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TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 199

WHOLE FOODS MARKET

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

IT'S GETTING REAL
SEE PAGE 3

THE ON WITH THE WEEK ISSUE

City officials, residents gear up for 'Carmageddon'

BY SERLI POLATOGLU
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Santa Monican Priscilla Bathalon plans to utilize a unique means of transportation the weekend of July 16-17 — a scooter and backroads to avoid the traffic caused by the impending closure of Interstate 405.

The closure, popularly termed "Carmageddon," is expected to cause a traffic jam of epic proportions.

The Mulholland Drive bridge demolition will catalyze a 10-mile closure along the 405 North, between Interstate 10 and U.S. 101, and a four-mile closure on the 405 South between the 101 and the Getty Center exit.

"I'll be hibernating that weekend," said resident Tony Leech, paralleling the sentiments of other Santa Monicans who plan to stay close to home on July 16 and 17.

The freeway shut down will begin as early as 7 p.m. on Friday, July 15, but the 405 is expected to reopen before Monday morning rush hour, said Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority spokesman Dave Sotero.

Sotero explained that drivers must anticipate multi-hour delays.

Lt. Ken Semko of the Santa Monica Police Department will be in charge of coordinating City Hall's response to the closure and will be stationed at the Public Safety Facility's Emergency Operations Center that weekend. He is working with other Santa Monica officials to ensure that the closure will not severely impact residents.

City Hall will deploy additional public

SEE 405 PAGE 6













FOURTH ON MAIN

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Hundreds lined Main Street Monday to celebrate America's birthday. The theme of this year's Main Street parade, produced by the Ocean Park Association, was '4th of July on the Beach' honoring Santa Monica's lifeguards. The parade featured floats from various local civic organizations, as well as marchers from local schools.

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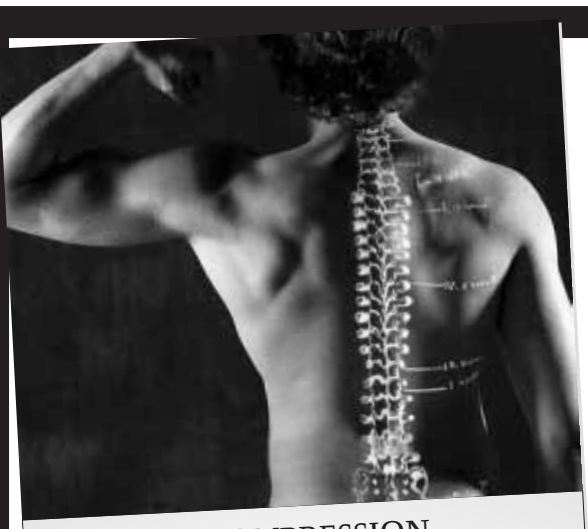


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, July 5, 2011

Time for art
Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club
1210 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 2 p.m.
The Artists League of the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club invites you to drop in to work on independent projects in watercolor, gouache and collage. This is a self-directed workshop that provides a supportive environment for those wishing to concentrate on their painting and an opportunity for painters to learn from each other. For more information, call (310) 310-2273.

Writing about independence
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
The New Short Fiction Series partners with Beach=Culture to bring readers an evening of comedic and serious musings on the theme of Independence. Featuring new fiction by Ron Burch, Andrew Roe and A.R. Taylor, read by Lorraine Michaels, Sally Shore and Robert Standley. For more information, call (310) 458-4904.

Calling all writers
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 12 p.m.
Meet with other aspiring writers for inspiration, guidance and support during this regular meeting. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

Time for toddlers
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m.
Join Mr. Jesse for stories, rhymes, songs and even puppets. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Free flick
Third Street Promenade
Between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue, 7:30 p.m.
Catch a free screening of the classic comedy "The Princess Bride." Bring a blanket or beach chairs. For more information, call (310) 393-8355.

Punk House Standup Comedy Show
Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 9 p.m.
Ed Galvez hosts this weekly standup show that features comics and musical guests. Cost: $8. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

Living green
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Learn about the environmental problems we all face and what you can do to help solve them. Participants can even earn a gift bag filled with eco-goodies. For more information, call (310) 458-8716, ext. 4.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings





Photo courtesy Fog and Smog Films

LOCAL FLAVOR: **David 'DJ Dave' Wittman and his crew shot 'Whole Foods Parking Lot' at locations in Venice and Santa Monica.**

Hip-hop side of Whole Foods

Viral video pokes fun at Westside culture

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DOWNTOWN Apparently, "it's getting real in the Whole Foods parking lot" these days.

Believe it or not, that's the jump off into a popular viral video that has racked up 2 million-plus YouTube views in less than a month.

The video, "Whole Foods Parking Lot," follows David "DJ Dave" Wittman as he navigates the aisles of the upscale market with an almost cultish following. In the song he raps, "It's how we live on the Westside of L.A."

It begins with Wittman, a 37-year-old Santa Monican, "riding slow in his Prius," looking for a parking space when another hybrid tries to swoop in on his spot — driving the wrong direction no less.

From there, he's harassed by a guy with a clipboard at the door. Once inside the store, he finds out there is no more Humboldt Fog cheese in stock. Just another bummer since the store took "kombucha off the shelf."

Filmed at Whole Foods locations in Santa Monica and Venice in late spring, the video takes a playful jab at the popular market while exposing a taste of living on the Westside, where it seems everybody frequents Whole Foods.

For Wittman, he's just trying to pay his "80 bucks for six things and get the heck out."

That and have a little fun at the same time.

"The satisfaction is a big part of it," said Wittman, who works for a music production house in Santa Monica. "Getting e-mails from people who laughed is my favorite thing right now."

The video may have attracted millions of views and the attention of the Wall Street Journal among other media outlets, yet its origins are quite humble.

Wittman first recorded the rap as an MP3, letting his circle of friends check it out on his Facebook page and other social media sites. With the support of a few friends in the entertainment industry and the encouragement of his fiancé, he decided to make a video to see what would happen.

He quickly recruited a core group of friends that gave the production a professional look and feel. Co-directed by George Woolley and Pedram Torbati, the video may have been filmed on a shoestring budget, yet it has a glossy production value thanks to the crew of industry pros who just wanted to help a pal out.

"As soon as I heard it, I knew we should do something," Torbati said.

With a crew in hand, Wittman set about producing the 4-minute clip. Sans permits to shoot at the Whole Foods locations, Wittman and crew had to be clever about not attracting too much attention while they recorded.

Woolley said that a certain security guard at the Whole Foods on Lincoln Boulevard in Venice was instrumental in letting the crew film most of the parking lot scenes there. Apparently, he has a fledgling rap career of his own so he was easy on the fellas.

The purchase of a high-end, yet handheld camera made the task a bit easier, but Wittman admits to being politely asked to leave at least two stores. They finished filming at the Montana Avenue location where Wittman said they "were cool."

Once realizing that the project was something special, Wittman and company decided to form a collective dubbed Fog

SEE **WHOLE FOODS** PAGE 9

After budget fight, some see better days ahead

BY ADAM WEINTRAUB
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO During his State of the State address in January, Gov. Jerry Brown acknowledged California's deep financial hole but also expressed faith in the state's ability to rebound and surprise its doubters.

The growth in California's economy during the three decades since he first held the governor's office, he said, could be described as "a marvel, even a miracle and some kind of gift."

The budget he signed Thursday for the new fiscal year extends that abiding faith into the year ahead.

Brown and his fellow Democrats in the Legislature balanced the budget largely on the hope of a small miracle — that California's general fund will collect about $12 billion more in tax revenue than was anticipated in January. If not, it will mean more spending cuts, including the possibility of shortening the school year by seven days.

