

Santa Monica Daily Press



FUEL CELL HITS THE STREET
SEE PAGE 6

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LIBRARIANS ARE COOL ISSUE

Local runner leaves SMC track for Olympics

NORA SORENA CASEY
Special to the Daily Press

AMSTERDAM The Santa Monica Track Club has coached everyone from Olympic track star Carl Lewis to high school coach Pat Cady, and this year they are sending another international contender to Beijing.

Bayano Kamani will compete in the men's 400 meter hurdles, starting Aug. 15. Kamani took fifth in the Olympics in 2004 after training with the Santa Monica Track Club (SMTC) for approximately a year.

He is originally from Houston, Texas and won national championships at the college level for the 4x400 meter relay and the 400 hurdles.

The SMTC's presence in Beijing is nothing unusual. Since Joe Douglas founded the club in 1972 they have sent runners to ever Olympics, except for the competition in Berlin that was boycotted.

Overall, the club's runners have set 37 world records, 66 American records, and won 37 Olympic medals. With a reputation for consistent excellency, Douglas and the club are internationally famous but overlooked at home as they practice on the Santa Monica College track or the Pacific Palisades.

"I think they know us less in Santa Monica than anywhere else in the world," Douglas said. "I wear my SMTC shirt in Japan and people come up and ask me about it."

This year Douglas does not expect to bring home a medal because several injuries have hurt Kamani's training.

"If his Achilles is okay hopefully he'll place the finals," said Douglas. "We still have a lot of work to do but once he gets in shape it should go quickly."

SMTC's reputation is not dependent on a single year or competition. In his several decades of coaching, Douglas has helped many great track names and changed the face of the sport in America.

"If you think of Carl Lewis you'll think of Joe Douglas," said Tania Fischer, who was

SEE TRACK CLUB PAGE 8

Bowing out, jumping in

Wisnicki opts not to run for re-election, Shriver pulls papers

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Board of Education member Kathy Wisnicki, whose re-election bid remained a question throughout this summer's candidate filing period, confirmed on Monday she will keep her name out of contention for good.

Wisnicki, a Malibu resident who will conclude her first term on the school board this fall, said after careful consideration she has opted to explore other options, which could include another shot at the City Council next spring.

Wisnicki is the only Malibu resident on the school board.

A former researcher for UCLA's



Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, Wisnicki was first elected to the board in 2004, serving during that time as both the vice president and president.

"I will continue to be involved in the school district in some way, but I haven't figure that out yet," she said.

In April, the mother of two children barely lost a campaign for the council, finishing less than 30 votes shy of the third-place winner and political ally, John Sibert.

Wisnicki was the last incumbent whose status for re-election remained in doubt. Last week, Councilmember Bobby Shriver ended weeks of speculation when he pulled papers, spending the past few weeks discussing possible re-election plans with his wife and daughter.

"It's a big time commitment for me," Shriver, who oversees non-profit organization (RED), said. "I not only go to the meet-

SEE ELECTION PAGE 9



CHECK MATE!

Alexandra Bissonnette news@smdp.com
Kele Perkins (right) seemed a little frustrated Monday while playing chess with his 4-year-old son Joaquin on the Third Street Promenade. Joaquin, who learned the game when he was only 2 years old, managed to put his father in check mate. "I can beat him," Kele Perkins said. "But if I make a mistake, he can really catch me."

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Calendar

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2008

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Workouts for teens

3026 Nebraska Ave., 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

O2 Max offers two daily classes teaching teens how to exercise and eat properly in a cool and fun environment. They get to hang out afterwards in the wi-fi lounge, play Nintendo Wii, or simply surf the Internet. For information, call (310) 867-1650.

Write away

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 12 p.m. — 2 p.m.

Inspiration, guidance, direction, and support are offered for all writers every Tuesday at the Fairview Branch Library. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2008

A time to heal

1844 Lincoln Blvd., 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Master Choa Kok Sui offers free sessions on Pranic Healing, an effective, no-touch, painless healing art that helps the body repair itself. No appointment is required. For more information contact Isabel Lacayo at the Kathmandu Boutique at (310) 396-4036, or at isalacayo@yahoo.com.

Get lost in thought

1008 11th St., Noon — 1 p.m.

Stressed out at work? Then take an hour to revitalize by walking and meditating at the First United Methodist Church's new permanent labyrinth in Simkins Hall. The labyrinth is open every Wednesday until Sept. 10, 2008. For more information contact Mary Garbesi at (310) 393-8258, ext. 106 or via e-mail at mary.garbesi@santamonicaumc.org.

Kicking it with Kiwanis

1332 Sixth St., Noon — 1:30 p.m.

Join members of the Santa Monica Kiwanis Club for their weekly luncheon where guests connect and hear from a rotating panel of speakers. The club has been serving the needs of the community and its children since 1922. For more information, call (310) 613-1249.

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.



CORRECTION

In the photo caption entitled "Hanging 10," which appeared in the Aug. 4 edition, it should have said the Quicksilver and Roxy Surf Camps partnered with the Maui Ola Foundation and Ambry Genetics.

Librarians moon-walk to win

NORA SORENA CASEY
Special to the Daily Press

MAIN LIBRARY With a winning combination of moon-walks, steaming potions, mad scientist attire, and synchronized book cart dancing, the local library's Book Cart Drill Team took first place in the Library Book Cart Drill Team World Championship held in June.

This was the fourth year of the competition, and the first time the Santa Monica Public Library has competed. Eight teams from across the country participated in the event, which consisted of pushing book carts (normally used in the library for holding books to re-shelve) in a choreographed musical routine.

In addition to musical moves, teams assembled costumes and decorated their carts to make each performance tell a story. Judges graded each routine for its artistic creativity and technical precision.

The Santa Monica team, named the Well-Stacked Sci-brarians, used music from "Weird Science," "Somebody is Watching" and "Thriller" to act out how a group of mad scientists' potions turn some of them into zombies. Those zombies then attack the remaining scientists, who also become zombies for a few final minutes of moon-walking, claw-shaking "Thriller" dancing.

"Everybody is thinking of the old stereotypes, that a librarian is an old woman with a bun and glasses shushing people," said



IN LINE, ON TIME: Members of the Santa Monica Public Library's Book Cart Drill Team perform at the World Championship competition in Anaheim in late June. The 'Well Stacked Sci-brarians' took first place at the event.

Deidre Ross, director of Conference Services for the American Library Association (ALA). "Librarians aren't like that anymore. They're fun."

Ross was inspired to create the competition as a part of the ALA's annual conference after reading a book about book cart drill

teams. Previously, the teams performed in community parades as a way to gain publicity, interact with the community, and break down the negative stereotypes that librarians are often associated with.

"The purpose was to promote libraries and break the stereotype, and at the time I

thought 'whatever,'" said Norma Angel, one of the Sci-brarians. "But it made a big difference."

The performance has certainly put the Santa Monica team on the map. There were approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people at the conference. At least six videos feature the performance on YouTube with anywhere from 21 to 945 views.

