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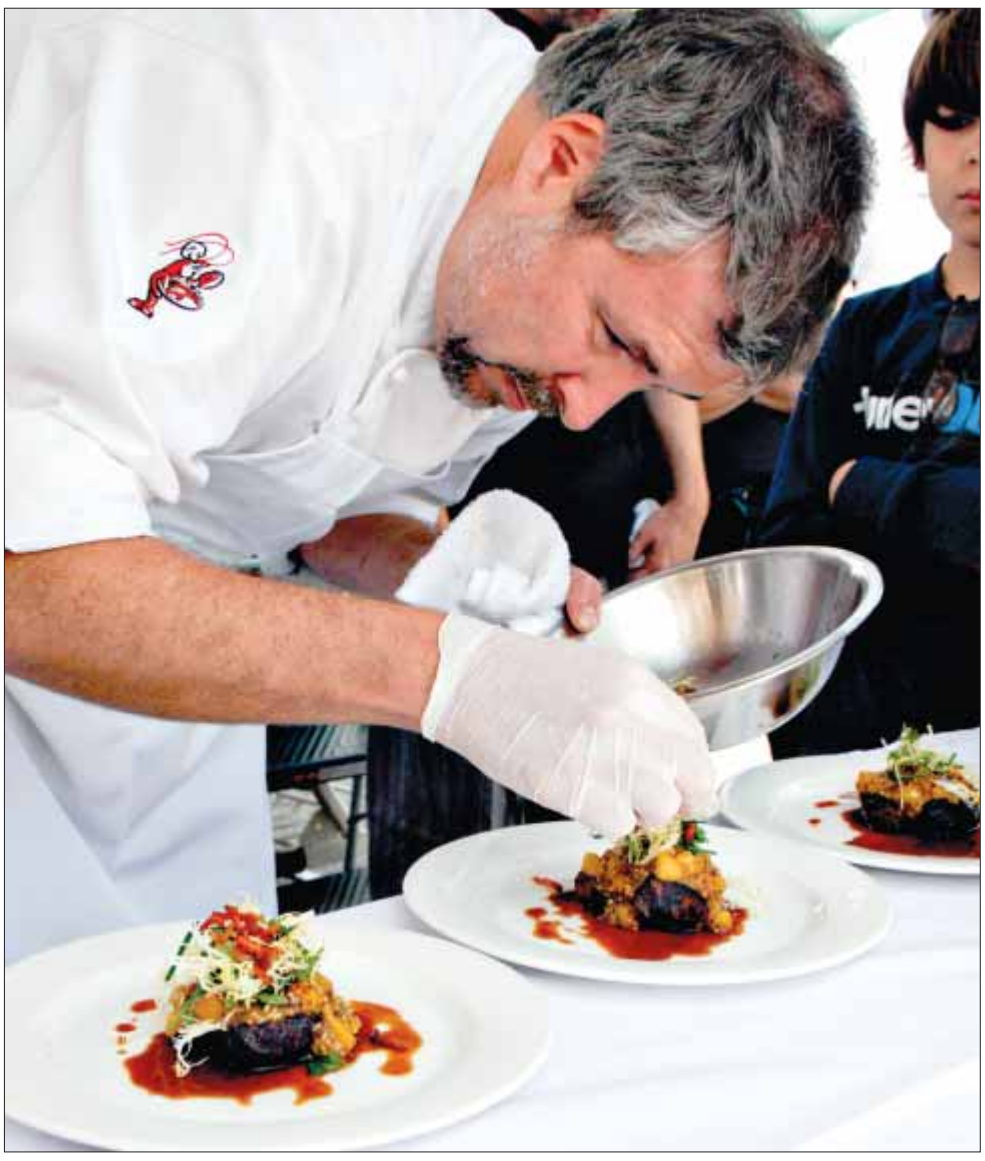
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 193

Santa Monica Daily Press

ALL CIF-SS TEAMS NAMED
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE INTERESTING FINDING ISSUE



Michelle Terris *news@smdp.com*

TASTY: **Chef Collin Crannell prepares his korbuta pork cheeks Wednesday for the Downtown Farmers' Market Peach-Off cooking competition. Crannell is head chief at The Lobster restaurant.**

A peachy morning of competition

BY REBECCA KHEEL
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN The air smells alternately sweet like a cobbler and fishy, changing with the wind. Clanging, chopping and sizzling form a symphony with the jazz stylings of a saxophone player on the sidewalk. Smoke dances out of the pans and into the atmosphere. Crowds amble by, watching the scene unfold or fixing their eyes on the surrounding booths of fresh fruit and flowers.

So begins the first Peach-Off, an "Iron Chef" like competition where three chefs from local restaurants were charged with making an appetizer, an entree and a dessert all featuring peach as an ingredient. It was held at the Downtown Santa Monica Farmers Market on Wednesday morning.

The dishes were judged by three local food-media personalities, and the winner from each category was given a crystal peach. With a Peche Poche salad of peach, endive, arugula, candied walnuts and blue cheese in a red wine vinaigrette, Fraiche, a French and Italian restaurant on Wilshire Boulevard, won the best appetizer prize. Locanda del Lago, an Italian restaurant on

SEE **PEACHES** PAGE 8

Camping arrests dropped after filing of ACLU suit

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Police officers here have made far fewer arrests for alleged violations of Santa Monica's anti-camping law since the American Civil Liberties Union last July accused city officials of using the law to drive homeless people out of town, police statistics show.

Officers made an average of 21.9 arrests per month for illegal camping during the 12-month period before the suit was filed, but just 3.1 arrests per month during the 10 months after the ACLU made its allegations, according to statistics provided by the Santa Monica Police Department.

City Hall officials, though, said they stood by their original statements that the ACLU suit, which was settled this month, had no effect on the police department's enforcement policy.

"There was no change whatsoever in response to the ACLU lawsuit," said Lance Gams, a lawyer in the City Attorney's Office who worked on the case.

The lower arrest figures, Gams said, could be explained by a combination of factors, including a 19 percent decrease in Santa Monica's homeless population in January of 2010 compared with the year before and more effective work to connect homeless individuals with social service providers. The filing of the lawsuit also coincided with the end of a three-month police operation focused on decreasing crime in Downtown that as a side-effect reduced instances of illegal camping, he said.

In any case, officers have continued to enforce the anti-camping ordinance since the suit was filed July 14, Gams said. The SMPD made between one and six arrests per month for illegal camping since then, the data show.

"Even if the numbers are down, we are still enforcing our ordinance, we just feel that other things are working well, allowing us to have lower numbers [of] arrests. And we think that's a good thing for everybody," Gams said.

To Mark Rosenbaum, chief counsel for the ACLU of Southern California, those explanations for the sharp decline in anti-

SEE **SUIT** PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

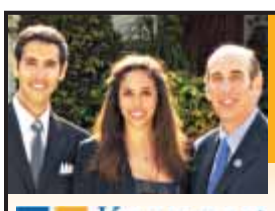
CAUGHT IN THE ACT: **Surrounded by his belongings, a homeless man sleeps at Palisades Park last week.**

By the numbers

Arrests by the SMPD for camping in public from June, 2008 to May, 2010

MONTH, YEAR	ARRESTS
June, 2008	11
July, 2008	19
August, 2008	19
September, 2008	25
October, 2008	19
November, 2008	3
December, 2008	15
January, 2009	18
February, 2009	12
March, 2009	10
April, 2009	32
May, 2009	54
June, 2009	37
July, 2009	5
August, 2009	1
September, 2009	2
October, 2009	4
November, 2009	3
December, 2009	6
January, 2010	2
February, 2010	5
March, 2010	4
April, 2010	2
May, 2010	2

* Source: SMPD


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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, June 24, 2010

Healthy information
Santa Monica Sports Medicine
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 410, 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.
A free nutrition and weight loss presentation on how to shed those last few pounds and push your body past a grinding halt or "plateau." Learn about the role of genetics, metabolism and set points. A complimentary nutrition or injury assessment is included. For more information, call (310) 704-6569.

'Sin Nombre'
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 6:30 p.m.
From the "In Case You Missed It" summer evening series, a screening of "Sin Nombre," a film about a Honduran teenager who forms an unlikely friendship with a gang member as she tries to smuggle her family into the U.S. Admission is free. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

'Daddy Long Legs'
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
"Daddy Long Legs" is an old-fashioned romance with a modern twist. Directed by Tony Award-winner John Caird and starring Megan McGinnis of "Les Miserables," the musical features a soundtrack of pop and folk by songwriter Paul Gordon. Ticket prices range from $36 to $85. For more information, call (310) 434-3200.

Friday, June 25, 2010

Line up for 'A Chorus Line'
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8pm
A Tony Award-winning musical about the personal experiences of Broadway dancers, showing at the intimate, 200-seat Morgan-Wixson Theatre in Santa Monica. Tickets are $23 for adults and $18 for seniors and students. Parking is free. The show runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. until July 31. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

On a mission
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 10 p.m. — 11 p.m.
The Mission IMPROVable Show brings its national tour back to the theater that bears its name for a fast, funny night of improv comedy. Audiences across the country have enjoyed the show for the past nine years. The M.i. Show has shared the stage with cast members from MadTV, Saturday Night Live and others. Admission costs $10. For more information, call Sean Monahan at (310) 451-0850.

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

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Pacifica Christian earns CIF-SS nods

BY DENNIS LIN
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE Pacifica Christian saw three of its players earn California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section honors, it was announced this week.

Sophomores Kevin Hammer and Zach McMillan were named to the Divsion 7 First Team, while junior Austin Cortina landed on the Second Team.

"It's a good time for our program," Head Coach Julian Chavez said. "The coaches recognized the talent, the way they conducted themselves on the field."

NEW ROADS PLACES PAIR ON CIF-SS TEAM

New Roads baseball had a sophomore selected to the CIF-SS Division 7 First Team in Anthony Carrillo. Senior Max Chilkov collected Second Team honors.