The biggest question mark hanging over the budget plan is whether that revenue gift will appear.

Many economists are skeptical. California is struggling to pull itself out of recession, and one recent forecast suggests the housing bust will remain a drag on the state's economy for years, contributing to an unemployment rate that will persist above 10 percent until mid-2013.

The Brown administration says there is evidence to support the sunny revenue projections that include an estimated $4 billion in higher tax receipts on top of more than $6 billion Brown assumed in his May budget revision. Several billion dollars more than anticipated already has been deposited in the state's accounts.

Department of Finance officials say the main reason is that the wealthiest Californians are seeing their incomes grow faster than the average worker.

The state's income tax takes a bigger bite of their earnings, which makes tax revenue

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 7

Free Summer Series
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Heroes, not traitors

Editor:

RE: Walter Greenberg's letter to the editor entitled "What a traitor," June 22, page 4.

Greenberg still lives in a world where Saddam Hussein had WMDs, Pat Tillman was killed by hostile Taliban fighters, and half-a-million more troops would have won that Vietnam War. Discovering what his government really does would shatter his delusions of American exceptionalism. The heroism of individuals like Manning, Ellsberg, Drake and Risen are the last defense against the "secrets" of government that Greenberg wants to defend. The list of dead soldiers and civilians from lies and secrets purveyed and protected by governments will eclipse any damage Greenberg thinks Manning's actions are capable of causing.

Michael Deal
Santa Monica

Hypocritical

Editor:

You report that City Councilmember Kevin McKeown "urged commissioners to resist [rent] increases on low-income tenants during these rough economic times ("Rents to rise by 3.2 percent," June 11-12," page 1)."

Yet McKeown supported raising Santa Monica's sales tax – which even low-income residents must pay – despite "these rough economic times."

Apparently, McKeown believes City Hall cannot meet increasing expenses without raising revenue, but that landlords can magically do so.

Thomas M. Sipos
Santa Monica

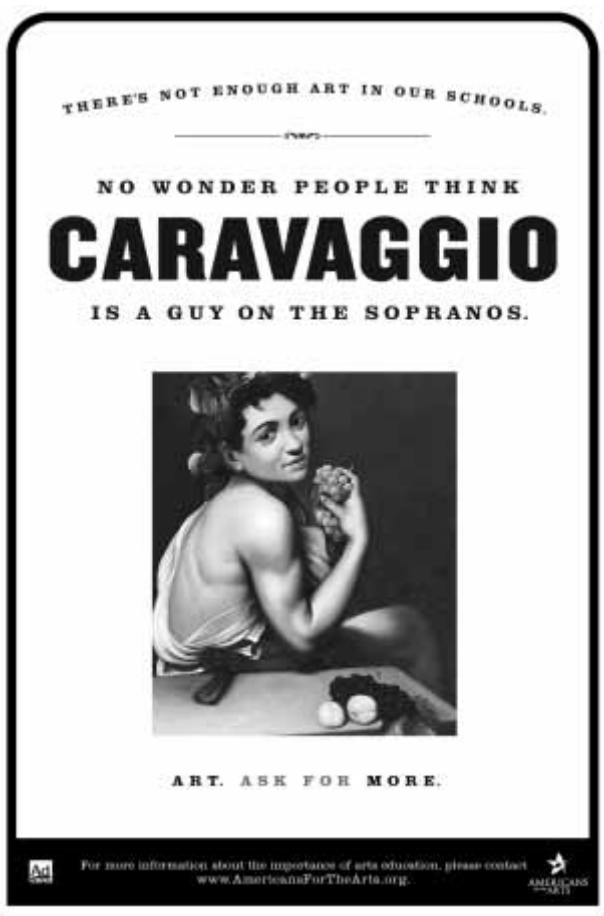
Not to worry

Editor:

Re: Jon Mann's letter "Not a fan of circumcision," June 12, page 4, where he writes that he hopes his son won't resent him when he's older for having been circumcised. I have a clue for you. Your son will resent you, but for many, many other things; for just living in the house at the same time, for just being you.

So, not to worry, Mr. Mann (ironic name, given the whole circumcision/circumstance thing).

Henry Rosenfeld
Santa Monica





What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nudity on screen, but not on the beach

THE ABSURDITY OF SOCIAL MORES never ceases to amaze me.

On the one hand we have a society that thinks it is immoral and unacceptable for a woman to go to the beach topless. We actually have a law on the books that a woman can be prosecuted for displaying her breasts in public. Unless she is breastfeeding, in which case it is acceptable, because it is for the benefit of the child.

So a mom doing something for herself, enjoying the beach and the sun and tanning, is bad, but mom doing something for her child is good and natural and acceptable. Who writes these misogynistic laws? And why do they persist? When will the women of Santa Monica realize they are being kept down by the constructs of a Judeo-Christian culture?

The absurdity continues when we look at the rules for men. Topless is acceptable at the beach, around town, in stores and it's perfectly acceptable to change your shirt on the side of the road. But if you're a surfer and you change from your wetsuit to shorts, you have to do it under a towel, because if a passerby were to see your bits or bum, they would be suddenly struck with such a force of either carnal desire or moral repulsion that they would lose control of themselves.

Yet in gyms and locker rooms across Santa Monica, from Equinox to the Loews Hotel, people are naked in front of each other all the time and nothing untoward happens.

Then there's that whole circumcision thing that makes no sense to me. God creates man perfectly, and then God has man mutilate his body to satisfy some deal that God made the terms of. Clearly, man did not have an agent from William Morris negotiate this deal for him.

We are schizophrenic as a society when it comes to our mores. We look to the portrayal of violence as acceptable and the merest glimpse of a body part as offensive and subject to regulation by the FCC.

This week on "The Daily Show," host Jon Stewart did an editorial on the topic of a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that denied putting limits on the violence children can be shown in video games. Stewart played a clip of a video game where a woman is ripped apart. I have a pretty strong stomach when it comes to human on human violence, but it made me want to throw up.

The fact that something so grotesque as a woman being disemboweled is allowed to be seen by children, yet the innocent display of a body part on a beach is illegal, demonstrated to me the silliness of our mores. I don't see why it is acceptable for obese people to wear bikinis, which frankly make them look silly and accentuate their corpulence, but a good looking surfer chick can't show off her natural assets.

