

GIVING CHASE  
SEE PAGE 8

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LEGAL MATTERS ISSUE

Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)

**COMING CLEAN:** Mike Newman, owner of 16th Street Cleaners, holds up paper work informing him that the city is suing his business for failing to post required information. 'You are not selling Big Macs. There are 5,000 different combinations. We can't list everything,' Newman said.

# Taking it to the cleaners

## City Attorney's Office sues nine businesses

**BY KEVIN HERRERA**  
Editor in Chief

**CITY HALL** The owners of nine dry cleaners and laundry businesses in Santa Monica are being sued by the City Attorney's Office for allegedly violating a state disclosure law designed to protect consumers against gender discrimination when it comes to pricing.

While most women know that a silk blouse costs more to clean than a men's cotton dress shirt, it us up to dry cleaners to post their prices in plain view so that customers don't get confused or ripped off.

Dry cleaners, hair salons, and other service oriented businesses must also post information about the California "Gender Discrimination Repeal Act," which passed in 1996 and was designed to

keep retail businesses honest in their pricing of services for men and woman. The law prohibits differential pricing for men and women unless there is a legitimate difference in the time, difficulty or cost of providing the service.

In addition, the law requires that three kinds of businesses that traditionally have had problems with gender price discrimination — tailors, dry cleaners, and hair salons — do three things:

- (1) Clearly post the prices for their 15 most-requested services.
- (2) Give customers a complete price list upon request.
- (3) Post a large anti-discrimination sign with prescribed language.

Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky with the Consumer Protection Unit said the nine businesses being sued failed to do just that, even after they were repeat-

edly informed about the law.

"This lawsuit is to make sure that all businesses follow the law," Radinsky said. "Female customers shouldn't have to wonder if they're getting fair pricing when they go to the cleaners — or to the hair salon."

The lawsuit is filed under the California Unfair Competition Law which prohibits businesses from engaging in any unfair or unlawful acts or practices.

The City Attorney's Office is seeking an injunction against further violations and monetary penalties, which can be as high as \$2,500 per violation.

In February 2007 the Consumer Protection Unit sent a courtesy letter to each of Santa Monica's 48 cleaners and 91

SEE SUIT PAGE 14

## Santa Monica Mountains may experience some major growth

**BY MELODY HANATANI**  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**WASHINGTON D.C.** Federal officials plan to examine the feasibility of quadrupling the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area through a possible inclusion of the Rim of the Valley Corridor into the 153,000 acre national park.

President Bush last week signed a law authored by Congressman Adam Schiff, D-Pasadena, that will permit the National Parks Service to begin studying the implications of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains to encompass the Rim of the Valley, a series of open spaces that line the San Fernando Valley and include the Angeles National Forest.

The estimated \$100,000 study is expected to take about three years to complete, after which point a recommendation will be forwarded to Congress for consideration.

NPS officials say the Rim of the Valley is a critical corridor of open space that will link the Santa Monica Mountains to other northerly forested lands, allowing for the connection of habitat, facilitating wild life movement and as a result, preventing inbreeding.

"It is critical to maintaining the genetic health and maintaining the biological diversity," Woody Smeck, the superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, said. "We fear that inbreeding will begin to occur among populations of wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains and that can result in diseases and genetic deficiencies."

The Rim of the Valley is a state designated area established through the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Act in 1979, which allows the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy the ability to purchase property in the Rim of the Valley corridor. If federal officials in the future opt to officially include the Rim of the Valley into the Santa Monica Mountains, a federally-designated park, it would allow federal resources to be used toward the maintenance of the rim, according to Dash Stolarz, the spokeswoman for the conservancy, a

SEE MOUNTAINS PAGE 11

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## Calendar

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Daily  
(310) 829-9597  
(corner of 20th & Santa Monica Blvd.)

**1920 Santa Monica Blvd.**

### WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



#### Say cheese

2612 Main St., 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.

As studio photographer for MGM, Warner Brothers and Columbia, George Hurrell shot some of the world's most beautiful and intriguing personalities, creating the template for the Hollywood glamour portrait. His flawless photography was instrumental in shaping the images of stars such as Joan Crawford, James Cagney and Rita Hayworth. An exhibition at the California Heritage Museum entitled "Lights! Camera! Glamour! The Photography of George Hurrell" shows more than eighty iconic photographs ranging from Jean Harlow, and Clark Gable to Joan Collins and Arnold Schwarzenegger. For more information contact [calmuseum@earthlink.net](mailto:calmuseum@earthlink.net) or (310) 392 8537.

#### A case of Ricketts

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

Author Eric Enno Tamm will discuss the life and work of trail blazing ecologist Ed Ricketts, who not only had significant influence on the marine science community, but also on his famous friends, authors John Steinbeck and Joseph Campbell. Steinbeck immortalized Ricketts as "Doc" in his famed novel "Cannery Row." Tamm is the author of "Beyond the Outer Shores," a biography of Ed Ricketts. Tamm has worked as a journalist as well as in British Columbia's commercial fishing industry and campaigns on the subjects of sustainable development and community-based fisheries issues. The event will be held in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium. For more information contact Randi Parent, (310) 393-6149.

#### Kiwanis Club Meeting

Santa Monica YMCA, Noon — 1:30 p.m.

Come and join the Santa Monica Kiwanis Club — an organization made up of volunteers that provides community support through grants, volunteer hours and much more — for their weekly club luncheon at the Santa Monica YMCA. Members use these meetings to increase fundraising efforts and spread the word on support committees and community events. Special guest speakers will be attending the luncheon. For more information, call (310) 613-1249.

#### 12 Steps For Everybody

16370 Bollinger Dr., Pacific Palisades, 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

12 Steps for Everybody's one-hour 12-Step Writing Meeting hosts a more intensive practice to the traditional 12-Step program — reading literature, going to meetings, finding a sponsor and then working the 12 Steps. This program is for anyone who would like to join, or anyone with a habitual problem or illness. For more information, call (310) 454-5138, or e-mail [info@12stepsforeverybody.org](mailto:info@12stepsforeverybody.org).

**Thursday, May 15, 2008**

#### Bike to Work Day

City Hall, 7 a.m. — 10 a.m.

The City of Santa Monica is sponsoring its annual Bike to Work Day. The event includes a free bike valet and prizes. Remember to ride safely. For information, call (310) 458-8955.

#### The Meathands have it

4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m.

The "Magic Meathands" perform an hour of fully improvised hilarity based on audience suggestions and participation. The show is presented by director Bill Johnson, in a great cafe that offers delicious coffee, food, drinks and comfortable couches. What sets this improv group apart is their personal connection with the audience and community, so their best material comes directly from the people around them. For information, call (310) 559-8868.

#### What's new this week

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to [smdp.com](http://smdp.com) and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



# Goldmans believe Simpson confessed to grisly murders

BY JOHN ROGERS  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Ron Goldman's sister says she's inclined to believe a memorabilia dealer who says O.J. Simpson confessed to him that he killed his ex-wife and Goldman.  
But Kim Goldman says she's not ready to accept Mike Gilbert's apology for helping shield the former football star's assets when her family tried to collect on a \$33.5 million wrongful death judgment Simpson was ordered to pay.

She questions why, if Gilbert's apology was sincere, he didn't come to the family with information on Simpson's assets before publishing the book so that they might lay claim to them.

"When push came to shove, when we asked him to help us, he didn't," she said.

Gilbert, the memorabilia dealer who once tried to peddle the suit Simpson was wearing on the day he was acquitted of murder, says in a just-published book that the former football player was high on marijuana when he confessed to him that he stabbed Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson to death on June 12, 1994.

Gilbert, who says Simpson confessed shortly after jurors in his criminal trial acquitted him, goes on to apologize to the Goldmans for helping Simpson hide his fortune after families of both victims won the wrongful death lawsuit.

"I think it's reasonable to assume that the confession in this is not a shameless plug for the book but that it's the killer's words," Kim Goldman told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "Those are things we need to keep reminding ourselves about. We are dealing with evil, and this is just another example."

That said, she quickly added, "I don't want anybody to misconstrue that he's doing a wealth of good here, 14 years later, trying to come clean. It's a little late."

Gilbert's book, "How I Helped O.J. Get Away With Murder: The Shocking Inside Story of Violence, Loyalty, Regret and Remorse," was published Monday. Simpson lawyer Yale Galanter has said the writer's claims are untrue.

Asked whether she would accept his apology, Goldman said, "I don't mean to be disrespectful, but I haven't even thought about it."

She said the book isn't the first time Gilbert has tried to apologize to her and her father, Fred Goldman.



## STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)  
Cancer survivors handed out 'Livestrong' wristbands, stickers, posters and books to help Lincoln Middle School students learn about cancer prevention at the Livestrong Day event on Tuesday. The event at the school was organized by teacher Jeffrey Schwartz, who is an active member of the Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF). There were 500 similar events held nationwide.

# Familiar educator returns to SMASH

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS One familiar face will soon replace another at the only alternative education institution in the school district.

Jessica Rishe, who launched her teaching career at the Santa Monica Alternative School House 13 years ago, is expected to be named the new principal on Thursday, replacing outgoing administrator Carrie Ferguson.

Currently the assistant principal at McKinley Elementary School, Rishe beat out 50 other applicants who submitted their names for the opening at SMASH, a popular position that involves the principal working closely with students and parents, a result of the school's intimate community of just 174 students and nine teachers.

Ferguson is stepping down at the end of the academic year after five years at the helm, seeking new opportunities in higher education and moving to Mission Viejo.

Much like her successor, Ferguson started her career as a student teacher at SMASH 13 years ago, overseeing grades three through eight before becoming the principal eight years later.

"It's been an incredible journey," Ferguson said. "It's really opened my eyes to what is possible and what could be happening in education."

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RISHE



FERGUSON

SEE SMASH PAGE 14



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

### Casualties of war

Editor:

It's still all about the war and the devastating effects it is having on the U.S. economy. Are the force-fed wars in Afghanistan and Iraq really making Americans any safer at home?

Would it surprise you to know that 42.2 percent of every federal tax dollar last year went to military spending? This figure includes 28.7 percent for current military and war spending; 10 percent for interest on military debt and 3.5 percent for veterans' benefits.

In contrast, we spend just 8.7 percent to combat poverty, 4.4 percent on education, and 2.6 percent on the environment, energy and science programs.

The military industrial-complex has got a hold of our wallets and its negative message is warping American ideals and priorities. Resources are being wasted while needs go wanting.

And, if this isn't bad enough, John McCain wants to "stay the course" if elected president.

**Ron Lowe**

Santa Monica

### A great interview

Editor:

For Mr. (John H.) Whitehead to use the last 30 seconds of an interview that Mr. O'Reilly did with Hillary Clinton for the premise of his opinion ("Politicians, pigs and the media," page 5, May 12) is to mislead his readers at best and at worst inserts him as a lead character in George Orwell's "Animal Farm."

The interview was American politics at its best. The interview Bill O'Reilly did with Hillary Clinton was extremely thorough and tough. Sen. Clinton answered every question and follow up question in great detail. It helped me, a conservative leaning person, to have a better understanding and greater respect for Sen. Clinton both as an individual and a politician. Maybe an interview with Larry King would be more to Mr. Whitehead's liking?

This interview was a win win for everybody. O'Reilly gets the ratings, Clinton gets her message out to people who might not otherwise listen and we the public get a better understanding of our political candidates.

One last thought. Let's quit blaming our elected politicians for everything we feel is wrong in America. I believe the vast majority of politicians (on both sides) do take their jobs seriously, they do care about solving our problems and they are interested in what's best for "we the people."

If you feel otherwise than you need to pay more attention when you vote.

**Jack L. Allen**

Santa Monica



## Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Making a case for Lipo-Diesel as fuel

ON SUNDAY, THE 27TH OF APRIL 2008, our cousins in the United Kingdom launched the "...fastest eco-boat on the planet [the Earthrace]..." that will attempt to set the speed record for the circumnavigation of the globe by the first bio-diesel powered water craft using fuel made from ... lipo-suctioned human fat.

After I stopped laughing and picked myself up from the floor, I immediately bought stock in McD's, Burger King and KFC while it was rumored that Exxon sunk an offshore platform on one of Rosie O'Donnell's chins.