"You couldn't ask for a better leader in terms of how he conducted himself so to have him recognized is the icing," Head Coach Sean Brookes said of Chilkov. "And Carrillo was just one of those exceptional talents who puts the work in as well."

WHITE MAKES ALL D5 TEAM

St. Monica senior outfielder Danny White was named to the All CIF-SS Division 5 team this week.

White, who will play at the University of La Verne next season, was also named the MVP of the Camino Real League this season.

XRDS PLACES TRIO ON D6 TEAM

Crossroads' baseball team earned three spots on the All CIF-SS Division 6 team this week.

Senior pitcher Josh Flyer was named to the first team while senior Jake Berg-Rosenblatt and junior Andres Leyva made the second team.

news@smdp.com

DANIEL ARCHULETA contributed to this report

Council considers shorter meetings

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

> **"I THINK IT'S EASIER TO BE EFFECTIVE AND SHARP WHEN YOU HAVE A SHORTER MEETING."**
>
> **Bobby Shriver,** Mayor

CITY HALL It was an irony lost on no one in the building. The City Council on Tuesday spent an hour — far longer than was devoted to any other item on the agenda — discussing ways to make their meetings shorter.

In the end, the council voted 4-2 to begin exploring ways to improve the meetings and make them more efficient, but decided staff reports — the presentations City Hall employees make to the council during meetings before items come to a vote — would remain part of the program.

Mayor Bobby Shriver, who suggested making changes to meeting procedures, had proposed skipping the reports at council meetings and instead requiring staff to record the presentations ahead of time so they could be viewed on CityTV or online beforehand.

"I think it's easier to be effective and sharp when you have a shorter meeting," Shriver said.

After several members of the public, and several council members, spoke about the importance of hearing staff reports during meetings Shriver dropped the idea from the motion he put forward.

Before the vote, Councilmember Gleam Davis said dropping staff reports from the meetings would "truncate the discussion and make [it] less transparent" for the public.

Council members for years have looked for ways to shorten meetings, which have dragged on into the early morning hours, making it difficult for residents to participate in the public process.

Council members now take a vote around 11 p.m. on whether or not to continue items on the agenda to a later date.

The vote on Tuesday means staff will return to the council at an upcoming meeting with research on possible ways to speed up the meetings and ideas for making them more engaging for the public. One suggestion to make the meetings more resident-friendly was to provide the public with an approximate timetable for when agenda items would be heard.

The proposals were part of a "council member item," meaning they were suggested by a council member, in this case by Shriver, rather than by a City Hall staff member. Approving the item was only a first step toward making changes to meeting procedures and does not guarantee any of the proposed changes will ultimately receive a majority vote.

The split vote on whether to consider the changes was unusual because the council, by convention, generally agrees unanimously to council member items. Council members Kevin McKeown and Gleam Davis voted against the item but supported a motion that would have allowed the council to consider some of the changes in January.

nickt@smdp.com



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

IN ACTION: **Pacifica's Zach McMillan tags out New Roads' Quinn Barbini earlier this season.**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Earned the right

Editor:

Jim Sullivan's letter to the editor ("More of the same," June 21) says that Jim doesn't understand why Bob Holbrook is getting involved in a dispute with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District over a couple of thousands of dollars of Santa Monica High School band parent money. First, it is $9,800, not a couple of thousand. Second, I raised some of that money when I worked band parents' bingo games for six years as a volunteer. Third, I played trumpet in the Samohi band and my two sons played in the Samohi band. Fourth, I am a distinguished alumni of Samohi and a member of the John Adams Hall of Fame. Fifth, I have been honored by the Samohi PTSA with an honorary Service Award and by the district's PTSA Council with a Silver Bar Award. Sixth, I served eight years on the Board of Education. Seventh, I have voted for more than $50 million in city money for our schools. Finally, I have deep affection for the students, staff, teachers and parents in our district. When I notice a problem I think I have earned the right to share my concerns with the Board of Education and superintendent of schools.

Bob Holbrook
City Councilmember

Asleep at the wheel

Editor:

I was appalled when I read your story "Developer skips out on low-income housing," June 21. The negligence of Santa Monica's planning department is off the scale. First they allow six apartment buildings, with giant height and density bonuses, to be built without requiring that any of the 52, mandatory, low-income apartments be included in any of those buildings. Then they waved the requirement that the mandatory low-income housing be built concurrently with the market rate housing. Then they waved the requirement that occupancy, for the market rate housing, be delayed until the low-income housing is provided. Then they failed to get meaningful collateral to cover the cost of building that low-income housing. Is it any surprise that the low-income housing was never built, the developer is gone and the city's collateral is worthless? Within the next couple of weeks, the City Council is planning on voting to create new land use law that will be offering developers more bonuses if they pretend that they will build low-income housing. We know the planning department lacks the competence to get that low-income housing built. So the question is, will the City Council address the city's lack of enforcing low-income housing agreements before they give away more market rate housing bonuses?

Jeff Segal
Santa Monica

You bet it's relevant

Editor:

Surely Jim Sullivan or anyone can see that more serious problems exist surrounding the incident Bill Bauer describes than differing interpretations of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's gift policy (My Write, "SMMUSD's credibility takes another hit," June 21).

The problems are (1) district administrators bullying a parent volunteer group out of almost $10,000 they didn't owe, (2) the superintendent lying about board policy to rescue the board from what would have been a pathetic struggle to justify the administrators' actions, and (3) six board members condoning the bullying and hiding behind the lie.

There is an election coming up. No matter when this incident occurred, it involved three board members – Barry Snell, Kelly Pye, and Ralph Mechur – who have said they will seek re-election. The way they acted is definitely relevant until November.

Patrice Howard
Santa Monica

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Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Traveling a long way for love

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

My boyfriend of two years recently got a job offer on the east coast. While I would consider our relationship strong, I am concerned about whether we can handle long distance or whether I can afford to quit my job to follow him across the country. Do you have any advice for evaluating job prospects for moving to a new location? Are there any other things I should be thinking about to help make this decision?

Signed,
Moving for love

DEAR MOVING,

This is a difficult decision because there are so many factors involved. Not only do you need to evaluate the job prospects and new opportunities a new location might provide, but you also need to consider your own future, your boyfriend, and your relationship together. Moving across the country for another person can put a lot of strain on your relationship, but at the same time, it might also be the only way to remain together. While you do not say whether he has accepted an offer or not, if he does, then it is up to you to make the next choice, which puts a lot of pressure on you. Ultimately, it is important that you make this choice for yourself and evaluate your options; there is no one right or wrong choice here.

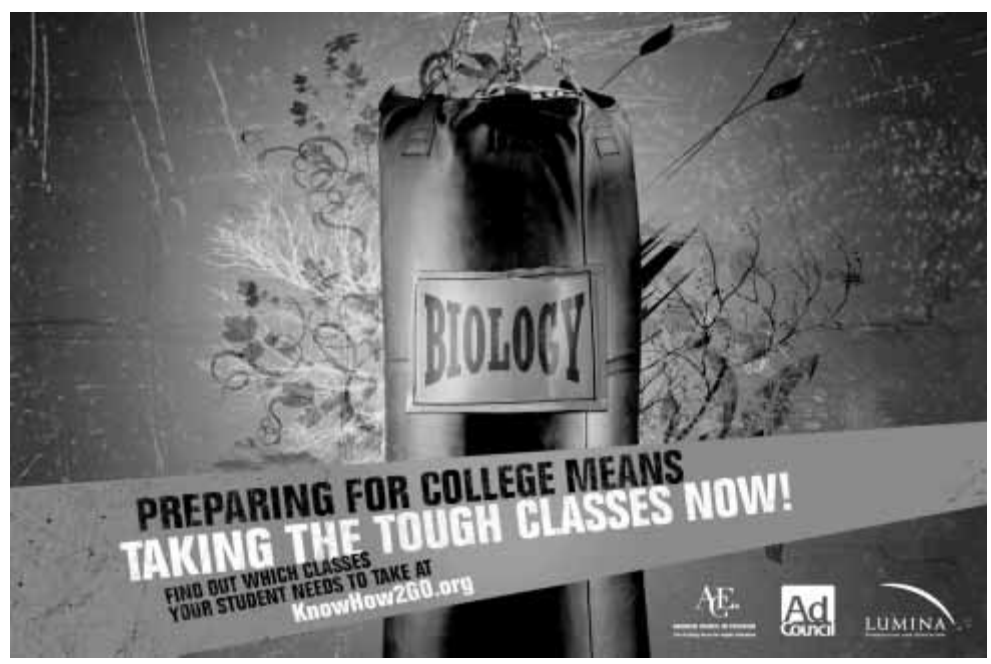
First, consider his decision to pursue a job offer in another part of the country. Moving across the country is a major life change and it is not that uncommon for individuals to prioritize their jobs over their relationships. Have you been part of this search process all along or did you find out when he got the offer? How does his career fit in with your relationship? Is discussing your future together part of his decision to accept or decline this offer? You should also evaluate his thought process. What are the areas he is evaluating to make a decision? What are his hesitations or reasons for moving forward with this opportunity? His decision has a huge weight here as well. Perhaps the new job will provide opportunities to strengthen and grow your relationship that would not exist otherwise. For instance, moving to a city with a lower cost of living or working in a job that you truly enjoy can strengthen your relationship and lead to an overall better quality of life. However, moving can also change the dynamics of your relationship; a new situation can produce change. Consider whether you feel like the move would allow you to gain or whether you are feeling like you would have to sacrifice something to move and be with him.

If you decide to move, consider the new opportunities that will be presented to you. Start by evaluating the growing trades and industries in that region. Are there companies that you would be interested in or opportunities that you cannot find in your current location? You can begin by reviewing the business journal for that region. These journals often provide guides on the top industries and growing companies. In addition, you can review the local newspaper job section, general job search websites like simplyhired.com and even look at the colleges in the area to see who their big employer recruiters are. Review your address book, Facebook or Linked In pages to see if you have connections to anyone living in that city and ask them for advice.

