



COMING CLEAN
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE TROUBLE ON TWO WHEELS ISSUE

Battle for the roads

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

HOLLYWOOD Tom Bosch has the battle scars of a road warrior.

Six months and five fractured ribs after an accident in Hollywood, the former Santa Monica resident can clearly recall what was perhaps his worst bike outing, struck on Sunset Boulevard by a car whose driver allegedly kept veering right, an attempt — Bosch believes — to push him

off the road.

The incident marked the fourth time that Bosch, who now lives in Hollywood but rides three times a week to Santa Monica, had been hit by a vehicle while operating a bike.

"The car was clearly trying to drive me off the road," the avid cyclist said of the February crash.

Road rage, while extreme in Bosch's case, is something that many cyclists say they encounter on a daily basis in the

Westside where road real estate is at a premium and vehicles are more than plentiful.

Such acts of aggression, while dating back as long as bikes and cars have shared the streets, are receiving more attention as rising gas prices force individuals to reconsider their commuting options, going for the two-wheeler instead. While cyclists said they haven't noticed more

SEE ROADS PAGE 12



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

BUSTED! Critical Mass rides have been contentious in the past year as a number of riders have been ticketed by Santa Monica Police.



ROCKING THE SEASIDE

Singer/songwriter Rocky Dawuni (right) performs for a packed Santa Monica Pier audience during Thursday's Twilight Dance Series on the Naked Stage. Dawuni warmed up the crowd for legendary African pop artist Oliver "Tuku" Mtukudzi and Black Spirits, who headlined the show.

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

Theater house gets honor for bringing books to life

BY CHRISTINA YOON
Special to the Daily Press

PICO BLVD Every once in a while, a book is so vivid and captivating that it seems as though the characters walk right off of the page and come to life. The Youth Education/Entertainment Series (Y.E.S.) theater company at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre quite literally replicates this feeling.

For the past three seasons, Y.E.S. has produced dramatic adaptations of children's books that are assigned to students in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Y.E.S. recently received the award for 2008 Outstanding New Children's Theatre Company by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education.

"This is theater by kids specifically for kids targeted toward literacy," said Anne Gesling, co-founder and one of the committee members of Y.E.S., as well as a sometime director, costume director and producer. "We're saying to them, you see the theater, that's great. Now go read the book."

Most recently, Y.E.S. performed a pro-

SEE THEATER PAGE 11

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Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, AUGUST 9-10, 2008

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



'Awaay' to Wonderland

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Individuals of all ages are invited by the Santa Monica Playhouse to help solve riddles, predict the future, travel through time, experience a mini-language lesson, and ultimately help save the fairytale world, during the musical, "And Awaay We Go To Wonderland." Lots of audience participation makes this captivating Rudie-Carlo Family Theater event the perfect summer outing for the entire family. Kids 12 and under \$10.50, adults \$12.50. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 or visit santamonicaplayhouse.com.

Stroll into the past

1436 Second St., 10 a.m. — 12 p.m.

A walking tour presented by the Santa Monica Conservancy reviews over 100 years of local history in just six blocks. Docents view city landmarks and share the story of Santa Monica's development from a frontier town to bustling metropolis. Tours are given every Saturday, at a cost of \$10 for the general public and \$5 for conservancy members. Reservations can be made by calling (310) 496-3146.

'Patanjali: Legends of Yoga and Dance'

1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Rangoli Dance Company along with guest artists from India presents, "Patanjali: Legends of Yoga and Dance" — a thematic dance concert exploring the unique and powerful relationship between yoga and dance. The evening features popular legends related to Patanjali, the cosmic dance of Shiva, and the holy city of Chidambaram in India. Conceived and choreographed by award-winning artistic director Malathi Iyengar, and developed in collaboration with her dancers and music composer Rajkumar Bharathi, Patanjali will feature a unique physical environment. The evening also features Indian melodies played by musicians from India as a prelude to the dance concert. For more information, including ticket prices, visit www.rangoli.org, or contact the box office at (310) 434-3200.

Sunday, Aug. 10, 2008

Get it while it's fresh

Downtown Mar Vista, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Head out to lovely Mar Vista for the weekly Farmers' Market. Located at the corner of Grandview and Venice boulevards, the market includes fresh fruits and vegetables as well as some prepared foods.

Workouts for teens

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

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.

The other Jerry's kids

1348 14th St., 7 p.m.

Cubensis brings the sights and sounds of a live Grateful Dead concert to 14 Below every Sunday. Cubensis is known for whipping its faithful crowd into a swirling psychedelic mass for three hours straight.

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.



Samohi students get a taste of college life

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC There were no caps and gowns, walks to the tune of "Pomp and Circumstance," or parents wiping away their proud tears.

The ceremony marking the conclusion of the Young Collegians' first summer on Thursday was more about a celebration of beginnings, not endings.

Two dozen Santa Monica High School sophomores were honored for completing their first set of college courses, all partici-

pants of a program that gives teenagers the opportunity to simultaneously work toward their diploma while collecting credits to cash in later in their higher education careers.

The Young Collegians is part of a collaboration between the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and Santa Monica College, joined together in spring of 2007 to better connect students to the resources offered by both institutions.

One of the concepts that came out of that partnership was an idea that would allow high school students to begin working

toward their bachelor's degree starting as freshmen, accruing credits every year, graduating from Samohi with about three semesters worth of college under their belt.

The result is one less year of work at a post-secondary school, one less year of pricey tuition, and one early year to jump on their master's and doctorate's degrees.

"We are going to save you some money," Sally Chou, the district's chief academic officer, joked during her address to students and

SEE COLLEGE PAGE 13

John Edward's 'other woman' a 42-year-old L.A. filmmaker

BY JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The woman former presidential candidate John Edwards admitted having an affair with Friday is a sometimes Hollywood producer-director who has all but dropped from sight since dismissing word of their liaison as nothing but lies last month.

Rielle Hunter, a 42-year-old who recently gave birth to a girl who Edwards says is not his, has long been said to be the inspiration for Alison Poole, the "cocaine-addled, sexually voracious" 20-year-old lead character in "My Life Story," Jay McInerney's novel of 1980s excess and degradation.

"She's a nice girl," the New York Post's Page Six gossip column quoted McInerney as saying earlier this week. The author's agent did not return a call Friday from The Associated Press.

Hunter, whose first name is pronounced Riley, used to be "a real party girl" but has calmed down in recent years, McInerney told the Post.

She and her business partner, Mimi Hockman, created the company Midline Groove Productions in 2006 and produced four Web videos showing Edwards as a down-to-earth, regular guy visiting everyday people across the country. One of them shows him visiting Uganda.

Between giving speeches, Edwards relaxes and jokes with several people traveling with him, including a woman who is never seen on camera.

"That is a great speech," he tells her at one point as he reviews the words he will later deliver to an audience: "If we want to live in a moral, honest and just America ... we can't wait for somebody else to do it. We have to do it."

The woman giggles in response.

Midline Groove Productions is described on its Web site as "committed to projects that reveal truth."

Neither Hunter nor Hockman responded to an e-mail Friday seeking comment. A phone number for the company could not be obtained. Hunter also has one credit on the Internet Movie Database Web site for the 2000 film "Billy Bob and Them," for which she is listed as writer, producer and actress. However, the Screen Actors Guild reported Friday that it has no contact information for her.



COMING ALONG

Workers from Commercial Paving and Coating finish laying down pavement at Santa Monica College's Corsair Field on Thursday.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A waste of paper

Editor:

It's disappointing but not surprising to me that the ignoramus, albeit talented, Mr. [Llyod] Garver would have the audacity to make light of a topic about which he obviously knows nothing nor cares to learn ("The land of 10,000 lakes and even more firearms," page 4, July, 26).

Even more disheartening is this editorial staff easily allowing such offensively childish views to be printed. Did any editor responsibly and kindly advise Garver to please take a look at the Second Amendment of our [U.S.] Constitution before taking on the topic? Perhaps he should have spoken to someone who carries firearms daily or read a well-respected book about the practice?

If one must make light of our Constitutional rights, at least be clever – not snide. He obviously neither respects the fine folks of Minnesota nor their right to protect themselves from harm.

His laughable perceptions on firearms and those who legally carry concealed are so ill-informed and infantile that its publishing is both condescending and a disservice to your readership, especially to firearms novices and those who have never been to Minnesota.

For many, not only do they enjoy shooting and appreciate the awesome protection firearms can provide, but they are also responsible, law-abiding citizens. They regularly educate themselves about gun safety and self-defense, and the more they learn, the deeper their admiration becomes for America and for which it stands. Some may choose to live without guns, but I cannot imagine living without them, especially in a free nation whose founding fathers embraced liberty wholeheartedly.

