



CHROME0 HAS GOT LEGS
SEE PAGE 8

Santa Monica Daily Press

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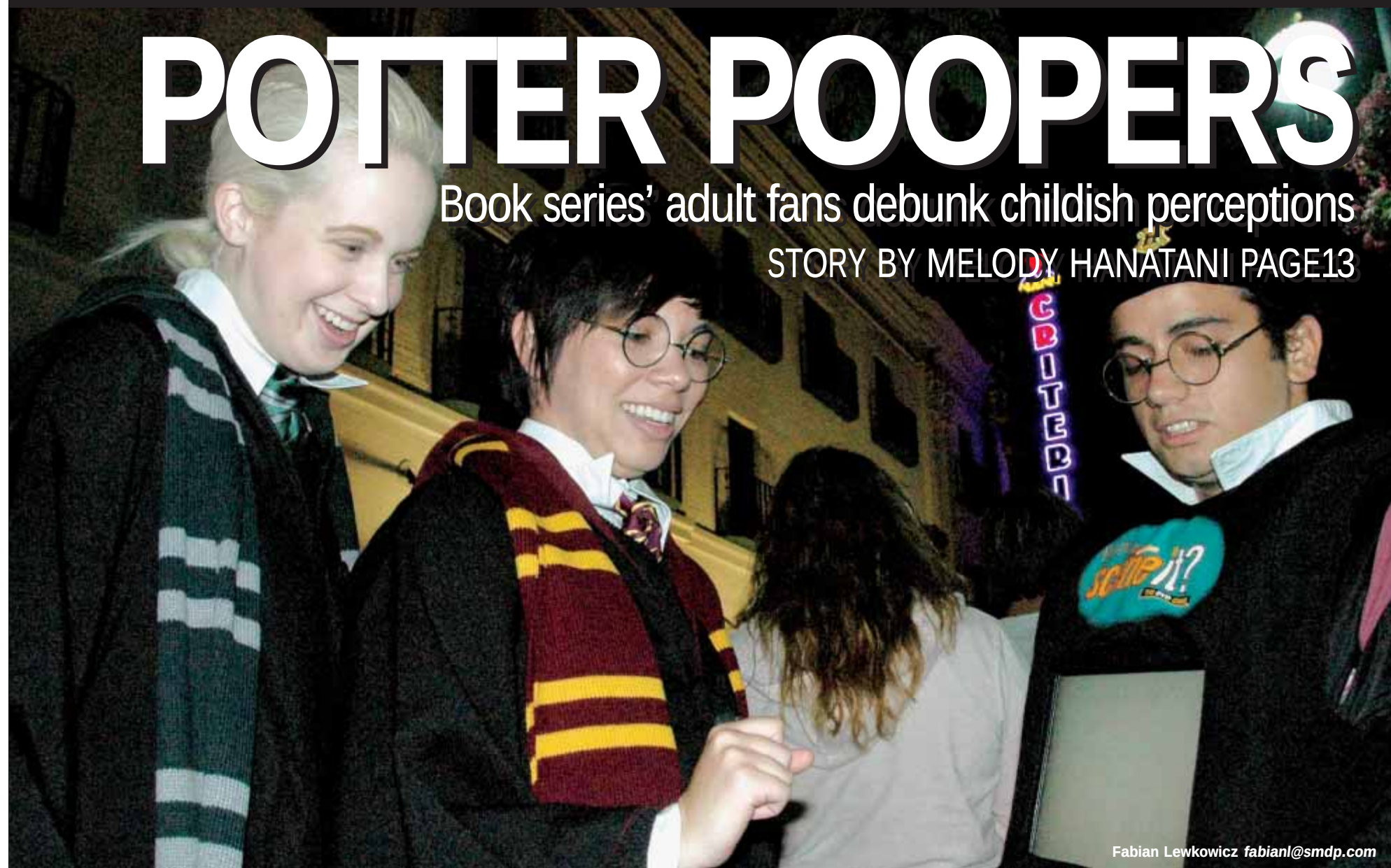
THE EASY DOES IT ISSUE

LIFESTYLE

POTTER POOPERS

Book series' adult fans debunk childish perceptions

STORY BY MELODY HANATANI PAGE13



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

HOGWARTS AND ALL: Lauren Thompson (left) and Tennie Brown, dressed as characters from 'Harry Potter,' play 'Scene It' with 'Ad Walker' Luis Nieves shortly before midnight Tuesday.

Structure bandit caught in act

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Despite their exhaust-filled workplace, the city's parking garage attendants can breathe a little easier now that a suspect has been charged for a string of armed robberies against them.

A Los Angeles man is being accused of targeting Santa Monica parking attendants in the downtown structures for the better of a year, authorities said Wednesday.

Juan Carlos Hernandez, 31, was charged with nine counts of armed robbery and one count of commercial burglary for incidents that date back to July 23, 2006.

Hernandez has plead not guilty and is due back in court on July 24, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

He is being held on \$800,000 bail.

A screwdriver, tire iron, knife and a handgun were used in the series of robberies. In one incident, the suspect took money from a parking booth when the attendant had stepped away. No employees were injured in the robberies. City officials said the average loss was between \$200 and \$300.

"This is a good find for us," SMPD's Lt. Alex Padilla said. "This guy was getting worse and worse, using hand-

guns and knives, and we wanted to make sure we caught the guy before he did any type of physical violence."

The parking structures are managed by Parking Concepts. Representatives from the company could not be reached for comment.

Earlier this year, SMPD spent \$75,000 to install security cameras in all of the downtown structures, excluding the two that are attached to Santa Monica Place, which offer parking for free on most days. The cameras were installed to protect parking attendants and improve traf-

SEE CAUGHT PAGE 7



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Cookie thief puppet show

2601 Main St., 2:30 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.

The Ocean Park Library offers a summer activity program for children ages 4 and up.

'Born to be Wild'

13211 Mulholland Dr., Beverly Hills, 7 p.m. — 11 p.m.

IDA-Africa presents "Born To Be Wild Thursday," which will include hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, silent and live auctions, a raffle and more. Dr. Sheri Speede and others are raising funds for the Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center in Cameroon. Ticket price is \$75 in advance; \$85 at the door. For more information, visit www.ida-africa.org.

Santa Monica Laughter Club

717 Broadway, 11 a.m. — noon

Shakti's Elements offers a class on laughter yoga, which combines breathing, dance, and movement with laughter exercises to improve health and vitality, decrease pain and everyday stress and promote a positive mental attitude. Led by Kim Selbert, Certified Laughter Yoga Leader. Suggested donation of \$3 to \$10.

Yappy Hour @ Tails of Santa Monica

2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

A social gathering for dogs and their people. There will be light refreshments, dog snacks and play time. For more information, call (310) 392-4300.

The 12 Steps for Everybody

16730 Bollinger Dr., Pacific Palisades, 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

The 12 Steps for Everybody's writing meeting is for all 12-Step programs or anyone with a habitual problem or illness. Call (310) 454-5138 or e-mail info@12stepsforeverybody.org for more information.

Friday, July 13, 2007

2 Live Crew gets hurt

12249 Venice Blvd., Mar Vista, call for time

That's right - 2 Live Crew will be performing at The Good Hurt tonight. For more information, call (310) 390-1076.

'Mean Girls' screening

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Join the Santa Monica Public Library in the Main Library Auditorium for the last Teen Angst Summer Film screening. "Mean Girls," starring Lindsay Lohan and Rachel McAdams will be shown. All ages are welcome. Seating is first come, first served.

The tutus have landed

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.

The American Ballet Theater is in town to perform Lar Lubovitch's interpretation of "Othello" at the Dorothy Chandler Pavillion. For tickets or more information, visit www.ticketmaster.com or call (213) 365-3500.

Thump your rump

3321 Pico Blvd., 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.

Club Tubthump is moving their "90s Nights" to Santa Monica Bar & Grille. Tubthump features an assortment of '90s music ranging from En Vogue to Nirvana to the Spin Doctors. No cover charge. For more information, visit www.smbgrocks.com.

Alternatively soul and reggae

1026 Wilshire Blvd., 9 p.m.

It's Alternative Soul & Reggae night at the Temple Bar with Chris Joyner, John West, and Cipes and the People. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. For more information, visit www.templebarlive.com.

Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m.

Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

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.



Council minus a quorum

By Daily Press staff

CITY HALL City officials canceled Tuesday night's scheduled City Council meeting after it was determined they wouldn't have enough members on hand.

Two council members were out of the country, while another was stuck in the San Francisco Bay area after her flight was delayed. A fourth member could not attend.

At least four of the seven members need to be present in order for a meeting to proceed, according to City Clerk Maria Stewart.

Members were expected to discuss vehicle access to Santa Monica College's Bundy Campus, which is located adjacent to the Santa Monica Airport, as well as progress that has been made in securing a stop light at Bundy Drive, which is under the jurisdiction of the city of Los Angeles.

Also on the agenda was a recommendation that the council support AB 700 after a new amendment was added last week by the State Senate Committee on Environmental Quality. The bill calls for an air quality study to be conducted at the airport. The committee insisted that a task force comprised of state and local agencies, community members and airport users be created to discuss ways to decrease aircraft emissions and the impact airport operations have on surrounding communities.

The council endorsed AB 700 last month after submitting several amendments of its own, including one which prevents City Hall from being sued based on data gathered in the study.

One of the issues that was expected to draw a crowd was the creation of new parking restrictions in neighborhoods located just south of Santa Monica High School. Residents have complained for years about students and employees at a nearby hotel taking up all the available parking in the area, some driving recklessly as they battle for spaces. Preferential parking is being proposed for some blocks.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 24. Issues from Tuesday's agenda may be discussed at that time, Stewart said, however, there is a possibility that some will be postponed to a later date.

news@smdp.com



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

LOCKED AND LOADED: E3 vendor Jasaan Carrasco fights to the finish while playing 'Resident Evil — The Umbrella Chronicles' on Wednesday at Barker Hanger. The Electronic Entertainment Expo, being staged at several Santa Monica venues, runs through Friday.

Not playing around

Video game industry converges on city to ply their various wares

BY MATT SLAGLE
The Associated Press

SANTA MONICA With no new consoles to show off, the focus returned to video games Wednesday as the industry's biggest players gathered to demonstrate the top

titles they hope to offer consumers in the coming months.

The announcements kicked off the E3 Media & Business Summit, which runs through Friday in Santa Monica.

New controllers were the big news from Nintendo Co., which unveiled three new ways to get players of its Wii console off the sofa.

The company announced a gun-shaped "zapper" for first person shooters, a steering wheel for driving titles and a white floor pad for exercise and dancing games.

The \$19.99 white, pistol-shaped con-

troller will be available later this year. The existing Wii remote and nunchuck accessories clip into the gun's plastic housing.

The Wii remote snaps into the steering wheel accessory and will be included with the racing game "Mario Kart," due in the first quarter of next year, said Reggie Fils-Aime, president and chief operating officer of Nintendo of America Inc. Pricing wasn't announced.

The company also showed off several new games as it tries to lure a bigger range of gamers.

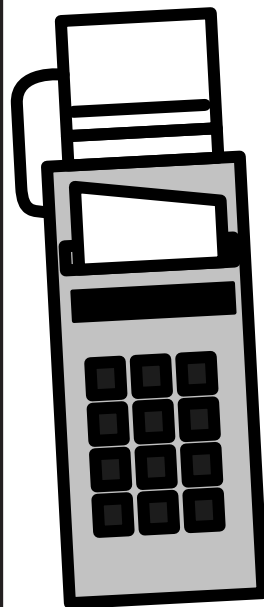
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BB may have been a bad idea
(Editor's note: The following is an open letter to the SMMUSD school board)

Whose priorities for Measure BB funds are these: \$23 million for a new Edison campus and \$16 million for new child development services offices at Washington West? First, Edison is a campus that is almost 50 percent non-residents, specifically LAUSD students. This is not an appropriate use of Santa Monica and Malibu tax money. We did not vote to spend our tax money for Los Angeles residents. Both Malibu and Santa Monica high schools are the biggest priorities. Who set this agenda? Many parents feel as I do, fix our high schools and stop the bleed out to private schools. It is time to make sure our taxpayer money is spent on us – the taxpayers!!

Dr. Lisette Bauersachs
Santa Monica schools parent

Watergate was payback time
Editor:

(Re: 'Scooter skates while Ann hates,' July 6, opinion) (Jack Neworth) managed to wrap up a 53-year span of Americana with an unmentioned, but intuitively remembered by some of us, Richard Nixon as a young lawyer, being Sen. Joe McCarthy's righthand counsel in 1954. I can see now that something did come out well, in that fearmongering era, which has been duplicated by this administration's cronies, but this time it's Christians and Jews against Muslims! In some respects, Watergate, for many us young idealists who had been drafted between 1968 and 1972 as reservists, was considered as payback by Democrats who only chose to selectively remember Nixon as McCarthy's righthand man, whence he got his reputation of being so much for America's brand of democracy – which really is a technocracy – that he converted China to a free market pseudo calibrated Socialist state! However tragic Watergate was, we don't see President G.W. Bush and his cabinet making similar overtures to our perceived enemies like Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Palestine, etc. ... after his 2001 inauguration!

Frank Muller
Santa Monica

Lame ducks can still inflict damage
Editor:

On the day after the Fourth of July, I reported for my first-ever jury duty. A judge of the Superior Court gave the assembled 150 potential jurors a pep talk. She explained the importance of our participation in the legal process, and referred to a copy of the Constitution she held in her hand, and even to the Magna Carta, as she listed the freedoms guaranteed us in return for the sacrifice we were about to make as jurors. She spoke of the presumption of innocence, the right to be judged by our peers, and our protection against unreasonable search and seizure. She also told us about how, long ago, the government – afraid that sentiment against war promulgated by the Society of Friends was growing too strong – had passed a law banning Quakers from assembling in groups, and how William Penn had gotten himself arrested for leading just such a gathering; how Penn had been tried by a jury of his peers and found innocent; how the governor was so angry at the decision that he again jailed Penn and the entire jury that had acquitted him; and how all had been quickly released because of our most precious legal right – habeas corpus.