Since there is little difference between land or sea diesel engines we need to kick corn derived ethanol to the curb as our preferred fuel alternative for the future. Since enviro-Nazis have forced our limpid liberal Legislature to devote 28 percent of our corn production into taxpayer subsidized bio-fuels, which has in turn, created a massive global food shortage, this fortuitous turn to "lipo-diesel" may be the solution to our pollution.

The fuel source of the future can be found no further than your own love handles! Do you realize that the untapped "fuel reserves" alone in the offices of plastic surgeons in Beverly Hills may rival the pools of petroleum in Saudi Arabia? You can be eco-cool, perennially thin and eat anything you want. Fat is the new black.

Americans have the fattest fannies on the planet, tipping the scales at a "big boned" BFA of 31 percent.

Can you say, "MOO?" Heck, even the homeless in this country are fat. Never again would you have to skimp on the double chili cheese bacon fries with buttermilk ranch dressing and then order a DIET Coke. You could splurge and order the regular Coke instead.

After that, you could roll over to a "Lipo-Fuel" station, have the attendant do a quick suck and tuck job, fill the titanic twin tanks of your Bio-Hummer IV and slosh off in search of other oleaginous adventures.

Folks, to enviro-pimp Congressionally inflated price-controlled ethanol while posturing about doing your part for climate change as the world community slowly starves to death on your behalf so you can drive your GM Global Warmer with self righteous impunity tarnishes your "green" plated credibility.

If you want to do something about the grim fairy tale of global warming, try walking more, taking the bus or riding that bike that's been collecting dust in your garage. Leave your car keys at home.

Most of the info that Jane Q. Public knows about global warming fits on a bumper sticker in back of her Granola-mobile while enviro-zombies just point and drool toward the Gore-y spook film, "An Inconvenient Truth" as the indictment of everyone else's planetary carbon footprint except their own.

Despite the film's accolades and disputed science it is interesting to note that in a recent NY Times article, noted M.I.T. scientist and hurricane expert Kerry Emmanuel, whose work is prominently featured in the film, has

published a new paper on the subject that refutes his own original work that was foundational to "Turth." How inconvenient.

Many of the coffee house intelligentsia call it "global warming" which has evolved as of late into "climate change" since Mama Gaia ceased her menviropausal hot flashes recently and decided to cool off in the last couple of years and go shoe shopping. What another inconvenient truth.

I don't get too excited over the rueful labels of global warming or climate change. Most of us at the U.S. Postal Service call it by the old fashioned name: The weather.

**SINCE ENVIRO-NAZIS HAVE FORCED OUR LIMPID LIBERAL LEGISLATURE TO DEVOTE 28 PERCENT OF OUR CORN PRODUCTION INTO TAXPAYER SUBSIDIZED BIO-FUELS ... THIS FORTUITOUS TURN TO 'LIPO-DIESEL' MAY BE THE SOLUTION TO OUR POLLUTION.**

Nobel Laureate Gore neglected the science of astronomy and the impact of Milutin Milankovitch's 1930's book, "Mathematical Climatology and the Astronomical Theory of Climatic Change," which is the seminal work on the relationship between ice ages and our planetary obliquity, precession, and eccentricity or for the shrubs out there, the inconvenient tilt, pitch and wobble of the earth and their effect on weather cycles.

In the meantime, our near pornographic fascination with ethanol has driven world food markets into the Ninth Ring of Hell. Due to rising grain prices in Haiti the locals were making cookies from salt, vegetable oil and dirt. At least they got their RDA of minerals, eh? The weather is the number one problem facing the world today? Try nutrition. Adequate food and water supplies are more important than inadequate sunscreen and deodorant.

Subsidized corn should feed people before your gas tank. A person can live for about eight weeks without food; three days without water. How much did you feed your car this week?

In the meantime, have another piece of pie.

STEVE BREEN is a beefy, corn-fed Republican slathered in tangy barbecue sauce and is still "the best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at [dulcamarax@yahoo.com](mailto:dulcamarax@yahoo.com)

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# Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Lesson learned?

**IN EVERY PROFESSION, THERE IS A LINE** which should not be crossed. In some, there is a line which cannot be crossed. When you work with young people, especially children, you assume the role of the protector. Knowing the world is full of things and people who might do them harm, your love and care sends the message that no matter what happens, nothing can hurt them while they are with you. As a parent, teacher, priest, pastor, school administrator, doctor, coach, or baby-sitter, you're assuming a responsibility which should be more important to you than any and everything else — a responsibility for their innocence.

Unfortunately for Lincoln Middle School students, that responsibility wasn't taken as seriously as it should have been. It turns out that alleged sexual predator, Thomas Beltran, had been accused of crossing the line (that nobody who works with young people should even think about approaching, much less crossing) possibly as far back as 10 years ago.

In 2006, a Lincoln student complained about being touched by Mr. Beltran, the most serious accusation that can be made against a teacher, and no action was taken against him. Make no mistake, I'm not saying the action taken wasn't strong enough, I'm saying no action was taken. The student was temporarily moved out of his classroom and police were brought in to investigate, but prosecutors didn't find enough evidence to bring a case against Mr. Beltran, who claimed his touching of the student was "misinterpreted," and the matter was dropped. The decision was made by then-Principal Kathy Scott to "warn" him not to touch female students and allow him to continue teaching as though nothing had happened. No notice was sent to the school board and nothing detailing the incident was added to Mr. Beltran's personnel file. For all intents and purposes, it was like it never happened.

I should say that Mr. Beltran is, of course, innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. But as the details of his actions became public knowledge over the last week or so, I kept coming back to the same question, "Why was a criminal standard being applied to such an obvious question of professional ethics?" I wondered who, besides Mr. Beltran, has a vested interest in seeing him back in the classroom, despite allegations that would certainly qualify as evidence that he shouldn't be anywhere near teenage girls, much less teenage girls who don't communi-

cate well in English?

The answer, of course, is the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association. I'm not blaming them or holding them responsible for Mr. Beltran's alleged crimes, but I am saying that they have a lot more work to do if they want to be considered part of the solution and not part of the problem. Their president, Harry Keiley, didn't do them any favors with his reaction to the school district and school board's plans to implement new child abuse policies.

"The safety and well-being of children is at the forefront of our concern," he said. Amazingly, he added a qualifier to that statement, saying, "but it also should be noted that teachers do not check their constitutional rights at their school doors as they walk in." It's almost like he said, "we want kids to be safe at school unless that safety potentially undermines what we believe to be the rights of teachers."

Somebody should tell Mr. Keiley that without young people to educate, teachers' rights aren't really an issue because they won't have jobs teaching. This is Santa Monica we're talking about. There are a lot of people in this town who can and will send their kids to private schools if public school teachers' constitutional rights somehow become more important to them than their students. At the same time, you never know whose child you're educating in a particular classroom. There are some pretty wealthy people with some pretty deep pockets in Santa Monica, and few things motivate parents like getting justice for their kids. God forbid this happens again and the victim's family decides to "lawyer up" and start chopping heads. Then some tough questions are going to be asked about who knew what and when, and what are the civil and criminal penalties involved.

I sincerely hope that all parties involved (parents, teachers, administrators, the school board, the district, and the teachers union) will put their collective heads together and come up with a way to repair whatever damage has been caused by this sad tale. As difficult as it may be, it's much easier than trying to come up with an answer when a girl who was abused by someone she was supposed to be able to trust asks why you didn't do anything to stop it.

KENNY MACK is a writer and social commentator living in Santa Monica who would send his kids to our public schools if he had any. He can be reached at [kennymack@gmail.com](mailto:kennymack@gmail.com)

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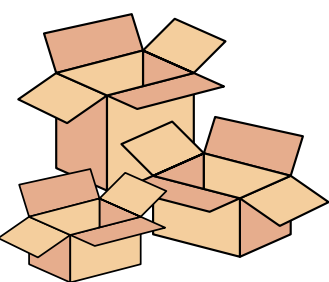
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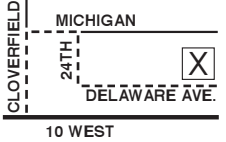


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### The Q-Line

**You choose the news**

The Daily Press is considering a few format changes.

**So this week's Q-Line question asks:**  
What news would you like to see more of in the Daily Press? Should we continue to cover state, national and international issues or should we stick to the Westside and the Greater Los Angeles area?

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# Wisconsin is cheesier than California

BY M.L. JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MILWAUKEE Cheeseheads don't need to be bleu: Experts say predictions that California will soon overtake Wisconsin as the nation's top cheese producer are unlikely to come true.

The Golden State and its cows gained quickly on Wisconsin in the past decade, but cheese plants in California are maxing out, while efforts to boost production in Wisconsin are paying off, said Dick Groves, longtime owner of the Madison-based trade publication, Cheese Reporter.

Groves helped spark the friendly competition between the states 10 years ago with an editorial predicting California would overtake Wisconsin in cheese production by 2005. He later amended it to 2010 and then, last month, to "not anytime soon."

New numbers showing a growing gap between Wisconsin and California prompted Groves to abandon his earlier prediction.

"Cheese production in the two states moved in opposite directions — Wisconsin's went up and California's went down," he said.

About half of the 9.7 billion pounds of cheese made in the U.S. comes from the two states, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Production has grown much more rapidly in California in the past decade as large plants opened there year after year.

Wisconsin's lead in annual production shrank to about 164 million pounds in 2007, according to NASS. Last July, California came within less than 6 million pounds of

**"I ALWAYS SAY THIS IS NOT A RACE WITH CALIFORNIA TO BE NO. 1 IN PRODUCING CHEESE. ALTHOUGH NOT ANYONE IN WISCONSIN IS GOING TO WANT TO GIVE THAT UP."**

Will Hughes,

Wisconsin agricultural development administrator

Wisconsin in monthly production.

But then the gap started growing again, reaching 30 million pounds in March.

The quick shift is partly due to two plants closing in California in 2007, while two opened in Wisconsin this year, Groves said.

Dairy Farmers of America closed an American cheese plant in Corona, Calif., saying it wasn't profitable, and Lactalis USA Inc. closed a specialty cheese plant in Turlock, Calif. Lactalis officials declined through a spokeswoman to discuss that plant closing.

Meanwhile, Foremost Farms USA idled a plant in Waumandee in western Wisconsin in January 2007, retooled it to make a premium type of cheddar and reopened it in March. The temporary shutdown was "not insignificant" in terms of the state's cheese production, Foremost Farms spokeswoman Joan Behr said.

Also in March, BelGioioso Cheese Inc. opened its fifth plant in Wisconsin.

California now has 61 cheese plants compared to Wisconsin's 124. The Golden State's plants are larger, but they're pretty much

operating at full capacity while Wisconsin's could probably make a bit more, federal and state agricultural officials said.

That means California would have to add plants to move ahead in the race for the title of Big Cheese. But more new plants are opening now in places such as Idaho and the Texas panhandle, which have growing dairy farms and lower costs, said economist Don Blayney, of the Economic Research Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Companies have struggled in recent years to build new plants in California, where the permit process can take four to six years, said Michael Marsh, chief executive officer of the Western United Dairymen, which represents milk producers there.

Cheesemakers also contend with opposition from environmental groups and, if they get a plant open, high workers compensation costs, Marsh said.

"It is a challenge for us," he said. "The state of California really has to make our state attractive to businesses to locate here."

Wisconsin has worked to increase the state's milk supply after cheesemakers said

they needed about 15 percent more milk than they had, said Will Hughes, agricultural development administrator. The state has recruited farmers, encouraged them to add cows and provided incentives for them to install newer, more efficient equipment.

The effort has paid off with renewed investment from companies such as BelGioioso.

The company based in Denmark, a village about 100 miles north of Milwaukee, has chosen to expand here because there's an ample milk supply and it's equally easy to ship from the Midwest to both coasts, marketing manager Jamie Wichlacz said. The plant in Freedom is the second new one the company has opened in about five years.

"I think the milk supply is there, I think the farmers grow as the companies grow, as the cheese producers grow," Wichlacz said.

Wisconsin cheesemakers and agricultural officials also emphasized they weren't looking to make more cheese but better cheese. While California's plants tend to make large quantities of a few kinds of cheese, Wisconsin companies have focused on developing a wide range of specialty cheeses, such as pesto Jack or Asiago, that command higher prices.

The state recently announced that specialty cheeses now account for 16 percent of Wisconsin's production and two more specialty cheese plants will open in the next few weeks.

