



KEEPING SECRETS
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE CAN WE TALK ISSUE

Veterans in need get boost

Westside buildings earmarked for various homeless services

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

WEST LOS ANGELES Three years of cries and demands from local and federal officials to find space on the West LA Veterans Affairs campus to house homeless services

has finally netted results.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson announced Tuesday that three vacant buildings on the sprawling West LA campus would be designated to strictly serve the county's 15,000 homeless veteran population, which could include medical services and housing.

The announcement late Tuesday was skimpy on the details, instead focusing more on other changes in store for the West LA center, including a regional office and a place to store ashes of the dead. The secretary also announced that

the conclusion of a site review process to upgrade health care facilities at the VA will be presented next month.

The people who advocated for years for the designation of the three buildings are celebrating this week, recalling the day three years when they first brought it to the secretary's attention that the empty facilities needed to be used for homeless veteran services.

"I'm elated," said Bobby Shriver, who in the beginning

SEE VETS PAGE 15



STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

A member of the Santa Monica Fire Department ascends the 95-foot extension of a department ladder truck, taken out for exercises on Sunday morning. The SMFD addition reportedly takes just six minutes from arrival on scene to the first responder heading up the ladder.

Glenn Bolan glenb@smdp.com



Gary Limjap

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Calendar

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Rodeo days

225 26th St., 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

The Brentwood Country mart presents rodeo-themed events through Aug. 31. Events include meeting Cowboy Bill, a mechanical bull and more. So grab those spurs and saddle up. For more information, visit www.brentwoodcountrymart.com.

Meet-up book group

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

This social meeting and reading discussion group will discuss Nicole Krauss' "The History of Love."

Summer cheeses at Whole Foods Market

2201 Wilshire Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Specialty Foods will guide guests through all the delicious summer cheeses Whole Foods Market has to offer.

Green Living Workshop #80

1744 Pearl St., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Learn how to save \$200 a year on utilities, cut landfill waste by 50 percent and brush up on the latest Eco-Info in this six-week course. Suggested residential donations are \$25 for Santa Monica residents and \$50 for Los Angeles residents.

For more information or to register, call the Sustainable Works office at (310) 458-8716.

'Just Beyond Reach/New Type Windows'

1423 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Tonight's opening reception presents a series of cibachrome photographic prints which are juxtaposed with Elizabeth Paige Smith's film installation of a suburban neighborhood consumed by technological hell and the resulting effort to find sanctuary within. For more information, call (310) 392-8060.

Thursday, Aug. 23, 2007

Peace reigns over Harvelle's

1432 Fourth St., 9:30 p.m.

Kara Maguire along with Preeta and the Peacemakers will perform at Harvelle's tonight. \$5 cover charge. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.harvelles.com.

Twilight Dance Series

Santa Monica Pier, 7:30 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Amoeba Music presents the Holmes Brothers with Carrie Rodriguez at the 23rd Annual Twilight Dance Series.

Yappy Hour @ Tails of Santa Monica

2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

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

The 12 Steps for Everybody

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

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

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.

CORRECTIONS:

In the story detailing a major toy recall ("Not fun and games") that ran on Aug. 21, the chief of pediatrics at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital should have been identified as Dr. Dennis Woo.



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

THAT'S THE RUB: Participants take in complementary 40-minute massages at Ceragem on Monday. The store is set to close this Saturday.

Rubbed out for good

Days of free massages ends this weekend

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Rising rents in downtown have claimed another victim. This time, the pain can really be felt.

The days of free massages are coming to an end now that Ceragem International Inc., one of the largest providers of thermal massagers using Far-Infrared Radiant heat, is closing down its Second Street store Saturday because its landlord is asking for a significant bump in rent, said store manager Terry Choi.

No longer will people like Ashtra Miller,

a grandmother from Jamaica, be able to walk in and test out the massage beds for free, something which is going to take a big bite out of her pocketbook if she decides to go to a chiropractor for continued treatment, or purchase one of the massage beds, which go for around \$3,000.

"It has worked wonders for me," Miller said of the free, 40-minute treatments she receives three times a week at the store, situated just south of Wilshire Boulevard. "I have numbness in my foot, back pain and Psoriasis, and these massages help me walk better and has taken away a lot of my pain."

"I don't know what I'm going to do without them. Oh boy."