As she listed these freedoms – the presumption of innocence, the right to be judged by our peers, protection against unreasonable search and seizure, and the right of habeas corpus – I had to restrain myself from shouting after each, "Unless the president decides otherwise!" I have become convinced that the war in Iraq is perhaps the least of the damages inflicted on our democracy by Bush, Cheney and their henchmen. We cannot afford another 18 months of this. There have been calls for Bush and Cheney to resign, but there is no chance they will – as even Nixon did – do the right thing. We must demand that our lily-livered Democratic majority in Congress bring articles of impeachment as soon as possible.

Robert Benedetti
Santa Monica



The Rand Stand

Alex Epstein

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Religious Right is the living dead

APPLAUDING THE SUPREME COURT'S decision to uphold a ban on so-called partial birth abortions, President Bush called it a victory for “building a culture of life in America.”

The idea of a “culture of life” has been a rallying cry for religious conservatives in their opposition to all abortion and embryonic stem cell research, and in their opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide. By doing everything possible to preserve embryos, fetuses, and the incurably ill or vegetative, they say, we will bring about a “culture of life.” “The problem we face ...” declares conservative icon Rush Limbaugh, “is ... a culture of death. From abortion on demand ... to embryonic stem cell research [to] assisted suicide ...”

But what would life actually be like in their “culture of life”?

Consider a world in which abortion were illegal — which is the exact meaning of the president's pledge, following the Supreme Court's verdict, to “continue to work for the day when every child is welcomed in life and protected in law.” Pregnant women who rationally desired to abort — whether because of accidental pregnancy, rape, birth defects or danger to their lives — would be forced to undergo 20 years of enslavement to the needs of children they did not want to give birth to, or attempt dangerous, back-alley abortions — the kind that crippled or killed untold numbers of women before Roe v. Wade. To prohibit abortion would be to sentence countless women to spiritual — and sometimes literal — death.

Or consider another staple of the “culture of life” — a world in which euthanasia and assisted suicide are illegal. Individuals with incurable and unbearable diseases would not be able to die with dignity at a time of their own choosing, but would be subjected to a protracted existence of often unspeakable agony. Their loved ones would have to endure torturous months or years seeing what was once a vibrant human being persist as a mass of pain or as a vegetable — just as, in the now-famous case of Terry Schiavo, her husband Michael had to see his wife for 15 years in a state incapable of emotion, memory or thought.

Finally, consider a world without embryonic stem cell research. The stem cells that can be extracted from microscopic, 150-cell embryos have the potential to become any other type of human cell — and thus, say scientists, be used in therapies that could save or enhance millions of lives. To stop stem cell research would be to deprive every one of these millions — including those with heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's — of the possibility of a longer, better life.

To uphold these positions in the name of the sanctity of life is a colossal fraud. A “culture of life” would not benefit human life, but cause massive suffering and death.

What could possibly justify the religious conservatives' crusade for such a world? “God's will,” they answer. Our lives belong to a supernatural being, they say, and He commands us not to end them “unnatural-

ly,” no matter how unbearable they become. He sanctifies bits of protoplasm, they say, and thus commands young women to abandon their ambitions in order to raise unwanted children, and commands everyone to abandon the breathtaking promise of a new field of research.

THE IDEA OF A ‘CULTURE OF LIFE’ HAS BEEN A RALLYING CRY FOR RELIGIOUS CONSERVATIVES IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO ALL ABORTION AND EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH, AND IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE.

This is the rise of the same medieval mentality that demanded rejection of the life-enhancing developments of anesthesia, the dissection of corpses and birth control.

The religious conservatives do not value actual human life; they are consistent followers of the Christian ideal that human life is properly lived in sacrifice to a supernatural being, and that suffering is proof of virtue. The worship of suffering is fundamental to Christianity, a religion whose central figure is glorified for dying a horrific death for the sins of mankind. Several years ago, a prominent religious conservative said of the Schiavo case, “Terry Schiavo ... is suffering in obedience to God's will.” He added: “Isn't suffering in pursuit of God's will the exact center of religious life?”

This is the culture of death — of living death.

Human life is sacred — not because of supernatural declaration, but because of the unique nature and glorious potential of the individual, rational human life: To think, to create, to love, to experience pleasure, to achieve happiness here on earth. A genuine culture of life would leave individuals free to pursue their own happiness — free from coercive injunctions to sacrifice themselves to religious dogma. Such a culture is what we must seek to create, as we do everything possible to fight religious conservatives' culture of living death.

ALEX EPSTEIN is a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.

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Free tequila buys time for peddlers

IF YOU WANT TO FEEL IMPORTANT, walk around Puerto Vallarta looking older and slightly better (or more) dressed than a college kid on spring break — and with a wedding ring on your finger.

My husband, Rick, and I were in Mexico last month and were surprised and somewhat flattered that, despite having quibbled for a full 10 minutes over whose turn it was to get the window seat on the plane, we gave the impression of being mature and respectable enough to garner solicitations to buy timeshares from roughly five out of every seven people we encountered.

The last I'd heard about timeshares was in the early 1990s, when my dad announced that hurricanes had ravaged the one my Uncle Herbert and Aunt Anita owned in Cancun. Invented in Europe in the 1960s, the timeshare industry today, as far as I knew, was nothing more than a little piece of nostalgia. Sort of like Demi Moore's youth.

But not in Mexico. The come-ons started moments after our flight landed. Before clearing customs, a woman behind a counter lined with plastic palm trees wearing miniature sombreros told us she worked for the government and that she wanted to give us a discount card that would be valid at participating souvenir shops, car rental agencies and Hooters.

"All you need to do is give me a \$20 deposit, and I will pick you up at your hotel tomorrow morning and take you to breakfast. Then, I will give you the card," she said, her arms open wide like Ricardo Montalban on "Fantasy Island."

"I don't eat breakfast. We'd actually just like the card now, please," I said. Then I thought back for a split second to the page in the Fodor's guidebook warning about timeshare pitches. "Hey, this isn't some sort of a timeshare thing, is it?"

She dropped the smile and looked in an instant less like Julie McCoy playing shuffleboard on the "Love Boat" and more like Chucky with a freshly sharpened ax. "Well, excuse me for thinking you might want to see a brand-new property in the area. It's a whole lot nicer than where you're staying," she said with a sneer.

That seemed to open up the solicitation faucet, which flowed nonstop from that moment on. Sitting down at a bar for a drink after dinner one night, we met a guy from Texas who had moved to Puerto Vallarta 10 months earlier. He chuckled at our timeshare

stories. Then we told him we actually agreed to attend a 90-minute timeshare presentation after getting a written guarantee that we'd receive \$300 in cash, a bottle of top-shelf tequila and two massage gift certificates.

He stopped laughing. "Seriously, if you're going to do a presentation, then let me take you."

We started laughing. "Ha, ha. No, really."

"I can't offer you cash, but," he said, lowering his voice and looking around dramatically. "Are you a Ratt fan? My buddy over there is in the band and you can party with him."

A closeted '80s heavy metal fan who probably would have chosen a Trans-Am over a Ford Explorer and a mullet over a normal guy haircut had he ended up settling anywhere south of the Mason-Dixon line, Rick's jaw dropped. "Wow. I saw you guys at Hirsch Coliseum in Shreveport in 1986."

The dude cleared his throat. "Well, actually, you wouldn't have seen me then. I was the third lead guitarist in the Ratt reunion tour in 2004 when the band played some state fairs."

Rick gave him a high-five. "Cool." Then he turned to me and pleaded, "Honey, can we do this timeshare thing instead? Then we can party with a guitarist from Ratt!"

We ultimately chose to honor our original presentation commitment and were taken around a sprawling resort called the Mayan Palace in a golf cart with a guy named Lolo who had spiky peroxide-blond hair and fashioned himself to be the Mexican Henny Youngman.

"Next, I show you the alligator pond, Where the wives send the husbands who drink too many margaritas," Lolo cracked.

One hundred seventy-five minutes, four sales managers and 19 offers requiring down payments ranging from \$50,000 to \$449 later, we were unceremoniously shown to the back door. Those departing timeshare-less, as we were, were not invited for another ride in the golf cart, but given walking directions created by Mr. Magoo on how to navigate our way back to the property exit.

Which was OK with us, because we had the satisfaction of knowing that people in some countries — or at least one — think we look pretty important. And we still have (most of) a bottle of tequila to prove it. Salud!

MEREDITH CARROLL can be reached at meredithccarroll@hotmail.com.

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The Q-Line

Hunger or strike?

Unions representing supermarket workers have vowed to strike — again — if their demands are not met soon. The last time they decided to strike many shoppers honored their picket lines and shopped at non-union stores as a show of solidarity.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Would you support another strike or do you think market workers should rethink their work stoppage plans?

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

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Is One Way the Right Way?

A recent proposal to establish Olympic and Pico Boulevards as one-way paired streets between downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica to address traffic congestion has garnered much attention.

Feasibility study author Allyn Rifkin, a consultant to Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, will:

- Present an overview of his report, and
- Discuss with meeting attendees their comments, concerns, suggestions and questions.

**Thursday, July 12, 2007 – 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Room 103**

Please join the Planning and Community Development Department for an informative evening. Your opinion is important to us; if you would like to provide written comments please send to Transportation Management Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 115, Santa Monica, California 90407 or transportation.management@smgov.net or fax 310/ 576-9170.



The Ken Edwards Center is wheelchair accessible. For further information, or if you need disability-related accommodations, please contact the Transportation Management Division at 310/458-8298 or transportation.management@smgov.net. The Ken Edwards Center is served by the Santa Monica Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and the Tide Ride; please call 310/451-5444 for additional transit information.

Gaming industry comes to town

FROM E3 PAGE 3

An exercise program called "Wii Fit" includes a "Wii Balance Board" players stand on to perform yoga, aerobics and other fitness routines. The wireless device, which looks like a weight scale, calculates body mass index and shows a person's center of gravity.

Pricing and availability weren't announced.

"All this makes games feel fresh again no matter how long you've been playing," said Fils-Aime. "The key to industry expansion is making games irresistible, even to those who've never played before."

Fils-Aime said several games would take advantage of the zapper controller, including a new "Resident Evil" game from Capcom and a "Medal of Honor" title from Electronic Arts Inc.

At its own news conference, Sony Corp. showed off a revised, slimmed down version of its PlayStation Portable that lets users connect the handheld system to their TVs to watch movies.

Executives said the new PSP was 33 percent lighter and more battery efficient than the previous version.

The system will come in black as well as two new colors this fall: silver and a limited edition white version with Darth Vader's image on the back that will sell for \$199 as part of a "Star Wars Battlefront: Renegade Squadron" game package.

Sony executives previewed a variety of upcoming games, including the military shooter "Killzone 2" and the latest revision of its 3-D online service called "Home," due this fall.

Microsoft Corp. too, kept the focus on video games.

Peter Moore, a corporate vice president in Microsoft's entertainment and devices division, said Tuesday that top games for the Xbox 360 will include the anticipated sci-fi shooter "Halo 3" from Bungie Studios, "Mass Effect" from BioWare Corp. and "Grand Theft Auto IV" from Rockstar Games.

Microsoft Corp. said Tuesday it had struck a deal to make 35 Disney movies, such as the animated hit "Aladdin" and the action title "Armageddon," available for download on its online video game service.

The company also said it had struck a deal to offer 35 new high-definition movies from Disney-ABC Domestic Television.

The Xbox 360, released in late 2005, leads the current generation of console wars in the United States with 5.6 million units sold, according to the NPD Group, a market research company.

The Wii has sold 2.8 million units domestically, while the PlayStation 3 console from Sony Corp. was ranked third with 1.4 million consoles sold in the United States since its release late last year.

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SMPD busts serial robber

FROM CAUGHT PAGE 1

fic flow.

The burglaries also sparked renewed interest in "pay-on-foot" programs that would allow drivers to use machines, similar to ATMs, to pay for their parking instead of having to hand money over to an attendant. Pay-on-foot is still an option on the table.

The cameras proved to be a good investment, police said. Using footage captured by them, officers were able to get a good look at the suspect, whom they noticed walking out of Parking Structure No. 6 on Second Street around 11 p.m. on Sunday.

Patrol officers immediately responded to the structure, at which time they contacted the parking attendant who confirmed that he had just been robbed. He told officers that the suspect used a knife and took \$20.

A few minutes later, officers patrolling the area on foot saw the suspect in Parking Structure No. 2, also on Second Street. Officers said the suspect was walking away from another parking booth.



THIS GUY WAS GETTING WORSE AND WORSE."

Lt. Alex Padilla
SMPD spokesman

As the officers followed the suspect, he quickly ran down a nearby stairwell. At this time, the parking attendant yelled out to the officers that she had just been robbed. She said the suspect used a tire iron to take \$122.

The robbery was captured on video.

Officers were able to apprehend the suspect on the ground floor of the structure. The suspect was positively identified by witnesses and the knife and tire iron were recovered along with the stolen money, police said.

"What happened was he had been doing these robberies, then he found a job and stopped for a while," Padilla said. "We don't know if it was because he lost his job, but from talking to him, he went back to doing the robberies."

The investigation is still ongoing, Padilla said.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to call the SMPD at (310) 458-8427 or detectives at (310) 458-8451.

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Public Hearing On Metro Service

Get involved in improving transit service in your community. Metro Westside/Central is hold a public hearing August 8 at 5pm at the La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills, on proposed bus service changes. For information, search for "Metro Westside/Central" at metro.net.

