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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009
Volume 8 Issue 150

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

VIKINGS IN TITLE HUNT
SEE PAGE 3

THE KEEPING IT POSITIVE ISSUE

Swine flu breeds caution locally

BY WILL WEISS
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN As cases of swine flu continue to be reported around the globe, Santa Monica residents are taking appropriate precautions, but are for the most part feeling healthy and safe, they said.

Though there was some concern on Tuesday morning that the virus had reached Southern California, reports confirmed that swine flu was not the cause of one of the two recent deaths being investigated by the Los Angeles County coroner's office.

Even still, the community's pulse may have quickened with news of the disease surfacing in national and local media.

"It was a little crazy yesterday, but it's better today. Nobody has asked for masks yet," said a pharmacist's assistant on Tuesday at the CVS/pharmacy on Lincoln Boulevard, which ran out of surgical masks on Monday. "People have been coming to the pharmacy for masks and stomach flu medicine Tamiflu. They were asking for them all day and when they heard that we didn't have the masks they got so nervous and angry. We referred them to other pharmacies but we had nothing to offer."

Residents who prefer less-mainstream types of prevention also sought information from their pharmacists about how to protect themselves and avoid infection.

"We do have customers coming who are concerned about swine flu, how it is contracted, what the symptoms are, and we've been educating them on that. If somebody comes in asking if we have products for swine flu, we say no," said Sabine Abadou, a manager at the Santa Monica

SEE FLU PAGE 11



FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

Maya Myers *news@smdp.com*

Human Rights Watch Student Task Force members at Crossroads School organized a gathering of students Tuesday for the Child Soldier Speaking Tour, which has traveled to high school and college campuses around Los Angeles and Santa Barbara counties. Madeleine, currently a high school student in New York and a former child soldier from the Democratic Republic of Congo, was among the speakers. Bukeni T. Waruzi (pictured) is the executive director of Ajedi-Ka, working in demobilizing and reintegrating child soldiers in the war-torn South Province of the DRC. Waruzi has reintegrated over 300 child soldiers from armed groups from around the troubled nation.

Tattoo artist spreads self-help gospel at PYFC

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BLVD. Before an audience of largely black and Latino teenagers from Santa Monica High School, Mark Machado grabbed the mic and began his gospel.

For the next 45 minutes, the world famous tattoo artist, who has left his mark on celebrities such as 50 Cent and Beyonce, captivated the sole attention of the crowd of young adults who gathered at the Pico Youth and Family Center

SEE PYFC PAGE 12

City Hall settles fatal shooting

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILSHIRE BLVD The family of a Los Angeles man who was shot and killed nearly three years ago by Santa Monica Police during a brief pursuit has received a $250,000 settlement from a wrongful death lawsuit filed against City Hall.

The settlement, approved by the City Council earlier this month, concludes a two-year battle by the family of Christopher Lamont Hunter to hold the Santa Monica Police Department accountable in the 21-year-old man's death during the early morning hours of Sept. 4, 2006.

Armed with a hand gun, Hunter was killed near a parking lot on Wilshire Boulevard after fleeing from police, fatally shot when he reportedly turned toward officers with the weapon.

Police responded to the area after they had received a report of a fight that had broken out at Club 20/20, learning from a patron that a man at the location was carrying a gun.

When officers attempted to question the suspect — Hunter — he jumped in his car and drove away, authorities said at the time. During the pursuit, the suspect drove south on 21st Street just off Wilshire Boulevard, and tried to pull into a parking lot where he was blocked by a chain-link fence. He then

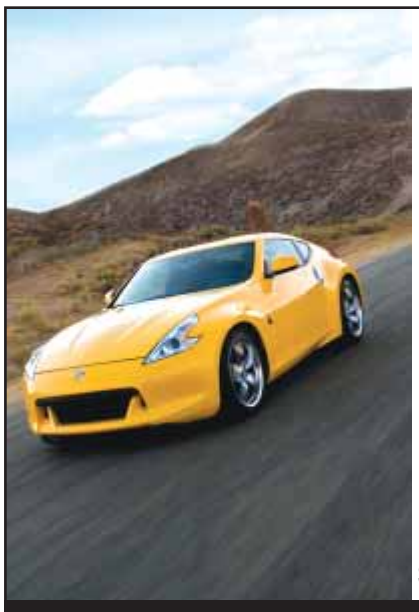
SEE SETTLEMENT PAGE 13


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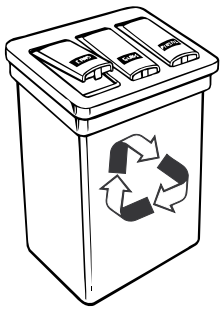
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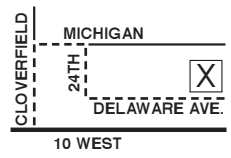
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE



OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Mirror image
Zanzibar
1301 5th St., 9 p.m. — 1 a.m.
Joshua Silverstein presents multiethnic event "Reflection" featuring musical guests Shakti, Jimetta, GaKnew, Shoobie and DJ Al One. Get ready for an evening of groove and peace. Admission is a soul-satisfying $7. Contact Zanzibar for more information.

Spicy salsa!
Club Main
2941 Main St., 7:30 p.m.
Get down and shake off your stress and troubles with some hot salsa dancing. Beginning and intermediate salsa lessons available for $15 a pop. Dancing is free after 9 p.m. Club Main offers drink specials between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.. Call (310) 392-3493 for more information.

Farmers' Market appearance by Mark Peel
Farmer's Market
Third St. and Arizona Ave., 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.
It's like the Food Network, but live. Mark Peel, owner and chef of Campanile Restaurant, will offer a demonstration and tasting using the freshest foods of the season, all available at the market!

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Dining out for life
Participating Santa Monica Restaurants
Breakfast, lunch and dinner
Dining Out for Life is an event that includes restaurants from throughout the greater Los Angeles region who have agreed to donate a minimum of 25 percent of their sales to Project Angel Food. The nonprofit cooks and delivers more than 11,000 meals every week to men, women and children suffering from life threatening illnesses. For more information, visit www.diningoutforlifela.org.

Sunset yoga on the beach
Grassy area at Ashland and Main St.
Ashland and Main St., 6:15 — 7:45 p.m.
Sunset yoga is a weekly yoga retreat to nourish your mind, body and soul. Bring your mats, dress warmly and flow to the rhythm of the ocean and the warm sun setting on the horizon. A donation of $12 is suggested. Call Grace at (310) 985-8395 for more information.

Spa night for pets
Three Dog Bakery
411 Santa Monica Blvd., 4:30 p.m.— 7:30 p.m.
Call the store to reserve your spot for a spa night with your four-legged friend. The proceeds from the $15 donation will go to feed local shelter dogs. Call (310) 260-9604 for more information.

Friday, May 1, 2009

Asian/Pacific Islander Celebration
SMC Performing Arts Center
1900 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
This is the 10th annual Asian/Pacific Islander Celebration in honor of Asian/Pacific Islander Month. This year's lively program features the popular, innovative performance group Hiroshima, renowned for its mission to bridge cultural divides through the power of music. Refreshments will be served. Admission is $15 or $20, and buying tickets in advance is recommended. Call (310) 434-4303 for details.

Gumball 3000
Third Street Promenade, SM Pier
7 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Gumball 3000, a European automobile phenomenon, is kicking off its 11th annual race in Santa Monica with a car display and concert. After a international tour from the United States to North Korea to the Beijing Olympics, Gumball 3000 participants will engage in a more classic coast-to-coast road trip from Santa Monica to Miami. One hundred and twenty of the most fantastic cars ever built will be out just north of the pier for your viewing pleasure. This event is free.

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



BLANK CITY

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School's Emma Woo tries to elude the tag of Culver City's Laura Lopez at Samohi on Tuesday. The Vikings won the Ocean League game, 14-0, preserving the team's league shutout streak. The Vikings have not allowed a run to a league opponent since April 19, 2007. With the win, Samohi is now 16-5 overall and 5-0 in league. Next for Samohi is a home league matchup against Inglewood on Thursday at 3 :15 p.m.

Samohi keeps league title hopes alive

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI The Vikings' drive for a third consecutive Ocean League title in baseball just got a little more interesting.

Santa Monica High School's 7-3 victory over Morningside at home Tuesday allowed the Vikings to stay atop the league standings along with Culver City. Both teams have just one loss during league play. Samohi is 4-1 in the league standings, while Culver City is 3-1. The score from Culver City's Tuesday game against Inglewood was not available at presstime.