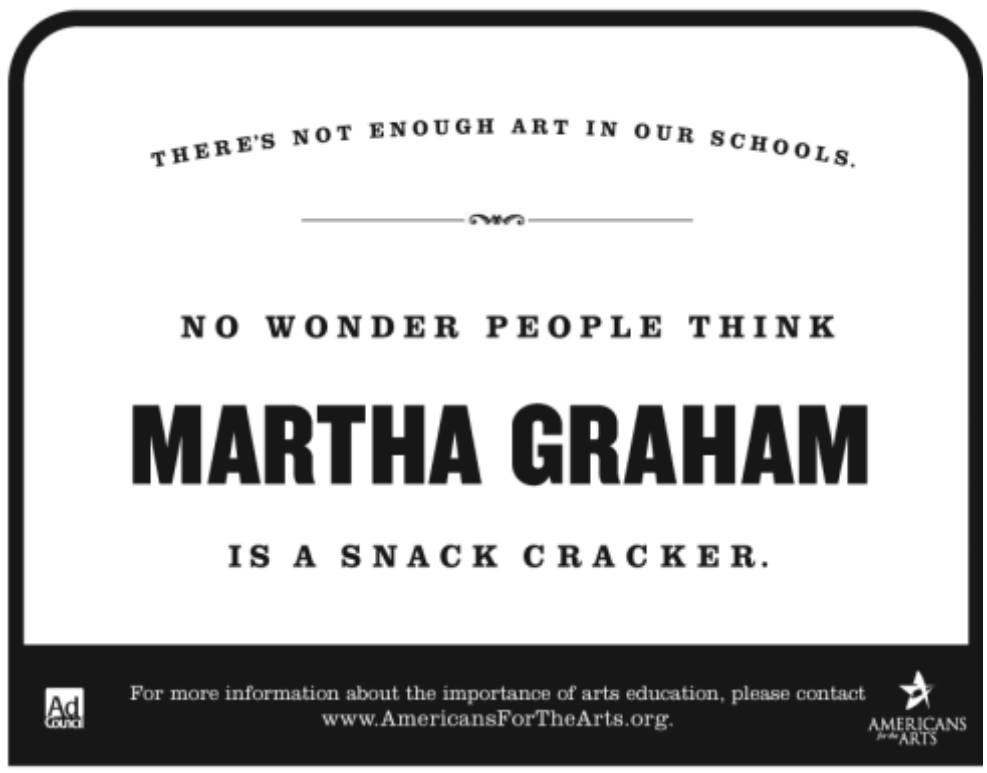
When it comes to sex and sexuality we are a nutso society. The theory is that prostitution is bad because it would demean women. It's illegal to sell yourself for sex, but it is legal to be an actor portraying sex. It's fine to be a pole dancer or a stripper, because that's honest work that isn't demeaning, but actually touching someone is bad, except for masseuses. They can touch and provide relief from stress but only so far. Then it becomes illegal.

One person can marry another for money, and that's acceptable. Marrying for money is rather like buying a relationship, but if you pay for just the sex part, which is sort of like renting, that's wrong, bad and immoral.

Drugs are bad, unless they are manufactured by a giant corporation that charges too much money for them, and are regulated by the FDA. Corporations can advertise their drugs on TV so long as they don't tell you what they are for. Drug manufacturers can talk to doctors about their drugs but they can't pay them to prescribe a particular drug. They can, however, give them an honorarium for their time in attending a steak and martini dinner to learn about the drug's benefits.

I would like to see a society that has a bit more rational thought behind its laws and mores. But so long as we have politicians who philander, and preachers who molest, I don't think it will happen, which is to say that we will always have an irrational society.

David Pisarra is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.



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Beware of companies with buyback fever

CHRISTINA REXRODE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK When companies buy their own shares, they usually tout it as a benefit to shareholders.

The logic behind that is simple. If companies are buying, they must believe the share price is going to rise. Their confidence influences investors to bid the shares higher. Investors get higher returns and own more of the company because there are fewer shares circulating. And the company can later reissue shares at a higher price. Everyone ends up happy.

In fact, there's little evidence that buybacks increase share prices over the long term. Companies tend to buy when they believe their stock is undervalued. But while there might be an initial gain when a buyback is announced, the share price usually declines in the following years. That's because the underlying reasons that the stock was depressed haven't gone away. Repurchases also don't lower share count for very long because companies keep reissuing stock to pay employees or make acquisitions.

"Media and analysts talk about buybacks like they're a great thing," says James Early, a senior analyst at Motley Fool. "But they're just as often a raw deal for shareholders."

Companies usually buy their stock like most investors, on the open market. Buybacks are on the rise this year after slowing during the financial crisis. Best Buy Co., Wal-Mart Stores Inc., IBM Corp. and JPMorgan Chase & Co., were among the 447 companies that announced $285 billion worth of buybacks this year through June 24, according to research firm Birinyi Associates. That's more than seven times the $38 billion in the comparable period in 2009, when stock prices were depressed, but still below the $404 billion announced the same stretch in 2007.

Why the rush to repurchase? Many recession-weary companies are loath to make long-term commitments like hiring new employees or expanding operations or product lines. Companies are generating significant cash flow because they've cut costs. But they aren't seeing enough of an increase in demand for their goods or services to justify expansion.

Buybacks are one easy way for companies to spend the cash they've hoarded, analysts say. There's also no requirement that a company follow through and buy shares after announcing a buyback plan, says Rob Leiphart, an analyst at Birinyi, which has tracked buybacks since the 1980s. If a company backs out of a repurchase, it will often go unnoticed.

Early on, a buyback can cause a stock to rise. TrimTabs Investment Research estimates that companies that announce buybacks outperform the market by 0.7 percent the next day, and by 1.2 percent in the first 100 days. But Leiphart says companies in the S&P 500 that did not announce a repurchase in 2010 did better than those that did. The stocks of companies that did not announce buybacks rose by three percentage points more, on average, than those that did.

One reason the gains don't last: Companies tend to repurchase shares when they are confident, have extra cash and think their stock price is low. But if a company has limited growth prospects, faces low future demand for its product or there are price pressures in the industry, its stock will likely fall.

In some cases, buyback announcements are used to distract investors from bad news released around the same time, says Howard Silverblatt, senior index analyst at the S&P. The stock might have declined after negative news but then jumped after a buyback was announced

That won't fool investors for long.

"If you're using buybacks to hold up your stock, that's a holding pattern short term," says Silverbatt.

One example: Three days before it announced a buyback in May, Tyson Foods Inc. reported flat net income and warned about price increases in one of its biggest expenses, feed. Its stock fell 6 percent. Then the day Tyson announced the share buyback, its stock rose 4.6 percent — not enough to make up for the losses from the bad news. Tyson's chief financial officer Dennis Leatherby said the company is using its cash to pay down debt and reinvest in its businesses. He defended the stock repurchases as "an appropriate use of our excess cash and strong liquidity."

The argument that buybacks help drive per-share earnings higher is also flawed. When companies buy their own stock, they typically retire those shares. Fewer outstanding shares should boost earnings per share, a widely used measure for valuing stocks.

But companies are constantly giving out stock options or issuing stock to raise money or buy another company, so share count often ends up holding steady or rising, explains Michael Mauboussin, chief investment strategist at Legg Mason Capital Markets.

Oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp. spent more than $16 billion to buy 230 million shares during the 12 months that ended in March, according to data compiled by FactSet. That alone would reduce share count by 5 percent. But Exxon's share count actually increased 5 percent above pre-buyback levels over that period, to 4.93 billion, after the company issued 460 million shares for its purchase of XTO Energy.

S&P's Silverblatt says that only 94 of the 305 S&P 500 companies that bought back shares in the first quarter actually decreased their share count by at least 1 percent over the quarter. Share count actually increased by 1 percent or more at 65 of those companies.

The Q Line

Healing begins

The SMMUSD Board of Education last week promised changes in curriculum and training in the wake of an alleged racially-motivated incident at Santa Monica High School.