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

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ON THE SHELVES

REVIEW BY EMILY SKEHAN

Justice ‘†’

Imagine a gang of Hell’s Angels, disguised as ultra-cool Frenchmen, storming a South Beach club and swinging from the disco ball. That’s the scene that DJ duo Justice’s debut album conjures with its relentlessly dark, eardrum-shattering interpretation of dance music. If anything could get a Metallica fan to shake his stuff like Paris Hilton on a Saturday night it’s this album, named in typical Vice pretension simply “†.”



Justice – comprised of Parisian graphic designers turned musicians Gaspard Auge and Xavier de Rosnay – meld acid house electro synth with gothic bass lines, slick disco beats and heavy hip-hop rhythms. The opening song “Genesis” merits the oft used Daft Punk comparison, a gritty, Godzilla-sampling intro that sledgehammers into an eerie, slickly produced dance track. While it’s disappointing that some of the album’s stronger tracks are from earlier EPs, they still rock with an irreverent, filthy take on French dance music. “Waters of Nazareth,” with its catchy drums and sarcastic eighties glamor filtered through hard rock synths, is a club favorite, and “Phantom”’s glitchy, funk-ripped disco strings punctured by awe-inspiring build-ups and drops make the instrumental track hard to take off repeat.

“D.A.N.C.E.” adds a lighter, audience friendly touch to the generally dark album with a Jackson Five-esque singalong over disco pop beats that are infectious. Valentine is similarly less of a battering than the other tracks, sounding like a cross between Ratatat and My Bloody Valentine, if they were to be remixed by Tiesto.

The album certainly has its weak points; “The party” features horrific vocals from Ed Banger catastrophe Uffie, a female vocalist who sounds like a whiny private school girl who’s decided to rap semi-sarcastically about how cool she is. DVNO also falls flat with harsh, empty vocals and robotic synths.

On a whole, though, † is rocking, guerrilla warfare on euro house. A bumping, bad ass dance party. (Vice Records)

Chromeo, ‘Fancy Footwork’

The second album from Pee Thug and Dave 1, the Arab/Jew combo that make up the electrofunk duo Chromeo, is as delightfully nostalgic and funky as its 2004 predecessor “She’s in Control,” with perhaps a more sincere sound to boot.

“Fancy Footwork” carries on Chromeo’s ode to bubbly eighties pop, with Miami Vice sheen, funky synth and vocoder ballads. The album opens with a playful intro that segues into the dance worthy “Tenderoni,” followed by the title track, which has a finger-snapping, deliciously upbeat groove coated in sleek yet laid back vocals. “Momma’s Boy” is a fantastically kitsch piano ditty circa 1983 that inevitably leaves you humming.

“Bonafied Lovin” (Tough Guys)” and “100%” are the kickers of this album, the former a sleek, sleazy guitar-synth opus and the latter a perfect retro ballad with a great saxophone solo intertwined with warm synth wails.

Rich synthesizers and disco pop beats punctuate hilarious lyrics; “For sure if I tell you how to do my dance, baby then you’ll let me get in those pants” croons Dave 1, who teaches undergraduate French classes at Columbia University.

While “Fancy Footwork” doesn’t have in-your-face singles like the group’s earlier “Needy Girl,” it is as a whole better produced, more serious, and more coherent than Chromeo’s debut album. The silly yet earnest duo have a nerdy, whirlwind romance with eighties tunes, and their enthusiasm makes the disappointingly short record come off as entirely listenable and fresher than the overly ironic efforts of their indie peers. (Vice Records)

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Photo courtesy Twilight Dance Series

READY TO JAM OUT: Plena Libre will rock the beach during this week’s pier concert.

Caribbean beats
set to rock pier

Concert-goers best
bring their dancing
shoes to the show

BY EMILY SKEHAN
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER The city by the sea might sound more like Little Havana or Puerto Rico tonight, with Twilight revelers encouraged to samba, salsa and sway away at the weekly Dance Series concert. Plena Libre and Spam Allstars are set to rock out with high-energy tropical dance tunes and Latin hip-hop spins.

Whether it’s by beating a pandereta or scratching some vinyl, dance lovers should find plenty of motivation.

The night’s headliner, Plena Libre, is a 13-member band that shakes up traditional island folk with contemporary dance beats. The first part of the group’s name, Plena, is a genre of Puerto Rican folk music that stems from African slave culture on the island in the early 20th century. The plena is a narrative song that documents the hardships of everyday life of early Puerto Rican communities to the beat of panderetas, a percussion-like tropical instrument.

Plena Libre puts a new spin on these folk roots with jazzy horns, sizzling salsa beats and up-tempo pambiche patterns.

The band, which burst onto the music scene in Puerto Rico more than a decade ago, are three-time Grammy nominees who have become local favorites on their native island. Known as “Plena ambassadors,” the 13 members of Plena Libre, headed by Gary Nunez, focus on danceable native sound — plena and bomba — blended with Brazilian samba, Latin jazz and African beats.

“They’re not only a great band in terms of their musicianship,” said Cindy Byram, Plena Libre’s publicist, “they’re also very down to earth guys. If you’re used to seeing Latin dance bands from NYC or Miami, they’re nothing like that.

They have no pretension. “They just want to grab their audience by their feet and make sure they have a great time.”

The pier should prove a great location for the band, according to Byram.

“They love nothing more than big outdoor venues,” she said. “They love that party atmosphere, especially in the summer, when people are relaxed and looking to go out and get loose.”

Some words of advice for tonight’s concert:

“Wear comfortable shoes” said Byram.

The Twilight Concert will groove on with the electronic descarga that is the Spam Allstars. Headed by Miami-based DJ Le Spam, the group fuses improvisational electronic turntable maneuvers with funk, hip-hop, dub and Latin.

Le Spam, who turns the stereotype of trendy nightclub DJs on its head with his worldly style and old-school approach, teamed with the Spam Allstars in 1998. The group became a local fixture in the Little Havana scene, avoiding posh Miami clubs.

“We’re really looking forward to the show,” said Le Spam, who added that the band will probably stop for breakfast at Jinky’s Cafe when they land in Los Angeles at 10 a.m. today. “We’ve played in Santa Monica several times, but this will be our first time playing the pier. I’m sure the surroundings are going to inspire us to do something unique.”

The group will be playing some tunes off of their “electrodomesticos” album.

The concert, staged on the west lot of the Santa Monica Pier, begins at 7:30 p.m. The entrance to the pier is at the intersection of Colorado and Ocean avenues, and parking is available at 2030 Barnard Way. However, spaces are limited and attendees are encouraged to walk, bike or take public transit. A free bike valet will be provided.

For more information on the Twilight Series, visit www.twilightdance.org, or call (310) 458-8900.

NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy MGM

'Platoon'

Written, directed, and experienced by Oliver Stone, this haunting look at the Vietnam War stars Charlie Sheen, Tom Berenger, and Willem Dafoe. It is war against the enemy, each other, and within oneself. Winner of four Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Director, *Platoon* is ranked among the Top 100 films of all-time by the American Film Institute. Supplements include commentary by Stone and military advisor Dale Dye, trailers, photo gallery, deleted scenes, and several documentaries including cast and crew preparations and production. (MGM)

'Peaceful Warrior'

Based on the best-selling novel by Dan Millman, *Peaceful Warrior* revolves around the life changes of a college gymnast (Scott Mechlowicz) after a chance encounter with a stranger (Nick Nolte). An inspirational tale about the power of the human spirit, the single disc offering includes deleted scenes, a book-to-screen segment, and a music video - "I'm There Too." (Universal)

'Alien'

A classic sci-fi film and 1979 Oscar winner for Visual Effects. It stars Sigourney Weaver as Ripley who is a part of a commercial towing crew heading back to earth when they are obligated to check out an SOS signal. Exploring the site they disturb eggs of an unknown creature and after learning the ship's computer interprets the signal as a warning, disaster has come aboard. The single disc is encased in a fancy Lenticular box cover and special features include commentary from director Ridley Scott, deleted scenes, outtakes, isolated audio tracks, and an art gallery. (Fox)

'52 Pick-Up'

Roy Scheider and Ann-Margret play a middle-aged married couple whose commitment is put to the test when blackmailers attempt to make the successful Los Angeles businessman pay for his infidelity with a stripper (Kelly Preston). To protect his wife's political ambitions, Harry (Scheider) can't go to the police, so he attempts to handle it discreetly himself. John Glover is terrific as the verbose porno dealer leading the extortion plot. (MGM)

'Cast Away'

Chuck Noland (Tom Hanks), a FedEx systems engineer, must transform himself psychologically and physically after surviving a plane crash and washing up on a deserted island. Reminiscent of

Robert DeNiro in "Raging Bull" but done with an opposite purpose, production was halted for one year so Hanks could drop 50 pounds and let his hair grow out for the part. Special features include a look at Wilson - the pivotal volleyball "character," art gallery, trailers, Hanks interview, a special effects vignette, HBO documentary, director Robert Zemeckis commentary, and storyboard-to-film comparison. (Fox)

'The Outer Limits'

"There is nothing wrong you're your television set. Do not attempt to adjust the picture. We are controlling transmission..." with those haunting words hard science took a twisted turn each week with a new cast. A favorite of that master of horror, Stephen King, guest stars include Cliff Robertson, David McCallum, and Martin Landau among the 16 episodes. One of the creators, Joseph Stefano, was good friends with Alfred Hitchcock and wrote the screenplay for "Psycho." (MGM)

'Gomer Pyle' Season 2

Shazam! Here's a five-disc, 30 episode offering of Jim Nabors in the title role as the kind but dopey marine from Mayberry, North Carolina. Stationed in southern California at Camp Henderson, Pyle's low-key demeanor and country bumpkin persona constantly clashes with his blustery superior, Sgt. Carter (Frank Sutton) resulting in some hilarious situations. Ted Bessell (That Girl) and comedian Ronnie Schell are his platoon pals. Ron Howard, Michael Conrad, and future M*A*S*H star, Jamie Farr are among the guests. Spun-off from the popular Andy Griffith Show, this was the first season the program was presented in color. (Paramount)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local store.

Study: Back Pain Sufferers Benefit From New Technology

Santa Monica - "A new study shows that technology may have finally found a non-surgical solution for chronic back pain and sciatica sufferers."

That's what Santa Monica Chiropractor, Dr. Tim Bullock is saying about a treatment called Spinal Decompression. Dr. Bullock has been using FDA approved non-surgical spinal decompression in his office for over two years now. This treatment is a drug free breakthrough to treat back pain, disc herniation and sciatica.

"I am amazed at the results spinal decompression gets with patients who were about to give up searching for a solution for their problem. And how safe and easy it is... even for patients who have already had surgery. I am also shocked to learn that so few doctors throughout the country have this new technology available in their office," commented Dr. Bullock.

Due to the tremendous success in back pain patients using this technology, Dr. Bullock has made a copy of the Study available to anyone suffering from a painful back caused by disc herniation, for FREE!

"I want back pain sufferers to know they have an option other than drugs and surgery... an option that really works. I want to let them know there is finally REAL hope for their condition. Learn all the details in this free report."

To get your free copy of Dr. Bullock's recently released Research Case Study report titled, "The Effectiveness Of Spinal Decompression Therapy In Patients With Back Pain, Herniated Disc and Sciatica" just call (310) 562-6700 and listen to the 24 hr recorded message on how to have it mailed to you free. Call now, supply is limited. Or log on to www.lordexsamo.com and click on "Free Report."

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Odd Man Out

By Mark Marchillo

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Just say no to some of these 'yes' men

ALMOST EVERY GUY ON THE SCENE today is a Yes Man.

They're everywhere. In the clubs. At the gym. In the bushes. Even, and more than likely, in the shower at your rec center. They say "yes" to it all. That is, everything carnal.

Ever wonder what gay relationships would be like if guys actually had the will power to hold out for longer than the three hours it takes to get from dinner and a movie to the living room sofa? I hear my friends bitter on about how hard it is to keep a boyfriend for more than three weeks, let alone three months. And three years? Almost unheard of, without the convenience of the ever popular "open" arrangement.

So why do we say yes? Why go for it, when we know all too well we're giving up that one ounce of allure? The thing that keeps the straight guys going back to a girl for more and more is that unknown territory they may get a chance to finally explore that night. We're guys, and guys are guys, no matter what their wrists say.

Our team seems to always be up at the free-throw line. Letting someone make a basket anytime they want ruins that little thing called mystery. Let's face it: we have none. And the guys that do hold out for that third,

THEY SAY 'YES' TO IT ALL. THAT IS, EVERYTHING CARNAL.

or even fifth date...well, they're what the rest of West Hollywood calls frigid. Prudish.

Well, Prudence here thinks that maybe that's not such a bad thing. Give a guy what he wants and he'll run. Keep that which he wants most dangling at arms length and he'll hang around and wait for it to drop into his mouth. For awhile. Resisting sex too long in any situation can be detrimental.

I'm the first to admit how many guys have lost interest simply because I wouldn't give it up. But in the age of "when-was-the-last-time-you-got-tested," waiting two weeks, guys, should be the way to go. And that's what we like best, right? To GO.

MARK MARCHILLO is freelance filmmaker and all-together nice guy living in Santa Monica. Send comments or suggestions regarding his column to capwellkid@hotmail.com

Love is just a call away

BY NICK DIVITO | Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK Get the weather. Get a picture. Get a date — this instant.

To add to the growing list of things you can do with your cell phone, now hear this: If you are feeling a little lonely or at loose ends, a growing number of cell phone services offer a chance to see if true love is just around the corner. Yes, sometimes the very one on which you are standing.

Here's how it can work, as told through the experience of 27-year-old Juston Payne:

Headed to a bar in Manhattan recently, he was in the mood to get to know someone new. So he logged on to Meetmoi, a mobile dating service.

He then scrolled through a list of profiles on his mobile phone and found a like-minded stranger in the area. The two swapped text-messages and soon met up for a drink and a game of Skee-Ball.