The high cost of rent in downtown has been an issue of concern for some merchants and their long-time customers. There is a fear that the cost of a lease will

be so high that the only ones who can afford it are major chains, such as those found on the Third Street Promenade.

Rob York, a consultant for the Bayside District Corporation, which helps City Hall promote and manage downtown, said rents on the promenade can be as much as \$10 a square foot, depending on size and location. Space just off the promenade is going for anywhere from \$4 to \$5 per square foot.

"With retail, it is normal to have a lot of turnover, and that may be tough, but there is a healthy side to that," said York, who believes that downtown has a healthy mix of restaurants and retail that represents both major chains and entrepreneurs. "Sometimes we lose someone we really like, but as long as there is an overall

SEE RUB PAGE 14

Brownley supports tight lips

Proposed law would keep officials mum

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COURTHOUSE Luckily for Hollywood bloggers, the Paris Hilton defamation trial begins here today, rather than later, when their ability to access exclusive and confidential information about the hotel heiress' court hearing might very well be illegal.

Following the leak to celebrity news Web site TMZ.com of Mel Gibson's drunken anti-Semitic tirade during an arrest in Malibu last year, lawmakers are pushing a legislative bill that would impose penalties against law enforcement and public officers who leak confidential information for financial gain to the press.

If the law was in effect today, Hollywood reporters would face bigger hurdles convincing someone on the inside to disclose confidential court documents related to the hotel heiress defamation trial. Hilton is being sued for \$10 million by model Zeta Graff.

Sponsored by Assemblywoman Julia Brownley (D-Santa Monica) and requested by Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, AB 920 would make it a misdemeanor for public officials to disclose confidential information to a third party for payment, requiring them to not only return the financial compensation if caught, but also be fined \$1,000. That's not to mention the strong possibility of disciplinary action by their employer.

Brownley was not available for comment.

The bill would also make the solicitation of such a transaction illegal.

The Gibson arrest last summer prompted discussions among officials in the sheriff's office to push for a law that would criminalize leaks for financial gain

SEE BROWNLEY PAGE 13



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Marriage for all

Editor:

With regard to the (Community profile) “Gay pastor takes a stand” in your Aug. 20 edition, there is one major correction which needs to be made to Mr. Shih’s article. (The writer) states that I am against gay marriage, which is simply an incorrect statement. Not only do I favor gay marriage, I officiate at such rituals, and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church of Santa Monica welcomes such celebrations of human love within its community life.

The Rev. James E. Boline

Pastor, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church

Planting poetry in place of trees

Editor:

(Re: “*Ficus fiasco continues*,” Aug. 14)

There was a man in our town
and wondrous wise was he.
He came upon a great idea:
“Let’s chop down every tree.”

He went around to share his views
and this is what he said:
“When all those nasty trees are gone,
we’ll put up signs instead.”

All the townsmen then sat down
(some seemed to take a nap)
and voted “yes” to change the town
into a dusty tourist trap.

Streets that once provided shade
on sizzling summer days
now easier accommodate
a busy tourist trade.

Merchants thrive, while locals mourn
the passing of the trees.
Tourists who will soon be gone
don’t share our memories.

I, for one, will walk no more
on Second Street and Fourth.
Good-bye, farewell to Michael’s store.
Hello, Montana, I’ll go north.

Helen Fiske
Santa Monica

GOP banking on broken borders

Editor:

There is nothing patriotic about white anti-immigration groups targeting a whole segment of society – Mexicans, Latinos and hard-working immigrants. Discrimination, prejudice and intolerance characterizes the anti-immigration movement, so why does the Republican party embrace and give sanctuary to these pundits of bigotry?

Every day on the buses I hear and see angry white folk spewing out their hatred toward hard-working Mexicans. It’s like déjà vu ’50s all over again, when whites demonized blacks.

The GOP will use border politics – politics of division – as their mainstay in the 2008 elections to shift attention away from the failed war in Iraq. It plays well to core supporters and lowest common denominator of the party.

Ron Lowe
Santa Monica



Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Another superstar falls far from grace

MICHAEL VICK HAS BEEN A STAR football player all his life. He was the starting quarterback all four years of high school and went to Virginia Tech on a full scholarship, where he led his team to an undefeated 11-0 record and a berth in the National Championship ... as a freshman! In the 2001 NFL draft, the Atlanta Falcons took him No. 1 overall, then signed him to a six-year contract worth \$62 million.