Furthermore, just as SMDP would rightfully censor a writer who derided a people for practicing their constitutionally protected religion, so should your staff in this case after recognizing the gravity of his misplaced mockery. It would be a responsible and classy act, perhaps even raising the bar in this day and age.

I strongly urge SMDP to elevate the discourse on such core issues as the Second Amendment. Don't settle for one man's reckless attempt at humor to chip away at our and fellow Americans' rights through misinformation and irreverent rants. It's just a waste of paper.

Perry Hitchens

Santa Monica

It's time for a change

Editor:

We need a state constitutional change that when the Legislature does not finish a budget on time the governor shall adjourn the Legislature, call for a special election and proceed to run the state with last year's budget.

That is, every budget will be a two-year budget with the option to modify it with a new one after one year.

And these legislators who have been dismissed shall never be eligible to have their names on a ballot for any other state or local office that requires an election. They took an oath or vow to give us constitutional government and they have failed. Failures in Sacramento need no more trust no matter who or what issue they point the finger at. We need producers, not finger pointers in all of our political offices.

And until such constitutional change comes about, we can vow we will never vote for or support anyone who has failed the constitutional test as a legislator.

John O. Legreid

Santa Monica



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Looking forward to recess

WHEN LITTLE KIDS TAKE A BREAK FROM

their schoolwork and go on the playground to indulge in games and let off some steam, it's called, "recess." When members of Congress take a break from their work, it's also called "recess." I wonder what games our lawmakers play during their recess. Maybe "hide and don't vote," "take the stuffed envelope," or the word game, "talk long, but say nothing." When kids have recess, it only lasts a matter of minutes.

Congress' recess is for the whole month of August. I understand why kids need their break, but why do members of Congress need theirs? And is this really the right time for them to be taking a month off from work?

Generally, when senators and members of the House of Representatives are working, they only work three or four days a week. I understand that it's important for them to get out of Washington and spend time with their constituents at home.

And I guess if I felt that every member of the Senate and House were sitting down every day with his or her constituents discussing the issues, I'd understand the importance of their recess.

Call me "cynical," but I don't think that's what these men and women are doing all day.

Do you know anybody in any other profession that gets as many vacation days as those who represent us in Washington? As is usual in politics, things are backwards. Shouldn't those who've been entrusted with the responsibility of keeping our country safe and secure work more not less than people who have other jobs? The only people who work less than those in Congress are those who have been put out of work by those in Congress.

I agree with John McCain on this one. I think the recess should be canceled and Congress should go back to work now. Even if it's just for the sake of appearances, with all of our problems — the economy, the war, the environment — is this really a time for our elected officials to say to us, "We sure hope things don't get worse while we take our break. See you after Labor Day?"

Historically, the summer recess came about because of the oppressively hot weather in Washington. But now I think they could survive there, because they've got this new-fangled invention called air conditioning.

As much as I am for this idea, I'm aware that it is not such a simple, clear-cut issue. There are some benefits to having the Congressional recess.

In the past, I have pointed out that the fewer days that Congress is in session, the fewer days the lawmakers have to mess things up. While they're away, they can't

vote for invading a country, they can't raise taxes on the poor or lower them on the rich, and they can't vote themselves a raise. And I don't think it's just my imagination, but each day that they've been out of Washington, gas prices at the pump seem to go down a couple of cents.

THERE ARE SOME BENEFITS TO HAVING THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS. IN THE PAST, I HAVE POINTED OUT THAT THE FEWER DAYS THAT CONGRESS IS IN SESSION, THE FEWER DAYS THE LAWMAKERS HAVE TO MESS THINGS UP.

But there's one aspect of this that pushes me over to the side of "recess is over, get back to work." John McCain has said that if Congress goes back to work, he'd suspend his campaign and he challenged Barack Obama to do the same thing. That sounded like the best idea I've heard from either candidate. If they both suspended their campaigns and went back to work in Washington, the American people would get a "recess," too.

We'd get a break from this interminable campaign. Sure, they could still make commercials and hold news conferences. But if the candidates were really busy doing their job, they wouldn't have as much time to deride each other and assault the airwaves with hundreds of thousands of words repeating their messages over and over again.

There would be no front page and prime time analysis of everything every family member or friend of the candidates says or does ... or wears. We could still be responsible citizens and not think about this presidential campaign for a month.

That's the kind of recess this country could really use.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his website at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.

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A newspaper with issues

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STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

“Our objective is to show people that with a portable oxygen concentrator, you can go out and do things, whether it’s a bridge party, going out and meeting friends and the grandkids, or what I’m doing, which is a long-distance bike ride.”

— Mark Junge, who is currently riding from San Francisco to Mexico.

“Wouldn’t Dorothy have slept better at night if she hadn’t found out that the Wizard, the guy rumored to be the only one bright enough to figure out how to get her home, was actually an average Joe not quite bright enough to cower behind a floor-length curtain that at least hid his legs? Imagine how many Prozac prescriptions the pharmacist in Oz had to fill once word spread that the city’s mighty and powerful deity was a fraud.”

— SMDP columnist Meredith C. Carroll writing in “Meredith Pro Tem.”

“This indicates good faith on the Veterans Administration to address the significant constraints with moving the project forward and a very quick response to address that constraint.”

— Barbara Collins, the housing manager for City Hall, regarding a project to house homeless veterans at the Veterans Administration campus in West Los Angeles.

“Nobody can predict the economy a decade and a half from now. If so, I’ll hire them to manage my stock portfolio. But, for the sake of debate — even if RIFT were to result in reduced projected development fees and other property revenue, the impacts on the current, flush \$524.7-million city budget are a fraction of a percentage.”

— SMDP columnist Bill Bauer writing in “My Write.”

“I’ve never had such an amazing opportunity to have a first-hand experience of history where I’ll be able to witness change.”

— Adriana Wong, a junior at Santa Monica High School, regarding her upcoming trip to the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

“Last year it was your typical zoo in August with a million classes. This year it’s a lot less.”

— Surfer Terry Dunn regarding the recent reduction in the amount of surf instruction taking place on local beaches.

“While [Barack] Obama has co-opted the faux-fur accouterments of a president, he has neglected to notice that he has not yet been elected to the position despite the turgidly tumescent ululations of the French and German people.”

— SMDP columnist Steve Breen writing in “Going Postal.”



John McGrail, C.Ht.

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The QLine

LET THE GAMES BEGIN

This past week, Q-line asked:

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

Here are your responses:

"HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OR NOT, I wouldn't watch the Olympics from China anyway. How that country, with its horrible air pollution, polluted food and other products, got selected is beyond believing. And all the doping of athletes turns me off anyway."

"I WILL PROBABLY WATCH THE CONTESTS that interest me, but I would never consider going to China at this time. I am outraged at the Olympics committee for their choice. They should have said, 'First show us, then apply next time.'"

"IN MY OPINION, THERE IS NOT A NATION in the world that does not have their own form of human rights violations. Here in the United States, a once great nation, we have those who, while driving their high-line, multi-thousand dollar automobiles, pass other humans who are eating out of trash bins. While this once great nation wastes billions of dollars in a worthless seemingly forever child's play military confrontation that was started by a country and military commanders that did not command, the military confrontation has taken 4,000 lives from the young men and women in uniform. We, as Americans, should keep in mind that China was an ally to the U.S. during World War II against Japan and Germany, who have prospered greatly due to the American dollar. When one considers what is taking place in the world today, we should be pleased that China is offering a friendly hand. Yes, I will watch the Olympics."

"CHINA IS SO INTO CENSORSHIP THAT IF anything does happen, like a protest or something, they'll cover it up and won't let it be shown, so there's no point in watching the Olympics anyway."

"YES, I SHALL ABSOLUTELY NOT WATCH

the games. This is not only due to China's history of torture and murder of religious and political prisoners, but also due to their customs of eating dogs, skinning cats alive, and poaching endangered species. It's also due to their environmental destruction, including air, water, toxins, toys and tools, and evictions and destruction of homes, all leaving many Olympic athletes destitute, among other assorted and depraved acts."

"I WILL NOT BE WATCHING THE OLYMPICS on TV. I am angry at the committee that picked China, and ashamed at the athletes that go there, but I applaud the few who did not."

"I'M NOT GOING TO WATCH THE Olympics. I'm a very sports person, but I'm not watching them at all."

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Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Soaking in sodium

NUTRITION ENCOMPASSES MATH, chemistry and a lot of confusion. When I explain nutrition principles, I often employ those concepts to hopefully clarify the confusion.

Sodium is one component of a well known condiment: Salt (Sodium Chloride or NaCl). The role of sodium in our diets can be confusing. While sodium is essential to life, most people consume too much of it.