"It was a big hit, people were cheering," said Ross.

The team's hard work also paid off at home. In addition to bringing home a gold book cart, the first place prize, working together for the routine helped build friendships.

"It was one of those opportunities for people to forge new relationships in different ways you don't get to do in the library," said Shawna Johnson, another Sci-brarian.

The 10 team members came from different sections of the library.

"A call was sent out across the library saying, you know, if you want fame and fortune," said Johnson, laughing. "We were like: We're fun people, why not?"

The team members then met twice a week for roughly two hours for two months to rehearse. In true librarian fashion, they also did a lot of research on their props and costumes.

"We all had to take one of those book carts, speakers, dry ice, we threw candy at the

SEE DRILL TEAM PAGE 9

Hollywood strikes gold with R-rated comedy wave

BY DAVID GERMAIN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES In comedy, Hollywood has learned that raunch sells.

Studios prefer their funny flicks in the benign PG-13 mold, a rating that keeps the audience broad to fill as many seats as possible. More and more, however, they are taking chances on R-rated comedies that ratchet up the rawness, allowing the "Sex and the City" gal pals to strut their stuff, Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly to expose body parts in "Step Brothers," or Tom Cruise to swear like a sailor.

"He was willing to go for it," "Tropic Thunder" star and director Ben Stiller said

of Cruise, who is almost unrecognizable as a bald studio executive with a colossal talent for cussing. "I think the audience will really enjoy him letting loose like that."

While Hollywood executives usually soft-pedal comedy, figuring the PG-13 rating offers the best return on their investment, racier hits such as "Wedding Crashers," "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" and "Knocked Up" prove there's a place for R-rated humor.

With \$56.8 million over opening weekend in May, "Sex and the City" had the best debut ever for an R-rated comedy. The movie has racked up a total of \$151 million, ranking among the top-50 highest-grossing comedies ever.

Close on that movie's high heels comes a

rare late-summer surge of saltier fare, led by Ferrell and Reilly's "Step Brothers," which delivered a solid \$30.9 million opening weekend, big bucks for an R-rated romp.

"Pineapple Express," with Seth Rogen and James Franco as stoners on the run, and "Tropic Thunder," about pampered actors caught in real combat with drug-runners while shooting a Vietnam War picture, have great buzz from advance screenings, arriving in theaters over back-to-back weekends with prospects of joining the R-rated hit parade.

Both comedies are loaded with violence, coarse language and outrageous gags that the filmmakers could never have touched in a PG-13 movie.

At least a couple of racier comedies follow this fall. Kate Hudson, Dane Cook and Jason Biggs' romantic comedy, "My Best Friend's Girl," comes with an R rating. Filmmaker Kevin Smith pushes the boundary even further: He's trying to talk his way down to an R rating for "Zack and Miri Make a Porno," starring Rogen and Elizabeth Banks, after the movie was slapped with an NC-17 designation that would bar anyone younger than 17 from theaters.

Of the 100 top-grossing comedies ranked by box-office tracker Media By Numbers, 47 were rated PG-13, 32 were PG and eight had G ratings. Only 13 were rated R, with 1984's "Beverly Hills Cop" still the leader with \$234.8 million.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What would you say?

Editor:

The August 2-3 “Q Line” prefaces the comments by saying, “Some people feel that [LUCE] should limit development while others want to see the city continue to be developed.” If the 18 responses are representative of those who wrote in, one can only conclude that there are rather few “others” who want more development since all the writers were strongly against the plan. Has the council listened? Ask the first man to announce (oh, no, you say) he will run for re-election: the Honorable Mr. [Richard] Bloom, who has yet to find a camera he didn’t like. It is of interest to some why many Santa Monicans spend two years complaining about various aspects of the city, and then every other November vote the same self-absorbed rascals back in. I would certainly like to hear readers’ speculation on that.

Ron Di Costanzo

Santa Monica

LEADIng the way

Editor:

I, along with Laurie Lieberman, am the co-chair of LEAD, a new education advocacy group focused on Leadership, Effectiveness, Accountability and Direction for the Santa Monica–Malibu Unified School District. Our organization has added our name to the growing list of Santa Monicans who oppose RIFT, [the Residents’ Initiative to Fight Traffic.] LEAD is an advocate for transparent public decision-making processes, especially with regard to education policy. Contrary to LUCE, [the Land Use and Circulation Element,] RIFT was developed by a small private group and was never publicly reviewed before it was filed.

LEAD has given serious thought to our decision to oppose the RIFT measure. The biggest issue for LEAD is the impact on school funding. Independent analysis projects the city losing up to \$11 million a year in 2008 dollars, by year 16 of this measure. There are several areas of revenue that will affect local schools, including developer fees and property taxes. The city of Santa Monica and the school district have an historic agreement that helps keep our schools strong and better funded than our state provides for. RIFT will put this funding agreement in jeopardy from day one. With state budget cuts constantly nipping at our heels, we cannot afford to put this city funding at risk.

Additionally, RIFT does not exempt youth-serving non-profit organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club and the Pico Youth and Family Center. These organizations would be hard-pressed to compete for square footage with a major developer under the RIFT measure.

Finally, we are concerned about RIFT’s lack of exemption for medical services that support our hospitals. These issues are too great to the health and welfare of our children to disregard.

LEAD feels that the unintended consequences of RIFT are simply too large for us to ignore. Our schools will be hurt financially by this measure and as we all know, strong schools give us strong communities. That is why LEAD opposes RIFT.

Debbie Mulvaney

Co-chair, LEAD

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What’s the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The nuclear option in child custody

DIVORCES ARE UGLY, EMOTIONAL TIMES for most people. They get even uglier when there is a lot of property to fight over, and they are at their ugliest when a parent is using the children to extract money, and/or revenge on the other parent.

Rumors are swirling in the blogosphere about the Charlie Sheen and Denise Richards divorce and the latest allegations in their custody battle. There are allegations of child abuse by Richards, and until these are investigated and proved, no one is guilty of anything.

But they point to an alarming trend that most family law practitioners are noticing, and that is an upsurge in the allegation of child abuse by one parent against the other. Most frequently it is the mother alleging that the father is either a “bad parent” who lacks parenting skills and is only mildly abusive, to the nuclear option of sexual molestation.

The definition of abuse of children has changed radically over the last 30 years. It used to be common for a child to be spanked, and for some parents to use a belt or a paddle to correct their children’s behavior.

The book “Mommy Dearest” chronicled the path of abuse that Christina Crawford suffered from the late film star Joan Crawford, and its effects on her life, and it flung wide open the door to the topic of child abuse.

Abuse, like everything, has a spectrum, from the mildly negligent care of a preoccupied parent to the physical and mental abuse of a deranged pedophile. Our social tolerance for any type of abuse has dropped significantly, and the fighting parent who is using the children to get back at their spouse may not stop at making allegations that are false.

This type of false allegation can have serious repercussions. The father who is the subject of a sexual abuse allegation must immediately hire a lawyer who is familiar with the laws of the family court and probably also a criminal lawyer.