He was 20 years old, on top of the world and had his whole life ahead of him. Soon, he was the most dynamic quarterback in the NFL. It was around this time he also started a little project which would cement his reputation as the stupidest quarterback in the NFL — a dogfighting and breeding operation called “Bad Newz Kennels” run from a house in Smithfield, Virginia owned by Vick and occupied by his cousin, Davon Boddie.

Ironically, the whole problem started with a dog — a police dog, actually, who smelled marijuana in Boddie’s car outside a nightclub in Hampton, Virginia, on the night of April 20. He was arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute (on 4/20 of all days) and five days later, police raided the Smithfield house, where they found guns, drugs, paperwork detailing the Bad Newz Kennels operation, and 66 dogs (55 of them Pit Bulls).

Had he been smart, Vick would have come clean at this point. Instead, he tried to pass the buck by saying, “I’m never at the house. I left the house with my family members and my cousin. They just haven’t been doing the right thing.”

The star quarterback had made the wrong call.

The implication being that he, Vick, had no idea what was going on at the 15-acre property and his assumption being that Boddie, his cousin, would never give him up to the police. While he may have been right, he forgot about the “Bad Newz Kennels” brain trust: Tony Taylor, Purnell Peace and Quanis Phillips, who were all implicated as well (probably by the documents seized in the April 25 raid). Those guys had to wonder: If Michael Vick was willing to push his cousin under the bus, how loyal would he be to them? This is where his life as Michael Vick knew it began to end.

Acting on tips from informants, the feds searched the Smithfield house again on July 6, this time looking for dog carcasses. They knew what evidence they were after and they knew what they were

going to do with it because about a week and a half later, the federal grand jury indicted Vick, Taylor, Peace and Phillips for running an operation which trained pit bulls and oversaw dog fights. Believing these guys would be loyal to him, on July 26, Vick was dumb enough to enter a plea of not guilty — still claiming he really didn’t know what went on at the house.

NOW, HE IS THE STUPIDEST EX-PLAYER OF THE NFL. HE THREW IT ALL AWAY SO THAT HE COULD KILL DOGS.

At the same time, prosecutors were working to “flip” Taylor by using the same basic divide-and-conquer move my assistant principal used in middle school: They cited him as the ringleader. Right on cue, Taylor told the feds that Vick put up the money to finance the whole operation in an attempt to save his own skin. Once they had Taylor, it must have been a piece of cake to flip Peace and Phillips, who said they personally witnessed Vick killing at least eight dogs who didn’t perform well in “testing.” And with that, it was a wrap.

The judge is expected to sentence Vick to 12-to-18 months in prison, then the NFL will most likely suspend him for at least a full season, so he won’t be eligible to take the field until the 2009-10 season. At that point, he’ll be 29 years old, he’ll have been out of football for two years, and every team in the NFL will already have a starting quarterback who, while he may not have Vick’s physical skills, also won’t have Vick’s baggage.

He was a poor black kid from a bad neighborhood who used his God-given talent to rise above his surroundings, go to college, become the No. 1 overall pick in the NFL draft, endorse his own Nike shoe, electrify crowds who came to see him play and become the highest paid player in NFL history.

Now, he is the stupidest ex-player of the NFL. He threw it all away so that he could kill dogs.

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YOUR OPINION COUNTS

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Guest Commentary

Ron Getty

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Our schools: Freedom from the other 9,299

TODAY, CALIFORNIA'S 9,300 GOVERNMENT schools — funded by \$63 billion in taxes — have 6.3 million K-12 students with 300,000 teachers and 25,000 bureaucrats and support personnel. Additionally, there are 4,000 school psychologists and 1,000 school librarians. The California Department of Education has 2,500 employees and a \$300 million budget.

The \$63 billion in taxes funding California schools represents 10 percent of the total combined state budgets for all 50 states.

By comparison, in California, 600,000 students attend private or home schools without public tax support. However, these students' parents still pay property taxes to support other parents' children attending government schools.

California's schools operate under "education by politician" dictates and are managed by bureaucratic red-tape-ridden administrative "educrats." Another dictate overlying California's public schools comes from the U.S. Department of Education's "No Child Left Behind" minimum test score standards.

There's an urgent need to dismantle California's top-down authoritarian, socialistic, central-planning school system, which is irreparably harming our children's education.