"I always say this is not a race with California to be No. 1 in producing cheese," Hughes said, "although not anyone in Wisconsin is going to want to give that up."

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STATE BRIEFS

MOUNT BALDY VILLAGE  
**Fire burns on SoCal mountain peak**

A wildfire burned through thick chaparral on towering Mount Baldy in the Angeles National Forest on Tuesday, prompting an evacuation order covering a handful of homes in a remote canyon.

The fire had burned 30 to 35 acres of brush, Los Angeles County fire Inspector Sam Padilla said.

The wildfire was located high on the flanks of the 10,064-foot peak in the rugged San Gabriel Mountains about 45 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles.

Bear Canyon, which has about a half-dozen vacation homes, was ordered evacuated, authorities said. It was not immediately known if anyone was in those homes.

No injuries were reported.

No evacuations were called for in the nearby tiny community of Mount Baldy Village.

About 200 firefighters aided by water-dropping helicopters were fighting the blaze.

Gusty high winds were reported after the fire started at around 4:30 a.m. but died down later in the morning.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES  
**Judge asked to ban prostitutes on Figueroa Street**

The city wants prostitutes and pimps banned along a nearly six-mile stretch of Figueroa Street in South Los Angeles. City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo has asked a judge for an injunction that would bar 36 convicted prostitutes and five known pimps from walking within 100 yards of Figueroa between Vernon Avenue and El Segundo Boulevard.

The area is described as a magnet for those plying the sex trade. Police Detective Bill Margolis says prostitutes work the sidewalks in broad daylight as school children pass. Delgadillo has managed to limit gang activity in neighborhoods citywide with 36 separate injunctions, but the proposal filed Friday is the first targeting prostitutes.

AP

SAN DIEGO  
**Jury acquits social hall owner in party killing**

The elderly owner of a San Diego social hall has been acquitted of first-degree murder and assault in the shooting death of a partygoer in 2006.

But jurors were unable to reach verdicts Monday on other charges against 72-year-old Virgil Gordon, including second-degree murder, manslaughter and negligent use of a firearm. A mistrial was declared on those counts. Gordon claimed he accidentally shot 39-year-old Silverio Rivera Cruz, who was unarmed when he was killed July 16, 2006, at Gordon's Southcrest Cultural Arts Center. Gordon had rented the hall to a family and Cruz was a party guest. Prosecutors say Gordon was armed when he confronted the family. Cruz allegedly approached Gordon and the weapon accidentally fired during an altercation.

AP

SAN DIEGO  
**Policeman says surfer attacked last year fought back**

A surfer beaten to death in La Jolla last year by street thugs tried in vain to fight off his attackers.

San Diego police Officer Benjamin Manansala testified Monday that 24-year-old professional surfer Emery Kauanui struggled after he was knocked to the ground and repeatedly kicked by a group of young men. The testimony came during a Monday preliminary hearing to determine if five alleged gang members will face trial for Kauanui's murder. Prosecutors say the men followed Kauanui home after a disagreement over a spilled drink at a nearby bar. Kauanui died five days after he was found beaten in front of his mother's La Jolla home. Seth Cravens, Eric House, Orlando Osuna, Matthew Yanke and Henri Hendricks, ages 21 to 23, are facing murder and assault charges.

AP

REDLANDS  
**Sick coyote euthanized day after stalking toddler**

A diseased coyote was captured and euthanized a day after the animal was seen stalking a toddler in a Redlands neighborhood.

Redlands Animal Shelter officials say the young female coyote was infested with mange. The coyote was the same animal that followed a 2-year-old girl late Friday. Police spokesman Carl Baker says the girl's grandfather scared off the coyote.

The incident follows coyote attacks this month in Chino Hills and Lake Arrowhead. Children were bitten in four cases in Chino Hills and once in Lake Arrowhead.

Last week, a coyote entered a Temecula home and was standing over a sleeping child before a nanny threw household objects at the animal and it ran away.

AP

LOS ANGELES  
**Vandals slash tires on up to 100 vehicles in San Pedro**

Vandals slashed tires on up to 100 vehicles in San Pedro.

Los Angeles police Officer Ana Aguirre says the vandalism appears to be random and "it appears that it was just a bunch of jerky kids doing their thing."

There are no arrests. Residents didn't know the scope of the damage until they arrived at the America's Tire Co. on Western Avenue last Friday. Store assistant manager says his employees were overwhelmed, saying "at one point we had tow truck after tow truck after tow truck in our parking lot." Customers waited up to three hours for new tires. Besides vehicles parked on the streets, the vandals slashed tires on tow trucks at a tow yard.

AP

LOS ANGELES  
**CHP kills motorist who allegedly pulled gun after stop**

California Highway Patrol officers shot and killed a suspected drunken driver who allegedly pulled a gun after a traffic stop west of downtown Los Angeles. CHP Sgt. Mark Garrett says the driver was pulled over at about 12:15 a.m. Tuesday on West 7th Street in the Westlake area. The sergeant says the driver got out of his vehicle and pulled out a handgun. The officers then shot and killed the man in what Garrett called self-defense. The dead man's name hasn't been released. A passenger in the car was handcuffed and questioned.

AP

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# Teachers union wields considerable influence over budget process

BY JULIET WILLIAMS

Associated Press Writer

OROVILLE A school bus emblazoned with the words "Cuts Hurt" and a picture of a forlorn student pulls up in front of Butte Community College.

Union officials scramble off to meet teachers, parents and a handful of students bearing protest signs. The recent rally about 90 minutes north of the state capital was another stop on a show-of-strength tour by the California Teachers Association as it protests Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget cuts to education.

The tour may have a quaint feel at times, featuring a band called the "Tired Angry Teachers" at some stops, but the union behind it is one of the state's most influential political interest groups. It wants Schwarzenegger to know it's watching as he prepares to release his revised spending plan for the coming year.

Schwarzenegger already has learned the hard way what it means to cross the vocal and well-funded union.

"It's not personal. It's business," teachers association spokeswoman Sandra Jackson said. "It's not an attack on Arnold — it's about his budget."

On Wednesday, Schwarzenegger will release his revised budget proposal for the fiscal year that begins in July. It is expected to address a budget deficit projected at about \$15 billion.

The governor proposed cutting \$4.4 billion from public education when he released his initial budget estimate in January. Since then, California's economy and fiscal health has only deteriorated.

That has led education leaders to worry that public schools could see an even greater reduction, especially since Schwarzenegger and his fellow Republicans in the Legislature have vowed not to raise taxes.

So far, the union's campaign has been careful not to push too hard on Schwarzenegger. Instead, officials with the teachers association have been emphasizing the need for the governor and lawmakers to work out a compromise.

"At some point if they needed to (attack him), they would," said Kerry Mazzoni, education secretary under former Gov. Gray Davis, a Democrat, and currently an education lobbyist in Sacramento.

A spokesman for Schwarzenegger said the governor has tremendous respect for teachers and enjoys working with the teachers association, even if they don't always agree.

"CTA is one of the most effective advocacy organizations in California," spokesman Aaron McLearn said. "Sometimes we clash and sometimes we join forces, but it's always a lively debate."

In the current debate over education spending, the union is waging a measured campaign.

It has kept the threat to classrooms visible with its bus tour, rallies and a high-priced team of operatives in Sacramento who organize regular news conferences and advertising. Much of the campaign has focused on the 14,000 pink slips that have been sent to teachers, although the true number of layoffs won't be known until after the Legislature approves a state budget later this summer.

**CTA IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS IN CALIFORNIA. SOMETIMES WE CLASH AND SOMETIMES WE JOIN FORCES, BUT IT'S ALWAYS A LIVELY DEBATE."**

Aaron McLearn,

Spokesman for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

The union declined to say how much it is spending on its six-week bus tour throughout California.

The stakes are high: The governor has proposed suspending Proposition 98, the voter-approved minimum funding guarantee for schools. Doing so would cut into the base funding for education beyond the coming fiscal year because the annual increases are based on the prior year's budget.

"The primary agenda for CTA right now is the budget, the budget, the budget," said president David Sanchez, a former teacher who took over the union's leadership position last June.

Sanchez said the key thing this year is taking the debate outside the Capitol to communities. Schwarzenegger's Wednesday budget release just happens to coincide with California's annual "Day of the Teacher." The union has events planned throughout the state, from postcard-writing campaigns for parents and students to marches around town plazas.

"Remaining in Sacramento, that doesn't work," Sanchez said. "What works is local pressure to your local legislators."

At the tour stop in Oroville, Sanchez urged pressure on the governor and state lawmakers to work out a budget deal that does not "push California backwards."

Because more than half of California's budget is spent on education, the success of negotiations often hangs on funding for schools. Making sure the California Teachers Association is included has become an essential component to those talks.

Some lawmakers and governors, including Schwarzenegger, have learned the hard way about the union's ability to influence legislation and ballot votes.

In 2005, the teachers association and its allies spent \$50 million to defeat three of the four ballot initiatives Schwarzenegger was promoting during his special election.

The measures would have curtailed the political power of unions, increased the probationary period for new teachers and imposed a state spending cap, partly by rolling back the state's funding guarantee for education. Ultimately, voters defeated every measure during the 2005 special election, a debacle that eroded Schwarzenegger's popularity and prompted him to revamp his administration.

# Director of Asian museum indicted in fed investigation

BY GREG RISLING

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The director of a Thailand museum was indicted on a wire fraud charge in connection with a federal investigation into looted Southeast Asian antiquities.

Roxanna Brown, a 62-year-old U.S. citizen, was arrested late Friday while visiting relatives in Seattle. She also was scheduled to speak at the University of Washington on Saturday.

She is charged with one count of wire fraud. If convicted, she faces up to 20 years in prison. Health problems prevented her from appearing in federal court in Seattle on Monday, and it was unclear when the hearing would be rescheduled, prosecutors said.

Brown, the director of the Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum at Bangkok University in Thailand, is accused of allowing her electronic signature to be used on appraisal forms that were donated at inflated prices to several Southern California museums so collectors could claim fraudulent tax deductions.

Michael Filipovic, a public defender appointed to represent her temporarily in Seattle, said he did not know if Brown had hired an attorney to fight the federal charges in California. He declined to comment on the allegations in the indictment.

She is the first person to be arrested in an ongoing probe into looted artifacts. Federal agents raided several Southern California museums and a Los Angeles gallery in January, searching for artifacts allegedly taken from Thailand's Ban Chiang archaeological site, one of the most important prehistoric settlements ever discovered in Southeast Asia.

An affidavit filed in the case said the gallery's owners, Jonathan and Cari Markell, used Brown's electronic signature several times to falsify appraisal forms. In one case, an appraisal for items to be donated to the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena claims Brown had inspected the items. The couple have not been charged.

An e-mail sent to Jonathan Markell wasn't immediately returned.

The raids followed an undercover investigation by a National Park Service special agent who posed as a collector interested in various artifacts. The agent learned that some of the artifacts managed to pass through U.S. customs because they had "Made in Thailand" labels affixed to them, making it appear they were replicas.

Court documents said the Markells and the agent met more than a dozen times and regularly e-mailed and called one another about antiquities from Southeast Asia. Some of the calls and meetings were recorded, the warrants said.

# Barrymore chases hit-and-run driver

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Drew Barrymore was involved in a hit-and-run accident, but instead of staying put, she followed the other driver and took down the license plate number.

The 33-year-old actress wasn't injured when her car was rear-ended Monday in West Hollywood, said Los Angeles County sheriff's Sgt. Kristin Aloma.

Aloma said Barrymore followed the other vehicle and got its license plate number, which she then handed over to sheriff's

deputies.

She said she didn't know the extent of damage to Barrymore's car.

No arrests had been reported Tuesday morning.

"It could be dangerous," Aloma said of following someone after an accident.

Still, she emphasized that getting a license plate number is instrumental to tracking down a hit-and-run motorist.

Barrymore's screen credits include the "Charlie's Angels" movies, "Fever Pitch" and "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial."

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# Report: Death toll in China quake nears 12K

BY WILLIAM FOREMAN

Associated Press Writer

DUJIANGYAN, China Bodies covered with sheets lined the streets Tuesday as rescue workers dug through schools and homes turned into rubble by China's worst earthquake in three decades in a search for more victims. The official death toll rose to nearly 12,000, and thousands remained missing.

But hope that many survivors would be found was slim. Buildings were knocked down on every block in some cities, and corpses were laid out in the street and in schoolyards.

