



NOT MAKING THE GRADE
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE GO LAKERS ISSUE

City to pay Farmer's Market victims \$21M

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CITY HALL Victims of the deadly Farmers' Market crash and their families will receive \$21 million from City Hall as part of a settlement agreement approved by the City Council late Tuesday night, bringing to an end a nearly five-year court battle involving more than 70 plaintiffs.

The settlement payment and attorney fees will be covered by City Hall's insurance policy. In return for the settlement payment, all of the plaintiffs will dismiss their claims against both City Hall and the Bayside District Corp., which was separately named as a defendant for its role as an advisory board to the council on issues relating to Downtown Santa Monica and the Third Street Promenade.

The settlement came amid the jury selection process for the trial involving a group of plaintiffs who did not take part in earlier settlement discussions. The wrongful death and personal injury suit alleged negligence on behalf of City Hall, Bayside District and George Russell Weller, who drove his 1992 Buick LeSabre through more than 800 feet of Arizona Avenue on July 16, 2003, killing 10 and injuring dozens more.

The death toll from the 20-second drive was the largest number of pedestrian fatalities from a traffic accident in California history, according to the California Highway Patrol.

City Hall was initially removed from the civil case, a Santa Monica judge granting it design immunity. However that ruling was overturned on appeal after attorneys for the plaintiffs argued that a jury should decide whether or not a traffic management plan presented in court was the one approved by City Hall's lead traffic engineer or merely a sketch drawn up by the manager of the market, Laura Avery.

Geoff Wells, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said his clients felt a sense of relief after learning of the settlement agreement and are looking forward to moving on with their lives.

"When somebody dies like this, where there

SEE SETTLEMENT PAGE 10



EGGING HIM ON

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

(Above) The students of Franklin Elementary School on Wednesday shout out in excitement 'drop the egg' over and over again as they anxiously await the fate of their heavily guarded eggs, which were dropped from the roof of a classroom as part of a science project. (Right) Sam Gottlieb, father of two Franklin Elementary school students, was in charge of dropping the packaged eggs. Students of the club were able to use problem-solving skills in order to create the perfect egg-carrying object, school officials said.



School super may be out

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Superintendent Dianne Talarico, her term in the school district plagued by one crisis after another, is widely expected to resign at the end of the academic year to assume an educational position in Northern California.

Named as former Superintendent John Deasy's successor in July 2006, Talarico confirmed on Tuesday that she is eyeing a move to the San Francisco Bay Area where her family resides.

"I am looking at some opportunities for a position that will allow me to relocate to be with my family," Talarico said. "By the beginning of June, I will have a good idea of what my next steps will be."



TALARICO

Talarico would be the second top administrator in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District to leave this year. Deputy Superintendent Tim Walker resigned from his post earlier this month amid a firestorm of criticism surrounding his role in the special education controversy.

The possible departure comes as little surprise to school stakeholders, many saying they predicted the superintendent would leave after a series of highly-publicized issues that struck the district during her term, the trying times aggrandized with the effects of being far from family.

Talarico came to Santa Monica-Malibu from the Canton City Schools in Ohio where

SEE TALARICO PAGE 11

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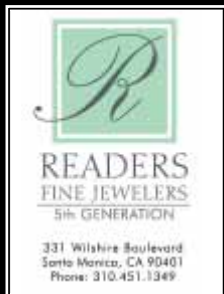
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Calendar

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A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



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.

Laugh your chakras off

717 Broadway, 11 a.m.

Led by Kim Selbert, a certified laughter yoga leader, this class utilizes simple and fun laughter exercises to promote better health. Bet you didn't know that you could change your life through the simple act of laughing. This class takes place at Shakti's Elements in Downtown.

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.

Friday, May 23, 2008

'Camila' comes to SMC

1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.

As part of Los Angeles' first Festival of New American Musicals, Santa Monica College Theatre Arts Department presents the world premier musical “Camila.” The play will be presented at SMC's Theatre Arts Main Stage.

March over to the Temple Bar

1026 Wilshire Blvd., 9:15 p.m.

The MarchFourth Marching Band is a 30-person madcap carnival of horns, drums, electric bass, stiltwalkers and dancers that can only be described as fun.

Dancing with Isabelle and Reiko

1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7:15 p.m.

Learn how to dance hot salsa in a relaxed atmosphere with Isabelle and Reiko. There are two classes offered: One for beginners and another for more advanced dancers. Once both classes are over, hang out for a while and socialize with fellow students. For more information, call (310) 392-3493.

More than meets the eye

1323-A Third Street Promenade, 8 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.

“The Transformers,” a group of Emmy-winning comedy writers from a number of hit TV shows comes together to perform their high-wire improv antics every Friday through August. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

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





YUCK: Water around the Santa Monica Pier continues to be some of the dirtiest in the state, according to Heal the Bay, which on Wednesday released its 18th Annual Beach Report Card. The pier was ranked second amongst the top 10 'Beach Bummers.'

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

Santa Monica Pier still dirty

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM PIER Californians are seeing cleaner beaches these days but the water in parts of the Santa Monica Bay is still better left undipped, especially around the Santa Monica Pier.

The 18th annual Beach Report Card, released by environmental watchdog Heal the Bay on Wednesday, showed that Los Angeles County beaches are still among the dirtiest, while the state as a whole tells a prettier story, showing the best water quality on record.

The Santa Monica-based organization rated water quality at more than 500 beaches statewide, assessing grades based on adverse health risk to swimmers, the report card showing that the majority of beaches receiving an A or B in dry weather.

"These are the best dry weather grades

since the report went statewide," Mark Gold, Heal the Bay president, said.

But beaches locally continue to post poor results, L.A. County being home to five of the top 10 lowest-rated beaches in the report card. The Santa Monica Pier ranks second on the list of the "Top 10 Beach Bummers," just behind Avalon Harbor Beach on Catalina Island.

The pier was found to be the most polluted beach in the bay, which is defined as being between Leo Carillo to Palos Verdes. The report criticized Santa Monica City Hall for not doing enough to clean up what is considered to be one of the most beach popular destinations in Southern California.

Residents in 2006 passed a parcel tax for stormwater pollution prevention. Improvements in the results are expected once City Hall completes the pier storm drain rehabilitation project, which is expected in 2010. The \$4 million project involves

replacing outdated storm drains underneath the pier and "increasing the size of the pier diversion to the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Reuse Facility," the report states.

"For the people of California and Santa Monica, the idea to go to the beach and get sick is nuts," Councilmember Bobby Shriver said. "For this to be the worst beach in the state is outrageous."

But the beaches in the county have experienced some improvement in the past year, approximately 71 percent receiving an A or B grades, up from 57 percent last year.

The bad grades can be attributed to a change in the monitoring program in the county, collecting samples directly from the front of storm drains and creeks, called "point zero." L.A. County is among the first in the state to test at the mouth of storm drains in creeks, a popular play area for children.

SEE DIRTY WATER PAGE 10

Scientists detail projected impact of 'Big One' in Southern Calif.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The "Big One," as earthquake scientists imagine it in a detailed, first-of-its-kind script, unzips California's mighty San Andreas Fault north of the Mexican border. In less than two minutes, Los Angeles and its sprawling suburbs are shaking like a bowl of jelly. The jolt from the 7.8-magnitude temblor lasts for three minutes — 15 times longer than the disastrous 1994 Northridge quake.

Water and sewer pipes crack. Power fails. Part of major highways break. Some high-rise steel frame buildings and older concrete and brick structures collapse.

Hospitals are swamped with 50,000 injured as all of Southern California reels from a blow on par with the Sept. 11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina: \$200 billion in damage to the economy, and 1,800 dead.

Only about 700 of those people are victims of building collapses. Many others are lost to the 1,600 fires burning across the region — too many for firefighters to tackle at once, scientists predict.



QUIET PROTEST

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

After speaking at the City Council on Tuesday night the Santa Monica Treesavers held an all-night protest on the steps of City Hall. The plan was to sleep at City Hall until 9 a.m. Wednesday morning. The protest was in response to the removal of 23 ficus trees last Friday on Second and Fourth streets as part of a streetscape improvement project.

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SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Battle for equality continues
Editor:

It seems that 30 years later the battle to end gender discrimination in laundries has not been won (“Taking it to the cleaners,” page 1, May 14). It was that long ago that I represented a flight attendant who had to pay more to clean her shirts than the men did even though the size and style were identical. The launderers claimed that the women’s had to be hand ironed because they were smaller. We obtained women’s shirts that were larger than men’s shirts, and found the same price differences. Now the excuse was that women are fussier so their “blouses” had to be hand laundered.

I see the photo of a price poster attached to your article shows “dress shirt, \$3.89 & up” and “blouse, \$4.98 & up.” It seems they are still justifying a price differential by calling women’s shirts “blouses,” when the only real difference is which direction they button.

Carol Agate
Santa Monica

Enough already
Editor:

Petition denied. As I understand it, trees [on Second and Fourth streets] will be replaced by trees – not exactly little petunia patches. Mr. Rubin, can’t you gracefully accept defeat and turn to other worthy causes, please?