"We both control our own destinies now," Head Coach Rob Duron said of the race for a league title. "But before we can think about that, we have to deal with Morningside again on Thursday."

If Tuesday was any indicator, the Vikings' offense proved that it can score runs on Morningside.

The Vikings came blazing out of the gate during the first inning. Freshman Adam Padilla opened the bottom half of the inning with a triple to deep left. Team captain Ricky Gomez followed and sacrificed Padilla home, making it 1-0. With a man on, speedy senior outfielder Vince Lawrence came to the plate and crushed what appeared to be a Jonathan Davila fast ball to deep right field for another triple.

Tyler Skaggs, who is scheduled to pitch Thursday during the rematch with Morningside, struck out with Lawrence at third for the second out of the first. With two out, a man on third and a run already in the books, catcher Colter Johnson hit a hard single to right, scoring Lawrence on the play making it 2-0.

The next man up, Michael Alonge was able to keep the inning alive with a single to center. With men on first and second, Drew Hammond smacked a double to left, scoring Alonge and Johnson. With Hammond's pair of runs batted in, the Vikings led 4-0.

The Vikings tacked on three more runs in the second inning bringing the score to 7-0, but not before Morningside made it a ball game.

Duron was happy with his team's effort on Tuesday, but knows that his team will have to work on protecting leads if his

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 14

Lions Gate, Relativity ink distribution deal

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA Boutique movie studio Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. said Monday it has signed a multiyear deal to distribute Relativity Media productions in the U.S.

Financial terms were not disclosed. Lions Gate said it will acquire U.S. distribution rights for up to five Relativity Media productions per year as part of the deal.

The companies have already partnered on movies like "3:10 to Yuma" and "The Bank Job." The first title to be released under the new agreement is "Brothers," directed by Jim Sheridan.

Shares of Lions Gate fell 12 cents to close at $4.84 on Monday.

Relativity Media LLC, backed by New York hedge fund Elliott Associates LP, has doubled its movie production in the last two years and expects to co-finance or produce 30 films annually, even as major studios have cut back.

Lions Gate itself moved in February to trim its annual output by four, to a dozen films a year, beginning in April.

"Given that they don't make as many large budget films as other studios, it is the perfect home for our films to get the maximum attention they deserve," said Relativity Chief Executive Ryan Kavanaugh.

Relativity currently co-finances a slate of movies produced by General Electric Co.'s Universal Pictures and Sony Corp.'s Columbia Pictures. Last year, it bought horror and thriller film label Rogue Pictures from Universal for a reported $150 million, and is trying to transform it into a lifestyle brand.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Never enough

Editor:

Your caption "For the planet" with the picture of the Canary Island pine tree planted for Arbor Day and Earth Day says it all. Omitted was the fact that a strong contingent of Treesavers joined with city staff and the Art Institute in this planting.

Last year this time City Hall was plotting the destruction of the 23 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets. This year it's celebrating Arbor Day and planting a tree. That's a welcome change, no doubt precipitated by Treesavers' efforts.

Noteworthy also is the city's proclamation citing the benefits of trees:

"WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and ...

"WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community, and (are) a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and ...

"WHEREAS, in celebrating Arbor Day and Earth Day, the city of Santa Monica urges all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our continued forestry program."

Not cited is the recent EPA finding that carbon dioxide and other planet-heating gases threaten human health. Trees, like the ficus ... that letter writer Carlos Pineiro loves to hate (besides Treesavers and Jerry Rubin), suck in life-and-planet-threatening carbon dioxide to make oxygen to the tune of an average of 260 pounds per year. They also intercept an average of 1,500 gallons of storm-water runoff per year.

Protecting and preserving our urban trees ... as well as planting more large canopied, non-deciduous trees (not gingko trees) is an environmental matter of life and death. Instead of castigating members of Treesavers, Carlos Pineiro needs to join with City Hall and realize the benefits of trees. There can never be "enough with the trees."

Susan Hartley
Co-founder of Treesavers and business owner

Bike riding bummer

Editor:

On a recent Sunday afternoon I decided to visit the Main Library to spend a nice afternoon reading. I thought, "Gee, since it's so hot, traffic will be a nightmare. I'll ride my bike." Feeling pretty good about "my city" lately, I felt that this decision was the best way to go. Once I arrived, I "secured" my bike with not one, but two locks in the middle of the bike rack along with approximately 12 to 15 other bikes. An hour later, as I walked out of the library, I was content and looking forward to reading my books at home only to discover that my beloved road bike of only six months was gone! I worked very hard for that bike. I was disheartened and disappointed. I thought, "But, I used two locks not one." Still it was gone. "There are literally a lot of people out front." Still it was gone. "There is a security guard out front." Still it was gone.

It's not the worst thing in the world and people have gone through much harsher crimes, but a crime is still a crime. I reported the theft to the SMPD and walked home, head held low and fighting off tears. I have come to find out that I am not unique and that bike theft in front of the Main Library is quite common. I'm really trying not to be a big baby about this, but come on. I can't even park my bike in front of the library now? Library staff needs to pay attention to this problem. It's unacceptable. Sure, I'll replace my road bike, but will I ever ride it to the Main Library again? Nope!

Laura Thixton
Santa Monica



Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Time to waterboard!

WHAT IS THE FUSS ABOUT TORTURE memos? Why are Democrats spending political capital on re-inventing possible Soviet/Maoist show trials and "truth tribunals" to pillory the Bush administration for the alleged abuse of jihadi scum? Neo-National Socialists (once known as Democrats) claim there are "no good reasons" to torture terrorists. As far as I'm concerned there were 2,974 really good "reasons" on 9/11.

Ask their families. Some of those "reasons" were busy jumping out of office windows to escape the torture of the flames and opted instead for a quicker, less gruesome denouement.

Democrats are funny. They're for abortion, but they're against killing terrorists.

For the record, there have been several hundreds of American men and women over the last couple of decades that have been subjected to every "enhanced" torture technique that was employed on the Islamo-fascist dirt bags currently held at Gitmo. By the way, those several hundreds of "tortured" Americans are past and present members of your armed forces now known as "right wing extremists."

I was "tortured" by the U.S. military in SERE (Survival Evasion Resistance Escape) school and I can tell you that it works. It took a while but I blabbed.

I was "walled," "boxed" and "boarded" as part of my U.S. Navy aircrew spook resume. And I volunteered for this crap, too! Folks, this is the "low end" of the Torquemada bell curve. I have been subjected to sleep deprivation, beatings and Barry Manilow's "Copacabana" played over and over and over and over and ... I blabbed, "OK? Please just make Barry stop singing!"

Bennet Kelley recently talked about torture on his slippery Soap Box "Why the Torture Memos Matter" in the Friday, April 24 edition of the SMDP. In an anguished, non-sequitur of linking his hero of political convenience, John McCain, [who he didn't vote for as president anyway] to the Vietnam-era massacre at My Lai to the American "abuses" of Abu Ghraib, Kelley once again demonstrates his intellectual laziness resulting from too many bong hits of "hopium." This doesn't make him a bad man. He's just not very fussy.

While Kelley cites unnamed FBI and Army intel sources as to the "ludicrous" efficacies of enhanced talking points impressed upon Khalid Sheik Mohammed, Obama's own director of National Intelligence, Dennis Blair, has since declared otherwise.

Kelley then laughably thumbscrews the reader, with a commie Vietnamese translator in tow, to stand before "the wall" of the Saigon War Museum to then agonize in shame over the aberration of My Lai. I challenge Kelley to stand at "the wall" for American GIs at the Vietnam War Memorial in D.C. for about 10 minutes.

No translator is required.

Is it an inconvenient truth that the little known U.S. Army colonel who whitewashed the initial report surrounding the My Lai atrocity for the Democrat Johnson administration was Colin Powell? The iron maiden of irony is that if Lyndon Johnson hadn't lied about the events in the Gulf of Tonkin that got us into the Vietnam conflict in the first place then a memorial wall in either country would have been rendered moot. Of course, Bennet Kelley never allows pesky facts to get in the way of a good story.

I WAS 'TORTURED' BY THE U.S. MILITARY IN SERE (SURVIVAL EVASION RESISTANCE ESCAPE) SCHOOL AND I CAN TELL YOU THAT IT WORKS. IT TOOK A WHILE BUT I BLABBED.

He then imagines the pathos (insert weepy violins here) of a future Grand Guignol meat puppet museum in Abu Gharib describing "Bush-era torture policies."