In addition, consider the social aspects of the move. What will it be like to meet new friends, find new hobbies, and keep yourself busy? Moving to be with your partner can put a lot of strain on your relationship if you do not think about the things outside of your relationship that will help keep you in that city. Look at travel books and visitors information to get a sense of what that city offers. If your schedule allows, schedule a time to take a trip and visit the new city. Explore what it would be like to live there, look at homes or apartments, and try some of the local restaurants. It is difficult to make a major decision like moving across the country without first testing it out!

You need to be honest with yourself and with your boyfriend throughout this process. You each have a major decision to make as well as making decisions together. Being open and honest and communicating your hesitations will help to make sure you are both on the same page. Ultimately, it's important that you make this move for yourself and not just for external reasons. Good luck!

KATRINA DAVY is a Santa Monica-based professional career counselor who holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia universities. Send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com. All questions are kept anonymous; let us help you with your life matters! Visit us online at www.newshrink.com.



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Your column here

William Stewart
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Harnessing green energy by managing California forests

FOREST MANAGEMENT CAN LEAD TO cleaner air, safer communities and lower firefighting costs, yet its greatest value may lie in addressing climate change and what it keeps hidden underground.

Managing forests helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It lowers the threat and severity of wildfire, a significant source of avoidable emissions. It also keeps fossil fuels underground.

Research has shown that active forest management can provide significantly greater carbon benefits than management strategies that set forests aside in reserves. While young reserved and managed forests sequester, or remove from the atmosphere and store, roughly the same amount of carbon in standing trees, actively managed forests can provide the additional benefit of offsetting fossil-fuel use by producing low-carbon energy from forest and sawmill residues.

Managing forests to reduce fuel loads provides immediate dividends. Fewer fuels means less-intense wildfire, greater firefighter safety, lesser environmental consequence and fewer greenhouse gas emissions. There's great carbon benefit right there — emissions avoided and standing carbon protected — by capturing the thinnings that might otherwise have gone up in smoke and using them to generate energy can be an added plus.

When forests are thinned, the harvested biomass or branches, brush and small trees can be chipped and used to produce energy. Biomass energy takes carbon that is above ground — wood chips — and keeps it above ground by burning it in power plants to produce electricity. Biomass energy is carbon neutral because no more carbon is released producing energy than would be if the vegetation were to simply decay.

Burning fossil fuels, conversely, takes carbon that was stored safely underground and releases it to the atmosphere. Burning fossil fuels increases carbon emissions every time.

Forest management can reduce emissions from wildfire and burning fossil fuels because every megawatt generated from biomass can replace a megawatt generated from emission-spewing fossil fuels. Substituting biomass energy, a byproduct of sustainable forest management, for coal-fired energy could reduce California's carbon footprint.

But California is under-investing in forest management. California taxpayers spend more than $1 billion annually to fight wildfire and almost nothing to reduce fuels at the source. More than 400 trees per acre stand in many Sierra forests where about 70 stood before the Gold Rush, tree mortality is extremely high and dangerous fuel accumulations clutter millions of acres. Continuing down a path of increasing wildfire severity, firefighting costs and emissions has serious long-term consequences.

Forest management offers wildfire relief and a clean-energy source close to millions of Californians. Yet California's forestry infrastructure is in decline and forest management has been brought to a virtual halt. Harvest on public forestlands is down 90 percent over the last 25 years, the same time frame during which firefighting costs have skyrocketed.

The most effective way to sequester more carbon in forests is to restore resilient forests to California's landscape. Californians would benefit from forest management policies that reward performance over time and create investment opportunities that put people back to work, leverage renewable energy and reduce severe wildfire.

Unfortunately, forestry's climate benefits aren't worth much in terms of cold hard cash. Stewardship contracts that leverage lumber and biomass energy production to reduce fuels across greater areas could be extended. Carbon policy should address that. Forestry regulations that create longer-term investment windows are needed to justify the capital expenses required to achieve sustainable climate benefits. Tax policy should level the playing field for biomass energy, which receives a fraction of the incentives that wind, solar and geothermal garner.

We must revitalize our energy and forestry infrastructure with actions that encourage innovation, create family wage jobs and conserve California's forest resources.

We can't export our emissions and wildfire problems, but we can invest in a locally grown, clean-energy producing solution.

WILLIAM STEWART is co-director of the Center for Forestry at UC Berkeley's Blodgett Forest, former chief of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program and holds his doctorate in forest economics and policy from UC Berkeley. This article is excerpted from the Summer 2010 edition of California Forests magazine.

The Q Line

Keeping it brief

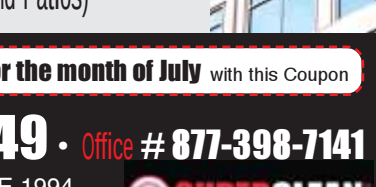
Mayor Bobby Shriver is proposing to make City Council meetings shorter by streamlining the process, limiting allotted time for each member to speak and by making staff reports available before the meetings begin.

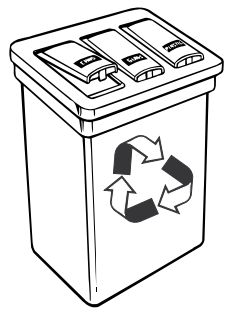
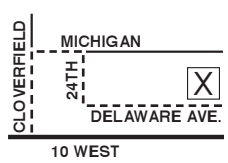
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think that the meetings are too long and need to be shortened?

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Shakespeare in the woods

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE
Special to the Daily Press

A rustic wooden stage set in the midst of bucolic Topanga Canyon and a clear night under the stars is the perfect setting in which to see any of Shakespeare's plays. Now is no different as the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum, a 299-seat outdoor amphitheater carved into the Topanga hillside, kicked off its opening season with a production of "Hamlet."

Poor Hamlet; that crazy Dane. His Uncle Claudius has killed his father — and now he's cozying up with Hamlet's mother. Hamlet, furious over their union, is driven to obtain revenge; he's even started seeing ghosts (his deceased father's ghost to be precise). Oh, if only he could exact retribution, if only, but it just never does work out for the poor dysfunctional lad who waits too long and contemplates way too much. The play, Shakespeare's most well known, deals with themes of betrayal, madness and revenge, and artistic director Ellen Geer crafts a traditional re-telling of the tale choosing to keep the setting in Denmark in the Late Medieval period.

Standouts include Aaron Hendry, who plays a terrific Claudius and even manages to elicit, during his most serious role, a few well-placed laughs while interacting with characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (also notable). Stefan Tabencki's Horatio is a joy to behold. Tabencki said, "Playing Horatio has been interesting due to his great difference of character in comparison to Hamlet … he has a big heart that is ruled by intellectual practicality, yet in the end he is willing to kill himself to continue that bond of friendship."

With some of Shakespeare's most well-known speeches, "To be or not to be" and "Alas poor Yorick" amongst them, there's no question that the titular role is a tough one to play. Mike Peebler seemed to get into the groove only after the first act, but once he got going, he was unstoppable.

The real star however is Willow Geer. Her portrayal of Ophelia is riveting; and while she's probably had more early training than her fellow thespians (being a Geer she was raised in the theatre and first graced the stage when she was 2 as the changeling child in "A Midsummer Night's Dream") she manages to make natural that which might otherwise seem affected, embodying her character with such grace, that you'll find yourself spellbound watching her descent into madness.

But fear not … If "Hamlet" is too intense for your taste, more than drama lies in the woods of Topanga. This summer season there are five plays, which include director Melora Marshall's one-of-kind signature production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" wherein the magical outdoor setting is transformed into an enchanted fairy forest, and an adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' epic swashbuckler, "The Three Musketeers."

"There's something up here, besides our plays, we have camps for children, we have a real community here and we'd like to extend more to Santa Monica. We are neighbors after all, and neighbors support each other," explained director Ellen Geer.

Performances run from June through October. Be prepared for swordplay in the aisles and be sure to bring a jacket because it gets cold when the sun goes down.

If you go

1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga CA
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Photo courtesy Ian Flanders

POWER PLAYERS: **Wilow Geer as Ophelia and Mike Peebler as Hamlet**

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June deadliest month of Afghan war for NATO

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan June has become the deadliest month of the Afghan war for the NATO-led international military force.

An Associated Press count based on announcements by the alliance and national commands shows 76 international service members have died this month. The total includes 46 Americans.

The previous deadliest month for the multinational force was July 2009, when 75 troops were killed. For the U.S. contingent, the deadliest month was October 2009, when 59 service members were killed.

U.S. allies hope for continuity after McChrystal's ouster

RAPHAEL G. SATTER
Associated Press Writer

LONDON America's allies in the fight to stabilize Afghanistan are hoping that the ouster of Stanley McChrystal as commander of international forces there still leaves the general's strategy intact, officials and analysts said Wednesday.

From Kabul to London, there was some disagreement with his removal. In Afghanistan, a range of officials expressed dismay at McChrystal's departure, while Peter Felstead, the editor of Jane's Defense Weekly, said he believed the move was "a mistake."

But most agreed that even if McChrystal was no longer in charge, his plan for fighting the country's raging insurgency should remain. The general pursued a so-called "clear and hold" strategy — one aimed at knocking the Taliban out of one area after the other while building up Afghan institutions and securing the population from attack.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said, that while McChrystal will no longer be the commander, "the approach he helped put in place is the right one."

"The strategy continues to have NATO's support, and our troops will continue to carry it out," Fogh Rasmussen said in a statement.

McChrystal — who stepped down following scornful remarks he made about administration officials — is being replaced by Gen. David Petraeus, the architect of the Iraq war turnaround. But until he is confirmed by Congress, leadership of the NATO-led force will fall to a British officer, Lt. Gen. Nick Parker, according to a statement released by British Prime Minister David Cameron.

The U.S.'s top allies in Afghanistan were eager to emphasize that, at the strategic level, nothing had changed.