Transients are in the news almost daily, committing thefts, assaults and other unsavory acts in ever swelling numbers. How about giving that some thought for a welcome change? We have three recent unsolved murders, another bloody assault last Sunday, many unsafe crossings for pedestrians and bicycle issues. Quite a list for you and Treesavers to choose from.

Again, please give other issues some thought ... and some of us a welcome rest.

Gera Korte
Santa Monica

A better idea
Editor:

Dear City Council, I’ll save you \$100,000 (“Panhandling campaign still a work in progress,” page 3, May 20). The people of Santa Monica hate the panhandling homeless and City Hall’s consistent non-response to it. It causes productive, property owning citizens with higher than average incomes like me to move away because after 25 years of residency in Santa Monica the situation continued to deteriorate rather than improve.

With the \$100,000 I just saved you, please put it toward stepped up enforcement of the panhandling laws and towards transportation for the homeless to “Shriver Island” at the West Los Angeles VA.

Ron Yukelson
San Luis Obispo

Political Playhouse

Nick Mockiavelli

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Report from the campaign trail

BARACK OBAMA HAS LOANED HIS campaign \$5 million from a random millionaire he’s never met. The Democratic candidate for president acted on the heels of news that U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton had personally given her campaign a second loan in addition to the \$5 million she lent in February.

The millionaire in question, Curtis Smoot, the 87-year-old founder of Roto Rooter Plumbing systems, has no idea about the loan, and when contacted by Political Playhouse was even shaky about the fact that the country is embroiled in a fiercely contested race for the presidency.

“Barack who?” he gasped into the phone, a flummoxed old man losing touch with the world around him.

The Obama campaign made it clear that he’d singled out Mr. Smoot after coming across his name on a stolen subscriber list for The Robb Report.

“We were looking for an individual with a high net worth who was on the verge of losing his or her faculties. Mr. Smoot fits the bill like a dream,” said a spokesman.

Obama addressed the loan this morning in a Des Moines, Iowa campaign stop.

“My competitor has been loaning her campaigns huge sums of money from her personal fortune,” Obama said. “Before going into public service, I was a community organizer. I drove a rusty, piece-of-trash car. I just finished paying off my student loans last year. I don’t have that kind of scratch. So it’s only fair that I select a millionaire at random and personally make a loan to my campaign on his behalf. While I have no legal rights to Mr. Smoots funds, I do authorize my campaign to seize \$5 million from his accounts and immediately use those monies to purchase spot advertising in crucial battleground states during the general election.”

Obama emphasized that Mr. Smoot had little choice in the matter. “We live in a culture of celebrity. Over the past months I’ve become quite well-known, gathering power and influence in the process. Some say that I’m an inspirational savant and an orator on the level of Cicero, Lincoln or Ryan Seacrest. I certainly have enough goodwill built up at this point to survive a few dubious transgressions. Like brutally stealing huge amounts of cash from a defenseless old man, for instance.”

While the Obama campaign was hopeful they could pay Mr. Smoot back at a later date, they did emphasize that it wasn’t their money, so they didn’t really care.

Economist says Americans are “cheap-skates”

As the country heads into a potential recession, one noted economist thinks the U.S. consumer needs to loosen the purse stings a little and stop being such a spoilsport cheapskate. “Honestly, the U.S. consumer needs to lighten up,” crowed Richard Luva, chief economist at The Institute For American Progress. “Two-

thirds of the economy is driven by consumer spending, so now’s not the time to become a decrepit miser like your prickly Uncle Mort. C’mon, live a little. It’s just money ... and in the Internet and credit card age, it’s just transferring pieces of data from your account to some retailer. Money isn’t even a physical thing you should care about parting with.”

AS THE COUNTRY HEADS INTO A POTENTIAL RECESSION, ONE NOTED ECONOMIST THINKS THE U.S. CONSUMER NEEDS TO LOOSEN THE PURSE STINGS A LITTLE AND STOP BEING SUCH A SPOILSPORT CHEAP-SKATE.

Luva feels that most U.S. consumers are being overly cautious and risk-averse. “If you see something you like, buy it now before it’s too late. Even if you have to finance it with one of those credit cards from Capital One that they only offer to Welfare Queens with distressed credit. Just charge it. Don’t even think about it.”

Optimists like Luva think the media does a disservice to citizens by playing up the doom and gloom of tough economic times. “I’ll say it again,” shouted a vitriolic Luva. “Most of us haven’t handled cold hard cash from a bank teller in five years.

So why is the U.S. consumer being so protective of their “nest egg?” Your nest egg is a series of ones and zeros on Bank of America’s mainframe. If you clean out those ones and zeros, you can virtually replace them with more ones and zeros some other day. Trust me.

If citizens have maxed out their credit cards, Luva recommends putting the health and welfare of loved ones at risk. “Does your daughter really need braces? Do you really need that prostate exam, or would you rather a 10-day all-inclusive golf vacation to the verdant Scottish highlands? Would you rather put 10 grand in a non-descript ‘emergency fund’ or in a totally redesigned kitchen that will make you feel like the cranky, rich jerk you’ve always wanted to be? It’s all about choices people.”

Read more of NICK MOCKIAVELLI’S political satire at Mockiavelli.com. He can be reached at info@mockiavelli.com

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Meredith Pro Tem

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

Play time's over

GAME OVER.

That's been the most frequently used phrase around the house lately, much to my husband's dismay. We're planning the expansion of our family, and over the past few months, I've been quietly speculating about how I envision our life evolving.

Of course, Rick is deeply moved at the spiritual and emotional significance of bringing a new life into the world together. Plus he's terrifically bright and understands that with a newborn comes many, many sleepless nights (although he keeps talking about how much a baby will need and depend upon me in its first several months of life — as if feeding it is the only responsibility involved — and therefore he'll somehow be able to fly under the chore radar).

What he apparently isn't prepared for, however, is how his sports viewing schedule will be affected. It first occurred to him after the LSU Tigers were victorious in the national championship game in January.

"How thrilling that they won," I said, "since it was effectively your last season."

"What are you talking about?" he asked.

"Honey, once we have a baby, do you really think you'll be spending Saturday afternoons watching college football?"

"But I can just hold the baby during games and we can watch together. Or maybe the games will be during its nap time," he reasoned.

"I figured Saturday afternoons would be set aside for family time. Preferably outside the house. Besides, I wouldn't want a baby watching football games or, really, any TV. The only programs I think it should watch are Disney movies like 'Mary Poppins' and 'Peter Pan,' and even then not until it's much older."

The color drained from his face.

It's not as if I'm trying to tease or scare him. It's just that we need to brace ourselves for how many sacrifices we'll be making. Like what our parents did for us.

I can't say with 100 percent certainty, but I'm almost positive that my dad's first choice of what to do on Saturday mornings wasn't waking me up against my cranky, sleepy will to drive me to the allergist and then sit around in the waiting room surrounded by other people's sneezing and wheezing kids for up to an hour until it was my turn to get my shots.

And I know my mom had better ways to spend her weekday afternoons than schlepping to hither and yonder to watch me play

badly in tennis matches, or waiting around to take me home from play practice and then make me dinner.

In preparation for the blessed event, Rick has been watching every game as if it'll be his last. Ever.

He's even watching sports and following teams he's never cared about before, presumably so he can cherish the memories when he's changing a dirty diaper or running to the store for formula instead of analyzing a crucial fourth quarter or bottom of the ninth play.

I'll be affected when we have a baby, too, naturally. I'm a bit envious of people who reproduce in their early 20s, because they never really had much time in life to enjoy relaxing so it's hard for them to miss it. I, on the other hand, have had years to take pleasure in sleeping late, reading quietly in bed and escaping to dinner or drinks with friends with little to no notice and planning. As much as I'm looking forward to having a baby, that leisure time will still be sorely missed.

But what I'm really concerned about is not so much the loss of freedom, but being fully responsible for another living being. Like the family who left their 23-month-old son in the Vancouver airport last week and were utterly surprised when they were alerted in the air that he wasn't with them and had been found by a security guard near the departure gate.

It seems wholly inconceivable that a parent could do that.

But it's kept me up with worry for the past few nights anyway. That and would social services haul me off if I took a baby to see the "Sex and the City" movie when it opens later this month? You know, theoretically speaking.

The most important thing, though, is that we have a healthy and happy child. I'm sure we'll figure out the rest and never look back.

Besides, our parents raised us and survived. Although my dad will argue that, first of all, he's not done raising me, and second, he's still recovering from the trauma.

And, now that I think about it, it might have been just a few years ago that he was finally able to start watching Penn State football games on Saturday afternoons again. Hopefully he won't mention that the next time he talks to Rick.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithcarroll@hotmail.com.

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The Q-Line

Where to eat?

There are oodles of quality dining options in Santa Monica. Whether it's hamburgers or haute cuisine, this city by the sea seems to have it all.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Where is your favorite place to eat in Santa Monica and why?