Kelley needs to check out a U.S. House of Representatives report, Nov. 20, 2003, titled "Human Rights Violations Under Saddam Hussein: Victims Speak Out." The bottom of page one describes, "chemical [acid] baths, routine rapes, brutal and arbitrary murder ... and medical amputations as punishment." On page two, "In the months following Operation Iraqi Freedom, U.S. forces have found ... 263 mass graves containing as many as 300,000 corpses ... ." There are 45 pages of testimony.

In 2007, during my son's first deployment to Iraq, he and his unit uncovered a pre-invasion mass grave of school girls.

A bright spot concerning the alleged "evils" of George W. Bush as imagined in Bennet Kelley's paranoid reality is on page two of this same congressional report: "As Edmund Burke said, in order for evil to prevail, good men must simply do nothing. Thankfully this year, good men and women acted and Saddam's rule came to an end".

STEVE BREEN is a self-described Regean Republican and the "best looking mailman in the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Ryan Hyatt, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Merv Hecht, Ron Scott Smith Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp Mariel Howsepian, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, Steve Parker and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERNS
Catherine Cain, Ashley Archibald, Rob Lawrence, Teddy Leshnick
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS
Raymond Solano, Rachel Dardashti
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Julie Martinez
juliem@smdp.com

Grace Wang
gracew@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Robert Summa
summa@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
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410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

Visit us online at smdp.com

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Not bad for 100 days

IT'S THE 100TH DAY OF OUR NEW president's term in office and a good time to look back at how he's done. I've been on the "O Train" for a long time — having been called an Obama "dog washer" long before they had a dog to wash — so it's no surprise that I approve of the job he's doing. Like everyone who isn't a Haterade-drinking Republican with an axe to grind, I give him high marks.

But unlike my fellow Obamaniacs, I don't think he's done any better than an "A-" in his first semester. The "A" is for passing the stimulus package, negotiating the banking and auto industry bail-outs, and setting timetables for closing Guantanamo and for ending the occupation of Iraq.

The "minus" is for his handling of the lawyers who crafted the methods in the Bush torture memos and the interrogators who carried them out. An "A+" President has to take a tougher stand for the rule of law. Luckily for our academically-overachieving Chief Executive, there is another smart black guy in D.C. who can help him bring his grade up.

Unless you were hibernating last week, you know President Obama authorized the release of memos detailing CIA interrogation methods approved by George W. Bush that basically amount to torture. Don't be fooled by the fraudulent legal theory that says the methods used went as close to torture as possible without actually becoming torture by definition.

The theory assumes no pain and suffering at all until the point of torture, which means it's complete nonsense. Still, the release of these memos made a lot of Republicans very nervous — including Karl Rove and Dick Cheney — and got them complaining about the needs of CIA officers and prosecution of former administration officials based on policy differences.

That's where Eric Holder gets involved. In another time, he would be kind of a big deal as the first black Attorney General. As it is, he's Tracy Morgan to Barack Obama's Tim Meadows: the other black guy. Holder said not only would CIA officers not be prosecuted, but the U.S. government would represent them and cover their costs if they faced legal proceedings overseas.

His Justice Department has opened one investigation into whether or not Bush administration attorneys lied in the memos and another into the destruction of at least two videotapes of CIA interrogations using these methods. It's not a crime to give bad legal advice, so hack lawyers John Yoo and Jay Bybee are safe.

But when a federal judge in a criminal trial or a fact-finding investigation like the 9/11 Commission asks for tapes or transcripts of interrogations and you not only don't turn them over, but decide years later to destroy them (as former head of the CIA's Directorate of Operations, Jose Rodriguez reportedly did), you've got serious problems. Rodriguez potentially committed the crime of obstruction of justice and the Bush Justice Department reviewed the tapes before approving that potential crime.

That's not going to sit well with a guy like Holder who called for ending "all U.S. programs and practices that are engaged in torture" last July before he even got this job. He's going to want to know who signed off on the destruction of the tapes, what methods were used, if they were authorized, and by whom.

With his A.G. asking the questions in a criminal investigation, the President won't be seen as going after former Bush administration officials when it comes out that these torture methods were approved at the highest levels, possibly even the Oval Office, and were in use months before the memos legalizing them ever existed.

A two-term presidency spans about 3,000 days. Since it's impossible to imagine a Republican successfully challenging his re-election in 2012, we should probably be thinking of Barack Obama's time in office as a marathon and not a sprint.

The president is lucky Jose Rodriguez was dumb enough to destroy those tapes because that opened the door to possible criminal charges which would allow the Attorney General to investigate the Bush CIA and the interrogation methods they used.

Despite everything else he's done since January, the biggest accomplishment of Obama's first 100 days might be using Washington's other black guy, Holder, to hold the previous administration accountable for their mistakes in order to satisfy his Democratic base while saying it's time for "reflection, not retribution" so he doesn't lose moderate Republicans in the process.

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider living in Santa Monica whose money is on Holder to beat Obama in their inevitable one-on-one basketball game. His past columns are archived at www.ifyoumissedit.com and he can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com.

The Q Line

Tough choices

City Manager Lamont Ewell has asked hundreds of city employees to forego performance bonuses to prevent cuts to services and possible layoffs because of a reduction in revenue.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

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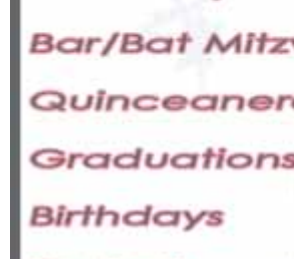


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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Increasing purchasing power

MY FRIEND WAS GOING THROUGH Craigslist.org and came across cheap boats for sale. Growing up, his parents were avid sailors, but he liked speedboats. Wanting a boat for many years, but lacking the monetary funds, he found one that was a great buy on the Internet. Searching his mind, he decided to call a few friends to see if they were interested in investing money with him to purchase a boat. He was able to persuade a few friends to invest money with him in exchange for an interest in the boat. I got a call from my friend telling me how great it was to own a boat again. Combining funds to purchase an asset can be called syndication. A tool used by many real estate investors, syndication is one way to gain control of a real estate asset.

The idea of buying a real estate asset with multiple investors is not new. In this lending environment, it can be an attractive way to invest in property. However, the one benefit of syndication is taking funds from multiple sources, increasing purchasing power and breaking through the barrier of entry.

Let me start by saying, syndicating a real estate deal without any real estate experience is not a good idea. When you syndicate, you are using other people's money to control a property. There are many ways to syndicate a property with the sponsor putting in 0 percent to 99.9 percent of the funds, but to keep it simple I am first going to describe a syndicated deal where the sponsor receives a percentage of equity proportional to their initial investment.

Bob wants to buy a condominium, but realizes prices are high. He has $50,000 for a down payment but does not want to spend more than $300,000 on a purchase. On top of that he wants to stay close to his office and continue to live in Santa Monica. Furthermore, he wants two bedrooms. Watching the marketplace daily, Bob has found nothing in his price range. After talking with friends, he discovers that three friends want to buy, but are also limited in what they can afford.

Running numbers, Bob figures out that him and his three buddies can combine down payments and purchase a four-unit property. With a four-unit property Bob notices the economies of scale. Now he can get more property per square foot. With his three buddies Bob now has the purchase power of $1,000,000 with a 20 percent down payment ($50,000 x 4 = $200,000). Now Bob and his friends can each own and live in a unit like a condo, but unlike a condominium there are no monthly association fees. After a few weeks, Bob runs into an owner who is looking to sell a fully vacant four unit property north of Wilshire. Able to close quickly, Bob negotiates a great price and is able to purchase the four unit building with his friends.

In the example above, everyone in the syndication owned a portion of the property equal to their down payment. However, real estate syndicators or sponsors, which are the individuals/companies that run real estate syndication, often have different ownership structures. As every real estate syndicated deal is different, it is impossible to generalize the structure. However, for the purpose of explanation, I will give an example of a syndication opportunity that was personally presented to me.

The deal was for a 33-unit apartment property. Asking price was $4,575,000, but the syndicator locked up the deal for $4,000,000. The apartments had tremendous upside and the property was in a Westside location in a strong rental submarket. The sponsor had already raised the cash for the acquisition. Now he was positioning the property for equity investors, who would pay off the loan used for acquisition. The sponsor took 15 percent of the equity with the remaining 85 percent raised by investors. For their equity, investors received a 5 percent return on their investment. However, the sponsor was going to raise rents over time and renovate units as they became vacant. After 5 years, the sponsor projected an 8 percent year-on-year return to investors. At the sale of the property, the sponsor returned the investors initial investment plus 20 percent. Any profits over that amount were split down the middle with the sponsor getting 50 percent and the investors getting 50 percent.