These types of allegations are taken extremely seriously by various state agencies, and a parent who is an alleged sexual molester needs a strong defense right away. This is no time to be a “good guy” — you must fight this as if your life depends on it, because frankly it does.

On the other hand, a false allegation can be prosecuted and the lying spouse punished severely by the court.

The courts are taking very seriously the false allegation of child abuse and can take the children away from a parent who accuses their ex-spouse falsely. The innocent parent can, and should, be given their full legal and physical custody rights.

Mothers are the more likely parent to make the allegation that a child is being sexually molested.

Frequently it is to prevent dad from getting visitation or custody, which increases the child support that he must pay. It is the

nuclear option in a custody battle, and just like in the real world, it leads to the mutually assured destruction of the parties.

The emotional damage that is done to the relationship between the parents is nothing compared to the damage that is done to the parent/child relationship by a false allegation. As much as a false allegation increases the bitterness and anger between the parties, the suspicion it creates, and the spotlight of doubt that it casts on every activity causes a lasting harm to both parent/child relationships.

MOST FREQUENTLY IT IS THE MOTHER ALLEGING THAT THE FATHER IS EITHER A ‘BAD PARENT’ WHO LACKS PARENTING SKILLS AND IS ONLY MILDLY ABUSIVE, TO THE NUCLEAR OPTION OF SEXUAL MOLESTATION.

The suspicious parent can become overly protective and begin to plant ideas in the child’s mind - which is abusive in itself. The suspected parent can become tentative in offering affection and love out of a fear of misinterpretation and potential criminal penalties.

The financial damage is also extensive. A suspected parent who must hire a criminal lawyer, in addition to their family law attorney, can expect to spend at least an extra \$5,000, to defend against a case of alleged sexual abuse, depending on the facts of the allegation, and there is no upper limit.

An allegation is easy to make, precisely because it is taken so seriously by the authorities.

The full weight of the state can be brought to bear on a father who is accused, and mothers use this to gain an advantage and make the father give in to her financial and custodial demands.

And even though we say that someone is innocent until proven guilty, in this arena, even when proven innocent, there is still a cloud that hangs over a wrongly accused father. It is the fallout from the nuclear option, that never completely goes away.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father’s rights and men’s Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Bill Bauer, David Pizarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Seth Barnes, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Ryan Hyatt, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Maria Rohloff, Merv Hecht, Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp, Mariel Howsepian, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman and Steve Parker

NEWS INTERNS

Alexandra Bissonnette, Alice Ollstein, Christina Yoon, Nora Casey, Stephanie Taft
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS

Morgan Genser, Soraya Danesh
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Julie Martinez
juliem@smdp.com

Robert Hertel

roberth@smdp.com

Erin Collins

erinc@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR

Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Robert Summa
summa@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt
Oswaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
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410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
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The Quackers

Phyllis Chavez

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The Chronicles begin: Part two

Editor's note: Meet the Quackers, three young surf ducks, born and raised in the canals of Venice. Their passion in life: Surfing and saving the earth. Their mission: To ride the waves and spread the word about global warming and the harmful affects of pollution to anyone who will listen.

Have you ever heard of the Beach Boys and the songs they sing about surfing safaris? We think they got that idea from our Grandpa Quacker and his buddy, Jeff! My grandpa told us how he and Jeff traveled up and down the coast looking for "that perfect wave." They made it sound like a quest, an adventure and a goal that had to be achieved. It was on one of those "safaris" that they met and surfed with "The Duke." He was as big a legend then as he still is today. By the way, you know that Duke is Duke Kahanamoko, not "The Duke," John Wayne, right?

We begged my grandpa and Jeff for stories of the "good old days." We could never hear enough. We would ask them to tell us the same ones, over and over again. In our imaginations, the stories became bigger than life, epic, full color movies. As they wove their tales we would close our eyes. We could actually feel the weight of their old, heavy long boards and the swell of the ocean moving beneath them. When they described catching the waves, we were the ones actually completing the ride. In our bellies we felt tremors of fear but also of excitement as they described surfing with "The Duke" on giant waves that were as tall as buildings. Those stories, so vivid and exciting, irreversibly influenced us and determined our path in life. We wanted nothing else. We had to surf.

I know most ducks don't surf. We are different, exceptional, one might say. The three of us wanted more from life. There had not been any surfing ducks since Grandpa Quacker's adventures. We were going to be surfing ducks too! Excitement and adventure was what we craved. None of that "quack, quack, swim, swim," for us. We needed to bust out of the box! We wanted to use neon and color out of the lines! For us surfing was a way to achieve it all. There was nothing else that gave us that feeling of total freedom. With reverence, we took the old boards out of storage. The ones that my grandpa and his buddy, Jeff, had once, so long ago, carefully fashioned. We dusted them off, waxed

them up and as they had once done, we taught ourselves to surf.

When we tasted the salty spray on our bills and felt the wind ruffling our feathers as we caught that first, perfect wave, we felt connected to nature. Could Grandpa and Jeff have experienced this elation? We know they felt the same strong connection with nature and the earth. In our hearts, at that moment, we knew that surfing and saving the earth was naturally entwined and would become our mission in life. After generations in Venice living along the canals, a tragedy befell our family. A duck flu epidemic worked its way through the area, spreading canal by canal. It was a frightening time. It was a sad time. Our feeling of safety and contentment was now replaced by fear and distress. We had to leave. Our hearts ached with the thought of leaving our beloved Venice. It was our ancestral home. How could we leave the place that after all these years had surely become imprinted on our DNA? We were devastated.

The flu was terrible but not our only worry. The authorities, because of the growing epidemic, seemed bent on total duck-o-cide. In the end, we all decided leaving was our best and safest decision. On a moonless night, under the cover of darkness, we slipped away. After so many years of stability, we were forced to migrate again. We had heard many good things about Santa Monica from those who had left before us. We were unsure, we were frightened, but we had no choice. We set out for Santa Monica.

For months after we arrived we mourned for our lost home. We were sure our hearts would break. Our new home was beautiful but different in so many ways from Venice. As time passed, we settled in. Day by day we grew to love it.

We have been here for some time now and feel roots beginning to grow. We still have the ocean, that is a comfort, but sadly there are no canals here. Our surroundings have become more familiar and our sense of safety and peace has returned. We are beginning to feel like we belong and are part of our new community. We are home again.

PHYLLIS AND THE QUACKERS may be reached at Phyllis@phyllischavez.com

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The Q-Line

Let the games begin

There was some controversy surrounding the International Olympic Committee's selection of China as the host nation for this year's Summer Olympics due to that country's human rights record.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Given China's history of human rights violations, will you be more or less likely to watch the games?