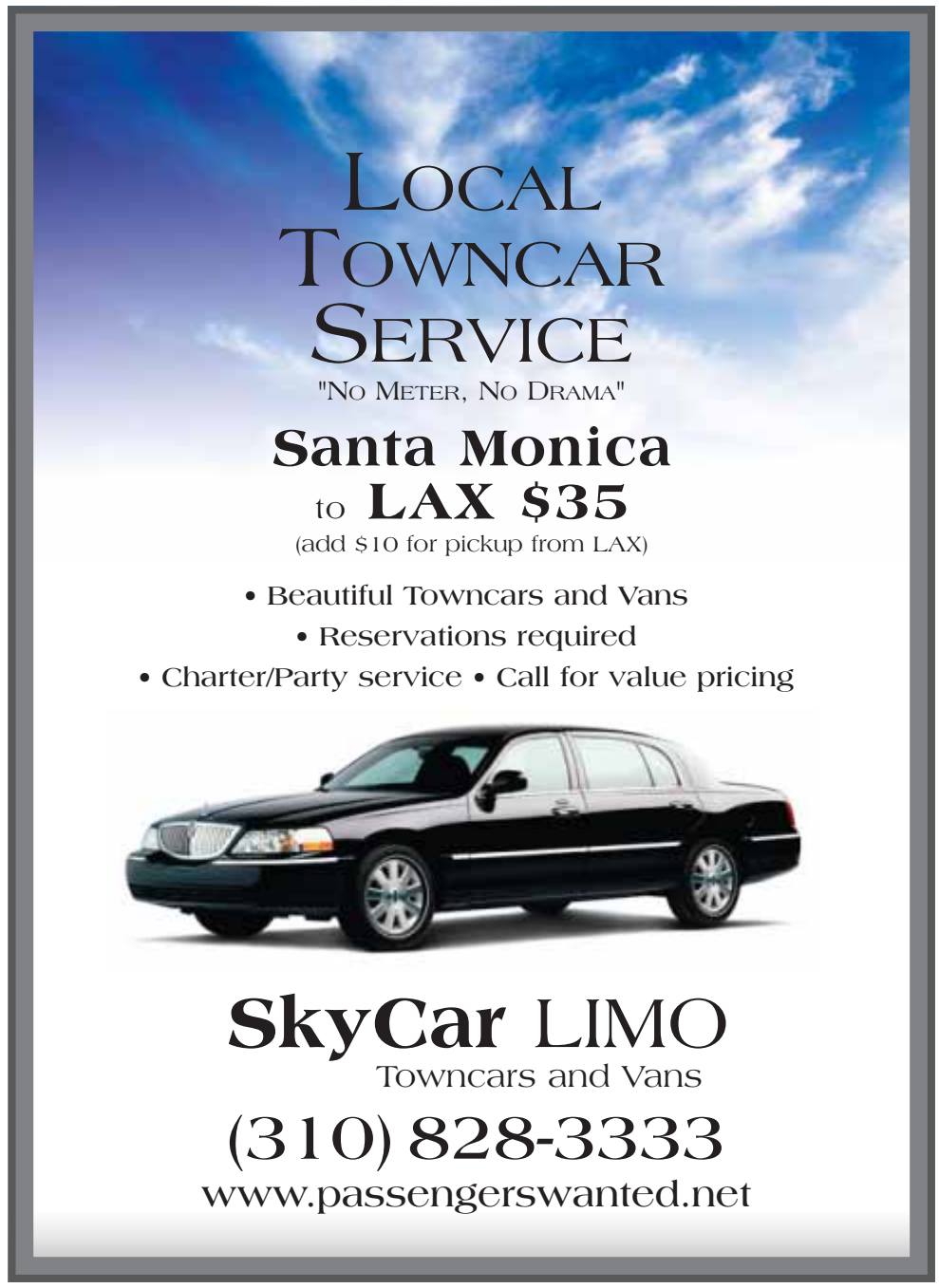
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What steps do you think are in order?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**









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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SLOW: **Cars enter a busy Interstate 405 last week. Long traffic delays are expected on July 16-17.**

405

FROM PAGE 1

safety personnel to guarantee things run smoothly that weekend.

"We don't know what the effect will be like in Santa Monica, but we're taking steps to make sure that we have just about every contingency planned for," Semko said.

Approximately 100 additional personnel who are not local residents will be housed in Santa Monica to be prepared for immediate mobilization in the event of a crisis, Semko said.

City officials are encouraging Santa Monicans to stay local that weekend, echoing the MTA's call for drivers to "plan ahead, avoid the area or stay home."

The MTA is counting on cities to create incentives for people to stay local, Sotero said.

"You can eat, shop and play within a small radius of your house," he added.

Many local businesses are offering discounts and deals to Santa Monicans on Carmageddon weekend. For more information, visit www.santamonica.com/405.

The local Farmers' Market will also remain open for business, said market Supervisor Laura Avery. As scheduled, two markets will occur on Saturday and one will take place on Sunday. Avery said she advised farmers to plan for three to six-hour delays in traffic, but very few farmers canceled.

Avery is working with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District to secure Olympic High School's parking lot for trucks that need to stay overnight to make it to multiple markets.

Market customers can also host farmers throughout the weekend. Interested parties can approach farmers at upcoming markets, or visit the market information booth.

For those who have no choice but to brave traffic, extra buses will run in the Westside and the San Fernando Valley, and additional Metrolink trains will also operate. Bus fare will be free on Metro's Red, Purple and Orange lines.

Drivers who opt out of public transportation should be aware that side streets like Sepulveda Boulevard are meant for residential traffic, and are not equipped to handle the outflow of cars like the artery of a freeway, Sotero said.

He recommends that drivers frequently check traffic on websites like sigalert.com and account for traffic when departing for a destination. The city's website (www.smgov.net), Twitter feed (www.twitter.com/santamonicacity), AM 1680 radio station, CityTV cable channel 16 and other outreach tools will keep Santa Monicans updated on freeway construction progress throughout that weekend.

When it's time to hit the road during that busy weekend, perhaps residents should take a page out of resident Daisy Nwosu's book and prepare "long, death-traffic playlists" on their iPods.

news@smdp.com

Survival guide

Staying in Santa Monica and don't know what to do? Here are a list of local businesses offering deals on July 16-17:

■ Xino: 395 Santa Monica Place, Suite 308
405 or 4 fo' 5? This modern Chinese eatery is offering a variety of dishes fo' $5 a pop. Crab Rangoon, chili glazed pork spare riblets, seafood spinach, shrimp, and mushroom dumplings or crispy chili calamari are just a few of the samplings.

■ Drago Santa Monica:
2628 Wilshire Blvd.
Drago is offering 20 percent off the entire bill (excluding tax and gratuity) with mention of the code "Carmageddon" when placing your reservation. Offer is valid Friday, July 15 through Sunday, July 17 for dinner only.

■ Wilshire: 2454 Wilshire Blvd.
From July 16-18 the restaurant will offer a four-course "405 Sig Alert" dinner for $40.05 per person. Dish choices include a miso black cod with tamarind glaze, braised short rib with glazed cipollini onion, truffled half chicken with sweet onion potato puree, and panko-crusted tofu.

■ Readers Fine Jewelers: 331 Wilshire Blvd.
Mention this guide and receive 20 percent off all in stock items, excluding diamonds larger than 0.5 carats. Valid July 15-18, 2011, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

■ Harvelle's: 1432 Fourth St.
Customers can consume car-themed drinks like Irish car bombs and Cadillac margaritas for $5.

■ South: 3001 Wilshire Blvd.
Gridlock shots, "Road Ragers" and Bud "STOP" Lights for $3 a piece.

■ Betsy and Tracy Boutique:
2929 Main St.
Avoid the grid-lock and go shopping! 50-80 percent off on most items storewide. Excludes already discounted FRYE boots. Valid July 15-17.

BUDGET
FROM PAGE 3

susceptible to wide swings during relatively small changes in the economy. That volatility — which sent tax revenue crashing a few years ago — now is bringing in more cash than the state expected even six months ago.

But some economists say the rapid revenue growth so far this year cannot be sustained while the state remains stuck in a sluggish recovery.

"It's certainly not based on any change in the economic outlook," said Jerry Nickelsburg, senior economist with the University of California, Los Angeles Anderson Forecast.

The June edition of the Anderson forecast projected employment growth of 1.7 percent in 2011 and 2.4 percent in 2012. That would be better than the nation as a whole, but still leaves the state in a hole after a much larger initial decline.