If you are in the marketplace for a property and have financing or real estate experience, but have found it difficult to buy because of a lack of capital or difficulty attaining financing, syndication maybe a viable option. Albeit difficult at first to find investors, raising capital is much easier with the right deal. Remember, as a syndicator you need to provide a profit to the investors. If you are diligent in selecting and executing your first few deals, the returns will speak for themselves. Once you have gained the confidence of your investors, the only limit is your ability to find the deals.

MIKE HEAYN is a commercial loan consultant specializing in multi-family lending. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342 or maheayn@yahoo.com.

ECONOMY

Jump in consumer confidence boosts stocks

TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK After months of giving investors only headaches, consumers gave Wall Street a break Tuesday.

A closely watched measure of consumer confidence soared in April, pulling stocks off an early slide as investors grew hopeful that a better outlook among spenders would translate into bigger cash register receipts.

Stocks ended with modest losses after fluctuating throughout the day. Worries that large banks might need more capital and the spread of swine flu were balanced by news that the Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index surged this month to its highest level since November.

IBM Corp.'s decision to boost its dividend and spend more to buy back stock gave the market another shot of confidence, but an afternoon rally petered out in the last hour to leave major market indicators just barely in the red.

The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 8.05, or 0.1 percent, to 8,016.95 after being down as much as 86 ahead of the consumer confidence report.

Broader stock indicators also lost ground. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.35, or 0.3 percent, to 866.16, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 5.60, or 0.3 percent, to 1,673.81.

Consumers worried about falling home prices, rising unemployment and a slumping stock market have been reluctant to spend since troubles with the economy intensified last fall. Since March some reports on home sales and demand at factories have indicated the economy is starting to stabilize, helping to send stocks up more than 20 percent and build confidence among investors and consumers alike.

Todd Leone, managing director of equity trading at Cowen & Co., said investors have been growing more upbeat about prospects for the economy. That optimism followed a string of better-than-expected readings and has driven a market rally since early March.

"People aren't as afraid as they have been. We're definitely seeing more money come back into the market," he said.

That optimism took a hit ahead of the confidence reading as investors worried that a growth in swine flu cases could hurt industries such as travel and tourism. The World Health Organization raised its alert to Phase 4 out of 6, saying the flu spreads easily but is not a pandemic.

Banking troubles came back into the spotlight after news came out that regulators told Bank of America Corp. and Citigroup Inc. that they may need to raise more capital unless they can convince regulators that results of government "stress tests" were mistaken.

Bank of America fell 77 cents, or 8.6 percent, to $8.15, while Citigroup fell 18 cents, or 5.9 percent, to $2.89.

The report on consumer confidence bolstered hopes that some consumers might begin to step up their spending.

Some stocks that depend on consumer spending rose after the Conference Board said its index jumped 12 points to 39.2 this month. The reading was far better than the 29.5 that economists had expected, and suggests consumers might be willing to spend more if confidence continues to build.

Starbucks Corp. rose 30 cents, or 2.3 percent, to $13.50, while Coca-Cola Co. advanced 4 cents to $42.28.

"In the short term, this market is going to continue to trade on psychology," said Matt Eads, portfolio manager at Eads & Heald Investment Counsel in Atlanta. "People are looking for anything they can grab on to, which is a sign of good news and economic stabilization."

IBM rose $1.99, or 2 percent, to $101.94 after the company raised its quarterly dividend 5 cents to 55 cents. The company's board authorized another $3 billion for repurchasing stock. The move brings the total available for buying up shares to $6.7 billion.

"IBM's buyback and dividend hike has given the market some confidence and reminded people that there is a little bit of favorable news in technology," said Nick Kalivas, vice president of financial research at the brokerage MF Global in Chicago.

Unlike other major benchmarks, the tech-heavy Nasdaq composite index is up 6.1 percent this year as investors look for lean technology companies to benefit quickly from an economic recovery.

Investors responded more to news about individual stocks rather than buying entire industries, as had been the case in recent months when traders placed bets on consumer staples and technology companies expected to better endure the recession.

In other trading Tuesday, the Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 3.28, or 0.7 percent, to 472.81.

The swine flu gave investors reason to cash in recent gains Monday, but the Dow is still up 22.5 percent from the nearly 12-year low it reached in early March.

Bond prices fell, pushing the yield on the 10-year Treasury note up to 3.01 percent from 2.91 percent.

The dollar was mostly higher against other major currencies. Gold prices fell.

Light, sweet crude fell 22 cents to $49.92 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.



BANKING

BofA, Citi may need to raise more cash

DANIEL WAGNER
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America Corp. will need to raise more capital based on preliminary results of their government-run "stress tests" — unless they succeed in appealing the findings, according to two people familiar with the matter.

The banks are making their arguments to regulators, said these people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they have been ordered not to discuss it. Among their points could be that regulators don't fully understand the banks' operations, they said.

But the companies face an uphill battle in convincing Fed officials, who privately released the results Friday, that the results are wrong, analysts said. They noted that the tests are supposed to be rigorous enough for the results to be widely accepted.

Citi's shares fell more than 5 percent Tuesday, and Bank of America's more than 8 percent. Wells Fargo & Co., U.S. Bancorp, Bank of New York Mellon Corp. and most of the remaining 19 banks that were stress-tested by the government also finished lower.

Investors have grown more concerned about regional banks with many risky loans on their books. Defaults on those loans could skyrocket in a worsening economy. Banks that carry such loans, including KeyCorp and SunTrust Banks Inc., are likely to be asked to improve their capital reserves, according to analysts.

"It's not surprising there are some slaps on the wrist or calls for recapitalization," such as at Citi or Bank of America, said Simon Johnson, a former IMF chief economist now at Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Business. "It's in keeping with their overall strategy" of waiting out the banking system's problems, he said.

Federal Reserve officials told reporters Friday that all 19 banks that underwent stress tests will need to keep an extra buffer of capital reserves beyond what's now required, in case losses continue to mount. That would mean some banks will likely have to raise additional cash.

But the Fed stressed in a statement that a bank's need for more capital reserves to meet the requirements should not be considered a measure of the "current solvency or viability of the firm."

Fed officials held top-secret meetings with bank executives last week to give them preliminary findings of how each bank would fare if the recession got much worse. The banks can dispute their results this week.

They will receive the final test results Friday, and the government plans to announce the results next week. By law, the banks cannot publicize the results without the government's permission.

The results will determine the fates of the companies, which together hold one-half of the U.S. banking system's loans. Banks found to need more capital face several possibilities: The government could convert its stake in them to common shares, force them to raise money from investors or eventually release more funds from the Treasury Department's $700 billion financial bailout.

The banks' options are designed to ensure banks have enough cash to withstand the mounting loan losses they would absorb in a bleaker economy.

The news about Charlotte, N.C.-based Bank of America and New York-based Citi was first reported in The Wall Street Journal Tuesday.

Bank of America declined to comment.

A Citi spokesman added that the bank is continuing with its plan to exchange debt for equity and shed assets as part of a program to further bolster its capital position.

Citi has reached a basic agreement to sell its Japanese brokerage unit, Nikko Cordial, to Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc. for 500 billion yen ($5.2 billion), according to The Nikkei business newspaper. Citi declined to comment on the potential sale of the unit.

Fed spokeswoman Michelle Smith on Tuesday declined to comment on Bank of America and Citigroup.

Treasury spokesman Andrew Williams said department officials would not comment on whether regulators told Bank of America and Citigroup they may need to raise more capital.

As executives of the nation's largest banks review their stress-test results, even the top performers are lobbying regulators to raise their scores before the numbers are finalized Friday.

For Treasury, the easiest way to bolster bank balance sheets is to convert the government's existing stake from preferred shares — a form of debt — into common shares that carry voting rights. This would help Treasury avoid returning to Congress for more bailout money — a request lawmakers are likely to rebuff.

If the test showed a bank would need more money to endure a much worse recession, regulators will force it to meet higher standards for capital reserves, to offset possible future losses.

Banks deemed to have enough capital may learn whether they'll be permitted to repay billions of dollars the government injected into them last fall, analysts and officials said. Most large banks have said they want to repay the money to escape executive compensation limits and other obligations.

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Mother's Day tinged with sadness for birthmoms

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press Writer

At church each Mother's Day, Eileen McQuade used to watch forlornly as flowers were handed out to beaming women surrounded by their loving children. Though she was raising two daughters, her special day was filled with grief and shame.

In 1966, when she was an 18-year-old college freshman, she gave up her firstborn for adoption.