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



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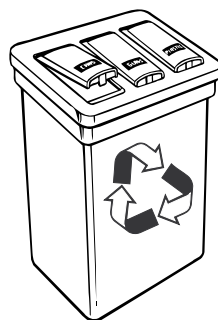
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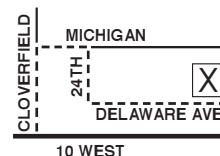
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Tornante
Steve Parker

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

History in the making

HISTORY USUALLY ISN'T MADE AT CAR dealerships, at least the positive kind, but that's exactly what happened late last month at Honda of Santa Monica, when the automaker delivered a new car, unlike any other, and about which few people could complain.

Local Southern California couple Ron Yerxa and Annette Ballester got the keys to the first FCX Clarity hydrogen fuel cell EV sedan to be leased in America. About 200 of the vehicles will be leased over the next three years around the country. Southern California will have three Honda stores with personnel factory-trained to sell, deliver, service and maintain these truly groundbreaking family sedans.

The timing couldn't have been better. Just a month ago, a Shell gas station in West Los Angeles, just a few miles from the Honda of Santa Monica store, was outfitted with the equipment to store and sell hydrogen, one of about 45 places in the country where hydrogen is available to the public. Coincidence? We think not. Also, Honda, at their U.S. headquarters in Gardena, also has hydrogen fuel "pumps."

FCX Clarity is, according to Honda, "a next-generation, hydrogen fuel cell-powered vehicle. Propelled by an electric motor that runs on electricity generated in the fuel cell, the vehicle's only emission is water, and its fuel efficiency is three times that of a modern gasoline-powered car."

The company says this latest-generation FCX will travel about 280 miles, or 74-mpg GGE (miles per gasoline gallon equivalent).

General Motors will also lease about 200 Chevrolet Equinox hydrogen fuel cell EVs over the next two to three years, finding their way into government, university and industry test fleets, as well as some lucky private citizens.

Equinox will get some real-world road testing serving as taxi cabs in NYC, and in the hands of others in Washington, D.C. and Southern California. The monthly lease for Equinox and FCX Clarity is about \$600.

Ever wonder how astronauts get electricity and drinking water in space? Fuel cells.

First described as theory in 1839, the first working model was built in 1845.

Fuel cells' first commercial use was in the Mercury manned space program in the 1960s.

Today, large industrial fuel cell installations supply back-up power for hospitals, factories, office buildings and government installations worldwide.

And there are tests being run to see how fuel cells might power private homes, much to the chagrin of power companies around the world.

How do they work? Pressurized hydrogen passes through a fuel cell "stack," really a series of chemical membranes, producing electricity and H₂O, which is how astronauts get their water and electricity, and how fuel cell cars work.

BMW and Mazda have begun loaning and leasing a small number of 7-series "Hydrogen 7" and RX-8 "Hydrogen RE" models, outfitted with existing, traditional piston and rotary engines modified to run on both gasoline and hydrogen (but not at the same time).

No greenhouse gases are produced when hydrogen is used in rotary or internal combustion engines (ICE), because there's no

carbon in the fuel.

Mazda and BMW have gone this dual-fuel route because there is no wide-spread hydrogen infrastructure — yet. But existing oil and natural gas pipelines and pumps could be retro-fitted for hydrogen and, voila, there's the start of our much-needed hydrogen economy. These Mazda and BMW

FCX CLARITY IS, ACCORDING TO HONDA, 'A NEXT-GENERATION, HYDROGEN FUEL CELL-POWERED VEHICLE. PROPELLED BY AN ELECTRIC MOTOR THAT RUNS ON ELECTRICITY GENERATED IN THE FUEL CELL, THE VEHICLE'S ONLY EMISSION IS WATER, AND ITS FUEL EFFICIENCY IS THREE TIMES THAT OF A MODERN GASOLINE-POWERED CAR.'

efforts could make sense as transitional cars while hydrogen's infrastructure is being built

America is now fighting wars on several fronts, from the Horn of Africa throughout the Mideast and on to Turkey, in Mexico and throughout many Central and South American nations, almost anywhere there are oil fields or might be in the future, all for the sake of filling our gas tanks.

Like any addict, the first thing we have to do is admit we have a problem. Nationally, we haven't come close to doing that, with the two old men running the country keeping the oil companies close to their hearts and their bank accounts.

If John McCain is elected, we can probably expect little in the way of this necessary change-over from oil to hydrogen or even the creation of all-new fuels not even thought-of as yet; if Barack Obama is sworn-in this coming January, convincing the country that we have an addiction problem, a problem which can be overcome and treated, will be one of his first and most important jobs.

STEVE PARKER, a long-time Santa Monica and Marina del Rey resident, has covered the world's auto industry and motor racing for over 35 years. He's hosted many radio shows, and was honored with two Emmy Awards for his reporting at KTLA/TV5 and KCBS/TV2. He also writes and moderates the only all-automotive blog at the Huffington Post (www.huffingtonpost.com/steve-parker). Reach him directly at his Web site, www.SteveParker.com.

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LA ANIMAL SERVICES FOUNDATION

Recordings raise questions about rights of inmates

BY ALLISON HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO The last thing defense attorney Jim McMahon expected to hear on a recording of phone calls from the county jail was his own voice discussing trial strategy with a client who had been jailed on a probation violation.

The intercepted call had been recorded by an automatic-taping system and stored on a server accessible to prosecutors, who downloaded the conversation and shared it with McMahon.

"We weren't talking about cursory stuff, what kind of clothes to wear. We were talking trial strategy," McMahon said. "There's no question that these calls are privileged, and we rely on that because the criminal justice system would come to a screeching halt if we had to drive to the jail every time we had to talk to our clients."

After McMahon's call came to light, San Diego authorities briefly shut down the recording system last month to add safeguards. But thousands of jails and prisons nationwide use similar automatic-recording systems to monitor inmate calls, raising questions about the privacy of attorney-client conversations.

Discussions between attorneys and their clients are among the most highly protected communications in the legal system, and breaching their confidentiality is considered a serious violation of inmates' constitutional rights.

In California, it's a felony for anyone to eavesdrop without permission on inmates' phone calls with attorneys, doctors, psychologists and clergy. But that has not prevented problems.

In the past two years, privileged conversations between inmates and lawyers have been recorded in Alameda, Santa Clara and Riverside counties in California, as well as Broward County, Fla.; Lansing, Mich.; and Dallas.

The breaches typically come to light during preparation for trial, when prosecutors are required to share evidence with defense lawyers.

Jail systems have long recorded inmate calls to watch for illegal behavior or investigate crimes. But before automated systems were introduced two decades ago, deputies could switch off the tape if an inmate called a lawyer.

Newer digital systems automatically turn off the recorder if an inmate dials a number included in a database compiled by authorities, who typically rely on directories published by local bar associations to identify lawyers. That means calls may be improperly recorded if the databases are incomplete or out-of-date.

San Diego County sheriff's officials said they don't know how many privileged calls were recorded, but at least two lawyers besides McMahon have told courts they have evidence their calls to

clients were taped.

In 2006, the U.S. attorney's office in San Francisco dropped gun-possession charges against a man after a prosecutor acknowledged listening to just 35 seconds of a recorded call the defendant placed to his attorney from a jail in Oakland.