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



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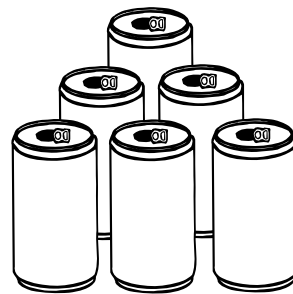
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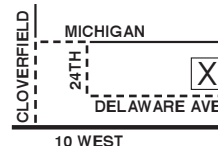


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Boeing to lay off 750 SoCal workers after losing gov't contract

BY JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The Boeing Co. will lay off 750 Southern California employees after losing a lucrative military satellite contract and seeing a dip in demand for the technology, the company said Wednesday.

The cuts involving engineers at plants in El Segundo and Seal Beach will take the staff of Boeing Space and Intelligence Systems, the company's satellite division, from 7,200 employees to about 6,450.

"The stretching out of government contract awards, along with a continuing lighter demand in the commercial marketplace for large, high-powered satellites, has created a surplus in the work force," satellite division chief Craig Cooning said.

The Pentagon announced last week that it selected Lockheed Martin Corp. over Boeing for an Air Force contract worth up to \$3.57 billion to build as many as 12 next-generation global positioning satellites.

The deal was the first of three awards intended to supply a total of 32 satellites for the Pentagon's new GPS III system. Manufacturing the first satellites puts Lockheed in a strong position to win the two follow-on contracts, analysts said.

Major satellite competitions involving Boeing for Air Force, NASA and other government satellite contracts have also been delayed with no winner announced, Boeing spokesman Lewis Brinson said.

The cuts mark the latest blow to Boeing's Southern California operations.

In 2006, the Chicago-based aerospace firm began shutting down production of C-17 military cargo planes at its Long Beach plant. It was the last major airplane

THE STRETCHING OUT OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACT AWARDS, ALONG WITH A CONTINUING LIGHTER DEMAND IN THE COMMERCIAL MARKETPLACE FOR LARGE, HIGH-POWERED SATELLITES, HAS CREATED A SURPLUS IN THE WORK FORCE."

Craig Cooning
Boeing satellite division chief

factory left in Southern California, which once dominated the nation's aerospace industry.

Boeing said the first 100 satellite employees will be laid off in July. The remaining 650 workers will be released in July and August.

The company said it will help the employees find jobs at other Boeing locations.

Some of the regional industry's recent setbacks could be offset by increased business from the KC-45 tanker contract recently awarded to Northrop Grumman Corp., which the company says will create some 7,500 new aerospace jobs in California.

Senate panel overturns EPA's denial of Calif. clean air waiver

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON A Senate panel voted narrowly Wednesday to overturn EPA's decision blocking California and more than a dozen other states from limiting greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.

The bill by Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, passed her committee 10 to 9.

One committee Democrat, Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware, broke with his side of the aisle and voted "no." A Republican, John Warner of Virginia, voted "yes," allowing the bill to pass.

In December, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen Johnson turned down California's request for a Clean Air Act waiver that would have allowed the state to require automakers to cut global warming emissions by 30 percent in new cars and light trucks by 2016.

Boxer's bill would deem the waiver approved.

"This bill merely does what the Clean Air Act required to do in the first place,"

Boxer said.

However, Boxer told reporters that she wouldn't push for full Senate consideration of the legislation because President Bush would veto it anyway. Plus the Senate already has a busy schedule, she said, including planned consideration in June of global warming legislation her committee is writing.

Still, "This shows that the environment committee on a bipartisan vote stood up for the California waiver," Boxer said.

Some senators who voted against the bill, including Carper, cited a new federal law raising fuel efficiency standards, arguing that the California waiver could undercut that measure.

"A national standard makes more sense for vehicles, which, unlike smokestacks, do not stay within one state's jurisdiction," Carper said.

If California had gotten the waiver, other states could have adopted the same controls. Thirteen other states stand ready to — Arizona, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington.

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Real Simple Food

Amanda Cushman

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A bad night with Culver City cuisine

I HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN THE dramatic transformation of Culver City from a sleepy suburb to a restaurant destination in the last three years. It seems that the city is really going for it now. Every week there is new construction under way and restaurants are two to a block now.

I recently visited Akasha, which specializes in new American cuisine, offering comfort food with sustainable ingredients. I was impressed by the physical space but underwhelmed by the food.

The bar is great with a long wine list and good service. Elegant and sexy — it's a good place to meet friends or perhaps meet someone new.

We went with a few people and got seated right away. We all had wine, which was very good, and then waited for the bread to arrive. It took a while and was a strange sight when it did come as it was a small loaf, uncut served with a very small ramekin of butter and a butter knife.

No one really knew what to do but eventually we figured out that we were supposed to tear it into serving size pieces. This arrangement was very un-sophisticated and not only messy but awkward, not to mention that there wasn't nearly enough butter. We asked for more, but it never arrived.

The appetizer we chose was a white bean hummus, which was nice, but the serving was miniscule for the over-inflated price of \$8.

When our entrees arrived I was disappointed to see my friend sitting with a plate of just three scallops when she paid a whopping \$28.

I think the idea of three of anything as small as a scallop served as an entrée is laughable, especially when my friend told the waiter she was going to split the dish with her friend. Maybe they could have thrown one more scallop on there if they had a little decency.

My entrée was a pizza and salad and the latter was very good. The pizza though was worse than bad. There was a tough crust, no sauce to speak of, three strands of basil and hardly a hint of cheese.

The price for this small rectangle of chewy dough was \$12. I kept thinking I

TOMATO BASIL PIZZA

Serves 6

Ingredients

1 packet dry yeast

2 tsp. sugar

1 1/2 tsp. salt

1 cup very warm water

3 Tb. olive oil

3 cups all purpose flour

2 Tb. cornmeal

2 cups shredded fontina or mozzarella cheese

2 large ripe tomatoes or 1 cups homemade tomato sauce

1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, torn

Procedure

1. Heat the oven to 450.

2. Combine the yeast, sugar and 1 tsp. salt in a medium bowl. Stir in the water and olive oil. Let the yeast activate and become bubbly, about 10 minutes. Stir in the flour to make a sticky dough.

3. Turn onto a lightly floured surface. Knead 10 minutes. Cover with plastic wrap and set in a warm place for 30 minutes to rise.

4. Sprinkle pizza pan with cornmeal. Stretch dough to fit the pan leaving a 1/2-inch rim at the edge. Sprinkle with the 1/2 the cheese. Layer the tomatoes and basil over the cheese. Finish with the rest of the cheese.

5. Bake for 15 minutes until the pizza is golden and bubbly.

*Other toppings can be sliced pepperoni, cooked sausage, sautéed mushrooms and pitted chopped Kalamata olives.

could have gotten a whole pizza for four for that price at the local place in my neighborhood. Who were they kidding.

We were not satisfied and needed more food so we ordered dessert which was an assortment of cookies (3) and an apple tart. The cookies were okay although over-priced at \$8 and the tart was passable.

So my impression of the place is this; they have a beautiful place to have a glass of wine at the bar and skip the rest.

The place is quite large so the rent must be high which explains the prices for the inadequate portions and medium level food. There is a claim on the menu that the food is all organic and they use local produce. I am all for that but please give me some flavor and make sure your clients are satisfied.

That said I make a simple and delicious pizza at home that would be put Akasha to shame. Try it for yourself.

AMANDA CUSHMAN is a culinary educator who has cooked professionally for 25 years. She teaches privately for groups of two to 20 students. She has developed hundreds of recipes for cookbooks as well as food magazines and Web sites. She can be reached amandascooking@gmail.com

Prices for most barbecue favorites rise

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

The following is a list of prices for barbecue fixings, this year compared with last year:

Cookout Favorites: 2008 - 2007 Percent Change

1 lb. beef \$3.52 - \$3.48 1.1 percent
Package of 8 hot dogs \$4.29 - \$4.02 6.7 percent

8 burger buns \$1.61 - \$1.381 6.7 percent
8 hot dog buns \$1.89 - \$1.65 14.5 percent
1 lb. American cheese \$3.88 - \$3.73 4 percent

1 lb. Tomatoes \$1.77 - \$1.63 8.6 percent
1 lb. Lettuce 99 cents - 90 cents 9.1 percent

16-ounce bag of chips \$3.89 - \$3.48 11.8 percent

6-pack of beer \$6.74 - \$6.66 1.2 percent
2-liter bottle of soda \$1.33 - \$1.20 10.8 percent

16.4-ounce propane gas cartridge \$2.69 - \$2.49 8 percent

Lighter fluid \$3.66 - \$3.54 3.4 percent
Charcoal \$7.89 - \$7.78 1.4 percent
Ketchup \$2.69 - \$2.49 8 percent
Mustard \$1.45 - \$1.42 2.1 percent
Mayonaise \$3.71 - \$3.28 13.1 percent
Salad dressing \$3.49 - \$3.29 6 percent
Jar of pickles \$2.99 - \$2.85 4.9 percent
Paper plates \$1.82 - \$1.60 13.8 percent
Napkins 82 cents - 79 cents 3.8 percent

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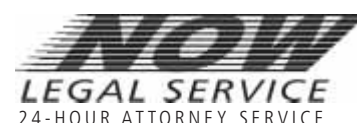
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California waters are becoming cleaner, safer

FROM DIRTY WATER PAGE 3

The testing program is one that Heal the Bay is calling on other counties and cities to adopt uniform monitoring procedures.

