

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE SICK AND MIRED ISSUE



NAUGHTY FISH
SEE PAGE 9

EDUCATION

DAY TO SAVOR

Senior class is 153rd in Samohi history

STORY BY MELODY HANATANI PAGE 12



Developers learn to play nice

Owners of Santa Monica Place, Travelodge decide to support each other's local projects

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Plans to rip the roof off Santa Monica Place and make it into an open-air shopping center received two significant endorsements this week — one from the Planning Commission and the other from a local hotel operator who was poised to oppose the remodel.

Michael Farzam, whose family operates Santa Monica Beach Travelodge and Pacific Sands Motel on Ocean Avenue, was prepared to speak out against the mall project because its owners, Macerich Co., had come out against plans his family has to tear

down their two aging hotels and replace them with a new one.

Officials with Macerich expressed concerns about the planned hotel being too tall at the permitted 45 feet and would, therefore, block one of the few remaining views of the Pacific Ocean, views which Macerich is relying on to help attract shoppers to a third floor dining area featuring upscale restaurants and traditional, cheap eats. At present, the food court is located on the first floor of the mall.

Macerich, which is based in Santa Monica, wrote a letter to city officials in 2005 opposing the Farzam family's plans to increase the total number of units at the two hotels, widely considered to be one of the few moderately priced hotels in Downtown. The Convention and Visitors Bureau has often called for more moderately-priced rooms to cater to tourists on a budget, as well as business travelers.

Following that letter, an attorney for the Farzams went on the offensive, framing the issue as a modern day David and Goliath.

The two parties have since held discussions and finally

came to an agreement on Wednesday, just hours before Macerich was to present its concept plan for Santa Monica Place to the Planning Commission. The two parties have agreed to be supportive of one another and to collaborate on ways to make both projects successful.

"We have decided to be neighborly and support one another in doing what is best for the city and the community," said Farzam, who seemed relieved as he stood outside the City Council Chambers on Wednesday, waiting for his chance to speak before the commission and offer his support for Macerich.

"We are going to work with them in finding ways to reduce heights," Farzam said, mentioning such methods as installing smaller air conditioning equipment and lowering a parapet.

The agreement only makes sense for the two neighboring parties, said Bob Aptaker, vice president of development for Macerich. By having two strong projects, it

SEE AGREEMENT PAGE 12

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Calendar

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Eyes across the pond

Fairmont Miramar Hotel, 7:30 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.

This free business seminar is being offered to California companies interested in expanding their business to Europe. The seminar is hosted by The British Midlands, an economic development group for Central England. For more information, visit www.bridge2growth.com or call (866) 625-5136.

'Dazed and Confused'

Santa Monica Public Library, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

The Main Library continues its weekly, summer-long 'Teen Angst' movie series with "Dazed and Confused." Admission is free and all ages are welcome. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Malibu Pier sportfishing excursions

23000 PCH, daily through July 1

Half-day sportfishing boat excursions will depart from the Malibu Pier seven days a week. The sportfishing boat excursions last approximately 5 1/2 hours. A galley on board will provide food and beverages for purchase. Fishing equipment is available for rent. For more information, call (888) 310-PIER or (310) 456-8031.

INEBRIATEDinc Fridays at SMBG

Santa Monica Bar & Grille, 6 p.m. — 1:30 a.m.

INEBRIATEDinc.com is hosting Happy Hour. Live music will follow till 10:30 p.m., with a DJ playing till close. This event will continue through July 20. For more information, visit www.inebriatedinc.com or call (818) 602-6993.

'PURE' art

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Every day, paintings representing bold, fantastic figures of a playful, yet menacing character can be seen at KULTURAs. The artwork is done by Daniel Francisco and will be up through July 31 at the Sunset Park location. For more information, call (310) 450-8707.

Saturday, June 23, 2007

'Huck'

Promenade Playhouse, 5 p.m.

West of Broadway, in association with Reading Is Fundamental of Southern California, presents "Huck," an interactive theater adaptation of Mark Twain's classic "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," for children of all ages. The play can be seen Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through June 29. Weekday performances for groups and private parties by appointment. For reservations, go to www.plays411.com/huck or call (310) 428-3343.

'Chicago'

Santa Monica Public Library, 2:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Join the Main Library for a free screening of the Oscar-winning musical "Chicago," starring Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Admission is free and all ages are welcome. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Eco-HomeE Network Open House

The Lyon House, 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Mary and Bruce Lyon will host an open house for the Eco-HomeE Network at their "green" home in Brentwood (524 North Bundy Drive). Learn how an owner/architect/builder team transformed their family home, that includes a recording studio and artist's studio, into a model for eco-friendly living and working in an urban environment. Admission is \$5 per person with no charge for Eco-HomeE Network members. Call (323) 662-5207 for reservations and more information.

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.





Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

WORK OF ART: Artist John Kilduff puts the finishing touches on a commissioned landscape entitled 'California Incline' in this photograph from November 2005. The venerable roadway connecting Ocean Avenue and PCH is due for a major reconstruction project.

Bridge project blues

Open house workshop on California Incline draws a feisty crowd

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILMONT In Santa Monica, if you build it, they will come — with concerns, that is.

An open house workshop on Wednesday regarding the eventual California Incline Bridge Replacement Project opened a can of worms regarding the impact construction would have on residents, fears of increased traffic, loud noise and depleted parking. Parking woes seemed to be of the greatest concern amongst those in attendance.

City Hall's Civil Engineering Division sponsored the community workshop as part

of a state-mandated public comment period for the draft of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which was released May 23. The public review process will continue until July 9. The report examines the potential impacts the project would have on the surrounding neighborhood.

Originally built in 1930, the California Incline Bridge has been deemed as structurally deficient by authorities. Two bridge inspection reports — in 1989 and 1994, respectively — found the 77-year-old bridge to be in poor condition and in need of replacement.

Serving as the gateway from Ocean Avenue down to Pacific Coast Highway, the dilapidated bridge does not meet current seismic standards, showing signs of its old age, which include breaks and cracks in the primarily concrete structure, according to the EIR.

The project is estimated to cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$9 million. The initial plan calls for the demolition of

the existing structure, excavation and construction of a replacement bridge.

Work is expected to begin by the end of 2008 and be completed by mid-2009.

The final design plans have not yet been drafted for the project, said Mark Cuneo, a managing engineer with the Civil Engineering Division. He does expect that the replacement bridge will be architecturally similar to the current structure.

PROJECT IMPACTS ON SANTA MONICA

The EIR examines potentially adverse ramifications to the neighborhood surrounding the project.

Among the potential impacts is the possible exposure of asbestos-containing material and contamination from lead-based paint. Due to the era in which the bridge was constructed, the report found that the existing

SEE INCLINE PAGE 14

Alleged killers get court date

Golay, Rutterschmidt facing life in prison

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LA The murder trial of an elderly Santa Monica landlord — a bizarre tale that is the subject of an upcoming Hollywood movie — will finally get underway this fall following months of delays.

The trial date for Helen Golay, of Santa Monica, and Olga Rutterschmidt, of Hollywood, has tentatively been set for Sept. 4. The septuagenarians stand accused of murdering two former homeless men in an insurance scheme aimed at collecting on their life insurance payouts.

The defense and prosecution met Wednesday at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Downtown Los Angeles, agreeing on the trial date as a benchmark for when the trial would actually begin. Under law, the trial would now have to begin within 60 days of Sept. 4.

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office has not yet determined whether prosecutors will seek the death penalty against the 76-year-old Golay and 74-year-old Rutterschmidt, said spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons.

Meanwhile, the California Supreme Court instructed the state Attorney General to file a response to a petition filed by Golay's defense attorney, Roger Jon Diamond, challenging the validity of the preliminary hearings.

The District Attorney has assumed the responsibility of responding to the petition and Diamond said he expected to receive it on Thursday. The defense will then have 10 days to respond, and once the brief is filed, the California State Supreme Court will have 60 days to decide whether it will grant or deny the petition.

The Sept. 4 trial date is one day after the Supreme Court would decide whether it would hear the petition.

"That was encouraging," Diamond said, adding that most petitions to the Supreme

SEE TRIAL PAGE 14



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A folk tale without a happy ending
Editor:

When I first read about the Bayside District deciding to remove the great old ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets, and replace them with gingkoes ("Shedding light," May 22), I was in disbelief. This is Santa Monica, where so many of us are hip to the warning in Joni Mitchell's song: "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot." But it is real.

Old ficus trees line Ninth Street, where I live, as well as surrounding streets. Although only one short block from Lincoln Boulevard and the Santa Monica Freeway, it is amazingly quiet on my street, thanks to those neighboring giants that keep our cars cool. The dense leaf structures are also effective in catching grit and dust, which we all know is plentiful in our urban air. The city maintains the trees well, so when they are pruned on a revolving schedule, said grime is carted away, we're all the better for it.

These trees do more than cut noise and catch grit. Yes, they keep us cool in summer and block sometimes fierce winds. But more than this, they warm our souls, bringing green vistas and psychological shelter from the rushing activity all around. They live as partners with us, maintaining the quality of our lives.

So let's do something to save the ficus trees downtown. Our memories are sharp with the recent defeat of the monstrosity that had been planned to replace Santa Monica Place because of protest. Surely, the District (and the Santa Monica City Council) has to be responsive to those of us who live and vote here, who patronize the merchants downtown day in and day out when the tourists and inland neighbors go home. How many of the complaining merchants live in Santa Monica? How many of the members of the policy-making boards of the Bayside District?

Keep the lovely, mature trees on Second and Fourth (streets). Please, no metaphorical ginkgo parking lots instead!

Dolores Sloan
Santa Monica

The Albania of their existence

Editor:
Why doesn't (President) Bush stay in Albania, since they like him so much over there? The Clintons could join him, and together, they could enjoy their own little empire, and we would be rid of a demagogic dynasty that has ruled and ruined our republic for nearly three decades ... Just a thought.

Aric Zoe Leavitt
West Los Angeles

We all know what opinions are like

Editor:
For some unknown reason, one of your readers seems to think nobody else in Santa Monica knows what is going on in the city, the country and the world. Lighten up, Marilyn Brennan. We can all read the paper, listen to the news and watch City Council meetings on CityTV.

N.L. Miller
Santa Monica

A drunk driver ruined something precious. Amber Apodaca.

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Photo by Michael Mazzoo

U.S. Department of Transportation



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Ocean Park church boasts superheros

THE MODERN SUPERHERO MOVIE craze probably started with "Superman," starring the late Christopher Reeve. There was so much publicity, I decided to come up with a spoof, with Superman being Jewish, retired and living in Miami Beach. (The first Superman comic appeared in 1938, so he could easily be in a home by now.)

Then I did a "mockumentary" about a geriatric Superman — Irving Zuppermann from Poland (pronounced Zuppermun, like Letterman), who claims he was the original superhero. Irv is grilled about his flying by a Geraldo Rivera-type. "Everybody in our village flew," Irv barks. "Haven't you ever seen a Chagall painting?"

Then I wrote "It's a Bird, it's a Plane ... it's Irving!" It was a play set at a Miami Beach welfare home for Alzheimer's patients. The residents, in tattered costumes more like pajamas, imagined they were once superheroes. It's absurd, and yet, Zuppermann winds up performing inexplicable superhero feats.

The only interest in my play came from "The Little Oscar Theater" in a Northridge mini-mall between a Carpeteria and a Winchell's Donuts. I knew "Irving" wasn't Broadway material, but a mini-mall? I debated until someone suggested staging it at the Church in Ocean Park, which is only a block from my apartment.