Only 58 people were extricated from demolished buildings across the quake area so far, China Seismological Bureau spokesman Zhang Hongwei told the official Xinhua.

"Survivors can hold on for some time. Now it's not time to give up," said Wang Zhenyao, disaster relief division director at the Ministry of Civil Affairs, adding that rescue efforts could take a week.

A day after the powerful 7.9 magnitude quake struck, state media said rescue workers had only just reached the epicenter in Wenchuan county — cut off by the disaster and where the number of casualties was unknown. China said it would welcome international aid but would not yet allow foreign relief workers into the affected area.

Heavy rain, which had contributed to the difficulty of reaching the epicenter, continued to impede efforts and a group of paratroopers called off a mission to the area, Xinhua said.

The death toll rose to 11,921, Wang said.

At least 4,800 people remained buried in Mianzhu, 60 miles from the epicenter, Xinhua said, citing local authorities.

The casualty figures were expected to rise and remained uncertain due to the remote areas affected by the quake and difficulty in finding buried victims.

The earthquake caused a wide swath of damage across central China, leveling buildings and severing roads and communications. It sent people rushing out of their offices across the country in Beijing, and was felt as far away as Vietnam.

Nearly 10,000 people died in Sichuan province alone and 300 others in other provinces and the mega-city of Chongqing, Xinhua reported.

A 40-car freight train with 13 gasoline tankers derailed in the quake and was still burning Tuesday, the agency said, with no word on casualties.

Earthquake rescue experts in orange jumpsuits extricated bloody survivors on stretchers from demolished buildings, and some 34,000 troops swarmed into the region to help.

Aftershocks rattled the region for a second day, sending people running into the streets in the city of Chengdu. The U.S. Geological Survey measured the shocks between magnitude 4 and 6, some of the strongest since Monday's quake.

In Dujiangyan, rescue teams were trying to get to a woman who was eight months pregnant and trapped in a seven-story apartment building that collapsed.

Zhou Chun, a 70-year-old retired mechanic, was leaving Dujiangyan with a

soiled light blue blanket draped over his shoulders.

"My wife died in the quake. My house was destroyed," he said. "I am going to Chengdu, but I don't know where I'll live."

Nearby, a man in his late 50s who refused to give his name, said his father was missing in the rubble of his home. "Yesterday, when the earthquake happened our home collapsed really quickly and I heard my father yell, 'Help, help, help,'" the man said.

People were seeking rides out of town, where makeshift tent cities were being erected as shelter from rain that began Tuesday and could affect rescue efforts.

Just east of the epicenter, 1,000 students and teachers were killed or missing at a collapsed high school in Beichuan county. The six- or seven-story building was reduced to a pile of rubble about two yards high, according to Xinhua. Another 900 students were feared dead when their school collapsed in Juyuan, which is in Dujiangyan city.

The Beichuan school had more than 2,000 students and teachers in three school buildings. The other two buildings collapsed partially, Xinhua said.

Up to 5,000 people were killed and 80 percent of the buildings had collapsed in Beichuan, Xinhua said, in a region of small cities and towns set amid steep hills north of Sichuan's provincial capital of Chengdu. The government has poured more than 16,000 troops into the area with tens of thousands more on the way.

Premier Wen Jiabao, who flew to the area to oversee rescue efforts, said a push was on to clear roads and restore electricity as soon

as possible.

China's Ministry of Health issued an appeal for blood donations to help the victims of the quake. "There is a large demand for blood in quake-hit areas and we hope the public actively donate blood," spokesman Mao Quan said.

Before the rescue workers arrived, the only previous contact with hard-hit Wenchuan, Xinhua said, was a satellite phone call from the local Communist Party secretary to appeal for air drops of tents, food and medicine.

The official, Wang Bin, said there were 57 reported deaths so far, with more than 300 other people seriously injured. He said the figures were likely to rise as there was no information from mountainous areas.

He estimated that at least 30,000 of the county's 105,000 residents slept outside Monday night.

Fifteen missing British tourists were believed to be in that area at the time of the quake and were "out of reach," Xinhua reported.

They were likely visiting the Wolong Nature Reserve, home to more than 100 giant pandas, whose fate also was not known, Xinhua said. It reported that 60 pandas at another breeding center in Chengdu were safe.

Also, two Chinese-Americans and a Thai tourist were missing in Sichuan province, the agency said, citing tourism officials.

Disasters pose a test to China's communist government, whose mandate rests heavily on maintaining order, delivering economic growth and providing relief in emergencies.

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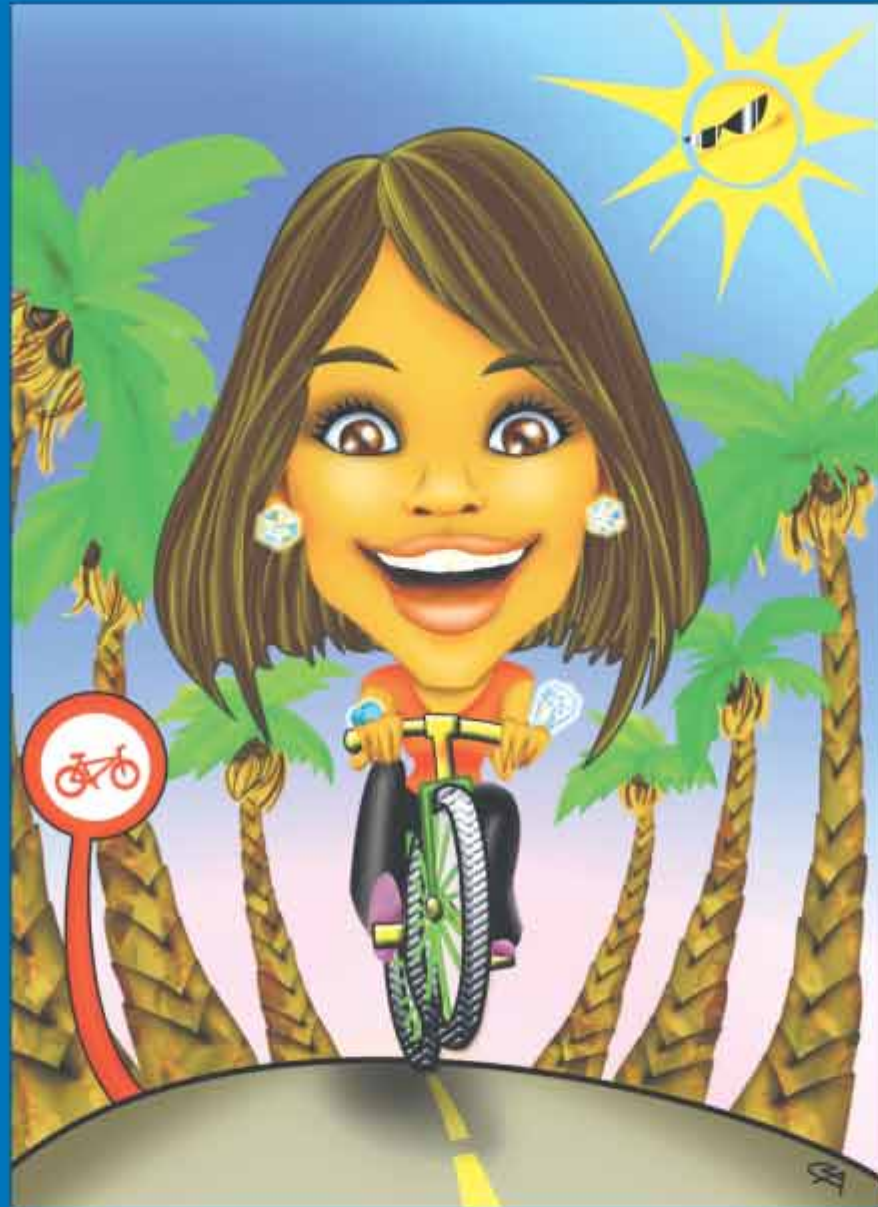
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Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)  
**BIG CHANGES:** President George W. Bush last week signed a law that will permit the National Parks Service to begin studying the implications of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains.

# Santa Monica Mountains could quadruple in size

FROM MOUNTAINS PAGE 1

supporter of the study.

“It’s about recognizing the importance of the area and allowing the resources to come in here to preserve it,” Stolarz said.

The 490,000 acre Rim of the Valley includes the Santa Susanna Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, San Rafael Hills and the Verdugo Mountains. Part of the valley lies in Schiff’s district.

“When congress now 30 years ago established the Santa Monica National Recreation Area, it had the foresight to look ahead and to see an entire region grown enormously and to plan for preserving open space and park land,” Schiff said. “We want to make sure we can maintain the quality of life in the region as well as wildlife in the region.”

One area that would be threatened if the Santa Monica Mountains is not expanded is a small ribbon of open space that connects into Santa Susanna Mountains, passing over the 101 Freeway.

“That thin ribbon of space is under treat of development in multiple areas ... that could be lost without conservation efforts and conservation coordination,” Smeck said. “Those could be potentially saved with federal involvement.”

The NPS, of which the Santa Monica Mountains is a part, will look at three factors in the study — whether there are areas of

“IT’S ABOUT  
RECOGNIZING  
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE  
AREA AND ALLOWING THE  
RESOURCES TO COME IN  
HERE TO PRESERVE IT.”

Dash Stolarz,  
Spokeswoman for the Santa Monica  
Mountains Conservancy

national significance in the Rim of the Valley; the feasibility of financially managing the expanded area; and whether there are other management models that are more appropriate than the NPS.

An expansion would also allow the creation of regional recreation trails, Smeck said.

“It will provide a connection for wildlife, connection for people who recreate outdoors,” Smeck said. “The network would allow trails from Santa Monica all the way into the Angeles National Forest, linking park trails and providing four outdoor recreation and enjoyment.”

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# MySpace says it has won \$234M spam judgment

BY ANICK JESDANUN  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The popular online hangout MySpace has won a \$234 million judgment over junk messages sent to its members in what is believed to be the largest anti-spam award ever.

A federal judge in Los Angeles ruled against a notorious "Spam King," Sanford Wallace, and his partner, Walter Rines, after the two failed to show up at a court hearing, MySpace told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Wallace earned the monikers "Spam King" and "Spamford" as head of a company that sent as many as 30 million junk e-mails a day in the 1990s. He left that company, Cyber Promotions, following lawsuits from leading Internet service providers such as Time Warner Inc.'s AOL, only to re-emerge in a spyware case that led to a \$4 million federal judgment against him in 2006.

"MySpace has zero tolerance for those who attempt to act illegally on our site," said MySpace's chief security officer, Hemanshu Nigam. "We remain committed to punishing those who violate the law and try to harm our members."

Rines and Wallace created their own MySpace accounts or took over existing ones by stealing passwords through "phishing" scams, Nigam said.

They then e-mailed other MySpace members, he said, "asking them to check out a cool video or another cool site. When you (got) there, they were making money trying to sell you something or making money based on hits or trying to sell ring tones."

MySpace said the pair sent more than 730,000 messages to MySpace members, many made to look like they were coming from trusted friends, giving them an air of legitimacy. Under the 2003 federal anti-spam law known as CAN-SPAM, each violation entitles MySpace to \$100 in damages, tripled when conducted "willfully and knowingly."

In court papers, MySpace said the activities resulted in bandwidth and delivery-related costs, along with complaints from hundreds of users. The company also said some of the outside Web sites contained adult material, potentially harming teens who use MySpace.

The judgment is a big victory for MySpace, although service providers often have a tough time collecting such awards. But even if the News Corp.-owned site never collects, it hopes the judgment deters other spammers.

"Anybody who's been thinking about engaging in spam are going to say, 'Wow, I better not go there,'" Nigam said. "Spammers don't want to be prosecuted. They are there to make money. It's our job to send a message to stop them."

The Los Angeles-based company described the amount of the award as a "landmark."

John Levine, a board member for the anti-spam advocacy group Coalition Against Unsolicited Commercial Email, said that past spam judgments he knows of have been in the tens of millions of dollars.

He said he would be surprised, though, if MySpace ever collected.

"The giant judgments are all defaults, which means they don't necessarily even know how to find the spammer," Levine said.

There was no telephone listing for Wallace in the Las Vegas area, where he moved to in 2004 to pursue night club promotion work. Service was disconnected for two listed numbers for Rines in Stratham, N.H., his last known address; a third number in Stratham was unlisted.

