor is the fine as high as one for a moving violation, officers hope drivers will mind their P's and Q's now that Johnny Law is on the lookout.

"If there is no room for drivers to completely proceed through an intersection, they need to stay on the other side and wait. Don't be intimidated by other drivers because you are only putting yourself in harm's way," said Lt. Clinton Muir of SMPD's Traffic Services Division. "Most

people we find that are causing gridlock do it out of inattention. They're either on their cell phones or are adjusting their radios.

"We've had people looking at reading material ... It's a safety issue."

Since March, officers have logged more than 300 hours, patrolling congested intersections such as Fourth Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, and Cloverfield Boulevard where it meets Interstate 10. During that time, officers have issued seven citations, Muir said.

SEE TRAFFIC PAGE 13

Gone a touch too wild

Girls Gone Wild founder gets jail time for contempt

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

PANAMA CITY, FLA. Things are going to stay pretty mild for Girls Gone Wild founder Joe Francis over the next few weeks, after the Santa Monica was sentenced to 35 days in prison on Monday.

The 34-year-old millionaire has been held in custody at the Bay County Jail in Panama City since April 10 on federal charges of contempt of court.



Francis is famous for launching the Girls Gone Wild empire and making millions off videos featuring young coeds flashing their chests for the camera.

Prior to his arrest, Francis was in the process of settling a lawsuit brought forth by seven women who claimed they were underage when filmed in a Girls Gone Wild video in 2003. A lawyer representing the seven women claimed that Francis became enraged during negotiations, causing a federal judge to order Francis to settle or to face time in jail.

Once negotiations failed, the judge slapped Francis with a contempt order.

Both parties have reached an agreement since then, though a dollar amount has not been disclosed.

The 35-day sentence includes time that

SEE WILD PAGE 11



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Waiting to inhale, dude

Editor:

Just read your piece on herb and the 420 global culture that is finally coming out (“It’s 420, the time is ripe,” April 20). It is rare to read articles on cannabis that are factually based and report on current social trends without customary “scare & fear” clichés running throughout. I found your story on cannabis to be informative and interesting with regards to the global push to ease governmental restrictions on what many people consider to be their inalienable right to partake.

Whether or not one agrees with another person’s right to enjoy smoking cannabis, it is clear collectively we are moving towards a more open environment that permits the discussion and investigation on this plant’s value to society in general. I personally think once the movement collects “steam,” the evidence in favor of widespread usage and production of hemp and, in a regulated sense, cannabis will be overwhelmingly supported. It’s a matter of time, but many hardened and reinforced values and preconceptions will have to be gently reasoned to reconsider their stances on this matter.

In any event, nice work and wanted to let you know I appreciated the article.

Adam Wayne
Los Angeles

Cheap eats abound in Santa Monica

Editor:

Regarding your “Dining for Dollars” article in the April 15-16 issue, it seems like most of the eateries mentioned are those with “yuppie appeal” – still rather pricey for those of us with lower paying jobs on who may be on limited income.

Perhaps your writer never noticed the lines of people waiting to dine at Rae’s Restaurant (Pico at 29th), or just east of the freeway at Teddy’s Restaurant (Pico at Bundy) owned by the same couple. Great breakfasts and fine dinners are available there for under \$10 with coffee included. Also Izzy’s Deli (Wilshire at 15th) offers dinners with beverage for \$10.50.

Meals at any of those establishments cost even less than those offered by the local chain coffee shops, with or without “senior discounts.”

Bill Mendlen
Santa Monica

Stalkers tend to turn to violence

Editor:

The tragedy in what unfolded a week ago at Virginia Tech is obvious. But the tragedy is furthered by everyone once again seeking an answer as to how to profile a killer, when instead they should be focusing on what should have been a predictor of a killer’s violent behavior.

In 2005, Seung-Hui Cho stalked two women at Virginia Tech which set off a chain of events which allowed intervention by both the criminal justice and the mental health systems that, for some reason, was then forgotten and not followed up on ... but should have been. In too many of these violent acts in our country, a stalking preceded and then predicted the violent acts. The Secret Service, along with security consultants such as Gavin de Becker, know all too well that attempting to use a psychological profile in assessing a potential threat is pointless because no such profile exists. They simply look at behavior. And they look for changes in the pattern of that behavior which usually indicates what is known as escalation.

Had anyone noticed that pattern change here, what happened might not have happened.

Usually, there is only one stalking victim. This time, in a way, there were 32. Something everyone should finally focus on during National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

Charli Schauseil
Stalking Victims Sanctuary Angels Camp, California



That Rutherford Guy

john H. Whitehead

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

TV news is getting bad for your health

ANYONE WHO RELIES EXCLUSIVELY ON television news reporting for insight into what’s happening in the world is making a serious mistake. However, since Americans have by and large become non-readers and primarily viewers of television, it has become an inescapable necessity for most that if they desire information on current events, they get it from watching TV news shows.

Yet TV news networks, having fallen prey to the demands of a celebrity-obsessed and entertainment-driven culture, provide viewers with what they want to see, rather than what is newsworthy. As a result, there tends to be little deviation between the networks as to what stories are covered. Hence, more time is spent titillating and entertaining viewers than educating them about pressing issues of concern.

This was sadly illustrated by the wall-to-wall coverage of the Virginia Tech massacre. TV anchors and personalities were falling over one another on the school’s campus in competing for viewers by presenting any type of information surrounding the incident, whether it was relevant or not. Even the excessively violent footage left behind by the killer was aired, despite the fact that psychologists have urged networks not to broadcast these types of events. They fear that unbalanced people watching these shows will attempt to repeat such events in order to gain their 15 minutes of fame.

While the networks must bear the brunt of the blame for this, the lack of discernment on the part of television news watchers also plays a part. For example, in an average household, the television set is in use over seven hours a day. Most people, believing themselves to be in control of the process, are scarcely bothered by this statistic. But it is a false sense of control. The fact is that television not only delivers programs to your home, it also delivers you to a sponsor.

This does not mean that television news is not important. There are things the public needs to know, whether they “like” it or not. This is a necessity in a democratic society. Thus, TV news should give people what they need, not necessarily what they want. However, that rarely happens.

Realistically, there are some things that can be done to help you understand TV news and, in the process, minimize its impact on you. Here are a few:

TV news is not what actually occurs. Rather, it is what someone labeled a “journalist” or “correspondent” thinks is worth reporting. That’s why it is important to analyze what is reported. Although there are good TV journalists, the old art of investigative reporting has largely been lost. For example, how often have you heard a reporter preface a “news” report with the statement, “This comes from official sources”? This cannot be trusted because the government hires thousands of spin doctors to spread government propaganda.

TV news is entertainment. TV news is not

communication. Communication is between equals. When you are being spoon-fed by advertisers, you are in no way equal. And although the news may have value, it is primarily a commodity to gather an audience, which will be sold to advertisers.

Never underestimate the power of com-

TV NEWS IS NOT WHAT ACTUALLY OCCURS. RATHER, IT IS WHAT SOMEONE LABELED A ‘JOURNALIST’ OR ‘CORRESPONDENT’ THINKS IS WORTH REPORTING.

mercials, especially to news audiences. People who watch news tend to be more attentive, educated and have more money to spend.

Learn more about the economic and political interests of those who own the “corporate” media. There are few independent news sources. Indeed, the major news outlets are owned by corporate empires. For example, General Electric owns the entire stable of NBC shows, including MSNBC, which it co-owns with Microsoft (the “MS” in MSNBC stands for Microsoft). Both GE and Microsoft have poured millions of dollars into the political campaigns of George W. Bush. The obvious question: How can a news network present objective news on a candidate that it financially supports?

Pay special attention to the language of newscasts. Because film footage and other visual imagery are so engaging on TV news shows, viewers are apt to allow language — what the reporter is saying about the images — to go unexamined. A TV newscaster’s language frames the pictures, and, therefore, the meaning we derive from the picture is often determined by the reporter’s commentary. The viewer does not see the actual event but the edited form of the event. Add to that the fact that the reporters editing the film have a subjective view — sometimes determined by their corporate bosses — that enters in.

Finally, schools must begin teaching children how to watch TV news. Specific courses should be taught so that our future citizens can hopefully avoid the pitfalls that the television news monolith will continue to lay before future generations.

Constitutional attorney and author **JOHN W. WHITEHEAD** is founder of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org.

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Earth Talk

By the editors of E Magazine

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lessons in changing the world for good

Dear EarthTalk:

Are there any major efforts underway to interest and involve high school and college students in environmental issues?

— Beth Marin, via e-mail

WHEN A HANDFUL OF CONCERNED undergrads at the University of North Carolina advertised in the Greenpeace newsletter in 1988 for other student environmentalists to connect with, they weren't sure what kind of response to expect. But within weeks they were deluged with mail, and so they decided to launch the first national network of green college and high school students, the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC).

Today, SEAC is made up of more than 1,000 student groups at colleges, high schools and middle schools throughout the U.S. and Canada. And since its founding, the group has tallied a number of success stories, including: helping prevent construction of the Hydro Quebec II dam in Canada that would have flooded and destroyed the indigenous Cree Nation's homeland; starting recycling programs at 200 colleges and high schools; persuading office supply giant Staples to phase out virgin papers and to offer more recycled options; and supporting a successful ballot initiative that helped clean up Florida's pig farming business.

Another big player on the student green scene is the Sierra Student Coalition (SSC), the young arm of the Sierra Club. SSC conducts national campaigns in which each chapter participates, supported by a small staff at the Sierra Club's Washington, D.C. office. SSC's network of 250 high school and college groups also undertakes local efforts to educate both students and the larger public about the issues. And they provide seminars that teach students how to organize campaigns and lobby Congress. SSC's major effort right now is the Campus Climate Challenge, taking place at more than 530 colleges where students are pressing campuses to be "models of sustainability" in their transportation, building and energy policies.

There are also organizations that emphasize direct service. The Student Conservation Association (SCA) boasts some 3,000 current members (and 50,000 alumni) in four countries. Calling itself "conservation in action," SCA gets students'



Photo courtesy of Student Conservation Association
BIG FISH, LITTLE POND: A Student Conservation Association (SCA) intern helps conduct a salmon species study. SCA is in a growth mode for the time being.

hands dirty on a variety of restoration projects that connect participants to the land and provide valuable lessons in the process, hoping that students will be inspired to go on and protect the environment throughout their lives. Founded in 1957, SCA is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2007.

Another approach to student environmental activism is provided by Youth for Environmental Sanity (YES!). Since its founding in 1990 by two teens, YES! leaders have traveled the world conducting week-long student gatherings called "Jams," in which groups of about 30 convene to discuss environmental problems and ways to get involved. YES! Jams have involved some 650,000 students in 65 countries, and YES! says that its alumni have gone on to start more than 400 nonprofits working for positive change.