More than 100 years old, the Church in Ocean Park is a beautiful, three-story building with an interior of oak and stained glass. The moment I walked in I knew this church was different. (Being Jewish, I admit I'm not exactly an expert.) The Minister, Jim Conn, our former city mayor, changed a traditional United Methodist Church into an interfaith, spiritual, activist community.

There was a nursery school in the basement serving paying and state subsidized preschoolers. The church was home to AA meetings, dance groups and a battered women's support organization. Judy Abdo, the Church Administrator (who also became mayor), couldn't have been more helpful. But, unfortunately, the warm feelings of brotherhood from the church didn't inspire my cast.

The problem was the actors became the characters. Zuppermann, Wanda Woman, Batmann & Rubin and Ironmann, were all written to be in their 70s and grouchy. Castro, the illegal alien janitor, was in his 20s and stoned. On opening night, 15 minutes before curtain, Castro was missing and Wanda Woman refused to go on, accusing Ironmann of stealing her crown (which he did, by the way). I found Castro in a parked car, not his, smoking a joint.

Fortunately, we were blessed with a wonderful set, designed by my friend, Randa Wells. "The Excelsior Home for the Extraordinary" looked so real, from the French doors to the hedges in front of the porch. It was so charming that Rev. Conn didn't make us take it down, giving his sermons from a Miami Beach retirement home for the six-week run of the play.

I not only wrote and directed

"Irving," I sold refreshments. I bought the cookies at the Pioneer Bakery on Rose Avenue and made a drink by mixing orange and apple juice. One night at intermission, I was behind the counter when a couple bought refreshments, unaware I was the play's author. The wife asked the husband if he thought the play was funny. "Puhleeze!" he said despairingly. Furious, I was about to say something until he added, "But this drink is fabulous." I beamed proudly. I take my compliments where I can get them.

Twenty years later, Ocean Park has become upscale, but the church is the same. Rev. Janet McKeithen's Sunday services speak to the relevance of faith and how to make positive changes in today's world. The community gathers for a variety of readings (Winnie-the-Pooh, the Bible, words of Rumi, etc.) exceptional music, and passing the microphone for congregation feedback. It still holds AA and other 12-step meetings, poetry readings and shows documentaries.

TWENTY YEARS LATER, OCEAN PARK HAS BECOME UPSCALE, BUT THE CHURCH IS THE SAME. REV. JANET MCKEITHEN'S SUNDAY SERVICES SPEAK TO THE RELEVANCE OF FAITH AND HOW TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES IN TODAY'S WORLD.

Where else can you find a congregation that has Bible studies, solstice rituals on the beach and yoga and meditation in their sanctuary, or the city's "Sustainable Works" class where people learn how to make green changes in their lives? Then there's the "Fancy Dress Swim" fundraiser. In an effort to end poverty through the One Campaign, people dress in fancy gowns and jump into the ocean!

On June 27, as part of the Sierra Service Project, Rev. McKeithen will take five young people from the church to a village in Honduras where they will build homes for poor families. (Last fall, church members helped out in New Orleans.) The Church in Ocean Park is filled with superheroes. And to think I would have missed it if I'd done my play in a mini-mall.

The Church in Ocean Park can be found at: www.churchop.org. **JACK NEWORTH** can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

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Elan Journo

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How to stop Iran

PRESIDENT BUSH'S DISASTROUS FOREIGN policy — especially the Iraq fiasco — has led many to conclude that diplomatic “engagement” is our best hope for stopping Iran’s nuclear program. But while Bush’s policy is a failure, engagement is not the solution.

Bush’s “moralistic” approach, we’re told, entails denouncing nations as evil, refusing negotiations, and isolating and punishing hostile regimes. That, many believe, is how we landed in the catastrophe of Iraq.

And now Bush’s moral denunciations of Teheran have supposedly escalated the nuclear standoff, while his policy of pressuring and isolating Iran by limiting its use of foreign banks has made Iran more defiant. That is why, diplomatists claim, Iran responded to the latest American-backed U.N. sanctions by ramping up production of nuclear material. Military conflict, they warn, and an Iraq-like debacle, loom.

But engagement can supposedly end the Iranian threat bloodlessly, because it discards inflexible moral dogmas. Just as Iran has shown it will meet “confrontation with confrontation,” proponents write in the New York Times, so Iran will “respond to what it perceives as flexibility with pragmatism.” Iran’s recent release of 15 British hostages, we are told, was achieved precisely because Britain engaged in nonjudgmental, patient diplomacy. Putting aside our moral qualms about talking with monsters, would free us to negotiate a deal whereby Iran stops its nuclear program in exchange for Western carrots.

This scheme presumes that Iran, like us, seeks peace and prosperity and that no one — not even the mullahs — would put their moral ideals before a steady flow of loot. But in the three decades since its Islamic revolution, Iran has dedicated itself to spreading its moral ideal — Islamic totalitarianism — by force of arms. Teheran spends millions every year, not to pursue prosperity for its tyrannized citizens, but to finance terrorism and to build a nuclear arsenal to wield against enemies of Allah. It is Iran’s commitment to the goal of subjugating infidels, not a quest for peace, that motivated its backing of the Hezbollah-Hamas war against Israel and its support for insurgents who slaughter American troops in Iraq.

Negotiations buy Iran time; a settlement would provide loot to fund its nuclear program. Above all, diplomacy grants Iran moral legitimacy as a civilized regime: its hostile goals — “death to America” — and its murder of our citizens are made to seem reasonable differences of opinion. Such appeasement confirms the perverse notion

that Allah’s warriors, materially weaker but morally self-righteous, can succeed in bringing down the mighty infidel West. The real lesson of the recent hostage incident is how readily Western nations will grovel to appease Iran’s blatant aggression.

The amoral policy of engagement fails for the same reason that Bush’s policy fails: both reject the need of morality in foreign policy. Bush’s policy merely pays lip service to rational moral principles.

What has been the administration’s response to Iran’s nuclear quest, to its funding of terrorists and Iraqi insurgents, to its hostilities stretching back to the 1979 invasion of our embassy? Did it morally judge Iran as an enemy regime waging war on America and fight to defend U.S. lives by militarily crushing Iran?

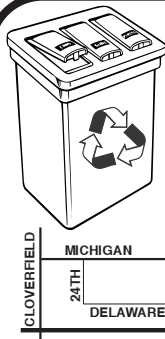
No. After 9/11, Washington cordially invited Iran into an anti-terrorism coalition; later, Bush denounced Iran as part of an “axis of evil”; now, he embraces diplomatic talks. To the extent that his administration does momentarily recognize Iran’s evil, its response has been ludicrous: to thwart Iran’s nuclear program, U.S. diplomats scrounged for votes at the U.N. to pass toothless sanctions, and tried to put financial “pressure” on Iran (e.g., by preventing it from trading oil in dollars), an absurdly futile scheme (Iran now trades in euros).

Moreover, when Bush has gone to war, it was not to crush an evil enemy, but to bring it “democracy.” Bush’s messianic crusade in the Middle East is a selfless war of sacrifice to needy Afghanis and Iraqis — not a war to uphold the moral goal of safeguarding the lives of Americans.

Bush’s self-effacing, immoral foreign policy — like the appeasing gambit of engagement — licenses Iran to pursue its hostile goals with impunity.

The rational alternative to both of these self-destructive approaches is a policy committed to American self-defense, on principle. It is a policy that morally judges Iran — and that ruthlessly renders Iran non-threatening by military force. That does not mean a selfless, Iraq-like crusade to bring Iranians the vote. It means upholding the moral right of Americans to live in freedom by destroying Teheran’s Islamic totalitarian regime. Nothing less will do.

ELAN JOURNO is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute (<http://www.aynrand.org/>) in Irvine. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.



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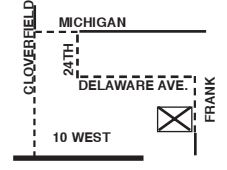
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The Q-Line

Who will budge on badges?

City officials have set aside \$50,000 to acquire newly-designed badges for the Santa Monica Police Department. The plan has drawn criticism from taxpayer groups who would rather see the money spent on what they claim are more pressing needs.

So this week’s Q-Line question asks:

Do you think that SMPD should go ahead with the new badge plan or is it a case of mismanaged funds?

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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WHERE: CITY HALL ON MAIN STREET
START: 9:30 AM, WED., JULY 4TH
ROUTE: MAIN STREET TO MARINE
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opa Ocean Park Association

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Smoking cigs can be dangerous

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, AT 4:15 P.M.

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 200 block of Broadway regarding a report of a strong-arm robbery that had just occurred. When officers arrived, they spoke with a man who said he was standing on the street corner about to smoke a cigarette when he was approached by a man who wanted one as well. Before the smoker could even pull out a cigarette, the man who approached him grabbed the whole pack and walked away. The victim said the man was acting irrationally, so he didn't confront him. Instead, he contacted police on the Third Street Promenade, who were able to locate the suspect and placed him under arrest for stealing the smokes. The suspect was identified as Eddy Mandell Martin, 31, of Los Angeles. No bail was issued because he was on probation, police said.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, AT 4:15 P.M.

Deputies with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department arrested Rashaan Amir Rucker, who was wanted in connection with a strong arm robbery at Virginia Avenue Park in March. Police said Rucker was playing basketball at the park when he asked to borrow a cell phone from a person he was playing with. Rucker allegedly walked off with the phone and made threats to the phone's owner when he asked for it back. The incident was reported and a warrant issued for Rucker's arrest. Rucker, 30, of Los Angeles was booked for robbery and his bail was set at \$50,000.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Officers arrested Victoriano Ramos, 29, of Los Angeles for embezzling funds from his employer, Above The Fold, a newspaper stand and magazine rack on the Third Street Promenade. Officers said the owners of the business contacted detectives in May to report a theft after noticing their profits were down, although sales had stayed the same. After an investigation, detectives determined that Ramos was responsible for the theft and arrested him. His bail was set at \$20,000.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, AT 4:40 A.M.

Officers on routine patrol in the 900 block of Olympic Boulevard noticed two men who they recognized from prior contacts. Considering that the men were on parole and had both been arrested for narcotics violations, the officers decided to pull over and question them. A search was conducted and officers found marijuana on each individual. There was less than an ounce in each man's possession, police said. The two were arrested for possession of a controlled substance. They were identified as Richard Joseph Measel, 44, a transient, and Juan Francisco Larios, 26, also a transient. No bail was set for both men since they were in violation of their parole, police said.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, AT 5:50 A.M.

Officers in the 100 block of Broadway noticed a man smoking in violation of the municipal code. Officers approached the man and explained the current smoking ban to him. At that point the suspect became irate, police said. Officers ran a warrant check and found out that the suspect was a sex offender who had failed to register, a violation. Officers also found a credit card and some prescription drugs that belonged to someone else. The suspect was arrested for possession of stolen property and for failing to register. He was identified as Charles Bernard Tolbert, 49, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, AT 1:40 A.M.

Officers responded to the 2600 block of Wilshire Blvd. - Grand Custom Tailors - regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, witnesses at the scene said a man, for no apparent reason, used his hands and his feet to break a plate-glass window in the front of the business and then continued walking down the street, acting irrational. Officers detained the suspect in the 2700 block of Wilshire Boulevard. He was arrested for felony vandalism. He was identified as Harry James Finnell, 21, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at \$20,000.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, AT 12:45 A.M.