U.S. District Judge Audrey B. Collins awarded \$157.4 million jointly against Rines and Wallace and an additional \$63.4 million against Rines under CAN-SPAM — plus \$1.5 million more against the pair under California's anti-phishing law. Collins also issued injunctions barring similar activities in the future.

MySpace has another anti-spam case pending against a high-profile defendant, Scott Richter, who it claims gained access to MySpace profiles using stolen passwords and then sent spam bulletins from those accounts.

MySpace said the junk messages from Wallace and Rines came after Richter's.

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# Cleaners deny any wrongdoing

FROM SUIT PAGE 1

hair salons advising them of the disclosure and posting requirements.

In April 2007 a follow-up inspection of 29 businesses chosen at random showed that none of the 29 were fully complying with the law. Radinsky said there were no complaints of discrimination. The lawsuit deals with the failure to post this required information.

The Consumer Protection Unit then wrote a second letter to the 29 businesses that were found in violation, reminding them of the law and warning of possible legal consequences if they continued in violation.

The letter brought positive results, Radinsky said. A follow-up inspection in October 2007 showed that 57 percent of the original violators (12 of the 21) now had the required signage and price lists available. However, nine of the 21 still were not fully complying with the three requirements — and some not at all.

A final inspection on May 2 showed that the same nine businesses still lacked the required signage and/or available price lists.

This lawsuit is filed against those nine businesses. They are: Metropolitan Cleaners, Executive Cleaners and Laundry, Dryclean Express, Santa Monica Cleaners, Yale Cleaners, TJ Cleaners and Tailor Shop, 16th Street Cleaners, Quality Express Cleaners, and Santa Monica Valet Shop.

“We are glad that most businesses eventually did the right thing and complied with the law once we told them the requirements,” Radinsky said. “The importance of the disclosure law is that it enables consumers to make sure they are being treated fairly. When you don’t have full disclosure, consumers are not able to



Photos by Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)

**SUBJECT TO THE LAW:** (Above) Some pricing information has been posted at 16th Street Cleaners. (Right) Mike Newman, owner of 16th Street Cleaners, reviews the lawsuit. Newman was surprised to be served because he feels he has done nothing wrong.

check. There is a lot more mystery to the transaction.”

Some owners of the businesses being sued said they were surprised when they received notice of the lawsuit and believe they have done nothing wrong. They said it is impossible to list prices for every service given that there are so many different fabrics and styles of clothing.

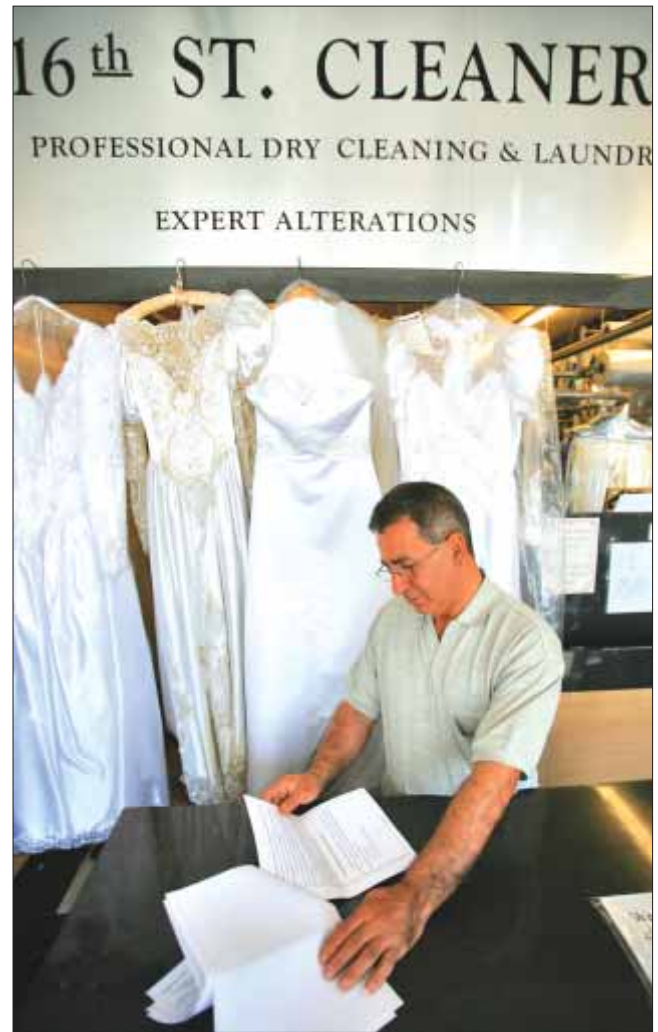
“This is not a McDonalds,” said Michael Newman, owner of 16th Street Cleaners. “You are not selling Big Macs. There are 5,000 different combinations. We can’t list everything

... Everything here is perfectly kosher.”

Owners said they do post the prices for the most common items cleaned and provide all customers with receipts. They believe City Hall is being too strict.

“We’ve been here for 25 years and nobody ever complained about this,” said Ray Ajnassian, manager of Dryclean Express. “We have nothing to do with bad business. We do everything legitimate.”

[kevinh@smdp.com](mailto:kevinh@smdp.com)



THESE NINE BUSINESSES ARE BEING SUED BY THE CITY:

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- Executive Cleaners and Laundry
- Dryclean Express
- Santa Monica Cleaners
- Yale Cleaners
- TJ Cleaners and Tailor Shop
- 16th Street Cleaners
- Quality Express Cleaners
- Santa Monica Valet Shop.

# Ferguson to seek opportunities in higher education

FROM SMASH PAGE 3

Monica-Malibu Unified School District, focusing on alternative teaching methods based on applying classroom lessons to real world issues. Students are split into multi-age thematic “cores” and are assessed not on conventional testing methods, but rather on self, peer and teacher evaluations.

“It’s not about kids compared to each other, it’s about where each individual child is, what their next goal is and what the next step is,” Ferguson said.

Before launching the nationwide search for a replacement several months ago, district staff sat down with SMASH parents to talk about the qualities they wanted to see in the new principal. More than 50 candidates submitted applications, more than twice the average number for a typical principal opening in the school district, according to Mike Matthews, the assistant superintendent for human resources.

“I think people like the idea of a small school,” Matthews said. “You can actually have a chance to be part of the everyday process.”

Applicants without previous adminis-



**IT’S REALLY OPENED MY EYES TO WHAT IS POSSIBLE AND WHAT COULD BE HAPPENING IN EDUCATION.”**

**Carrie Ferguson,**  
Outgoing SMASH principal

trative experience were screened out and only seven candidates were interviewed by an ad hoc committee comprised of parents, school and district staff. Superintendent Dianne Talarico interviewed the two finalists before making her decision. Matthews did not disclose the name of the other finalist.

Talarico is expected to make her recommendation to the Board of Education on Thursday.

A requisite for the new principal, one that sets the position apart, is a belief in the alternative school process.

“Just being able to run a school was often seen as not good enough for the SMASH population,” Matthews said. “We interviewed good candidates that we will consider for an opening in the future, but

did not consider to be alternative enough for SMASH.”

“Alternative enough means you’re willing to commit to believing in the importance of teaching standards but being equally committed to constructive learning, hands-on learning and a variety of ways to reach students,” Matthews added.

Rishe started as a student teacher at SMASH in 1995 as part of a UCLA graduate teaching credential program, working with the Core 1 group that includes kindergarten, first and second grades.

She has taught the past several years as a coordinator of teacher support at the district’s central office while serving as assistant principal at McKinley.

“It’s about building on student interest and passion, making sure every child gets to

make real-world connections and apply community-based learning,” Rishe said about the mission of SMASH.

Unique about SMASH is its combination of elementary- and middle school-aged children, fostering a close-knit community where families typically make a nine-year commitment to the school, Rishe said.

“As a principal, I would make a lasting long-term commitment to those families,” she said.

A popular figure with parents, Ferguson is getting ready for her imminent departure, among the final activities being the annual eighth grade trip to Malibu, which she left for on Tuesday. The trip is considered the culminating activity for eighth graders at the school, but this year’s trip will have a similar meaning for Ferguson.

“I love to be with kids away from school, too, and see them in a different light where they’re being challenged and trying new things, stepping outside of their comfort zone,” Ferguson said. “That is something they’re going to be doing for the rest of their lives.”

[melodyh@smdp.com](mailto:melodyh@smdp.com)

# Being Mr. Mom is fun and lonely

BY JOCELYN NOVECK  
AP National Writer

NEW YORK Mike Biewenga, a stay-at-home dad for the last four years, noticed something funny when he took his daughter to story time at a nearby library. Gathered around the reader in a circle, mothers sat farther from him than from other moms.

"There was a gap, then me, then a gap, then the rest of the circle," says Biewenga, 33, of Arlington Heights, Ill. "And I mean, I shave, I comb my hair. I'm a normal-looking guy."

And when Gregory Keer, a Los-Angeles area high school teacher, took his kids to a park get-together once during his years as a stay-at-home dad, he recalls himself hanging on the sidelines, staying away from the main conversation, because he was "not one of the girls."

This Father's Day, there will be some 159,000 stay-at-home dads across the country and 5.6 million stay-at-home moms, according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau figures, which are from 2006. The numbers don't include single fathers, the many who work part-time, and those with kids over 15. Still, it's a small number compared to the moms. And while it's grown slightly each of the past few years, so has the number of moms.

But things have evolved, at least in terms of attitudes. Many stay-at-home dads say they feel their lifestyle choice, whether made of desire or economic necessity, is accepted much more now by friends, relatives, colleagues and strangers — even envied — than it would have been only a few years ago.

"I've had guys tell me privately that they wish they could do the same thing," says Rick Walker, 50, who's spent a dozen years as a stay-at-home dad to Nicole and Chloe, now 14 and 12, in Southlake, Texas. "But they don't know how to broach it with their wives."

Yet many also speak of a different problem: A sense of isolation in a world where mothers have their coffee dates and group playdates, but fathers often plan activities alone, or find themselves sitting on the bench, speaking on their cell phones or conversing only with their kids at playgrounds and birthday parties.

"It is kind of a lonelier experience," Keer says. He recalls it was his wife who arranged that park get-together, and assigned him to bring brownies, though he was the primary caregiver. "For me, it would have felt gender-inappropriate," he says.

For Biewenga, the isolation was a reason to create his own community of dads — AtHomeDad.org, where some 10,000 visitors a month, he says, swap stories and seek advice. "Just wondering if anyone of you have had experience or have tried using the pull-up diapers," a current post reads, signed Bob the Family Guy. The site also advertises the 13th annual at-home dads convention later this year.

Biewenga, who squeezed in a chat with a reporter during nap time for his two kids, found that at first, "I was going nuts being at home by myself." The exclusionary behavior from some moms — certainly not all, for he has many mom friends — didn't help.

At playgrounds, he notes, "You can be with your kid playing in the sand, and a mom will come and scoop up her kid. It

doesn't happen every time. But I guess that image is there, of a guy at a playground who's a child molester."

Dads also tell of mothers being hesitant to come to their homes for playdates during the week, or to have them in theirs. Jen Singer, who has her own Web site for stay-at-home mothers, MommaSaid.net, says that's understandable.

"What woman wants to have a man in her house in the middle of the day when her husband is working? You'd have to have playdates in public," she says. And at the playground, she says from experience, it's awkward. "You finish talking about the kids and there you are, by the slide, wondering what to say."

Some fathers, like Adam Keeble of Allendale, N.J., feel they're accepted easily into their town's community of mothers. As the lone stay-at-home dad with a British accent in the local park, he said, so many mothers would say "Hi, Adam" that he had to keep a book to remember names. He also has no trouble, he says, organizing playdates at his house.

Keeble, an aspiring novelist who's been home for five years, says the frustration of the job is similar to that a mother might experience. "It's the best job in the world, except when it isn't," he says. "On a sunny day with the kids playing in the sand, it's great. But then there's the miserable February day when they look at me and say, well, now what? And, well, it's only reruns of Dora."

For most stay-at-home dads, whatever frustrations there are appear to be ease up in many ways when the kids are out of diapers and in school at least part of the day.

That's what Bob Hurley, a stay-at-home dad for seven years to his two sons, has found. He bagen his own stay-at-home career when he was laid off twice from jobs in the tech industry, and his wife had a good sales job. The couple didn't want to squander college money on daycare.