"It's simple and it's immediate," said Payne, 27, who checks in with Meetmoi, once a week. He's already been on two casual, on-the-go dates in the city.

"It just takes away the whole kabuki dance that goes on with Internet dating," he said.

Of the nation's estimated 213 million mobile phone users, 3.6 million used a mobile dating service in May 2007, according to M:Metrics, a Seattle-based mobile research firm. Mostly used by men ages 18 to 34, use of such services has grown with the services themselves.

"For younger folks, the phone plays a very different role in their life than it does for older Americans," said Mark Donovan,

an m:Metrics analyst. "To them, it's a tool to entertain, to connect with their friends, to flirt and meet new people."

Some "traditional" — meaning Internet — dating websites like Webdate and Match.com are rolling out mobile services, and there are a handful of stand-alone ventures such as Meetmoi, Zogo and Jumbuck Entertainment's Fast Flirting, as well.

All work similarly, allowing users to scan profile and contact potential dates, using various screens to protect identities. (Geography is not necessarily always a factor.)

Most are free to register. Meetmoi charges 99 cents for 10 back-and-forth messages. Though now free, Zogo may soon be starting a monthly subscription. And for about \$3 per month, users can chat on the Fast Flirting service for up to 10 minutes.

Users beware: some cell phone providers charge per text message, sent and received.

Safety is always key. All connections are made anonymously, and only users can reveal their true identities if they choose. And should a meet-up occur, it's always advised to do it in a public place, like a bar or coffee shop.

"There's a paradigm shift in dating," said Meetmoi's founder Andrew Weinreich, who declined to disclose how many have signed up with his new service.

"With online dating, you've got to sit in front of a computer, email someone, get an email a week later, arrange a date, pick the place Too much hassle.

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Getting jiggy with baristas

BY REAGAN WHEELER

Special to the Daily Press

WESTWOOD Just a few miles away from Santa Monica, a serious musical movement is brewing, literally.

This is where 22-year-old Angelo Santi toils away at the Starbucks on West Weyburn Avenue. To most of his customers, he seems like an average Joe, but there's more to the story than meets the sleepy-morning, yet-to-be-caffeinated eye.

Santi is a guitarist in the band Bluebox. Along with three of his pals — Morgan Taylor, JoHero and Drew Langan — he started the band four years ago. With the exception of Langan, each of the band's members have been employed with Starbucks at one time or another.

After having played up and down the western coast, often paying out of pocket just for the chance to play, the members of Bluebox continue to try and take matters into their own hands and have entered the Starbucks music contest, "Does Your Barista Rock?" Fifteen acts — each an employee of the coffee house giant — are vying for the grand prize, the chance to open for a renowned artist at the House of Blues in Hollywood.

"People take you more serious if you're not waiting for someone to make you famous," Santi said on Monday.

Not only does the winning act get to rock the Sunset Strip, but all of the 17 finalists are currently being played on the Starbucks Hear Music website.

Starbucks has proven very supportive of their employees' talent over the years. The level of respect and integrity is like no other business, according to Santi. The company has made Fortune Magazine's list of the 100 Best Companies to Work For nine years, most recently placing 29th in 2006 and 16th this year.

PEOPLE TAKE YOU MORE SERIOUS IF YOU'RE NOT WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO MAKE YOU FAMOUS."

Angelo Santi, Bluebox guitarist

"This contest is just another way that Starbucks is dedicated to its partners," said Gabby Vizcaino, spokesperson for Starbucks.

"Does Your Barista Rock?" is not the first contest hosted by the Starbucks Coffee Company. In 2006, they staged a national contest for baristas, after which 10 finalists were chosen and a compilation CD, "Off the Clock," recorded and



Photo courtesy

LUCKY GUYS: Bluebox made the cut.

sold in all Starbucks chains.

Meanwhile, Bluebox has been honing their craft, recording their self-titled, first album last year. They've played in Sacramento, Santa Rosa, San Jose, and San Francisco within the last year. With 9,925 MySpace friends, the band is cultivating a fan base.

The group has been compared to John Mayer, Jamiroquai, Keane and The Fray by fans in the Bay Area. The other "Barista Rock" finalists include seven musicians from the San Diego area and baristas from Fresno, Bakersfield and Torrance, among other Los Angeles area enclaves.

Santi credits his current employers with helping him to chase after his dreams of stardom, saying his boss is "really flexible" with his hours if the band has an upcoming gig. The Westwood store's assistant manager, Jeff Woodruff, even helped Bluebox set up a show in the store a couple of months back, calling Bluebox' music "nifty."

"I can count on them (his employers)," said Santi. "They take care of me."

Bluebox entered the 2006 national competition, but didn't crack the finals. Undeterred, they entered again this year, advancing to the finals in the regional contest. The band was on tour in Rancho Marietta, performing a benefit concert for Santi's grandfather, when they got the news.

"We couldn't even believe it ... we forgot that we even entered the contest," Santi said.

Now, the band members are busy encouraging fans to vote for their track "No Place To Run" to send them to the House of Blues.

Fans can vote until July 16 on www.socal-hearmusic.com. The winner will be announced July 23.

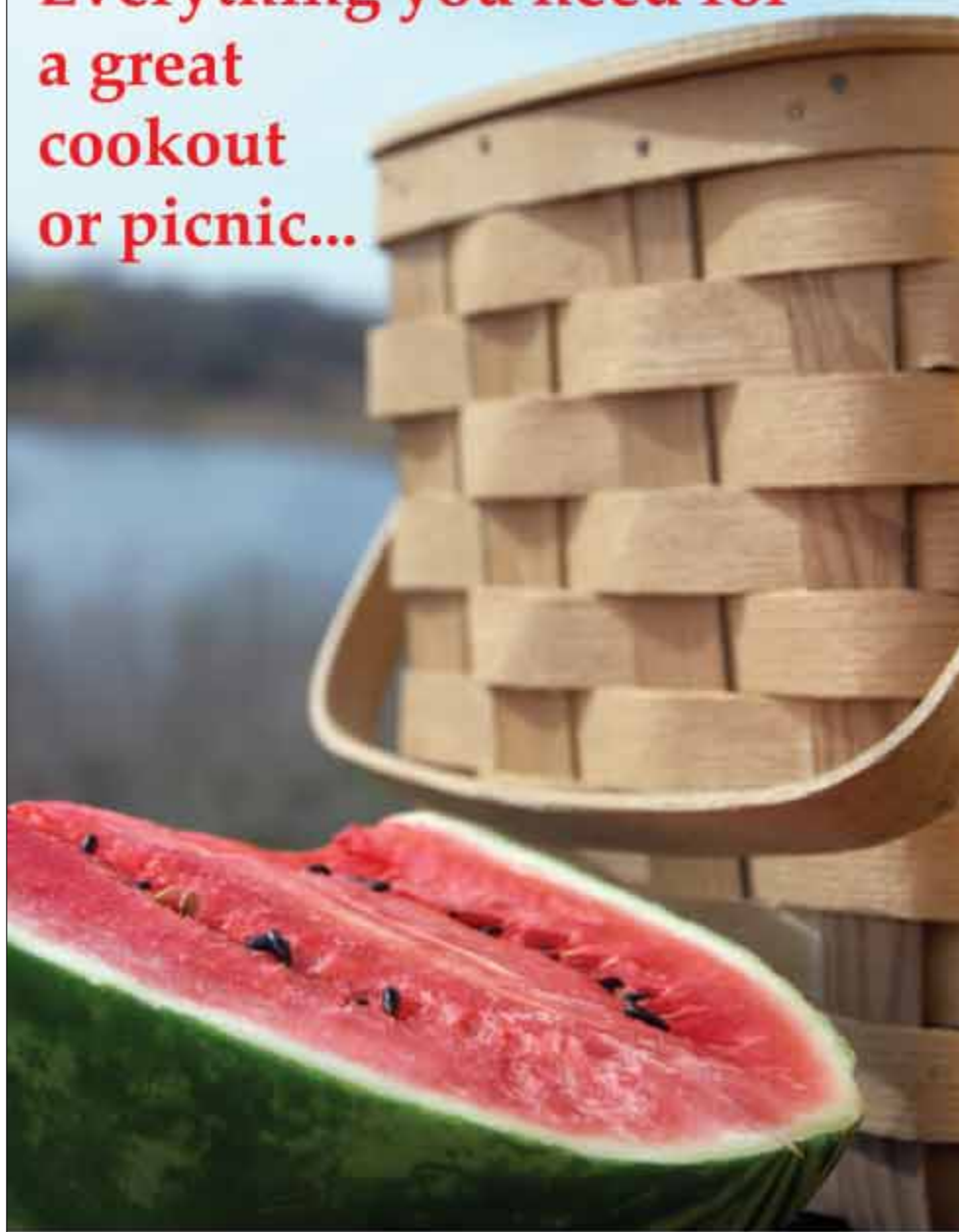
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✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

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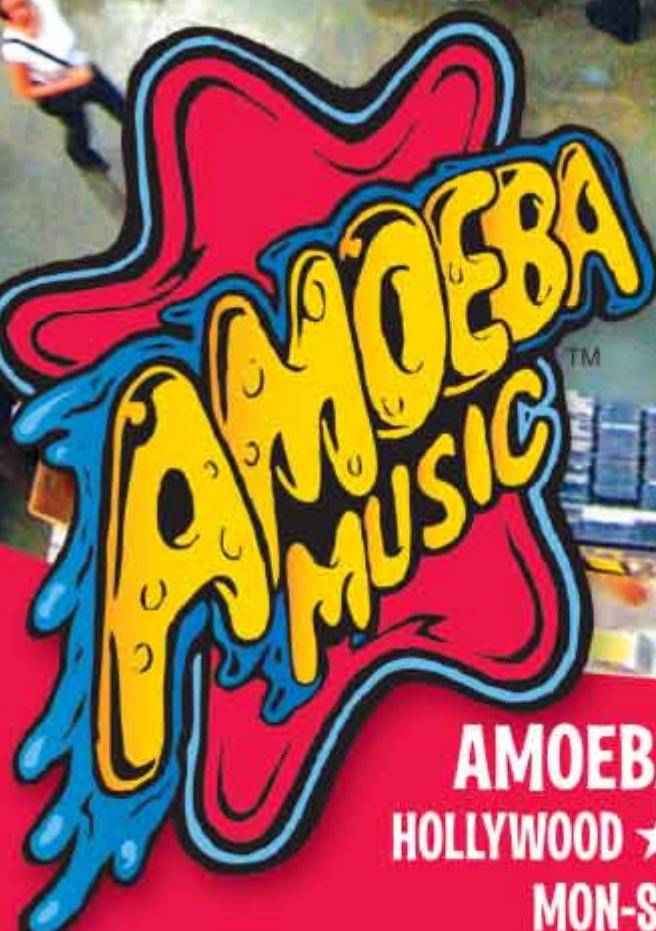
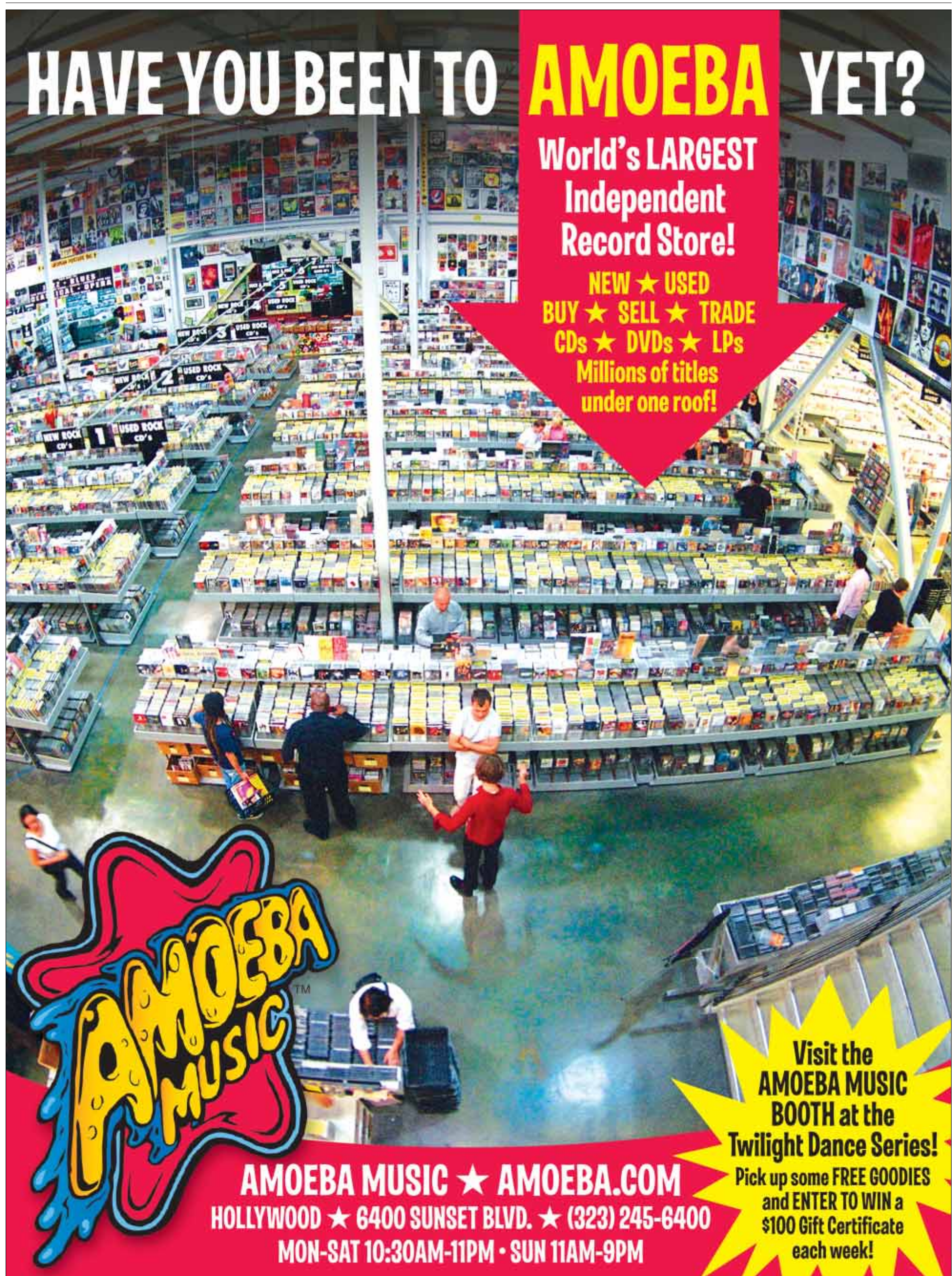

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Getting off 'The Lot' a winner

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

HOLLYWOOD There are those who dream big, and then there are those who accomplish big.