In Broward County, Fla., the sheriff's department recently settled a class-action lawsuit filed after at least two inmates found their protected calls were inadvertently uploaded during a two-week test of a new \$18 million recording system in 2006.

Authorities argue that attorneys and inmates have always been cautioned that calls to and from jail may be monitored. In San Diego, recorded warnings were played before every call, but some defense attorneys complained that wasn't enough.

The sheriff's department relied on public attorney directories when it switched phone-system vendors in February 2007 and made little effort to solicit additional mobile or home phone numbers from lawyers; to account for lawyers coming from other areas; or to protect other kinds of privileged calls, such as those to doctors or religious advisers.

"Anyone could call and ask that their numbers be added to the database, but the problem was that we didn't do as much as we could have in publicizing this fact," county legal adviser Sanford Toyen said in an e-mail. Toyen added that no effort had been made to include doctors or clergy in the database.

The recording system reactivated in early July now broadcasts a special number before each call for anyone who wants to apply for an exemption along with repeated warnings that calls may be recorded.

San Diego prosecutors have filed affidavits swearing that they had no idea the calls were taped. But defense lawyers say they should not have to rely on the integrity of government lawyers to protect their clients from potential harm.

To prevent improper recordings, Riverside County in California provided lawyers with codes to prevent their calls from being recorded. In Los Angeles, public defenders have access to a videoconference that can't be taped.

Los Angeles-based Public Communications Services Corp. runs phone systems in more than 100 state and federal prisons and jails across the country, including San Diego County.

Dallas-based Securus Technologies Inc. serves 3,100 correctional facilities in 49 states.

"The first thing you hear when you pick up the phone is that your call can be recorded," said Rudy Zaragoza, a spokesman for Public Communications Services. "If you didn't register your phone number with the list, then you didn't do your job. The onus is on you."

Small quake strikes on eastern side of Sierra

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BISHOP A small earthquake has struck on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains near Highway 395. There are no immediate reports of injuries or damages.

The U.S. Geological Survey says the magnitude-3.7 earthquake hit at 1:03 p.m. Monday. It was centered in a rural area about 19 miles west of Bishop and 25 miles southeast of Mammoth Lakes.

A dispatcher with Inyo County Sheriff's Department says there are no immediate reports of damage or injuries.


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Local track coach international star

FROM TRACK CLUB PAGE 1

third in the nation in the 5,000 meters when she ran with the Douglas. "They go hand in hand bringing track to a higher level."

Douglas was a groundbreaking manager. When the SMTC began Douglas said that the contracts for runners made it impossible to earn a living as a runner. The SMTC changed that when they began bringing athletes to Europe to compete and managing athletes events so that they were getting better pay.

"It was one of the cutting edge clubs," said Cady. "He made it so guys could get money running."

The track club's membership of premier athletes was what allowed them the leverage to negotiate for more money and better treatment.

"If they didn't give us good housing I would leave," said Douglas. "Then we started asking for more money and because we were bringing in TV stations, sponsors, we got it."

Douglas originally came to Santa Monica to work with the Hungarian track coach Mihaly Igloi. He trained here and made friends with other serious track athletes.



Photo courtesy of the International Association of Athletic Federation

HEADED TO CHINA: Bayano Kamani runs the 400 hurdles in the 2005 World Championships in Athletics where he took seventh.

They came to form the Los Angeles track club and traveled to compete successfully in Europe.

Inspired by Igloi's coaching style, Douglas studied exercise physiology.

"Most coaches don't know the physics or the physiology behind it," said Douglas. "I wanted to study how to be a good coach."

Cady trained with Douglas as a local runner, and was impressed by his coaching style. He said that Douglas keeps a log of every runner's workout to help him hone their particular skills.

IT'S LIKE IF YOU WERE TRAVELING WITH THE LAKERS, MAYBE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE YOU BUT THEY RECOGNIZE THE NAME."

Tania Fischer

Former SMTC runner and Boys Cross Country and Track Coach at Santa Monica High School.

"People come with different talents," said Douglas. "So I weight these factors and I train everyone individually."

Fischer said that training with Douglas demanded great dedication, as they would work out every day, often twice a day. However, his management allowed her to compete in elite meets and achieve her goal of making the finals for the Olympic trials.

"It's like if you were traveling with the Lakers, maybe they don't recognize you but they recognize the name," Fischer said, remember her treatment at competitions abroad. "I wanted to run really, really fast so I was holding up the name and prove, you know, its not like it was a fluke, I'm wearing the uniform with pride."

Although there are other track clubs in Santa Monica, the SMTC is set apart by the

highest caliber of its athletes and its unique groundbreaking history, according to VS Athletics Track Club's Director Skip Stolley. Stolley's club handles a greater number of athletes he described as emerging elite.

"We compete in many of the same meets, but if you're talking about rivalry we are really two different groups," he said. "I think both are groups are very supportive of each other."

Douglas' impact in track can be seen everywhere this summer, from the high schools students running under the direction of Cady and Fischer to a runner representing not only the USA, but part of Santa Monica, in the games at Beijing.

"He's a legend," said Fischer.

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Recent departure leaves Malibu-sized hole on board

FROM ELECTION PAGE 1

ings but I'm doing these other (council-related) things and we had to decide whether everybody was up for that."

He has already gathered approximately 125 signatures since pulling nomination papers and plans to submit them on Wednesday, two days before the filing deadline. Candidates must collect 100 signatures of registered Santa Monica voters in order to qualify for the ballot.

Shriver said he has some "unfinished business" that require a return to the dais for four more years, including seeing through the completion of clean beach projects, which are funded under Measure V, and further pushing the cause for which he has been most outspoken — homeless services at the West L.A. Veterans Affairs campus.

Three buildings at the site were designated to house services for homeless veterans last year. The VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System began seeking prospective social-service providers last month.

Measure V, which passed in 2006, sets aside \$20 million to enhance storm water mitigation and prevention strategies, intended to clean beaches in an area long criticized for fostering unhealthy swimming conditions.

"They might not get finished and I am determined to finish them," Shriver said.

For Wisnicki, the past several years on the board has been marked by transition, including the departure of several key figures in the district administration.

"Despite all of the transition, we remained focus on the education of our students," Wisnicki said.

She counts the passage of Measure BB, a \$268 million construction bond, and building the district's financial reserves from \$3 million at the beginning of her term to \$14 million today, as one of the current board's many accomplishments.

Oscar de la Torre, the school board president, called Wisnicki a strong advocate for schools.

"She's thoughtful and committed to improving public education," he said.

A LOST VOICE FOR MALIBU?

Wisnicki's imminent departure means the loss of the only Malibu resident on the school board. All of the candidates who have pulled papers live in Santa Monica.

School board members stress that they represent the entire district, regardless of whether a constituent lives north or south.

"We're without a Pico Neighborhood representative on the City Council and nobody says anything," de la Torre said. "The

fact is that the community in Malibu will always be represented and has always been represented, even without an actual resident on the Board of Education."