"It took a couple years until I felt good," Hurley says. But gradually, the awkwardness dissipated. "There are so many upsides to what is happening with the boys," he says.

And no longer does he get "that cross-eyed look" when he tells people what he does all day. Yet Hurley acknowledges a few awkward moments.

"We'll be at a party and the moms will be talking about their stuff, and the guys will be talking about their work, and I'm not really part of either conversation," he says.

Robert Baker, a former chemist and engineer, is still experiencing those first few years at home. His daughter, Kaleigh, is 3 and 1/2.

"It does feel like I'm more isolated than if I were a woman," says the father from Concord, N.H. Then again, he adds: "I don't think men seek out the same kind of networks. I'm sort of in my own little bubble."

He and Kaleigh spend a lot of time cycling into town, she in her little trailer attached to the bike, for park or library visits. Her mom would probably schedule more playdates if she were the one at home, Baker admits. "I'm like, we're fine," he says. "There's a difference of opinion."

The isolation does take its toll by the end of the week. "By Friday, I am fried," he says. And yet, he makes it clear he feels very lucky.

"It's been a blessing," he says. "Not too many dads have this chance. One day I am going to look back and say: Wow."



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# Teen exercise helps fight breast cancer later on in lifetime

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON Get your daughters off the couch: New research shows exercise during the teen years — starting as young as age 12 — can help protect girls from breast cancer when they're grown.

Middle-aged women have long been advised to get active to lower their risk of breast cancer after menopause. What's new: That starting so young pays off, too.

"This really points to the benefit of sustained physical activity from adolescence through the adult years, to get the maximum benefit," said Dr. Graham Colditz of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, the study's lead author.

Researchers tracked nearly 65,000 nurses ages 24 to 42 who enrolled in a major health study. They answered detailed questionnaires about their physical activity dating back to age 12. Within six years of enrolling, 550 were diagnosed with breast cancer before menopause. A quarter of all breast cancer is diagnosed at these younger ages, when it's typically more aggressive.

Women who were physically active as teens and young adults were 23 percent less likely to develop premenopausal breast cancer than women who grew up sedentary, researchers report Wednesday in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

The biggest impact was regular exercise from ages 12 to 22.

"This is not the extreme athlete," Colditz cautioned.

The women at lowest risk reported doing 3 hours and 15 minutes of running or other vigorous activity a week — or, for the less

athletic, 13 hours a week of walking. Typically, the teens reported more strenuous exercise while during adulthood, walking was most common.

Why would it help? A big point of exercise in middle age and beyond is to keep off the pounds. After menopause, fat tissue is a chief source of estrogen.

In youth, however, the theory is that physical activity itself lowers estrogen levels. Studies of teen athletes show that very intense exercise can delay onset of menstrual cycles and cause irregular periods.

The moderate exercise reported in this study was nowhere near enough for those big changes. But it probably was enough to cause slight yet still helpful hormone changes, said Dr. Alpa Patel, a cancer prevention specialist at the American Cancer Society, who praised the new research.

And while the study examined only premenopausal breast cancer, "it's certainly likely and possible" that the protection from youthful exercise will last long enough to affect more common postmenopausal breast cancer, too, Colditz added.

If you were a bookworm as a teen, it's not too late, Patel said. Other research on the middle-age benefits of exercise shows mom should join her daughters for that bike ride or game of tennis or at least a daily walk around the block.

Many breast cancer risks a woman can't change: How early she starts menstruating, how late menopause hits, family history of the disease.

Even though the exercise benefit is modest, physical activity and body weight are risk factors that women can control, Patel stressed.

## Velcro marks 50th anniversary with 1.5-mile-long r-r-r-r-r-rip

BY HOLLY RAMER

Associated Press Writer

MANCHESTER, N.H. Plenty of products last for 50 years, but few have the staying power of Velcro fasteners.

The signature sound of Velcro hook-and-loop tape being torn apart rippled along a parade route Tuesday to mark half a century since the Velcro brand was trademarked in the United States. Former and current employees of Manchester-based Velcro USA lined up for more than a mile to rip apart 8-inch lengths of the company's famous fasteners.

Lorraine Thiem, who retired after 27 years as a weaving instructor, excitedly ripped and reattached her swatch in anticipation as she waited for the wave to reach her under a tent in the company's parking lot. She left the company 13 years ago but still feels a pang of pride whenever she spots a Velcro product.

"I think, 'I had a hand in making that,'" she said. "It's just wonderful."

The hook-and-loop tape has its roots in Mother Nature — Swiss engineer George de Mestral came up with design in the 1940s after studying burrs that stuck to his dog's fur

and his wool pants during a walk in the woods. He named his invention Velcro, a combination of "velour" and "crotchet," the French words for velvet and hook.

Production began in France, but by 1958, administrative and manufacturing operations had moved to Manchester, where textile mills had a long history. Since then, the product has been used in applications ranging from the humble to the high-tech, on everything from sneakers and diapers to astronaut equipment and military body armor.

Though Velcro products are so pervasive that the company's name is virtually synonymous with hook-and-loop tape, Velcro's patent expired in 1978, allowing competitors such as 3M to move into the market. But Velcro remains the industry leader, said company President Joan Cullinane.

"Any place you look, our product is used," she said. "In a day, you probably touch it 10 times in 10 different applications. That's a pretty significant market we're driving."

Velcro USA has a work force of 600 in Manchester and Somersworth, N.H., as well as a manufacturing plant in Mexico, a warehouse and distribution center in Arizona and a marketing office in Michigan.



## Simon Says

Simon Salloom

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Dissecting the foreclosure scene

*Editor's note: This is the first in a series of columns about foreclosures.*

## FORECLOSURES HAVE TRIPLED, ISN'T THIS incredible!

Pretty darn exciting — isn't it? No, not really, not at all. In 2007 Brentwood had six residential property foreclosures. Santa Monica 90402 had zero foreclosures. Santa Monica 90403 had three, 90404 had five, 90405 had eight and 90401 had one.

In other Westside neighborhoods such as Playa del Rey, there were four foreclosures in 2007. In Marina del Rey there were seven and in Venice there were three. The neighborhoods of Westwood and Mar Vista/Palms were a little less fortunate. Westwood had 14 foreclosures and Mar Vista had 17. Beverly Hills has remained strong with only four foreclosures.

Never before, when writing this column, have I felt so confident that my point was made within the first two paragraphs. However, it will probably be a little more interesting to everyone if I elaborate a little bit. And this is what I am going to do, with some of my own personal opinions thrown in.

Now, one could argue that this is only the beginning of the real estate "collapse." Truthfully, one never knows what is to come. However, I like to note that the less desirable parts of our county have already been experiencing significant declines in values for as long as three years now.

Additionally, if more than another 5 percent drop in values occurs, it will become effectively less expensive to own than it will be to rent. This applies mainly to those neighborhoods, like ours, where the residents are in the 30 to 45 percent tax brackets. This includes the majority of Westside residents with college degrees who are of working age. Santa Monica for example is always the last to drop and the first to rebound from a market slowdown.

I would like to say that it is somewhat upsetting to hear people talking about foreclosures as if they are rampant on the Westside. They evidently are not. In the past year, the most difficult part of being a realtor in this market isn't how challenging business has been. The real drag these days is the unrelenting negativity of the media and of some people.

I understand how people feel about all this. I also thought the excesses of the prior market boom were obnoxious and at times ridiculous. That is why now, as it was then, we all need to be able to approach what is happening in a grounded and well thought

out manner.

At the end of the day, we have to own or we have to rent. If owning isn't much more than renting, many people will choose to own. It's more pleasurable for most people to own and it has tax advantages. Renting involves less responsibility and provides greater flexibility.

I am involved in a half dozen conversations a week with prospective buyers who are under the impression that the Westside's values are down about 20 percent and that foreclosures are everywhere. There have been statistics published that property values are down as much as 30 percent in Los Angeles County. This is true, but only in certain limited geographical locations. Places that most Westside residents have never been to and would need a GPS to find and would certainly find highly undesirable to inhabit. Remember, this is a big, sprawling city.

The other day I was chatting with an agent friend of mine while he was doing "floor time." Floor time is when an agent takes random calls as they come into a real estate office. An annoyingly common call for "foreclosure properties" came in to our Brentwood office. The woman wanted a list of foreclosure properties. He told her to go on the Internet and call some banks and that we didn't work directly with a lot of foreclosures. It's pretty silly to call a Brentwood real estate office looking for a "list" of foreclosures when there have only been six in the past year.

Unless a property being in foreclosure is your prime requirement when buying a property, it's a poor business decision to look for foreclosures only. Remember that foreclosures are thrown into the market like every other property, subject to competition like any old home on any old street.

The advantage with foreclosures is that the banks are the sellers and are often involved at an arms length. Additionally, some of the brokers involved in listing foreclosures for sale are out of the area, and have little knowledge and or concern for surrounding property values. Presentation can also be lacking. It's not uncommon for a home in foreclosure to be filthy, broken down, unkempt and littered with trash. This is not a good selling point for prospective buyers.

**SIMON SALLOOM** is a local Santa Monica and Brentwood based Realtor with Coldwell Banker. Comment on this and other articles at his Web site: [WestsideSimon.com](http://WestsideSimon.com) and he can be reached at: 310-749-8686



## Market Matters

Brian Hepp

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# Interest rates and you

## THE RISE AND FALL OF INTEREST RATES

is one of the biggest factors influencing the economy and financial markets. It is important to have a basic understanding of how interest rate changes affect your pocketbook and investment portfolio.

Typically the Federal Reserve lowers interest rates to jump-start the economy. Lower interest rates mean consumers may be willing to spend more money and incur more debt.

This stimulates the economy in a variety of ways, including increased revenues from products sold to consumers and taxes generated from those sales. Investors, on the other hand, have a different perspective.

## FALLING RATES

Bond investors: As interest rates fall, the prices of previously issued bonds tend to rise. The new issues are offered at lower, less appealing rates.

That makes bonds with higher interest rates much more desirable and that much more in demand.

On the other hand, those who plan to hold their bonds to maturity aren't really affected by falling rates, with the exception of reinvestment risk.

One way issuers may take advantage of falling rates, is by calling their outstanding bonds and issuing new bonds at lower rates. This can hurt those whose bonds have been called because they can't reinvest at the rate they were previously receiving.

To offset that risk, it's important to make sure you don't have too many callable bonds in your portfolio.

Your fixed-income investments should be diversified to withstand rising and falling rates.

Stock investors: Falling interest rates tend to have a positive impact on the stock market, especially stocks of growth companies. The companies that tend to borrow money to finance expansions also tend to benefit from declining rates.

Paying lower interest rates decreases the cost of their debt, which may positively affect their bottom line.

The stock prices of those companies may rise as a result, driving the market in such a way that prices of other stocks may follow suit. When the Fed decides to raise interest rates, its goal is usually to slow down an overheating economy.

The cost of borrowing increases, and consumers may begin to cut back on spending. This reverses the effects that lower interest rates had on the economy and, again, investors are affected differently.

## RISING RATES

Bond investors: When interest rates shoot up, the demand for bonds with lower inter-

**WHEN THE FED DECIDES TO RAISE INTEREST RATES, ITS GOAL IS USUALLY TO SLOW DOWN AN OVERHEATING ECONOMY. THE COST OF BORROWING INCREASES, AND CONSUMERS MAY BEGIN TO CUT BACK ON SPENDING. THIS REVERSES THE EFFECTS THAT LOWER INTEREST RATES HAD ON THE ECONOMY AND, AGAIN, INVESTORS ARE AFFECTED DIFFERENTLY.**

est rates typically falls, which decreases their value.

That's because new bond issues are offered at higher rates.

Stock investors: Depending on the current market environment, rising interest rates can have a positive or negative impact on the stock market. In some cases, rising rates can send jitters through the market, resulting in falling stock prices. In other cases, the stock market will respond favorably.

In addition, rising interest rates may affect certain industry groups more than others.

For instance, because growth companies borrow money in order to expand, rising interest rates increase the cost of their debt, which in turn decreases profit (or increases loss). As a result, the prices of their stocks may fall.

If you're interested in learning more about what changing interest rates mean for you, a financial advisor can help you better understand the effects interest rates may have on your portfolio.