For starters, the hundreds of billions in tax dollars taken over decades for California schools have created a Frankenstein's monster. Schools are bits of this and that sewn together by mad scientist politicians, educrats and school boards. In addition, fears of violence in the schools have parents praying that their child's school doesn't become another Columbine or Virginia Tech University. As it is, California's school system has armed police officers patrolling middle and high schools.

Third, parents are worried about teacher morals. The news reports on teachers being arrested and convicted for child molestation and sexual relations with students. Yet suing to remove a tenured teacher for misconduct can cost school districts \$100,000 in legal fees alone.

Fourth, compulsory school attendance imposes one-size-fits-all, lowest common denominator learning. Religious children find their religion mocked or themselves being denigrated. Special-education children don't receive professional help in learning how to learn. Gifted children are rarely aided in learning how to use their innate intelligence or even being properly identified as gifted. Minority children barely receive the necessary basic language, reading, and writing skills needed to function in an English-language society.

No group of parents has successfully sued a school system for educational malpractice — even though malpractice happens every school day.

The severe disconnect in promises and what's delivered by California schools can never be overcome. First, shut down California's noncompetitive government schools. To create capital for free-market competitive schools, repeal the tax laws taking \$63 billion for government schools. Then allow free-market schools to be opened without the mandated administrative bureaucracy and "education by politician" syllabuses.

Second, update education in California by creating virtual schools, where the education is taught online by experienced tutors. Have Web-based live video and audio feedback educational programs.

Third, open local neighborhood small-by-design schools where parents and teachers can consult on the educational material and the teaching standards.

Fourth, emphasize home schooling by parents, as parents are the best teachers for learning about religion, sexuality, and morality. Disengaged teachers teaching politically dictated lessons on family issues is an arrogant abrogation of parents' rights by California schools.

Fifth, give tax credits for:

- Opening free-market schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods;

- People or companies pooling their money to provide an education for students of poor families;

- Industrial and business groups pooling their money to help learning disabled, gifted, and minority students receive help from properly trained professionals; and

- The income earned by free-market school teachers as an attraction to teaching.

Free-market competition in education will offer a wide ranging choice of low-cost, high-quality teaching in a variety of disciplines with affordable to free tuition based on needs.

California's children and their education is our most precious resource. Children must be protected from the corrosive impact of California's government schools' top-down socialistic, politically-dictated education. Democratic free-market schools based on liberty, free-thinking, and independence are the wave for California's continued and future growth.

RON GETTY is the senior staff member of a tax attorney with his practice located in San Francisco.



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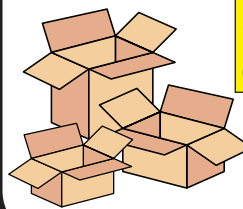
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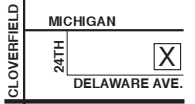
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The Q-Line

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Don't take me out to the ball game

Our sporting heroes don't seem to be made of the same stuff they used to be. Nowadays, they are either accused of abusing man's best friend (Michael Vick), suspected of cheating (Barry Bonds), or fixing games (NBA referee Tim Donaghy).

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Which current sports debacle do you feel is the most damaging to our favorite pastimes?

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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STATE BRIEFS

SAN CLEMENTE

Ancient burial site could be threatened by toll road

Fearing ancient burial ground could be spoiled, the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians wants the California Coastal Commission to stop a 16-mile extension of the 241 toll road.

The burial site straddling the San Diego and Orange County line abuts the planned Foothill South toll road extension, where Juaneno ancestors lived 4,000 years ago in an ancient Acjachemen Nation village called Panhe.

"To Indian people, we go to these places because they're our Vatican, our Mecca," said Rebecca Robles, a member of the Juaneno band.

The Juanenos plan to ask coastal commissions in October for a halt to toll road extension plans.

The extension will run from Oso Parkway to Interstate 5 at San Onofre State Beach. The village site is on the state Native American Heritage Commission's register of sacred sites.

The village is long gone, but the site is frequently used as a gathering area for Native Americans and human remains found in Orange and San Diego counties have been reburied there.

Patricia Martz, an anthropology professor at California State University, Los Angeles, and president of the California Cultural Resource Preservation Alliance, said toll road planners omitted Panhe's sacred status in its environmental planning documents.