Officers responded to the 1600 block of 14th Street, regarding a man who was seen lying on the ground. When officers arrived, they found a man who was intoxicated. Officers said marijuana was found on him and he was arrested for public intoxication and drug possession. He was identified as Ari Jeremy Raz, 23, from Culver City. His bail was set at \$250.

Staff Writer KEVIN HERRERA compiled these reports.

Bitch!
Whine!
Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 5.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Yahoo growing

Internet giant acquires Rivals.com in first move by new CEO

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO It's not the blockbuster that some industry analysts envisioned, but Yahoo Inc. has sealed its first deal under new Chief Executive Jerry Yang.

Hoping to deepen its appeal to hardcore sports fans, Yahoo is buying Rivals.com, a Web site that provides extensive coverage of collegiate athletics.

Financial terms of the acquisition to be announced Thursday aren't being disclosed — an indication that the sales price is too small to dent Yahoo's finances. News Corp. paid \$60 million for a similar Web site called Scout.com in 2005.

Analysts believe Yahoo may be considering more dramatic moves after changing its leadership earlier this week in its latest attempt to revive its sagging stock. Yahoo appointed Yang, its co-founder, to replace Terry Semel, its CEO of the past six years.

The wide-ranging suggestions about what Yahoo should do next have included bidding for Facebook Inc.'s popular online social networking site or combining with Internet auctioneer eBay Inc. or Microsoft Corp.'s MSN.com.

News Corp., a media empire controlled by Rupert Murdoch, reportedly has even offered to swap MySpace.com — the most trafficked social networking site — in exchange for a 25 percent stake in Yahoo. If it were consummated, the transaction would be valued at more than \$10 billion, based on Yahoo's current market value.

For now, the Rivals.com deal will intensify Yahoo's competition with News Corp. since it already owns Scout.com.

Although Yahoo began negotiating with Rivals.com while Semel was still in command, the acquisition papers weren't

signed until Yang's second day as CEO, said Scott Moore, a Yahoo senior vice president who oversees its news division. "Jerry is very excited about it," Moore said.

Both Rivals.com and Scout.com cater to obsessive sports fans who want to know every detail about their favorite college sports teams. The users of these sites typically are alumni of the colleges, major financial contributors to the athletic programs, or both.

Yahoo thinks Rivals.com will help fill some gaps in its sports section, Moore said. Besides following more than 100 colleges and universities, Rivals.com also follows high school sports to help identify the top prospects for athletic scholarships.

Brentwood, Tenn.-based Rivals.com generates most of its revenue from subscriptions that cost anywhere from just under \$10 per month to just under \$100 annually.

JERRY IS VERY EXCITED ABOUT IT!

Scott Moore
Yahoo senior vice president

The site currently has about 185,000 subscribers, said Rivals.com CEO Shannon Terry, who will be retained by Yahoo. Rivals.com's 85 employees also are expected to be absorbed by Yahoo.

Rivals.com has been steadily growing since its 2001 inception, with its monthly traffic peaking at 2.57 million visitors last September with the kickoff of college football season, according to comScore Media Metrix. Scout.com attracted 2.29 million visitors during the same month, Media Metrix said.

Moore predicted Yahoo's broader reach will add "rocket fuel" to Rivals.com's growth. Yahoo's sports section drew 15.1 million visitors last month to rank second in the category behind ESPN's 17.6 million, according to Media Metrix.

Chase gone bad

Group of immigrants injured during pursuit by Border Patrol

By the Associated Press

BOULEVARD Seven suspected illegal immigrants were injured in rural San Diego County early Thursday when their car slammed into a tree during a Border Patrol chase.

The crash occurred about 4 a.m. on Old Highway 80, about two miles from Boulevard, an unincorporated community east of San Diego, Border Patrol spokesman Richard Smith said.

Smith said agents in a marked car started the pursuit after spotting a 1991 Cadillac De Ville carrying suspected ille-

gal immigrants.

California Highway Patrol spokesman Brian Pennings said the car was traveling about 70 mph when it went off the highway at a junction and smashed into a large oak tree. The speed limit in the area is 55 mph.

Five men and two women were injured. Three of the group were in the trunk at the time of the crash.

All were taken to local hospitals for treatment of various wounds.

Pennings said it appeared that all seven were undocumented Mexican nationals. He identified the man in the front passenger seat as Salvador Zepeda, 33. He suffered a broken leg and cuts to his face.

The driver, suspected of being the smuggler, fled the scene on foot and was not found during a two-hour search, Smith said.

The CHP was investigating the cause of the crash.

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As of Late-June 2007
Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale

	Single Family Homes	Condo & Townhomes
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North of Montana	= \$ 4,296,056	\$ 2,461,194
Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 2,192,500	\$ 923,106
South of Wilshire	= \$ 923,111	\$ 618,375
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Could Arnold be vice prez?

Famous Governor's resident status would prohibit such a case

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD
AP Political Writer

LOS ANGELES New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg daydreamed this week about running on a presidential ticket with Arnold Schwarzenegger, but the legal obstacles that prevent the Austrian-born governor from serving as president would also block him from the nation's No. 2 job, legal scholars say.

End of discussion? Not necessarily.

As a foreign-born citizen, Schwarzenegger is prohibited by the Constitution from holding the presidency. And the 12th Amendment, ratified in 1804, bans the native of Thal, Austria, or other naturalized Americans from serving as vice president.

But those prohibitions might be open to legal challenge, and it's not clear what would happen if Schwarzenegger or another foreign-born candidate decided

to run, several legal scholars said.

"The law is very clear, but it's not 100 percent clear that the courts would enforce that law rather than leave it to the political process," said Columbia University Law School professor Michael Dorf, an expert in constitutional law.

Yale Law School professor Jack Balkin said Schwarzenegger "can run every four years if he wants, he's just not eligible" to hold either office.



THE LAW IS VERY CLEAR, BUT IT'S NOT 100 PERCENT CLEAR THAT THE COURTS WOULD ENFORCE THAT LAW RATHER THAN LEAVE IT TO THE POLITICAL PROCESS?'

Michael Dorf, Columbia University Law School professor

But "I don't think it's ever been tested in the courts," added Balkin, who thinks the "terrible rule" should be dropped.

Aides to Schwarzenegger, who became a citizen in 1983, said the issue isn't commanding his attention. Political advisers, however, have examined it and concluded

he's ineligible for either office.

He'll "leave those questions to constitutional scholars and the chatter class," said spokesman Adam Mendelsohn.

With America growing increasingly diverse, Schwarzenegger's election in 2003 helped bring about a fresh examination of the qualifications to hold the presidency and vice presidency. A joint resolution introduced in Congress in 2004 would have extended eligibility for the presiden-

president can serve as vice president.

Just this week, Bloomberg talked playfully about forming a presidential ticket with California's actor-governor.

"There would be a fight to see who would be the presidential candidate and who would be the vice presidential candidate," Bloomberg quipped. "He would want to arm wrestle for the top spot; I would want to check the Constitution."

Nate Persily, who teaches law at Columbia, said a Schwarzenegger candidacy could open a tangle of questions that touch on ballot-access laws, the Electoral College and legal jurisdiction.

"Even if Schwarzenegger is ineligible to be vice president ... can he nevertheless appear on the ballot?" Persily asked. The 12th Amendment, he added, "says what it does."

Kareem Crayton, who teaches law and politics at University of Southern California Law School, said that because Schwarzenegger was not born in the country, it's generally assumed he can't run.

But without a definitive ruling, "it's not a rock-solid, closed question," Crayton added.

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com



CITY OF SANTA MONICA PUBLIC NOTICE OF SIGNIFICANT NONCOMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE INDUSTRIAL WASTE PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS IN 2006

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) General Pretreatment Regulations for Existing and New Sources of Pollution, 40 CFR 403 and SMMC 5.20.490 requires the City of Santa Monica to publish a list of industrial users who have been in significant noncompliance with applicable Pretreatment Standards or other applicable requirements. For the purpose of this provision, significant noncompliance is defined under 40 CFR 403.8 (f)(2)(vii) as:

- Chronic violations of wastewater discharge limits, defined as those in which sixty-six percent or more of the measurements taken during a six month period exceed (by any magnitude) the daily maximum limit or the same average limit for the same pollutant parameter;
- Technical Review Criteria (TRC) violations, defined as those in which thirty-three percent or more of all the measurements for each pollutant parameter taken during a six month period equal or exceed the product of the daily maximum limit or the average limit multiplied by the applicable TRC (TRC=1.4 for BOD, TSS, fats, oil, grease, and 1.2 for all other pollutants except pH);
- Any other violation or violations of a pretreatment effluent limit (daily maximum or longer term average) that the Control Authority determines has caused, alone or in combination with other discharges, interference or pass-through (including or endangering the health of POTW personnel or the public);
- Any discharge of a pollutant that has caused imminent endangerment to human health/welfare or to the environment or has resulted in the POTWs exercise of its emergency authority, under 40 CFR 403.8 paragraph (f)(1)(vi)(B) of this section to halt or prevent such a discharge;
- Failure to meet, within 90 days after the schedule date, a compliance schedule milestone contained in a local control mechanism or enforcement order for starting construction, completing construction, or attaining final compliance;
- Failure to provide reports within 30 days from the due date, required reports such as baseline monitoring reports, 90 day compliance reports, periodic self-monitoring reports, and reports on compliance with compliance schedules;
- Failure to accurately report noncompliance;
- Any other violation or group of violations which the control authority determines will adversely affect the operation or implementation of the local pretreatment program.

The City Of Santa Monica has found the following industrial facilities within its borders to have been in significant noncompliance with applicable pretreatment standards during the 2006 calendar year:

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Fish is foul, but sold as sex aid

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ | Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES By most accounts, hagfish are repulsive bottom feeders that slime their predators, have rows of teeth on their tongues and feed on the innards of rotting fish by penetrating any orifice.

Dress them up on a plate in South Korea, however, the marine maggot becomes an instant aphrodisiac.

An overseas appetite for the so-called slime eel is leading to a rise in West Coast nettings as struggling fisherman cast about for a niche that will replace dwindling stocks of once-plentiful prize fish.

“The average person would be disgusted just by looking at them,” said Mark Crossland, a state Fish and Game Department warden. “The product is difficult to deal with and handle — it’s a little eel that once it gets stressed it excretes this slime.”

The goopy mess is a small price to pay for fishermen facing stricter regulations at sea for salmon and larger fish. The constant hunt for a new catch has led them a little lower on the seafood chain — to a fish that’s so primitive there is even debate about whether it is really a fish at all.

Resembling a cross between a snake and an eel, the 300 million-year-old hagfish have no jaws and only one nostril. Essentially blind, hagfish dwell in the dark below 1,000 feet.

In the late 1980s, the West Coast hagfish industry went from boom to bust when it was discovered that the Pacific variation was edible but the skin wasn’t strong enough to make quality eel skin belts and shoes in South Korea. The East Coast operation, which sells both the hagfish flesh and skins, peaked in 2000 with about 7 million pounds of hagfish but fell to about 1.7 million pounds in 2005.

The West Coast industry, meanwhile, has been making a

gradual comeback. Oregon, Washington and California last year reported 1.1 million pounds of hagfish caught with revenues of more than \$600,000. California’s catch jumped from nothing to 150,000 pounds in the past four years.

“This fishery is creeping back because some of the other fisheries have gotten so limited,” Crossland said.

In April, California officials encountered a fishing boat near Morro Bay carrying more than 15,000 pounds — approximately 45,000 writhing hagfish — that were to be loaded on jumbo jets live and flown to South Korea.