"Everyone should sample in front of point zero because (children) swim in front of point zero on the beach," Gold said.

A team of experts tested beaches for bacteria between April 2007 and March of this year, locations receiving both wet and dry weather grades. A failing grade means that swimmers are more susceptible to illnesses like ear infections, the stomach flu and skin rash.

The discrepancy in water quality can also be seen in comparing weather conditions at the same location, approximately 26 percent of beaches receiving a failing grade in wet weather. Approximately 93 percent of beaches in the state received an A or B during the high-traffic summer season.

"You can see a dramatic difference in the quality during dry weather," Gold said.

Among the most affected by pollution are surfers like Michael Blum, a member of the Malibu Surfing Association.

"We are the people in the water regularly ... we are the people who get sick, we are the people that feel the fallout from pollution in the beaches," he said.

Mark Abramson, the director of watershed programs for the Santa Monica Baykeeper, said that nearly three decades after the passage of the Clean Water Act, he found it ridiculous that there are still water quality violations being committed by the county.

The organization is currently involved in a lawsuit against both the county and the city of Malibu.

"California residents have repeatedly said they wanted clean water," Abramson said. "They voted on several occasions for clean water but the people in charge of protecting those constituents are dragging their feet beyond belief and it's just not acceptable."

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Melody Hanatani melodyh@smdp.com

GRADES ARE IN: Mark Gold, president of Santa Monica's Heal the Bay, tells reporters on Wednesday that Santa Monica Bay is home to some of the dirtiest beaches in the state.

Victims relieved they didn't have to testify

FROM SETTLEMENT PAGE 1

is a tragedy in your family, there is no real sense of satisfaction, just relief that this chapter is over and they didn't have to testify in court," Wells said.

Among the plaintiffs was Janet Nabatian, who along with her family members will share \$5 million of the settlement. Nabatian's 63-year-old mother and 7-month-old son were struck and killed by Weller's car moments after Nabatian walked away from them to get better cell phone reception. The family of Esther Hoffman agreed to settle for \$1 million. Her husband, Movsha Hoffman, also died when hit by Weller's car.

A third plaintiff, Parvaneh Davood, was hit by Weller and was dragged underneath his vehicle, acting as a "human brake," said her attorney, Geraldine Weiss.

"Our clients now want to take time to heal from this tragic, tragic incident," Weiss said.

Southland Farmers' Market Association, which represents farmers and promotes markets across California, was named as a defendant in the civil case but was later removed by a Santa Monica judge. Step Up on Second, a mental health provider whose clients helped set up the Wednesday market on Arizona, were also named and settled with the victims in October 2006 for \$5 million.

Weller's auto insurance policy provided \$500,000 for the victims and their families, Wells said.

Deputy City Attorney Jeanette Schactner said the settlement was in the best interest of Santa Monica, even though City Hall believes it is not liable.

"Considering the unique circumstances of this case, including the horrific loss and injuries, this is a good result for all concerned," Schactner said. "The city believes that it has no liability. But, in a case this big, trial results are difficult to predict. The settlement eliminates the risks and difficulties of the trial and allows the victims, their families, and the city to put this tragedy

behind them and move forward."

Weller, now 91, was found guilty in October 2006 of 10 counts of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence and sentenced to five years probation. During the four-week trial, Weller, a Santa Monica resident, appeared in court only once and did not testify on his behalf.

Prosecutors argued Weller acted recklessly and failed to use all means at his disposal to direct his sedan away from the market, instead sending it on a deadly collision course.

Defense attorneys claim Weller suffered from "pedal error," and mistakenly drove into the market, the impact of collisions causing his air bag to deploy, preventing him from gaining control of his car. Weller's attorneys are appealing his conviction.

While the victims and their families are relieved by the settlement, they contend much work still needs to be done to prevent similar tragedies elsewhere. Wells said his clients hope that something positive can come out of the crash, that being increased awareness about the need to protect public safety.

"With the growth of popularity of open-air markets and outdoor dining across America, it is important that our communities take note of the Santa Monica farmers' market tragedy and take steps to protect the public's safety," Wells said.

Wells said sawhorses were the only barriers in place to block off the street on the day of the tragedy. The market operators now use vehicles instead, but that type of blockade creates the danger of the fuel exploding if they are struck, Wells said.

The attorney said the city has a number of better options, including using portable concrete barriers similar to what are used as dividers on roadways.

Weiss agreed.

"It's time for cities to recognize when the public is gathering en masse they need protection," Weiss said. "Don't let this happen again. Cities wake up."

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Talarico's term was short lived

FROM TALARICO PAGE 1

she served as the superintendent for five years. She held several positions in the San Francisco Unified School district for nearly two decades before moving to Canton, including associate superintendent and a teacher of special education.

The name of the school district to which Talarico is headed has not been released, but sources say it is a small K-8 district with roughly 2,400 students located south of San Francisco. Talarico's appointment would still need to be approved by the district's governance board.

School board member Kathy Wisnicki, who traveled to Canton in 2006 to recruit Talarico, said the superintendent had mentioned several times that she would be seeking a position in the Bay Area.

"She did not surprise us by it," Wisnicki said. "We discussed it as a board and governance team and respect and understand her decision."

It was about six months into Talarico's term when then-Chief Financial Officer Winston Braham resigned, fueling speculation that he had a fallout with the superintendent regarding the impending approval of a 5 percent pay raise for the district's teachers. The former financial leader of the district was restricted from speaking publicly about the circumstances surrounding his departure for months because of a confidentiality agreement in his exit contract, which drew criticism by the school community.

Braham finally spoke out during a City Council meeting last summer after his confidentiality clause was lifted. The meeting revealed little about why Braham eventually left.

But it was in that same meeting when the council decided to withhold roughly half a million dollars in city funding to the school district, concerned about confidentiality clauses within special education settlement agreements, a controversial practice in the school district preceding Talarico's arrival. The council ordered an independent audit of the special education program and demanded a moratorium on the so-called "secret deals."

The report, which was released last month, found that while confidentiality clauses and settlement agreements were legal, there was concern in its utilization in Santa Monica-Malibu, which has seen more than 140 in the past three years. Talarico has since made a number of recommendations on how to change the culture within the special education department.

Tricia Crane, one of the most outspoken critics of the settlement agreements, said that Talarico's possible departure comes with a promise of change and leadership at the top.

"The school district can now go about finding a superintendent who is smart and strong and who is attracted to the opportunity to build his or her own cabinet, allowing for the sort of clean sweep that is needed to bring about the culture of change called for in the recent special education audit," Crane said.

City officials said that the neither Talarico nor Walker's departures would affect the outcome of the money, which would be dependent on changes being made in the department's policy, not in personnel.

"It is related to creating transparency and ending confidentiality clause practices in employment settlements and in agreements between the district and parents of special education students," City Manager Lamont Ewell said.

Mayor Herb Katz, among the councilmem-

bers who called for a moratorium on the confidentiality clauses, said that while he respected Talarico on a personal level, he felt that she might have been overwhelmed by the position.

"From what I saw at the council level, I don't think she was forceful enough," he said. "We need a very strong superintendent that really needs to guide her board."

Several parents agree, including Malibu resident Laura Rosenthal, who is heading an effort to examine a possible secession from the school district.

"I don't think it was ever a great fit for our district," she said. "I think that our district would do well under different leadership an I wish her all the luck in the world."

INHERITING PROBLEMS

The most recent crisis to hit the district was the arrest of Thomas Beltran, an ESL teacher at Lincoln Middle School, on sexual molestation charges, accused of inappropriate conduct with his students. Beltran, a veteran of the district for nearly 30 years, was investigated for a similar allegation in 2006, which was never reported to the district administration.

Following Beltran's arrest earlier this month, the district has been criticized for its policy on sexual molestation reporting, which states that school site administrators must notify either the police or the Los Angeles County Department of Child and Family Services. The line of communication does not extend to the district administration, according to the current policy, which is in the process of being updated.

Many board members said they feel that Talarico inherited the bulk of the problems the district faced this year, pointing out that the settlement agreements had been taking place for years.

"Dianne has responded to crisis after crisis and we are fortunate that she was able to do the right thing under very trying circumstances," Oscar de la Torre, the school board president, said. "She helped us through some hard issues and our district is in a better place right now because of her leadership."

School officials similarly praised Talarico for her leadership during the past two years, putting together the initial steps in improving the special education department and updating policies related to sexual molestation allegations. They also pointed out that Talarico retained the services of a Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, which found that the district could support a 5 percent teacher pay raise.