Cameron, whose country has some 10,000 troops in Afghanistan said he had told Obama that Parker told him the mission in Afghanistan "would not miss a beat" during the changeover. Those sentiments were echoed by German Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg and former British Ambassador Mark Sedwill, NATO's senior civilian representative to Afghanistan, who said that McChrystal had a pivotal role in driving NATO's effort to regain the initiative against the insurgency and shore up the Afghan government.

"This strategy remains the basis of the campaign. The campaign remains on course," Sedwill said.

Analysts agreed that it would be a mistake to shift gears now.

"This is not the time for a new commander to come in to rethink strategy," said Malcolm Chalmers, a fellow at Britain's Royal United Services Institute who also served as special adviser to two British foreign secretaries.

Felstead, the Jane's editor, credited the departing general for changing NATO's strategy in Afghanistan "180 degrees."

He said that it shouldn't be too difficult for Petraeus to carry out McChrystal's plan. But given the surge in Taliban violence — June is on track to be the deadliest month on record for international coalition in Afghanistan — he said the leadership swap "couldn't have come at a worse time."

He also warned the close relationship McChrystal has built with Afghan President Hamid Karzai might not necessarily be repeated with Petraeus.

Karzai and his supporters had been outspoken in their defense of the general. But while Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi said his government regretted McChrystal's departure, it did think Petraeus was "a good choice."

It's not yet clear what impact, if any, McChrystal's removal will have on public unhappiness with the war in Europe. Many of America's trans-Atlantic allies, such as Britain, are wrestling with increasingly fraught domestic debates over the course of the conflict.

British lawmaker Adam Holloway, a member of Cameron's Conservative Party and former member of the Defense Select Committee, said he doubted losing McChrystal would have a dramatic effect on British operations.

France, the third largest contributor to the NATO force in Afghanistan, declined comment on the shake-up, with French Defense Ministry spokesman Laurent Teisseire calling it an internal U.S. military matter. Spain also refused comment.

There was a barb, however, from Russia's outspoken envoy to NATO, who suggested in a lyrical posting on social networking website Twitter that a lack of success on the battlefield cultivated a contempt for the civilian leaders McChrystal criticized.

"War wounds souls," Dmitry Rogozin said. "Bloodshed and hardship at war often arouse soldiers' contempt towards politicians and diplomats."

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

YUMMY: **Fresh peaches from the Santa Monica Downtown Farmers' Market Peach-Off.**

PEACHES

FROM PAGE 1

Arizona Avenue, took best entrée for a Chilean Sea Bass cooked cartoccio-style, meaning in an Italian baking paper. Vanilla scented peaches with brioche and Grand Marnier sabayon custard from The Lobster, a seafood restaurant on Ocean Avenue, won the best dessert award.

"I do like to use peaches," said Collin Crannell, the head chef from The Lobster. "It's kind of a short season, but I do like to use peaches a lot with something spicy or with dessert."

The idea for the competition was born from the Bayside District Corporation, the public-private company that manages Downtown Santa Monica for City Hall, as a way to promote the connection between the Famers' Market and the community and to promote seasonal fruit, said Kathleen Rawson, the executive director of Bayside.

"We're really hoping to highlight that the Farmers' Market is a wonderful community event and that the restaurants are part of our community and that they use the Farmers' Market just like residents do on a regular basis," Rawson said.

Rawson was master of ceremonies as the chefs presented their dishes to the judges. The morning started with an introduction from Rawson and Laura Avery, the Farmers' Market supervisor. The chefs then presented their dishes for judges to taste and comment on.

"I just thought it was a beautiful dish, and it became even more beautiful when it was opened up," said judge Hadley Tomecki from Grub Street LA after tasting Lago's winning entrée, which was wrapped in the baking paper and opened in front of the judges to release the strong peach scent.

In addition to explaining their dishes before giving them to the judges, the chefs answered questions from spectators about their methods and ingredients as they were cooking.

Spectators said they enjoyed the competition and wished they could have tasted the delicious-looking food. They could get the opportunity if they would like, as each dish from Wednesday's competition will be featured on the menus of the restaurants throughout July.

Karen Lavoie and Christine Casstevens came out from the South Bay to shop at the Famers' Market on Wednesday and were happily surprised.

"I think it's great," Lavoie said. "I think it's great because it's not often you get to hear from the chef himself."

The Peach-Off was the first of frequent cooking competitions at the Farmers' Market featuring seasonal fruits and vegetables, Rawson said. When and how frequent future events will be is pending evaluation of the Peach-Off.

"People love the idea of something happening right here," Rawson said. "And everybody loves a good competition."

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

IN PUBLIC: **A homeless man sleeps on the side of the road next to Santa Monica Place.**

SUIT
FROM PAGE 1

camping arrests failed to pass "the straight-face test."

"Those are the sort of explanations that you hear on the 'Colbert Report,'" he said, referencing Comedy Central's satirical news program.

The arrest data, he said, are clear proof the lawsuit caused police officers to change their tactics.

"The only intervening factor between June and July is the lawsuit, and there is a precipitous drop [in arrests]," he said. "There's no other causal factor than the lawsuit and the public shaming that resulted."

Rosenbaum said the arrest statistics should prompt Santa Monica officials to retract a press release posted on City Hall's website that claims Santa Monica made "no change in any city law, policy or practice" to settle the ACLU's suit.

"They ought to take that off their website instantly, brand it pulp fiction, tell the truth and redirect their efforts to ending homelessness altogether," he said.

That appears extremely unlikely, as officials maintained there was no connection between the lower number of arrests and the ACLU's claims.

Councilman Richard Bloom said he's confident no instructions have been given to police officers to change enforcement of the anti-camping ordinance. He also denied the suit could have prompted officers to subconsciously refrain from making arrests for illegal camping.

He said City Hall's explanation for the lower arrest numbers is credible.

"If we felt that there was a policy that we had been inappropriately enforcing in the city, we would have owned up to it, made a change in policy and moved on. We're not beyond or above acknowledging errors and dealing with them ... we've made errors in the past, but this wasn't one of them," Bloom said.

If police had stopped enforcing the anti-camping ordinance because of the ACLU suit, he said there would be more homeless people violating the ordinance in the city, but in fact there are fewer visible encampments than prior to the suit.

Gams added that the data from July 2009 suggest the lawsuit did not cause the drop-off in arrests. The ACLU suit was filed July 14, yet there were only 5 arrests under the anti-camping ordinance that month, down from 37 the month before. If the suit had been the cause for the decline, he argued there should have been at least 15 arrests during the first two weeks of the month before the suit was filed.

> **"EVEN IF THE NUMBERS ARE DOWN, WE ARE STILL ENFORCING OUR ORDINANCE."**
>
> **Lance Gams,**
> Deputy City Attorney

Police Chief Tim Jackman declined to be interviewed for this story and referred a request for comment on the arrest data to the City Attorney's Office.

The ACLU's complaint alleged Santa Monica had "for all intents and purposes ... made it a crime to be homeless within [Santa Monica's] borders and instituted a policy and practice of using its police officers to harass and intimidate homeless residents in order to force them to leave Santa Monica and relocate to nearby communities such as Venice, Malibu, and downtown Los Angeles."

It went on to allege that City Hall had violated homeless individuals' civil rights by "selectively and discriminatorily" citing homeless people for minor offenses like sitting, sleeping or smoking cigarettes in public while failing to provide adequate shelter and services to its homeless population.

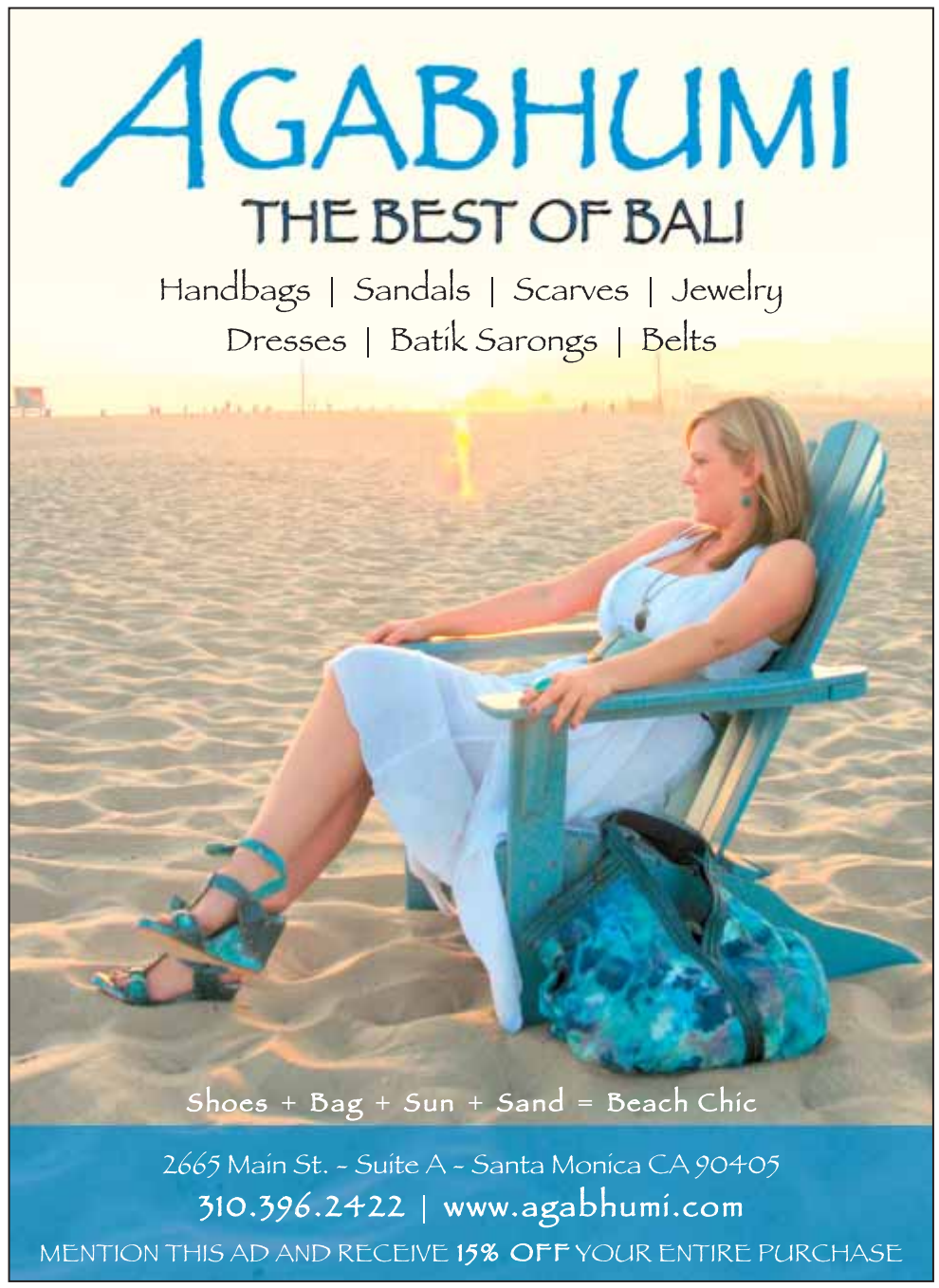
In the settlement agreement, announced June 8, Santa Monica did not have to make a payment, admit to wrongdoing, or formally change a law or policy. As part of the deal, both sides signed off on a set of principles for effectively addressing homelessness and agreed to consider cooperating on litigation against other agencies or jurisdictions over access to homelessness services in the future.