"If you were to compare this road to other projects, it has been the most studied road in the state, if not the nation," Lance MacLean, a Mission Viejo councilman who chairs the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency that manages the 241 toll road.

The proposed toll road extension "was specifically designed to avoid the densest of archaeological sites" and avoid known or suspected burial areas, added Jennifer Seaton, a spokeswoman for the Irvine-based Transportation Corridor Agencies.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Metrolink adding barriers to enhance safety

Metrolink will add new gates and barriers, and upgrade others, to keep pedestrians and cars away from trains at rail crossings.

"As communities grow and traffic increases, the need to upgrade these crossings becomes more important," Metrolink assistant executive officer Steve Wylie said.

Improvements include concrete medians, longer gate arms and "four-quadrant gates" that lower across all lanes of traffic. Officials believe the extended gates will discourage motorists from trying to beat approaching trains.

Metrolink will also install gates to prevent cars from driving on roads that parallel train tracks.

"What we're trying to do is everything we can on our end to make the crossings as safe as absolutely possible," Metrolink spokeswoman Denise Tyrrell said.

So far this year, six people have been killed in train collisions on the 512-mile Metrolink system. Ten were killed in train collisions in 2006.

The first phase of the Metrolink safety effort will cost \$22 million and will be funded by a combination of federal and state money.

AP

SANTA ANA

School sued for sending wrong records

A private elementary school was sued by the parents of two teenagers denied admission to elite high schools because wrong transcripts were allegedly sent.

Nicholas Burke, 15, and Anthony Burke, attended Harbor Day School in Corona del Mar and applied to several private high schools when they reached eighth grade, according to the Orange County Superior Court suit.

But incorrect and incomplete transcripts were sent and the Burkes were rejected by the schools, the suit said. In one case, the record of another student was sent, the suit alleged.

Steven and Camille Burke's fraud and negligence suit alleged administrators lied and said they would send accurate records. The parents want at least \$100,000 in damages per child, alleging the teens suffered embarrassment and emotional distress.

Harbor Day School head administrator Doug Phelps said he could not comment.

AP

LOS ANGELES

LAX runway safety study approved

Airport commissioners approved a \$2 million study to come up with possible safety improvements for north runways at Los Angeles International Airport.

The 6-1 vote Monday comes days after a near collision on an airport runway. The NASA Ames Research Center study will be completed in six months.

"I feel very strongly that we are tempting fate," Commissioner Fernando Torres-Gil said in urging approval of the study.

Five recent studies concluded the two parallel north runways are too close together and suggested moving the northernmost runway.

Commissioner Valeria Velasco, the lone dissenter, said the risk of so-called "runway incursions" at the airport will never be fully eliminated.

"Moving the northern runway isn't going to necessarily eliminate risks," Velasco said.

"Whenever we've had incursions at LAX, they have been due to human error one way or the other, either by the pilot or in the tower."

On Aug. 16, mistakes by a pilot and a ground traffic controller led to a runway incursion on LAX's northern runways. A WestJet Boeing 737 arriving from Calgary, Alberta, came within 50 to 200 feet of a Northwest Airbus A320 that was taking off for Memphis.

It was the airport's eighth runway incursion this year, matching the total number of near-collisions in 2006.

AP

Officials express hope for budget

BY AARON C. DAVIS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Lawmakers returning from their summer recess Monday said they were optimistic about striking a deal to end a state budget stalemate that has cut off billions in funding for schools, clinics, nursing homes and other businesses for nearly eight weeks.

Senate Republican Leader Dick Ackerman, R-Tustin, said he and Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland, have made progress in negotiations and that there could be a deal if the Assembly and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger sign off on various compromises.

**I'M HOPEFUL.
WE'RE VERY
CLOSE TODAY."**

Sen. Jeff Denham, R-Merced

Perata went as far as to say he hoped a deal could be brought to a vote later Monday in the Senate.

"There only is going to be a deal when all four caucuses and the governor agree," Ackerman said. "Don and I have had some good conversations, but it's not done yet."

Optimism also was evident among other members of the Senate's Republican caucus, the group that has been holding out against a budget deal.

"I'm hopeful. We're very close today," Sen. Jeff Denham, R-Merced, said during a Monday radio debate on KUSP in Santa Cruz. "We have, I believe, a bipartisan agree-

ment that hopefully we can close."