"It seems as though the last two years have been one major challenge after another and when you're the leader of the district, those challenges eventually wind up on your desk," Harry Keiley, the president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association, said. "I think any reasonable person realizes the last two years presented Dianne and the district with many challenges and over time that starts to become exhausting."

If and when Talarico announces her resignation, the board will need to name an interim superintendent and launch a search for a permanent replacement. De la Torre said that an interim will not be within the organization, pointing to the "power struggle" when Deasy resigned in 2006.

"We learned from the last time that power struggle can become problematic ... and we want to void that this time around," he said.

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EPA's Johnson defends actions

BY H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON The head of the Environmental Protection Agency came under sharp attack at a House hearing Tuesday, with Democratic lawmakers accusing him of repeatedly caving in to White House pressure on environmental issues such as global warming and a recently enacted health standard for smog.

EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson rejected the characterization and said that while he frequently discusses EPA matters with the White House, the decisions are his.

But Johnson, appearing before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee for nearly three hours, repeatedly refused to discuss conversations he had with the White House, nor provide a number of documents that have been subpoenaed by the committee concerning the smog standard and his refusal to allow California to proceed with rules to cut greenhouse gases.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., the committee chairman, said depositions provided by senior EPA staff members suggest that Johnson had been overruled or heavily influenced by the White House on recent EPA decisions on the smog standard, its rejection of a waiver for California on global warming regulations, and the EPA ongoing deliberations on whether to regulate carbon dioxide.

"You have essentially become a figure-head," Waxman told Johnson. "... In each case, you backed down."

He said in each of the EPA cases "the pattern is the same. The president apparently insisted in his judgment and overrode the unanimous recommendations of EPA scientific and legal experts," said Waxman. "You reversed yourself after having candid conversations with the White House."

Johnson, a 27-year career EPA scientist himself before being elevated to head the agency, repeatedly insisted that he was the final decision maker on the issues cited by Waxman, although acknowledging frequent discussions with the White House on those and other matters.

But Waxman's committee can only guess on the details of those conversations and communications.

Johnson declined repeated requests by Democrats on the panel to provide any details about conversations he had with the White House, refusing at one point to even acknowledge whether he did or did not discuss the smog, California waiver or carbon dioxide rulemaking with the president.

"I don't think it's appropriate for me to discuss the conversations," said Johnson.

Johnson acknowledged in at least one case he had been overruled directly by the president.

He had sided with the EPA staff and the agency's science advisory board that preferred a "seasonal" standard to determine smog air minimums as they apply to protect vegetation, forests, farmland and wildlife, suggesting such an approach was better than using the one designed for protecting human health.



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CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #2953: PROVIDE CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY AS REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT, CUSTODIAL SERVICES DIVISION.

☐ A mandatory job walk will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 8:30AM (PDT). Bidders are to meet Joe Mc Grath & Armando Plata outside (near the fountains) of the Public Safety Facility (333 Olympic Dr., Santa Monica, CA). Refer to the bid packet for parking availability and options.

☐ Submission Deadline is July 11, 2008 at 3:00 PM PDT.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Kimberlie Nimori at the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-2211, or by e-mailing your request to kimberlie.nimori@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at <http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/>

NATIONAL BRIEFS

TAMPA, Fla. Clinton fighting for Florida, Michigan

Barack Obama criticized his likely general election rival John McCain on Wednesday where it could hurt most – the Arizona senator's reputation as a champion of ethics. Hillary Rodham Clinton, meanwhile, raised the possibility she might carry her fight to the Democratic convention floor.

With more superdelegate endorsements Wednesday after Kentucky and Oregon primaries the night before, Obama is just 64 delegates short of the 2,026 needed to clinch the nomination.

The Illinois senator confidently detoured Wednesday from the three remaining Democratic primary states – Puerto Rico, Montana, South Dakota – to campaign in Florida, a crucial state in the November general election. He also kept his focus on McCain, the Republicans' certain nominee in the fall.

Obama said the Arizona senator has lost faith with his own good government principles. Ten years ago, Obama said, McCain proposed barring registered lobbyists from working for candidates' campaigns.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON Boston contemplates life without Kennedy

After the Boston Red Sox's 86-year span without a World Series championship, perhaps the most familiar streak in Massachusetts is the half-century that a Kennedy has represented the state in the U.S. Senate.

Now, the news that Sen. Edward M. Kennedy has a cancerous brain tumor is forcing people to contemplate the day when he will no longer be there.

"It's almost incalculable," said Thaleia Schlesinger, whose brother, former Sen. Paul Tsongas, toiled in Kennedy's oversize shadow before resigning in 1984 to cope with cancer that eventually killed him in 1997. "He's the go-to guy over and over again. You just look at the universities, the hospitals, the high-tech industry, education, never mind health care. He's always been there."

Immigrants lining up at the John F. Kennedy Federal Building, tourists strolling on the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway and ordinary folks who received handwritten thank-you notes from the senator or a surprise distinguished visitor at a family wake pondered a future without Ted Kennedy.

"Forty-six years is a long time to be a senator. That's got to count for something when it comes to delivering for the state," said Ron Mills, who runs the shoeshine stand next to 122 Bowdoin St., the Beacon Hill address John F. Kennedy claimed when he served in the House and Senate and was elected president in 1960.

AP

Dealing with change inside the workplace

BY DANIEL SORID
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK Erika Muller still remembers the Roloids and the sleepless nights during a corporate shake-up eight years ago. Just a week after she started a job with a consulting firm in Connecticut, the chief executive shocked the staff with an announcement that the company was being acquired.

"It was obviously very traumatic," she recalls. "When a majority of your work force is on the road and rumors start flying nobody knows what's going on. They just told us everything's fine, everything's fine."

The reassurance failed to soothe colleagues. Instead, uncertainty triggered emotional meltdowns. A friend from human resources who knew she would be laid off broke down awaiting her day of reckoning.

"She was a nervous wreck to the point where she was getting ill and she was taking days off," Muller said. Another colleague, overwhelmed by the anticipation of big changes, went into a funk and began to slack off, prompting a dismissal threat from the bosses.

The trauma of a big organizational change can cause emotional scars for employees, and leave employers grappling with resignations, increased sick-days, and worker malaise.

Researchers say executives often fail to consider the emotional responses of employees when formulating and announcing major changes. Those emotional responses can determine whether an employee resists the changes, merely complies with them, or is engaged and excited.

"For many people, changes don't need to be stressful, but the way they're handled by their companies cause them undue stress," says Mel Fugate, a professor with the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University.

EMOTION AND REASON

Managers might expect that when change arrives, employees will assess the situation rationally. Those at the bottom might start polishing up resumes, for example, while top-performers or members of unaffected departments might ignore or even be excited by the changes.

But emotions, researchers have found, get mixed up in decision-making and lead to unintended and negative outcomes.

A worker in an unaffected department, for instance,

SHE WAS A NERVOUS WRECK TO THE POINT WHERE SHE WAS GETTING ILL AND SHE WAS TAKING DAYS OFF."

Erika Muller
Chief executive

might feel helpless or anxious about the fate of friends in other parts of the company, triggering a response known to psychologists as escape-coping. To managers, it's known as calling in sick, quitting or considering other jobs.

WHAT MANAGERS CAN DO

Even a brilliant new corporate strategy or a perfectly conceived merger can leave workers stressed and unmotivated. Change can make workers feel threatened by the potential for job loss or changes, or believe chances to advance are threatened. These feelings can be reduced when a company communicates a change clearly, referencing how employee roles will change and identifying a clear vision for the new organization. Secondly, the researchers concluded that managers who act as role models will reduce escapist behavior by employees. Managers, they say, might model other ways of coping by, for instance, proactively discussing their own concerns and past experiences.

WHAT WORKERS CAN DO

Employees can help themselves by identifying their own complex emotions during a shake-up. "It's good to be self-aware," Fugate said. And when managers do a poor job communicating, employees should seek out the boss on their own — a technique Muller says she regrets not doing.

"I wish that I had had the nerve to arrange a private meeting with my boss to just sit down and say can I ask questions," she said. "One of the things that companies do is they have these public meetings and they ask for questions. Well, no one really want to raise their hand in that kind of situation. No one wants to be the one who brings that up."

NATIONAL BRIEFS

FORT WORTH

American makes moves to cut costs

Texas American Airlines will start charging \$15 for the first checked bag, cut domestic flights and lay off possibly thousands of workers as it grapples with record-high fuel prices.

American plans to cut domestic flight capacity by 11 percent to 12 percent in the fourth quarter, after the peak summer season is over. That's more than double American's previous plans to cut flying by 4.6 percent in late 2008.

In a further sign of the problems facing the industry, Southwest Airlines Co., the most consistently profitable U.S. carrier, won't earn as much the rest of this year as it did in the same period of 2007, Chief Executive Gary Kelly said.

American, the nation's largest carrier, said Wednesday the fee for the first checked bag starts June 15 and that it would raise other fees for services ranging from reservation help to oversized bags. The other fees will mostly range from \$5 to \$50 per service, the airline said.