Sam Friedlander hopes to be classified in the latter.

The Santa Monica resident could be on his way, inching toward landing a \$1 million development deal with DreamWorks as one of 10 remaining contestants on the FOX reality show, "On the Lot."

Produced by Steven Spielberg and Mark Burnett — creator of the CBS reality staple "Survivor" — "On the Lot" takes 18 fresh-faced filmmakers and showcases their talents to a national audience, all for a chance to score a deal with DreamWorks.

Frequently playing behind the camera lens as a child, Friedlander headed to Santa Monica from his hometown of Mount Vernon, N.Y. in 2001 after he applied to USC School Cinema, crossing his fingers that he would be admitted.

Friedlander did get into USC and spent the next few years working toward a master's degree in filmmaking, graduating in 2005. It was at USC where Friedlander produced the short film that would eventually earn him a ticket to the cast of "On the Lot."

A fan of reality shows, though he never envisioned being a part of one, Friedlander was showing his film, "Lucid," at the Los Angeles International Short Film Festival when he attended an information session about a new FOX reality show.

"I just get a kick out of entertaining people," Friedlander said from the CBS Studio Center in Studio City. "In my personal life with friends and in groups and audiences, it's exciting for me to tell a story and entertain people."

"Lucid" was one of more than 12,000 submissions from around the world, created by filmmakers who had the same dream of trying to take a crack at the competitive world of entertainment in an unconventional way.

Produced during Friedlander's last year at USC's School of Cinema, "Lucid" is a short film about two men who dream that they're actually each other.

"I've always been into dreams and wanted to do a fairly different take on the dream movie that wasn't so based in fantasy and more based in reality," Friedlander said.

The submission was well received among producers of the show, placing Friedlander in the final cast of 18 contestants.

"On the Lot" has aired twice a week since premiering on May 22, the first episode of the week — the "film premiere" episode — dedicated to showcasing the contestant's short films before a live audience. In the latter episode — the "box office" results



Photo courtesy FOX

READY FOR HIS CLOSEUP: Sam Friedlander is among the finalist on FOX's 'On the Lot' reality series.

show — the contestant with the fewest votes is booted off.

The films are critiqued by established figures in the entertainment industry, such as directors Garry Marshall and Brett Ratner and actress Carrie Fisher.

Divided into teams, the contestants work closely with industry professionals in producing a new short film every week from a chosen genre, including drama and horror.

Friedlander has produced three films on the reality show — "Broken Pipe Dreams," a comedy about a guy who loses his engagement ring in the toilet; "Replication Theory" a comedy about passing gas; and most recently, "Ankle Biters," a horror movie about monsters.

"It's very satisfying to prepare a script on Wednesday, shoot on the weekend and premiere to an audience the following Tuesday," Friedlander said of the quick turnaround.

The contestants are completely isolated from society

throughout the duration of the show, living in bungalows on the CBS Studio Center for two months, cut off from the Internet and phones, except to make one call a week.

"They want to keep it as unbiased as possible," said Trevor Kress, publicist for "On the Lot."

"They just don't want information leaking, information behind the scenes and on upcoming shows."

The reality show is not as focused on conflict and drama among the contestants and their living situations, themes c

But since he has yet to watch an episode, Friedlander said he isn't sure how his character is being portrayed on television. His TiVo set back home in Santa Monica to record every episode, Friedlander said it'll be interesting to watch himself on television.

"It's going to be interesting to get home and watch," Friedlander said. "It's going to be a different experience to get home and watch myself than to be here."

Hogwash: Books' adult fans debunk nagging childish perception

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Whether or not "Harry Potter" is just a children's book that appeals to adults or a novel intended for a mature audience is debatable, but one thing is for certain: The series about the wizard of Hogwarts is out-of-this-world popular among "grown-ups."

All across the world, Potter fans are counting the days until the release of the seventh and final installment of the wildly successful series by J.K. Rowling on July 21, blowing the dust off their black robes and brooms and preparing to stand in long lines.

That includes adults, drawn to what they consider a well-written story that sparks memories of the books they read in their own childhood, a story with vividly described and relatable characters set in a real world setting — unlike many of the other fantasy genre novels that take place in an alternate universe.

"I think it stimulates people's imagination and I think people need imagination," said Lenny Shaw, an employee at Whimsic Alley, a fantasy goods store on Wilshire Boulevard.

Adults find the Harry Potter series attractive for various reasons, whether it's because they enjoy the fantasy topic books, enjoy being a part of a phenomenon or just want to find a way to connect with their children.

"It's become so popular with the success

of the books and the movie that I think many people are just reading so that they understand what's the big deal," said Santa Monica City Librarian Greg Mullen.

In literary circles, Potter is just the latest tale targeted toward children that have proven to be popular with adults, said Mullen, citing "Alice in Wonderland" and "Lord of the Rings" as examples.

The owner of Whimsic Alley, Stan Goldin, doesn't believe "Harry Potter" is a children's book at all, but rather an adult book that appeals to children.

"The topics are very adult in nature and have a lot of adult humor in it," said Goldin, whose store features a Harry Potter-themed room. "It happens to deal with kids."

Goldin has read every one of the six "Harry Potter" books currently out on the market and attends a Harry Potter convention held every year. This year's event, called "Prophecy," will be held in Toronto in August. The majority of the attendees are usually women between the ages of 16 and 30, Goldin said.

"There are a lot of adults who haven't read a 900-page book in their life," Goldin said, alluding to Rowling's hefty page counts.

CAST UNDER A SILLY SPELL?

Still, as popular as the series might be among the 21-and-over crowd, many adult readers find themselves the target of playful teasing by friends and outright ridicule by media analysts.

"Of course, but there are plenty of adults who behave like children," said Alex Conrad, on whether he's been teased by friends.

Conrad began reading the "Harry Potter" series after he noticed the popularity of the book at the library where he worked.

The series is definitely challenging enough for adults, Conrad insists, including elements not often found in children's books, like death.

"(It's a book) a child can still grasp and an adult can still enjoy as well," Conrad said.

Cathy Leogrande, who teaches a graduate course on the phenomenon at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, believes it is healthy for adults to read "Harry Potter" books and finds that the series has further encouraged reading among all age groups.

Not only has the book encouraged more reading, it has also transformed it from a solitary to a community activity.

Dedicated adult readers across the country have formed book discussion groups and fan clubs, including in Los Angeles, where the HPLA — Harry Potter Los Angeles — meet the second Saturday of the month at the L.A. Farmers' Market.

Leogrande recently formed a Harry Potter discussion group in Syracuse, creating a place where adult fans could analyze the series and talk about some of the deep underlying themes in the books.

The chair of the education department at Le Moyne has attended a few of the Harry

Potter conferences in the past and presented an academic paper last year. Many of the speakers at the Potter conference are heavy hitters from the academia, representing institutions of higher learning such as MIT, Leogrande said.

"These are not just fans like me," Leogrande said. "They're not just English people. They're from psychology and political science."

Many adult fans, like Leogrande, were drawn to the "Harry Potter" series as a way to connect with their child. Leogrande started reading the series with her son when he was 8 years old. Leogrande and her now 15-year-old son plan to speak together at the Prophecy conference next month.

"It's become something that we've shared, so at a time when a lot of parents say, 'My kids don't talk to me,' it's been a source of endless discussions for us," she said.

Whenever a parent takes interest in something their child is also interested in — whether it be listening to a particular band or reading a particular book — it creates a bridge for conversation, said Dr. Charlene Underhill Miller, a child psychotherapist in Santa Monica.

"Certainly parents are always trying to figure out how do I talk to my kids and what do I talk to them about," Miller said. "Anything that a parent can do to involve them in their child's world is a win-win situation."

melodyh@smdp.com

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Coles Whalen rocks

Iconic Records artist Coles Whalen will be performing in L.A. at the Hotel Cafe on Saturday, July 14 at 9 p.m. Whalen left the L.A. after spending 2 1/2 frustrating years in the over-saturat-

ed local music scene. She recorded a solo EP, bought a truck, and never looked back. Whalen has performed at more than 150 venues across the western United States, selling nearly 3,000 copies of her EP.

Whalen has just released her third album, "Nothing is Too Much," this March on Iconic Records. She will be performing songs from her new album at The Hotel Cafe (1623 1/2 North Cahuenga Blvd.). To listen to tracks from her new album, visit www.myspace.com/coleswhalen.

REAGAN WHEELER



Shakespeare season

Launching its Fourth Annual Summer Shakespeare Season, Shakespeare Santa Monica is set to launch performances at Reed

Memorial Park. Weekend shows are expected to "pack a tennis court with delighted audiences," said John Farmanesh-Bocca, artistic director.

The plays will start Friday, July 13 and continue through the 29th. "Richard III" plays Fridays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m. An all-female version of "The Taming of the Shrew" plays Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Both will be performed at Miles Memorial Playhouse (1130 Lincoln Blvd.). "Twelfth Night" plays Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and

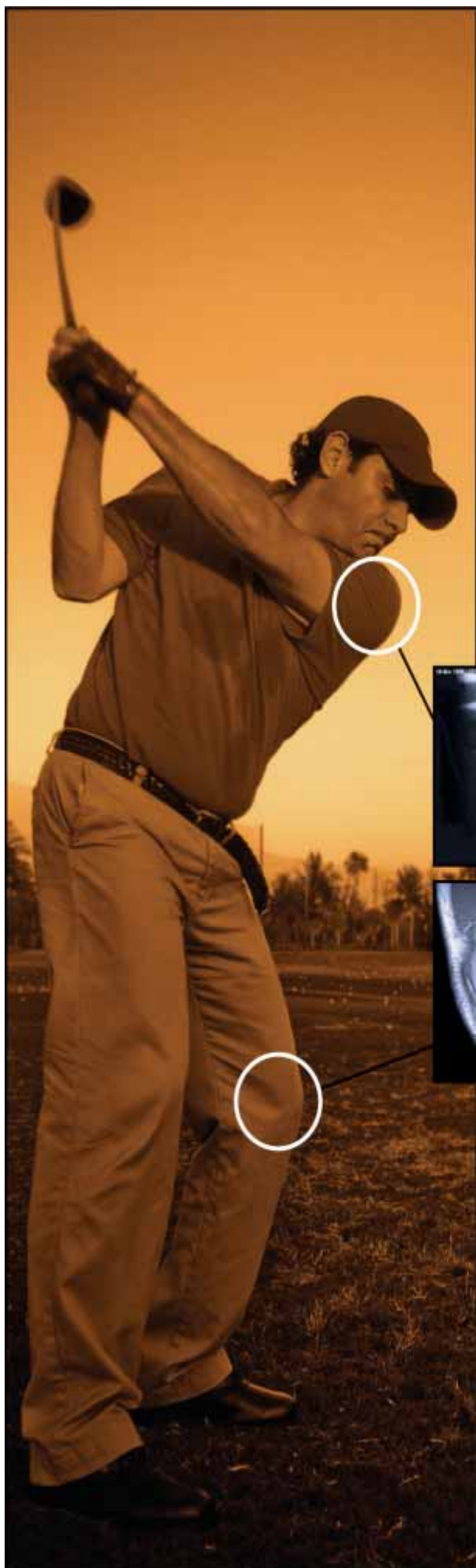
Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., outdoors at Reed Park's Tournament Tennis Court #1.

Admission is free for anyone 18 and under. Tickets range from \$20 to \$25, with discounts for students and senior citizens. For more information and to purchase tickets, call (310) 270-3454.

RW

Meditation Center

Hot Summer Nights on Hill Street is presented by the Hill Street Center. The concert series is being put on as a fund-raiser for the Hill Street Center and



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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

kicks off July 14. There will be a wide-range of music, including the band Triage – rock, oldies, and R&B – on various Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. The Church in Ocean Park (235 Hill St.) is set to be the venue for these concerts.

RW

Visit to the ‘Cafe’

The next monthly installment of the Ruskin Group Theatre’s popular “L.A. Cafe Plays” will be on Sunday, July 15. The plays have been dubbed the “Fastest Theatre in Town” due to the rapid turn around of the plays from conception to performance.

The plays will be staged at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Ruskin Group Theatre (3000 Airport Drive at the Santa Monica Airport). Tickets are \$10. For more information, call (310) 397-3244.

RW

Warped photos

More than 20 Vans Warped Tour artists, including My American Heart, New Found Glory, and Cute Is What We Aim For have authorized the printing and sale of concert photos. The archival prints are available through Front Row Center, a Chicago-based photography company.

For more information, visit www.frcphotos.com.