Senate Republicans have refused to support the \$145 billion spending plan approved by the Assembly on July 20, in part because they want to eliminate a \$700 million deficit. Two Republican votes in the 40-member Senate are needed to reach the two-thirds majority required to pass the budget.

The Senate has been locked in a bitter stalemate over the budget plan since the Assembly began its vacation four weeks ago. Senate Republicans, who were sent home during much of the ensuing deadlock, have said both houses would likely have to reconvene for the outstanding issues to be resolved.

Lawmakers said an increasing sense of urgency to deal with health care reform and hundreds of other pending bills appeared to play a part in the renewed push to end the budget deadlock.

Perata has said the Senate will not take up any legislation until the budget is approved, threatening to sidetrack every other issue lawmakers hope to address before adjourning their 2007 session in mid-September.

California is the last state in the nation without a budget deal for the fiscal year that began July 1. Its stalemate already is one of the longest on record in the last 30 years, eclipsed only by holdouts in 1992 and 2002.

The latest date the Legislature has passed a budget was Aug. 31, 2002. That year's spending plan was signed by former Gov. Gray Davis on Sept. 5.

This year's budget struggle has followed a twisted path.

Schwarzenegger originally released a \$143.4 billion proposed budget in January that he promised would eliminate California's chronic deficit, the state's practice of spending more each year than it takes in.

Refuge seeker arrested

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

TIJUANA, Mexico An illegal immigrant who took refuge in a Chicago church for a year to avoid being separated from her American-born son was deported from the United States to Mexico, where she vowed Monday to continue her campaign to change U.S. immigration laws.

"They were in a hurry to deport me because they saw that I was threatening to mobilize and organize the people to fight for legalization," Elvira Arellano, 32, said in Spanish outside an apartment building where she was staying with a friend. "I have a fighting spirit and I'm going to continue fighting."

Arellano, who said she is a single mother, left her 8-year-old son, Saul, in the care of her Chicago pastor's family. But she said he might be brought to her in Tijuana sometime Monday.

"He is a little bit sick because of the situation we find ourselves in," she said. "I'm going to ask if he wants to stay with me or if he wants to return to his school" in the United States.

Arellano's swift deportation after being arrested in California led to claims by her and Mexican authorities that she was initially denied access to consular officials. But opponents of illegal immigration said her arrest was overdue, and a U.S. immi-

gration official said she had been a criminal fugitive.

Arellano, who became a symbol for illegal immigrant parents as she defied deportation and spoke out from her sanctuary in Chicago's Adalberto United Methodist Church, said last week that she would leave the church to try to pressure U.S. lawmakers for change.

She was arrested Sunday in Los Angeles about five blocks from Our Lady Queen of Angels church by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents who followed her car, said ICE spokeswoman Lauren Mack.

Arellano asked to speak with Mexican officials in Los Angeles but was denied, said Luis Cabrera, Mexico's consul general in San Diego. She was not given access until hours later, at San Diego's Otay Mesa immigration detention center.

U.S. authorities denied Cabrera's request to delay the deportation for 24 hours while Mexican authorities considered her legal options.

"It was a very, very hectic process," Cabrera said at a San Diego news conference. "We wanted more time."

In Tijuana, Arellano said the deportation process was "very quick."

"They were not even giving me an opportunity to speak with my Mexican consulate," she said.



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Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale

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Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 3,147,455	\$ 860,658
South of Wilshire	= \$ 1,041,111	\$ 687,481
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,439,789	\$ 661,359
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,898,000	\$ 1,049,579

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Pet sitting a growing career choice

BY LINDA LOMBARDI | Associated Press Writer

SILVER SPRING, Md. Walking a dog on a beautiful day, playing with kittens — for money. Sound better than the job you have now?

Whether you're interested in working for an established company or starting out on your own, pet sitting is a growing business. Combined membership in two major professional pet sitters associations doubled between 1999 and 2005, according to David Lummis, a senior pet market analyst with market-research firm Packaged Facts. Part of a much bigger picture, consumers spent \$4.73 billion on non-veterinary pet care services, including pet sitting, last year, or 32 percent more than they did in 2001, he said.

Those in the industry say people see their pets more as family members these days. They need extra care while their humans lead busier lives, and they need more than just a kennel when the people go on vacation.

Jaime Deason started a Fetch! pet sitting franchise in Silver Spring franchise partly because she had trouble getting quality care for her own dog and cat.