Student Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs) are also a growing entity on campuses. Each focuses on environmental concerns as well as on other issues such as world hunger and increasing voter turnout among 18-24 year-olds. They give students resources and tools including guides on leadership, media and campaign organizing. PIRGs focus on giving students experience and education in democratic citizenship by giving them skills that allow them to voice their opinions in an effective manner.

Want to get down to earth? Submit questions to earthtalk@emagazine.com.



John McGrail, C.Ht.

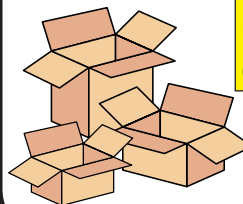
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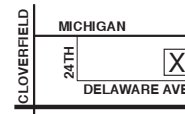
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The Q-Line

What to do?

We've all seen what ranting and raving has done for Don Imus' career. First they pulled the plug on his TV show for his offense remarks regarding the Rutgers women's basketball team. Next, they took him off the air.

This week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you feel that the punishment fit the crime for Imus?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in next weekend's edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.

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DAUCE

Dying for a rare shellfish delicacy

BY BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press Writer

FORT ROSS As abalone diver Joe Vojvoda prepared to don his wetsuit hood and gloves on a rocky beach, he mused about the shellfish delicacy that lures many to the frigid waters.

“To die for, just to die for,” Vojvoda said. The quest for the mighty mollusk is indeed deadly. Four people perished in the past week in California while pursuing abalone (pronounced ab-uh-LOH-nee), which is used in sushi and a variety of other Asian dishes and can sell for \$100 apiece on the black market.

Abalone hunters rappel down cliffs, clamber over treacherously slick rocks and

disappear into dark, choppy waters to pry mollusks from the ocean floor.

“That’s part of the fun, right? You get a little adrenaline going,” said one enthusiast, Ken Norton. “People get hurt, of course. People fall off rocks.” But he added: “There’s a little bit of danger in anything — driving around in your car.”

All four deaths in California this year happened over a five-day span in Mendocino County, which usually records three or four abalone-related deaths during the entire April-through-November season.

A new moon that drew large crowds to take advantage of unusually low tides, along with high winds that kicked up rough conditions, may have contributed to the latest deaths. The victims are believed to have

drowned or died of heart attacks.

Because divers are allowed to use only a snorkel, some black out as they rush to the surface for air. Others get tangled in kelp. Some get exhausted in the churning surf or overexert themselves prying the stubborn, snail-like creatures from rocks. Three years ago, a great white shark bit a diver’s head off.

Veteran divers and even the rock-pickers who ply chest-deep waters tell of being surprised by powerful surf that has washed them over the rocks or swept them out to sea.

Anthony Kan said in 20 years of abalone picking he has seen two people die. One died from hypothermia and another drowned in the weeds. He nearly died himself when he tripped at the edge of a cliff, catching a handful of grass before going over.

“I was really lucky,” the 69-year-old said.

In Sonoma County, which sees a couple of diving-related deaths a year, an abalone diver with a head wound was rescued April 15 after he fell down a 35-foot cliff.

On Saturday morning, Norton joined hundreds of wetsuit-clad hunters who scrambled down a grassy bluff and did an awkward dance over sea grass-covered boulders at Fort Ross State Historic Park where a reef juts into the Pacific and provides easy access.

Most used masks to search the shallows for easy pickings. Some groped the rocks for the large ear-shaped shells. The more adventurous swam out farther, where they bobbed up and down between breaths of air.

Some divers awoke as early as 4 a.m. to make the winding 90-mile trek north.

‘American Idol’ enlists stars to scare up funds

BY LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES “American Idol” viewers are getting the chance to weigh in on a cause bigger than their favorite singer — those in need in America and Africa.

The hit Fox TV show is combining its usual talent competition this week with “Idol Gives Back,” a star-filled fundraising effort. Bono, Celine Dion, Hugh Grant and Rascal Flatts are among those scheduled to take part Wednesday.

Those in charge of the show recognize they are walking a fine line, said an executive producer.

“We have to be really careful, because people watch

‘American Idol’ for entertainment and to see their favorite contestant,” said Cecile Frot-Coutaz, who oversees “Idol” as chief executive officer of producer FremantleMedia North America Inc.

“Maybe some people don’t want to spend two hours watching poverty and people suffering,” she said. “But we’re going to try to do it in a way that gives them great entertainment but raises awareness for people who are very poor, and children in particular, in the United States and Africa.”

Filmmaker Richard Curtis (“Love Actually,” “Notting Hill”), co-founder of Britain’s Red Nose Day charity, and “Idol” creator Simon Fuller have discussed making use of the top-rated show’s reach, Fox said. Curtis worked on “Idol Gives Back.”

On Tuesday’s show, the six finalists will perform what Fox is calling “life anthem” songs of compassion and hope. Viewers will vote as usual for the contestants, with donations coming in from corporations.

The audience will get to make its contribution on Wednesday during a two-hour show from the “American Idol” stage and Walt Disney Concert Hall. Viewer donations can be made by telephone via toll-free pledge lines or on the Internet.

Others set to take part include Ellen DeGeneres; Gwen Stefani; Earth, Wind & Fire; Il Divo; Keira Knightley; Josh Groban with the African Children’s Choir; Jack Black; Helen Mirren; Quincy Jones; Annie Lennox and past “Idol” winners Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood.

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Carl Laurysen, MD



Jurors harbor strong feelings about Spector

BY LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES The search for six alternate jurors for Phil Spector's murder trial uncovered strong feelings against the music producer Monday, including one man's view that his friends would think he was "a moron" if he acquitted Spector.

The man, an attorney, wrote that comment on his questionnaire along with a statement that he felt Spector was "likely guilty" of killing actress Lana Clarkson. He said he based his views on a single newspaper article and promised to put it aside if he was chosen for the panel.

"I have to follow the judge's instructions," he said. "The prosecution is required to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt."

But the prosecution used a peremptory challenge to remove him.

A woman panelist wasn't willing to put aside her flatly stated opinion: "He's guilty."

The woman, who said she is a fan of cable TV commentator Nancy Grace, said she was well-informed about the Clarkson shooting, heard that Spector "gave a statement that he said he killed her" and that he had a collection of guns. She said she also knew he had later given another statement changing his story and "I did not believe him."

"As you sit here today, you still think he's guilty?" asked defense attorney Linda Kenney Baden.

"I do," said the woman, who was dismissed by agreement of attorneys on both sides.

By day's end, six alternates had not yet been agreed upon and Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler ordered lawyers back to court Tuesday morning to continue the selection

process. He said he still intended to have jurors hear opening statements on Wednesday.

Another woman prospect said she knew nothing about Spector until a day before she came to court when a co-worker decided to give her a quick education in the case, telling her the details and pulling up articles on the Internet for her to read.

She wrote on her questionnaire that she believed Spector "must have been involved with the death and drugs were involved." But in court, she insisted, "I'm 100 percent sure I don't have an opinion because I don't know what happened."

The prospective juror was one of many who raised the subject of the O.J. Simpson trial when asked about celebrity cases.

"O.J.'s case was especially upsetting," she wrote, "because he was clearly guilty and now has written a book about it and has clearly slipped by."

But under questioning by Deputy District Attorney Pat Dixon she said she was sure she could weigh the evidence equally for both sides and would give Spector a fair trial.

Nevertheless, she was dismissed by a peremptory challenge from the defense. In peremptory challenges, a cause need not be stated for the dismissal.

Those who are chosen as alternates would move into a regular juror's seat should someone fall ill or leave for some other reason. They will join a regular panel of 12 jurors who include a network TV producer who covered the Spector case, a marketing director for a movie company, and an assistant to a Los Angeles deputy mayor.

The jury of nine men and three women also includes an electrician at a TV studio, an auto mechanic, a bank employee and an environmental health specialist.

STATE BRIEFS

SAN DIEGO

California condor hatches in Mexico for first time in decades

A California condor chick has hatched in Mexico for the first time in at least 60 years, scientists at the Zoological Society of San Diego said.

The bird was found in an abandoned eagle nest on a cliff in the Sierra San Pedro de Martir National Park, located in the arid interior of the Baja California peninsula more than 100 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border. Its parents were bred in U.S. zoos and released in Mexico in 2002.

Mike Wallace, a field scientist for the zoological society, visited the nest Sunday to check up on an egg. He was "exhilarated and surprised" to be greeted by an angry condor defending its newly hatched offspring.

The giant California condors were once widespread, swooping above the western United States, parts of Canada and Baja California.

Hunting, power cables and poison devastated the species' numbers and only 22 California condors were left by the 1980s. The last documented sighting in Mexico was in the 1930s, Wallace said.

Thanks to a captive-breeding program, numbers have recovered to a total of about 280. More than 100 of these fly free in the skies above parts of California, Nevada and Utah.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HESPERIA

Animals euthanized in SoCal shelter amid disease spread

Animal control staff euthanized dozens of animals from the city's shelter that were infected with potentially deadly viruses amid overcrowding at the facility, officials said.

The 46 dogs and 23 cats were put down after an outbreak of parvovirus and distemper, officials said this week.

The outbreak appears to be the result of a decision the animal control department made in late February to extend the delay from four to six days for putting down animal that are deemed not adoptable, development services director Scott Priester said.

The delay resulted in an increase in the facility's animal population forcing the shelter to double up animals in their cages, he said.

"Because of the number of animals, the likelihood of spread of disease increased," Priester said.

An attorney for the city recommended the delay after a judge found in favor of an animal owner who sued Kern County because her pet was euthanized before she could locate it.

AP

Kate Bransfield



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Kate was extremely well-organized from the beginning. It was quite clear from our initial meeting that she had had a lot of experience in real estate sales in this part of town, that she knew exactly what she was doing, and perhaps best of all, that she seemed to enjoy what she was doing! My contact with Kate was always reassuring and pleasant.

I am ready and willing to recommend Kate highly to everyone I know in Santa Monica and its environs when I hear that they are looking for a good real estate agent.

Jane (Seller ~ 253 18th Street, Santa Monica)

As of Late April 2007 Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale		
	Single Family Homes	Condo & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	= \$ 2,272,800	No Listings
North of Montana	= \$ 3,513,263	\$ 2,535,120
Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 3,045,000	\$ 716,000
South of Wilshire	= \$ 795,000	\$ 675,143
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,352,153	\$ 618,421
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,654,714	\$ 1,010,852
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Getting the skinny on Social Security

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON The odds that President Bush will be able to make significant changes in either Social Security or Medicare before leaving office appear increasingly slim.

But that doesn't mean Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, the administration's point man in the effort, has given up trying to achieve a breakthrough in what Bush once termed the top domestic priority for his second term.

The debate will be revived Monday when the trustees of Social Security and Medicare provide their annual update on the health of the government's two biggest benefit programs.

IT'S NEVER GOING TO BE DEAD UNTIL IT'S FINALLY DONE BECAUSE IT'S SUCH AN IMPORTANT ISSUE."

Henry Paulson
Treasury Secretary

The new report is expected to make only small changes in the estimates made last year for when both trust funds will be depleted.