"I didn't feel like I should take the flower because I didn't feel I deserved it," said McQuade, who splits her time between Delray Beach, Fla., and South Windsor, Conn.

Like McQuade, many birthmothers can't shake their anguish and guilt when Mother's Day rolls around each May, so they've taken on the Saturday before the holiday as their own — Birth Mother's Day. The day was established by a group of Seattle birthmothers in 1990 and has grown over the years to include candle lightings, poetry readings and other events around the country.

"The old myth about adoption was that birthmothers would go and have their children and forget it ever happened and the adoptees wouldn't care where they came from," said the 62-year-old McQuade, who was reunited with her daughter 12 years ago. "We know that it doesn't really happen that way. We have a much better sense of it now. Birth Mother's Day is a healing for many."

With an estimated 6 million adoptees in the United States alone and a trend toward more open adoptions, birthmothers have never been more out of the closet, forming support groups and sharing resources as they struggle with sadness and a sense that society has left them in the shadows.

Many birthmothers relinquished newborns in the '50s, '60s and '70s, when closed adoptions that sealed records and left them with little control seemed the only choice. Now, birthmothers looking to reconnect with their children are finding that state laws aren't making it easy.

Forty-two states require a court order to open original birth certificates that often list the names of birthmothers. Eight states allow adult adoptees to have copies of original birth certificates.

When Holly Spann, 55, of Nashville, Tenn., went looking for the daughter she gave birth to in 1971, she had no clues to point her in the right direction.

"I didn't have a piece of paper, a court document, anything to prove I had had a baby except stretch marks and the memories," she said.

Spann got pregnant at 17. She left her small town in Tennessee to live with relatives in Alabama while waiting to give birth, grieving for years over the closed adoption. Celebrating Birth Mother's Day is her way of acknowledging the past.

"Back then, birthmothers were basically told you'll go on with your lives just like it never happened," she said. "The fact that you gave a child up for adoption was really never to be spoken about again."

She eventually found her child. They spoke once on the phone but have never met.

Large water main break floods downtown Baltimore

BEN GREENE
Associated Press Writer

BALTIMORE A massive water main break shut down the heart of downtown Baltimore on Tuesday, sending thousands of workers home or to other offices and at one point flooding the city with 2 feet of water.

Downtown Partnership President Kirby Fowler said the rushing water created a sinkhole 1Ω feet deep and 6 feet across. Eight city office buildings, including City Hall and police and fire headquarters, and several commercial buildings were closed in a 32 square-block area. Downtown roads were also closed, snarling traffic during morning rush hour. No injuries were reported.

"It is the center of our commercial sector so there's definitely an impact there," Fowler said. "This is really the heaviest concentration of employees in Baltimore city."

The flood had dissipated by mid-afternoon but muddy, slippery sidewalks within a block of the break were pocked with shoe prints and within yards of the flooded intersection, wave action had rippled the sidewalks.

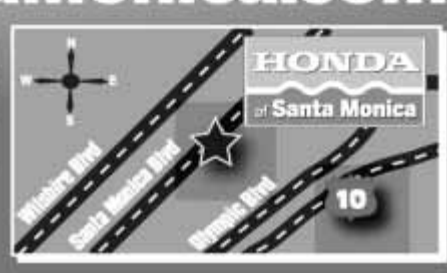
The flooded intersection "looked like the edge of the ocean tides where you can ride boogey boards and slide along the water's edge," Fowler said.

Mayor Sheila Dixon said the city hopes to have the problem fixed by Wednesday morning.

"This is going to be an all day and night situation. This is a huge water main break and this is a huge area that's affected," she said.

The break was in a 20-inch line, but public works officials said crews also shut off a nearby 40-inch line while the damage was assessed. Water customers outside the area had low water pressure until late afternoon, according to Fowler. Utility crews worked at Lombard and Gay streets as water was pumped from underground pipes, according to Baltimore Gas and Electric spokeswoman Linda Foy. That is where most of the interruption for commuters, businesses and downtown workers would be on Wednesday, Fowler said.

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Tornante

Steve Parker
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Local jobs in jeopardy?

AND THEY'RE OFF IN THE BANKRUPTCY 500!

Who gets to the courthouse doors first, General Motors or Chrysler? Who gets granted those first protections from creditors? Which gets to keep the cafeteria trays, corporate jets, 100-ton metal stamping machines and now-collectible assembly line jumpsuits (could be a new fashion rage locally)?

And which car owners will still have their warranties in effect tomorrow?

But perhaps more important for us all; a bankruptcy judge can invalidate, with the swing of a gavel, all the protections franchised new car dealers have between them and the car-makers, shutting-down thousands of dealerships in one fell swoop, with the car-maker not required to pay them anything. In that case, the dropped dealers will just have to get in-step with the other creditors lining-up at GM's and Chrysler's doors in Michigan.

Scores of Santa Monica-area dealers, many of them associated with their factories for 50 years or more, could be shuttered with no compensation from Detroit, displacing on average, according to the National Automobile Dealers Association, 100 employees-per-showroom from our local area.

Since 2000 and as of today, General Motors has officially killed Oldsmobile, Hummer, Saab, Saturn and, the very latest death, Monday's public execution of Pontiac. The General will now focus, they say, on the "four core brands" of Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick and GMC worldwide (again, that's as of today — it could change again by tonight).

And at Monday's Detroit press conference where the death knell was sounded for Pontiac by GM CEO Fritz Henderson, he made it clear that the 2,641 GM dealers nationwide which the corporation wants to cut will receive buy-out offers in their mail next month, bankruptcy court is now a "stronger" possibility for GM than it was only a few weeks ago.

Ouch. Not very subtle there, Mr. Fritzy.

According to the Automotive News Data Center, GM currently has about 6,246 dealers nationwide (Toyota, by comparison, along with their Lexus and Scion lines, have 1,461 dealers in the U.S.).

Chrysler did-in Plymouth a few seasons back, and might now be wishing they'd done the same with the Dodge name or Chrysler, too. They'd picked-up American Motors at a fire sale price ($1.5 billion in 1987) and it got them what's now their Jewel in the Crown: Jeep, probably the most-valuable nameplate within the corporation.

What horror for our country, economy and world. Ford, meanwhile, can sit quietly on the sidelines and refuse federal money (while they're working with Washington to open billions in lines-of-credit when necessary, with GM/Chrysler-type taxpayer-supplied loan guarantees there if and when they need them).

I've been re-reading Lee Iacocca's 1984 autobiography. He details his firing from Ford after eight years as the president of that company, the only company he'd ever worked for until being shown the door by Henry Ford, then his subsequent leadership of Chrysler, then Chrysler's descent into near-bankruptcy which forced Iacocca to beg for loan guarantees from Congress in 1979 (it's often said "there's nothing new in the car business," and today's headlines have all been seen before, though not to this extent).

The world's economic and political situation was eerily similar then to today's; oil was available, or not, at the whim of OPEC, gas prices were rising but not enough to force Detroit to work seriously on developing high-mileage cars (and American consumers still clamored for V8s), unrest in the Mideast, this time in the form of the Shah of Iran being asked, as Iacocca puts it, to "leave town," and the taking of American hostages in Tehran kept the world tension high as possible for all involved.

GM AND CHRYSLER LEADERSHIP ARE BOTH TALKING OPENLY ABOUT SEEKING BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION, PERHAPS NEXT MONTH, AND THE WHITE HOUSE SEEMS TO BE ENCOURAGING THEM IN THAT DIRECTION.

Also like today, Iacocca, Ford and whoever was running GM blamed most of their industry's problems on "government regulation." Damn airbags and pollution controls! Without those and other expensive Washington-mandated regulations and standards, which raised the price of U.S.-made cars, Asian imports wouldn't have stood a chance in the U.S. marketplace (Detroit executives said that, but even they didn't really believe it).

GM and Chrysler leadership are both talking openly about seeking bankruptcy protection, perhaps next month, and the White House seems to be encouraging them in that direction. One immediate blowback from Detroit bankruptcies for the near-20,000 local new car dealers across the country, if Detroit fights the franchise buy-out agreements, would see thousands of lives destroyed.

If those dealers, some of which are massive corporations, but many long-time family businesses and our neighbors, lose their protections against simply being discarded by the car-makers, that will have a devastating effect on Santa Monica and thousands of other towns and cities which rely so heavily on the taxes paid by those local businesses.

In this case, even if Detroit wins, we may lose.