The sluggish housing rebound and a demographic shift toward apartment and condominium living, which will depress home sales and construction, is likely to delay economic recovery in inland California for many years, the report said.

California's unemployment rate has been edging down in recent months, but economists believe that is at least partly because so many people have stopped looking for work and are no longer counted in the official statistics. The state still has the second highest unemployment rate in the nation at 11.7 percent, behind Nevada. An estimated 2.1 million Californians are out of work.

Jeff Michael, director of the Business Forecasting Center at University of the Pacific in Stockton, said the projections in the state budget Brown signed this week seem optimistic but noted the governor and Democratic lawmakers built in spending cuts that would take place immediately if the estimates fall short.

Those cuts will hit public schools, universities and social service programs if the money fails to materialize by the middle of the fiscal year.

Republican lawmakers derided the revenue forecast, one of the cornerstones of the Democratic budget. Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton equated it to wishful thinking, while the leading Republican on the Senate Budget Committee compared it to magic.

"That's a wand that Harry Potter would be proud to wield," said Sen. Bob Huff, R-Diamond Bar.

An editorial cartoon in The Sacramento Bee showed the governor's dog — a Welch corgi named Sutter — digging up a bag of cash on the Capitol grounds.

Democrats say their budget is sound, especially because it will be balanced with detailed cuts if the revenue estimates don't pan out.

"You can't say that the numbers are not real, the $4 billion is not real, and at the same time say the trigger cuts are not," Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield, D-Sherman Oaks, said during the debate on the budget this week. "I think the numbers are real, and I hope and I pray that we don't have these trigger cuts."

What little economic recovery has arrived in California has landed unevenly.

Nine of the 10 highest metropolitan-area unemployment rates in the U.S. in May were in California. The jobless rate ranged from 15 percent in Bakersfield to 27.7 percent in El Centro, just north of the border with Mexico and about 110 miles east of San Diego.

Yet more than a half-dozen metro areas near California's Pacific coast have jobless rates in the single digits, including San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose. Three metro areas posted rates even lower than the U.S. unemployment rate of 9.1 percent.

Those bright spots in areas rich with high-earning households are helping the state's general fund, which spent $103 billion in 2007 but would fall to just $86 billion in the fiscal year that starts Friday.

For May and June alone, California has received about $1.2 billion in tax revenue that wasn't counted in Brown's May budget revision, mostly from personal income tax. That May proposal already included $2.8 billion more than had been expected when the governor released his first budget plan in January.

The state Department of Finance says the increased tax collections appear to be largely because incomes are rising faster for high earners. The state's income tax is applied using a progressive rate structure, with higher rates charged on people who earn more.

In 2009, the most recent data available, almost 37 percent of all personal income tax collected came from the top 1 percent of earners in the state. Nearly 59 percent of the revenue came from the top 5 percent.

The bottom 60 percent — 8.6 million of California's 14.4 million personal income tax filers — accounted for less than 4 percent of income tax revenue.

"A change in that small slice of (high-earning) taxpayers can have a disproportionate effect on revenue," said H.D. Palmer, spokesman for the Department of Finance.

The effect of the progressive income tax and California's entrepreneurial tendencies are well-known to economists: Tax revenue rises rapidly during economic upswings but plunges during slumps.

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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Advisory Board - World Paddle Association WPA



Photo courtesy Fog and Smog Films

STILL LAUGHING: **David Wittman (left) recruited friends to help him produce popular video.**

WHOLE FOODS
FROM PAGE 3

and Smog Films, so named because of Woolley and Wittman's ties to both the Bay Area, where they were raised, and L.A., where they both reside.

There are no set plans for the new production house in the near future, but Wittman said that he's already thinking about new projects.

While not intending to be a parody rapper, he figures that if people dig the work he might as well see where it takes him and Fog and Smog.

"I do creative things for a living," said Wittman, who develops scores for films and commercials by day. "But you have to find things to inspire yourself."

Wittman's surprise success is even helping the reluctant rapper land side gigs. He opened up for legendary MC Too Short over the weekend.

"I'm flattered that some people like the delivery and the rhymes," he said. "But, I would never present myself as a rapper.

"Real hip-hop people know that."

If nothing else, it's his appearance in the video as a rapper that has some not feeling his work.

Wittman said that more than a few people have called the video "yuppie rap," with some flocking to message boards to remind him that he's not your average rapper and this isn't typical hip-hop material. He's fine with that, it was never his intent, but he can't help but lash back at times.

After reading a less than positive review on a local weekly newspaper's website, he felt compelled to respond to his naysayers, even though he knows that's not the right thing to do.

"This popularity thing is new to me," he said. "But, I just had to say something."

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Highway project in redwood grove stirs debate

JASON DEAREN
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO A scenic stretch of Highway 101 that wends through a majestic stand of ancient redwoods in Richardson Grove State Park is called the gateway to Humboldt County — but officials and local businesses say this narrow roadway is actually a barrier to the region's economic growth.

To remove this barrier, the California Department of Transportation in January plans to remove dozens of trees and realign a section of the highway so it can be added to a national system of roads that cater to large, so-called Surface Transportation Assistance Act, or STAA, trucks which now cannot legally use the road. This one-mile stretch is the only part of Highway 101 from San Francisco to the Oregon border where the large semi-trucks used to ferry goods around the nation aren't permitted, except by a special exemption.

But a vocal group of North Coast residents on Thursday asked a federal judge in San Francisco to stop Caltrans in the latest shot fired in the battle over the grove project.

The group says the road work will damage the root systems of the area's towering, ancient redwoods — including the world's ninth tallest — and open up the area to more semi-truck traffic, pollution and development. The judge said his ruling would be delivered this week.

However, they see the fight as not just about trees, but about preservation of one of the California coast's last undeveloped areas where a small town vibe persists.

"Not everybody goes crazy for the trees, but it's more than that, (Caltrans and county officials) are not considering the overall aspect of what's being contemplated here," said Barbara Kennedy, an activist who has helped organize opposition. Kennedy argues that investment in diesel trucking is an old way of thinking in an era when fuel prices are climbing.

"It is time to begin the end of our dependence on diesel trucking and begin to divert our resources to other modes of goods movement that will be more economical and less damaging to the environment," she said.

When Humboldt County economic development coordinator Jacqueline Debets talks to local businesses — artisan cheesemakers, microbrewers, machine parts manufacturers — concern No. 1 was shipping costs. The North Coast has no major shipping port, no major rail lines and a small airport.

Truck transport is the only way to get large quantities of goods and services in and out of a very remote area, and the three main roadways into the area had stretches too narrow for STAA trucks, which move much of the nation's goods. Currently a few STAA trucks have exemptions, but Caltrans said two travelling in opposite directions cannot make it safely through.

"These are the same size trucks that run all over the country delivering goods, and they can't come here," said Debets said. "It puts us at a severe competitive disadvantage and it costs more to import products."

As Caltrans moves forward with its plans, the protests have become more raucous and vocal — during one protest in February outside the Caltrans office in Eureka, an officer had hot coffee thrown on him and another was hit by a metal mug, police said. Twelve protesters were arrested. Dozens of protesters recently marched on the Caltrans offices in Sacramento, delivering a petition signed by 11,000 citizens opposed to the project.