RW

‘Genius’ of a show

A new reading show is coming to Santa Monica’s Westside Eclectic Comedy Theatre. “The Genius Show” is a monthly humorous essay that premieres July 12 at 9 p.m. The Thursday show will feature writers from “The Office,” “The Simpsons,” “The Ben Stiller Show,” “Mr. Show,” “Lucky Louie,” “Human Giant,” and stars from “The Office.” Writer and performer Wynne Renz will serve as the creative

director and host of the show. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

RW



Just a kiss

Terrence McNally’s book turned 1993 Tony Award winner for Best Broadway Musical will be presented at the Main Stage on SMC’s campus. “Kiss of the Spider Woman” is based on the novel by Manuel Puig and will feature music by John Kander with lyrics by Fred Ebb. The show centers around cell mates in Latin America, their fantasies, and dazzling juxtapositions of those fantasies and gritty realities.

Performances are set for July 13, 14, 20, 21 at 8 p.m. and July 15, 21, 22 at 2 p.m. Santa Monica College is located at 19th Street and Pico Boulevard. Tickets are \$20, general admission, \$18, students and senior citizens, \$15, SMC students, faculty, and staff. For more information, call (310) 434-4393 or visit www.smc.edu/theatre.

RW

‘Magic Railroad’

A 3 p.m. family matinee of “Thomas and the Magic Railroad” will be presented on Sunday, July 15 at the Aero Theatre. The 2000



Photo courtesy

Chim Chim yippee

With Julie Andrews as the ultimate nanny and Dick Van Dyke playing the comedic chimney sweep, “Mary Poppins” is for all ages. The 1964 feature film was the winner of five Academy Awards, including Andrews for Best Actress and Richard M. and Robert B. Sherman for Best Original Song (“Chim Chim Cher-ee”). The Aero Theatre presents a family matinee screening of the movie on Saturday, July 14 at 3 p.m. There will be a pre-screening event at Every Picture Tells a Story, at 2 p.m. with guest readers. For more information, call (323) 466-FILM or visit www.aertheatre.com.

RW

kids feature is directed by Brit Alcroft and based on the award-winning television series. Thomas the tank engine is the star of the show, fending off enemies to help his friends save the railway. Alec Baldwin and Peter Fonda do character voices.

A discussion with Alcroft will follow the screening. Also, prior to the show will be a benefit auction for the Audrey Hepburn Children’s Fund at 1:30 p.m. Rare Thomas memorabilia will be available for sale.

For more information, call (323) 466-FILM or visit www.aertheatre.com.

RW

WaterBus service will operate 5 p.m. – midnight during the concerts on July 12 and 26 and August 9 and 23 for concertgoers who prefer water transportation to and from the concerts. For more information, call (310) 305-9545.

RW

Vidiots on the screen

Santa Monica’s iconic and beloved video store Vidiots – “The best video store on the planet” – has been immortalized in the hilarious short film “Three-Fifty” by writer/director Maurice Chauvet and is burning up the film festival circuit this summer.

“Three-Fifty” world-premiered in Aspen, Colorado at the Aspen Shorts Fest and has been on a roll since then. Next local festivals are Dances with Films on July 12 at the Laemmle Sunset 5 in Los Angeles and then in the South Bay for Hermosa Shorts Festival on August 10. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/threefiftythemovie.

ES

A circus show

Project Ethos, a group of young artists, designers and self-starters with an artistic eye of the future will share their visions at Cirque de Ethos this Friday, July 13, at the Avalon in Hollywood.

The theme of Project Ethos’ fifth event is a meld of French circus and Moulin Rouge with a twist of Tim Burton and a pinch of film noir.

Avalon is located at 1735 Vine St. in Hollywood. Admission is \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Cirque De Ethos begins at 8:30 p.m. and will continue until 2

a.m. For more information, visit www.projectethos.com.

ES

Shakespeare remodel

Thanks to the generosity of the S. Mark Taper Foundation, the Will Greer Theatrum Botanicum is all spruced up for summer. Theatrum is the grateful recipient of an \$80,000 donation, half of which was used for renovations on the Youth Pavilion amphitheater and replacing the “tiring house” on the outdoor stage.

ES

Series launches

The Synergy Cafe & Lounge (4437 Sepulveda Blvd.) presents a new monthly acoustic series of benefit concerts. Master of Ceremonies Mark Islam will be accompanied by six musical acts: Jane Bolduc, Tom and Byron, Lauren Adams, Larry John McNally, Rick Cunha and Adam Gold.

In lieu of a cover charge, 100 percent of donations raised will benefit Children of the Night.

For more information, call (310) 482-3490 or visit www.synergycafelounge.com.

ES

Pottery party

A new ceramics exhibition at Santa Monica College is now open. Works by SMC students, faculty and alumni will be displayed until July 21 at the Schomburg Gallery in Bergamot Station. Schomburg Gallery is located in the Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave. E3A, 90404.

For more information, visit www.schomburggallery.com

ES



Photo courtesy

Homage to Peanuts

You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown,” the newest hit Broadway revival from Samohi’s Santa Monica Civic Light Opera, will start this Saturday at the humanities center theater. The play will show at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on July 14, and will continue to run Fridays and Saturdays for the next two weeks. Don’t miss the final production of the season! Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students, general admission. Call the box office at (310) 458-5939, or visit www.smclo.org.

EMILY SKEHAN

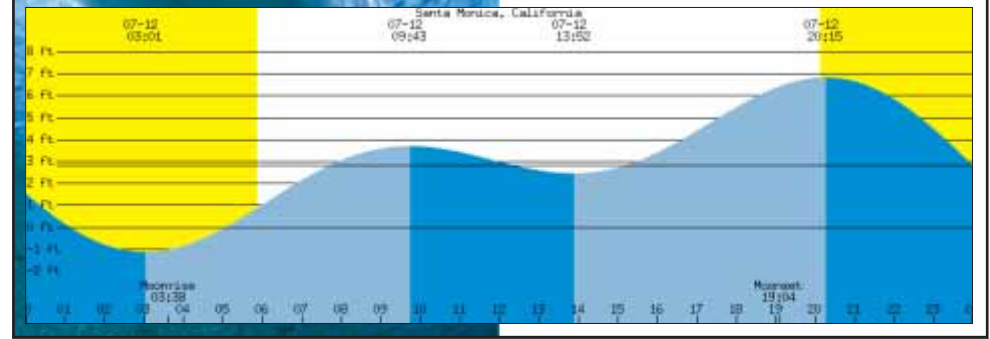


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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS
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11 Ft. 10 Ft. 9 Ft. 8 Ft. 7 Ft. 6 Ft. 5 Ft. 4 Ft. 3 Ft. 2 Ft. 1 Ft. 0 Ft. -1 Ft. -2 Ft.

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Mean rise 03:38 Mean fall 19:04

BEACH REPORT CARD


NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **July 3, 2007**

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3
Number of wet days -- 0
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / ns
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sepul Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachasa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Teencostal Canyon drain	C	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Morado State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chontalupa)	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Tomcass Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kester storm drain	B	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant)	A+	ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Saltine Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A	ns
Pierzo State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pierzo Beach, at 24572 Mulliken Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfside Beach at Malibu Calvary fence	A	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	B	ns
Surfside Beach (beach location)- daily	A	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topail St.	A+	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- Vanguard tower	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	C	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 18048 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Deckweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pine Creek at Los Tunes County Beach	A+	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns	Deckweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17280 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A	ns			

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



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

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



The Money In You

Julie Stav • Harper Collins Publishers

Were you aware that each of us has a personality style and each style affects the way we handle our money? Have you been looking for a primer that can explain finances to you in a way that is understandable? This just may be the book you're looking for.

The premise is we handle our money according to certain personality styles. "Your money personality is really the result of your own deeply personal experiences you have encountered along the way—even if they no longer serve a purpose," the author suggests.

Subtitled "Discover your Financial Personality and Live the Millionaire's Life," it is divided into three main sections: The Personalities, The Relationships, The Realities.

The introduction starts out by suggesting our personalities, with our temperaments, hopes, fears, and self esteem form our relationships to how we handle money. "There are three things you can do with money. You can acquire it, you can use it, you can manage it."

In this book we're introduced to a wide-array of personalities: The Diva, The Do-Gooder, The Diligent Investigator, The Dionysian, The Dependable Hoarder. The Diva is into impulsive spending. The Do-Gooder is trusting with his money and allows others to borrow from him. The Diligent Investor takes to the extreme the analysis of detail when it comes to the investment of his assets. The Dionysian is a procrastinator and shirks responsibility. The Dependable Hoarder is fearful of the future.

"Your money personality goes with you wherever you go and plays a major role in all your interpersonal relationships," the author points out. "Our money personalities profoundly affect how we connect with those around us," It affects your friendships as well as how you rear your

child even down to how you instruct your child in the area of money management.

The author suggests that each child has one of the personality styles talked about and it affects how they will respond to your instruction. "We are all born with our personalities hardwired into our DNA."

The author also handles an area that very few of us like to admit to. We are all going to get old and retire someday and there are suggestions of some things we, who are procrastinators, can do in the present to help the transition into retirement.

In the last section the author shows how your personality style can be molded to bring about a winning mind set which she calls the millionaire personality.

I wish I had read this book when I was younger. It would have saved me from worries now that I am nearing retirement. Don't wait until you are approaching middle age and making retirement plans to read it. Start young.

Julie Stav is a financial planner, broker, and best selling author as well as host of a daily radio show. She had dedicated herself to the education and empowerment of millions of Americans. Stav has also authored "Get Your Share" and "Find Your Future," both New York Times best sellers.

Peony in Love

Lisa See • Random House

In 17th-century China, a land grappling with major political and societal shifts, Peony, a young girl approaching her 16th birthday and the day of her arranged marriage to a man she has never seen, becomes enraptured with the operatic love story "The Peony Pavilion."

The tale of a teenage heroine who chooses her own fate and starves herself to death rather than give up the man she loves has inspired a wave of "lovesick maidens" who emulate her demise.

And the studious and sheltered Peony, who was born into a family of opulence and power, soon falls into their ranks after a chance meeting with a mysterious stranger – a handsome poet and the only man (save for her father) that she has ever met. Overwhelmed by her sudden feelings of love for her poet, and distraught at the thought of her arranged marriage, Peony forsakes all food and immerses herself in studying "The Peony Pavilion."

On the eve of her would-be marriage, Peony dies from starvation. Instead of

wedding preparations, her body is anointed by the rituals of death, her face covered in silk, coins and pieces of jade tucked by her side to safeguard her journey to the afterlife.

But death is not the end of the story – or of Peony's journey. The richly detailed novel by See, who also wrote the 2005 best-seller "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," follows Peony into the afterlife where she discovers the power of the written word. In that sense, the young protagonist's journey mirrors that of thousands of women in China at the time, which saw the birth of a new literary movement by women who were venturing out from behind cloistered gardens to take up pens and publishing.

See's well researched, carefully embroidered novel transports her reader into a world where women were pampered and preened but had little power over their lives or their fates. Along the way, she explores the contradictions of tradition, the complexities of love and family obligation, and the magical power that comes from a story well told. Like Peony's journey of self-discovery, it's a trip filled with unexpected lessons and literary rewards.

Associated Press

Photo finished

Photographer guilty of assaulting Heather Mills

A British court convicted a photographer Wednesday of assaulting **HEATHER MILLS** in an underground passage as he tried to take her picture.

Jay Kaycappa, 32, grabbed Mills, the estranged wife of former Beatle Paul McCartney, by her right shoulder to swing

FAMILY PORTRAIT

VICTORIA AND DAVID BECKHAM, aka Posh and Becks, strip down in steamy photos for the August issue of *W* magazine.

They strike a sultry pose for the cover of the issue, on newsstands July 20, but things get more seductive in a photo spread inside. Steven Klein's photos show the pair in various states of undress – kissing passionately, sunning themselves atop a car and having an intimate moment in the bedroom.

The 32-year-old soccer star and his wife, Posh Spice, will be seen in an NBC special, "Victoria Beckham: Coming to America."

AP

her round so he could photograph her face on July 5, 2006, prosecutor Dale Sullivan told Brighton Magistrates Court.

Mills was cycling with her personal trainer and friends near her home in the seaside resort city of Brighton when she ducked into the underground pas-

sage to escape photographers who were pursuing her "like a pack of animals," Sullivan said.

Kaycappa was also convicted of assaulting Mills' friend Mark Payne the following evening.

The freelance photographer shook his head in the dock after magis-

trates convicted him of both assault charges.

"Heather is delighted that justice has been done and hopes that the photographers who pursue her on a daily basis will now leave her and her daughter alone," said her spokesman, Phil Hall.

McCartney, 65, and

Mills, a 39-year-old former model and activist, are in divorce proceedings. They have a 3-year-old daughter, Beatrice.

Mills testified at the trial, but wasn't in court to hear the verdicts.

Kaycappa was released on bail.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Knieval, Kanye will try to settle lawsuit

EVEL KNieVEL and **KANYE WEST** think they can work it out.

The iconic motorcycle daredevil and the 29-year-old rapper notified a federal judge Tuesday they will use a mediator to try to settle a lawsuit Knieval filed over the use of his trademarked image in a popular West video.

Knieval, who lives in Clearwater, sued West in December.

He took issue with a 2006 music video for the song "Touch the Sky," in which the rapper takes on the persona of "Evel Kanyevel" and tries to jump a rocket-powered motorcycle over a canyon.

In the video, West dons the familiar Knieval star-studded jumpsuit and jumps a canyon in a vehicle "visually indistinguishable" from the one Knieval used in his attempt to jump the Snake River Canyon in Idaho in 1974, the lawsuit said.

Knieval failed spectacularly. He was secured inside the cockpit and the Sky-Cycle was fired up. But his parachute opened just as he cleared the ramp. After soaring about 1,000 feet, he wound up landing about 20 feet from the river on the rocky south bank. He sustained only scrapes and bruises.

The 68-year-old Knieval claimed infringement on his trademarked name and likeness. He also claimed the "vulgar and offensive" images depicted in the video damage his reputation.



AP

Let your hair down, Virgo

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

Happy Birthday!