Last month American announced it would join other carriers in charging \$25 for second bags checked for some passengers, but it wasn't immediately clear how Wednesday's announcement would affect that.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS

Leaky levee raises questions about New Orleans repair job

Despite more than \$22 million in repairs, a levee that broke with catastrophic effect during Hurricane Katrina is leaking again because of the mushy ground on which New Orleans was built, raising serious questions about the reliability of the city's flood defenses.

Outside engineering experts who have studied the project told The Associated Press that the type of seepage spotted at the 17th Street Canal in the Lakeview neighborhood afflicts other New Orleans levees, too, and could cause some of them to collapse during a storm.

The Army Corps of Engineers has spent about \$4 billion so far of the \$14 billion set aside by Congress to repair and upgrade the metropolitan area's hundreds of miles of levees by 2011. Some outside experts said the leak could mean that billions more will be needed and that some of the work already completed may need to be redone.

"It is all based on a 30-year-old defunct model of thinking, and it means that when they wake up to this one — really — our cost is going to increase significantly," said Bob Bea, a civil engineer at the University of California at Berkeley.

The Army Corps of Engineers disputed the experts' dire assessment. The agency said it is taking the risk of seepage into account and rebuilding the levees with an adequate margin of safety.



ODDS OF A CHILD BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE: 1 in 16,000

ODDS OF A CHILD BEING DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM: 1 in 166

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Metro Briefs

WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

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Get Involved In Metro Service June 11

Help make a difference in the transit service in your community. Attend the Metro Westside/Central Governance Council meeting Wednesday, June 11 at 5pm at La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills. For information, search "Metro Westside/Central" at metro.net.



If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1.800.464.2111, or visit metro.net.

PHOTO BY JEFF COHEN FOR LACMA



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SURF REPORT



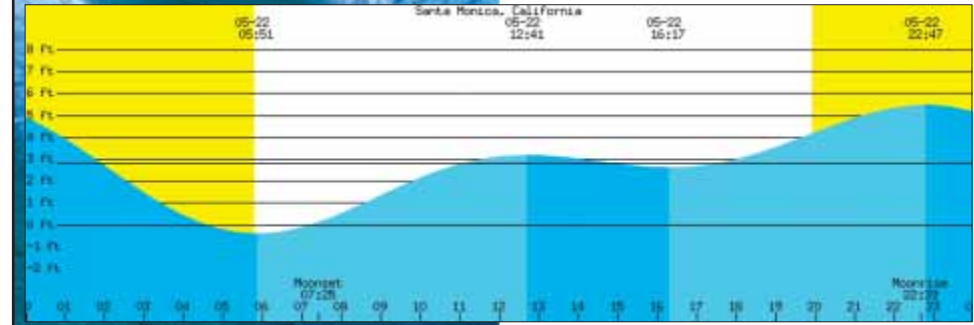
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 62°

SWELL FORECAST (8-13 FT)
The SSE swell will be on the way out, but should still bring chest to at times head high waves to south facing breaks. The NW wind swell could increase enough to bring sets running 2-3 feet overhead to breaks able to work a 310 angle; some standout west facing spots could see some waves running DOH. Winds will likely pick up early, and conditions should -- at the very least -- be lumped up, and likely blown out early. Tide goes negative around dawn.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
TRACKING SSE SWELL BEING FOR 30TH...

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 Day 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 (Chouettegap)	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	D	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	D	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante 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	Venice City Beach, at the Reno Ave. storm drain	A	ns
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	D	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards north	A+	ns
Surfside Beach (beach location) - daily	D	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsoil 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

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

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NCAA BASKETBALL

NCAA prez has ‘new information’ on USC’s Mayo

BY CHRIS DUNCAN
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON Saying the NCAA has “new information,” president Myles Brand promised to investigate former Southern California basketball star O.J. Mayo, who allegedly received thousands of dollars in gifts from money given to an event promoter by a sports agency.

On Sunday, ESPN reported that Bill Duffy Associates provided Rodney Guillory with about \$200,000 before Mayo arrived at USC. Louis Johnson, a former associate of Mayo’s, told “Outside the Lines” that Mayo received about \$30,000 and other benefits from Guillory while in high school and during his one season at USC.

Mayo declared for the NBA draft after the season and hired BDA Sports’ Calvin Andrews as his agent.

Brand, speaking Tuesday in Houston to kick off this week’s Division II National Championships Festival, said that “our enforcement division has new information” about Mayo’s case “and as a matter of fact, when we have new information on any case, we will investigate.”

He would not comment further on the specifics of Mayo’s case.

Duffy denied any illegal activity involving Mayo on Monday, but USC acknowledged that the school is working with the NCAA and the Pac-10 “in a cooperative investigation to review these new allegations.”

NCAA rules prohibit giving college athletes money or other gifts. Brand said the schools have more of a direct obligation than the NCAA to shield their athletes from sports agents, boosters and other outsiders.

“We are not the cops on the corner,” Brand said. “The schools themselves have the responsibility to follow the rules and that

means, and includes, separating agents from interfering with student-athletes.”

At the Final Four last month, Brand and NBA commissioner David Stern announced a cooperative effort to improve areas of youth basketball. Brand said Tuesday that one of the main initiatives of the partnership will focus on “revising recruiting and other activities.”

“Pre-collegiate basketball is something we definitely need to address,” he said. “We’re really focused on changing that environment. Yes, I am concerned about it.”

Brand said he has no say on whether the NBA will raise its age limit when the current collective bargaining agreement expires in 2011. Currently, the league’s minimum age is 19. Mayo turned 20 in November and joined the growing number of players who play one season in college and bolt for the pros. Memphis star Derrick Rose and Kansas State’s Michael Beasley also declared for the draft after their freshman seasons.

Brand would like to see the NBA require players to stay in school for “two, three or four years,” but says he’s powerless to sway any decision.

“The NCAA has no ability to influence, in any way, the age rule,” he said. “So any age limitation rules, the 19-year-olds who are so-called ‘one and done,’ are the result of bargaining negotiation between the NBA and the players’ association. The NCAA was not involved in any way in that bargaining in setting up the rule. Only the NBA management and the players association set those rules.”

Brand said he won’t be afraid to sanction USC or any other high-profile school caught in violation of NCAA rules. He admitted that punishing the schools sometimes is not enough to deter agents and other outsiders from influencing players with cash, gifts or other benefits.

NFL

Ties between Dolphins, Taylor all but severed

BY STEVEN WINE
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI — The feud between Jason Taylor and Bill Parcells intensified Wednesday, making it likely the six-time Pro Bowl defensive end has played his last game for the Miami Dolphins.

Coach Tony Sparano said Taylor isn’t expected to take part in any team activities through training camp. The revelation came less than 24 hours after Taylor finished second to Kristi Yamaguchi in the finals of “Dancing With the Stars” in Los Angeles.

For weeks the new Dolphins regime, led by Parcells, has fumed while Taylor spent his offseason focused on his budding Hollywood career rather than back in South Florida working out with teammates.

Following a voluntary team practice Wednesday — with only Taylor missing — Sparano signaled the Dolphins are ready to move on without their top defender.

“I’m glad we know this. We’ve gotten the information, and that’s important,” Sparano said. “I know that Jason is not going to be in any minicamps, and I know that right now Jason is not going to be at training camp.

“So that’s what we know. Jason’s a player under contract with the Miami Dolphins. He knows that. Both parties are well aware of the information. That’s all I’m going to say about it. ... We need to discuss the current players on our team right now that have been busting their butt for nine weeks here.”

While Sparano implied that Taylor initiated the latest development in the soap opera, the coach declined to be more specific.