When the settlement was announced, Rosenbaum said his organization agreed to dismiss the suit because it had already achieved its aim. Santa Monica officials countered that the terms of the settlement vindicated their position that the suit had been baseless.

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Study: Stem cells reverse blindness caused by burns

ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES Dozens of people who were blinded or otherwise suffered severe eye damage when they were splashed with caustic chemicals had their sight restored with transplants of their own stem cells — a stunning success for the burgeoning cell-therapy field, Italian researchers reported Wednesday.

The treatment worked completely in 82 of 107 eyes and partially in 14 others, with benefits lasting up to a decade so far. One man whose eyes were severely damaged more than 60 years ago now has near-normal vision.

"This is a roaring success," said ophthalmologist Dr. Ivan Schwab of the University of California, Davis, who had no role in the study — the longest and largest of its kind.

Stem cell transplants offer hope to the thousands of people worldwide every year who suffer chemical burns on their corneas from heavy-duty cleansers or other substances at work or at home.

The approach would not help people with damage to the optic nerve or macular degeneration, which involves the retina. Nor would it work in people who are completely blind in both eyes, because doctors need at least some healthy tissue that they can transplant.

In the study, published online by the New England Journal of Medicine, researchers took a small number of stem cells from a patient's healthy eye, multiplied them in the lab and placed them into the burned eye, where they were able to grow new corneal tissue to replace what had been damaged. Since the stem cells are from their own bodies, the patients do not need to take anti-rejection drugs.

Adult stem cells have been used for decades to cure blood cancers such as leukemia and diseases like sickle cell anemia. But fixing a problem like damaged eyes is a relatively new use. Researchers have been studying cell therapy for a host of other diseases, including diabetes and heart failure, with limited success.

Adult stem cells, which are found around the body, are different from embryonic stem cells, which come from human embryos and have stirred ethical concerns because removing the cells requires destroying the embryos.

GOP leads in Senate race, may force runoff

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Republican Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee continued to hold a strong lead Wednesday in a special state Senate election along California's coast, though the contest still may be headed to an Aug. 17 runoff.

Blakeslee remained fewer than 400 votes short of the 50 percent he needed to win the seat outright in Tuesday's primary election. Elections officials said it could be Friday before the remaining thousands of provisional and late mail-in votes are counted in the five coastal counties that make up the 15th Senate District.

Former Democratic Assemblyman John Laird trailed with 41 percent of the vote Wednesday. A Libertarian and an independent candidate had about 9 percent combined.

Blakeslee came close to an outright victory despite opponents' efforts to tar him as "Oil Man Sam" in the wake of the ongoing Gulf of Mexico oil disaster. Critics highlighted his support in the Legislature for a limited expansion of offshore drilling and his work as a research scientist and planner for Exxon Mobil Corp. from 1989 through 1995.

"Voters are less opposed to offshore drilling than a lot of political insiders think," Democratic political strategist Darry Sragow said, referring to recent polling along California's coastline. "Voters want to end our dependence on oil, but they particularly want to end our dependence on foreign oil and they are clearly willing to take a certain amount of risk."

Sragow said that sentiment also seemed to be reflected two weeks ago in the 35th Assembly District that includes portions of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties just to the south. Voters in the June 8 Democratic primary rejected Susan Jordan, the wife of Assemblyman Pedro Nava, D-Santa Barbara, who — like Laird — had adamantly opposed offshore drilling as a centerpiece of her campaign.

Blakeslee repeatedly pushed last year to let Plains Exploration & Production Co., known as PXP, drill from an existing platform into state-regulated waters off the Santa Barbara County coast. In return, the Houston-based company had agreed to end all its drilling operations by 2022 and donate land and money to environmental causes.

The plan would have raised $100 million a year toward California's $19 billion budget deficit, but collapsed last month when Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger withdrew his support because of the Gulf spill that began when a BP PLC offshore drilling platform blew up April 20.

If he moves on to a general election, Laird said he will broaden his attacks on Blakeslee but still remind voters from Santa Barbara to Santa Cruz of Blakeslee's oil connections. Business groups and oil companies had independently pumped more than $1.2 million into the race.

"I don't think it (the oil issue) goes away, but I think the differences on education, parks, the environment become more clear in a runoff," Laird said in a telephone interview.

Laird's support came mainly from unions and the Democratic Party, reflecting their hope that his election would bring Democrats within a single vote of the two-thirds majority needed to pass a budget and tax increases through the Senate.

Republicans painted Laird as a tax-and-spend liberal based on the six years he spent in the Assembly representing a northern portion of the Senate district. Laird, 60, of Santa Cruz, was termed out in 2008.

"I was known for being a green Republican who fought for the environment," Blakeslee, 54, of San Luis Obispo, said by phone Tuesday. "I think the greatest distinction (with Laird) was, should we grow government? Should we increase taxes?"

Blakeslee's emphasis on his moderate environmental record echoed the strategy of former Republican state senator Abel Maldonado, who represented the district in the 40-member Senate until he was confirmed as lieutenant governor in April.

That may have cost Blakeslee support from conservatives who felt both major party candidates were too liberal, said Allan Hoffenblum, a former Republican strategist.

STATE BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO
Resolution urges Arizona economic boycott

A group of California lawmakers is urging the state to boycott of Arizona over its controversial immigration law.

Cities around the country have approved boycotts, but California could be the first state to do so if it adopts a resolution introduced Wednesday.

Sen. Gil Cedillo's resolution calls on the state to issue a travel advisory, cease state investments in Arizona and urge Major League Baseball to reconsider having Arizona host the 2011 All-Star Game.

More than 40 lawmakers, all Democrats, have signed the Los Angeles Democrat's resolution as co-authors. It now goes to a legislative committee for approval.

Arizona's law requires law enforcement officers to check the citizenship of anyone they believe might be in the country illegally.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES
Whooping cough epidemic in California

Whooping cough is now an epidemic in California, and is on pace to break a 50-year record for infections for the year.

As of June 15, California had 910 recorded cases of the highly contagious disease, and five babies — all under 3 months of age — have died from the disease this year.

"Children should be vaccinated against the disease and parents, family members and caregivers of infants need a booster shot," California Department of Public Health director Dr. Mark Horton said Wednesday.

The state declares an epidemic after a significant increase in the number of illnesses to a broad swath of the state's population, said state health department spokesman Ken August.

This year's surge in cases of whooping cough, also known as pertussis, is a fourfold increase from the same period last year, when 219 cases were recorded.

At least 600 additional cases are under investigation by local health departments. Officials fear that with the number of known and suspected cases at 1,510, the state is on track to beat 1958's record 3,847 cases; midway through that year, 1,200 cases had been reported.

In 1952, 15 Californians died of whooping cough.

Nationally, 23 weeks into 2010, there were 4,656 cases of whooping cough, compared with 6,017 cases in the same period in 2009, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Health officials say whooping cough is cyclical and tends to peak every two to five years. A typical case starts with a cough and runny nose for one to two weeks, followed by weeks or months of rapid coughing fits that sometimes end with a whooping sound. Fever is rare.

AP

LOS ANGELES
City leaders seek injunction against graffiti crew

Prosecutors are seeking an injunction designed to thwart a graffiti crew known for massive scrawls of its Metro Transit Assassins initials "MTA" along a quarter-mile stretch of the concrete-lined Los Angeles River.

The Los Angeles city attorney's civil court injunction request filed Wednesday identifies 10 members of the MTA vandalism squad. Unlike other anti-gang injunctions, the city attorney's office says the one targeting MTA is the first of its kind specifically targeting a group of graffiti vandals.

The injunction would impose a broad list of prohibitions against the MTA crew.

The civil suit scheduled for Aug. 31 seeks $250,000 in civil penalties and $3.7 million in damages for 500 incidents of MTA graffiti vandalism.

MTA is better known as the abbreviation of Los Angeles County's Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

AP

SAN FRANCISCO
Ex-JonBenet suspect ordered to stay away from teen

A judge has ordered John Mark Karr to permanently stay away from a woman who accused the former JonBenet Ramsey slaying suspect of threatening her.

The restraining order was issued Wednesday in San Francisco Superior Court after 19-year-old Samantha Spiegel told authorities that Karr threatened to kill her if she revealed his attempts to form a cult of little girls to have sex with him.

Karr once falsely claimed to have murdered JonBenet, a 6-year-old beauty queen killed in her parents' Boulder, Colo. home in 1996.

Police served Karr with court papers earlier this month at his father's house near Atlanta. Karr's father says his son disappeared after receiving the papers.