But some who live in Malibu said the absence of one of their own on the board could be difficult and cite the lack of representation as reason for a district split.

A number of Malibu residents have for years talked about seceding from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, but those discussions heated up last fall over allocation of Measure BB construction bond money, the neighbors to the north feeling their own projects got shortchanged.

Laura Rosenthal, a Malibu resident who is involved in a campaign to form a new district, said that the current political climate makes it impossible for anyone other than a Santa Monica resident to succeed in a race.

"There is a lot of animosity toward Malibu and I think it's stemming from the BB funds and some of the other things that have gone on in the district," she said. "I think there are too many factions fighting each other, and those are the reasons why we need to be our own school district."

The secession campaign is in the midst of collecting signatures in order to jump-start the process to examine a district split, which is done by the county's Committee on School District Organization. Approximately 25 percent of registered voters in the new district is required. Rosenthal said the campaign is about 60 percent of the way there.

When Wisnicki decided she wasn't running for re-election, several educational advocates gathered to see if they could put up a viable candidate from Malibu. Nobody was willing to mount a campaign.

"It's really difficult for a Malibu person to win the school board election," Wisnicki, who raised \$50,000 for her own campaign four years ago, said. "I spent a considerable amount of time knocking on doors and campaigning and getting to know the community of Santa Monica, which helps me in my term, but it's difficult for someone to commit to that."

Ralph Mechur, who is also running to fill the final two years of former school board member Emily Bloomfield's term, said it is valuable to have a Malibu perspective, but that the elected education officials represent everyone's best interests.

"I hope that they still feel that they're a partner with Santa Monica and will feel comfortable talking to the other board members on issues that are important to them," Mechur said. "We're here to provide services to all children in the district."

melodyh@smdp.com

Book cart dancing brings fame

FROM DRILL TEAM PAGE 3

end," said Sci-brarian Donnae Tidwell. "We all learned how much it takes to put together."

Outside of rehearsal time they experimented with potions that would look cool and compared prices on lab coats, wigs and blood capsules to be used in the performance. They agreed that the preparation was exhausting, but the end result was worth it.

"Everyone enjoyed it, you would have thought we won the Noble Peace Prize," said

Angel. "The other staff are excited to have this title."

The ALA will have another competition next year, but the Santa Monica team is still recovering, and are not yet sure if they will venture to Chicago's conference to defend the title.

For now they will continue to work as librarians rather than synchronized-dancing-scientist-zombies, but the golden book cart will remain a testament to their potential.

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Attack kills 16 officers
days before the Olympics

BY CHARLES HUTZLER
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING In an audacious and deadly attack just days ahead of the Beijing Olympics, two men from a mainly Muslim ethnic group rammed a truck and hurled explosives at jogging policemen in China's restive far west Monday, killing 16.

The attack in a city near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border brought an immediate response from China's Olympic organizers, who pronounced security precautions ready to ensure safety in Beijing and other Olympic venues when the games open Friday.

Yet the timing so close to opening day heightened the attack's shock value and bore the hallmarks of local Muslim militants, said Li Wei, a counterterrorism expert affiliated with the government.

It also came as athletes, Olympic dignitaries and journalists poured into Beijing for an Olympics that some Chinese want to leverage to get the government to address festering grievances. Migrant workers cheated on pay for construction, homeowners angry about pollution and other disgruntled residents believe the government would help them rather than see the Olympics disrupted.

On Monday, about 20 people evicted from their homes for urban renewal projects staged a small demonstration a few blocks from Tiananmen Square only to be surrounded by police.

"We don't oppose the Olympics. But it's wrong for them to demolish our house. It's wrong," said Liu Fumei, who scuffled with women from the government-backed neighborhood committee who pulled Liu and the other protesters away.

The risk for the communist government is that the ferment could disrupt an Olympics it spent more than \$40 billion to make a perfect showcase for China. "Pursuing peace, progress, coexistence in harmony and harmonious development" was how Chinese President Hu Jintao described the Chinese people's Olympic hopes to foreign media last week. Monday's attack in Xinjiang also underscored that with so much security focused on Beijing, areas far from game venues make tempting targets that could also diminish China's Olympic moment.

"We've made preparations for all possible threats," Beijing Olympic organizing committee spokesman Sun Weide told reporters when asked about the Xinjiang attack. "We believe, with the support of the government, with the help of the international community, we have the confidence and the ability to host a safe and secure Olympic Games."

Xinjiang has for decades seen a sporadically violent rebellion by a local Muslim Turkic ethnic group known as Uighurs against Chinese rule. An extremist Uighur group believed to be based across the mountainous border in Pakistan's tribal frontier threatened in a video tape last month to tar-

get the Olympics. And military and police commanders have said Uighurs fighting for what they call an independent East Turkistan pose the biggest threat to the games.

In Monday's attack, two Uighur men rammed a dump truck into 70 border patrol paramilitary police as they passed the Yiquan Hotel during a routine early morning jog in the city of Kashgar, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

After the truck hit an electrical pole, the pair jumped out, ignited the homemade explosives and "hacked the policemen with knives," Xinhua said. The assailants, ages 28 and 33, were arrested, the report said.

There were no civilian casualties as few people were on the streets so early in the day, state media and witnesses said. Though Xinhua put the time of the attack at 8 a.m., China officially has one time zone, geared toward Beijing, 2,200 miles to the east.

Fourteen officers were killed on the spot and two others died on the way to the hospital, while another 16 officers were wounded, Xinhua said.

Witnesses said police immediately closed off streets. The Nationalities Hospital, down the street from the explosion, was sealed off and people were ordered to stay inside, said a man answering phones at the hospital duty office. By early afternoon, unarmed uniformed police patrolled the area, stopping a few people to inspect their bags.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Gonzales Gallegos condemned the attack, saying the United States was "saddened at the loss of life and injuries caused by the attack and extend our condolences to the victims and their families."

Monday's attack was all the more surprising because it follows years of intensive security measures in Xinjiang. A wave of violence in the 1990s mainly targeted police, officials and Uighurs seen as collaborators. Separatists also staged nearly simultaneous explosions on three public buses in the provincial capital of Urumqi.

In response, the government stationed more paramilitary units in the region and shut unregistered mosques and religious schools seen as hotbeds of anti-government extremism.

Uighurs, however, complain that restrictions on religious practice — students are not allowed to go to mosques, for example — and a high police presence has further alienated people who already felt displaced by an influx of Chinese migrants they feel are taking the best jobs.

"In practice, Uighurs have lost all political rights," Dilxat Raxit, spokesman for the Germany-based pro-independence World Uighur Congress, said in an e-mail. "Especially in the vast countryside heavily populated by Uighurs, the Chinese government has rolled out a political movement without end or reason that is unbearable to the Uighur peasantry. The entire Uighur people live in a blanket state of fear."

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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 66°-71°

SWELL FORECAST (1-1 FT)
Tuesday the 5th is when our next south swell is due. This is from a large storm that broke off Antarctica south of Easter Island last week. Although rather robust with 35- 40-foot seas, this storm traversed on a nearly direct easterly trajectory, throwing most of its swell towards Chile. Some of this though will make it to our shores in the form of 175- 185-degree energy with 16-second periods, and size chest high.