The crew of the Washington-based Marlin II were cited for not keeping a log, fishing without permits and having illegal traps the size of wine barrels. The Santa Barbara district attorney’s office is now reviewing the case to determine whether to bring criminal charges.

Peter Chu, who was poised to buy the hagfish from the Marlin II, said the fishermen made a mistake.

Chu, owner of Atlantic Korean Trading Inc. in the North Coast city of Eureka, said the fish sells for as much as \$20 a pound in South Korea, where he estimates the nation’s total consumption is about 9 million pounds a year.

Hagfish has a modest following among older Korean men who savor it as an appetizer broiled in sesame oil and sprinkled with salt accompanied by a shot of liquor.

“There’s a myth there that it’s an aphrodisiac. It gives you energy like Viagra,” Chu said. “It’s like oysters here.”

Fisherman Mark Tognazzini, who dabbled in hagfish in the early 1990s, understands the lure of fishing for the scavenger, calling it one of the least expensive fisheries to get started in. They are caught in five-gallon barrels fitted with trap doors and baited with rotting fish.

The hagfish’s predators include whales, seabirds and seals. There are currently no catch limits for hagfish, and

the species is in no immediate danger.

But with the increasing interest in hagfish, Tognazzini said they should be regulated because they don’t reproduce quickly and are an important part of the marine ecosystem. Still, he recognizes one of the obvious challenges in protecting them.

“I believe they’re really important to the health of the ocean, 100 times more than the sea otter. If you didn’t have buzzards on the mainland eating dead squirrels and other animals, you’d have a mess,” he said. “The thing is they’re not cute — they don’t hit people’s hearts.”

If looks alone weren’t enough of a turnoff, hagfish are also notoriously sensitive to temperature and when agitated they vomit and secrete a protein that reacts with seawater to create a thick mucus.

A single 14-inch animal can turn a five gallon bucket of seawater into a pool of goo in a matter of moments, said Eddie Kisfaludy, a biological collector with the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. While the slime distracts predators, it also has the unfortunate drawback of occasionally suffocating the hagfish.

“They’re definitely more interesting than maggots but then all these researchers who work on fruit flies will probably argue with me,” Kisfaludy said.

Not surprisingly, the slime eels were featured on NBC’s “Fear Factor” in a challenge that required contestants to sit in a vat of the creatures and push handfuls of them through holes in a box. The contestants described the experience as cold and sticky.

ON THE NET

■ Watch a podcast of hagfish: divefilm.com/podcasts/episode44.m4v

EPA to rule on global warming emissions request

By the Associated Press

WASHINGTON EPA will rule in December on California’s request for permission to implement reductions on tailpipe emissions, Sen. Barbara Boxer said Thursday.

That’s past the Oct. 25 deadline Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has given the agency to act before he sues. It’s also two

years after California submitted its request for the waiver it needs under the Clean Air Act to implement its greenhouse gas emissions law.

Boxer said that Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen L. Johnson disclosed the date to her during a phone conversation.

“An announcement of yet another

delay is unacceptable. California has never had a waiver request denied, and long ago submitted a comprehensive record in support of this petition,” Boxer said. “It is long past time for the EPA to grant this waiver, get out of the way and let us step up to the challenge of global warming.”

At issue is a 2002 California law that

requires automakers to cut emissions by 25 percent from cars and light trucks and 18 percent from sport utility vehicles starting with the 2009 model year. But the law can’t take effect unless California gets a federal waiver.

At least 11 other states are poised to implement those same standards if California gets the waiver.

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Pursuant to Section 609 of the City Charter, newspapers adjudicated to be newspapers of general circulation published in the City of Santa Monica are hereby invited to submit bids to publish legal notices, and other matter required to be published, for the City for the 2007-08 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007. The City shall consider the following criteria when selecting the official newspaper for the publication of such notices:

- Proof of adjudication
- Amount of bid (ad rate)
- Circulation (including copies per issue, documented readership and trends)
- Delivery methods (newsracks, home delivery, on-line, other)
- Publication schedule (weekly, daily)
- Percentage of local news carried
- Fiscal integrity
- Reputation of publication

In no case shall the contract prices for such publication exceed the customary rates charged by such newspaper for the publication of other comparable legal notices. The City reserves the right to reject all bids.

Bids should be submitted in writing to Maria Stewart, City Clerk, City of Santa Monica, Records and Election Services, 1685 Main St, # 102, PO Box 2200, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2200 and received no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 26, 2007.

STATE BRIEFS

RIVERSIDE

Mother blames abortion procedure for daughter's death

The mother of a woman who died after a Planned Parenthood abortion procedure filed a lawsuit blaming malpractice for her daughter's toxic shock syndrome death.

Aletheia Meloncon filed the Superior Court lawsuit this week, claiming her daughter Edrica Goode, 21, died Feb. 14 because cervical dilators used in advance of second-trimester abortions were left in too long.

Goode allegedly went to a Planned Parenthood clinic in Riverside for an abortion on Jan. 31 and a nurse inserted the dilators, which are usually left in overnight before an abortion.

The suit said Goode, who didn't return to the clinic to have the dilators removed, had an infection and the dilators became a conduit, spreading it throughout her body.

"My daughter made a choice, but she didn't choose to die," Meloncon said. "A lost dog gets more attention than my daughter did. This has really torn at my family."

Planned Parenthood mailed two letters to Goode stating the dilators needed to be taken out, but Meloncon said the family never received the letters. The woman said Planned Parenthood should have been more aggressive in contacting her daughter.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONG BEACH

Jenni Rivera's ex gets 31 years for molestations

The ex-husband of singer Jenni Rivera was sentenced to 31 years to life in prison for molesting his daughter and sister-in-law over a decade ago.

Trinidad Marin, 43, listened during Wednesday's sentencing hearing as the two victims, now in their 20s, told the court they had forgiven Marin for the crimes that started when the victims were just 8 years old.

"I just would like to tell my father that I love him and I forgive him," said Jamie Marin, who was abused between the ages of 8 and 12.

Rivera's sister Rosa said she not only lost her innocence at age 8 because of Marin, she lost her trust "in men, herself and the world."

Marin was charged in 1997 but became a fugitive from justice until last year.

On May 9, a Superior Court jury convicted him on eight felony counts of lewd acts upon a child, oral copulation of a child, aggravated sexual assault and continuous sexual assault.

Three of Jenni Rivera's children were fathered by Marin. The singer also appeared at Wednesday's sentencing hearing, telling Superior Court Judge Joan Comparet-Cassani and the bailiff she was sorry for family outbursts during trial.

The outbursts resulted in increased security at the trial and sentencing.

"We were sometimes a problem," she said, "because, I guess, because there was so much emotion involved."

She concluded by saying, "I'm glad this is over."

"I'm sure you are," the judge said.

AP

LAKE HEMET

Bald eagle chick vanishes in San Jacinto Mountains

One of two bald eagle chicks in the San Jacinto Mountains has vanished.

U.S. Forest Service officials suspect strong winds a few weeks ago knocked down the nest and the eaglet may have been eaten by other animals in the Lake Hemet area 80 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

The 12-week-old eaglet, which was too young to fly, hasn't been seen since early June, said wildlife biologist Anne Poopatanapong of the San Bernardino National Forest's San Jacinto Ranger District.

Poopatanapong said she searched the area but could not find any signs that the eaglet had survived.

The chick's sibling fell out of the nest and broke its right wing earlier this month. It is being cared for at the Coachella Valley Wild Bird Center in Indio and may never be returned to the wild because the wing hasn't healed properly.

Eagles were first spotted in the San Jacinto Mountains in the 1990s.

Bald eagles are expected to be removed from federal Endangered Species Act protection later this month.

AP

VILLA PARK

4-year-old girl found at bottom when kids get out of OC pool

A 4-year-old girl slipped unnoticed to the bottom of a backyard swimming pool and drowned during her brother's 6th birthday party.

Aurora Pruitt of Moreno Valley was found on the bottom of the shallow end of the pool Tuesday afternoon when children got out of the pool to eat, said Capt. Stephen Miller of the Orange County Fire Authority.

As many as 15 children, ages 3 to 16, had been playing in the pool with four or five adults keeping watch, sheriff's spokesman Jim Amormino said.

A parent pulled the little girl out of the pool and tried to resuscitate her before two sheriff's deputies took over until paramedics arrived. The girl was declared dead just after 9 p.m. at Children's Hospital of Orange County.

"This just reiterates that you have to have someone watching the kids in the pool," Miller said. "You can't afford to leave them alone for even one second."

AP

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Anticlimactic

Embarrassing case of family problems fails to produce charges

BY DEBBIE HUMMEL
Associated Press Writer

PROVO, Utah An embarrassing case of family strife that began last summer on Utah's desert highways and stretched to network TV shows will stick around for an even longer run.

A couple accused of kidnapping their daughter to stop her wedding failed to reach a plea agreement with prosecutors Thursday, and a judge set a trial for Dec. 3.

"There were just some things we couldn't agree upon," defense attorney Rhome Zabriskie said.

Another defense attorney, Jere Reneer, said prosecutor Curtis Larson had "reneged" on a deal to settle charges of second-degree kidnapping against Lemuel Redd, 60, and Julia Redd, 57.

Reneer later apologized to Larson, but he didn't hide his distaste for the case while talking to reporters.

"We're still hopeful that maybe something could be worked out," said Reneer, who is representing Lemuel Redd. "I am ready and willing to go to trial on ridiculous charges in what is a ridiculous case."

The Redds are from Monticello, a small town in southern Utah.

They picked up their daughter, Julianna, on Aug. 4 to take her to purchase religious undergarments for a wedding the next day at a Mormon temple.

But instead of taking her shopping, they

drove more than 200 miles to Colorado.

Julianna Myers, 21, said her parents berated her on the drive, accusing her of breaking the Old Testament's Fourth Commandment, which says to honor parents. She said they called her fiance "evil and wicked."

The three spent a night in Grand Junction, Colo., and returned to Utah the next day.

Julianna and Perry Myers were married Aug. 8, three days later, at the Salt Lake City temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Outside court, Zabriskie said a plea agreement got hung up on "fine details. ... What facts each side is willing to acknowledge."

The newlyweds, less than two months from their first anniversary, were not in the courtroom Thursday. They recently reached two milestones: degrees from Brigham Young University and the birth of a daughter, Eylar May, on May 12.

THERE WERE JUST SOME THINGS WE COULDN'T AGREE UPON.'

Rhyme Zabriskie
Defense attorney

The Redds are barred from contacting Julianna Myers. They apologized during a January appearance on "Good Morning America," although Julia Redd still seemed upset with her daughter.

Days later, Julianna Myers told the Deseret Morning News in Salt Lake City that the case means people must be accountable — "no matter who you are."

Disturbing house found

Search for missing toddler comes to a troubling discovery

BY TODD RICHMOND
Associated Press Writer

PORTAGE, Wis. Police initially went to a rental property in this sleepy Wisconsin town in search of a 2-year-old girl kidnapped from her Florida foster home by her mother last fall.

What they found was a house of horrors, detectives say: A roving band of suspected identity thieves who had killed one of their own, buried her in the backyard and locked her bloody and beaten 11-year-old son in an upstairs closet.

"It's crazy. Weird," said next-door neighbor Angie Turley, 27, who moved from Milwaukee to Portage to get away from crime. "It can happen anywhere."