Salt is 40 percent sodium by weight. One teaspoon weighs 6,000 milligrams. Therefore one teaspoon contains 2,400 milligrams of sodium.

Your body needs sodium to function properly. It helps maintain fluid balance, transmit nerve impulses and influence the contraction and relaxation of muscles.

After a "salty meal," you tend to drink more. The hypothalamus region of the brain monitors blood-sodium levels and triggers that feeling of thirst when sodium levels become too high.

Your body cells also dehydrate because too much sodium attracts water and pulls it out of the cells and into the blood stream. An increased blood volume means your heart and kidneys have to work harder to circulate blood and rid the body of excess sodium and fluids. In some sensitive individuals, this system of sodium regulation breaks down and this failure may be the main cause of high blood pressure.

Salt is often a key ingredient in recipes because it "pulls" flavors together. Although these days salt is used excessively in processed foods as a preservative, it was once a valuable commodity, used not only for enhancing flavor but also for the exchange of goods and services.

There are times when your body's sodium levels could be too low. For example, when you exercise heavily or work outside in extreme heat, you lose sodium and potassium through sweat. Stomach viruses can also cause excessive losses. Under these circumstances you must replace sodium, potassium and water immediately to keep the body functioning properly.

When you eat a very clean diet, free of processed foods, you may want to add sodium to recipes not only to enhance flavor but also to replenish one of the most essential elements of life.

Sodium and potassium follow water which means that they not only leave the body as a group but also enter the body better en masse. Sugar or glucose (as it is referred to in the blood) also travels with water, so these four elements hang out in all of the body's social circles. That's why sports drinks and oral rehydration drinks, such as Pedialyte, were created, to replace this group of elements.

Sports drinks tend to work best in a

Antioxidant Rich Sports Drink

1/2 cup (4 oz) purple Juice (www.drinkpurple.com)
+ 1/2 cup water + 1/8 tsp sea salt (276 mg Sodium)
Serving size 8 oz. (227 grams) 66 calories, 14g carbs, 283mg Na, 145mg Potassium

Oral Rehydration Drink

1/4 cup purple Juice + 6 oz water + 1/8 tsp sea salt
7g carbs, 276 mg sodium, 73 mg Potassium

Basic Sports Drink

8 oz water
1 Tbsp maple syrup or agave nectar (16g carbs/
Tbsp)
1/8 tsp sea salt
1/4 cup lemon juice (added as a potassium source)
Yields 11 ounces
21g carbs (7 percent)
295 mg Sodium
76 mg Potassium

"sugar" or glucose solution that is between four and eight percent. Oral rehydration drinks are ideally two to three percent glucose.

Oral rehydration drinks have five to six grams of carbohydrates for every 227 grams of fluid which equals about two percent.

The sodium content should be 20-60 milliosmoles per liter. Milliosmoles per liter measures the concentration of a solute, such as sodium, in a liquid such as water. This translates into 109 to 326 milligrams (mg) of sodium in eight ounces of water. Potassium should be at least 18 to 46 mg per eight ounces of fluid and can be easily obtained by using fruit juice as the source of glucose. Most fruit juices contain ample amounts of potassium. Juices with vibrant hues contain more potassium and antioxidants.

Sports drinks are recommended for exercise sessions of 60 minutes or longer to help your body replenish blood glucose, muscle glycogen (stored glucose) and prevent mental fatigue — that foggy brain feeling. Glucose is the primary fuel for the brain, but the brain can't store it so you need a constant supply.

Perhaps after reading this dissertation, you are feeling a little foggy brained. But now it's time to test your mathematical abilities: How much juice and salt should you add to water to make a homemade sports drink and an oral rehydration drink? The answers lie in the following recipes.

ELIZABETH BROWN is a registered dietitian and certified holistic chef specializing in weight management, sports nutrition, disease prevention and optimal health through whole foods. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net.

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Restaurant Snapshot

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Traditional goodies for hearty appetites

WHEN YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN TOWN, you've got something special. As far as I can tell, The Aroma Café is the only Bosnian restaurant anywhere around Los Angeles. I just came back from a trip to that part of the world, so it was nice to compare.

WHERE: 2530 Overland Ave., West L.A., 90064; (310) 836-2919.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

BEST DISHES: The Pljeskavica is probably the specialty of the house and the most authentic. It's like an oversized ground beef patty on particularly good bread. By and large stick with the beef dishes. The goulash and the beef stew are interesting because hard to find elsewhere. The sausage dishes are tasty. The bread is even better. There's a nice dessert selection, but you can't go wrong with the Baklava.

BEST FEATURE: This is a chance to try something different, where you try new dishes from a lesser known part of the world. And you can eat well for about \$15 a person. Bring your appetite or, if you have a friend that's a professional football player, bring him. There's plenty to eat.

WORST FEATURES: It's a small restaurant, and hard to park. I would pass on the

overly breaded cheese Borek. Don't try to figure out what the words on the menu mean (neither the English words nor the Yugoslavian words): Just ask.

SPECIAL FEATURE: There is a deli counter where you can buy specialty products. I don't know what all of them are, and I can't spell many of them, but I did recognize a great looking goat cheese round, some fine looking sausages, and large pieces of smoked beef, which I'm eager to try sometime.

WHAT TO DRINK: I drink water with the meal, and Turkish coffee afterwards. But you could try the yogurt "Kefir" if you want to stay authentic.

BOTTOM LINE: This is a transplanted "Yugoslavian" restaurant with a number of dishes that you can't find elsewhere. It's not for the gourmand, but it's for people with a healthy appetite for good solid food like grandma used to make in the old country.

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com

Bacon makes everything better — even chocolate?

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

SANTA CRUZ Here are three little words that might give the staunchest snacker pause: Chocolate-covered bacon.

It sounds so wrong. But it tastes just right, says Joseph Marini III, a fourth-generation candy maker who is selling the bacon bonbons at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk seaside amusement park.

"It's not just for breakfast any more," he says with a grin.

And this isn't just a wacky West Coast thing. This year, Famous Dave's at the Minnesota State Fair is rolling out Pig Lickers — dark chocolate-covered bacon pieces sprinkled with sea salt.

"It's just like the most bizarre combination," says fair spokeswoman Brienna Schuette. "I actually really liked it. It was a good combination of sweet and salty."

The urge to create new flavor profiles is a natural for a field driven by creativity, says Karen Page, co-author with Andrew Dornenburg of the forthcoming "The Flavor Bible," a sort of field guide to flavor pairings.

Chefs have two basic agents of change: using a different cooking method or mixing up flavors. So a classic such as tomatoes and basil might get turned into tomato sorbet with a basil sauce. Or you might find unorthodox couplings, such as salads of watermelon and feta or cotton candy with foie gras.

"There's a whole trend toward chefs pushing the boundaries," says Page. "Chefs are try-

ing to be more playful and incorporate new kinds of whimsy."

It's hard to tell exactly where the dream of candy-coated breakfast meats started, but for Marini, the inspiration was a trip with some ski buddies a while back.

"One guy came up with, 'Who doesn't love bacon? Who doesn't love chocolate? Let's marry them together.'"

So Marini gave it a shot and after some trial and error — crispness is key, he says, noting that chewy bacon plus chocolate is undelicious — he came up with a product.

"It was kind of a joke to begin with," he says. "We brought it down to the boardwalk and put it in a case just to see if people would react, and they reacted."

Take boardwalk visitor Nathan Lopez, who on a recent foggy morning had a quizzical look on his face as he began eating a sample at Marini's at the Beach. But he finished with a smile.

"Interesting combination," was the verdict. "I didn't think it would be very good but once I tried it, it was good."

Of course, chocolate-coated bacon is just the latest incarnation of the wackier-the-better fair food philosophy.

Fair food has been shaking up the snack scene for some time, says Ron Whiting, of Whiting's Foods, whose family has been selling food at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk for decades.

"Years ago, I think food tended to be more traditional and less fun," he says. Then came the corn dog and the era of quick and on-a-stick. "We all talk about the next corn dog," he says.

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Theater hopes award will help with funding

FROM THEATER PAGE 1

duction of "Mr. Popper's Penguins," and will soon begin preparation for the production of "If You Give a Moose a Muffin," which will be presented in October. During the week, Y.E.S. performs for classes on field trips, and on the weekend the shows are open to the public. The company puts on five plays a year.

Y.E.S. was created as an extension of the annual youth musical held at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. The program is different from many other children's theater companies in that its productions almost exclusively feature youth actors.