Last year, the trustees put the date that Social Security would exhaust all the resources in its trust fund at 2040, one year earlier than previously estimated.

The date that the Medicare trust fund would be depleted was put at 2018, two years earlier than the previous year's estimate.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has warned of a looming fiscal crisis, given that 78 million baby boomers are headed into retirement. The first baby boomers will turn 62 next year and will become eligible to start receiving Social Security benefits.

Bush sought to fix the problem by creating private accounts for younger workers, but this idea went nowhere in Congress. Democrats charged that Bush's real goal was to achieve major savings by cutting benefits.

While the entitlement debate stalled in 2005, the administration hoped Paulson, the widely respected head of investment giant Goldman Sachs, would be able to revive the effort.

In his first major speech as Treasury secretary last August, Paulson called the growth in Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid the "biggest economic issue facing our country." He said trying to find a solution was a major reason why he took the job.

When Democrats took control of Congress in last November's elections, Paulson reached out to the incoming leaders in an effort to find common ground.

While Democrats and Paulson's aides say discussions are still under way, there have been no signs of progress after months of behind-the-scenes talks. Paulson has begun to sound less positive about the chances for a breakthrough.

In an interview Friday, Paulson said that if his effort doesn't succeed, he hopes the discussions will at least lay the groundwork for success after this administration leaves office.

"Let me say this: It's never going to be dead until it's finally done because it's such an important issue," Paulson said in an interview Friday on PBS' "The Charlie Rose Show."

Bush, after winning re-election in 2004, declared that he had political capital that he planned to use on such issues as Social Security reform. But now, with Democrats in control of Congress and Bush mired in an unpopular war, the president's political influence has been greatly reduced.

"To do something like a Social Security solvency package, which would include benefit trims and tax increases like the 1983 agreement, you need a president with a lot of political capital," said Robert Greenstein, director of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. "Mr. Bush doesn't have much capital left."

"I don't think we will make any substantive progress on reform until a crisis is looming," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com, an economic forecasting company. "Reform may be prompted by some sort of financial crisis as investors respond to the worsening budget deficits."



Simon Says
Simon Salloom

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Affordable housing is an elusive thing to find in Santa Monica

ALMOST EVERY WEEKEND OF THE YEAR

I do an open house. Inevitably, during one of these three hour windows of time, someone will come in and we'll begin discussing the current real estate market. Sometimes this person will be incredibly discouraged by the great expense it takes to own a home on the Westside. And often enough they will make a comment like, "Well, it's great for you real estate agents, you're making more money!"

INSTEAD OF ALLOWING TENANTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO AFFORD THE JOY OF HOME OWNERSHIP, THE SYSTEM ENCOURAGES DEVELOPERS TO TEAR-DOWN THE OLD BUILDINGS.

That's when I stop and tell them that it's not great for me. I don't like seeing more and more people priced out of the market. It's disappointing when a young family of three, both parents working professionals, can't afford a two bedroom house or condo in a decent neighborhood. There are many great things about owning your own place, and once you have children it is even more important.

Some California economists are expecting a second wave of an increase in property values along the California coast. This will supposedly happen as the baby boomer generation begins to retire over the next five to ten years. This would further reduce the affordability of housing. I really have a lot of love for the baby boomers — that generation of Americans brought us civil rights and Bob Dylan. However, vibrant economies don't happen in geographic locations dominated by retirees where young families can't afford to take up residence. I live and sell real estate in Los Angeles

because it's vibrant, active and exciting.

The current housing affordability index was released this week by the California Association of Realtors. The current affordability index statewide is at just 25 percent. This means just one in four households of first-time buyers can afford to own by their own means. Many people in this situation end up receiving outside help from parents or relatives, making this figure probably closer to 35 percent of first time buyers are able to afford a home. The figure for Los Angeles County is at 19 percent of households that can afford a home at the median price of \$500,000. Considering the median price for a house in Santa Monica is \$1,500,000 and a condo is \$805,000, affordability in our fine little liberal community is closer to 10 percent.

What can we do? One thing we could do is encourage City Hall to relax condo conversion laws and make it easier to build in Santa Monica. The main law of commerce is supply and demand. If we had more supply in relation to demand, properties would be more affordable. If you look around Santa Monica, when a building is taken down, say a ten-unit apartment building, the developers end up building four to five townhouses. The city doesn't allow condo conversions to protect tenants. So, instead of allowing tenants the opportunity to afford the joy of home ownership, the system encourages developers to tear-down the old buildings. They move everyone out and rebuild a less efficient property that caters to a significantly smaller number of households. The city doesn't allow you to build an eight to ten unit building of single level residences. This sort of design is more efficient. The city should also allow new three- to five-story properties instead of just two-story buildings. Let's have building restrictions that encourage more for sale housing to be built, not less.

I agree that development needs to have restrictions and the beautiful aesthetic of our neighborhoods needs to be preserved. However, let's not continue to confuse the true intent of socially liberal values. Let's make it easier for people to afford to live here, not harder. What do I know, I'm just a real estate agent.

SIMON SALLOOM is a REALTOR at Coldwell Banker. You can comment on this article at www.santamonicasimon.com

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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Avoiding scary search

BUYING A HOME CAN BE A SCARY venture for anyone, but with the right help it doesn't have to be. In southern California, before someone buys a home, they must decide what type to purchase. Two common types of homes are a single family house and a condominium.

A house — in the traditional sense — is an improvement, dwelling or structure on a plot of land. When you think of a house, you probably think of four walls and a roof, which is not too far from the truth. One benefit to owning a house over a condominium is not having to share any amenities such as a pool, laundry room, etc. However, homes do have drawbacks. One of the largest issues many new homeowners have with houses are the maintenance costs. When you own a single-family residence, you are the sole person responsible for the property. Another possible downside is that houses in Southern California fetch a premium, but tend to hold their value better than condominiums in down markets.

While a house has many benefits, condominiums — or condos — have their own benefits. A condo, defined as individual ownership in a building with shared common areas, is a good house alternative. To cover building maintenance, property insurance and other costs in a condominium, individual owners pay monthly assessments, also known as condo dues or fees. The benefit, in theory, to having dues is that recurring building maintenance is taken care of when needed without having to reassess the owners. Some condo associations delay regular maintenance, which can lead to higher dues in the future. However, if larger improve-

ments are needed or requested such as a gym, owners can vote to raise their dues to cover the cost. As much as sharing the cost of common areas is a benefit, it can also be a drawback. If sharing a laundry room or pool, you may have to wait for quiet times to enjoy them. Of course, a condo will tend to be less costly than a house.

Although a house with the same square footage as a condo in the same area will usually cost more, financing is not always in favor of the condo. One thing people tend to forget about when calculating a mortgage payment are the condo fees. Condo fees affect the amount of a loan a person can afford. At 6.50 percent, \$350 condo fees would equal \$55,000 in loan dollars, meaning you could get a condo with a loan of \$545,000 or a house with a loan of \$600,000 and have the same payment.

More often than not, people would rather have a house over a condo.

Regardless of which type of home you purchase, having a home gives you a place to call your own. With a home, you gain tax benefits that few other non-real estate investments give you. If you are in the market for a home, talk to a real estate professional such as a real estate agent. A realtor will be able to give great information quickly. Realtors also know a real estate market since they deal with it day in and day out. A realtor is your best bet to finding that first condo or the home of your dreams.

MIKE HEAYN is a Washington Mutual multi-family loan consultant. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342 or michael.heayn@wamu.net.



Market Matters

Brian Hepp

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Spelling great portfolio additions

IF YOUR INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO consists of a combination of stocks, bonds and mutual funds, you are off to a good start. But if you haven't already looked into them yet, you may want to consider adding Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) to your portfolio mix. ETFs can provide you an investment with the flexibility, ease and liquidity of stock trading, but they also share some of the benefits of traditional index fund investing.

Here, we will take a look at some of the attributes of these increasingly popular investments.

Trading Flexibility: An ETF is a basket of securities, typically designed to replicate the performance of an index of some kind, for example, a stock index such as the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average. As with stocks, the prices of ETFs change continuously during the day. This is because they are listed on an exchange like stocks and can be traded intra-day at a price set by the market. ETFs can hold shares in hundreds, sometimes even thousands of companies, typically grouped together under a single investment theme, such as real estate or alternative energy, so they are a good tool for portfolio diversification.

Affordable with Low Expenses: Small investors don't need thousands of dollars to buy into ETFs. Although their market prices change constantly, ETFs have no minimum investment requirements (although the investor must buy whole shares rather than investing a set dollar amount) and they do not charge any fees for early withdrawals. Additionally, their annual operating costs can be relatively low, so they can be an affordable investment option. Keep in mind that the transaction costs of frequent trading can offset

the benefits of low expense ratios.

Tax Efficiency: ETFs tend to generate fewer capital gains than other types of securities due to low turnover of their underlying securities. Also, because they are traded on an exchange, they are not required to sell securities to meet investor cash redemptions. It is important to keep in mind that you will generate a taxable event if you sell the ETF shares, but during the time you hold them you won't be subject to some of the same tax consequences as other types of investments.

Holdings Are Transparent: The holdings within an ETF will be the same or very close to the underlying index it is tracking. ETFs also disclose their holdings on a daily basis in order to facilitate the creation/redemption process. As a result of this open structure, you'll always have a clear picture of exactly what you're invested in so you can keep track of how your ETF holdings fit into your overall investment picture.

Exchange traded funds clearly have many advantages that could benefit your portfolio. Given their low expense ratios and tax-efficient nature, ETFs are an ideal choice for investors who want long-term, diversified equity or fixed-income exposure. ETFs offer investors a wide-array of investment opportunities in different areas as well, as investors can choose from ETFs targeted towards large-cap, mid-cap, small-cap, growth, value, fixed-income and even foreign indices. Keep in mind, your investment return and principal value will fluctuate. You may receive more or less than your original investment when you redeem your shares.

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

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Rapid diagnosis for heart issues

Santa Monica Fire Department beefs up cardiac response

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

The Santa Monica Fire Department is looking to mend a few broken hearts.

Residents suffering a possible heart attack will be able to receive an electrocardiogram, or EKG, as soon as paramedics arrive. Through the EKG, paramedics will be able to tell if the patient is having a certain type of heart attack, called a "STEMI," or ST elevation myocardial infarction.

That type of heart attack can often be treated successfully using a procedure involving cardiac catheterization and placement of a stent to open up the arteries in the heart, said Jodi Nevandro, RN, the EMS educator for fire department.

"The reason there is so much focus on early detection for this type of heart attack is that if treated immediately, one can save the heart muscle where as in other attacks, part of the heart muscle dies," Nevandro said.

Once paramedics identify a STEMI, they alert the hospital so staff there can begin preparing to treat the patient before they arrive. The patient is transported to a specially approved hospital called an SRC, for STEMI Receiving Center. The closest SRC for Santa Monica is the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

The American Heart Association recommends performing an angioplasty immediately after a STEMI to open blocked blood vessels and restore blood to the heart. Nearly 400,000 patients each year in the United States suffer from STEMI, caused by the sudden, total blockage of an artery.