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Heaven's Gate (1980) 3 hrs 39 min
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
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Promenade

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull 2 hrs (PG-13)
10 a.m., 11:30, 1 p.m., 2:25, 4, 5:25, 7, 8:25, 10
The Fall (R) 1hr 57min
2, 7:20
Harold and Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay
1 hr 42 min (R)
11:15 a.m., 4:45 p.m., 10:15
Baby Mama 1 hr 36 min (PG-13)
10:15 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 3:10, 5:40, 8, 10:30

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG-13) 2 hrs.
10:45am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3:15pm, 4:45pm, 6:15pm, 7:45pm, 9:15pm, 10:45pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian
11a.m., 12:05p.m., 2, 3:30, 5, 6:40, 8:10, 9:50
The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian
Digital Presentation (PG) 2 hrs 20 min
1pm, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) 1hr 51min
11:10 a.m., 2:05 p.m., 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Speed Racer (PG) 2hrs 15min
10:55 a.m., 1:55 p.m., 4:55, 7:55, 10:55

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Redbelt (R) 1hr 39min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

Jellyfish (NR) 78 min
12:45 p.m., 5:10, 9:45
The Visitor (ZPG-13) 1hr 48min
1:30, 4:20, 7:25, 10
Smart People (R) 1hr 33min
1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00
Priceless (PG13) 104 min
2:45 p.m., 7:15

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Iron Man (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 6:00, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00, 12:00 a.m.
Made of Honor (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
What Happens in Vegas (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20

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Be where the action is, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You might want to let bygones be bygones. The problem lies in that you must deal with certain people. Accepting responsibility encourages taking the lead and understanding others, as much as you might want to do otherwise! Tonight: Working quite late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Answers come from pulling back and gaining insight. You might not feel comfortable with an important relationship or creative project. Tune in to your emotions, and you'll find another path or way. Break through resistances. Tonight: Stretch beyond the obvious conclusion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You might want to do more listening. Give up judging. Someone is sure that he or she is right-on. Let this person (and you) see the net results. You also might be surprised and delighted by what happens if you pull back. Tonight: As happy as you will allow.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Learn what makes you tick. Discover more about what needs to happen in a situation from an important friend, associate or loved one. Tonight: Sort through your options.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your ability to sort through problems and understand more of what is needed makes a difference. Focus on accomplishment and achievement rather than cause yourself a problem. Tonight: Opt for some fresh air, or another healthy activity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ How events unfurl could have much to do with your attitude, especially within a relationship. You quickly learn how easily you could be misread if you're not careful! Let a romance bud. Allow a creative endeavor to flourish. Tonight:

See the benefits of a hang-loose approach.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your ability to move forward and perhaps try a different approach emerges. Investigate an offer that could change the very nature of your daily life. Be honest with yourself as to whether you are really interested in adapting. Tonight: Happy heading home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ What you perceive could happen and what does happen could be two different stories. Knowing that, proceed with an open mind. You could be both surprised and delighted simultaneously. Tonight: Speak your mind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Stop and look at your assets clearly. Then evaluate them once more. You might offer much more than you realize and do more than your fare share. Tonight: Treat yourself first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You are on a roll and close to unstoppable. Clearly not everyone agrees with you. If you use these minor disputes positively, you could discover an extremely positive outcome. Break patterns. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ How you deal with others could be important. Don't keep putting an individual on the back burner. Would you like to be there? Decide to head in a new direction and remain upbeat. Tonight: Get some extra R and R. You will need it soon enough.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, though yours might not be another's. Also make that OK, and you will be walking the right path to make a difference. Join friends and family. Tonight: You are where the action is.

Happy birthday

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

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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
BRONZE

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

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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

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

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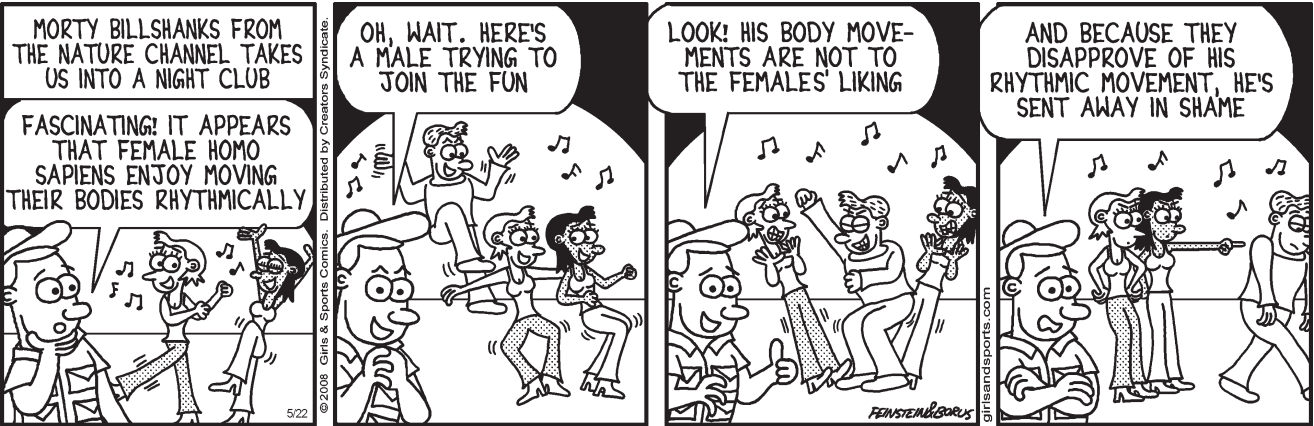
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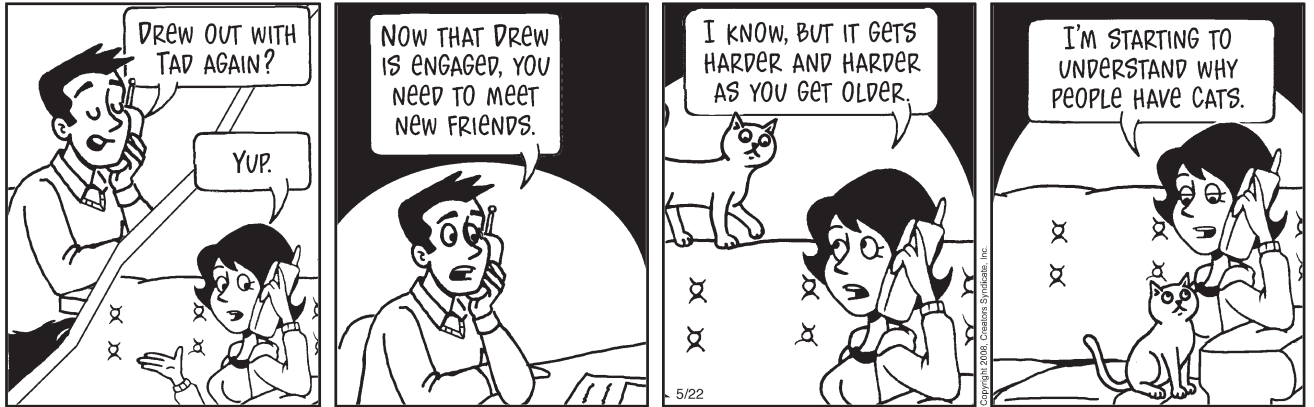
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



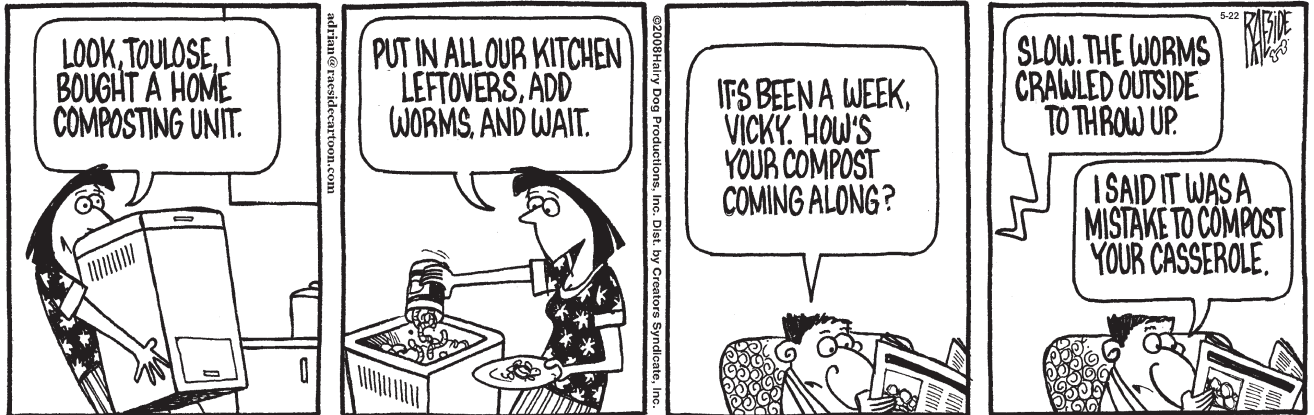
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



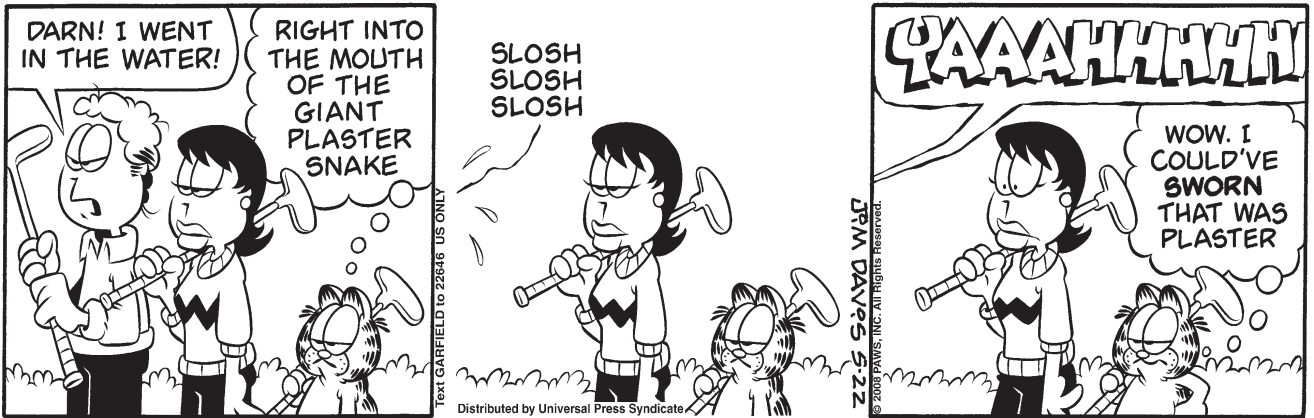
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