**BRIAN HEPP** is a financial consultant and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at [brian.hepp@agedwards.com](mailto:brian.hepp@agedwards.com).



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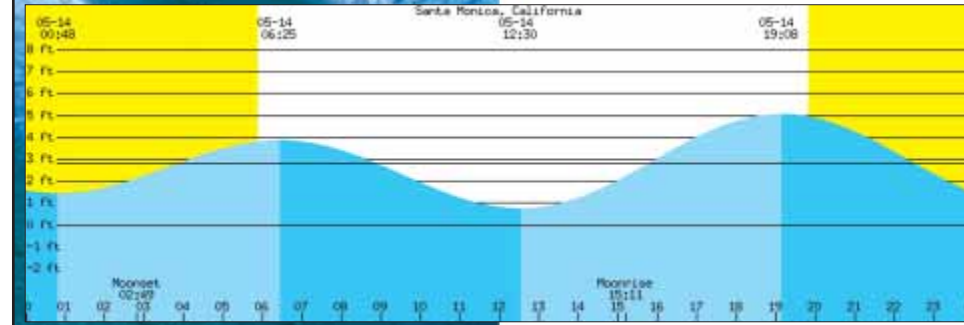


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**SURF REPORT**



**SURF CONDITIONS**  
**WATER TEMP: 59°**  
**SWELL FORECAST ( 3-4 FT )**  
Today the SW backs off to waist high. NW wind swell should back down to waist to perhaps chest high at times in the early morning, but smaller as the day progresses. Winds should be lightly offshore in the morning with the usual onshores in the afternoon. Tide is moderate throughout the AM. Weather continues to improve.  
**LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS**  
SMALLER BUT CLEANER SURF WED.-FRI...  
**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 **May 5, 2008**  
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 — 2  
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 3  
Number of wet days — 8  
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 37 / ns  
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 9 / ns  
The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from   
Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

| LOCATION                                                             | DRY | WET | LOCATION                                                           | DRY | WET |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sepul Creek mouth                      | C   | ns  | Will Rogers State Beach at Bal Air Bay Club drain near fence       | A+  | ns  |
| Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth                    | A+  | ns  | Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain                | A+  | ns  |
| El Pescadero State Beach, between Luchessa and Las Aliso creeks      | A+  | ns  | Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain                   | A+  | ns  |
| Escorial Canyon at El Matador State Beach                            | A+  | ns  | Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chonateague) | A+  | ns  |
| Broad Beach at Trancos Creek mouth                                   | A+  | ns  | Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain                           | A+  | ns  |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth                                       | A+  | ns  | Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain                         | A+  | ns  |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)                   | A+  | ns  | Santa Monica Municipal Pier                                        | D   | ns  |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth                     | D   | ns  | Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain                      | A   | ns  |
| Escamido Creek, just east of Escamido State Beach                    | F   | ns  | Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)     | A+  | ns  |
| Lariga Canyon Creek mouth                                            | A   | ns  | Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain                             | A+  | ns  |
| Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach                          | F   | ns  | Vanice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain                    | A+  | ns  |
| Puente State Beach at creek mouth                                    | D   | ns  | Vanice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain                                  | A+  | ns  |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.        | F   | ns  | Vanice Beach at Windward Ave. drain                                | A+  | ns  |
| Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fences                               | A+  | ns  | Vanice Fishing Pier - 50 yards north                               | A+  | ns  |
| Surfside Beach (beach location)- daily                               | D   | ns  | Vanice Beach- projection of Topwell St.                            | A+  | ns  |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east                                          | A+  | ns  | Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower                    | A   | ns  |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon                                    | A   | ns  | Dockweiler State Beach at Bellina Creek mouth                      | B   | ns  |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)              | B   | ns  | Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain                       | A+  | ns  |
| Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs                                   | A+  | ns  | North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach            | A+  | ns  |
| Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach                                 | A+  | ns  | Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)           | A+  | ns  |
| Tuna Canyon                                                          | A+  | ns  | Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain                       | A+  | ns  |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth                                   | F   | ns  | Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant                | A+  | ns  |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach                          | A+  | ns  | Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain                         | A+  | ns  |
| Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach                          | A   | ns  |                                                                    |     |     |
| Will Rogers State Beach at 17260 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  
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# MLB

# Jones struggles in first season with Dodgers

BY JOHN NADEL  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Andruw Jones keeps his emotions in check, as he believes a professional athlete should.

He won't slam his bat to the ground after a rally-killing strikeout or thrust his fist in the air after a game-winning homer.

This year, there have been way more strikeouts (38) than home runs (one) for Jones. But don't be fooled by his demeanor. This hurts.

"People think I'm relaxed and laid back. It's eating me up inside," Jones said, the sadness evident in his eyes. "I'm upset. I'm embarrassed."

What about that little smile he seems to wear after a strikeout?

"That's the way my face is," he said. "That's me. I can't change that. And I'm not going to break stuff because I strike out. It's not the bat's fault; it's not the helmet's fault. I'm doing whatever I can to help the team win, even if I'm not hitting. I know I'm better than this."

The 31-year-old Jones was certainly a lot better during an exceptional 11-plus years in Atlanta, where he hit 368 homers, drove in 1,117 runs and won 10 Gold Gloves in center field.

Jones, one of only a handful of major leaguers to come from Curacao, made a name for himself at age 19 in the 1996 World Series against Joe Torre's New York Yankees, hitting .400 with two homers and six RBIs.

That was just the beginning. Now, with a .170 average, Jones isn't even close to hitting his weight, which just so happens to have become an issue in his dreadful start with the Dodgers.

"It has nothing to do with it," insisted Jones, listed at 6-foot-1 and 240 pounds. "Everybody can say, 'He's fat, he's this, he's that.' I feel great. I go out there; I can run the ball down. I feel fine.

"I work hard — that's all I can do. It's not like I haven't played this game before. This is the worst start I've ever had, and I've had awful starts. All you can do is keep working. If it doesn't happen, it doesn't happen."

Looking for a middle-of-the-lineup power

hitter and outfield defense, the Dodgers thought they got both when they signed Jones to a two-year, \$36.2 million contract last winter.

They haven't gotten any bang for their buck — at least not yet. But as Braves manager Bobby Cox said, it's early.

"There's quite a few really good hitters in baseball hitting below .200," said Cox, who managed Jones throughout his career in Atlanta. "There's six months to play, not just 30 days."

Torre, in his first year as the Dodgers' manager, said he's not about to give up on him. Jones hit .263 with 51 homers and 128 RBIs in 2005 and .262 with 41 homers and 129 RBIs in 2006 before fading to .222 with 26 homers and 94 RBIs last season.

"I'm staying with him because I just don't believe he can't hit anymore," Torre said. "I know how important he has to be for us to do well, so we need to get him started. He's not going to get started sitting on the bench, not that I'm not going to sit him from time to time."

Jones sat Sunday before entering as a pinch runner in the seventh inning during an 8-5 loss to Houston. He hit a sacrifice fly in his only at-bat, giving him five RBIs this year.

Torre believes Jones has had a tough time adjusting to his exit from Atlanta.

"This is the first time he's left the nest," the manager said. "He's been with an organization his whole life. He ventures out; he doesn't do very well."

While insisting he wasn't making excuses, Jones acknowledged his cross-country move has been difficult.

"It's tough when you live in your own house, in your own bed for so many years," said Jones, who has kept him home in the Atlanta area. "It's been a tough change. My family's not here. You walk into a house you don't normally walk into. Some people take a long time to adjust."

But, Jones said, he has no regrets about playing with the Dodgers.

"No, not at all," he said. "It's a great organization. We have a great team. I want to be here. We can do something special."

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MOVIETIMES

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4<br><b>1441 Third Street</b><br><b>Promenade</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45<br><b>The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13)</b><br><b>1hr 53min</b><br>1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40<br><b>Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)</b><br><b>1hr 51min</b><br>1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10<br><b>Speed Racer (PG) 2hrs 15min</b><br>1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:20, 7:15, 8:30, 10:15<br>LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX<br><b>1332 Second St.</b><br><b>(310) 394-9741</b><br><b>Redbelt (R) 1hr 39min</b><br>1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30<br><b>Then She Found Me (R) 1hr 40min</b><br>1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55<br><b>The Visitor (ZPG-13) 1hr 48min</b><br>1:30, 4:20, 7:25, 10:00<br><b>Smart People (R) 1hr 33min</b> | 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00<br>MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE<br><b>1313 Third St.</b><br><b>(310) 395-1599</b><br><b>Iron Man (PG-13) 2hrs 06min</b><br>11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00<br><b>Made of Honor (PG-13) 1hr 41min</b><br>11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10<br><b>What Happens in Vegas (PG-13) 1hr 39min</b><br>11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20 |
| AMC 7 SANTA MONICA<br><b>1310 Third St.</b><br><b>(310) 289-4262</b><br><b>21 (PG-13) 2hrs 03min</b><br>1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50<br><b>Baby Mama (PG-13) 1hr 36min</b><br>2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00<br><b>Harold &amp; Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay (R) 1hr 42min</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

For more information, e-mail [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

Get a little rest, Libra

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ARIES (March 21-April 19)</b><br>★★★★ Your nerves could be fried, as you cannot seem to read the winds of fate. Whatever you believe is about to happen goes in nearly the opposite or least predictable manner. Still, maintain a high profile. Tonight: Chill out.                                                                | is no tomorrow.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>TAURUS (April 20-May 20)</b><br>★★★★ A relationship could feel precarious, teetering back and forth. Detach. As a result, you will be able to understand the mechanism at work. You won't worry so much. Tonight: A fun time is had by all.                                                                                         | <b>LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)</b><br>★★★ Much could be upsetting you. How you choose to handle all the subsequent tension reflects who you are. Have faith in yourself. Once everything seems solid, you easily could experience an uproar again. Tonight: Get as much R and R as possible.                 |
| <b>GEMINI (May 21-June 20)</b><br>★★★★ You might be happiest working from home. At the same time, you could be pushed to the max juggling many different concerns. You might not be able to resolve this situation today or tomorrow. Tonight: Order in.                                                                               | <b>SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)</b><br>★★★★★ Aim for what you want, but do be flexible. You might see everything fall by the wayside out of the blue. Realize what is happening within a relationship. Stay grounded and continually tap into your instinctive abilities. Tonight: Zoom in on what you want. |
| <b>CANCER (June 21-July 22)</b><br>★★★★ Your words have power. News could have an upsetting impact, no matter how you choose to look at it. Choose your battles with care. How you deal with someone might change radically if you simply relax. Not every situation is black-and-white! Tonight: Share a meal and news with a friend. | <b>SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)</b><br>★★★ Keep your chin up and don't buck the odds. What happens could be surprising, forcing you to rethink your position. With constant challenges to your ideas and direction, you will think you need to lead. Tonight: Shopping ...                               |
| <b>LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)</b><br>★★ You'll tumble into the world of wheeling and dealing if you're not careful. Know when to say enough to someone who can be quite pushy. Emphasize daily living and getting one item of your to-do list done at a time. Schedule a checkup. Tonight: Easy does it.                                    | <b>CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)</b><br>★★★★★ Your ability to read between the lines could cause an unusual veering in a new direction. What might be going on could have very little to do with what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: Rent a movie.                                                |
| <b>VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)</b><br>★★★★ Several people's actions could be disconcerting. Step back and observe. Have your own pictures played a role in this upset? Look to greater creativity and romance through a fun playmate or child. Tonight: Live as if there                                                                  | <b>AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)</b><br>★★★★ The wise Aquarian will work with a partner, though you might be shocked by what you hear. In fact, your instinct might be to run away. Tonight: Opt for teamwork.                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)</b><br>★★★ Your actions could trigger events that you would prefer not to consider. You might be far more tired and cranky than you realize. Think long term when dealing with others. Slow down and relax. Tonight: Defer to someone else.                                  |

Happy birthday

Often, sudden events and unexpected developments force you to take another look. You frequently could reverse course, surprising even yourself. If you take an overview, learn to walk a different path and open your mind, success is likely to be yours, even if the road is bumpy. Avoid daydreaming about what could be, and decide to go for what you want. If you are single, you could meet someone very special through your work or public commitments. If you are attached, you often need to rethink your ideas, as your partner has a different perspective. VIRGO contributes to the fun in your life.