For 18-year-old Jessica Breslow, Y.E.S. provided the foundation to pursue a career in theater. She has worked with Y.E.S. since its inception in 2005 and has performed in Morgan-Wixson musicals since she was five years old. She graduated Crossroads School this year and is headed to New York University in September, where she will study theater. Although she performed in middle school and high school plays, she credits Y.E.S. with giving her the confidence and experience to pursue a career in the performing arts.

"We're treated like adults," she said. "The directors assume we can do what adults can do and as a result we are so much better ... I feel like I have a leg up on others who have just done high school shows."



THE DIRECTORS ASSUME WE CAN DO WHAT ADULTS CAN DO AND AS A RESULT WE ARE SO MUCH BETTER."

Jessica Breslow

Former Y.E.S. actor and choreographer

Breslow said that although rehearsal and performance schedules could be demanding, the staff is always aware of the unique schedules of the student actors.

"We have plenty of time to do homework before rehearsal," she said. "They tell us we need to keep our grades up, and that they have no problem pulling us if our parents call and complain that our grades are suffering."

There are specific challenges when it comes to working with a child cast and audience. For one, many of the younger actors haven't perfected the art of reading a script yet. Then there's the issue of getting elementary school classes to sit still throughout a production that runs over an hour. Y.E.S. circumvents these obstacles creatively, making sure to schedule intermissions and "stretch breaks" when needed.

"For 'Mr. Popper's Penguins' we had a stretch break where we taught the kids to walk like penguins," Gesling said.

The marriage of art and education is a

theme that runs throughout Y.E.S., and one of the aspects of the program that caught the attention of local educators. Tom Whaley, the Visual and Performing Arts coordinator for the school district, heard of the program early on and became an instant fan when he saw a production of "The Hundred Dresses."

"I was blown away," he said. "I just loved the energy and the attention to detail. And they do it all on a shoestring budget."

When Whaley heard of the annual award given by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education for a new theater company that serves young audiences, he jumped on the chance to recommend Y.E.S.

"It's rare that you see such a seamless blending of professionals coming in, elementary kids coming in and teachers being exposed," he said. "The kids understand it because they feel it."

The cooperation between Y.E.S. and the schools stood out in the minds of the selection committee members of the alliance.

"We were impressed with the willingness of the theater to listen and respond to needs of the school system," said Rachel Briley, a member of the awards committee. "There's a constant debate in our field of art versus education, with people afraid that if you start pandering to the educational side of things, the art will suffer. But this company has both, and that's a tough road to hoe."

Gesling accepted the award at the alliance's national conference in Atlanta, and Y.E.S. announced the award to the public in a surprise ceremony after a performance of "Mr. Popper's Penguins" last month.

"Everyone was so proud," said Breslow, who attended the ceremony. "Everyone's put so much into Y.E.S. and we've seen it blossom into more than we've expected."

Both Gesling and Whaley expressed hope that the recognition Y.E.S. received will encourage more funding for the small company. Y.E.S. currently receives some funding from the Santa Monica Arts Council, and is researching and applying for other grants.

All of the Y.E.S. staff, cast and crew work on a voluntary basis. The plays' directors receive a small stipend which Gesling describes as "barely gas money in this day in age."

"This is truly a labor of love," she said.

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Road rage could be a matter of misunderstanding

FROM ROADS PAGE 1

cases of road rage on a personal basis, they believe there could be more overall as more people ride bikes.

The issue earned even more publicity following an incident in Brentwood last month when a former ER physician allegedly abruptly stopped his car in front of bicyclists on Mandeville Canyon Road, causing one cyclist to crash through the rear window, nearly severing his nose off.

Another cyclist suffered a shoulder separation after crashing on the pavement.

Christopher Thomas Thompson, who lives on Mandeville Canyon Road, has since been charged with two felony counts of reckless driving.

Road rage is common in urban areas like Los Angeles where drivers and cyclists compete for tight space, according to Jennifer Klausner, the executive director for the L.A. County Bicycle Coalition.

"Any time you put people in a position where they're going to share some limited but valuable real estate, you're going to have conflict," Klausner said. "It's an old problem that's common to all cities."

The coalition, which advocates for cycling, is creating a campaign for cyclists and drivers to coexist.

Cycling has particularly been a hot topic recently in Santa Monica, home to the famous Critical Mass monthly rides, which brings together several hundred riders, celebrating the joys of bicycling.

The rides have been contentious in the

past year as a number of riders have been ticketed by Santa Monica Police officers for infractions, cyclists arguing that they are unfairly being targeted by law enforcement for minor-to-non violations, the SMPD refuting the claim, contending that they are out for the cyclists' well-being.

Sgt. Larry Horn, who heads the traffic services division, said he received calls from drivers threatening that if officers didn't monitor the ride, they would take matters into their own hands.

The cause for road rage could be a little bit of misunderstanding of the state's vehicle code, a little bit of entitlement on the parts of both parties, and a lot of impatience in a city where congestion is a sensitive matter.

The vehicle code states that bicyclists on public streets have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers, though they must ride in a straight line and closest to the right curb or edge of the roadway, not the sidewalk. Cyclists also must stop at traffic signals and stop signs, making left and right turns in the same manner as motor vehicles.

Cyclists can take over the lane when necessary.

"A lot of motorists just aren't aware," Klausner said. "Of course the conflict arises not just from a lack of awareness, but from people being mean to each other and showing an extreme lack of manners."

All users of the road are fighting for the same piece of real estate, which could also lead to the butting of heads.

"It's not just the cyclist and not just the driver," Horn said. "Everyone thinks they are entitled to the right of way."

Brigitte Kouba, a cyclist who lives in Santa Monica Canyon, agrees the problem is rooted in both ignorance and ego, both parties feeling the road belongs to them.

"When you have bull-headed individuals either behind the wheel or behind the handle bar, there's going to be outrage on either side," she said.

Kouba said she tries to take a zen and peace-loving approach to the situation, avoiding rather than further antagonizing drivers who are clearly enraged.

But cyclists point out that regardless of who is at fault, there is one major difference separating the two motorists — one has a large protective barrier, the other doesn't.

"The key difference is when a cyclist runs into a car, they don't kill the driver," Alex Thompson, a local bike activist and organizer of Critical Mass, said. "When a driver runs into a cyclist, they are going to injure, and there is a good chance they will kill them."

Thompson said that cyclists encounter road rage on a daily basis.

He recalled a conflict in Westwood that boiled over when a driver nudged his bicycle, getting out of the car and grabbing the bike, lifting it in anger.

Some drivers argue that bicyclists can be aggressive and don't follow traffic laws.

"Bikers are everywhere, and the worst part is that they don't care if they are completely blocking the lane," Nick Rosser, a

17-year-old from the Pacific Palisades, said. "There are bike riders in the Palisades, but they are definitely more numerous, and way more aggressive, in Santa Monica."

Kent Strumpell, a board member with the L.A. County Bicycle Coalition, agreed that there are a minority of cyclists who make questionable maneuvers, including flying off sidewalks at intersections and taking dangerous shortcuts around traffic.

"A lot of cyclists seem to ride using the same set of skills they used when they were 10 or 11 years old," Strumpell said. "Only now they are riding in heavy traffic all over the city."

"It's a lack of understanding of the rules that apply to them."

The argument has been made that more bike lanes could solve the problem, but Thompson said the situation is more complicated.

"A bicycle lane is an oblique attack on this," he said.

Thompson, who calls the conflict one of the biggest issues facing cyclists in the L.A. area, said there needs to be a change in mindset, done through more motorist education.

He suggested advertising campaigns and a public sting operation by police officers dressed as a plainclothes cyclist, busting drivers who endanger them.

"Publicizing it will make a huge world of difference," he said.

Stephanie Taft contributed to this report

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BIG NIGHT: Two dozen Santa Monica High School students who completed the first summer of the Young Collegians program were honored in a ceremony at Santa Monica College. The Young Collegians program, part of a collaboration between the college and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, allows high school students to obtain their diploma while simultaneously receiving college credits. Students who successfully complete the four-year program should graduate from Samohi with three semesters worth of college under their belts.

Program allows local high school students to accrue college credits

FROM COLLEGE PAGE 3

parents.

The program targets student populations which have traditionally been underrepresented in higher education.

The students spent roughly six weeks taking two courses — interpersonal communication and counseling — at SMC, accounting for a total of four units. The three units from the communication class is transferable to the University of California and California State University.

“We hope you learned, grew and commit yourselves to higher education,” Oscar de la Torre, the Board of Education president, said.

De la Torre reminded the students that in earning a bachelor's degree or higher, they are not just doing it for themselves, but for their families.

“You have the opportunity to do something good for your community,” he said.

Tiana Randall-Quant recalled the nervous feeling she had the day before classes commenced in June, curious about what awaited in her first college experience.