STEVE PARKER is the automotive blogger for the Huffington Post (www.HuffingtonPost.com/steveparker), a consultant and contributor for the NBC-TV automotive show Whipnotic and its companion Web site (www.Whipnotic.com), and can be heard live and worldwide every Saturday and Sunday starting at 5 p.m. Pacific time on www.TalkRadioOne.com. His home site is www.SteveParker.com and his column, Tornante, runs exclusively every week in the SMDP.

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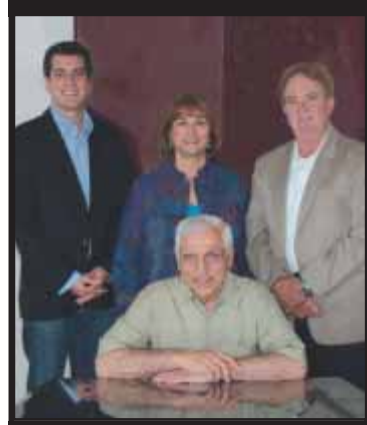
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Residents rest easy for the moment

FROM FLU PAGE 1

Homeopathic Pharmacy. "We don't have products that treat swine flu, but we do have some flu prevention products, herbs and remedies. If somebody comes in with chills, fever, weakness, we have treatments for all of those symptoms."

Local hospitals have also seen an increase in calls and walk-ins from individuals concerned about their health.

"There's a lot of inquiry, especially since the public gets news through so many outlets from all over the world," said Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

Ghurabi explained that the testing and diagnostic procedures for swine flu are slightly different from standard infections, involving a hierarchical system of testing and reporting that ends, for confirmed cases, in the endorsement of the diagnosis from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We have ways of testing for influenza A, the parent virus of swine flu, but those cases could still just be influenza A," he said, adding that "the hospital has a very elaborate policy on this issue — on the exposure, on the incubation period, on the testing and treatment. All of our staff knows about it."

In anticipation of a response from local parents, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District sent letters to the homes of students with information about disease prevention and staying healthy during flu season, said Marilyn Freedman, director of school safety for the district.

"School nurses are working on monitoring the status of infection and working on keeping good hygiene," she said.

Although medical professionals in the area maintain that for the time being, Santa Monica residents have little reason to worry about contracting the virus, some residents are not in need of reassurance.

"I'm not worried about it at all. I'm unusual in that respect, I think, because even when I'm exposed to people, I believe that my attitude makes a difference," said Dr. Terry Marks-Tarlow, a Santa Monica psychologist who specializes in mind-body connections and how psychology affects physical health. "If you're afraid that you're going to become infected, I think the likelihood of that happening is greater. If you feel safe inside yourself and promote a boundary where you feel like you're resilient and like your immune system can handle exposure, you might be better off.

"I try to practice that."

Others found reassurance in the context of the virus' outbreak.

"They're saying this swine flu is so bad and that it's out of control when it's no worse than the common cold," said William Dee, a Santa Monica stuntman. "I know that a lot of people have died from it in Mexico, but you have to consider that Mexico doesn't have the resources or the money that we do to keep their health up. It's no shock that a lot of people in a poor country would die from this."

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PYFC hosts famous tattoo artist

FROM PYFC PAGE 1

(PYFC) on Tuesday afternoon, showing them that he's a living example of how one can overcome challenges and achieve goals.

He was the most recent guest speaker at the PYFC, a nonprofit organization that occasionally hosts accomplished individuals from various industries to encourage teenagers to explore different paths to success.

"His story is one of triumph in the face of adversity," Oscar de la Torre, the executive director of the PYFC, said.

Machado described a stable childhood in which he grew up with two loving and supportive parents who both worked, a lack of supervision that led him to hang out on the streets.

Realizing the dangers of substance abuse, Machado said he left behind the life of using drugs to pursue a more than 20-year-long career that has included graffiti art, clothing design and his specialty, tattoo art.

Better known as Mister Cartoon, Machado's work has been featured in various Cypress Hill albums, the "Fast & Furious," and a special edition Vans sneaker featuring The Simpsons.

"This is a miracle right here," Machado said, holding up a bright yellow Vans sneaker box.

He encouraged the students to stick with their dreams and to pursue it until they find success, ignoring the criticism that may come from those around them, adding that if they believe, then others will follow.

Machado told a story of how as a tattoo artist starting out, he wondered what to charge his customers, taking a friend's suggestion to set a rate of $500 for a tattoo the size of a cigarette case.

When a customer approached Machado about having some work done, he informed the artist that he only had $450.

Machado told the customer to come back when he had the remaining $50 but secretly questioning himself about the rate he had set.

The customer returned with $500.

"I had an image of myself of being way up here," Machado said, pointing above his head. "And other people started to believe it."

The talk was inspiring to Johnny Edson, a Santa Monica High School senior who comes to the PYFC at least once a week for its hip hop music production studio.

Edson said his dream is to pursue music.

"I want to put my energy into it because as you can see, it can take you places," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com



Ray Solano *news@smdp.com*

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: **Mark Machado aka 'Mister Cartoon,' a tattoo and graffiti artist, talks to youths at the Pico Youth and Family Center on Tuesday.**

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Family of suspect receives $250,000

FROM **SETTLEMENT** PAGE 1

reportedly jumped out of his car and tried to run away on foot. When officers ordered him to stop, the man allegedly turned toward the police, who then saw the gun in the suspect's hands and fired. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Hunter's family filed a wrongful death claim about eight months after the shooting. The case was set to go to trial on April 20. An attorney for the family did not respond to a request seeking comment.

Club 20/20, so-called because of its location at 2020 Wilshire Blvd., has closed since the shooting and today is the V-Lounge.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has investigated the shooting and found that the officers acted in lawful self defense and defense of others, said Deputy City Attorney Carol Ann Rohr.

"The city believes that the officers' actions were justified because they shot at Christopher Hunter who was armed with a semi-automatic pistol and was turning toward them," Rohr said on Monday, adding that the settlement is not an admission of guilt on part of the police department.

She added that the cost of going to trial for City Hall would be extremely expensive in such cases. City Hall had already spent about $80,000 preparing for the case and might have needed up to another $100,000 for other costs, including expert depositions.

Rohr noted that jury trial results can be unpredictable.

"This was a predictable way to have closure for everybody," she said.

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SM PIER

Race for the bay

The Los Angeles Marathon Group and Heal the Bay are teaming up to host three races on Sunday, combining running with environmental awareness.

The fourth annual Santa Monica Classic includes two 5K races at 7:30 a.m. (one for runners under 21) and a 10K race starting at 8 a.m. The proceeds of the event go to Heal the Bay. In the past, the races have raised over $30,000.

The races start on the beach, south of Ocean Park on 2600 Barnard Way. All three races pass through Santa Monica on Main Street and Ocean Avenue, with the 10K race continuing on past California Avenue and up San Vicente Boulevard before turning back near 11th Street. All races finish on the Santa Monica Pier.

"Racers will enjoy a great run through the heart of Santa Monica and the opportunity to help keep our coastal waters safe and clean," Race Director Peter Abraham said. "We're proud to partner with Heal the Bay for our beach clean-up and the fourth annual Santa Monica Classic."

The winning high school boys' and girls' teams from the 5K under 21 race will receive Nike jackets, and all participants are welcome to the post-race expo on the pier. Everyone running will receive Nike T-shirts. To register, visit www.santamonicaclassic.com or call (310) 271-7200 for more information.

DAILY PRESS

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK

Cinco de Mayo on wheels

Music, food and cars are the heart of Sunday's Cinco de Mayo Fiesta celebrating Mexican culture.

Attended last year by over 2,000 people, the celebration is free and lasts from 1 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The entertainment line-up includes Mariachi Estrella de Jalisco, a 10 piece salsa band called Bomba Chante and ballet folklorico dancers. Maria Elena Gaitan, an award-winning performance artist, will recount the history of Cinco de Mayo as the mistress of ceremony. The festival also features children's Mexican arts and crafts and carnival games. Mexican food including tamales, tacos and enchiladas will be served along with Jamba Juice drinks and hot dogs from Earlez Grill.

Classic cars, vintage cars, muscle cars, low riders, trucks and other specialty vehicles will be showcased at the Classic Car show, sponsored by the Pico Improvement Organization, organized by Andrew Gomez and supported by Biar's Keystone Bodyshop and Pacific Motors. Car show exhibitors will compete for the Mayor's Choice Trophy judged by Santa Monica Mayor Ken Genser and for the Chief's Trophy, judged by SMPD's Chief Timothy Jackman and SMFD's Chief Jim Hone. Trophies will also be awarded for best in class in several categories. Virginia Park is located on the northwest corner of Pico and Cloverfield boulevards. Free parking is located at Santa Monica College in Structure A at the corner of Pico and 17th Street.