Paramedics began offering the "Cardiac Care Program" in March after purchasing six new state-of-the-art cardiac monitors for roughly \$15,000 each. The monitors were paid for with funds from Measure B, a special parcel tax passed by voters in 2002 to help fund trauma and emergency services and bioterrorism preparedness efforts.



**THE REASON
THERE IS SO
MUCH FOCUS ON EARLY
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IS THAT IF TREATED
IMMEDIATELY, ONE CAN
SAVE THE HEART MUSCLE
WHERE AS IN OTHER
ATTACKS, PART OF THE
HEART MUSCLE DIES."**

Jodi Nevandro
EMS educator for fire department.

Residents are reminded to always call 911 if they are experiencing chest pain, chest discomfort, shortness of breath or other symptoms that might be related to a heart problem.

news@smdp.com

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

Bike parking getting easier in Southern California cities

By the Associated Press

A new kind of valet parking service springing up in Southern California tends to cyclists instead of motorists.

Santa Monica hires staff to park between 200 and 250 bicycles at its crowded Sunday market and is bracing for up to 350 bikes this summer, officials said.

Other cities, like Long Beach, have full-featured parking structures for bicycles where attendants fill up tires and repair bikes.

Santa Barbara plans to open a bike center May 1 with hot showers and locker rooms where cycling commuters can make them-

selves presentable for work.

Pasadena, meanwhile, is preparing plans for a bike center near a light-rail stop in its Old Pasadena section.

By encouraging more cyclists with valet parking and full-service bike-parking structures, cities are helping the environment and promoting public health, observers said.

But cyclists say they're just glad to have convenient places to stash their bikes.

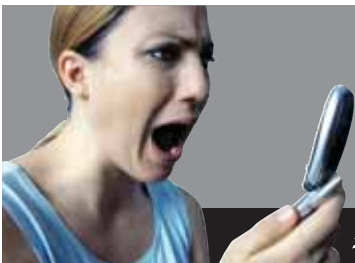
"You can have all the bike lanes you want, but when you get to your location, you need a place to park," said Russ Roca, 29, of Long Beach.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Francis gets 35-day trip to Florida jail

FROM WILD PAGE 3

Francis has served in prison since April 10. He should be released in about 20 days, according to his defense attorney, Jan Handzlik of Los Angeles.

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JOE COULD'VE
BEEN SENTENCED AS
MUCH AS SIX MONTHS TO
A YEAR ON THE TWO
CONTEMPT CHARGES SO
35 DAYS IS NOT AS BAD
OUTCOME."**

Jan Handzlik
defense attorney for Joe Francis

"We are disappointed by the sentence, hoping that Mr. Francis would've been released yesterday," Handzlik said on Tuesday. "However, we recognize Joe could've been sentenced as much as six months to a year on the two contempt charges, so 35 days is not as bad an outcome."

Following the completion of his federal

sentence, however, Francis still faces legal ramifications from an incident in which he allegedly tried to bribe a prison guard with \$500 for a bottle of water earlier this month.

On April 12, Bay County Sheriff's Department charged Francis with introducing contraband into a county detention facility, possessing a controlled substance and bribery of a public servant.

Francis allegedly offered a jail guard \$100 for bottled water and when the guard refused, he upped the offer to \$500. It was then the corrections officer became suspicious, since inmates in custody are not allowed to carry cash.

A search of Francis' cell turned up \$700 in cash and loose sleeping and anti-anxiety pills for Lunesta, Alprazolam and Lorazepam.

Suspicious as to how he came in possession of the cash and pills, officials reviewed taped phone conversations that Francis had made since his arrest. In an April 11 call, Francis spoke to a person identified as "Scott" about receiving the cash and pills. He was later identified as Scott Barbour, the president of Mantra Films, which produces Girls Gone Wild. Authorities believe Barbour identified himself as an attorney in gaining access to Francis' cell on April 12.

Barbour was also arrested and charged with introduction of a contraband on April 12.

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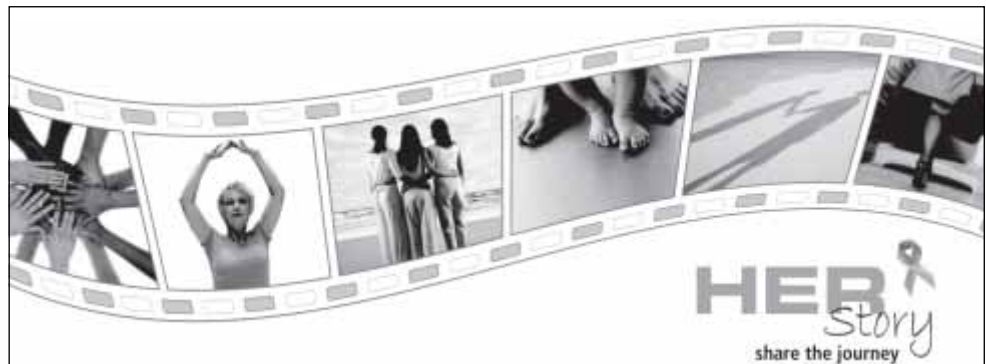
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'EcoFabulous' event draws 'em in

FROM GREEN PAGE 1

rental car business. With public lots in several Downtown Santa Monica locations, Flexcar encourages people to ditch their cars in favor of alternative transportation. In the rare occasions that a car is needed, for short trips to the grocery store or a visit to the doctor, Flexcar offers cars that can be rented on an hourly basis.

"It's designed so you can get a little extra distance that the bike can't take you," Kemp said.

The intent of her visit to Santa Monica College on Tuesday, like many other vendors, was to raise awareness for her organization, taking advantage of the opportunity to recruit potential volunteers who were present for the release of the 2005-06 SMC Environmental Audit.

GRADING SMC

A report card that rates the college's efforts in sustainable practices was launched in May of last year. The collaborative effort of students, faculty and city staff, the audit assesses the college's performance in areas such as water, energy, transportation, solid waste and recycling, purchasing, hazardous materials, food services and education.

The 100 page-plus report outlines areas in which the college has improved since its last audit in 1993, and areas where the college could fare better, offering suggestions in the process.

The audit shows that the college is performing well in areas such as water conservation and handling of hazardous material, but could improve in conserving energy and encouraging alternative transportation, said Genevieve Bertone, the chair of the Audit Subcommittee and executive director of Sustainable Works, a non-profit partnership of the city and the college.

"We're hoping to institutionalize sustainable practices," Bertone said on Tuesday.

The college has reduced water use by 8 percent from 2000 to 2006, even though the campus population increased by 3 percent during that same time frame. But in 2005 to 2006, the water usage actually increased

by 5 percent.

The college was not as efficient in its energy usage in the past few years. In 2006, energy usage increased by 13 percent from the previous year, resulting in a energy bill of \$1.5 million last year to operate the entire campus. The study recommends the college implement an on-site solar generator in conserving energy usage.



WE'RE HOPING TO INSTITUTE SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES."

Genevieve Bertone
chair of audit subcommittee

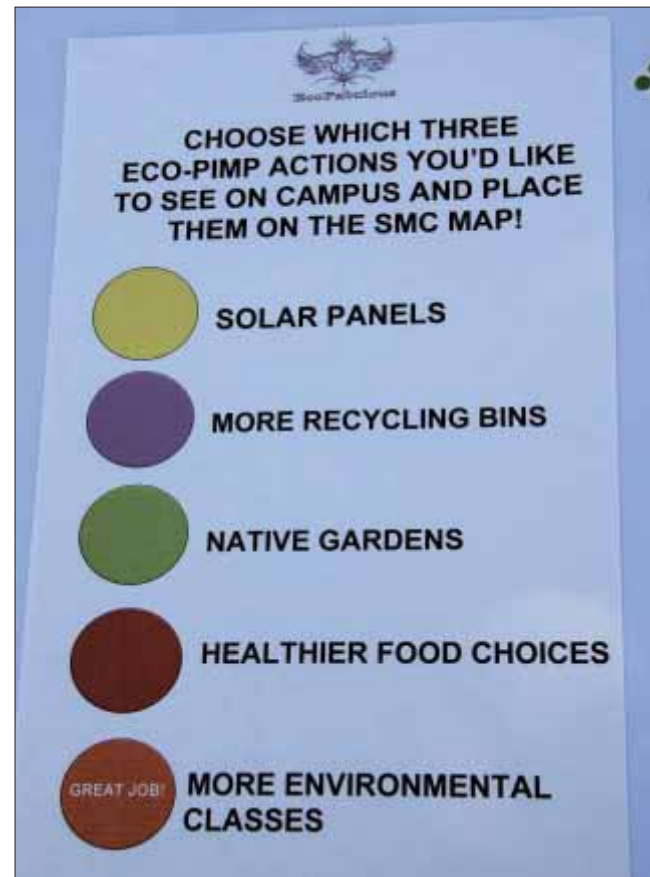
One area where the college will show improvement in the immediate future is in transportation, as it plans to add more Big Blue Bus and MTA routes servicing the Santa Monica College campus. The college is currently subsidizing the new bus routes it has added as it looks into adding more lines.

The transportation initiative program aims to increase bus ridership while decreasing the number of cars that come in and out of the college every day. As a result, the program would reduce neighborhood congestion as well as air and noise pollution.

Playing with a small model of a Big Blue Bus, SMC President Dr. Chui Tsang talked about the initiative program during the "EcoFabulous" event, saying it will help students save time in finding a parking spot, and save them money since they would no longer have to pay for a parking permit or gas.

Along with all the guests who spoke that morning, Tsang praised the environmental audit, agreeing that suggestions such as the installation of a solar grid would not only help the college, but benefit the state, nation and the world.

"It will benefit more than those of us living here," he said.



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

DOT MATRIX: Santa Monica College students place colored dots where they would like to see environmental improvements during the EcoFabulous Event on Tuesday.

The SMC Environmental Audit is available online at <http://www.smc.edu/ceus/greencampus.htm>

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LET'S SEE: Students study a map of SMC to decide where ecologically responsible improvements need to be made across the entire facility. They then placed colored dots on each location where the most work needed to be done.

Catching SM intersection blockers

FROM TRAFFIC PAGE 3

Blocking an intersection has become a serious problem, not only in Santa Monica, but in other cities as well because of the increase in traffic on city streets. Online message boards show drivers are constantly complaining about cars sitting in the middle of intersections, preventing them from proceeding in their given direction.

"Every day (I) get crazed at people who pull into the intersection without the path ahead being cleared," one driver in Las Vegas wrote. "Their traffic light turns red, mine green and I cannot move ... this happens ALL (sic) the time!"

The genesis for GAP began when the Transit Mall first opened in downtown, according to Muir. On weekends and in the summer, officers noticed heavy traffic flows and congestion. Signs were posted warning drivers to not block the intersections, but the problem persisted. This forced the SMPD to create GRID, or Gridlock Reduction in Downtown. That program was expanded citywide.