To her surprise, the course subject wasn't difficult, though it did require a little bit more time and commitment to succeed.

“Now I have a taste of college,” Randall-Quant said. “I feel I'll be better prepared when I get into college.”

Students said the course not only gave them a preview of college, but also taught them skills they could apply to high school, including proper studying habits.

Karishma Lopez' perception of higher ed was different from her experience, having always heard stories from older friends of how they were often stressed out preparing for mid-term and final exams.

The Samohi student, who wants to attend Loyola Marymount University to study for a career in medicine, said she found the course work to be rather approachable.

The program included campus visits to area universities, including UCLA and USC, which Randall-Quant said she wants to attend for its theater arts program.

She described the experience in college as different from high school, some positive, some negative.

One positive change is the scheduling flexibility, Randall-Quant said, leaving her with more time between classes.

“This is a summer I definitely am not going to forget,” she said.

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Santa Monica Civic Auditorium 50th Birthday Party

Saturday, August 9th

walk in the footsteps of music & film legends
as you go behind the scenes at the Civic Auditorium

check out cool rock & surf memorabilia
enjoy free food, music and dancing

bring a lawn chair for a free outdoor screening of *The Endless Summer*,
with an special introduction by filmmaker Bruce Brown

Time: Party @ 6 pm, Film @ 8 pm
Where: Santa Monica Civic Auditorium,
1855 Main Street
Cost: Free food, film, fun and parking
Why: To thank the community for its
years of support



Image courtesy of Bruce Brown Films, LLC



Photo courtesy Unclaimed Freight Productions

FINE WINE: Alan Rickman plays Steven Spurrier, a British wine connoisseur, in 'Bottle Shock.'

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'Bottle Shock' good to the very last drop

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE

Writer/director Randall Miller's "Bottle Shock" opens with sweeping vistas and panoramic views gently gliding over golden sunlit dappled vineyards cultivated with ripe purple grapes that appear to be bursting with flavor.

Ah it's, Napa Valley, Calif., and the time is 1976; when a groundbreaking competition occurred that forever changed the world's perception of California wines. This is the story of that event, its real-life heroes of vinticulture and a defining moment in history — or as I like to say, "when California kicked some French butt."

Bill Pullman and Chris Pine play father and son vintners, Jim and Bo Barrett. Jim's a hard working, do-things-by-the-book kind of guy who has invested everything in his winery Chateau Montelena. His son Bo is a free-spirited, pot-smoking rebel who gives little thought to his future save for the next Grateful Dead concert. Despite their differences the two share a dream of producing a great chardonnay.

Meanwhile, across the pond, British wine connoisseur Steven Spurrier (Alan Rickman) owns a flailing Paris wine shop and is having trouble getting into A-list soirees. Don't miss a hilarious scene in which Rickman, edges his way into a prestigious wine tasting only to be summarily shuttled to a corner table where he gets jostled repeatedly as kitchen staff make their way through a nearby door. To garner interest and respect from French oenologists, Spurrier concocts a publicity stunt — to bring California wines to the French community in a blind taste test. Rickman said, "The real Spurrier, now a hugely respected wine educator in Europe, thought for sure the French wines would win." But this event which yielded unexpected results, said, Jody Savin, the film's producer/co-writer, "also, in personal and narrative way, changed the lives of Jim and Bo Barrett."

Based on true events, the story's denoue-

ment is evident from the get go, but knowing this doesn't take away from the film's captivating and inspiring spirit about the real life champions of the California wine trade. There's a little bit of something in it for everyone — romance, triumph over adversity and a heck of a lot of heart.

Rickman steals the show — he is the epitome of British snobbery, blatantly patronizing the residents of Napa as he searches for bottles of wine worthy of the upcoming event, quoting, "Wine is sunlight held together by water — the poetic wisdom of Italian physicist and stargazer Galileo Galilei." One of the film's great lines, and one Savin (at the request of her husband/director Miller), culled together on the last day of Rickman's shooting schedule.

Freddy Rodriguez as Gustavo Brambila delivers a phenomenal performance. The entire cast is terrific, but someone to watch closely is Rachael Taylor; she is a real treasure on screen. And you know me, folks, I'm all about the boys, but this down to earth Tasmanian native (who nailed her American accent perfectly by the way) imbues her character Sam with intelligence, charm and just the right amount of joie de vivre. Sam doesn't immediately go for the "obvious hot guy" because she has the sense to realize that he's a bit of a ne'er-do-well (oh don't we all wish we had this presence of mind when it comes to love?). Ironically by withholding her affections she becomes the catalyst for Bo's eventual catharsis.

As a wine aficionado I sampled the (\$125 a bottle) Chateau Montelena cabernet; a supreme delight for the taste buds to be sure, but the film "Bottle Shock" is also a sumptuous treat for the visual palette, every bit as good as the wine from which this story is inspired. See it; you'll leave the theatre satisfied.

Taylor Van Arsdale is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com



West Dressed

Mariel Howsepian

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Back to school can be fashionable

THE NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION predicts that, this summer, Americans will spend \$20 billion back-to-school shopping. That's loose change compared to the \$470 billion dollars NRF estimates we'll spend this Christmas.

But back to school is big business. It's our second biggest shopping season, followed closely by Valentine's Day at \$17 billion. The average American family will spend \$594.24 on children's clothes, and essential supplies like holographic rulers, scented erasers, and turtle-shaped pencil sharpeners.

This year, one out of five families set aside a portion of their economic stimulus check for school shopping. New backpacks. New shoes.

In middle school, my Miley-Cyrus-equivalent was a combination of Mayim Bialik in "Blossom," and Melissa Joan Hart in the Nickelodeon series "Clarissa Explains It All." They wore funky hats with silk sunflowers, black leather motorcycle jackets, skirts made of men's neckties, jean shorts over polka dotted tights, vests, Doc Martens, and dangly earrings. They were mavericks.

Between seventh and eighth grade, my family moved. I got the chance to reinvent myself. I hot-glued a fake flower to a hat, bought black plastic Doc Martens knock-



File photo

BIG COST: The average American family will spend \$594.24 on back-to-school shopping.

offs from Payless, and begged for a multi-colored sweater made of crocheted flowers. Though I was blatantly copying Blossom and Clarissa, I came off as a nonconformist among my conservatively dressed peers.

Now, you can't turn on the television without seeing the J.C. Penney commercial modeled after "The Breakfast Club," or the Target commercial in which kids run backwards down a school hallway. Sears' school shopping slogan: Don't just

go back — arrive.

I teach sixth grade, so these commercials are torture. I don't want my staycation to end. I know it can't go on forever, but the commercials are like straight pins to my happy-go-lucky bubble. I, too, will have to go back-to-school shopping.

Sometimes I hear people talking about how the American public school calendar is antiquated, modeled after days when kids helped out on family farms. There's

THE TOP 10 TRENDS FOR FALL FASHION

1. Plaid. A word of warning: To avoid looking too "... Baby One More Time," steer clear of schoolgirl skirts.
2. Fur. OK, now I know it's not politically correct to put fur on a top 10 list, but don't splash red paint on the messenger. While Dior went with a typical mink collar to accent their wool silk jacquard jacket with Lucite beading, and Louis Vuitton went with fox for their sleeveless jacket, Gucci made a jacket out of coyote and Muks Ltd. made a vest out of raccoon.
3. I can't help but think of the Simpson's episode in which Mr. Burns sings (to the tune of "Be My Guest" from Disney's "Beauty and the Beast"), "See my vest, see my vest, made from real gorilla chest. Feel this sweater, there's no better / than authentic Irish Setter... Like my loafers, former gophers, it was that / or skin my chauffeurs."
4. Personally, I'm holding out for Prada possum.
5. Sequins.
6. Pointy-toe pumps in patent leather. Ankle straps are also back, but don't buy in to the trend if you're short.
7. Architectural shapes
8. Chunky necklaces.
9. Colorful purses. The "It" bag right now has top handles and big front pockets.
10. Purple. Pucci, Halston, Michael Kors, and Christian Dior all included purple pieces in their fall collections. For an inexpensive pop of purple, try an eyeliner in lilac.
11. Lace. Shirts, skirts, boots, and bags — lace is everywhere. A metal cuff by Chanel will cost you \$1,950, but a bracelet-sized piece of gold lace trim will cost you less than \$4 at a fabric store.
12. Florals. Look for prints in bold colors that bleed into each other like watercolors.

no need for long summer vacations.

Ah, but there is. It's called "a consumer-based economy."

MARIEL HOWSEPIAN digs black coffee, fairy tales and a man in coveralls. She lives in Santa Monica and can be reached at Mariel_Rodriguez@antiochia.edu.