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Samohi defeats Morningside, 7-3

FROM **SAMOHI** PAGE 3

Vikings are to three-peat as league champs.

Tuesday's game against Morningside was a perfect example of what he meant.

Leading 7-0 in the top of the fifth inning, starter Logan Whitchurch (2-1) issued a walk to Morningside's Jose Robledo. David Torres came to the plate next and promptly hit a fly ball to center that Lawrence attempted to snag by making a diving catch. The ball just missed his glove by inches and allowed Torres to reach second with a double, scoring Robledo and making it 7-1.

Duron decided to summon junior Noah Tillipman to relieve Whitchurch, who had been effective through the first four innings. With Torres at second, Tillipman faced Jose Cedena who sacrificed the runner to third. Jesus Jimenez followed and hit a soft grounder back to Tillipman who didn't have a play at either home or first. Torres then scored making it 7-2 with a man on first.

Tillipman held his ground in the fifth by retiring the final two batters he faced, but not before Morningside made the game a bit more interesting.

"I thought we should have scored a couple more runs," Morningside Head Coach Dale St. John said. "I didn't see much from [Whitchurch or Tillipman], but they were able to hang in there and get the win."

The sixth inning saw Morningside continue its late game charge.

Tillipman began the inning by recording two quick outs. With two out and nobody on, Morningside's Julio Serrano hit a double to deep left field. Serrano was then able to advance to third on a Tillipman wild pitch, setting the stage for another Morningside run.

With Serrano on third, Robledo was able to draw a walk putting men at the corners. While Brian Hernandez, the next hitter, was at the plate Robledo appeared to be caught stealing before Tillipman threw the pitch. As he advanced toward Robledo to make the out, Serrano was given the green light to successfully steal home on the double steal attempt. Both runners were safe and Samohi's lead was cut by another run, 7-3.

Tillipman was able to strike out Hernandez for the final out of the sixth. He settled down during the seventh, striking out a pair in the process and preserving the victory.

These two teams will play the second game of the series at Morningside Thursday at 3:15 p.m. Samohi's Skaggs will make the start against Morningside's Robledo.

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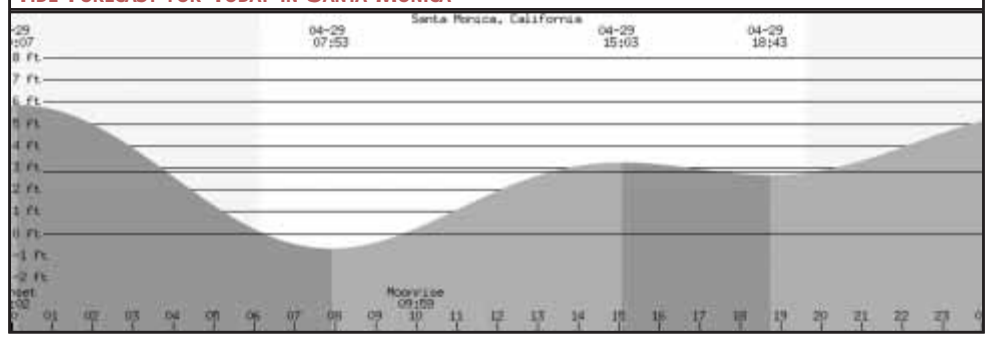
Swell Forecast (3-5 FT)

We should see some light SW come up from the Pitcairn area, angled from 190. Size should run waist to chest at most south facing breaks. Wind swell should linger in the waist high range for west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Thursday the 30th this small SW should keep south facing breaks in waist high waves. Wind swell should linger for knee to waist high waves.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **April 21, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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 Lechusa and Las Alisos 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	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	C	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	C	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	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	F	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	D	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

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

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Lola Montes (NR) (1955) 1hr 55min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Duplicity (PG-13) 2hr 5min
1:35, 6:45

The Informers (R) 1hr 38min
2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40

Is Anybody There? (PG-13) 1hr 32 min
2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

Sunshine Cleaning (R) 1hr 42min
4:25, 9:30

Observe and Report (R) 1hr 46min
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45

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

Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1hr 46min
2:10, 4:50, 7:35, 10:00

Crank High Voltage (R) 1hr 25min
2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) 1hr 42min
2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

Earth (G) 1hr 30min
2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00

Fighting (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40

Obsessed (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:35

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

Adventureland (R) 1hr 46min
4:20, 9:30

Enlighten Up! (NR) 1hr 22min
1:55, 7:20

Sin Nombre (R) 1hr 36min
1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

Goodbye Solo (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30, 7:10

Tyson (R) 1hr 45min
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

Gigantic (R) 1hr 53min
4:40, 9:40

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

17 Again (PG-13) 1hr 42min
1:00, 2:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 10:00

I Love You, Man (R) 1hr 50min
2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

State of Play (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:10, 3:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:20, 10:20

The Soloist (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Valentino: The Last Emperor (NR) 1hr 36min
2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40

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

Sort options, Capricorn

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Listen to news and start up talks. Communication flourishes at an unprecedented level. Others could be surprised by your focus and direction. You could be more angry than you realize. Stop before you say something you might regret. Tonight: Head home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Keep talks going and open doors. You could be sitting on a lot of anger without knowing it. Speak your mind so that there are no questions. An easy flow could be established before you know it. Understand rather than judge. Tonight: Fun and games.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Expenses easily could tumble out of control. Could shopping also be soaring and you are the victim of inadvertent spending? A meeting could be loaded with hot energy. Tonight: Easy does it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your words are not falling on deaf ears, though a boss or someone you look up to could be a lot to bear. Mobilize others to help make what you want happen. Tonight: Sometimes not saying it all is smart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Think rather than talk. Share rather than monopolize. What you are doing could draw shocking reactions. If you want, consider alternatives right now. Act in a few days. Tonight: Take some personal time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You could be more negative than you realize. Refocus; maybe a more detached approach would work. Look to others for suggestions. In fact, just observe if you don't want to ask. What is important is the long-term goal. Tonight: Where the gang is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Understand what is going on behind the scenes. You could decide that you need to take charge. It isn't out of the question to allow a critical associate to take over. Tonight: Don't even consider vanishing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You might want to read between the lines. How you handle someone or what goes on behind the scenes might not be clear just yet. Detach and observe. Tonight: Choose a relaxing activity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Work with individuals rather than groups if you want to succeed. What might be difficult at first eases up and becomes a possibility. Review a situation. Stay on top of your game. A boss could be a problem. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Defer to others, knowing that you might not be able to do what you want just yet. Keep smiling and watch how everything plays out. Let your creativity come into play. You might want to focus on more fun issues. Tonight: Sort through your options.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Easy works, especially if you can relax and handle a problem. Your ability to move past the obvious and get to the real issue earmarks your decisions and actions. Incorporate an exercise plan in the near future. Tonight: Work late if need be.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Tap into your creativity, and get past a problem. You might want to revise your plans as a result. No matter what you are doing, do squeeze in some fun. You cannot suppress your innate self-expression – so don't. Tonight: Take a midweek romp.

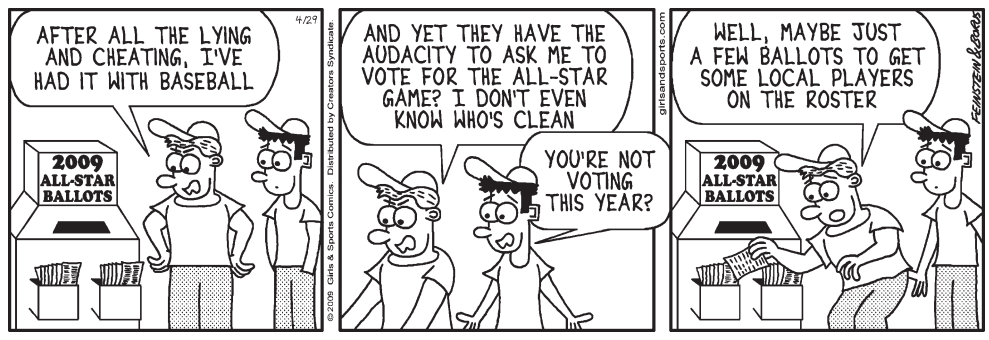
Happy birthday

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

This year, you speak, and others stop to listen. You need to be sure you are in touch with your feelings, or else your clarity could be muddled and confused. If you're in a creative field, you will want to manifest a concrete piece of work, though the going might not always be easy. Communication flourishes. Come 2010, you will be able to make a big difference wherever you decide to plug in your energy. If you are single, you see life through revised eyes. Relationships before January might not be as substantial after. If you are attached, trust your partner's feedback, as you will tend to suppress your feelings. Communication opens many doors. CANCER loves to hang with you.