There are three components — public education, enforcement and traffic control. In addition to signage and the citations, traffic control officers are stationed at popular intersections to guide cars through.

Residents along with city staff helped the SMPD identify key intersections where blocking is a problem, such as Main Street and Pico Boulevard, Fourth Street and the 10 Freeway on-ramp, Ninth Street and Alta Avenue, as well as several intersections along Lincoln Boulevard.

"We continue to collaborate with the



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

CROSSED-UP: Cars pull into the intersection of Pico Boulevard and Ocean Avenue on Tuesday, with one motorist not leaving room for a pedestrian.

community and Transportation Management to come up with new methods and new ideas for signage, striping and other plans," Muir said. "We work together and try to reach as many people as possible. We go to

PTA meetings to discuss traffic with parents and the schools to make people aware of the importance of driving safely."

Officers are looking to expand the program to "as many intersections as

possible," Muir said.

Drivers beware: A green light doesn't always mean go.

kevinh@smdp.com

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Expanding drug testing in schools

BY KEN RITTER

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS Random drug testing of students should be expanded in the nation's schools and grant money is available to pay for it, a top federal drug policy official said Tuesday.

"Random testing has worked in multiple sectors of our society," deputy "drug czar" Bertha Madras declared before meeting educators from Nevada and 18 other states in a regional "summit" touting the idea.

Madras, deputy director of demand reduction in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, said about 1,000 schools around the country were conducting random testing, including 413 using federal funds and

guidelines under a program that began in 2003.

The Bush administration has provided almost \$36 million to schools to initiate random student testing since 2002 when the U.S. Supreme Court cleared the way for public schools to test students enrolled in athletic programs or school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

Madras invited the 115 educators and treatment providers to apply by May 8 for a piece of \$1.6 million more in federal grants to begin or expand programs in what she termed "legal, confidential and private random student drug testing."

Outside the conference, Jennifer Kern, campaign coordinator of a San Francisco-based group opposed to school-based drug testing, argued that casting a wider net to test more students will only erode trust between adolescents and

adults.

"Their key idea is catching them or scaring them," said Kern, whose organization dubs itself Drug Testing Fails Our Youth.

"We should be using our scarce resources to educate our young people, not put them under expensive surveillance programs."

Madras characterized critics of the program as "pro-legalizers."

She acknowledged that data is limited on both sides, but said the Department of Education expects results in 2009 of a three-year study of schools in nine states.

It will look for drug use trends at 18 schools using random drug testing, 18 that are not, and 12 in which students will be asked only to fill out drug use surveys.

State has right to enforce hunting

BY JENNIFER DOBNER

Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY The Utah Supreme Court on Tuesday restored the state's right to enforce hunting laws in "Indian Country," overturning a 2005 state appeals court decision.

In a 5-0 decision, the justices also reinstated the poaching convictions of three men, saying "the state has jurisdiction over crimes committed in Indian Country when a non-Indian commits a victimless crime."

The decision restores state hunting regulations to their original form, Utah Assistant Attorney General Joanne Slotnik said.

"Since the Court of Appeals decision, the state has been unable to enforce state hunting regulations. As of today, it can," Slotnik said.

A telephone message left by The Associated Press for Michael Humiston, the attorney who represents the three hunters was not immediately returned.

The dispute began in 2002, when a boy shot and killed a trophy deer while hunting with his father without a state permit or a tag for the animal. Rickie L. Reber and his son said they were members of an obscure Indian tribe and didn't need one.

Reber was convicted of third-degree felony aiding and assisting in the wanton destruction of wildlife.

Tillman's brother assails government

BY SCOTT LINDLAW

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Pat Tillman's brother accused the military Tuesday of "intentional falsehoods" and "deliberate and careful misrepresentations" in portraying the football star's death in Afghanistan as the result of heroic engagement with the enemy instead of friendly fire.

"We believe this narrative was intended to deceive the family but more importantly the American public," Kevin Tillman told a House Government Reform and Oversight Committee hearing. "Pat's death was clearly the result of fratricide," he said.

"Revealing that Pat's death was a fratricide would have been yet another political disaster in a month of political disasters ... so the truth needed to be suppressed," said Tillman, who was in a convoy behind his brother when the incident happened three years ago but didn't see it.

The committee's chairman, Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., accused the government of inventing "sensational details and stories" about Pat Tillman's death and the 2003 rescue of Jessica Lynch, perhaps the most famous victims of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

Lynch, then an Army private, was badly injured when her convoy was ambushed in Iraq. She was subsequently rescued by American troops from an Iraqi hospital but the tale of her ambush was changed into a story of heroism on her part.

Still hampered by her injuries, Lynch walked slowly to the witness table and took a seat alongside Tillman's

family members.

"The bottom line is the American people are capable of determining their own ideals of heroes and they don't need to be told elaborate tales," Lynch said.

Kevin Tillman said his family has sought for years to get at the truth about Pat Tillman's death, and have now concluded that they were "being actively thwarted by powers that are more interested in protecting a narrative than getting at the truth and seeing justice is served."

Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., questioned how high up the chain of command the information about Tillman's friendly fire death went, and whether anyone in the White House knew before Tillman's family.

Pat Tillman's mother, Mary Tillman, said she believed former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld must have known. "The fact that he would have died by friendly fire and no one told Rumsfeld is ludicrous," she said.

Tillman was killed on April 22, 2004, after his Army Ranger comrades were ambushed in eastern Afghanistan. Rangers in a convoy trailing Tillman's group had just emerged from a canyon where they had been fired upon. They saw Tillman and mistakenly fired on him.

Though dozens of soldiers knew quickly that Tillman had been killed by his fellow troops, the Army said initially that he was killed by enemy gunfire when he led his team to help another group of ambushed soldiers. It was five weeks before his family was told the truth, a delay the Army has blamed on procedural mistakes.

Pat Tillman's mother, Mary Tillman, told the committee family members were "absolutely appalled."

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Benitez gets back in game

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Armando Benitez strolled through the clubhouse one day last week with humongous headphones over his ears and wearing the shiny black workout shirt he credits for helping him burn fat fast.

As in 25 pounds since the start of spring training.

The next day, he bounced around the room grinning as he ordered teammates to pay their fines into a cardboard box where he stores the cash for safekeeping.

Gone are the signs of anxiety surrounding San Francisco's closer, and the days when he got booed in his own ballpark almost from the moment he began warming up in the bullpen — then even nastier chants once he headed to the mound.

Gone are the extra pounds he carried on his 6-foot-4 frame, and gone are the aches in his arthritic knees and tender hamstrings that made it difficult to do the workouts necessary to improve his fitness level. His right knee was so bad last year he could barely put pressure on it.

"It's not easy to be on the mound on only one leg," said Benitez, who missed 96 games in 2005 in his first season with the Giants following surgery to reattach two torn hamstring tendons to the pelvis. "I know I can pitch. Right now I'm happy. I'm confident in my pitches."

The Giants can count on Benitez coming through in the ninth again. That's after they tried to get rid of him this winter only to learn there weren't many interested teams.

Benitez has converted all four of his save opportunities, but hasn't done so without some drama. In Friday night's 4-2 win over the Arizona Diamondbacks, he walked two batters before working out of the jam and retiring Orlando Hudson to end the game. He allowed two baserunners Saturday but also had a pair of strikeouts to preserve a 1-0 victory for ace Barry Zito.

Benitez assured manager Bruce Bochy he could go out again Sunday if needed when Matt Cain got into some trouble in the ninth before finishing a three-hitter in a 2-1 win, the Giants' season-best fifth in a row.

"He feels great," Bochy said. "He is a horse and is a guy who can throw every day. He is pitching with a lot of confidence right now. He wants to get out there when he can and the opportunity presents itself."

Benitez, a two-time All-Star who ranks seventh among active closers with 284 career saves, struggled last season. He blew eight of his 25 save opportunities and questions about his health and his \$7.6 million salary made trading him difficult.

"Early in spring training, he was a little different," said catcher Bengie Molina, in his first season working with the pitcher. "But when he started pitching, I saw the same guy. He told us he was ready to ready to go and he wanted to prove to everybody he could pitch. He's doing really well."

The Giants have said they consider Brian

Wilson a candidate to be their closer of the future, and Benitez had to prove to the club this spring that he was healthy and could be an effective closer again.

"It looks like his velocity to an extent is back," Arizona manager Bob Melvin said. "It's not 99 where it used to be, but when

“HE TOLD US HE WAS READY TO GO AND HE WANTED TO PROVE TO EVERYBODY HE COULD PITCH. HE’S DOING REALLY WELL.”

Bengie Molina
Giants catcher

you see 94-95, the bravado's back. For closers, there's a lot of psychology that plays into it. For him, I'm sure he likes to see his velocity back."

While the fans have been mostly supportive so far, they might be only one blown save from turning on him. The way Benitez is feeling, he hopes that won't happen.

He is a trim 250 pounds, looking as fit as he has in years. He has cut out alcohol, doesn't eat late at night and is committed to salads and protein shakes.

"He's worked," Bochy said. "All spring, he put on his workout suit and was consistent with his workouts. He kept himself in shape and it's paying off for him."

While it makes sense for Benitez to be back in form considering he's in a contract year, he also was on a mission to show everyone that he can still be a reliable ninth-inning option and that the biggest difference for him now is just being healthy again.

During spring training, he began power walking for 12 minutes on the treadmill with an incline and now he's up to 20 or 25 minutes. The Giants' training staff is preaching the importance of sticking to his routine and smart diet.

"When you have gone through the things he went through the last few years, you can't work out," head trainer Dave Groeschner said. "It's just little things, but a lot of little things have helped him lose weight — and it's helped."

As far as last season, Benitez says "I don't want to talk about that." It has meant a lot to him that Bochy believes in what he can do and that his teammates have regained their trust in him.

"The manager knows what he has," Benitez said. "He has confidence in me. Everybody in the room believes in what I can do. (Bochy) has given me an opportunity, and I don't want to disappoint anybody. ... Papi's back."