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

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman Goldhirsh FOUNDATION the James Irvine Foundation Ford

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 Closures and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION DRY WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth A+ ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth A+ ns
El Pescadero State Beach, between Luchessa and Las Aliso creeks A+ ns
Escalante Canyon at El Matador State Beach A+ ns
Broad Beach at Francis Creek mouth A+ ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth A+ ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private) A+ ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth D ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach A+ ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth A+ ns
Seleste Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach C ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth A+ ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd. D ns
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence A+ ns
Surfside Beach (beach location)- daily A ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east A+ ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon A+ ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero) A+ ns
Big Rock Beach at 18948 PCH stairs A+ ns
Pine Creek at Las Tunas County Beach A+ ns
Tuna Canyon A+ ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth A ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach 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

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

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

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

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Ave. (323) 466-FILM	2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50	Tell No One (Ne le dis a personne) (NR) 2hrs 05min 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
Call theater for information.	Step Brothers (R) 1hr 35min 12:15, 2:00, 2:40, 4:30, 5:10, 7:00, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10	
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third Street Promenade	Journey to the Center of the Earth - 3-D (PG) 1hr 32min 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30	MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599
The X-Files: I Want to Believe (PG-13) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 7:05, 9:25, 9:35	Swing Vote (PG-13) 1:45, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20	Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min 10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30, 1:50, 3:00, 4:05, 5:05, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00
Hancock (PG-13) 1hr 32min 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00	Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, The (PG-13) 1hr 54min 1:00, 2:10, 3:45, 5:00, 6:30, 7:50, 9:20, 10:30	Sex and the City (R) 2hrs 15min 4:15, 7:20, 10:30
Space Chimps (G) 1hr 21min 12:45, 2:50, 5:00	LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741	Get Smart (PG-13) 1hr 50min 11:00am, 1:30
Wanted (R) 1hr 48min 4:40, 10:10	American Teen (PG-13) 1hr 41min 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00	Mamma Mia! (PG-13) 1hr 48min 11:10am, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:25, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:40
Hellboy II: The Golden Army (PG-13) 1hr 50min 1:50, 7:20	The Wackness (R) 1hr 35min 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45	
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262	Brideshead Revisited (PG-13) 1hr 40min 12:45, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00	
WALL-E (G) 1hr 37min		

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

Rest up, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You want a change; make it happen. Allow others to infuse more energy into your life. Listen and realize what you want to happen. Intensity breeds new beginnings. Let it happen. Tonight: Sort through your options. You might be surprised by how many you have.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your ability to move forward and make a difference proves to be exciting, not only to you but also to those around you. Where others might be distracted, you are keenly in tune with your issues. Tonight: As late as you want to go.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Your imagination allows you more flex than many people. Because of this ability, you have fun, often when others are stumped. Knowing when to loosen up and how to proceed could be important. Tonight: Enjoy where you are and who you are with.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Domestic concerns are a high priority, no matter how you cut it. Suddenly, you seem to be unstoppable. You laugh, and others relax. You are a far more stern taskmaster than you thought possible. Tonight: Order in.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Jump into a problem, and avoid future problems while you can. How you see a situation and the direction you choose to head in could make all the difference. Tonight: A serious conversation turns into a good time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Your intensity does make a big difference when dealing with others. You might want to rethink a decision more carefully if it involves finances and security. It is easy to say “yes” but then regret it later. Be smart. Check out all costs. Tonight: Your treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You smile and make a big difference. Your personality melts barriers and helps others relax. Listen to what someone shares. This person might be overwhelming sometimes, but he or she has real heart. Tonight: Just be yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Take your time rather than plunging in. Pressure builds with your finances. A meeting or group of friends might push you very hard. You know what you want and where you are heading. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You respond softly and well to someone's inquiry, especially if he or she helps you pull your head out of your daily life and take a brand-new look. You are going to feel better than you have for a very long time. Tonight: Where you want to be.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You often want to take charge. The planets root you on – what more can you ask for? Only, be smart as to how you move the situation and handle it. Keep others' egos in tack, and you will be valued. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ The smart Water Bearer will weigh the importance of letting others know how very differently you view a situation. If you can say several sentences and let others follow your path, all the better. A friendship's nature could change. Tonight: Let your imagination choose.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You might not realize it but a change is occurring as far as how you view your work or things that might be coming forward. Relate openly with a trusted friend or associate. Together, you will be able to handle any changes. Tonight: Go with another's plans.

Happy birthday

Color this year dynamic and major – especially after fall 2008. You might be surprised by the doors that open up and the possibilities that head your direction. Others seem more willing – more so than ever – to make that difference in your life. You feel lucky. If you are single, trying to stay single could take a lot of work, as you can imagine. You also might welcome someone very different into your life. If you are attached, your sweetie will seem to be in a much better mood from fall onward. LIBRA loves to visit and chat with you. Actively relate to this sign.

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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EVENT #2: HURDLES

WERE YOU JUST MAKING OUT WITH MY GIRLFRIEND?!!

8/5

FEINSTEIN&BORUS

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

The Meaning of Lila

I'll take the MUSCLE GUY IN THE DANIEL CRAIG SQUARECUT.

I'll take the TALL GUY IN THE BOARD SHORTS.

I WANT THE TALL GUY IN THE BOARD SHORTS.

IT'S FUN TO ARGUE OVER MEN WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW WE'RE ALIVE.

8/5

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

The Other Coast

MOM, DAD, THIS IS CRAIG. CRAIG'S DAD OWNS A GAS STATION.

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adrian@creatorsyndicate.com

8-05

By Adrian Raeside

Garfield

OOH, FLOWERS! YEAH, I GOT THEM FROM MY LATIN DANCE INSTRUCTOR, RAOUL

OH... KIDDING! THEY'RE FOR YOU, HON

OH! I HAVEN'T TANGOED SINCE THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION

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www.garfield.com

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By Jim Davis

Dog eat Doug

GOOD MORNING, TREE! MORNING, FLOWER!

MORNING, BUSH! MORNING, FRED DISGUISED AS A BUSH!

YOU REALIZE THAT PROBABLY WON'T FOOL THE CATS.

WHAT IF I CAN GET A COUPLE OF SPARROWS TO NEST IN MY EARS?