Charged Wednesday with being a party to first-degree intentional homicide, hiding a corpse and child abuse are Candace Clark, 23; Clark's boyfriend, Michael Sisk, 25; Michaela Clerc, 20; and Felicia Mae Garlin, 15.

The teen was the dead woman's daughter and the sister of the boy in the closet.

Police say the group arrived in February in Portage, a town of 8,000

about 40 miles north of Madison that touts itself as "Where the North Begins."

The group was joined by Garlin's mother, Tammie Garlin; her 11-year-old brother; and three other children, including the kidnapped girl.

They rented a two-story brick house owned by Rex Taylor, using names Taylor now knows were fake. He said they told him they made their living by finding odd jobs online, and that they paid cash for rent and the security deposit.

He said he was struck by Clark's Southern drawl.

"Candace, she'd talk to you just as sweet as molasses. And cute, too. A real cute face," Taylor said.

He got a strange vibe from Sisk, who struck him as withdrawn and introverted. Sisk's thick Southern accent made him hard to understand, Taylor said.

He asked Sisk who the 11-year-old and 15-year-old were, and Sisk said the group took care of them because their mother was a crackhead.

Detectives say the group was running from the law in several states. Clark was wanted in Florida in her 2-year-old daughter's abduction, as well as in Kentucky on felony warrants for financial fraud, Columbia County District Attorney Jane Kohlwey said.

Sisk was wanted in Colorado for not returning to jail after he was let out on work release, Kohlwey said..

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City of Santa Monica

Class of 2007 bids adieu to Samohi

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOH Before the sun set on the longest day of the year, it did so on the high school careers of more than 600 graduating seniors.

The Class of 2007 celebrated the end of an era on Thursday, coming together, donning their blue caps and gowns, in a graduation ceremony before their parents and loved ones.

The Memorial Greek Theatre was filled with the exuberant cheers of parents, some wiping away tears of happiness, others beaming proudly as they watched their children march down the steps during the processional. One proud parent in attendance held a sign that read, "That's my boy!"

Each of the student speakers took the senior class on a trip down memory lane, asking that they reflect on the past four years, a period filled with ups and downs, laughter and heartache, new and broken relationships. Throughout their speeches, former schoolmate Eddie Lopez, who was shot and killed in February 2006, was often mentioned.

Speaker Michela Fitten remembered her first day of freshman year. A nervous wreck, Fitten ended up ditching her first three classes, afraid of the "40 pairs of glaring eyes of judgment" and spending the first few hours in Taco Bell instead.

Now, on the last day of high school, Fitten seemed proud

that she wasn't still hiding out in Taco Bell, but was instead addressing a speech before thousands of pairs of eyes. It was not a daunting experience, but was exhilarating, Fitten said.

"(Today), we honor the uniqueness of every individual that makes up our class," she said.

The Class of 2007 set a school record with 21 valedictorian candidates, said Dr. Hugo Pedroza, who is completing his first year as principal. Nathaniel Miller was selected as the valedictorian. Coming in second was Nora Casey, honored as the salutatorian.

On top of the extraordinary number of valedictorian candidates, Pedroza announced that approximately 88 percent of the senior class has been accepted to college.

"(The Class of 2007) is the smartest, best prepared senior class Samohi has ever produced," Pedroza said, drawing a cheer from the graduating contingent.

"The future begins one moment from now," Pedroza said, alluding to the presentation of diplomas about to begin.

Life after high school — something that many of these students have pondered throughout the past four years, wrestling with decisions on where to attend college and which career path to take.

In kindergarten, everyone is asked what they would like to be when they grow up, said Keith Kilgore Jr. in his speech. The responses are usually firefighter, policeman or

professional athlete, he added.

Kilgore himself wanted to be the shortest player in the National Football League at 5'10," he joked.

He finally accepted this year that football isn't in the cards for him, now embracing a possible career in teaching.

"I'm actually grateful for homework, lessons, time spent in the classroom," Kilgore said.

Calling Santa Monica High School a stepping stone, Kilgore addressed the graduating class, asking "What do you want to be when you grow up because today is the (beginning) of the rest of our lives."

Graduation is an equally emotional experience for parents, many of whom will see their child depart to college after 18 years in the nest.

"You helped these graduates arrive at this pinnacle," said Superintendent Dianne Talarico in commending each and every parent.

Among the proud parents was Kathy Viault who watched her son Daniel graduate.

"It's a little bit sad because it's gone by so fast," she said. "I'm sad to see him grow up, but happy at the same time and excited to see him go on in the future, whether it's college or tech school."

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Developers agree to work together to settle various differences

FROM AGREEMENT PAGE 1

will only make the area that much better.

Having an ocean view "is important to our setting," Aptaker said, "and we would like to have as much of an ocean view as we can."

With the agreement in place, the Farzams plan to move forward with their development and hope to have a draft environmental impact report completed by this summer.

Once completed, the new hotel will feature 164 rooms instead of the current 87, with 300 parking spaces — 100 more than what is required, to help with the shortage of parking in downtown, Farzam said.

As for Macerich, one of the largest mall operators in the nation, the Planning Commission meeting was a success as they received the endorsement of commissioners, who, despite having some

reservations, seemed enthusiastic about the remodel, calling it a "world class" concept that would indeed create better synergy with the Third Street Promenade.

Members praised Macerich for its community outreach and willingness to come before the commission, even though it didn't have to under the law since the project is not a significant remodel under development standards.

Commissioner Terry O'Day said jokingly that Macerich had done so much outreach that he was "sick of hearing about" the project.

"Their team has been everywhere in the community," O'Day said.

Suggestions by residents are reflected in every aspect of the project, from the relocation of the food court and the type of retail that will be housed there, to the use of green building principals that will make the mall more environmentally friendly.

"I think it was clear to me that the plan we have is a good fit with what the community expected and a good fit with downtown," Aptaker said. "I think the commission really got that everything we did with the community outreach really made an impact and had an influence on the design of this project. That really hit home."

Some commissioners had concerns about wind and whether or not people would enjoy eating on an outside deck or if their food would be blowing off their plates.

Macerich officials said they have hired a wind consultant to determine ways of protecting diners from the elements.

There was also a lot of comments about Macy's and whether or not the department store is going to remodel its location at the corner of Fourth Street and Colorado Avenue, an important intersection in light of the Civic

Center redevelopment plan and efforts to place a light rail terminus at the old Sears auto shop.

Commissioner Julie Lopez Dad called the Macy's building an "albatross," and urged Macerich to continue putting pressure on the department store chain to make improvements.

Macy's officials could not be reached for comment.

Randy Brant, senior vice president for Macerich, said he has "tried like hell to embarrass" Macy's into remodeling their building. Macerich recently purchased the land underneath Macy's, but the department store still owns the building and has a long-term lease.

"We will continue to put pressure on them," Brant said, "and there is a good chance they will do something."

kevinh@smdp.com



VISION OF WHAT'S TO COME: A future Travelodge facility as seen from Ocean Avenue in this artists rendering of the pending project.

Illustration courtesy Ocean Avenue Management



SUMMER IS HERE

(Above) A surfer heads out toward the Santa Monica Bay at 5:50 a.m. on Thursday — the first day of summer and the longest day of the year. (BELOW) Michael DeBarca and Desiree Fought play a game of chess at Clover Park amid the setting sun. Beginning today, the days will get shorter, but the sun will still set later in the evening.



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

No charges filed in shooting

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY No charges have been filed against a juvenile who was arrested last week in connection with a shooting in the 1900 block of 20th Street. SMPD Lt. Alex Padilla said the juvenile was released because of a “reluctance of the victim and witnesses to cooperate.” The shooting is still under investigation and detectives are encouraging anyone with information to come forward.

Police said the juvenile was found hiding beneath a bed in an apartment close to where the shooting took place. The shooting occurred on June 14 at 5:35 p.m. Witnesses said at least four Hispanics walked up to a group of African-American males standing in front of an apartment complex and opened fire. No gunshot victims were located at the scene and no weapon was recovered following the shooting, police said.

kevinh@smdp.com

THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS IS CURRENTLY **LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS AND INTERNS** TO HELP US AUGMENT OUR **ENTERTAINMENT COVERAGE**. EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD IS GREAT, BUT WE’LL TALK TO ANYONE WITH A **FRESH VOICE AND A WILLINGNESS TO WRITE ORIGINAL AND, AHM, ENTERTAINING COPY**. GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

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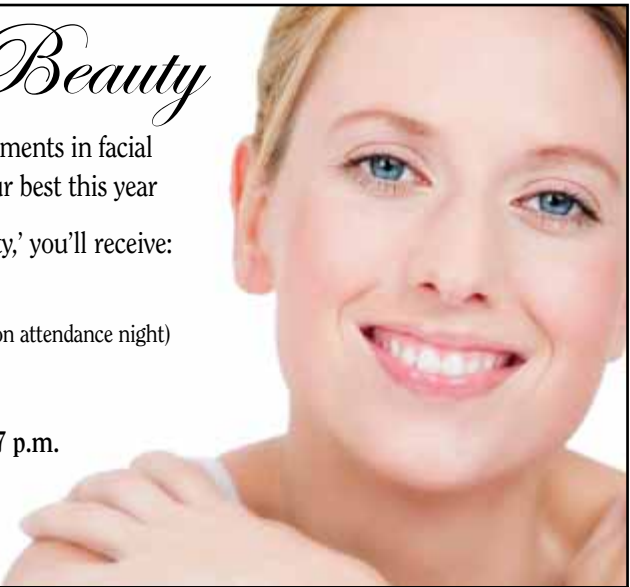
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— A Saner View of Life —

At first sight, it would appear that the world is now in deeper crisis than ever before. War and terrorism have quickened the pace of events and filled the hearts of millions with fear. Were this the true reading of the present situation there would indeed be cause for fear and lamentation. Happily, this view is superficial and hides the many changes for the better which, quietly, with little attention, are likewise taking place. War and terror are sensational and make potent news. Far-reaching actions which enhance the lives of millions seldom make headlines, and are lost amid the tumult of imperious governments and uneasy dictators.



"Peace will be achieved only with justice and freedom for all."

Many see who erstwhile did not. Many walk who formerly sat and watched their brothers run and play. For the first time in their lives, the world is full of hope for many who suffered in silence.

To these quiet and patient ones, life is opening its windows, letting in the sunshine and fresh air. Through the work of the many agencies new, invigorating energy now flows, and the people respond and rejoice. These, the servers, are the true heroes of this time. Not those who drop the bombs from the high clouds but those who sense the needs of their brothers and sisters, and act, no matter the cost.

When Maitreya makes his appearance, openly, to all, he will inspire the creation

of a saner attitude to life grounded in serving the needs of men and women everywhere. He will show that the conflicts of the present are not inevitable. That leaders of nations have a responsibility to humanity at large, and not alone to their subjective feelings or ideology. He will call for caution and wisdom with regard to today's weapons of terrible power, and warn of the fruitlessness of war 'for the sake of peace'.

Peace, he will show, is not difficult to find if honestly sought. Peace, he will say, will be achieved only with justice and freedom for all. Thus will Maitreya set the target for change. Thus will men be inspired to take the simple step into the unknown and to see the fulfilment of the dreams and longings for peace which men have for long held in their hearts.

United Nations agencies

The world is deeply indebted to the many United Nations agencies whose careful, selfless work goes steadily on amid the rhetoric and bravado of the power-drunk politicians. The time is fast coming when men will realize that the needs of the world are the needs of men and women everywhere: for food and work, for health-care and education. These are the priorities which should guide men's actions and engage their energy and resources. These are the perennial needs of all; humanity neglects them at its peril.