According to court documents, Karr has legally changed his name to Alexis Valoran Reich.

He was not in court Wednesday.

AP

SAN LUIS OBISPO
CO2 discharge causes alert at nuclear plant

An accidental discharge of carbon dioxide from a fire-suppression system has triggered an alert at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant on California's central coast.

Pacific Gas & Electric spokesman Kory Raftery says the alert began at 10:56 a.m. Wednesday and remains in effect but everyone at the plant is fine and there's no threat to public safety.

The discharge occurred during a system test in a room that houses a tank of oil to lubricate the turbine generator for one of the plants two nuclear units.

AP

LOS ANGELES
Man accuses Catholic church of fraud

The 20-year-old college student was working as a youth minister with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles when he revealed a long-buried secret to church authorities: He had been molested by a priest for several years, beginning when the cleric was first a youth minister and then a seminarian.

AP

McChrystal out; Petraeus picked for Afghanistan

ANNE GEARAN & JENNIFER LOVEN
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON President Barack Obama sacked his loose-lipped Afghanistan commander Wednesday, a seismic shift for the military order in wartime, and chose the familiar, admired — and tightly disciplined — Gen. David Petraeus to replace him. Petraeus, architect of the Iraq war turnaround, was once again to take hands-on leadership of a troubled war effort.

Obama said bluntly that Gen. Stanley McChrystal's scornful remarks about administration officials in interviews for a magazine article represent conduct that "undermines the civilian control of the military that is at the core of our democratic system."

He fired the commander after summoning him from Afghanistan for a face to face meeting in the Oval Office and named Petraeus, the Central Command chief who was McChrystal's direct boss, to step in.

By pairing those announcements, Obama sought to move on from the firestorm that was renewing debate over his revamped Afghanistan policy. It was meant to assure Afghans, U.S. allies and a restive American electorate that a firm hand is running the war.

Expressing praise for McChrystal yet certainty he had to go, Obama said he did not make the decision over any disagreement in policy or "out of any sense of personal insult." Flanked by Vice President Joe Biden, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in the Rose Garden, he said: "War is bigger than any one man or woman, whether a private, a general, or a president."

He urged the Senate to confirm Petraeus swiftly and emphasized the Afghanistan strategy he announced in December was not shifting with McChrystal's departure.

"This is a change in personnel but it is not a change in policy," Obama said.

Indeed, as Obama was speaking, McChrystal released a statement saying that he resigned out of "a desire to see the mission succeed" and expressing support for the war strategy.

With lawmakers of both parties praising the choice of Petraeus, the White House is confident he will be confirmed before Congress adjourns at the end of next week.

Obama hit several grace notes about McChrystal and his service after their meeting, saying he made the decision to sack him "with considerable regret." And yet, he said the job in Afghanistan cannot be done now under McChrystal's leadership, asserting that the critical remarks from the general and his inner circle in Rolling Stone displayed conduct that doesn't live up to the standards for a command-level officer.

"I welcome debate among my team, but I won't tolerate division," Obama said. He had delivered that same message — that there must be no more backbiting — to his full war cabinet in a Situation Room session, said a senior administration official.

The announcement came as June became the deadliest month for the U.S.-dominated international coalition in Afghanistan. NATO announced eight more international troop deaths Wednesday for a total of 76 this month, one more than in the deadliest month previously, in July 2009. Forty-six of those killed this month were Americans. The U.S. has 90,800 troops in Afghanistan.

Obama seemed to suggest that McChrystal's military career is over, saying the nation should be grateful "for his remarkable career in uniform" as if that has drawn to a close. McChrystal left the White House after the meeting and returned to his military quarters at Washington's Fort McNair.

Petraeus, who attended a formal Afghanistan war meeting at the White House on Wednesday, has had overarching responsibility for the wars in both Afghanistan and Iraq as head of Central Command. He was to vacate the Central Command post after his expected confirmation, giving Obama another key opening to fill. The Afghanistan job is actually a step down from his current post but one that filled Obama's pre-eminent need.

BP's undersea robot damages oil cap in Gulf of Mexico

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS Tens of thousands of gallons more oil gushed into the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday after an undersea robot bumped into the cap that had been containing some of the crude, forcing BP to remove it.

The setback, yet another in the nine-week effort to stop the gusher, came as the Obama administration tried to figure out how to resurrect a six-month moratorium on deepwater drilling and thick pools of oil washed up on beaches in Florida.

Removing the containment cap meant about 29,000 extra gallons of oil an hour were spewing, based on the record amount that had been captured in the previous 24 hours. Under the current worst-case scenario, as much as 104,000 gallons an hour — 2.5 million gallons a day — is flowing when there are no devices stopping some of it.

The robot bumped the cap just before 10 a.m. Wednesday, sending gas rising through a vent that carries warm water down to prevent ice-like crystals from forming inside it, Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen said.

Crews were checking to see if crystals had formed before putting the cap back on. BP spokesman Bill Salvin could not say how long that might take.

"We're doing it as quickly as possible," he said.

A similar problem doomed the effort to put a bigger containment device over the blown-out well in May. BP had to abandon the four-story box after the crystals called hydrates clogged it, threatening to make it float away.

The smaller cap, which had worked fine until now, had been in place since early June and was sucking oil up to a ship on the surface. To get it there, though, crews had to slice away a section of the leaking pipe, meaning the flow of oil could be stronger now than before.

Before the problem with the cap, it had collected about 700,000 gallons of oil in 24 hours. Another 438,000 gallons was burned on the surface by a different system that was not affected.

Anywhere from 67 million to 127 million gallons has spilled since the April 20 explosion on the Deepwater Horizon rig that killed 11 workers and blew out the well 5,000 feet underwater. BP PLC was leasing the rig from owner Transocean Ltd.

The Obama administration was plotting its next steps Wednesday after U.S. District Judge Martin Feldman in New Orleans overturned a moratorium on new drilling, saying the government simply assumed that because one rig exploded, the others pose an imminent danger, too.

Feldman, appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1983, has reported extensive investments in the oil and gas industry, including owning less than $15,000 of Transocean stock, according to financial disclosure reports for 2008, the most recent available. He did not return calls for comment on his investments.

The White House promised an immediate appeal of his ruling. The Interior Department imposed the moratorium last month in the wake of the BP disaster, halting approval of any new permits for deepwater projects and suspending drilling on 33 exploratory wells.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said in a statement that within the next few days he would issue a new order imposing a moratorium that eliminates any doubt it is needed and appropriate.

Stock markets fall on release of poor housing numbers

TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The stock market closed with a slight loss Wednesday after sales of new homes hit a record low and the Federal Reserve indicated that problems in Europe pose a threat to the U.S. economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose about 5 points, but broader indexes fell and losing stocks outnumbered advancers on the New York Stock Exchange. Treasury prices rose, pushing down interest rates. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to its lowest level in more than a year.

Stocks fell early in the day after the government said new home sales dropped by a third to a record low last month. Sales fell to a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 300,000. Economists polled by Thomson Reuters had forecast sales would drop to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 410,000.

The Dow lost as much as 66 points after the housing numbers came out. On Tuesday, an unexpected slide in sales of existing homes also hurt stocks. Existing homes make up a far bigger part of the market than new homes but traders were braced for more bad news Wednesday.

"I think the market is, thankfully, already getting used to the idea that housing is going to fall off a cliff between the end of the homebuyer tax credit and now," said John Canally, economist at LPL Financial. The homebuyer's credit expired April 30, and its absence is expected to be felt beyond the May sales figures.

Traders picked up stocks of companies that sell consumer staples because they are considered safer in weak economies. Procter & Gamble Co., which makes Tide detergent and Gillette razors, rose 1.1 percent. Kraft Foods Inc. also rose. Fortune Brands Inc., which makes doors, bathroom faucets and other goods used in homes, fell 1.4 percent. Leggett & Platt, whose products include bedding and furniture parts, lost 1.2 percent.

"I can't remember a time where I've seen just so much so much uncertainty," said Adam Gould, senior portfolio manager at Direxion Funds in New York.

The market's moves were subdued for much of the day and trading volume was light, as it has been for weeks. The lack of action in the morning came as traders watched World Cup soccer matches. Cheers erupted on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange when the U.S. beat Algeria.

Traders then found little to do but wait for the Fed's midafternoon announcement. The central bank's economic statement issued after a meeting of its policymaking committee contained few surprises. The Fed said that "financial conditions have become less supportive of economic growth." The Fed cited what it called "developments abroad" but didn't mention Europe by name.

Stocks have fallen from 2010 highs in April on worries that debt problems in Europe would spread and hurt a global rebound.

"The Fed is acknowledging what we're all seeing," said Mike Materasso, co-chair of the fixed income policy committee at Franklin Templeton. "There are problems in Europe, we've gotten a string of data in the U.S. with regard to employment, housing and even retail sales that is disappointing."

The Dow closed with a gain of 4.92, or 0.1 percent, to 10,298.44 after being up nearly 75 points in afternoon trading. The index lost 149 points Tuesday after the home sales report.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3.27, or 0.3 percent, to 1,092.04, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 7.57, or 0.3 percent, to 2,254.23.

Bond prices rose, driving down interest rates. The yield on the 10-year note fell to 3.12 percent from 3.17 percent late Tuesday. It hit the lowest level since May 2009.

The dollar fell against other major currencies. Crude oil fell $1.28 to $76.57 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The swings in stocks came as traders prepared for a reshuffling Friday of some of the stocks contained in the Russell 2000 index of smaller companies.

Procter & Gamble rose 66 cents, or 1.1 percent, to $61.38, while Kraft rose 18 cents to $29.54.

Fortune Brands fell 59 cents, or 1.4 percent, to $42.99, and Leggett dropped 27 cents, or 1.2 percent, to $21.71.

Homebuilder stocks mostly rose after a recent slide. PulteGroup Inc. advanced 19 cents, or 2.1 percent, to $9.05, while Toll Brothers Inc. rose 43 cents, or 2.5 percent, to $17.49.