This year many of you will cruise out of a difficult period into a very special time in which you feel that life finally works. Don't push too hard, and situations and events will tumble into place. You will learn the power of going with the flow. You might reorganize your daily life, punctuating it with exercise and a better sense of nurturing yourself. Some might also change jobs.



Born Today

Actress

Cheryl Ladd (1951)
Exercise guru Richard Simmons (1948)
Comedian Bill Cosby (1937)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Speak your mind, and others will respond. Think before you leap into action. A change of plans might be in order with the news that heads your way. Tonight: Be happy to be home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Creativity takes you in a new direction. Your possessive side emerges. Be careful of an emotional choice that could involve a power struggle. Plan on a talk or important conversation later on when the mood might be better. Tonight: Visit with friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You might need to try something very different in order to avoid a power struggle. How you deal with someone and the choices you make could change suddenly. Tonight: Treat yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★ Suddenly the times are changing. Though you might keep your opinions to yourself at first, later in the day you decide to express yourself. Fatigue could color a decision. Don't let that happen. Take a brief walk and recenter. Tonight: As you like it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You might be all smiles this morning. Even if someone bucks your authority or really lets you know he or she disagrees, you will be able to work with this person's attitude. Tonight: Get some extra sleep.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You take a stand. Though you have strong opinions, at the same time you will be able to be sensitive and listen. Your efforts touch those who really understand. Friends play a significant role in your next few days. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Your smile goes a long way in helping others relax, including you. How a situation evolves and the decisions you make could change after a strong discussion. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Work with individuals rather than groups. You will be handling some strong feelings and getting down to brass tacks. Others might say or do some strange things to get you to notice them. Walk in another's shoes. Tonight: Try something different!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You could be more difficult than many. You might want to understand what to do, and pressure someone inordinately. The results could be less than delightful. Stay sensitive and aware. Tonight: Be on a one-on-one level.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You get a lot done quite quickly. You don't need to test your efficiency. Your routine and plans will do just that. Later in the day, save time to network or reach out to others. Listen to another's caring words. Tonight: So many people, so many choices.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your humor and creativity will get you past any notable problems. A friend might put you in an either/or situation, which could make you most uncomfortable. Listen to what others are sharing. Tonight: Wind down slowly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Honor timing, and you'll already be a step ahead. Sometimes you hear things that don't coincide with your knowledge. Play it cool. Tonight: Unleash your playfulness.

MOVIEGUIDE

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DAVY CROCKETT,
KING OF THE WILD FRONTIER
7:30 PM

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

Live Free or Die Hard (PG-13)
12:30, 1:15, 3:20, 4:15, 6:30,
7:15, 9:35, 10:15
A Mighty Heart (PG-13)
1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:05
Sicko (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

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

Evan Almighty (PG)
11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
Knocked Up (R)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50,
10:45
Ocean's Thirteen (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45,
10:40
Ratatouille (G)
DLP-Digital Projection
11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20,
10:10
Ratatouille (G)
12:25, 9:15
Transformers (PG-13)
11:15am, 12:15, 2:30, 3:35,
6:00, 7:00, 9:20, 10:20

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Evening (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45
Joshua (R)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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

Once (R)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Rescue Dawn (PG-13)
1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00,
8:30, 9:55
You Kill Me (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

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

1408 (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20,
10:00
Fantastic Four:
Rise of the Silver Surfer (PG)
DLP-Digital Projection
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Harry Potter and
the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
11:50am, 12:50, 3:10, 3:40,
4:10, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50,
10:20, 10:50
Harry Potter and
the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
DLP-Digital Projection
10:40am, 1:50, 5:10, 8:30
License to Wed (PG)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10,
9:30
Nancy Drew (PG)
10:50am, 1:10
Shrek the Third
DLP-Digital Projection (PG)
2:30, 7:40
Surf's Up (PG)
12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



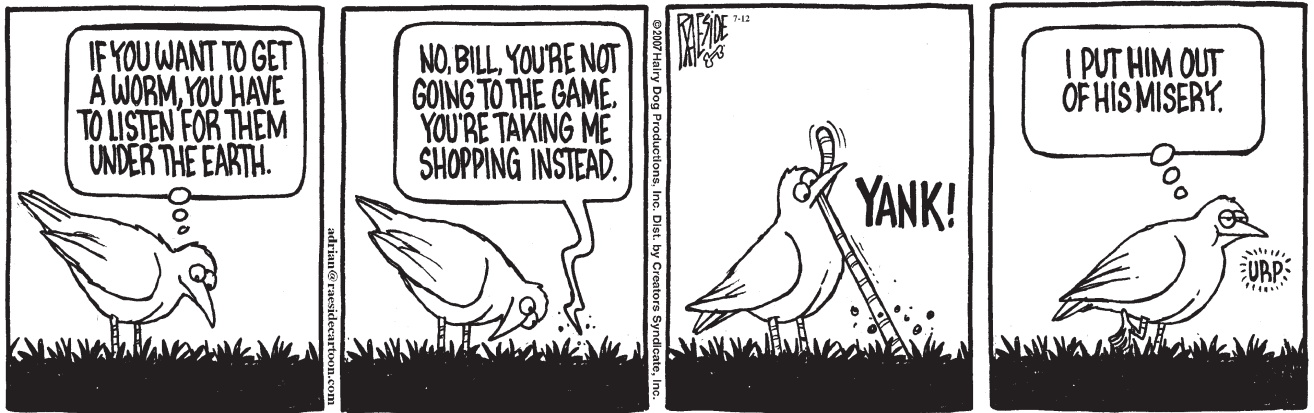
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



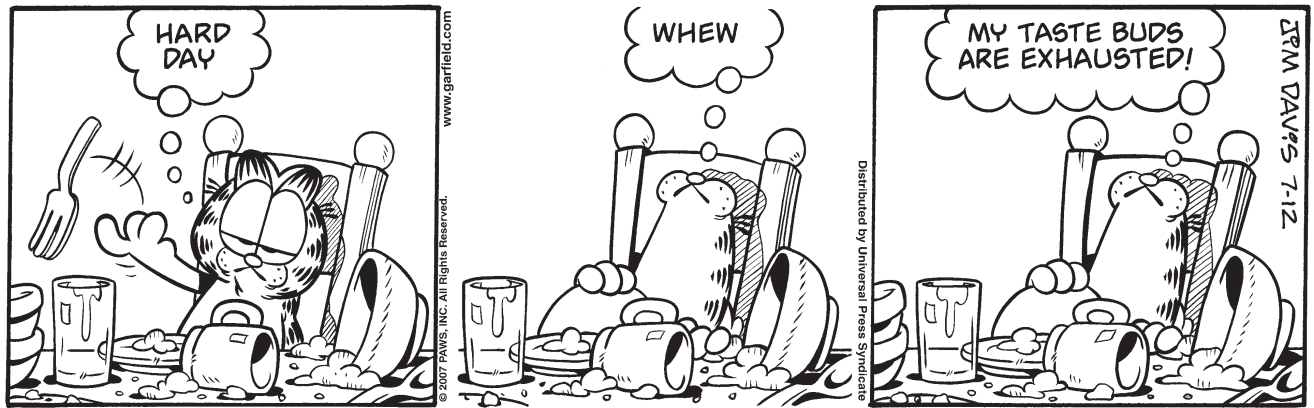
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



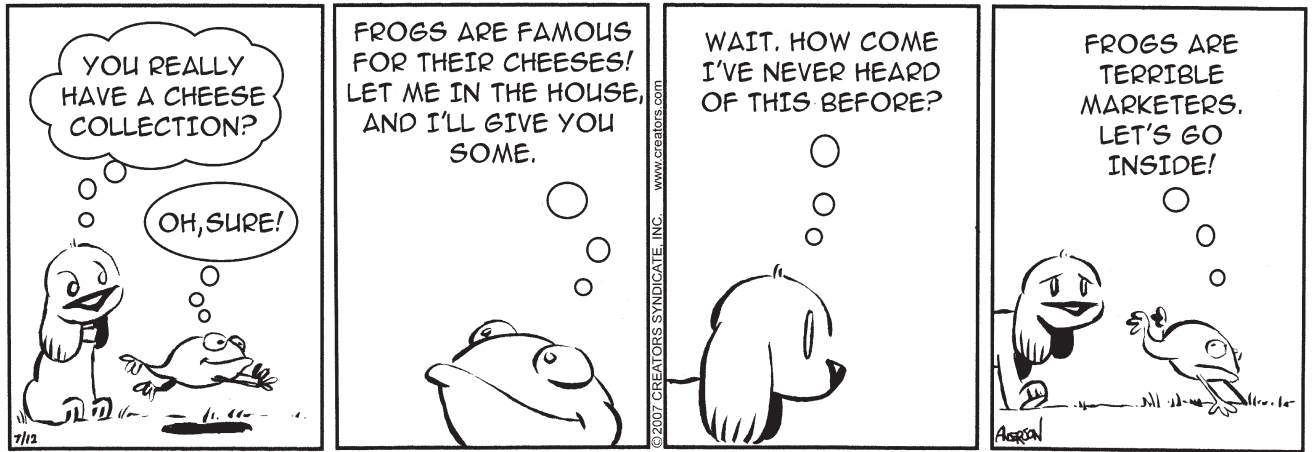
Garfield

By Jim Davis

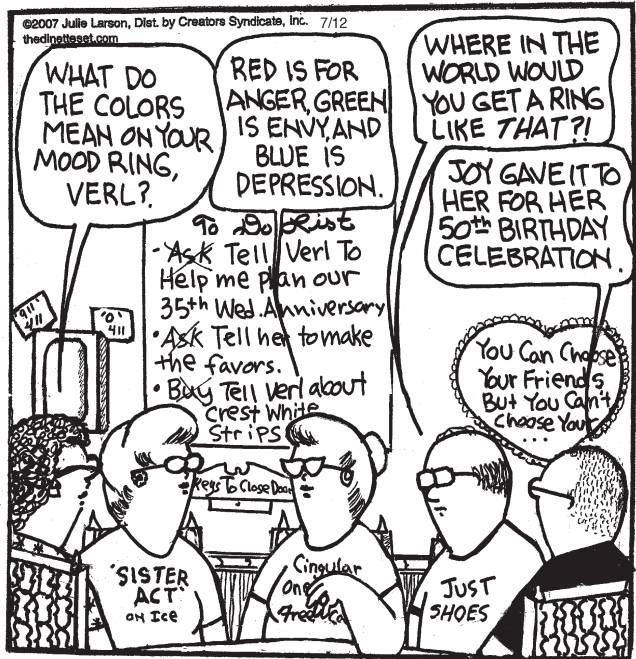


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@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 Hiker's burden
- 5 Pakistan city
- 11 Lead on
- 12 Arthurian isle
- 13 Press
- 14 Move back
- 15 Grifter's target
- 17 Blue
- 18 Religious groups
- 22 Football plays
- 24 Filmdom's Flynn
- 25 — loss
- 26 Mine matter
- 27 Spanish squiggle
- 30 Rooted
- 32 Invited
- 33 Auditor's org.
- 34 Everything put together
- 38 Cotton cloth
- 41 Quite a few
- 42 Dotes on
- 43 Singing voice
- 44 Least strict
- 45 Onion layer

DOWN

- 1 Ballet bend
- 2 Mystique
- 3 Intersection sight
- 4 Nairobi native
- 5 Zhivago's love
- 6 Reluctant
- 7 Computer whiz
- 8 Flamenco call
- 9 Reactor part
- 10 Chemical suffix
- 16 Hosp. workers
- 19 Side conversation
- 20 Rent
- 21 Downhill glider
- 22 Almanac fill
- 23 Elevator pioneer
- 28 Yen
- 29 Draws out
- 30 Drill part
- 31 Kitchen come-ons

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

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					
22	23									
25										
27										
32										
38	39	40								
42										
44										

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLION 19 24 30 34 56
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: \$17M

Super LOTTO 6 34 35 36 39
Meganumber: 13
Jackpot: \$27M

Fantasy 5 5 7 9 14 34

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 3 9 6
EVENING: 5 2 0

DAILY DERRY 1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1.46.19

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

■ In April, FBI officials warned of a disturbing series of threats dating from 2004 to college athletic officials and news organizations from someone apparently upset that television coverage of cheerleaders emphasizes those showing the least amount of skin (such as Ohio State's, who often wear long-sleeved, jacketed outfits). According to an FBI agent interviewed by The Columbus Dispatch, the writer appears to be growing angrier and may have recently included an insecticide-like substance in letters, with the last batch predicting that, unless changes are made, there will be "88" assaults, based on the writer's arcane formula.

■ Can't Stop Ourselves: Sheriff's deputies in Hilmar, Calif., arrested Tasha Silva, 30, in April and charged her with stealing a deputy's pickup truck, but her boyfriend and co-suspect, Marcus Schulze, fled. According to the sheriff's office, the couple drove away, thought they were in the clear, and stopped to have sex in the truck, but left the engine idling, and the truck ran out of gas before they were finished. When deputies finally spotted the truck, the couple had to flee on foot, and only Schulze escaped.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1191 Saladin's garrison surrenders, ending the two-year siege of Acre. Conrad of Montferrat, who has negotiated the surrender, raises the banners of the Kingdom of Jerusalem and of the Third Crusade leaders Richard I of England, Philip II of France, and Leopold V of Austria on the city's walls and towers.