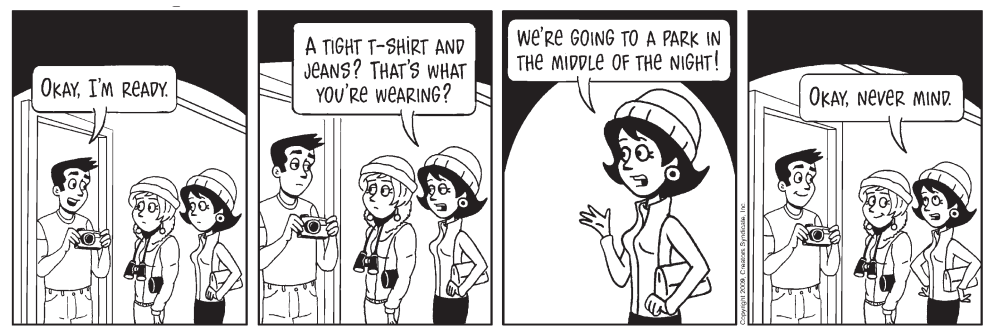
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



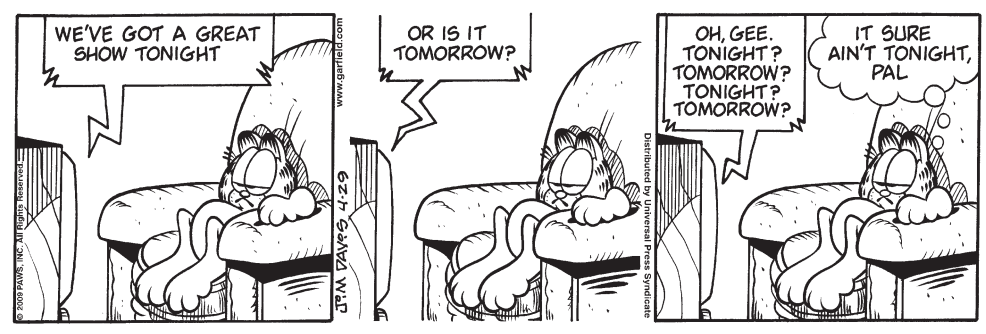
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



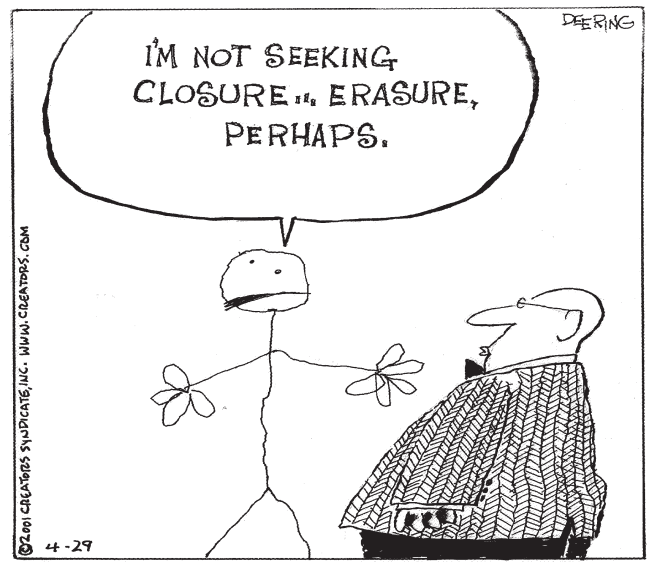
Garfield

By Jim Davis



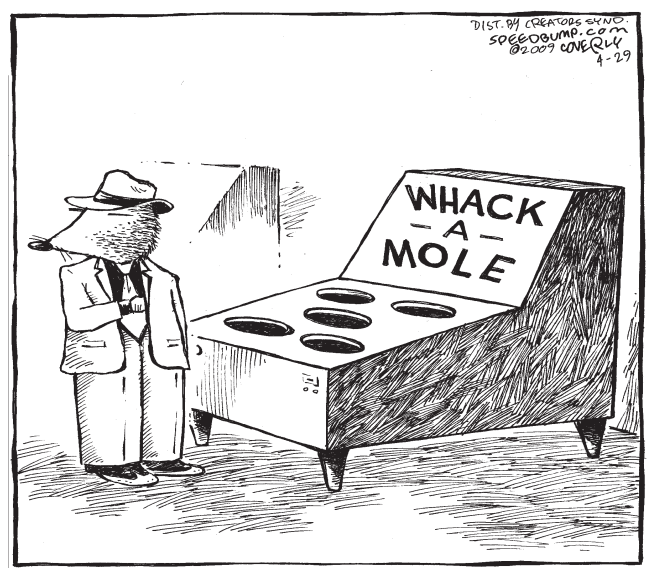
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Valentine words
7 Like the desert
11 Photographer Richard
12 Kingly address
13 Dana of "Desperate Housewives"
14 Reach across
15 Get exciting
17 Doofus
20 Dublin natives
23 Kimono sash
24 Purplish hue
26 Mouth, in slang
27 Need to pay
28 Understood
29 Authorize
31 It's picked in Hawaii
32 Poker ploy
33 Ignored the limit
34 Constricted
37 Verne's traveler
39 Baseball bird
43 Together, in music
44 City near Capri
45 Workout count
46 Cold showers?

DOWN

1 Naughty
2 Raiser of Cain
3 Singer Tormé
4 Montana neighbor
5 Less than any
6 "Orinoco Flow" singer
7 Promise
8 Tattering
9 Lyricist Gershwin
10 Comfy room
16 Fierce fighter
17 "Gaslight" star
18 44th president
19 Closing, as a jacket
21 Supply with fuel
22 Reviled
24 Yard machine
25 Wonder
30 Kansas natives
33 Steal
35 Silver and Glass
36 Test type
37 Way off
38 Poem of praise
40 Flamenco call
41 Rent out
42 Snaky letter

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11						■	12			
13						■	14			
■	■	■	15			16			■	■
17	18	19		■	■	20			21	22
23			■	24	25					
26			■	27			■	28		
29			30				■	31		
32					■	■	33			
■	■	34			35	36		■	■	■
37	38			■	39			40	41	42
43				■	44					
45				■	46					

4-29

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 15 20 24 36 44
Meganumber: 6
Jackpot: $181M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 26 36 40 46
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: $7M

FANTASY 5: 2 4 19 26 33

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 7 4
EVENING: 0 2 5

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.43.51

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Among the lingering sex-based customs in Saudi Arabia is the restriction on women's working outside the home, which forces lingerie shops to be staffed only with males, who must awkwardly make recommendations on women's bra styles and sizes. The campaign for change, led by a Jeddah college lecturer, has enlisted even some clerks, who are just as embarrassed about the confrontation as the customers, according to a February BBC News dispatch.

■ Only in Japan/Only in Sweden: (1) Sega Toys Co. reported in January that, in just three months, it had sold 50,000 units of the Pekoppa, a "plant" consisting of leaves and branches that flutter when "spoken to," the success of which the company attributes to the epic loneliness of many Japanese. (2) Advocates for children complained in April that Sweden's national library, acting on a standing order to archive copies of all domestic publications, has been gathering books and magazines of child pornography from the years 1971-1980, when it was legal, and, as libraries do, lending them out.

■ The Natural Resources Defense Council and Greenpeace commenced campaigns in February critical of the peculiar preference of Americans for ultra-soft or quilted toilet paper. In less-picky Europe and Latin America, 40 percent of toilet paper is produced by recycling, but Americans' demand for multi-ply tissue requires virgin wood for 98 percent of the product. The activists claim that U.S. toilet paper imposes more costs on the planet than do gas-guzzling cars.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1992 deadly rioting erupted in Los Angeles after a jury in Simi Valley, Calif., acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of Rodney King.

WORD UP!

eleemosynary \el-uh-MOS-uh-ner-ee\, *adjective*:
1. Of or for charity; charitable; as, "an eleemosynary institution."
2. Given in charity; having the nature of alms; as, "eleemosynary assistance."
3. Supported by or dependent on charity; as, "the eleemosynary poor."

Santa Monica Daily Press

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North of Montana	$3,407,000	$1,246,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,697,500	$843,000
South of Wilshire	$970,000	$619,700
Sunset Park	$1,198,500	$698,000
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Statistics Updated Every Monday

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