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

Swell Forecast

Steep angled NW swell should back down to around chest high max for west facing breaks. Winds should be lightly offshore for a good part of the day.

Long Range Synopsis

End of week looks very small as well.

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 30 days up to the ending date of **June 15, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 45 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 1 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation. simplehuman. SIMA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alina creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fences.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	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 Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	D	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

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

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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.

WORLD CUP

Donovan lifts U.S. to knockout round

RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

PRETORIA, South Africa Over and over, everything seemed to go against them.

A referee took away a win last week, and a linesman disallowed another goal Wednesday.

Now there was just 3? minutes left in their World Cup, just that much remaining until all the doubts about American soccer would rise again.

But then, in one of the most stunning turnarounds in World Cup history, Landon Donovan scored on a lightning fast counter-attack 45 seconds into 4 minutes of injury time. With the most amazing late-game moment in American soccer, the United States beat Algeria 1-0 and reached the World Cup's second round.

"This team embodies what the American spirit is about," Donovan said. "We had a goal disallowed the other night, We had another good goal disallowed tonight. But we just keep going. And I think that's what people admire so much about Americans. And I'm damn proud."

Former President Bill Clinton lingered in the locker room for 45 minutes after the game to congratulate the players. When Donovan scored, raucous cheers erupted on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange and even in White House auditoriums in Washington, D.C., according to e-mails sent to U.S. Soccer Federation president Sunil Gulati.

"That's probably going to capture more people's attention than if we won the game 3-0 and it was easy," American goalkeeper Tim Howard said. "That emotion, that passion is what American sports fans thrive on."

The United States won its first World Cup match in eight years and finished atop its first-round group for the first time since the original World Cup in 1930. With a quick turnaround, the Americans play Ghana on Saturday night in Rustenburg for a spot in the quarterfinals. Ghana won the final match of the opening round against the Americans to knock them out of the tournament in Germany four years ago.

Clint Dempsey appeared to score in the 21st minute off the rebound of Herculez Gomez's shot. But the goal was called offside.

Dempsey's 12-yard shot off Jozy Altidore's cross clanked off the far post in the 57th minute, and when the rebound came back to Dempsey, he put the follow shot wide to the near side.

"You shake it out of your head and keep on fighting," Dempsey said.

Knowing England was ahead of Slovenia at the half, the U.S. put in offensive substitutes, first Benny Feilhaber at the start of the second half, then Edson Buddle in the 64th and finally DaMarcus Beasley in the 81st.

"The second half wasn't a soccer game — it was more like ... a track meet. Back and forth, back and forth, both teams are so desperate," Howard said.

Howard started the counter-attack that led to the goal when he knocked down an Algerian shot and rolled the ball to Donovan on the right flank. Donovan moved upfield and passed ahead to Jozy Altidore just inside the 18-yard box.

"Landon kind of knows me a little bit," Howard said. "He breaks out when I get the ball and it's kind of easy to find him."

Altidore's right-footed cross was flicked by Dempsey as he crashed into goalkeeper Rais Bolhi.

"I couldn't chip it over the keeper, so I just tried to hit it under him — hit it hard," Dempsey said.

As Dempsey tumbled over the goalkeeper, the ball rolled back out. In ran Donovan, who with a right-footed shot from 7 yards, slammed the ball into the lower left corner. It was the first injury-time goal that lifted a nation into the knockout phase since Uruguay's Daniel Fonseca scored against South Korea in 1990, according to STATS LLC.

"The moment kind of slowed down for me. It was as much a reaction as anything,' Donovan said. "I kind of hesitated. I didn't know if he was going to play it across the goal or try to cut it back to me. Once he played it in front of the goal, I didn't sprint, but I kept my run going and once it popped off then goalie, then I picked up a little to get there."

After his U.S. record 44th international goal, Donovan joyously ran to the corner flag, sliding headfirst in a belly flop, and his teammates ran down the touchline to mob him.

"A lot of kisses. A little uncomfortable," Donovan said. "It's something I'll have imbedded in my mind forever."

When the game ended, Donovan kicked the final ball into the stands.

"Someone got a nice souvenir," he said.

He was in tears and even 30 minutes later his eyes watered and voice cracked as he talked about the goal. The field long empty, American fans remained in the stands, still cheering, waving the Stars and Stripes and blowing vuvuzelas.

As a 20-year-old in 2002, Donovan scored two goals and became a star. But expectations became crushing in 2006, went he went scoreless. With his fourth World Cup goal, Donovan tied Bert Patenaude (1930) as the American leader.

"I've been through a lot in the last four years," Donovan said with tears in his eyes. "And I'm so glad it culminated this way. It makes me believe in good in the world. When you try to do things the right way, that's good to see them get rewarded."

The United States finished a World Cup game with a shutout for just the fifth time in 28 matches (7-16-5) and topped Group C with 5 points.

England (1-0-2), which beat Slovenia 1-0 moments earlier, also had five points but finished second because the U.S. scored four goals to two for the English. Slovenia (1-1-1) was third with four points, missing advancing because of Donovan's heroics. Algeria (0-2-1) was last with one point.

The Desert Foxes were making their third World Cup appearance following first-round elimination in 1982 and 1986. Algeria was the fourth African team to exit the first World Cup on African soil, following Cameroon, Nigeria and host South Africa.

"I think that Africa is on the right road," coach Rabah Saadane said. "What we need in our national teams and squads is stability and a lot of discipline, and I think in a few years time, Africa will have among the best teams in the world."



MOVIE TIMES

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

Charlie Chaplin retrospective: double feature
Modern Times (NA) 1hr 27min
A King in New York (NA) 1hr 50min
7:30pm

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Get Him to the Greek (R) 1hr 49min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Jonah Hex (PG-13) 1hr 21min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 10:00pm

Knight and Day (PG-13) 1hr 50min
12:05pm, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:35pm

Shrek Forever After 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 33min
12:15pm, 2:35pm, 5:00pm, 7:25pm, 9:45pm

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

Get Him to the Greek (R) 1hr 49min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

The Karate Kid (PG) 2hrs 20min
12:05pm, 3:25pm, 6:40pm, 10:00pm

Knight and Day (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:45am, 1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:05pm

Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG-13) 1hr 55min
10:20am, 1:15pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

Shrek Forever After 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 33min
1:30pm, 4:00pm

Toy Story 3 in Disney Digital 3D (RealD 3D) (G) 1hr 49min
10:15am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, 1:55pm, 2:45pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:35pm, 8:15pm, 9:20pm, 10:20pm, 11:00pm

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

Winter's Bone (R) 1hr 55min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

The Secret In Their Eyes (R) 2hrs 24min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm

Please Give (R) 1hr 45min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Solitary Man (R) 1hr 45min
1:20pm, 3:30pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

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

The A-Team (PG-13) 1hr 57min
11:20am, 12:50pm, 2:00pm, 3:40pm, 4:50pm, 6:40pm, 7:40pm, 9:30pm, 10:30pm

Sex and the City 2 (R) 2hrs 27min
12:20pm, 3:30pm, 6:50pm, 10:00pm

Shrek Forever After 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 33min
11:50am, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm

Splice (R) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 5:00pm, 10:20pm

The Karate Kid (PG) 2hrs 20min
11:00am, 2:30pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

Killers (PG-13) 1hr 40min
2:05pm, 7:35pm

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

Follow the leader, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Don't allow grouchiness in the early a.m. to mar what could be an excellent day. Attempt to detach through a walk or whatever works for you. Fatigue also adds to your mood. Relax; think good thoughts. A friend casts an even better light on a situation. Tonight: Opt for the offbeat.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A partner or associate wants to hear more of what you think. This person could try to trigger you to spill the beans. Are you going to let him or her do this? A difficult conversation cannot be avoided. Tonight: Follow another person's lead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Others approach you in a very challenging manner. Your ability to understand what could be a very vague suggestion plays out. News from a distance could be confusing. Know that you don't have all the answers. Tonight: The only answer is yes.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Someone could be distorting the big picture. Understand that this is this person's perspective, and some facts could be left out. Be willing to ask questions, and note what is left out. Tonight: Let your imagination make the choice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your fiery spirit comes out. The Lion is prone to excess more than any other sign, and you just might indulge. Ask yourself if you can afford the damages. Tonight: Your creativity is enormous.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Pressure builds with a personal matter. You could flare up early in the morning. As a result, you will be doing the kiss-and-make-up dance. Don't make anything heavier than it needs to be. Cut the inner negative voice. Tonight: Work an issue through.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Often, you keep your feelings in, causing enormous problems for yourself and sometimes others. You could blow up at someone who doesn't deserve your anger. You also could internalize anger, causing a health problem. Work on expressing what you have considered to be taboo feelings. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Be aware of the costs of a friendship. You might express anger and explain your feelings, but it is unlikely that you will be heard. A money matter needs close monitoring. Check out a purchase with care. Tonight: Treat a pal to munchies.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Just when you think you are on cruise control, you discover otherwise. You might keep tripping if you take a situation for granted. A boss could be putting you down or become very demanding. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Know when to turn the other way. You might not like what you hear. Consider your options more carefully, though others might try to stop the process. You might wonder what is next. Listen to your inner voice. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Make sure to go to an important meeting. Someone you care about most certainly could distract you. This person alternates between being stern, depressed and angry. Tonight: Where the party is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Take a stand, and be willing to take action to back up this stance. You might wonder about someone in your life who is negative, tired or angry. Don't allow this person to get to you. Remain upbeat. Tonight: Could be late.