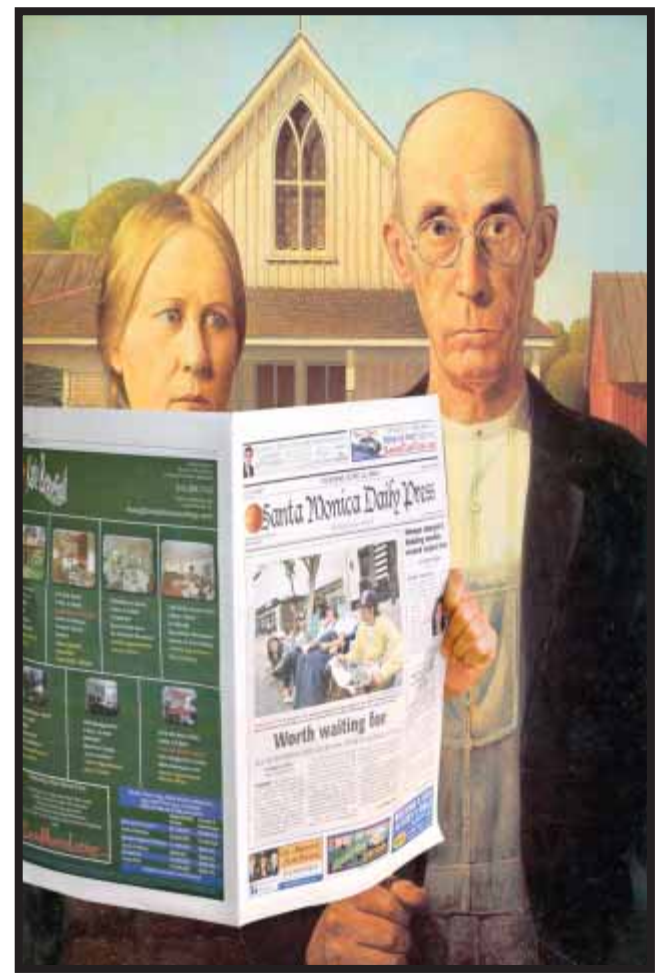
Much of the furor over the Richardson Grove project has revolved around the construction's effects on the ancient redwoods. Caltrans says it will remove 54 trees, with only six redwoods. The agency had originally said it would need to cut down 87 trees, but revised that after public outcry.

"We had a lot of public comment from people saying 'We love the grove, we love the trees,' and we really worked to bring those numbers down in this final environmental document," said Julie East, a Caltrans public information officer in Eureka, Calif.

Still, critics contend the trees targeted for removal are not the problem and that the construction itself will damage the fragile root systems of the ancient redwoods nearby. Caltrans said it is using an air-powered excavator to remove dirt from areas where the new roadway or shoulder will be, and will only cut roots two inches or less in size to minimize damage.

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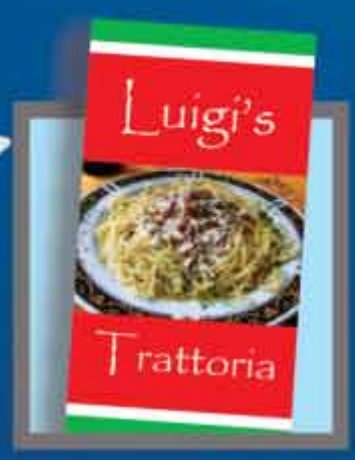
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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

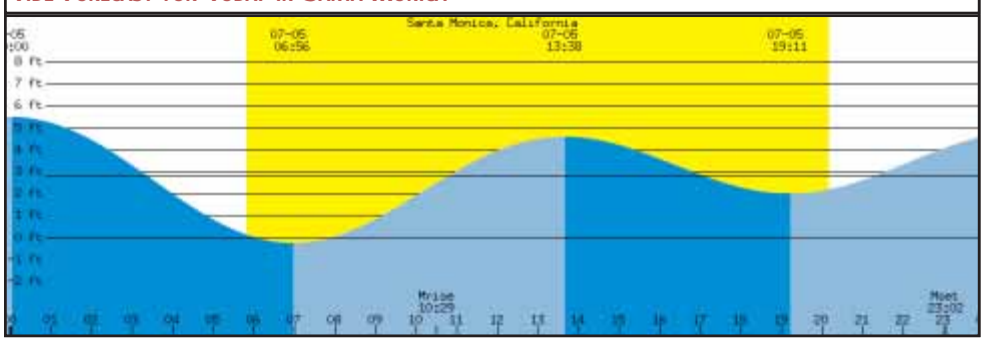
Swell Forecast

SW swell is expected to back down to chest high.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see chest high swell.

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 29, 2011**

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 -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 27 / 1
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Groudeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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.	B	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	F	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.	F	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	D	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	D	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pierce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	C	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
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.	A	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..	B	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.

Kings agree to terms with Gagne

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Although the Los Angeles Kings lost the Brad Richards sweepstakes, they got a nifty consolation prize a few hours later.

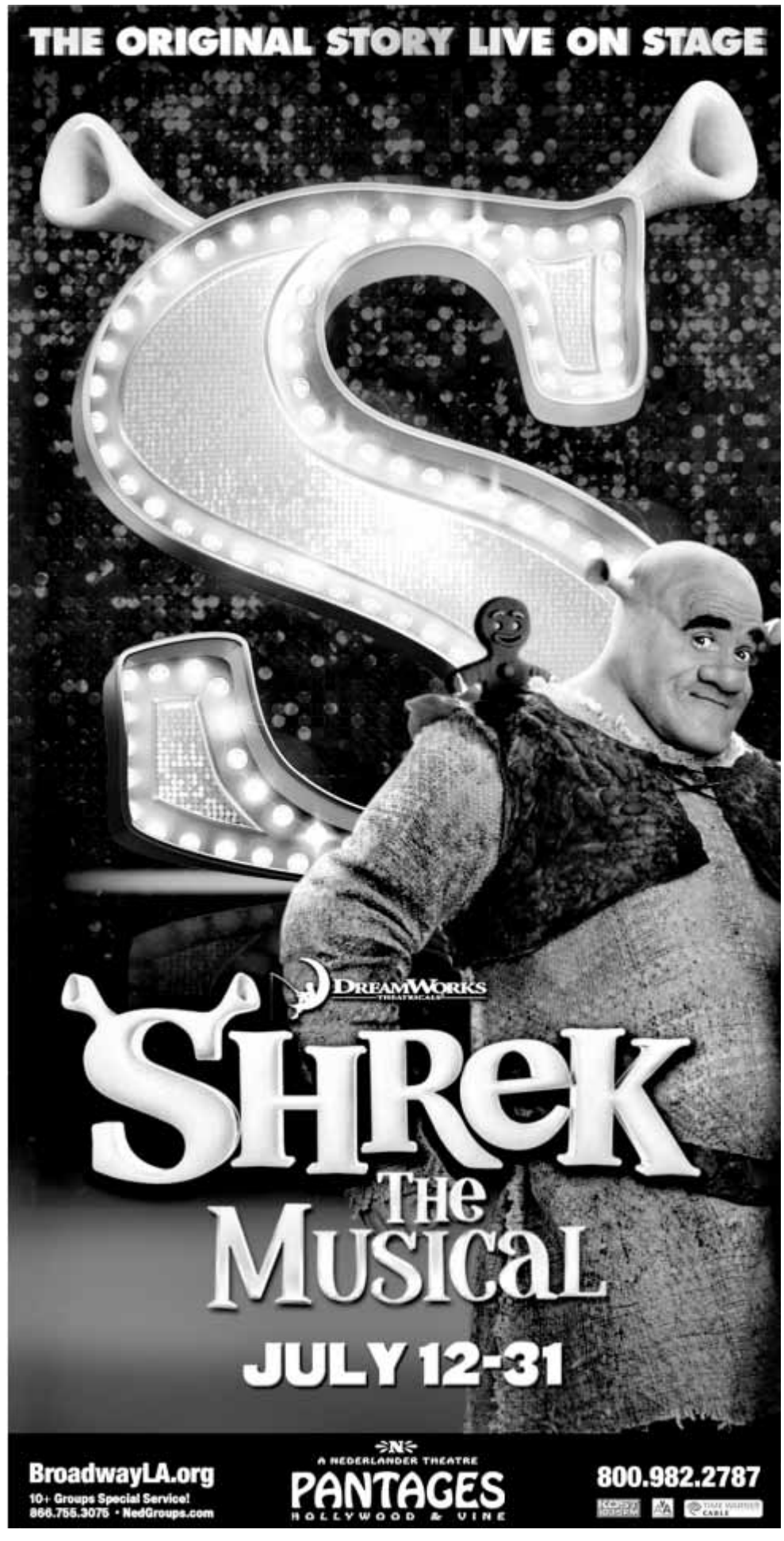
Left wing Simon Gagne agreed to terms Saturday on a two-year, $7 million deal with the Kings, adding much-needed scoring punch to Los Angeles' lineup.