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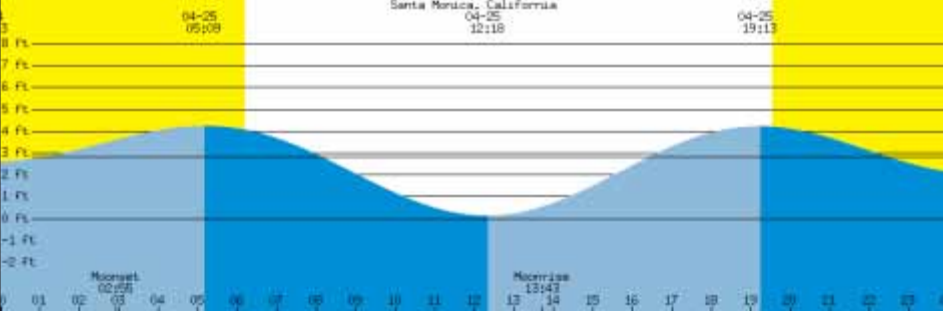
SWELL FORECAST (5-7 FT)

Today the SW backs off considerably as the NW takes a temporary drop to chest high + for west facing breaks. We do though have a rather robust NW swell due on Thursday, and some forerunners are expected to bring some occasional pluses to west facing breaks. Weather and winds are looking ideal, similar to today. The tide looks manageable as well.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

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TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **April 17, 2007**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 2
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 0
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / ns
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

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

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

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

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

Be a duo, Capricorn

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)

★★★★ Finally, you feel as if you are flowing. Follow through on what might seem to many an impulsive idea. Your fiery energy punctuates your choices. A friend clearly doesn't understand what you are up to. Tonight: Ever creative.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Creativity stems from being centered. Clearly a boss or someone you look up to doesn't understand how you process things. You might not be able to explain where you are coming from either. Do yourself a favor – don't worry. Tonight: Think of your home as your castle.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Be careful not to chat someone to death. You might not be absolutely sure which way to proceed with a dubious matter. Clearly you do have all the facts. Information will keep tumbling in. Tonight: Work on your listening skills.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Your possessiveness might mar what could be an easy day where you gain, especially financially. Don't buy another's hard sell. There is much more to this story than you realize. Understand your options, but don't make a decision just yet. Tonight: Time to treat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Follow through on a decision, even if a partner doesn't support you. Blaze a trail knowing that right now you will land well. Not every moment is as fortunate as this one. Use your time well. Tonight: Do your thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Deliberate rather than act. Make strong choices, but perhaps wait to act on them. By tomorrow, life's situations could look a lot different. Work with someone distinctly and directly. A personal matter will work out. Tonight: Get as much sleep as you can, because tomorrow holds surprises.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ A little ingenuity or risk here and there will help you zoom in and create your desires. Be careful with financial risking, as, like it or not, there could be a huge backfire. Tonight: Hang with your friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Much drops on you out of the blue. You don't need to agree, yet take a hard look at a career matter or an issue that could be related to your well-being. A family member might be adding to the confusion. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Once more, Lady Luck plays a substantial role in your decisions. You might be tentative about a trip or some other eye-opening experience. Don't be; jump in. Enjoy what comes forward. Tonight: Relax to fine music or a good movie.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Teamwork draws unanticipated results. If you want to try something differently or manage a matter in a more powerful manner, listen to someone who has that operating style. Strong feedback comes your way. Tonight: Be a duo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Take a strong look at what might be going on around you. What you can be sure of is that you might not be able to do what you want, vis-à-vis an emotional situation. Choose what is important. Tonight: A meeting has impact.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Take charge and get a job done. Through role-modeling, you can convey your sense of what is needed to get the job done correctly. Evaluate a decision with this information in mind. Don't allow your own needs to interfere right now. Tonight: A must-go situation.

Born Today

Puritan leader Oliver Cromwell (1599)

Radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi (1874)

Actor Al Pacino (1940)

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

How you handle situations involving your home life could separate you from many. A partnership, be it personal or professional, provides many avenues for gain. Sometimes you might be slightly put out or confused by others. Be aware that a boss doesn't mean to be vague, or a parent difficult. Creativity surfaces. If you are single, you'll discover that you have much more going for you than you might think. Others do whatever they need to be close. If you are attached, take a long-overdue vacation or special retreat together. LEO understands and gives you a strong sense of centering.

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Being Jimi

Want to play like Hendrix? Guitar World publications explain the way

Guitarists have been copying **JIMI HENDRIX** for decades. Now they can learn some of the legendary rocker’s work note for note.

Guitar World magazine will release a special 16-page Hendrix tribute and an instructional DVD that shows how to play each memorable note and

string-bending lick on his classic 1967 album, “Axis: Bold As Love.” The DVD-magazine package hits newsstands Tuesday.

“Not only are you going to learn some of Jimi Hendrix’s greatest licks,” the magazine’s editor-in-chief, Brad Tolinski, says on the DVD’s introduction, “but we also

hope to provide you with a little bit of history on the making of ‘Axis: Bold As Love,’ as well as some insight into his creative musical genius.”

The magazine tribute includes a complete biography of the guitarist and replicas of concert posters. The DVD includes original photographs and

studio footage of Hendrix at work, as well as three hours of instruction covering the 13 songs on “Axis,” which Tolinski describes as “the disc that captures a perfect moment in the life and career of James Marshal Hendrix.”

Janie Hendrix, Jimi’s stepsister and chief executive of Experience Hendrix,

which oversees his musical legacy, said the tribute package “underscores the timelessness and Jimi’s music and spirit.”

This is the first in what is set to be a series of special releases, Tolinski said.

The package sells for \$9.99.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BROKER BUSTED

A classic-car broker who swindled actor **NICOLAS CAGE** and other clients before he was caught in Spain was sentenced Tuesday to five years in prison and \$1.8 million in restitution.

Peter Brotman, 47, of Oaks, sold collectables such as a 1964 Rolls-Royce, a 1988 Aston Martin and a 1954 Jaguar on consignment, then kept the money or used it to pay off earlier debts.

Cage, identified in the 14-count indictment as “N.C.,” lost \$300,000 in April 2004 when Brotman didn’t send him the full proceeds from the sale of three Ferraris and a Cobra.

“The guy was extremely knowledgeable in the classic-car industry,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Floyd J. Miller said after the sentencing hearing. “It’s a very insular community of mostly wealthy people. They have these auctions at Pebble Beach, Monte Carlo, other places where the rich and famous meet.”

Brotman also defrauded Willow Grove Bank out of \$950,000 they lent him to run his suburban Philadelphia business, Pennsylvania Motor Sports, prosecutors said.

He apologized in court Tuesday to his victims, saying he had made poor decisions, defense lawyer Noah Gorson said.

Gorson argued in court papers that Brotman went to Europe to pursue work so he could repay them. At one point, he pledged the proceeds of a \$450 million art deal he hoped to broker, but questions arose about the authenticity of the 93 pieces.

AP

Michael has court and a concert

GEORGE MICHAEL must appear in court on drug charges a day before a sellout concert at London’s new Wembley Stadium, a district judge ruled Tuesday.

The 43-year-old singer, whose real name is George Panayiotou, was arrested in October. He

faces charges of driving under the influence of drugs.

His trial starts May 8, followed by May 30, May 31 and June 8 hearings.

Michael will play the first concert at Wembley Stadium on June 9.

District Judge Katherine Marshall rejected an appli-

cation for Michael to be allowed to be absent throughout the trial.

Marshall said she wanted Michael to be in court May 8 and would be willing, if he didn’t wish to remain at the trial, to bail him to reappear on the final day.

“He is around in the area

because I believe he is appearing at Wembley Stadium. I do not think he will have any difficulty in being here on June 8,” Marshall said.

Michael rose to fame in the 1980s as half of the duo Wham! before starting his solo career.

AP

Ebert plans on making appearance

ROGER EBERT plans to attend his annual festival for overlooked movies this week, returning to public view for the first time since having cancer surgery.

The 64-year-old film critic had surgery June 16 to remove a cancerous growth on his salivary gland. He also had emergency surgery July 1 after a blood vessel burst near the site of the operation.

In a column in Tuesday’s Chicago Sun-Times, Ebert wrote that what happened was cancer of the salivary

gland had spread to his right lower jaw. A segment of the mandible was removed, and two operations to replace that segment were both unsuccessful, “leading to unanticipated bleeding.”

A tracheostomy, which opens an airway through an incision in the windpipe, was done, meaning Ebert cannot speak.

“The doctors now plan an approach that does not involve the risk of unplanned bleeding. If all goes well, my speech will

be restored,” he wrote.

Ebert will watch the ninth annual Overlooked Film Festival, which begins Wednesday night at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, from the audience. “I will be wearing a gauze bandage around my neck, and my mouth will be seen to droop.”

“I was told photos of me in this condition would attract the gossip papers,” he wrote. “So what?”

Eberet wrote that friends were worried about

unflattering photos of him being taken and unkind comments being written. He wrote that he doesn’t care. “We spend too much time hiding illness.”

Ebert has been a film critic at the Chicago Sun-Times since 1967.

He has co-hosted the “Ebert & Roeper” television show with fellow Sun-Times columnist Richard Roeper since 2000. Film critics and filmmakers have been subbing for Ebert during his recovery.

AP

Opri spared battle over Smith’s baby

A Superior Court judge has signed an order releasing attorney **DEBRA OPRI** from the battle over Anna Nicole Smith’s baby daughter.

The order was signed Monday.

Opri was hired last year by Larry Birkhead as part of his effort to prove paternity of

now 7-month-old Dannielynn. Smith’s boyfriend-attorney Howard K. Stern was listed as the father on the girl’s birth certificate.

After months of legal wrangling on Birkhead’s behalf, Opri suddenly withdrew from the case in March. Earlier this month, the

paternity issue was resolved when DNA tests in the Bahamas showed Birkhead was the girl’s father.

Smith, 39, died Feb. 8 from a lethal combination of drugs.

A legal dispute continues over the estate of Smith’s late husband, Texas

oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall II, who died in 1995. It remains unclear how much, if any, of the \$500 million Marshall estate Dannielynn might inherit and whether her guardian would have access to the money.

AP

O'Donnell takes aim at Fox's Murdoch

ROSIE O'DONNELL has tossed off countless one-liners and quips in her career. On Monday, she had one line she said she never imagined she’d utter: “Please welcome Rupert Murdoch.”

O'Donnell was hosting the New York Women in

Communication annual awards luncheon at The Waldorf-Astoria hotel in Manhattan. Murdoch, the media mogul whose holdings include the New York Post and Fox News, was presenting an award to columnist Cindy Adams.

O'Donnell’s shots at

Murdoch started from her opening.

“This is a celebration of women who changed the world, and no one understands why Rupert Murdoch is on the dais,” she said, adding, “I mean that in the kind, loving Post-like way, sir; it’s delightful to see you in person.”

She turned to the audience and finished, “I was looking for numbers on his head. There aren’t any.”

O'Donnell didn’t say what Murdoch might have done to provoke her ire.