Specialist non-governmental groups likewise add their insights and researches, awakening men to the dangers in the headlong rush to further abuse this already ailing planet.

This article, published in *Share International* magazine, was written by a Master of Wisdom. The Masters, headed by Maitreya, the World Teacher, are highly advanced teachers and advisors of humanity who are planning to work openly in the world very soon.

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Reconstruction project debated

FROM INCLINE PAGE 3

structure could contain such contaminants.

Due to the use of raw materials for construction, the EIR found the project could also lead to stormwater runoff contamination.

But aside from possible contamination issues, the biggest concern that consultants with Jones & Stokes heard from residents during the compilation of the report were traffic and historic preservation, as the bridge was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1998, said Silpa Trisal, a consultant with the firm, which conducted the study.

MUCH ADO ABOUT TRAFFIC

Traffic appears to be a key concern for many residents who fear congestion on PCH and Ocean Avenue throughout the duration of the project, which would shut down the bridge and one of the main arteries for motorists into the heart of the city from the beach for up to 10 months.

City officials should consider allowing construction to go on 24 hours a day, seven days a week in order to complete the project as soon as possible, said George Wolfberg, the president of the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association.

"If you look at how many people are inconvenienced each day of construction, it's thousands of people," Wolfberg said, referring to the number of motorists that travel through Santa Monica each day. "I'm not denying that the people who live close by (would be inconvenienced)."

Wolfberg believes City Hall might be able to work out a deal in which noisy construction, such as jackhammering and drilling, would be limited to daylight hours.

A Traffic Management Plan will be in the works to look into several ways in which congestion can be mitigated. During construction, traffic on PCH will be detoured past the California Incline exit south to the ramp leading up to the intersection of Moomat Ahiko Way and Ocean Avenue, located near the Santa Monica Pier.

The traffic signal at the intersection of Moomat Ahiko Way and Ocean Avenue will be coordinated with the one at Ocean and

Colorado avenues in another congestion-calming measure, said Bob Cheung, a traffic consultant with Katz, Okitsu & Associates.

High on the list of concerns among residents is how cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods will be discouraged.

Diane Wolfberg believes proper signage will be necessary, hoping that a notice won't be posted at West Channel Road stating that it is the last exit because the California Incline Bridge will be closed.

"I want to have a good sign directing (traffic) south to PCH to let them know they can get off at the pier," Wolfberg said.

Traffic engineers recognize that many motorists will use Lincoln Boulevard as a detour, taking it to San Vicente Boulevard down Entrada Drive and West Channel Road to access PCH. City Hall plans to work with Caltrans in order to find ways to discourage motorists from taking these routes, Cheung said.

A BEEF WITH PARKING

One of the biggest concerns for the Wilshire-Montana Neighborhood Coalition is that parking spaces not get snatched up by project workers and the various pieces of equipment that would be deployed to the site. The coalition serves residents in the area bounded by Wilshire Boulevard to Montana Avenue, 21st Street to Ocean Avenue. The project falls within the neighborhood's boundaries.

One option would be to shuttle construction workers from a satellite parking lot to the site, something that has been done in other city projects, Trisal said.

For residents in the Wilmont area, parking has been the bane of their existence for years. The neighbors tend to groan whenever they hear of a construction project in the area, wondering "why us," said Rosemary Sostarich, a member of the coalition.

"We are in the densest neighborhood in the city," according to Sostarich. "We're always concerned when there's a new project built in the area."

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✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

Golay trial goes to court

FROM TRIAL PAGE 3

Court do not generate a formal response.

In his motion to dismiss, Diamond alleges that his client was denied sufficient rest during the preliminary hearings, held from March 12-15. Throughout the proceedings, Diamond requested the judge grant Golay a later wake-up time on court hearing days, claiming she was not mentally alert since she was constantly called out of bed around 3 a.m. to be shuttled from the women's detention center in Lynwood to Downtown Los Angeles.

Golay has been granted a waiver since then, allowing her to stay put on hearing days concerning small routine matters.

Both Golay and Rutterschmidt are charged with the murders of Paul Vados and Kenneth McDavid, who were killed in separate, yet similar hit-and-run incidents in 1999 and 2005, respectively.

Investigators believe the elderly duo

befriended Vados and McDavid when they were still homeless, setting them up in apartments and gaining their trust. The women then allegedly convinced Vados and McDavid to sign them onto their life insurance policies before they were killed.

The evidence the prosecution presented during the preliminary hearing included life insurance applications showing the women had claimed to be fiancées, business partners and relatives of Vados and McDavid on varying policies.

It is estimated that the women cashed in on more than \$2 million from the life insurance policies.

The case has caught the eyes of Hollywood producers, who have lined up stars such as Shirley MacLaine, Lindsay Lohan and Rosario Dawson to star in "Poor Things," a film based on the events of the Golay-Rutterschmidt murder case.

melodyh@smdp.com

NBA

Theus returns to basketball roots

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

SACRAMENTO Reggie Theus scored the first basket in the history of the Sacramento Kings nearly 22 years ago — and the club put the ball back in his hands this week.

Kings owners Joe and Gavin Maloof formally introduced Theus as the franchise's 21st head coach at Arco Arena after signing him to a three-year deal. With a natty suit and a TV-star smile, Theus vowed to return excitement and wins to a once-successful team that fell apart last season.

"I've come full circle. This is an amazing dream to be sitting here," said Theus, who played three high-scoring seasons in Sacramento after the club's move from Kansas City to California's capital.

"I remember flying in for the first time over the rice fields and the farms, and I was reflecting on that as I flew in today. The only time I can remember having this feeling is the day I got drafted."

Theus replaces Eric Musselman, who won 33 games in his one tumultuous season. He succeeded Rick Adelman, who led the Kings to eight consecutive winning seasons and playoff appearances, including the 2002 Western Conference finals.

Most of the veterans who made up last

season's squad are under contract for next season and beyond, including Ron Artest and Mike Bibby. Sacramento, which has the 10th pick in next week's draft, is expected to shake up a roster that stagnated last year.

Though most NBA observers think the Kings are in for a few more years of hard times, Theus seemed overwhelmingly eager to attack their weaknesses — and he had some firm opinions about last year's struggles.



I'VE COME FULL CIRCLE.'

Reggie Theus
Sacramento's new coach

"There's no doubt in my mind this team could have and should have won more games last year," he said. "We have to create an identity. Right now, there's no identity to this team. ... Nobody on the floor is going to have more passion and enthusiasm than I'm going to have. That's something I'll have to work on. My job is to find out how to get it done."

The Kings dominate public discussion in this one-sport town, and fans are wondering what the club will become under Theus, who has a short coaching resume.

NHL

Giguere stays with Ducks

BY JOHN NADEL
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM Goaltender Jean-Sebastien Giguere has decided to stay with the Stanley Cup champion Anaheim Ducks, signing a 4-year, \$24 million contract on Thursday.

"J.S. Giguere has been an instrumental part of this franchise for the last six years," Ducks executive vice president-general manager Brian Burke said in a statement. "We view him as one of the top goaltenders in the NHL today, one with tremendous character and competitive fire, traits we value greatly in this organization."

The 30-year-old Giguere had a 13-4 record in the playoffs while appearing in 18 postseason games. He had a 1.97 goals-against average and a .922 save percentage.

"I'm very excited to be staying with the

Ducks," said Giguere, who earned \$3.99 million this season. "Orange County has been a great place for my family over the last six years, and we are grateful to the entire organization for the opportunity to stay here."

Giguere had a 36-10-8 record, a 2.26 goals-against average and a .918 save percentage in 56 regular-season games. His 36 wins were a career best and set a new franchise record, and his 10 regulation losses were the fewest of any NHL goalie who played in 50 or more games.

The Ducks beat the Ottawa Senators in five games in the Stanley Cup finals. They also reached the finals in 2003, losing to the New Jersey Devils in seven games.

Giguere won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the most valuable player in the 2003 playoffs after playing in the first 21 postseason games of his career.

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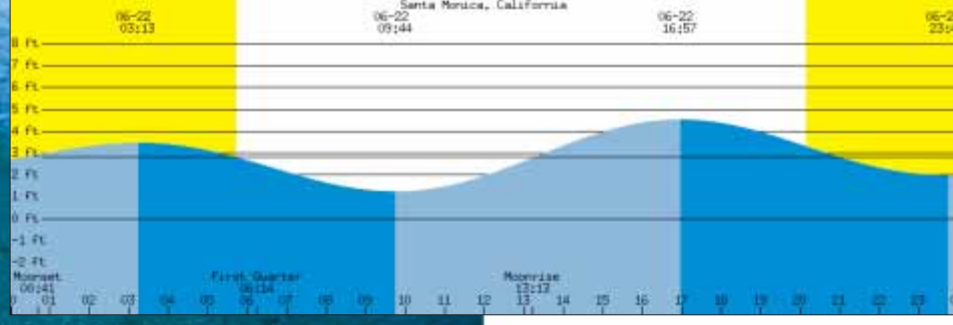
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SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)

Surf-wise, some 300-degree, 8- 10-second period swell should help west facing breaks get above the waist high range, perhaps chest high or so north of LA. South facing breaks can expect a little bit of wrap, but nothing much above knee to waist high. The tide will be at more normal levels in the AM with the low remaining above the near-zero range mid to late morning.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
NW WIND SWELL PICKS UP OVER NEXT FEW DAYS...

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

June 11, 2007

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 -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	B	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	ns	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	F	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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Heal the Bay's Beach Report CardSM is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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

Is game addiction a condition?

BY LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO The telltale signs are ominous: teens holing up in their rooms, ignoring friends, family, even food and a shower, while grades plummet and belligerence soars.

The culprit isn't alcohol or drugs. It's video games, which for certain kids can be as powerfully addictive as heroin, some doctors contend.

A leading council of the nation's largest doctors' group wants to have this behavior officially classified as a psychiatric disorder, to raise awareness and enable sufferers to get insurance coverage for treatment.

In a report prepared for the American Medical Association's annual policy meeting starting Saturday in Chicago, the council asks the group to lobby for the disorder to be included in a widely used mental illness manual created and published by the American Psychiatric Association. AMA delegates could vote on the proposal as early as Monday.

It likely won't happen without heated debate. Video game makers scoff at the notion that their products can cause a psychiatric disorder. Even some mental health experts say labeling the habit a formal addiction is going too far.

Dr. James Scully, the psychiatric association's medical director, said the group will seriously consider the AMA report in the long process of revising the diagnostic manual. The current manual was published in 1994; the next edition is to be completed in 2012.

Up to 90 percent of American youngsters play video games and as many as 15 percent of them — more than 5 million kids — may be addicted, according to data cited in the AMA council's report.

Joyce Protopapas of Frisco, Texas, said her 17-year-old son, Michael, was a video addict. Over nearly two years, video and Internet games transformed him from an outgoing, academically gifted teen into a reclusive manipulator who flunked two 10th grade classes and spent several hours

day and night playing a popular online video game called World of Warcraft.

"My father was an alcoholic ... and I saw exactly the same thing" in Michael, Protopapas said. "We battled him until October of last year," she said. "We went to therapists, we tried taking the game away.

"He would threaten us physically. He would curse and call us every name imaginable," she said. "It was as if he was possessed."

When she suggested to therapists that Michael had a video game addiction, "nobody was familiar with it," she said. "They all pooh-poohed it."