Happy birthday

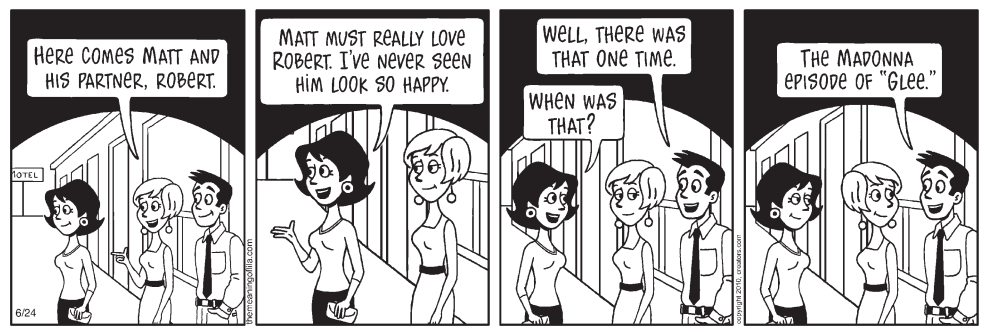
This year, focus on your daily life, personal habits and work. You might want to open up to a very different approach or try something offbeat. In any case, communication often goes south, and problems occur. When you swallow anger and hostility, you could become more accident-prone. Be careful with machinery of all types. If you are single, someone special enters your life. Remain confident. You don't need to use money to lure this person in. If you are attached, the two of you tend to indulge each other a lot. You will be happiest not planning any big trips, but just hanging out together. SAGITTARIUS gets the job done.

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

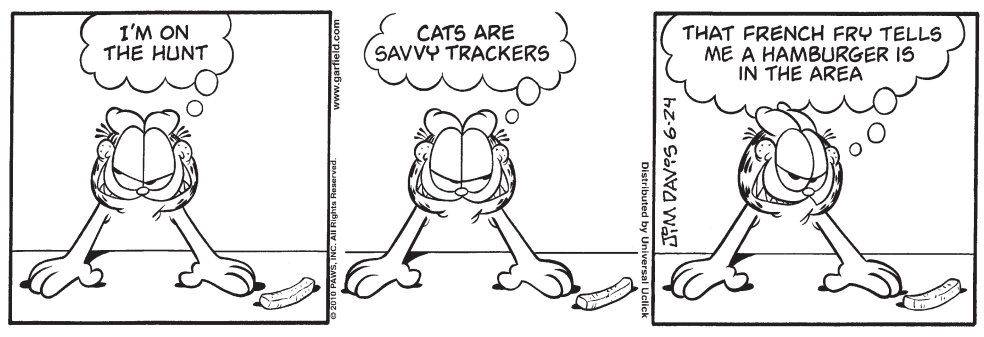
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



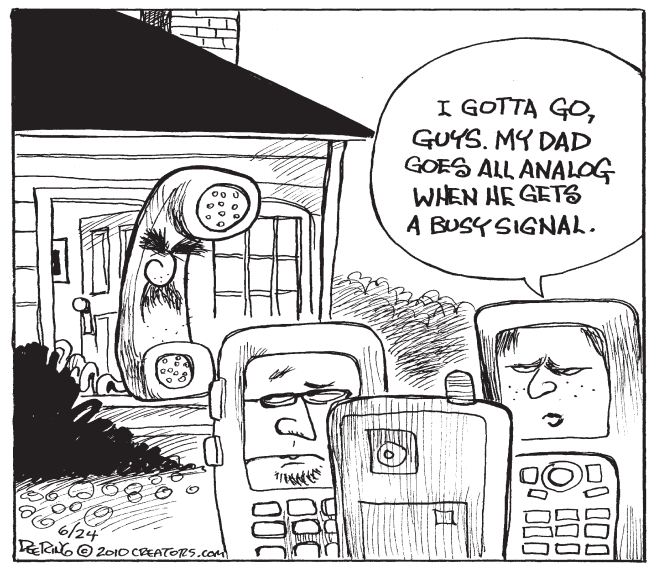
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



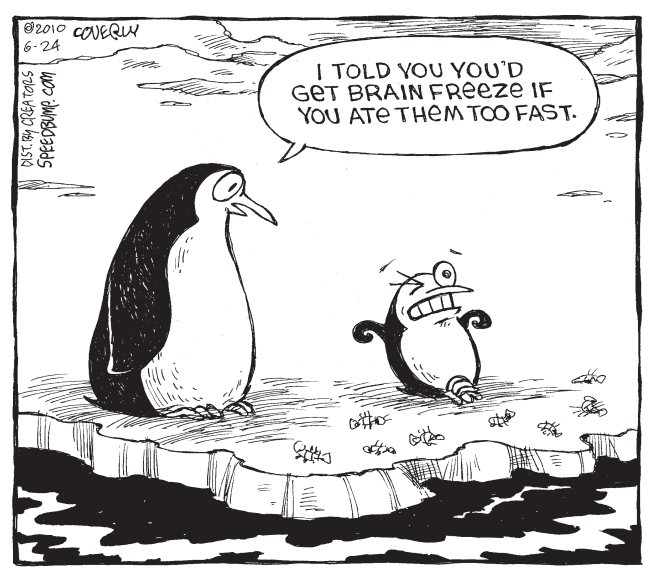
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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

ARITHMO™ CrossMath

+ × − ÷

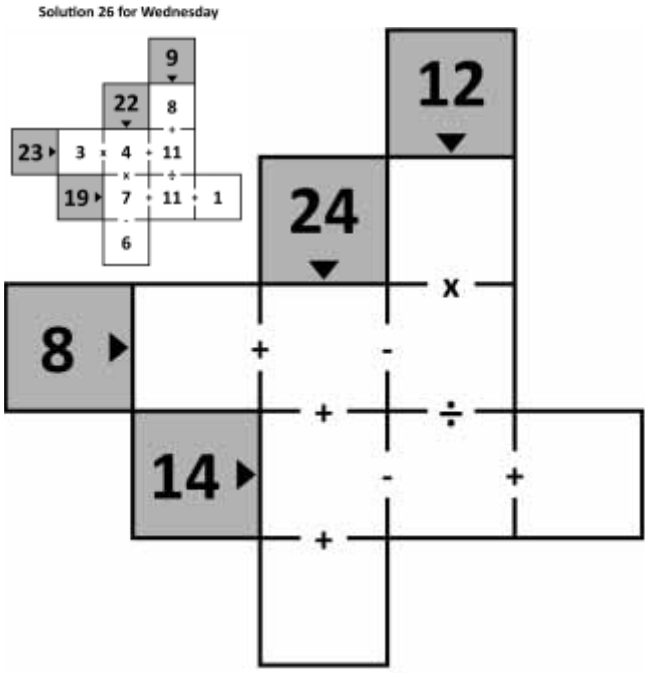
• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 7, 7, 9, 9, 11, 12, 12

Solution 26 for Wednesday





MYSTERY PHOTO

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lackluster
5 Naive ones
10 Unyielding
12 Wear down
13 Ease up
14 Amber source
15 Wk.'s end
16 Card game
18 Card game
20 Word, in Paris
21 Vegas number
23 Verb for you
24 Chomp
26 Sewing aids
28 Jiffy
29 Quick drive
31 Course need
32 Card game
36 Card game
39 Weed whacker
40 Referred to
41 Speculate
43 Kicked, in a way
44 Frisco player
45 Plane count
46 Fling

DOWN

1 Zach of "Scrubs"
2 Fall sign
3 Over
4 Sold-out show
5 Swiss capital
6 Bailiwick
7 Honcho
8 Paper workers
9 Capitol group
11 Century sections
17 Plus
19 Young one
22 Watched secretly
24 Straight course
25 Summer cooler
27 Pig-poke link
28 Portfolio contents
30 Letter after upsilon
33 Safari sight
34 Colors
35 Prophets
37 Convene
38 Throws in
42 Coal source

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, 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			

6-24

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 12 17 21 23 30
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 10 22 35 40 47
Meganumber: 26
Jackpot: $7M

FANTASY 5: 9 24 26 29 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 9 6
EVENING: 9 1 4

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:45.16

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Bucket Lists: (1) Patricia Edwards, 51, was arrested in Sanford, Fla., in March after being identified as the woman who walked into a Bank of America branch, handed over a robbery note and walked out with money. After being quickly nabbed, she explained: "There was no plan, no nothing, just impulse. I think everyone should have a list of things they want to do before they (die)." (2) Still stuck on the Bucket List (until recently) of great-grandmother Rosemary Douglas was her regret that, at 81, she had still never collected child support payments for her son, who is now 60, from the "boy's" father, Urban Joseph Grass, now 82. In a Los Angeles court filing in April, she claimed $50 per month from the date of the 1951 court order (totaling, including interest, $57,000).

■ "A Brave Man's Solution to Baldness" (read an April Toronto Star headline): Philip Levine, 28, working with artist Kat Sinclair, initially solved the problem of his "boring" shaved head by having her paint original murals on his dome, with the result that he became a star in the London (England) club scene. Since then, Levine has upgraded -- to painstakingly laying jewelry designs on his bald head, employing hundreds of thumbtack-sized Swarovski crystals to create a "swooping, shimmery, rockabilly" dome that dazzles in the light. The crystals shed after about a day, creating the opportunity for more designs.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1938 Pieces of a meteor, estimated to have weighed 450 metric tons when it hit the Earth's atmosphere and exploded, land near Chicora, Pennsylvania.

1939 Siam was renamed to Thailand by Plaek Pibulsonggram, the third prime minister.

1945 The Moscow Victory Parade takes place.

1947 Kenneth Arnold makes the first widely reported UFO sighting near Mount Rainier, Washington.

1948 Start of the Berlin Blockade. The Soviet Union makes overland travel between the West with West Berlin impossible.

WORD UP!

rococo
\roh-kuh-KOH\ , adjective;
1. Ornate or florid in speech, writing, or general style.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/28/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/24/2010, 7/1/2010, 7/8/2010, 7/15/2010

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Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from ALL Agents from ALL Companies Listed for Sale As of Late June 2010

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,192,000	$2,699,000
North of Montana	$3,350,000	$1,595,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,495,000	$699,000
South of Wilshire	$849,000	$589,000
Sunset Park	$1,239,000	$589,450
Ocean Park	$1,545,000	$899,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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