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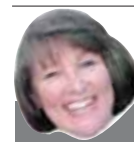
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dysfunctional family lives happily ever after

THE MOTHER IS IN A WHEELCHAIR, HER emotions and spirit as withered as her legs. The victim of her unceasing abuse is her son, a bewildered, eager-to-please young man who will soon be going to college – but not to the movies, as his mother perversely refuses him the use of her car.

“Seeing a movie by yourself is embarrassing!” she tells him. The father, not surprisingly, has already left the family.

The relationships between this angry and dysfunctional threesome form the plot line for David Marshall Grant’s play, “Pen,” now having its west coast premiere at Theatre 40 in Beverly Hills, under the superb direction of Jeff G. Rack.

The setting is New York City in the last months of 1969, a time whose turbulent events and distinctive music are established as the play begins with actual sound bites from radio and television broadcasts of the period.

As the play opens, the mother, Helen, played with bitter passion by Jill Remez, is nagging her son, obsessing over the loss of a special NASA-designed, zero-gravity pen that allows her to write while lying down.

Her son Matt (excellently played by 17-year-old Dennis Bendersky) yoyos between sympathetic concern and passive-aggressive rebellion: when he finds the pen, he stealthily pockets it and

allows her to go on obsessing.

One of the bones of contention between this mother and son is that she is insisting that he apply to a university on Long Island, so that he will remain close by.

His father, on the other hand, is pressuring him to apply to USC, his own alma mater, and is not very subtly bribing him with the promise of a brand new car.

The father, Jerry, (Robert Mackenzie) is a different kind of nag: jovial and seemingly affable, he can squeeze his tormented son as effectively as Helen can.

Matt eventually holds his own, however, in a scene where he finally erupts in a shouting match with his mother, (“You make everything seem impossible,” he roars), and the major theme of the play is then explored more thoroughly. Namely, how do our connections with the people we love affect us, both emotionally and physically? Can we become so close to our loved ones that we absorb their negative energy? And how do we break those bonds so that we can get on with our own life?

In the end, though, playwright Grant supplies metaphysical answers which, to some extent, begs the questions and derails the play.

Further, the subsequent 180 degree

SEE PLAY TIME PAGE 18

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



‘A Touch of Grace’

Lauraine Snelling • Bethany House Publishers

LIFE ON THE FRONTIER IN 1902 WASN’T easy, especially if you were a farmer. There was the dreaded hoof and mouth disease that could wipe out your livestock. There was the weather that could hinder your planting. It is this time period that this work explores.

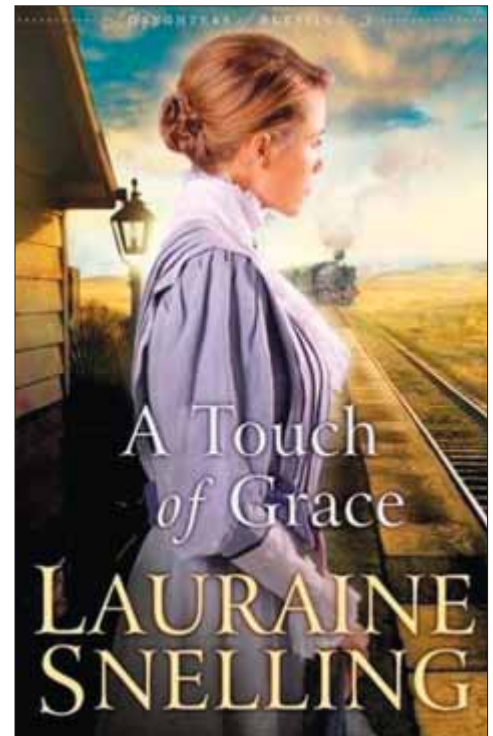
This story becomes a love story between Grace and Jonathan, even though Grace thinks she is in love with Toby, a young gentleman she grew up with. Grace is a deaf 18 year old who has learned to sign and to read lips. This is how she has survived in a world of sound. Jonathan is a rich kid who has been sent to spend time on a farm in North Dakota in order to grow up. This is where he meets Grace and the family. He is concerned for her and he joins her world by learning how to sign a bit.

Jonathan is spending his summer with the Knutson family. He had been there before.

“That had been a brief visit for the graduation before heading to San Francisco, where his father had a business meeting. This time he was here for the summer to find out what manual labor was like.”

He finds farming interesting him more than business. How is he going to convince his father to allow him to study farming and not business?

The story is told in multiple viewpoints: The viewpoints are these: Jonathan Gould, Grace “he had not remembered



that Grace was deaf until she spoke. Though he had to listen carefully to understand her, her tonal speech had a softness to it.”; and Ingeborg, the mother, “He knew that Mrs. Knutson ran the school for the deaf.”

It moves along in three parts. Part one is concerning Jonathan, a young gentleman from a rich New England fam-

SEE BOOK REVIEW PAGE 18

Santa Monica Daily Press

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS

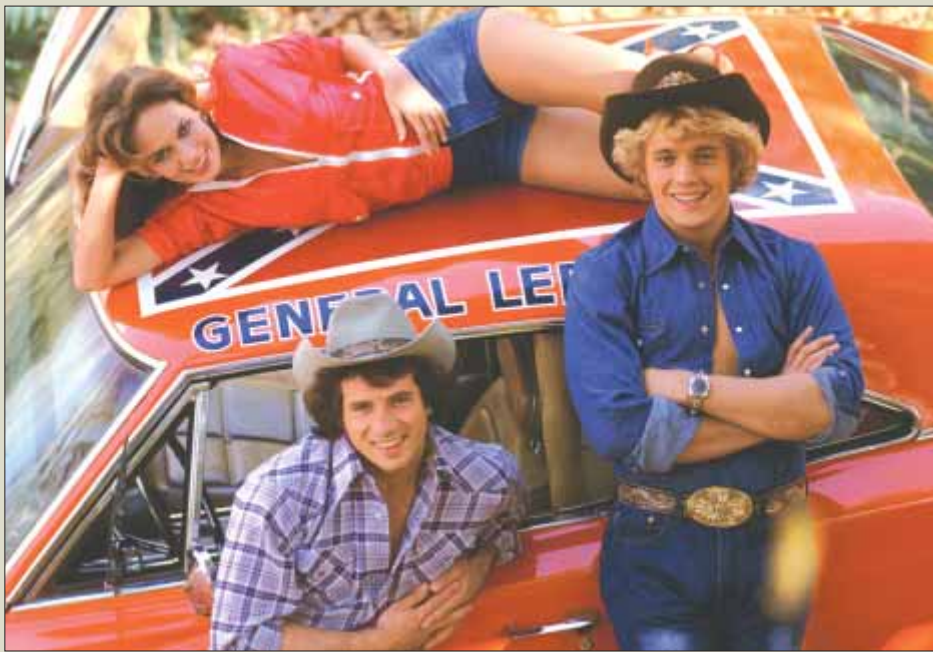


Photo courtesy Warner Bros

'The Dukes of Hazzard' TV Double Feature

Following up on the recent feature film remake, all seven of its seasons released on DVD, comes this "what happened next" set that includes two full length made-for-TV films, *Dukes of Hazzard: Reunion* and *Hazzard in Hollywood*. The exploits of good 'ol boys Bo Duke (John Schneider) and Luke Duke (Tom Wopat) originally aired on CBS from 1979-1985. A crooked developer (Stella Stevens) is out to turn Hazzard Swamp into a theme park and selling musical recordings in order to raise money to build a new hospital in Hazzard County are the themes behind the movies that originally aired in 1997 and 2000 respectively. (Warner Bros)

'The Sword in the Stone' 45th Anniversary Edition

In London during medieval times there was a large stone with a heavy sword imbedded in it. The man who could pull the sword from the stone would become king of England, but no man despite his strength was able to complete the deed. This classic Disney feature based on the children's book by T.H. White tells the story of Wart a young boy in medieval England who runs into the eccentric wizard Merlin. The sorcerer decides to give the boy an education and in the process the two have a series of magical adventures. Will Wart be the one to become king? Extras include a segment on the film's music, some bonus movie shorts, and Merlin's Magical Academy Game. (Disney)

'Cheers' Season 9

It is that cosy little Boston bar where everybody knows your name. Will wedding bells chime for Rebecca? (Kirstie Alley). How does Woody (Woody Harrelson) get so hooked on home shopping shows? Norm (George Wendt) and Cliff (John Ratzenberger) look into a fight between Sam (Ted Danson) and Frasier (Kelsey Grammer). The brilliant writing is reflected in all 26 episodes spread out over five discs and will keep the laughs coming. (CBS)

'DNA' Complete Series One and Two

Tom Conti ("Reuben, Reuben") stars in this British "CSI"-style program portraying Joe Donovan, an accomplished but troubled criminologist. Looking for redemption from a mental breakdown that cost him his job, Donovan returns to consult with Manchester's crack Forensic Investigations Unit on a murder case that suspiciously resembles the one that drove him into near madness. (Acorn Media)

'Army Wives' The Complete First Season

From the producers of "Grey's Anatomy" comes this drama about five military spouses on a South Carolina base who share friendship, secrets, home and heartache. Package includes thirteen episodes with extra materials like deleted scenes, outtakes, cast interviews, and a look at the making of the series. *Army Wives* stars Kim Delaney ("NYPD Blue"), Catherine Bell ("JAG") and Brian McNamara ("The OC"). (ABC/Lifetime)

'King'

Forty years after his assassination comes this stirring new look at Dr. Martin Luther King, a pivotal leader in the civil rights movement and an iconic symbol for change. This feature length chronicle of King brings the relevancy of his message to today's world primarily through candid interviews with such public and private figures as former President Bill Clinton, Andrew Young, Bono, Condoleezza Rice, and Martin Luther King III. "I have a dream." (A&E)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at writtenbyrw@yahoo.com.