I SAW SOMEBODY THIS WEEK WHO HASN'T BEEN TO BED...BECAUSE OF VIDEO GAMES, HE IS REALLY A MESS."

Dr. Karen Pierce
Psychiatrist at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital

Last fall, the family found a therapist who "told us he was addicted, period." They sent Michael to a therapeutic boarding school, where he has spent the past six months — at a cost of \$5,000 monthly that insurance won't cover, his mother said.

A support group called On-Line Gamers Anonymous has numerous postings on its Web site from gamers seeking help. Liz Woolley, of Harrisburg, Pa., created the site after her 21-year-old son fatally shot himself in 2001 while playing an online game she says destroyed his life.

In a February posting, a 13-year-old identified only as Ian told of playing video games for nearly 12 hours straight, said he felt suicidal and wondered if he was addicted.

"I think i need help," the boy said.

Postings also come from adults, mostly men, who say video game addiction cost them jobs, family lives and self-esteem.

According to the report prepared by the AMA's Council on Science and Public Health, based on a review of scientific literature, "dependence-like behaviors are more likely in children who start playing video games at younger ages."

Overuse most often occurs with online role-playing games involving multiple players, the report says. Blizzard Entertainment's teen-rated, monster-killing World of Warcraft is among the most popular. A company spokesman declined to comment on whether the games can cause addiction.

A woman in the New Haven, Conn., area who bought the game for her 15-year-old son last year, says he got hooked on it.

"Now that I look back on it, it's like I went out and bought him his first Jack Daniel's," said the 49-year-old woman who didn't want her name used to spare her son from ridicule.

Dr. Martin Wasserman, a pediatrician who heads the Maryland State Medical Society, said the AMA proposal will help raise awareness and called it "the right thing to do."

But Michael Gallagher, president of the Entertainment Software Association, said the trade group sides with psychiatrists "who agree that this so-called 'video-game addiction' is not a mental disorder."

"The American Medical Association is making premature conclusions without the benefit of complete and thorough data," Gallagher said.

Dr. Karen Pierce, a psychiatrist at Chicago's Children's Memorial Hospital, said she sees at least two children a week who play video games excessively.

"I saw somebody this week who hasn't been to bed, hasn't showered ... because of video games," she said. "He is really a mess."

She said she treats it like any addiction and creating a separate diagnosis is unnecessary.

Dr. Michael Brody, head of a TV and media committee at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, agreed.

Take off ASAP, Capricorn

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

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

- ARIES (March 21-April 19)**
★★★★ Accomplish as much as possible. Once more others prove delightfully distracting this afternoon. Feeling overwhelmed might not be an unusual response when others practically claw their way toward you. Tonight: Bathe in the moment and enjoy your popularity.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**
★★★★★ Creativity is one of your strong suits. Use your high ingenuity not only to improve a relationship but also to facilitate a work-related situation. Demonstrate your many abilities. Tonight: Wind down slowly.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**
★★★★ Sometimes you feel like the dying phoenix rising from the ashes. Yes, you come back hard and strong. Though you might have been playing it low-key, watch out, world, as you make a grand appearance this afternoon. Tonight: Time to spice up your life.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22)**
★★★★ Make calls and finish off a project this morning. Use your timing and focus on finishing and completing. Leave work or your daily routine clear and up-to-date. Moving around allows you to relax and release stress. Tonight: Mosey on home.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**
★★★★★ How you view a situation could change dramatically as more information heads your way. Backing off a stance might be quite important in the long run. A conversation opens up many doors. Explore rather than judge. Tonight: Add your famous Lionesque style to the mix.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**
★★★★ Use your high energy to the max this morning. Tackle what you feel is important, knowing everyone has limits, including you. Use the afternoon for tidying up your desk and squeezing in a little relaxation too. Careful with spending. Tonight: Indulge yourself tonight.

- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**
★★★★ Though you might be dragging this morning, by the afternoon, others might be hard-pressed to believe you felt tired and perhaps a little low. Beam in exactly what you want from a sense of deserving that desire. Tonight: Know that the world is your oyster. Act like it. Think like it.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**
★★★★ Complete a key transaction by midafternoon. Oddly, after being so much in the limelight, you might want to pull back and play recluse. Ah, Scorpio, you are capable of nearly anything! Tonight: Do your famous vanishing act.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**
★★★★ Challenge yourself to be present in the moment. Don't get wound up in "what ifs" or head games. If you do manifest this type of behavior, you might be preventing yourself from living life to the fullest. Let go of problems! Tonight: Celebrate the start of the weekend.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**
★★★★★ Working with one other person allows greater flex and more success. Use your finely tuned skills in business. You might be playing let's make a deal. In the afternoon, consider a get-away of all getaways. Tonight: Take off ASAP.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**
★★★★★ You have the unique ability to read between the lines and hear what isn't being said. You need to allow others to talk in your dealings with key people. You actually will understand more and make better decisions as a result. Tonight: Try a new restaurant. Go with new.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**
★★★★★ Don't be surprised if you cannot get a word in. Others could be nothing less than overwhelming. Listen, but if need be, defer or say "no." A key discussion needs to happen with one other person. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

Born Today
Quarterback Kurt Warner (1971),
Novelist Dan Brown (1964)
Actress Meryl Streep (1949)



Happy Birthday!

You reach new heights this year and enter a new life phase. When you christen 2008 on New Year's Eve, know that at the same time you are christening your very special year. You have been grappling with personal issues the past six to seven years. Now you will extend your experience to others. If you are single, hold on to your hat as you breeze into a period in which you will be meeting people who could be forever yours. You will have your pick of one or more suitors. If you are attached, your relationship will need rebalancing. Ask yourself if you have become slightly too me-oriented.

Sobriety first

Doherty may clean up his act to marry Moss

PETE DOHERTY plans to marry **KATE MOSS** this summer – providing he stays off drugs, his diary says.

The troubled singer gives insight into his tempestuous relationship with the supermodel in “The Books of Albion: The

Collected Writings of Peter Doherty.” The extracts were published Thursday in The Times.

He writes that he hopes to marry her this summer, provided he is “smack and needle-free. ... I become (sic) 10 times happier than any given

smackhead. Huzzah!”

The entries also detail the fights between the couple, many of which appear to be about Doherty’s addiction to heroin and crack cocaine.

“I have been banging up I confess, and yet my use is extremely moder-

ate and controlled. What am I saying? Kate will not tolerate this ... I wouldn’t blame her, and alongside the fixing neither of us seem to completely trust each other although I love her and no other and the tiffs and tumults come

between magical happy times,” he writes. The diaries also feature an entry written by Moss, in which she tells Doherty: “You have touched my heart and soul ... You make me high, my sweet.”

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Protective Billy Ray

BILLY RAY CYRUS is crossing his fingers that his daughter, “Hannah Montana” star Miley, won’t go the way of Lindsay and Paris and Britney. He even shows her articles about the Hollywood troublemakers as cautionary tales.

So far, so good.

“The biggest phenomenon in all this is that the kid’s been able to keep her head on her shoulders,” the 45-year-old country singer tells People magazine in its new issue. “She hasn’t flipped out. I’m going to knock on wood.”

He adds: “I pray every day she can stay on that path.”

Cyrus, who recently completed a stint on ABC’s “Dancing With the Stars,” co-stars with 14-year-old Miley on the hit Disney

Channel series “Hannah Montana,” about a country-girl-turned-pop-star who tries to keep her celebrity life a secret from her classmates.

“We’re really close,” she says. “I feel like I can tell my dad anything. When we come home, we forget that we even work together and just hang out.”

“It’s the same with Miley as it is with all my kids,” replies Cyrus, a Kentucky native and Los Angeles-based father of five children with wife Leticia. “I try to be

their best friend. ... It’s a real fine line, and thus far, it’s a line I’ve been able to walk.”

Cyrus aims to keep life “as normal as possible” for Miley, who’s enrolled in a public school that allows her to study on the set of her show and come in for exams on Fridays. His heart went out to her, however, when she went to a friend’s dance and “pretended it was her prom, because she doesn’t go to a regular school. It made me sad,” he recalls.

AP

Seeing even more stars

RICKY MARTIN, BROOKS & DUNN, TIM ROBBINS, CATE BLANCHETT, ANGELA BASSETT, HOWIE MANDEL and the late **GEORGE HARRISON** are among the celebrities who will be honored next year with Hollywood Walk of Fame stars.

Hollywood’s honorary mayor Johnny Grant announced the list of 2008 inductees on Wednesday, noting recipients were chosen from

hundreds of nominations received by the Walk of Fame Committee.

Sidewalk stars are given to entertainers in motion pictures, television, live theater and recording.

Directors of the committee selected recipients and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce board ratified the selections on June 8.

“I am happy to announce an array of

celebrities who have earned this recognition for a combination of professional achievement and community involvement,” Grant said.

The list of 2008 Hollywood Walk of Fame recipients:

Movies: Angela Bassett, Cate Blanchett, Tim Robbins, Stan Lee, the Munchkins (from “The Wizard of Oz”) and the Westmores of Hollywood, a longtime

show-business makeup family.

Television: Howie Mandel, Susan St. James, Bill Geist, Kate Linder, Howie Mandel, Sherwood Schwartz, Vince McMahon and, posthumously, Brian Keith.

Recording: Brooks & Dunn, Ricky Martin, Christina Aguilera, Red Hot Chili Peppers and, posthumously, George Harrison.

AP

PAMMY HATES FUR



Free the Finnish fur foxes, **PAMELA ANDERSON** says.

After arriving Thursday to host a music festival west of Helsinki, Anderson told Finnish President Tarja Halonen in a letter that her nation should emulate other countries that have banned fur farms.

“It’s time for Finland to move into the 21st century and follow suit,” said Anderson, whose great-grandfather was Finnish.

The letter was distributed to the media by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

AP

Jagger says he’s sorry to Spain

MICK JAGGER used the Catalan language to apologize to fans for last year’s cancellation of several shows in Barcelona and three other Spanish cities.

In a TV broadcast Thursday as the Rolling Stones prepared a new tour of Spain, Jagger told fans, “We are very

sorry we canceled our concert last year, but now we are ready.” The apology lasted a few seconds and was prolonged by laughter and clowning from drummer Charlie Watts and guitarist Keith Richards.

Canal 3, the television station that broadcast the apology, described

Jagger’s Catalan diction as “better than average.”

The apology preceded a concert Thursday night at Barcelona’s Olympic Stadium as part of the Stones’ “A Bigger Bang Tour.”

The canceled dates last year were due to Jagger coming down with a case of laryngitis.

Ticket prices for the Barcelona show range from \$87 to \$249. Organizers said that, as of Wednesday, 8,000 tickets remained unsold.

After Barcelona, the Rolling Stones will play in San Sebastian, Madrid and El Ejido in southeast Spain.