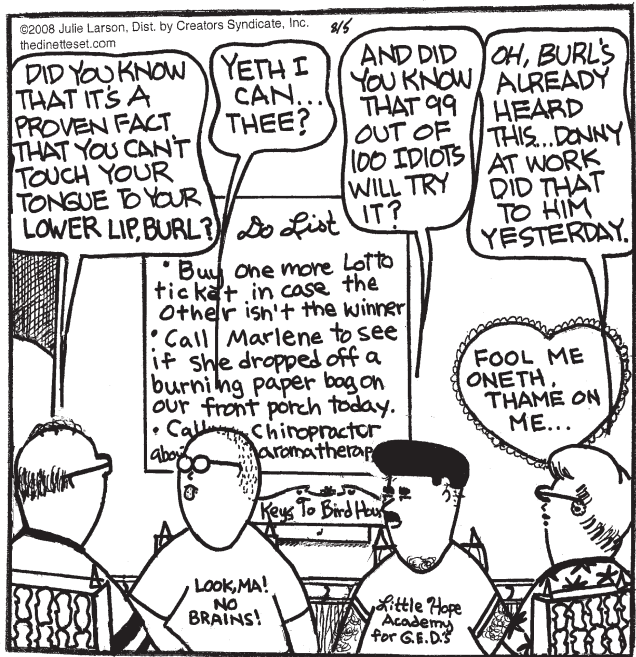
8/5

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Arizon

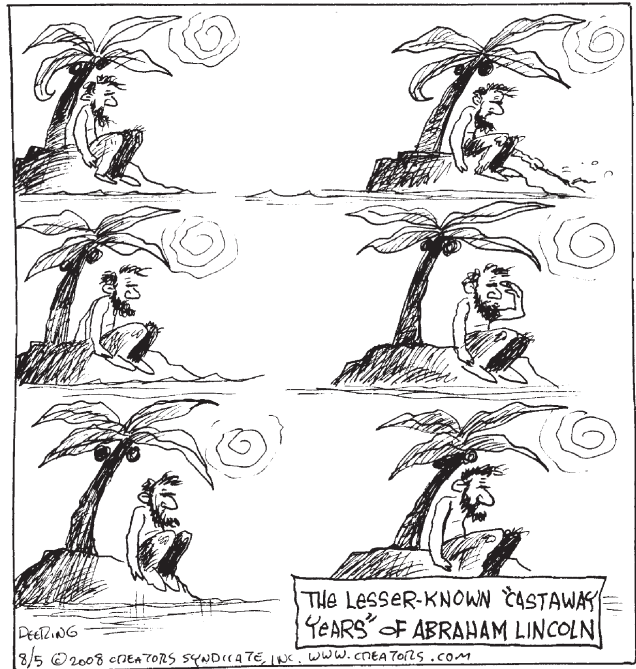
By Brian Anderson

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Soraya Danesh news@smdp.com

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 1 Con
 - 5 Composer
 - 10 Locker-room item
 - 12 Bitter humor
 - 13 Chess start
 - 15 King, in France
 - 16 Part of some German names
 - 17 Penn of "House"
 - 18 Holdup man
 - 20 Style
 - 21 Toss
 - 22 Without — (risky way to work)
- 40 Spacey or Kline
- 41 Dine at home
- 42 Artery opener
- 43 Church offshoot

DOWN

- 1 Squall
- 2 Excuse
- 3 "Anchors —"
- 4 Fellows
- 5 Auto-graph
- 6 Ulna's place
- 7 Hired
- 8 Overrun
- 9 Lace's place
- 11 Consume to survive
- 14 Edvard Grieg, for one
- 19 Filth
- 20 Partners
- 24 Fail to follow suit
- 25 Pants
- 26 Spot for ten-spots

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

Yesterday's answer

- 27 Smitten
- 29 Peaceful
- 30 Steamy
- 33 Lott of the Senate
- 35 Mouth-wash flavor
- 38 Sermon subject
- 39 "— Kapital"

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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

8-5

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MEGA MILLIONS	9 13 17 18 56 Meganumber: 2 Jackpot: \$34M
Super LOTTO	1 3 6 12 47 Meganumber: 22 Jackpot: \$7M
Fantasy 5	4 8 26 30 39
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 8 9 9 EVENING: 2 4 0
DAILY DERBY	1st: 06 Whirl Win 2nd: 09 Winning Spirit 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1:48.65

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Darrell Walker, 30, was arrested in Bartlesville, Okla., in May after his 8-year-old son told police that his dad routinely shoots him (and his younger sister) in the leg with a BB gun if they misbehave.

■ Robert Cisero, 46, was arrested in Medford, Ore., in June after (according to police) he hit his teenage daughter in the ankle with a hammer to feign a "skating" injury, for which she could get a prescription for pain medication, which he then commandeered.

■ The New York Daily News reported in June that members of gangs such as the Bloods and the Latin Kings, who become parents, are routinely having their babies "blessed" into their gangs in religious ceremonies in which the swaddling clothes are the gang's colors. (The Bloods call such babies "Blood drops" or "Blood stains.") The Daily News described the parents "teaching chubby little fingers to (make) gang signs" even before the toddlers learn to talk. One Episcopal priest said he has "blessed in" about 300 such kids to two gangs.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1864 during the Civil War, Union Adm. David G. Farragut led his fleet to victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay, Ala.

1884 the cornerstone for the Statue of Liberty's pedestal was laid on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor.

1914 one of the first, if not the first, electric traffic light systems was installed in Cleveland, Ohio, at the intersection of 105th Street and Euclid Avenue.

1924 the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," by Harold Gray, made its debut.

1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the National Labor Board, which was later replaced with the National Labor Relations Board.

1953 Operation Big Switch began as prisoners taken during the Korean conflict were exchanged at Panmunjom.

WORD UP!

obeisance \oh-BEE-suhn(t)s; oh-BAY-suhn(t)s/, *noun*:
1. An expression of deference or respect, such as a bow or curtsy.
2. Deference, homage.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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

LOCATION 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, CA 90401

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 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica. 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

GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it.

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with

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Drop in Class \$12 (Reg \$15.00)
5 Class Series* \$50 (Reg \$65.00)
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* Class Series is for sequential weeks with
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Go to website to sign up for info
on upcoming Kids Yoga Camps
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Open ~~Tuesday~~ August 5th
11:00 - 2:00 pm

1135 Berkeley Street
~~Price Reduced!~~ \$1,899,000
Two Story Traditional 5 + 3 Home
w/ Large Backyard



Easy to Show
Call for an Appointment

2470 Hill Street
\$2,288,000
'Contemporary Mediterranean'
4 + 3 Home

Open ~~Tuesday~~ August 5th
11:00 - 2:00 pm



- 1030 Chelsea Avenue
- \$1,399,000
- 3 + 1.75 Santa Monica Single Family Home
- On Tree Lined Street, Great Location!!



Open Sunday, August 10th
2:00 - 5:00 pm

785 Linda Flora Drive
~~Price Reduced!~~ \$1,399,000
3 + 1.75 Home w/ Canyon,
Ocean & Getty Views



Open Sunday, August 10th
2:00 - 5:00 pm

907 12th Street # 4
\$699,000
North of Wilshire
3 + 2 Condo

Average Price of All Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Early August 2008

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,844,333	\$ 5,730,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 4,189,120	\$ 2,158,923
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,672,875	\$ 1,026,066
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 973,564	\$ 673,163
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,387,339	\$ 751,300
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,815,133	\$ 1,477,545

Statistics Updated Every Monday

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!