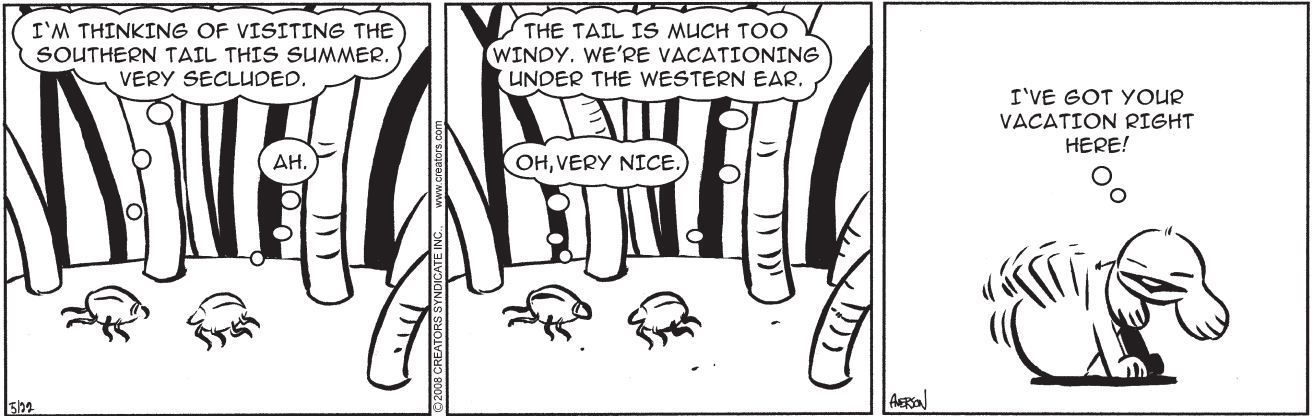
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

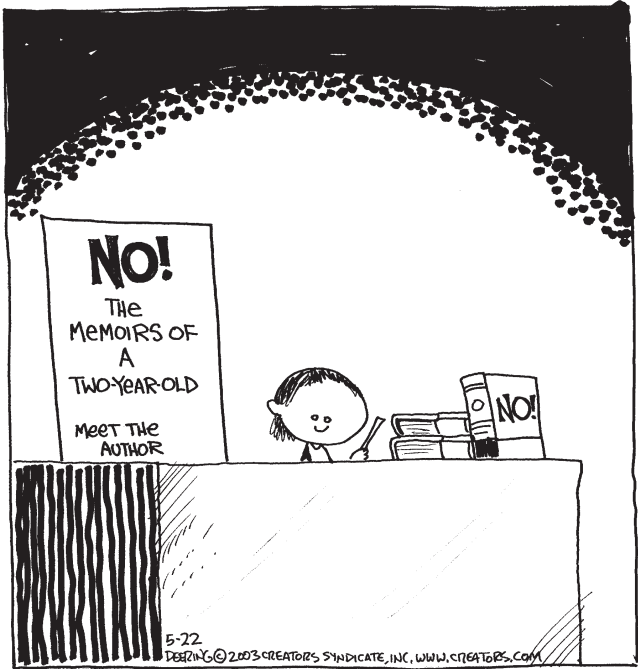


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



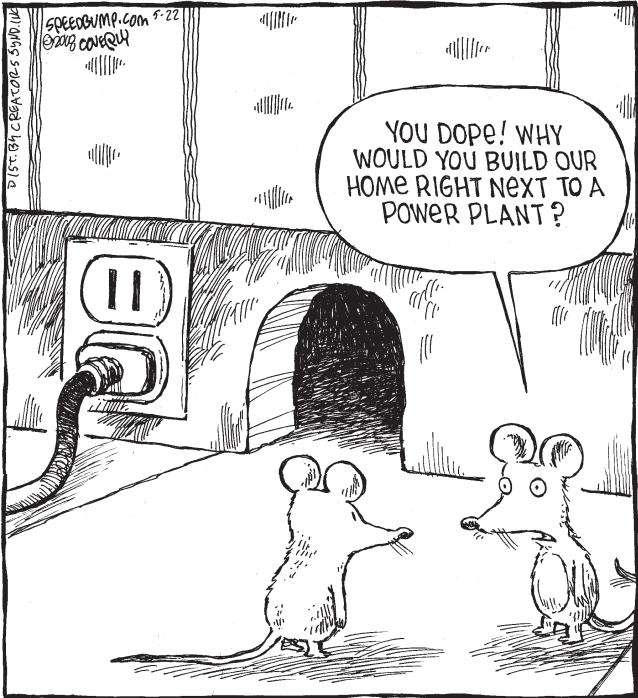
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Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Cracked
- 5 Iron output
- 10 Ticked off
- 11 Towhead
- 12 A party to
- 13 Michael of "Bonanza"
- 14 Subtle distinction
- 16 Noisy do
- 20 Close
- 23 AFL affiliate
- 24 Command-ment verb
- 25 Make better
- 27 — favor
- 28 Prissy ones
- 29 Basement device
- 32 Plump
- 36 Happens
- 39 Huron neighbor
- 40 Hotel area
- 41 Like Lincoln
- 42 Happy colleague
- 43 Sign of freshness

- 2 Singer Mitchell
- 3 "East of Eden" brother
- 4 Magazine order
- 5 Informal language
- 6 In shape
- 7 Goal
- 8 Stir
- 9 Fellows
- 11 Duck hunter's cover
- 15 Pocket stuff
- 17 Like some tea
- 18 Muse count
- 19 Olympus group

- 20 African serpents
- 21 Grand
- 22 Damage
- 25 Base group
- 26 "Sesame Street" group
- 28 Throb
- 30 Barber a bush

- 31 Bess's love
- 33 Vaccine variety
- 34 Country singer
- 35 Pup's plaint
- 36 Ancient
- 37 Dove cry
- 38 Golf goal

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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			

DOWN

- 1 "In your dreams!"

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

Yesterday's answer

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 2 14 26 32 41
Meganumber: 32
Jackpot: \$17M

Super LOTTO 13 24 35 41 46
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: \$31M

Fantasy 5 11 16 17 21 25

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 3 6 6
EVENING: 1 1 7

DAILY DERRY 1st: 10 SOLID GOLD
2nd: 09 WINNING SPIRIT
3rd: 01 GOLD RUSH
RACE TIME: 1:44.69

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

■ Joseph Manzanares, 19, pleaded guilty in April to disorderly conduct in Commerce City, Colo., after police were called to a domestic disturbance, as he and his ex-girlfriend, who are the parents of a toddler, fought over which local street gang's colors (hers or his) the kid would wear.

■ In April, police in East Hampton, Conn., investigating the accidental shooting of ex-Marine Joseph Simonelli, 60, by his 9-year-old son, seized "dozens of unsecured guns and mounds of loose ammunition" from the home, according to the Hartford Courant, which contained a "wide-open, chock-full gun cabinet in the boy's bedroom (with) numerous rifles and knives strewn about the room." According to police, bullet casings and live rounds lay "throughout the house," and the walls of the boy's bedroom bore "numerous small holes (made by a) bb/pellet gun or even small-caliber (.22) rounds being shot inside the home." The boy told police that he "usually" only shoots his rifles when he's outside.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1813 composer Richard Wagner was born in Leipzig, Germany.

1868 a major train robbery took place near Marshfield, Ind., as members of the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in loot.

1907 actor-director Laurence Olivier was born in Dorking, Surrey, England.

1939 the foreign ministers of Germany and Italy, Joachim von Ribbentrop and Galeazzo Ciano, signed a "Pact of Steel" committing the two countries to a military alliance.

1947 the Truman Doctrine was enacted as Congress appropriated military and economic aid for Greece and Turkey.

1969 the lunar module of Apollo 10 flew to within nine miles of the moon's surface in a dress rehearsal for the first lunar landing.

1972 President Nixon began a visit to the Soviet Union, during which he and Kremlin leaders signed the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

1972 the island nation of Ceylon became the republic of Sri Lanka.

WORD UP!

boulevardier \boo-luh-var-DYAY; bul-uh-, *noun*:
1. A frequenter of city boulevards, especially in Paris.
2. A sophisticated, worldly, and socially active man; a man who frequents fashionable places; a man-about-town.

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North of Montana	=	\$ 4,177,846	\$ 1,699,765
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,054,667	\$ 956,759
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 973,121	\$ 731,368
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,474,071	\$ 853,188
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,804,154	\$ 1,378,837

Statistics updated every Wednesday

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