When Murdoch’s turn to speak came, he just said,

AP

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Yours, Mine and Ours (PG)
7:30

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

Grindhouse (R)
2:15, 6:10, 9:55
In the Land of Women (PG-13)
2:20, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
The Lookout (R)
2:05, 7:10
Pathfinder (R)
2:35, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15
Reign Over Me (R)
4:25, 9:30

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

300 (R)
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
Are We Done Yet? (PG)
2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
Blades of Glory (Pg-13)
1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15
Disturbia (PG-13)
1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50
The Hoax (R)
2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Vacancy (R)
1:00, 1:55, 3:10, 5:30, 6:45, 7:55, 9:15, 10:05

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Black Book (Zwartboek) (R)
1:00, 9:45
Hot Fuzz (R)
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

LAEMMLES MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

After the Wedding (Efter brylluppet) (R)
1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
The Lives of Others (Das Leben der Anderen) (PG-13)
1:10, 4:20, 8:00
The Namesake (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Year of the Dog (PG-13)
12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

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

Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters (R)
12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:20, 9:50
Fracture (R)
11:00a.m., 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
Meet the Robinsons in Disney Digital (G)
11:30a.m., 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
Perfect Stranger (R)
11:20a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
The Reaping (R)
11:50a.m., 2:20, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
Shooter (R)
11:10a.m., 2:10, 5:00, 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		9			6		
5	9	4			7		2	
7		1			2		9	
	4			5	1			
3				4				8
			8	2			1	
	3		2			1		6
	7		1			2	3	5
		6			8		4	

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

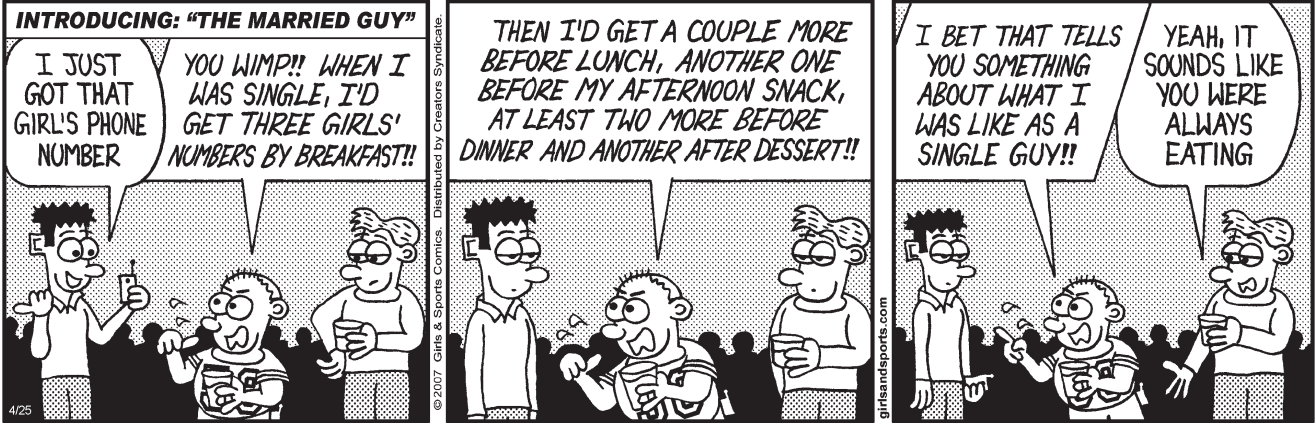
2	1	7	4	8	9	3	5	6
3	4	8	6	2	5	9	7	1
9	6	5	1	3	7	2	4	8
8	7	3	9	6	4	1	2	5
1	2	9	8	5	3	7	6	4
6	5	4	2	7	1	8	3	9
4	8	2	3	1	6	5	9	7
7	3	6	5	9	8	4	1	2
5	9	1	7	4	2	6	8	3

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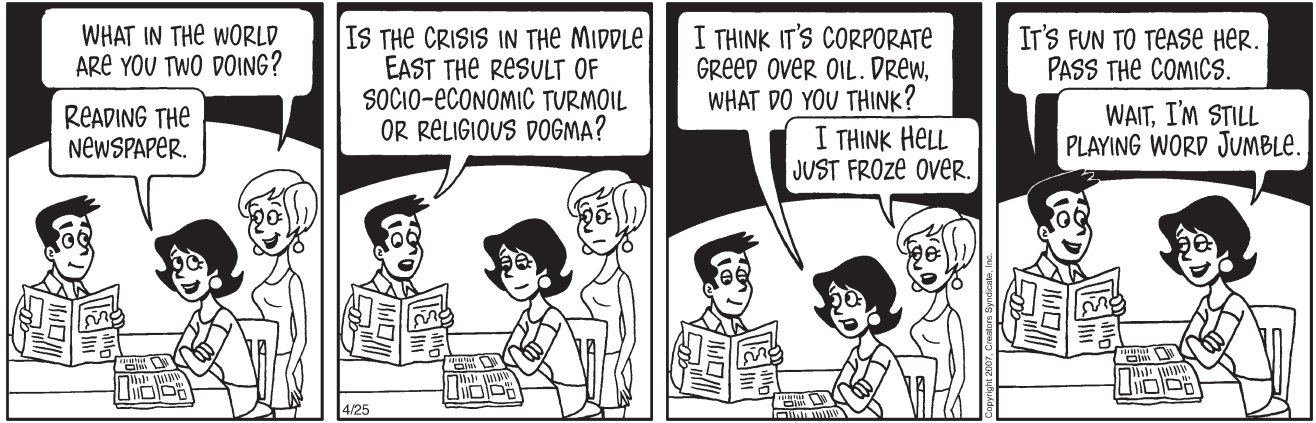
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



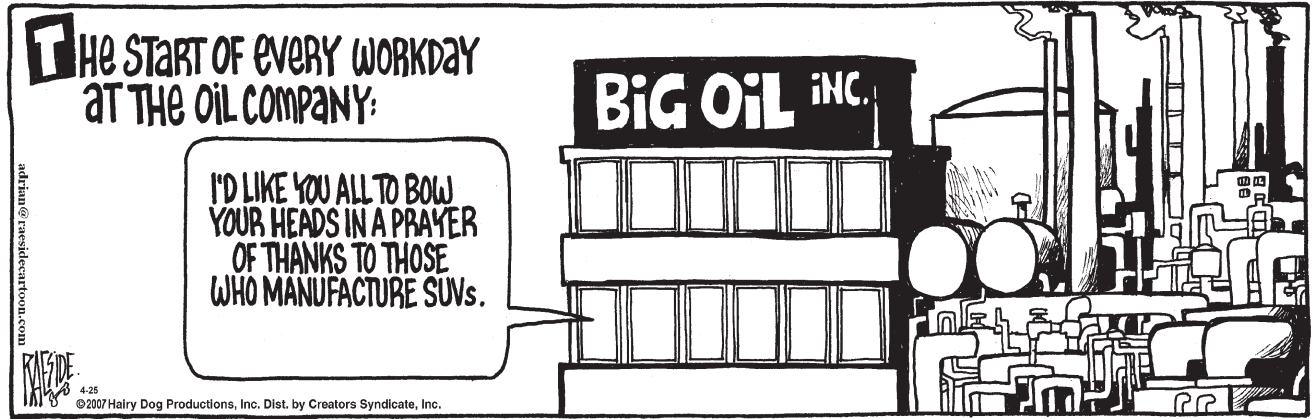
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



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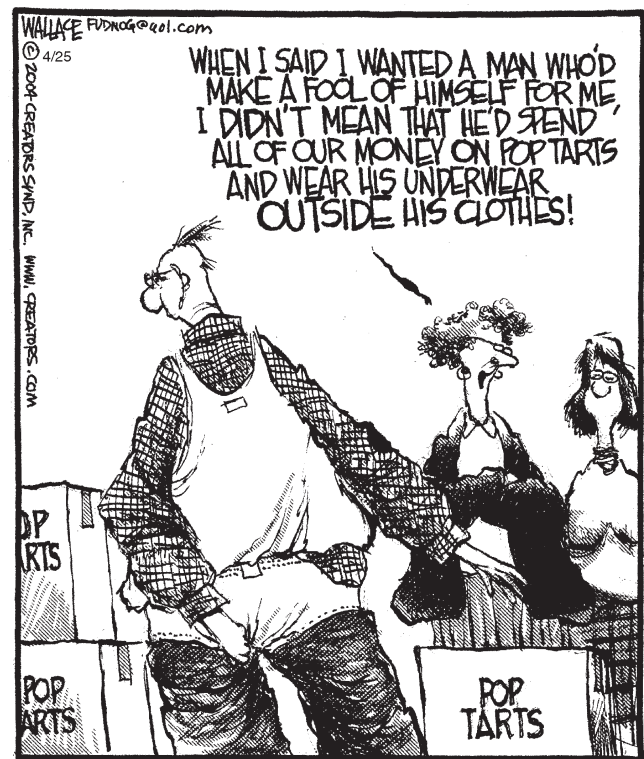
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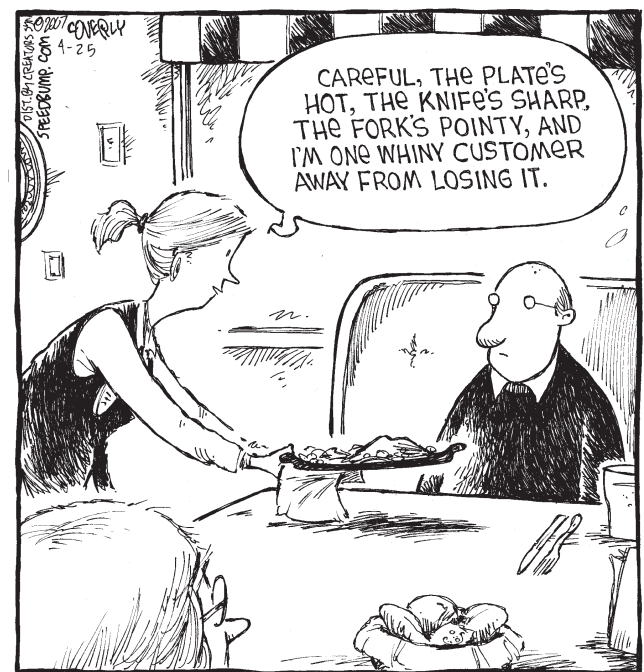
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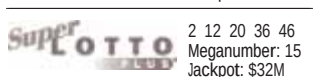


Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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

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

4-25

DAILY LOTTERY

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■ Researchers at the Second University of Naples (Caserta, Italy) recently reported the case of a 65-year-old man who, because of damage to the fronto-temporal region of his brain, habitually assumes an identity appropriate to whatever setting he finds himself in (e.g., a doctor when he's around doctors, a bartender when in a bar), a behavior reminiscent of the Woody Allen character Zelig. The researchers said the man lacks awareness about his tendency to switch roles and in fact suffers from amnesia about his life since the brain damage, according to a March report by the British Psychological Society.

■ The three Kentucky lawyers who won \$200 million for their clients in a 2001 settlement with the manufacturer of the diet drug phen-fen, and whose contract called for a maximum of one-third commission (about \$67 million) actually took \$59 million more than that, according to clients who testified before a federal grand jury in March which is expected to indict the lawyers soon for fraud, according to a New York Times dispatch. The lawyers had explained that they were taking an extra \$20 million because they had decided to create a "charity" and were simply entitled to the other \$39 million because they had to work extra hard. The Kentucky bar association has suspended the lawyers.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1607 Eighty Years' War: Dutch fleet destroys the anchored Spanish fleet at Gibraltar.

1719 Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe is published.