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

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For project information and requirements please visit [smgov.net/ccs/projects](http://smgov.net/ccs/projects), or contact Community & Cultural Services at 310-458-8310 to request a copy of the RFQ.

Proposals must be received by 5 pm on **May 29, 2008**



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The City of Santa Monica welcomes participants with disabilities in all of its programs and services. All facilities are wheelchair accessible. To request a disability related accommodation, please call the Keith Neal at (310) 394-6011 or TTY (310) 458-8500 at least three business days before the event or class. Every attempt will be made to accommodate requests received later than that, but the City cannot guarantee that late requests will be fulfilled. This document is available in alternate format upon request.

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

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

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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

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

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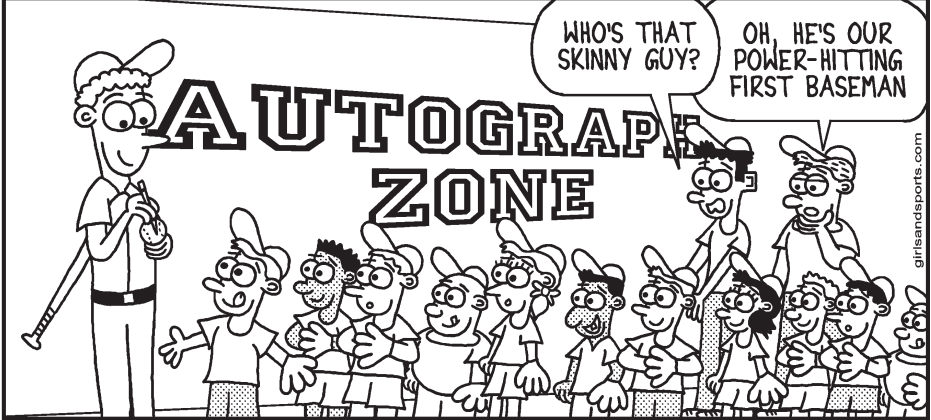
PS0803 11/08

Girls and Sports

5/14

### SIGNS THAT THE STEROIDS ERA IS OVER

**SIGN #3: PLAYERS' BODIES ARE BACK TO NORMAL SIZE**



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girlsandsports.com

The Meaning of Lila

5/14

New guy, Row 17, Cubicle 8, is gorgeous!

He's gay.

You don't know that.

Just because he didn't check you out in that top doesn't mean he's...

Okay, he's gay.

Thank you.

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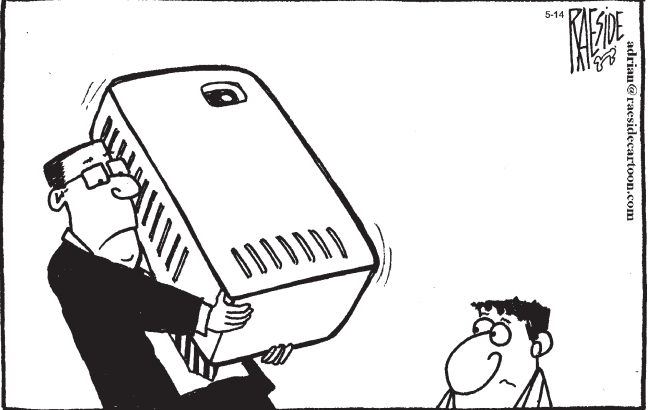
The Other Coast

5-14

THIS AIR FRESHENER WILL EVEN NEUTRALIZE DOG ODORS.

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FOR WET DOGS?

AIR FRESHENER



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adrian@raesidecartoon.com

Garfield

5-14

GARFIELD, YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU?

SURE

BY THE WAY, YOU'RE SITTING IN MY SPOT

I LIKE YOU TOO, GARFIELD

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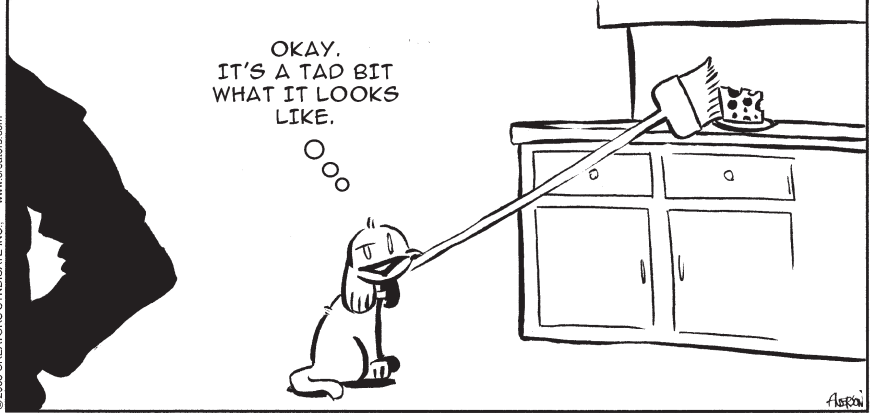
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Dog eat Doug

5/14

THIS IS NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

OKAY. IT'S A TAD BIT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.



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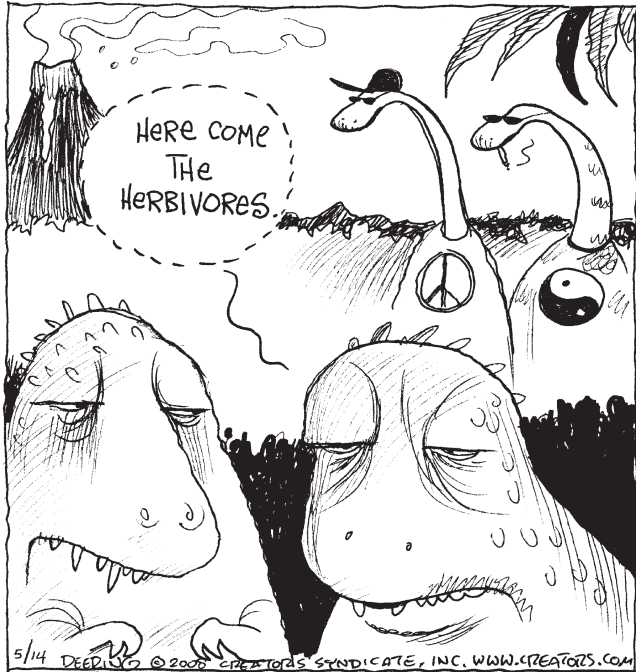
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**MYSTERY PHOTO**

Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Here's a hint. This was shot on Olympic Boulevard. Send answers to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com).

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Dagger handle
- 5 Zhivago player
- 11 Historic canal
- 12 Regal home
- 13 Field unit
- 14 Wore down
- 15 Common title word
- 16 Vegan's no-no
- 17 Flock makeup
- 19 Summer cooler
- 22 Urges on
- 24 English county
- 26 Qualified
- 27 Fancy flower
- 28 Back biter
- 30 Skirt feature
- 31 Toady's response
- 32 Authorize
- 34 Order to Rover
- 35 Devoured
- 38 Purple swallow
- 41 Stage action
- 42 In the area
- 43 Different
- 44 Plug parts
- 45 Calls for

DOWN

- 1 Miami cagers
- 2 St. Louis sight
- 3 Energetic folks
- 4 Ball point?
- 5 Ignore the limit
- 6 Pester
- 7 Scads
- 8 "Gnarly!"
- 9 Julep need
- 10 Nourished
- 16 "— Miniver"
- 18 Creative germ
- 19 Computer safe-guards

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | A | S | A |   |   | T | A | C | O | S |
| A | L | I | A | S |   | A | L | O | N | E |
| R | A | T | A | T | O | U | I | L | L | E |
| E | M | S |   |   | A | N | T |   |   | L |
| D | O | U | B | L | E |   |   | D | I | N |
|   | S | P | A | I | N |   |   | R | E | E |
|   |   |   |   | S | N | A | R | E |   |   |
| R | E | S | T |   |   | T | E | S | T | S |
| O | N | C | E |   |   | I | N | S | E | T |
| O | D | E |   |   | M | O | E |   | R | A |
| F | I | N | D | I | N | G | N | E | M | O |
| E | V | E | R | T |   |   | E | A | S | E |
| R | E | S | E | T |   |   |   | P | A | N |

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Opera song
- 21 Egg setting
- 22 Rank
- 23 Bassoon's kin
- 25 Hawaiian port
- 29 G, for one
- 30 Tissue part
- 33 Touches down
- 34 Astonish
- 36 Gofer's work
- 37 Facial pair
- 38 Subway aid
- 39 Time-table abbr.
- 40 Kanga's kid
- 41 Shooter ammo

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|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |    |

DAILY LOTTERY



20 24 27 31 47  
Meganumber: 15  
Jackpot: \$166M



11 20 24 25 33  
Meganumber: 23  
Jackpot: \$25M



9 15 26 34 35



MIDDAY: 1 4 9  
EVENING: 8 1 1



1st: 04 BIG BEN  
2nd: 02 LUCKY STAR  
3rd: 08 GORGEOUS GEORGE  
RACE TIME: 1:48.10

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

■ While many lab mice get selected, unfortunately, for work like cancer research, one group of male rodents at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston has been hard at work, with constant erections, helping researchers develop a biochemical treatment for priapism, which plagues men with certain blood disorders. (The condition is named for the Greek god Priapus, who, to be punished for sexual misbehavior, supposedly received an enormous, but useless, wooden penis.)

■ Personality Transplants: (1) Cheryl Johnson, 37, described to London's Daily Telegraph in March the many ways in which her personality suddenly changed following a new kidney that she received from a deceased, 59-year-old man. Some researchers believe in such a "cellular memory phenomenon," but it is unclear whether, for example, Johnson's recent abandonment of trashy reading in favor of Dostoevsky and Jane Austen would qualify. (2) Sonny Graham of Hilton Head, S.C., committed suicide in April after having spent 13 years with the transplanted heart of suicide victim Terry Cottle. The cellular implication is somewhat less likely, though, because Graham's widow was the same woman who was married to Cottle at the time of his suicide.

TODAY IN HISTORY

**1607** English colonists went ashore in Virginia to begin building a permanent settlement, named Jamestown after England's King James I.

**1643** Louis the XIV became King of France at age 4 upon the death of his father, Louis the XIII.

**1796** English physician Edward Jenner succeeded in inoculating 8-year-old James Phipps against smallpox by using cowpox matter.

**1804** The Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory left camp near St. Louis.

**1900** The Olympic games opened in Paris, held as part of the World's Fair.

**1942** Congress voted to establish the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps.

**1942** Aaron Copland's "Lincoln Portrait" was first performed, by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

**1973** The United States launched Skylab 1, its first manned space station.

WORD UP!

**umbrage** \UHM-brij\, *noun*:  
1. Shade; shadow; hence, something that affords a shade, as a screen of trees or foliage.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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## New Listing

Open Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 - 5:00 pm



519 California Avenue # 103  
\$988,000

- 2 + 2 Condo
- Enormous Private Garden
- LR and DR w/ 10 ft High Ceilings!
- Large Remodeled Kitchen
- Washer and Dyer in Unit
- Wood Floors
- Living Room w/ Gas Fireplace

Open Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 - 5:00 pm



1135 - Berkeley Street  
\$1,995,000

Two Story Traditional 5 + 3 Home

Open Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 - 5:00 pm



2470 Hill Street  
\$2,288,000

Contemporary Mediterranean 4 + 3 Home

Open Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 - 5:00 pm



785 Linda Flora Drive  
\$1,599,000

3 + 1.75 Home w/ Canyon, Ocean and Getty Views

Call Kate to See Homes  
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249 - 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
\$2,349,000

Original Spanish 3 + 2 in Gillette's Regent Square

Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Mid May 2008

|                                       |   | <u>Single Family Homes</u> | <u>Condos &amp; Townhomes</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Santa Monica Canyon</b>            | = | \$ 2,211,278               | \$ 1,200,000                  |
| <b>North of Montana</b>               | = | \$ 4,167,759               | \$ 1,612,947                  |
| <b>Between Wilshire &amp; Montana</b> | = | \$ 3,398,444               | \$ 909,940                    |
| <b>South of Wilshire</b>              | = | \$ 952,556                 | \$ 745,271                    |
| <b>Sunset Park</b>                    | = | \$ 1,473,910               | \$ 853,188                    |
| <b>Ocean Park</b>                     | = | \$ 1,766,000               | \$ 1,302,328                  |

Statistics updated every Wednesday

### What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

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