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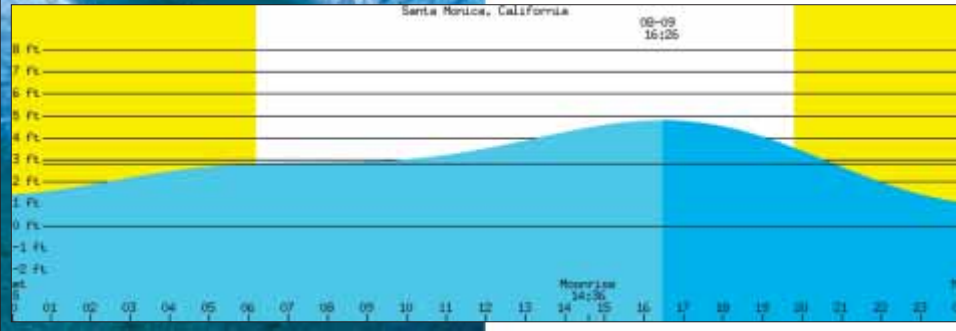


SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 67°-72°

SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)
The 9th looks about the same as today: waist high for south facing breaks, knee high for west facing spots, tide moderate throughout much of the day, winds light in the early AM, picking up midmorning onshore, then 15+ mph by noon or early afternoon. Sunday the 10th the light flow of weak southern hemi remains in play, and some southerly energy from Hernan (180 with 12-second periods) should come ashore.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
WEDNESDAY THE 13TH COULD SEE MORE WIND SWELL ...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **August 5, 2008**

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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 -- 0
	Number of wet days -- 0
	Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 50
	Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 50

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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 Cleanup and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Canillo Beach, at Arroyo Sogit Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Del 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 Luchessa and Las Alitas creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A+	ns
Escorial Canyon at El Morador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantreaga)	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas 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	D	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kanter storm drain	A	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	B	ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Selkirk Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	C	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Sunridge Beach at Malibu Colony fences	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A	ns
Sunridge Beach (beach location) - daily	A	ns	Venice Beach - projection of Tappan St.	C	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballina Creek mouth	B	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain	B	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pine Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Dockweiler Beach - opposite Hyperline Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17260 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.

Heal the Bay

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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.

Touching on frontier life

FROM BOOK REVIEW PAGE 16

ily, and his work on the farm. Also we see Grace's interest in Toby. But Toby is interested in someone else. Section two begins when the dreaded hoof and mouth disease strikes and almost destroys the local economy. Section three commences when Grace journeys to New York and attends school at an academy for the deaf where she becomes a teacher.

The theme of this book is dreams. Grace dreams of being useful. Ingeborg dreams of starting a school for the deaf in her community. Jonathan has the dream of becoming a farmer and marrying Grace.

While this is going on, Jonathan falls in love with her and wants to marry her. According to the proper custom of the day he asks for permission to take her

hand in marriage. Yet he must wait until they both finish their education.

In case you get lost the Bjorlund Family Tree is located before the first chapter.

This is the third book in "The Daughters of Blessing" series. It is set back in the area of Blessing, N.D. in 1902. Lauraine Snelling has written over 50 books, both fiction and nonfiction. She is a writers' conference teacher, who has had a number of articles published. She and her husband have two grown sons and a basset hound named Chewy. The two have their home base in California.

I hope you find reading fun. I do. And so relaxing. You meet so many new people and time periods when you read. You can contact me at smdp_review@uahoo.com. I will be waiting to hear from you.

Resolutions just don't ring true in 'Pen'

FROM PLAY TIME PAGE 16

change in Helen's character is inexplicable, unlikely, and unconvincing. So in the end we are left disappointed and dissatisfied because the playwright has supplied resolutions that just don't ring true.

"Pen" will continue at Theatre 40, alternating in repertory with Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers," Monday through Friday

at 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., through Aug. 31. Theatre 40 is located in The Reuben Cordova Theatre on the campus of Beverly Hills High School, 241 S. Moreno Dr., in Beverly Hills. Call (310) 364-0535 for the performance schedule and reservations.

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5-DAY CAMP WILL BE HELD AUGUST 18-22 AT PAULEY PAVILION

CAMPERS AGES 8-16

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MOVIE TIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Ave. (323) 466-FILM The Dirty Dozen (1967) (NR) 2hrs 30min 7:30 Emperor of the North Pole (PG) 1hr 58min 7:30 AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third Street Promenade The X-Files: I Want to Believe (PG-13) 11:15am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35 Hancock (PG-13) 1hr 32min 11:00am, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:20, 10:45 The Wackness (R) 1hr 35min 11:45am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05 Transsiberian (R) 1hr 51min 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40 AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262 WALL-E (G) 1hr 37min	11:30am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30 Step Brothers (R) 1hr 35min 11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20 Journey to the Center of the Earth - 3-D (PG) 1hr 32min 11:40am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45 Swing Vote (PG-13) 11:10am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30 Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, The (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:45am, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45 Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2, The (PG-13) 1hr 57min 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10 LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741 Elegy (R) 1hr 48min 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Beauty in Trouble (Kraska v nes-nazich) (NR) 1hr 50min 11:00am The Grocer's Son (Le fils de l'épicier) (NR) 1hr 39min 11:00am Live and Become (Va, vis et	deviens) (NR) 2hrs 22min 11:00am Bottle Shock (PG-13) 1hr 50min 11:00am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55 Brideshead Revisited (PG-13) 1hr 40min 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 Tell No One (Ne le dis a personne) (NR) 2hrs 05min 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15 MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min 10:30am, 11:30am, 1:40, 3:00, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:00 The Pineapple Express (R) 1hr 45min 10:50am, 11:50am, 1:30, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30, 12:30am Hell Ride (R) 1hr 23min 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20, 12:20am Mamma Mia! (PG-13) 1hr 48min 11:10am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:10
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For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Fun seems to happen, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ A surprise insight draws a strong reaction. Emphasize daily living and your long-term goals. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like. Actions do count. Do not push the line. Tonight: Follow the music.	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Speak your mind, yet be careful of taking any wild risks that could jeopardize your financial security. You might be inclined to overdo and be naughty. The end result might not be very good. Tonight: Fun seems to happen.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Defer to others, and you might be surprised by what comes up. You might not be able to complete a situation or get it resolved to your liking. Someone very important is hard to please; just hang in there. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.	SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Use the daylight hours to forge ahead on a trip or a key happening. What would be wrong is to do nothing with life's opportunities right now. Others prove to enjoy your company and want to be with you. Tonight: Hanging out is fun.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Actions count, especially in a relationship. You could be overwhelmed by what you hear or what goes on. A parent or someone you need on your team could act in a most unexpected manner. Tonight: Let your hair down.	SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ Complete any important tasks early in the day. How you deal with someone could change as a result of new insights. Do not step back if you do not need to. Nap, and you'll discover that you feel much better. Tonight: The world is your oyster.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter more carefully. Discussion and brainstorming draw a wild reaction. Realize your limits, and you'll grow to a new level. You are full of energy, enthusiasm and questions. Tonight: How about a dinner party?	CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Use the daylight hours to complete all important tasks. You might be acting as if there is no tomorrow. Wrong, if looking at work. Right, if looking at living. Learn to live each moment to the fullest. Tonight: Alone, if not with that special person.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ A partner could add to your frayed case of nerves, or you could decide this person is exquisitely exciting. You choose the perspective, and that determines your attitude. You discover the true meaning of teamwork. Tonight: Be a duo.	AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Expect others to "want" you to take the lead. Whether you do or not is your call. You will, by evening, not be in the mood for much else besides taking down your hair and painting the town red. Tonight: Give up trying to orchestrate events. Let it all just happen.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You choose the words, and the words determine how others respond, more frequently than naught. In the game of life, you come out a winner if you work on communication. Tonight: Visit, chat, flirt and keep all the emotional valves open.	PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ If you want to follow your "escape" routine or take off, you must do it early on. The longer you take, the less likely you will be able to go off on an adventure. Others really seem to want and need you. Take care of yourself first. Tonight: A force to behold.