1846 Thornton Affair: Open conflict begins over the disputed border of Texas, triggering the Mexican-American War.

1898 Spanish-American War: The United States declares war on Spain.

1901 New York becomes the first U.S. state to require automobile license plates.

1915 The ANZAC spirit tradition begins during World War I with a landing at Gallipoli on the Turkish coast.

1944 The United Negro College Fund is incorporated.

1945 Fifty nations gather in San Francisco, California to begin the United Nations Conference on International Organizations.

WORD UP!

circumspect \SUR-kuhm-spekt\, *adjective*: Marked by attention to all circumstances and probable consequences; cautious; prudent.

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Obituaries

LLOYD "SLIPPERY" Reeder 78, died Saturday, April 21, 2007 at his home in Ventura. He was born December 23, 1928 in Los Angeles and was a 20 year Ventura County resident, moving here from Pacific Palisades.

Mr. Reeder served his country in the U.S. Army and the Merchant Marine. He was employed by McDonnell Douglas for 20 years, then worked as a locksmith in Los Angeles and Ventura for over 20 years, and later worked for the County of Ventura for 10 years.

He was a member of the Riviera Masonic Lodge #780 F.&A.M. in Pacific Palisades, and the Shrine Club. More recently, he was active in the Mature Minglers.

Mr. Reeder was a world traveler, loved the outdoors and camping with family, friends and his dogs, and was an aviation enthusiast, able to spot a passing aircraft overhead and inform you of details regarding its make and manufacture. He will be missed by his son, Stephen Reeder, of Felton; daughter, Debra Reeder, of Ventura; grandchildren, Crystal, Lloyd, Daniel, and Theresa Perroncel; and many lifetime friends.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 40 years, Shirley Jean Reeder in 1990.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 P.M. Friday, April 27, 2007, at the Ted Mayr Funeral Home, 3150 Loma Vista Rd., Ventura.

Donations in Lloyd Reeder's name may be made to the American Cancer Society, Ventura County Chapter, 250 W. Citrus Grove, Suite 200, Oxnard, CA 93036.

Reeder pg.02

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ted Mayr Funeral Home & Crematory, Ventura.

Miscellaneous

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JVC HD Pro 110U. Battery pack included, 2 80GB hard drives. (310)828-7648 (310)804-4710. Estimated value is \$8,000 but willing to negotiate on price. Never used. Still in box. rktarquinio@verizon.net

JVC HD Pro 110U. Battery pack included, 2 80GB hard drives. (310)828-7648 (310)804-4710. Estimated value is \$8,000 but willing to negotiate on price. Never used. Still in box. rktarquinio@verizon.net

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VENICE 3+2 2308 Pacific unit B upper stove fridge d/w, washer/dryer hookups, microwave, granite counter tops, tile and carpet, and hardwood flooring, 2 car parking. \$2850/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%
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<i>APR 8%</i>	
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S3-400. Cash Paid. 1-800-772-1142.
1-310-721-0726.

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Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES
Date of Filing Application: March 27, 2007
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
Thai Fusion Concepts LLC
The applicants listed above are applying to the
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell
alcoholic beverages at: 119-121 Broadway, Santa
Monica, CA 90401
Type of License(s) Applied for: 41 – ON-SALE Beer
and Wine EATING PLACE.
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLe-
WOOD.
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS
4/25/07, 5/2/07, 5/9/07

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. HC-99566-C
Loan No. 0441590783 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UN-
DER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/14/2006. UNLESS
YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY,
IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED
AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PRO-
CEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A
LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bid-
der for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or
national bank, check drawn by a state or federal
credit union, or a check drawn by a state or fed-

Notices

eral savings and loan association, or savings as-
sociation, or savings bank specified in Section
5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do
business in this state, will be held by the duly
appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but
without covenant or warranty, expressed or im-
plied, regarding title, possession, or encum-
brances, to satisfy the obligation secured by said
Deed of Trust. The undersigned Trustee disclaims
any liability for any incorrectness of the property
address or other common designation, if any,
shown herein. TRUSTOR: SIAMCK ANSARYAN, A
SINGLE MAN Recorded 6/23/2006 as Instrument
No. 061383284 in Book, page of Official Records
in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles
County, California, Date of Sale: 5/2/2007 at
10:30 AM Place of Sale: AT THE WEST SIDE OF
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, DI-
RECTLY FACING NORWALK BLVD., 12720 NOR-
WALK BLVD., NORWALK, CA Property Address is
purported to be: 2234 Delaware Avenue #A, B & C
Santa Monica, CA 90404 APN #: 4274-023-003
The total amount secured by said instrument as
of the time of initial publication of this notice is
\$949,748.78, which includes the total amount of
the unpaid balance (including accrued and un-
paid interest) and reasonable estimated costs,
expenses, and advances at the time of initial
publication of this notice. Date: April 09, 2007
EXECUTIVE TRUSTEE SERVICES, LLC 15455 SAN
FERNANDO MISSION BLVD SUITE #208 MISSION
HILLS, CA 91345 Sale Line 714-259-7850
ILEANNA PETERSEN TRUSTEE SALE OFFICER
ASAP# 841735 04/11/2007, 04/18/2007,
04/25/2007

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF JAMES
ROBERT MURPHY aka RO-
BERT MURPHY

Case No. SP007092
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of JAMES ROBERT MURPHY
aka ROBERT MURPHY

A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Patrick Mur-
phy in the Superior Court of Califor-
nia, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Patrick
Murphy be appointed as personal
representative to administer the es-
tate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests
the decedent's will and codicils, if
any, be admitted to probate. The will
and any codicils are available for ex-
amination in the file kept by the
court.

THE PETITION requests
authority to administer the estate
under the Independent
Administra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on May 11, 2007
at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at
1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA
90401.

IF YOU OBJECT to the
grant-ing of the petition, you should
ap-pear at the hearing and state your
objections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing.
Your appearance may be in person or
by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDI-
TOR or a contingent creditor of the
deceased, you must file your claim
with the court and mail a copy to the
personal representative appointed by
the court within four months from
the date of first issuance of letters
as provided in Probate Code section
9100. The time for filing claims will
not expire before four months from
the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the
file kept by the court. If you are a
per-son interested in the estate, you
may file with the court a Request for
Special Notice (form DE-154) of the
filing of an inventory and ap-praisal
of estate assets or of any petition or
account as provided in Probate Code
section 1250. A Request for Special
Notice form is available from the
court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
JOHN B JAKLE ESQ
SBN 49540
HARDING LARMORE MULLEN JAKLE
KUTCHER & KOZAL LLP
1250 SIXTH ST STE 300
SANTA MONICA CA 90401-1602

Notices

Santa Monica Daily Press
CN774427 MURPHY Apr 18,19,25,
2007

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF RO-
BERT LOUIS UPCHURCH

Case No. SP007073
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of ROBERT LOUIS
UP-CHURCH

A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Carol Sibilio
in the Superior Court of California,
County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Carol
Sibilio be appointed as personal re-
presentative to administer the estate
of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests
the decedent's will and codicils, if
any, be admitted to probate. The will
and any codicils are available for ex-
amination in the file kept by the
court.

THE PETITION requests
authority to administer the estate
under the Independent
Administra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on May 4, 2007 at
9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at
1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA
90401.

IF YOU OBJECT to the
grant-ing of the petition, you should
ap-pear at the hearing and state your
objections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing.
Your appearance may be in person or
by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDI-
TOR or a contingent creditor of the
deceased, you must file your claim
with the court and mail a copy to the
personal representative appointed by
the court within four months from
the date of first issuance of letters
as provided in Probate Code section
9100. The time for filing claims will
not expire before four months from
the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the
file kept by the court. If you are a
per-son interested in the estate, you
may file with the court a Request for
Special Notice (form DE-154) of the
filing of an inventory and ap-praisal
of estate assets or of any petition or
account as provided in Probate Code
section 1250. A Request for Special
Notice form is available from the
court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
ROBERT R MALLICOAT ESQ
CHRISTOPHER R MALLICOAT ESQ
321 S BEVERLY DR
STE A
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN774428 UPCHURCH Apr 18,19,25,
2007

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE
NO. 20070724806 FIRST FILING. The following
person(s) is (are) doing business as BICO, THIRD
STREET PROMENADE, 1400 THIRD STREET
PROMENADE, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401-3432.
The full name of registrant(s) is/are : SHLOMY
LEVY, 6355 GREEN VALLEY CIRCLE #315, CULVER
CITY, CA. 90230 This Business is being con-
ducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant
commenced to transact business under the ficti-
tious business name or names listed on
(Date)3/28/2007. /s/ SHLOMY LEVY
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of
LOS ANGELES County on 3/28/2007. NOTICE: THIS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES
FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED
PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement
does not of itself authorize the use in this state of
a fictitious business name statement in violation
of the rights of another under federal, state, or
common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business
and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY
PRESS to publish 4/25/2007, 5/2/2007,
5/9/2007, 5/16/2007

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Excellent condition, classic T-Bird. Suicide doors, beautiful paint job, air, low mileage, only \$4,900 OBO. Call 323-395-2929

Chevy Suburban
'93 Suburban-1500 4x4. Dual air, 3rd Seat, HD tow, sunroof, alloys, grill guard, 60k miles. Excellent condition. \$7750.00 310-390-4610

'03 BMW X5 3.0i SUV
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Silver, 6-Cyl., 3.0L, Auto, Air Bags, Alloy, Privacy Glass (P1574) \$26,991
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

'04 Nissan Maxima SL
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Dark Blue, V6 3.5L, Auto, Bose Prem. Sound, Leather (I6793A) \$22,991
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

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'04 Infiniti G35 Coupe
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Pewter, V6 3.5L, Auto, Cruise, Nav. System, LOADED!! (P1560) \$25,993
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

BOLD IT! MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT

'03 Infiniti QX4 SUV
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Silver, V6 3.5L, Privacy Glass, Bose Prem. Sound, Towing pkg (P1567) \$21,991
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

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Call us today at (310) 458-7737

'02 Oldsmobile Alero GL
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Silver, V6 3.4L, Auto, Pwr pkg, Multi CD, Air Bags, Leather (I6942A) \$8,991
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

Vehicles for sale

'00 Nissan Maxima GLE
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Gold, V6 3.0L, Leather, Sun Roof, Alloy Wheels (I6923A) \$13,991
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

'99 RX300 \$12,995
Leather, Moon Roof, Super, super sharp! (X0037964)
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047

'03 ES300 \$21,995
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) Low, Low Miles! Immaculate! Must See! (30119829)
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047

'03 Galant \$7,788
(3E212783)
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'03 Jetta \$11,700
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Vehicles for sale

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'07 ml350 Mercedes Benz
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'01 Land Rover Range Rover
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'04 Lexus RX300
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(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN) (W64163a) \$33,544
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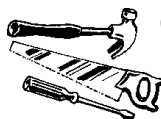
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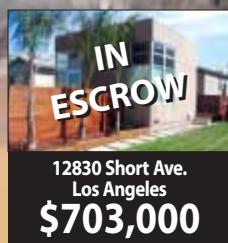


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