1580 Ostrog Bible, the first printed Bible in a Slavic language, is published.

1806 Sixteen German imperial states leave the Holy Roman Empire and form the Confederation of the Rhine.

1916 Matawan Creek, New Jersey attacks, a bull shark swam 15 miles upstream and attacked three people, killing two.

1933 Congress passes the first federal minimum wage law in the United States: 33 cents per hour.

1960 Etch A Sketch, the drawing toy goes on sale.

1967 Six days of race riots begin in Newark, New Jersey that will claim the lives of 27 people.

1973 A fire destroys the entire 6th floor of the National Personnel Records Center of the United States.

WORD UP!

betimes \bih-TYMZ\, *adverb*: 1. Early; in good time; before it is late. 2. At times; on occasion. 3. [Archaic] Soon; in a short time.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Ocean House, an elegant senior living residence in Santa Monica, is looking for and ideal candidate for it's dining room server position. The job duties include taking food and drink orders from customers, bringing out the orders, resetting the tables, completing cleaning up of the section, and working as a team with the other servers. **Due to the fact that this is a senior residence, there is no tipping allowed by the residents.** Full time benefits after 90 days include health, dental, and life insurance. Meal plan for employees as well. Ideal candidate would enjoy working with seniors and have a great attitude! Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM,CA 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

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HIGH END Santa Monica Tire Shop needs full time:

*Experienced Mechanic (alignment a must)
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Great Pay and benefits. English a must. (310) 393-0767

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Employment

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COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT
WLA-Full time. Windows 2000 Advanced Server, PC hardware and software, Windows XP, Cisco routers, firewalls, phone system etc. Please call 310-859-2202 for recorded details.

NON-PROFIT PROGRAMS for adults with developmental disabilities in Malibu. Full-time position with excellent benefits: Direct Support professional 3pm-10pm; M-F. Also, part-time; Every other weekend live-in position Friday 9pm - Sunday 9pm. Experience preferred. (310)457-2026.

PART-TIMERECEPTIONIST GENERAL office 45wpm MS Word, filing, phones in Marina del Rey. 16 hrs. per week, Fax resume with salary history to (310) 306-4498

PHARMACY CLERK/CASHIER. Full-time, M-F. Busy retail pharmacy near Promenade. Experience a plus. Benefits included. Call Sharon, 310.628.9856.

SALES
SALES of cruises and tours P/T 30 hours. Base + commission. Near LAX Paid training, no cold calling. Some weekends required. Our top sales people make \$40,000. (310) 649-7171

SM ROOM and board + \$200/mo in exchange for part-time housekeeping/ light caregiving and cooking. Valid DL necessary, errands. 50-65. dog. Ruth (310)392-6301

YARDPERSON F/T, including Sat. Will train. Lifting req'd. Apply in person: Bourget Bros. 1636 11th St. Santa Monica, CA 90404

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Employment Wanted

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For Rent

501 N Venice unit 26; 1+1, upper, stove fridge, vinyl, carpet, blinds, on-site laundry, utilities included, parking, no pets (310)574-6767 jkwpproperties.com

BACHELOR IN Palms, 3623 Keystone ave. unit 2, \$775/mo lower unit, no kitchen, fridge, microwave, carpets, blinds, laundry, utilities included, no parking or pets. \$200 off move-in (310)578-7512, jkwpproperties.com

BRENTWOOD \$900+
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1BD/BA Lower, blinds, PKG, balcony, carpets, parking \$1095/MO
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2 Bdrms, 2 Bath, Twnhse. NO pets, Stove, Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Washer/Dryer, Parking, 12048 Culver Blvd. #203, Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7p. Additional Info in Unit.

MARINA DEL Rey \$1000+
Studio/1Ba, Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym Pool, \$1250/Mo
1BD/BA Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym, Pool, Cat ok \$1350 /MO
2bd/2Ba Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym, Pool, Cat ok \$11850/Mo

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OCEAN PARK Guest House 3 Blks to beach 1bd/1ba W/D Stove HD floors small yard \$2,300/mo, 310.795.4367 agent.

PALMS 3540 Overland #9 \$750/mo. Upper, no kitchen, fridge, micro, sink, carpet, on-site laundry, street parking, no pets. \$200 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 jkwpproperties.com

SANTA MONICA \$800+
Studio Lower, Bright, Carpet, ref, stove, kit, No Smoke \$800/MO
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1bd/Ba upper, no pets, ref stove, new paint SMC, PKG \$1100/Mo

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SANTA MONICA 5 blocks W of SMC. Secluded tri-plex. 1bd/1ba, large kitchen, hardwood floors, washer/dryer in unit. Private parking. Communal deck/patio. \$1400. (310)452-3673

SANTA MONICA, Large 1 bd/1ba, plus ocean view patio and enclosed interior patio. Wood floors, new carpet/paint, secured parking, all appliances. 1/2 block to sand and SM Pier. \$2350/mo. Available immediately. Julie 310.827.9125.

VENICE \$900+
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1BD/BA Sunny upper unit, 1 block from the beach \$1045/MO

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm

LOCATION 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90405

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: \$5.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Classifieds

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www.apartmenthunterz.comVENICE 2+2 2308 Pacific unit B upper stove fridge d/w, washer/dryer hookups, microwave, granite counter tops, tile and carpet, and hardwood flooring, 2 car parking. \$2550/mo. \$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.comWEST LOS Angeles \$750+
Bachlr 1/Ba UPPER. REF MICRO VERT WD FLR \$750/Mo
Studio 1/Ba UPPER NEW CARPET TILE Prkg \$850/Mo
1bd/Ba Huge, full kitchen D/W - stove/oven - A/C \$925/Mo
We have others From \$650.00
310-276-0881
www.apartmenthunterz.comWESTWOOD \$895+
BCHlr 1/Ba, Upper Remodel, micro, Ref, Hdwd Tile, Strt Pk \$895/Mo
Studio/ 1BD/BA Carpet, Pool spa, Gated Grt loc \$975/MO
2bd/2Ba Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym, Pool, Cat ok \$1650/Mo
We have others From \$650.00
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www.apartmenthunterz.com

Houses For Rent

BEL AIR: 11797 Bellagio Rd. 2+2 1/2 \$3600/mo. stove, d/w, fireplace, w/d hookups, drapes, hardwood floors, front and back gardens, garage parking, small dog or cat ok. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

Commercial Lease

OFFICE SPACE on Wilshire Boulevard (and 7th Street) 3 Office Suites/750 Sq. Ft. \$2,900.00 per month (includes utilities). Please call office manager at 310.393.9572

SANTA MONICA 2941 Main Street. Creative office space \$750-\$1000/month. Parking available. PAR Commercial (310)395-2663.xt.112

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OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER
A DEED OF TRUST DATED 3/3/2006. UNLESS YOU
TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT
MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN
EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEED-
ING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAW-
YER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder
for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or na-
tional bank, check drawn by a state or federal
credit union, or a check drawn by a state or fed-
eral savings and loan association, or savings as-
sociation, or savings bank specified in Section
5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do
business in this state, will be held by the duly
appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but
without covenant or warranty, expressed or im-
plied, regarding title, possession, or encum-
brances, to pay the remaining principal sum of
the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with in-
terest and late charges thereon, as provided in
the note(s), advances, under the terms of the
Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and
expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at
the time of the initial publication of the Notice of
Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below.
The amount may be greater on the day of sale.
BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): Lori Lynn Long,
an unmarried woman Recorded: 03/17/2006 as
Instrument No. 06 0578493 in book xxx, page xxx
of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of
Los Angeles County, California; Date of Sale:
7/18/2007 at 11:30 AM Place of Sale: At the front
entrance to the Pomona Superior Courts Building,
350 West Mission Blvd., Pomona, CA. Amount of
unpaid balance and other charges: \$498,019.41
The purported property address is: 441 Raymond
Ave Unit 3 Santa Monica, CA 90405 Assessors
Parcel No. 4287-021-068 The undersigned Trust-
ee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of
the street address or other common designation,
if any, shown above. If no street address or other
common designation is shown, directions to the
location of the property may be obtained by send-
ing a written request to the beneficiary within 10
days of the date of first publication of this Notice
of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for
any reason, the successful bidder's sole and ex-
clusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid
to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall

Notices

have no further recourse. Date: 6/28/2007 Quality
Loan Service Corp. 2141 5th Avenue San Diego,
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tion only Sales Line: (714) 573-1965 or logon to
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previously been discharged through bankruptcy,
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to exercise the note holder's rights against the
real property only. This notice is sent for the pur-
pose of collecting a debt. This firm is attempting
to collect a debt on behalf of the holder and
owner of the note. Any information obtained by or
provided to this firm or the creditor will be used
for that purpose. As required by law, you are
hereby notified that a negative credit report re-
flecting on your credit record may be submitted to
a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the
terms of your credit obligations. P299110 6/28,
7/5, 07/12/2007NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF MARY B
ADKINS aka MARY CAROLYN
BRUNER ADKINS aka MARY-
LYN ADKINSCase No. SP007189
To all heirs, beneficia-
ries, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of MARY B ADKINS aka MARY
CAROLYN BRUNER AD-KINS aka
MARYLYN ADKINS
A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by William Har-
old Adkins in the Superior Court of
California, County of LOS
ANGELES.THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that William
Harold Adkins be appointed as per-
sonal representative to administer
the estate of the decedent.THE PETITION requests
the decedent's will and codicils, if
any, be admitted to probate. The will
and any codicils are available for ex-
amination in the file kept by the
court.THE PETITION requests
authority to administer the estate
under the Independent
Administra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal rep-
resenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on August 10,
2007 at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. R lo-
cated at 1725 Main St., Santa Mon-
ica, CA 90401.IF YOU OBJECT to the
grant-ing of the petition, you should
ap-pear at the hearing and state your
objections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing.
Your appearance may be in person or
by your attorney.IF YOU ARE A CREDI-
TOR or a contingent creditor of the
deceased, you must file your claim
with the court and mail a copy to the
personal representative appointed by
the court within four months from
the date of first issuance of letters
as provided in Probate Code section
9100. The time for filing claims will
not expire before four months from
the hearing date noticed above.YOU MAY EXAMINE the
file kept by the court. If you are a
per-son interested in the estate, you
may file with the court a Request for
Special Notice (form DE-154) of the
filing of an inventory and ap-praisal
of estate assets or of any petition or
account as provided in Probate Code
section 1250. A Request for Special
Notice form is available from the
court clerk.Attorney for petitioner: BEVERLY R.
SANDS ESQ.
DEERING & SANDS
2530 WILSHIRE BLVD
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Santa Monica Daily Press
CN782049 ADKINS Jul 5,6,12, 2007

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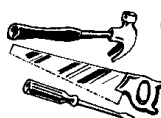


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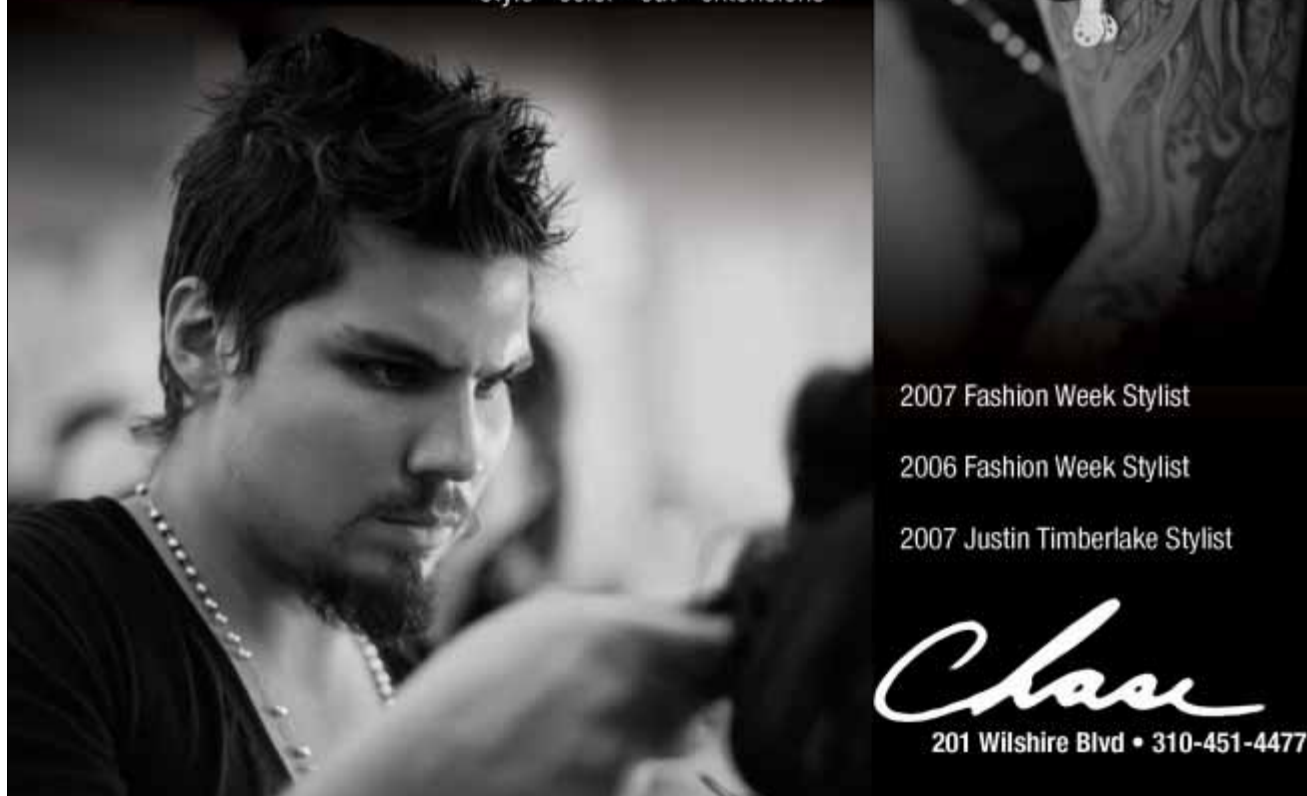
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North of Montana	=	\$ 4,042,682	\$ 2,031,034
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,972,333	\$ 858,093
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 920,571	\$ 667,628
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,421,789	\$ 534,333
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,543,833	\$ 900,182

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