Happy birthday

Investigate options, even if you want to say "no." When you see the whole situation, question or issue reveal itself, you might change your mind. Give yourself the space to do just that. You can be extremely creative in handling problems when you open up to the process. In the first half of the year, you might be more concerned about your domestic/personal life. In the second half of the year, romance blossoms, even for those who are attached. You might feel like you did when you first fell in love. Single Lions could discover their life mates. In either case, romance sizzles. SAGITTARIUS could be challenging.

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 ★★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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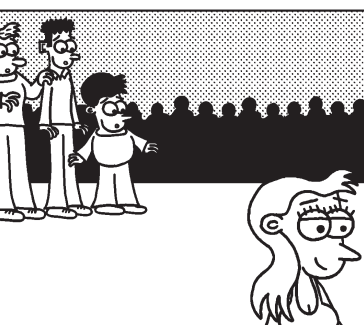


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EVENT #6...



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MAY I BUY YOU A DRINK?

WANNA DANCE?!

CAN I GET YOUR NUMBER?

WHEOOOSH!

YOU KNOW WHAT MY FAVORITE PART ABOUT GOING TO THE BEACH IS?

No

No

BINGO!

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C'MON, DAD, YOU
PROMISED WE'D STOP
TO MAKE CROP
CIRCLES!

**SLOW DOWN, ZOK.
YOU'RE GOING TO
HIT THAT ASTEROID!**

THIS IS THE LAST
TIME I TAKE THE
FAMILY ON AN
ALIEN INVASION

I'M BACK FROM THE STORE!

JPM DAVIS 8-9

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SKLISH
SKLISH
SKLISH
SKLISH
SKLISH
SKLISH

WE HAVE DECIDED
TO FORGIVE YOUR DEBT.

8/4

THINK OF IT AS A GESTURE
OF GOOD WILL.

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THE SPRAYERS IN THE PRODUCE
AISLE GOT ME AGAIN

IN THE RIGHT
LIGHT, YOU DO
RESEMBLE A
GIANT BRUSSELS
SPROUT

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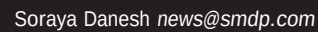
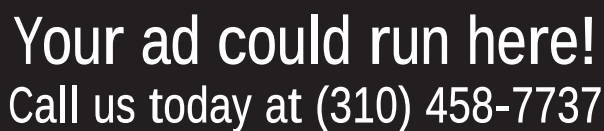
9/9

WE HAVE DECIDED TO FORGIVE YOUR DEBT.

THINK OF IT AS A GESTURE OF GOOD WILL.

AND OUR WAY OF WELCOMING YOUR NEW FRIEND TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD. STOP WAVING, LOUIE.

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

The study of flags.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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500-0263

Notices

CLARE Foundation, Inc.
Notice of Inviting Bids

Notice is hereby given that the CLARE
Foundation, Inc. invites licensed Gen-
eral Contractors to submit sealed bids
for the Remodeling of the Sober Inn Pro-
ject and Detox Primary Facility, located
at 901-905 and 907-909 Pico Boule-
vard, Santa Monica, California.

Bids shall be delivered to Ralph Mechur
Architects, 3400 Airport Boulevard,
Suite #5, Santa Monica, California, no
later than 12:00 pm on Wednesday,
September 9, 2008. Bids will be opened
and read aloud after 12:00 pm on this
date.

Plans and specifications can be pur-
chased from Ford Graphics PlanWell as
follows:

www.fordgraphics.com
Project Number: FGLA_905 PICO
Password: 905

and

www.fordgraphics.com
Project Number: FGLA_907 PICO
Password: 907

Contractors shall be required to submit
two separate bids for the two projects.
One contractor will be selected to un-
dertake both contracts, with the work to
be undertaken simultaneously.

The CLARE Foundation's Sober Inn Pro-
ject and Detoxification Primary Facility
consists of two adjacent buildings.
901-905 is a one story building built in
1933. 907-909 Pico Boulevard is a
6,700 square foot, two story building
built in 1960. The proposed work con-
sists primarily of interior remodeling of
offices, bathrooms, dormitories, dining
areas and common areas. The total
value of the work for the two projects is
estimated to be at least \$1,000,000

This project is funded through the State
of California Department of Housing
and Community Development's Emer-
gency Housing Assistance
Program/Capital Development Compo-
nent. The state requires that the con-
struction work shall be subject to pay-
ment of State Prevailing Wages in com-
pliance with State Prevailing Wage LAW,
Labor Coded 1720 et Seq.

CONTRACTORS WILL be required to pro-
vide a bid bond and if selected, provide
100% performance and payment bond
for each project, and provide evidence
of insurance including at least 1 million
comprehensive General Liability Insur-
ance and Worker's Compensation

Notices

All bidders will be required to certify
that they are not on the federal Consoli-
dated List of Debarred, Suspended and
Ineligible Contractors. (Complete at-
tached certification) The Contract docu-
ments required to accompany all bids
(Item I, Bid Form) shall be in an enve-
lope which shall be clearly labeled with
the words "Contract Bid Documents,"
and show the project identifications,
name of bidder, and date and time of
opening.

The bidder shall submit two detailed
cost breakdowns, separating materials
and labor, with the bid. This breakdown,
upon approval by the sponsor, shall be-
come part of the Contract documents
(Item VI, Work Plan).

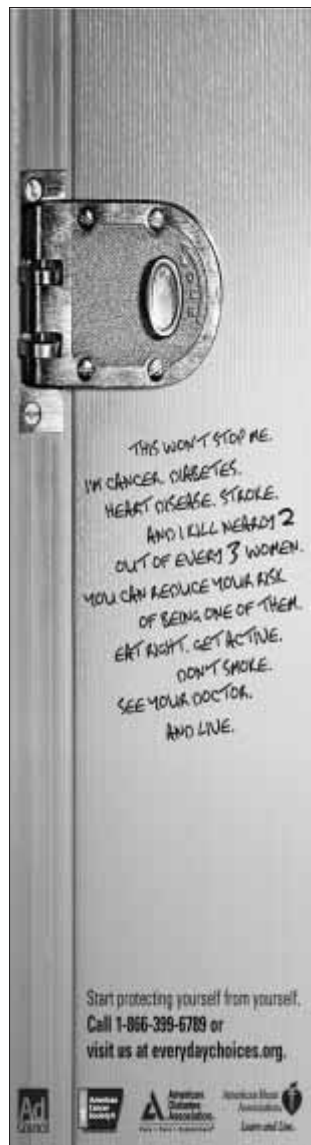
The successful bidder will be required
to comply with all nondiscrimination
laws and regulations pursuant to the
provisions of Section 8.08 of Item VIII,
General Conditions.

The Sponsor reserves the right to utilize
a joint control firm for the purposes of
valuing the work done or disbursement
of payments or both.

The sponsor reserves the right to post-
pone, accept, or reject any and all bids
as the sponsor deems in its own best
interest, subject to the terms and provi-
sions of the Contract documents.

A mandatory walk-through-inspection
of the site has been scheduled on
Wednesday, August 13, 2008 at 11:00
am at the CLARE Foundation Admin-
istration Building located at 909 Pico
Blvd., Santa Monica, California. Or more
information, please contact Ralph
Mechur at
Ralph@rmechurarchitects.com. Archi-
tect requests only written inquiries at
this time.

Date: August 7, 2008
CLARE Foundation, Inc.



My name is Peter,
and in eight years I'll be an alcoholic.

I'll start drinking in middle school, just at parties.
But my parents won't start talking to me about it until
high school. And by then, I'll already be in some trouble.
The thing is, my parents won't even see it coming.

START TALKING BEFORE THEY START DRINKING

Kids who drink before age 15 are 5 times more likely to have alcohol problems when they're adults.

To learn more, go to www.stopalcoholabuse.gov or call 1.800.729.6686



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov



Santa Monica Daily Press

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

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785 Linda Flora Drive
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~~Price Reduced!~~

Open Sunday, August 10th
2:00 - 5:00 pm
1135 Berkeley Street
~~Price Reduced!~~ \$1,899,000
Two Story Traditional 5 + 3 Home
w/ Large Backyard

~~New Listing!~~



- 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
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

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