Gagne is a seven-time 20-goal scorer who spent his first 10 NHL seasons with Philadelphia, scoring a career-high 47 goals during the 2005-06 season, before reaching the Eastern Conference finals last season with Tampa Bay.

The Kings quickly signed Gagne after failing to land Richards, who agreed to a nine-year deal with the New York Rangers. Gagne didn't mind being most teams' second choice in that free-agent derby, and he chose the Kings partly on his familiarity with forwards Mike Richards and Justin Williams, his friends and former teammates with the Flyers.

"I've got a couple of buddies there, and everybody knows that I had great success playing with Mike," Gagne said. "It's almost like Philadelphia on the West Coast, so it was definitely a place where I know they were looking to get me, even last year when I was willing to waive my no-trade clause."

The two-time All-Star rejoins Mike Richards, the former Philadelphia captain who was acquired by Los Angeles in a trade late last month, and Williams, who came up in the Flyers' system alongside Gagne. Richards and Gagne usually played on the same line to devastating effect during Gagne's final three years with the Flyers, and the tandem played a major role in Philadelphia's run to the Stanley Cup finals in 2010.



MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
7:30pm, 10:00pm

X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Beginners (R) 1hr 44min
12:10pm, 5:00pm, 9:50pm

Bad Teacher (R) 1hr 29min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm

Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:40am, 2:05pm, 4:35pm

Cave of Forgotten Dreams 3D (G) 1hr 30min
2:40pm, 7:35pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Cars 2 in Disney Digital 3D (G) 1hr 53min
12:15pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm, 8:30pm

Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG-13) 2hrs 34min
10:45am, 2:25pm, 6:00pm, 9:35pm

Super 8 (PG-13) 1hr 52min
10:30am, 1:20pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Larry Crowne (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 5:05pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:20pm, 7:25pm, 10:30pm

Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 34min
10:00am, 1:25pm, 5:00pm, 8:45pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Tree of Life (PG-13) 2hrs 18min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Trip (NR) 1hr 47min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Buck (PG) 1hr 29min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Midnight in Paris (PG-13) 1hr 28min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Monte Carlo (PG) 1hr 49min
11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Green Lantern (PG-13) 1hr 45min
10:45am, 1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Bad Teacher (R) 1hr 29min
12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:25pm

Mr. Popper's Penguins (PG) 1hr 35min
11:30am, 2:05pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min
10:15am, 1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 34min
11:45am, 3:25pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm

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



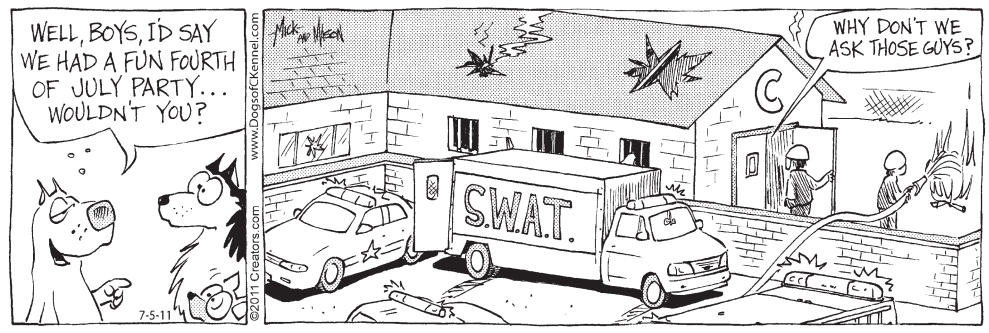
MYSTERY PHOTO

File Photo

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*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

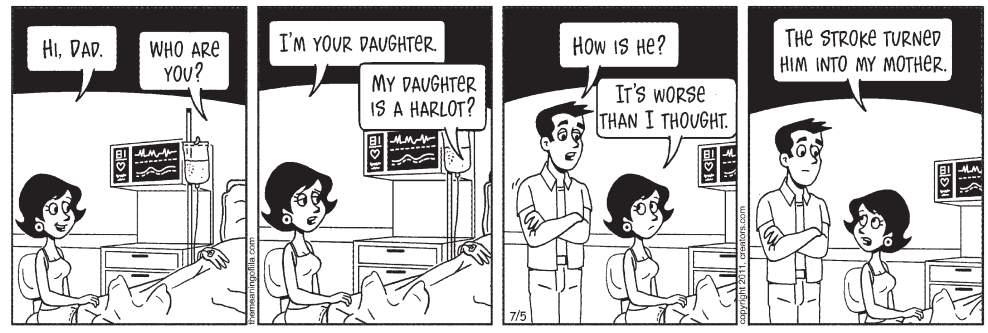
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Stick to your budget tonight, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by various situations, feeling that you are getting too much information. A boss streamlines a directive. This person eliminates the possibility of misunderstanding him or her. Don't allow your fiery personality to interfere. Tonight: Stay fit. Get some exercise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You often wonder where a situation ends and begins. You also could be crossing boundaries inadvertently. Someone whispers in your ear, adding to the complication. New beginnings are possible if you open up to a talk. Tonight: Let your hair down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Listen to your instincts, especially regarding finances. They prevent you from getting into too much trouble. You deal best with a partner who really understands you. Don't allow someone to push you beyond your limits. Tonight: Head home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Keep communication flowing. How you deal with someone and the choices you make could be more instrumental than you might think. Question the possibilities while still remaining a bit of a cynic. Don't let anger destroy a situation. Tonight: Hang out with a friend. Clear the air.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Be aware of the costs of proceeding in a certain direction. You might need to revise your thoughts. Determining a new direction could be important. Friends might be unusually assertive. A meeting also could bring out that quality in others. Tonight: Stick to your budget.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might be so upbeat that you actually make someone angry! Opportunity strikes if you are willing to pull back and toss away rigid thinking. Creativity puts an interesting spin on an issue. Tonight: Do what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Your drive to figure out what is going on and to get all the facts will pay off. The less said the better off you will be. You could be pushing your limits without realizing it. Someone at a distance might say something that you find upsetting. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Someone who is quite close could be antagonistic or jealous. Though you might try a few gentle words, only this person can decide to change his or her mind. Use new information to enhance your situation. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Tension builds around work. You feel as if you don't have the say-so you would like. Without intending to, you could irritate people left and right. Distance yourself from the upset before you cause any problems. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for more information in order to illuminate a situation. In some sense, you could be driven to find the right answer or response. Could your thinking be limiting you? Try to clear out certain basic judgments. Tonight: Hop on the computer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A good friend could be making some demands. You might not be able to meet them in the fashion you would choose. A child's or new friend's behavior might be provocative. Do yourself a favor and step back. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might want to handle a personal matter in a different way, especially if there are many side effects. Knowing what you want could be instrumental in creating just that. Remain centered while allowing others to "flip." Tonight: Go with someone else's suggestion.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you naturally will transform your mental outlook and perspective. These changes could have ramifications beyond the obvious. Your relationships will evolve, and you will prosper. Travel and/or a foreigner could play a role. Don't lose sight of a life goal. If you are single, you could meet someone through a friend, or a friendship could become more. A change in your circle of friends also could have an impact. If you are attached, the two of you need to work on your friendship, too. VIRGO helps you open up.

Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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

Procrastination is a problem when it comes to doing my disaster plan. As a business owner I have a lot to do. It's not like a disaster is going to happen tomorrow. Besides, we have that new business pitch. I've been waiting for this to happen for a while now. I'll get the disaster plan finished eventually. Nothing to worry about, it'll happen.

Whether natural or man-made, at least one in four businesses affected by a disaster never reopen. Though emergencies are unpredictable, when you have a plan in place you can adapt, recover and stay in control.

It's never too late to protect your business until it is.

Make a plan.

READY.GOV

Ad Council

Ready Business

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Seethe
5 Chin cover
10 Dogpatch boy
12 Concur
13 National Park in Alaska
15 Memorable time
16 By way of
17 British verb ending
18 Cad
20 Declare
21 Approaches
22 Trounce
23 Gate feature
25 Go it alone
28 Disgusting
31 Writer Hunter
32 Singer Kitt
34 Original
35 Battle of Britain org.
36 Horace's "___ Poetica"
37 National Park in Florida
40 Notions
41 Wasn't thrifty
42 Usual values
43 Is inquisitive

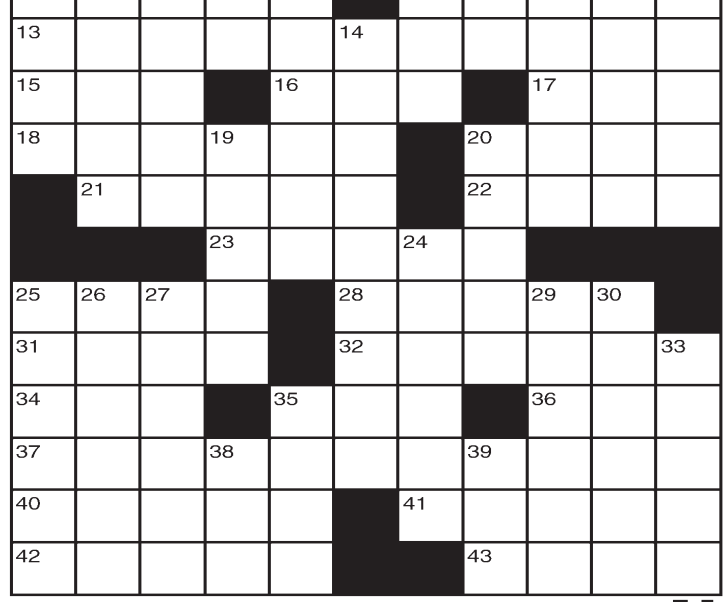
DOWN

1 Cookie creator
2 King of the fairies
3 Deep-seated
4 Grazing spot
5 Mexican peninsula
6 Sense of self
7 Show up
8 Suez outlet
9 Arid expanse
11 Muralist Diego
14 Low
19 Hawk's grabber
20 Despise
24 Arts' partner
25 Mail, as an entry
26 Exaggerate
27 Case worker
29 Rocket sections
30 Got smaller
33 Helpers: Abbr.
35 Flag creator
38 Scot's topper
39 — tree (cornered)

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

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



7-5

ARITHMO™

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

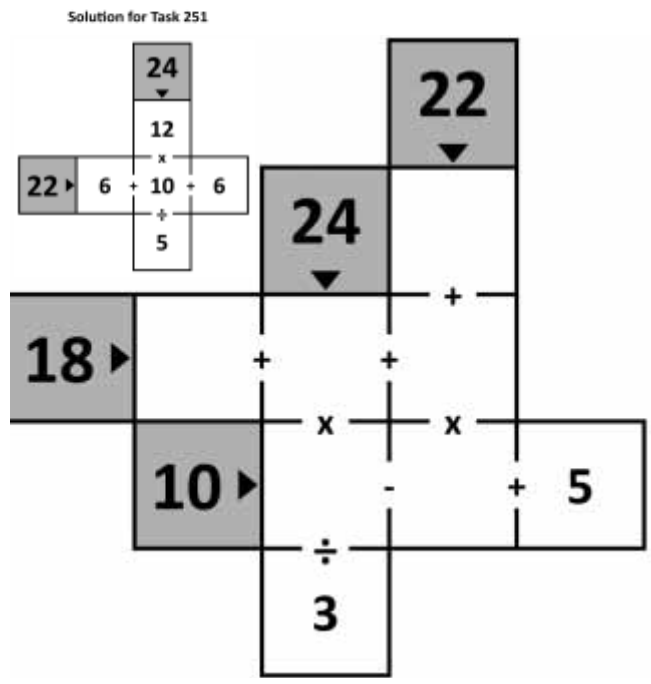
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

2, 4, 5, 5, 8, 9

Solution for Task 251



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 12 17 30 35 47 Meganumber: 26 Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 4 6 15 35 41 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: $47M

Fantasy 5: 5 14 23 30 37

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

DAILY DERBY 1st: 01 Gold Rush 2nd: 10 Solid Gold 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:44.92

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

■ It was not difficult to find critics when the Orlando-area government job-service engine Workforce Central Florida said it was spending more than $70,000 of federal stimulus money to help the laid-off by handing out 6,000 satiny capes for jobless "superheroes" to "fight" "Dr. Evil Unemployment." ("Absolutely absurd" was the reaction of a laid-off customer-service representative.) Several critics interviewed by the Orlando Sentinel noted that such an awkward program further erodes the unemployed's fragile self-respect. WCF, though, remained convinced. In the words of a spokeswoman, "Everyone is a superhero in the fight against unemployment."

■ Urban Legend Come to Life: Too-good-to-be-true stories have circulated for years about men who accidentally fell, posterior first, onto compressed-air nozzles and self-inflated to resemble "dough boys," usually with fatal results. However, in May in Opotiki, New Zealand, trucker Steven McCormack found himself in similar circumstances, and had it not been for quick-thinking colleagues who pulled him away, he would have been killed -- as the air, puncturing a buttock, had already begun separating tissue from muscle. McCormack was hospitalized in severe pain, but the air gradually seeped from his body (according to a doctor, in the way air "usually" seeps from a body).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1950 Korean War: Task Force Smith – First clash between American and North Korean forces in the Battle of Osan.

1950 Zionism: the Knesset passes the Law of Return which grants all Jews the right to immigrate to Israel.

1951 William Shockley invents the junction transistor.

1954 The BBC broadcasts its first television news bulletin.

1954 The Andhra Pradesh High Court is established.

1962 Algeria becomes independent from France.

WORD UP!

suffrage
\SUHF-rij\ , noun;
1. The right to vote, especially in a political election

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Unit 302	2 Bed	2.5 Bath	$6600
Unit 303	2 Bed	2 Bath	$6800
Unit 401	3 Bed	2 Bath	$5999
Unit 403	3 Bed	3.5 Bath	$19,000
Unit 501	3 Bed	2.5 Bath	$21,000

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Properties
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Early - July 2011

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,787,500	$2,400,000
North of Montana	=	$2,750,000	$1,374,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,990,000	$779,000
South of Wilshire	=	$799,000	$569,900
Sunset Park	=	$989,000	$509,450
Ocean Park	=	$1,534,500	$779,000

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