AP



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MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
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Witness for the Prosecution
(1957) (NR)
7:30

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

Knocked Up (R)
12:45, 3:35, 6:35, 9:45
A Mighty Heart
11:30am, 11:55am, 1:45, 2:30,
4:15, 5:00, 6:45, 7:30, 9:15, 10:10
Ocean’s Thirteen (PG-13)
1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55

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

Evan Almighty (R)
11:00am, 11:45am, 1:30, 2:15,
4:00, 4:45, 6:30, 7:20, 9:00,
9:55, 11:30
Knocked Up (R)
11:25am, 1:10, 2:25, 4:05, 5:25,
7:10, 8:20, 10:15, 11:20
Ocean’s Thirteen (PG-13)
11:10am, 12:00, 2:05, 3:00, 5:00,
6:00, 8:00, 8:50, 10:55, 11:40
Pirates of the Caribbean: At
World’s End DLP-Digital
Projection (PG-13)
11:30am, 3:10, 6:45, 10:20

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Black Sheep (NR)
12:30, 3:00, 4:00, 5:15, 7:45,
10:00
Golden Door
(Nuovomondo) (PG-13)
1:00, 7:00, 9:45

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

Once (R)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Paris, I Love You
(Paris, je t’aime) (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55
Waitress (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15
You Kill Me (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

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

1408 (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30,
10:00, 12:30
Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver
Surfer (PG) DLP-Digital Projection
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10
Fantastic Four:
Rise of the Silver Surfer (PG)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10,
11:30
Nancy Drew (PG)
11:10am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Shrek the Third
DLP-Digital Projection (PG)
11:20am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
Surfs Up (PG)
12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20

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

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

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



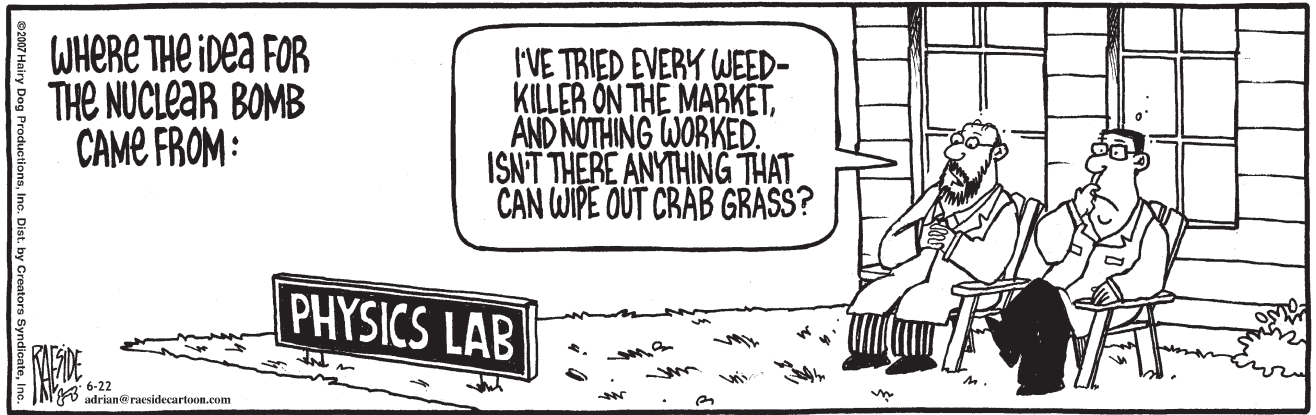
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



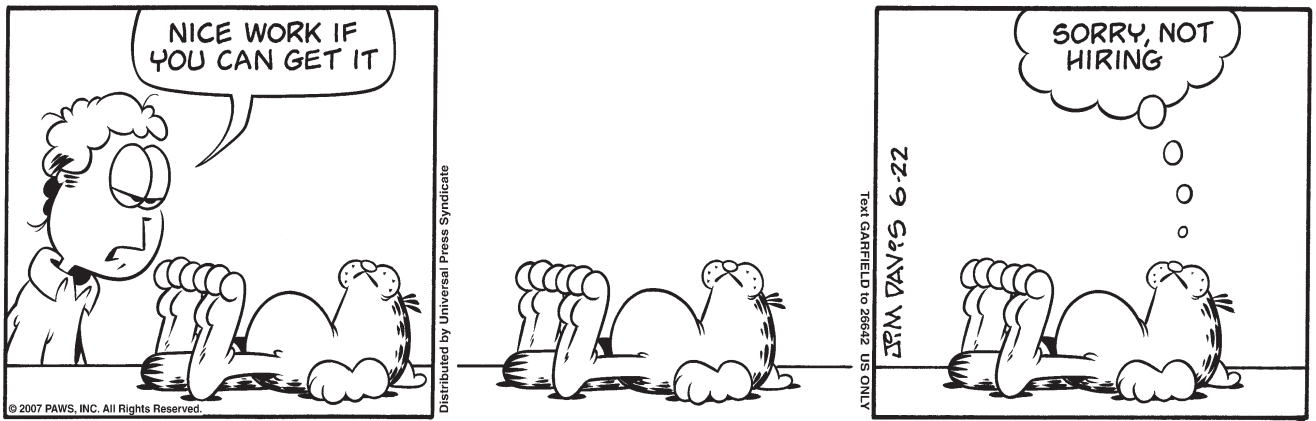
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



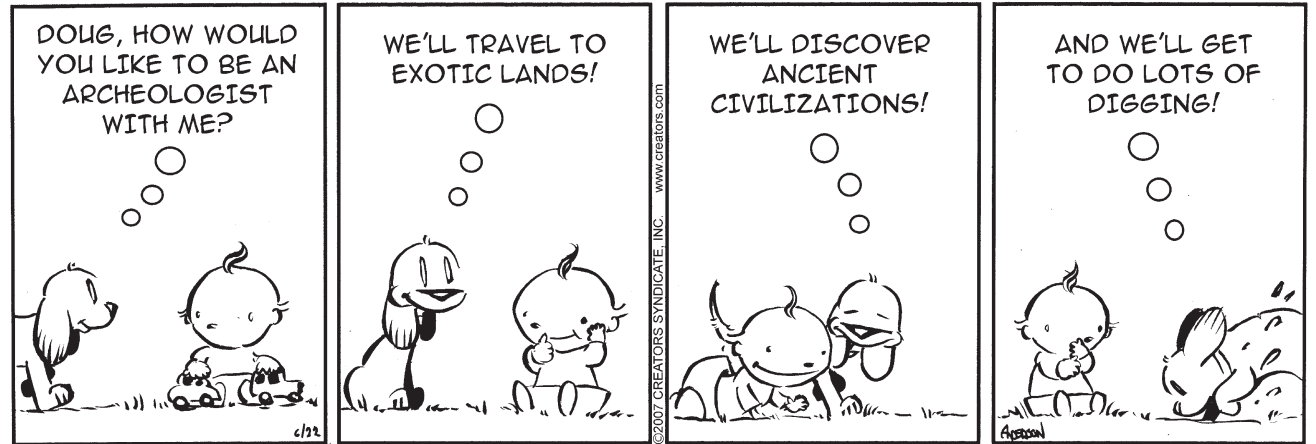
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



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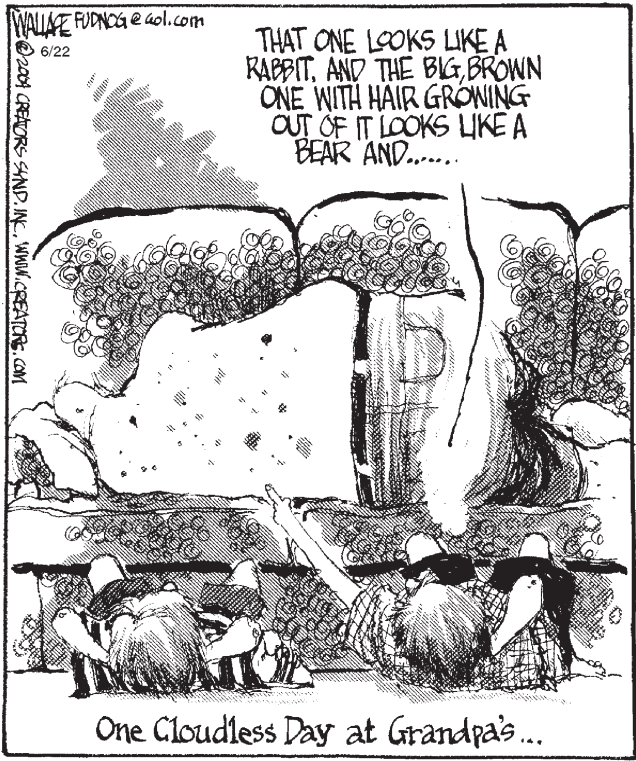
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Fabian Lewkowicz fabian@smdp.com

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Old car starter
 - 6 Wave part
 - 11 Daughter of Leda
 - 12 Strong feeling
 - 13 Dome home
 - 14 Tennis star Agassi
 - 15 Diva's practice notes
 - 16 Snitch
 - 18 Running bird
 - 19 Perch
 - 20 Ram's mate
 - 21 Convoy unit
 - 23 Unkempt
 - 25 Welcome item
 - 27 —
 - 28 Largest bone
 - 30 "Yeah, right!"
 - 33 General practice
 - 34 Disen-cumber
 - 36 Mex. neighbor
 - 37 Not in captivity
 - 39 May honoree
- DOWN**
- 40 Took the wrong way
 - 41 Thumper's pal
 - 43 Conviction
 - 44 Perfect
 - 45 Bounds
 - 46 Linger

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

Yesterday's answer

- 7 Little one
- 8 Beach Boys album
- 9 Eccentric
- 10 Yonder
- 17 Objective
- 22 Descartes
- 24 Dolphin's home
- 26 Tank tops
- 28 Like state fair hogs
- 29 Outfit
- 31 Weather map line
- 32 Clan
- 33 Squander
- 35 Credit's opposite
- 38 Away from the wind
- 42 Nabokov novel

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

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

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
5 16 31 49 54
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: \$66M

Super LOTTO
10 15 23 24 29
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: \$15M

Fantasy 5 2 4 9 17 21

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 0 8 0
EVENING: 4 4 5

DAILY DERRY
1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:46.80

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In February, Norwegian artist Jan Christensen placed his latest work, "Relative Value," at a gallery in Oslo, but it was quickly stolen (and hardly surprisingly, in that the piece contained about \$16,300 worth of Norwegian money stuck to it).

■ People can develop intimate, romantic relationships with objects (beyond mere fetishism, which produces only short-term arousal), according to one of Germany's most renowned sexologists, Volkmar Sigusch, interviewed for a May report in Der Spiegel. A reporter claimed to find individuals infatuated with a Hammond organ (and who feared infidelity when a technician performed repairs), New York City's Twin Towers (whose lover bathed with a miniature version), and the Berlin Wall (which a woman ceremoniously "married" in 1979 and legally changed her name in acknowledgment). Sigusch said this objectophilia was another indication of society's increasing "neo-sexuality."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1633 The Holy Office in Rome forces Galileo Galilei to recant his scientific view that the Sun, not the Earth, is the center of the Universe.

1825 British Parliament abolishes feudalism and the seigneurial system in British North America.

1844 Influential North American fraternity Delta Kappa Epsilon is founded at Yale University.

1848 Beginning of the June Days Uprising in Paris.

1898 Spanish-American War: United States Marines land in Cuba.

1963 Giovanni Cardinal Montini elected Pope by the College of Cardinals, and takes the name Pope Paul VI.

1969 The Cuyahoga River caught fire, which triggered a crack-down on pollution in the river.

1978 Charon, a satellite of the dwarf planet Pluto, is discovered.

1986 Argentine footballer Diego Maradona scored both the Hand of God goal and the Goal of the Century against England during the FIFA World Cup in Mexico City.

2002 An earthquake in western Iran measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale kills more than 261 people.

WORD UP!

languid \LANG-gwid\, *adjective*: 1. Drooping or flagging from or as if from exhaustion; weak; weary; heavy. 2. Promoting or indicating weakness or heaviness. 3. Slow; lacking vigor or force.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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