"We struggled to find people who were reliable enough,"

she says, and it was difficult to accommodate last-minute changes in their complicated schedule.

Deason meets the needs of families like her own with more than just dogwalking. Fetch! offers services like overnight visits where a sitter will stay at your home from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. the next morning, as well as boarding in sitter's own homes.

When hiring, "our main requirement is that people love animals," Deason says.

But spend a day with a pet sitter and you'll see it's more than cuddling puppies.

Gabe Schneider of Silver Spring, Md., works for Deason's pet sitting service.

"It's always different, not the set nine to five," says Schneider, 21. "It's always something new."

On a recent Thursday, Schneider's first two assignments went from one extreme to the other.

The day started with Jake, a yellow Labrador retriever who's just a year old and full of energy. Schneider's job is to take him out for an hour "and tire him out."

Jake runs out of the house with Schneider with great enthusiasm. But his attitude changes when he sees the open

back of the car: He doesn't want to jump in.

He sits, lies down, hangs out, and does everything but get into the car despite Schneider's repeated coaxing.

After a while Jake wins the battle — as you he knew he would — and Schneider gives up and lifts the nearly full grown retriever into the back of the van.



**(WHEN HIRING) OUR
MAIN REQUIREMENT IS
THAT PEOPLE LOVE ANIMALS."**

Jaime Deason, Fetch!

They drive to Rock Creek Park, where they walk, play fetch, and greet some other dogs who stroll by. Then, best of all for a retriever, Jake goes for a swim in the creek.

Now the job is done, and Jake is tired out, making the idea of jumping into a car especially unappealing for him.

Officer didn't cause injuries in woman's arrest, report says

By the Associated Press

OREM, Utah A state investigation cleared an officer who arrested a 70-year-old woman during a dispute over her failure to water her brown lawn.

Orem police have said the incident could have been handled differently. But they're satisfied with a state report that found Officer James Flygare had authority to arrest Betty Perry.

The investigation by the Utah Department of Public Safety also found that

he was not responsible for the gash on Perry's nose.

"His actions were necessary to gain physical control of Ms. Perry and to prevent escalation of the incident," according to the report released Monday.

There is no dispute that Perry refused to give her name to Flygare, who visited July 6 to issue a ticket for failing to take care of her front yard.

As she walked back into the house "dragging" him, Perry tripped and fell against the door jam, injuring her nose, the report said.

There were no witnesses.

"Ms. Perry's non-cooperation was the single most aggravating factor in the escalation of this incident," the report said.

She was handcuffed and taken to an Orem holding cell before Flygare's bosses learned about the arrest and released her.

"We have maintained from the beginning ... that there were other ways to handle this situation short of taking Betty Perry to jail," said Lt. Doug Edwards, Orem police spokesman.

Flygare returned to his job Tuesday in the

police department's neighborhood unit.

At the time of the arrest, Perry's water had been shut off for about nine months, at her request. Orem has such a policy for people who are away for extended periods.

Perry claims she was a victim of excessive force.

"We feel that it is clearly biased against Betty," her attorney, Gloria Allred, said of the report. "It appears that law enforcement is out to get Betty, a 70-year-old great-grandmother who was simply trying to lead a quiet life."

Santa Monica Daily Press

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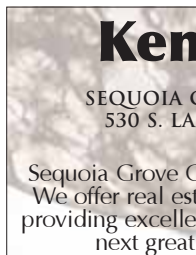
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Hurricane Dean strikes Mexico's coast with fury

Caribbean side of the nation battered by rain and wind

BY MARK STEVENSON | Associated Press Writer

TULUM, Mexico Hurricane Dean slammed into the Caribbean coast of Mexico on Tuesday as a roaring Category 5 hurricane, the most intense Atlantic storm to make landfall in two decades. It lashed ancient Mayan ruins and headed for the modern oil installations of the Yucatan Peninsula.

Dean's path was a stroke of luck for Mexico: It made landfall in a sparsely populated coastline that had already been evacuated, skirting most of the major tourist resorts. It weakened within hours to a Category 3 storm, with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph.

The eye of the storm hit land near Majahual, a port popular with cruise liners and it was racing across the Yucatan Peninsula toward a Tuesday evening entry into the Bay of Campeche, where the state oil company evacuated the oil rigs that produce most of Mexico's oil.

In the largely Mayan town of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, about 30 miles people stared from their porches at broken tree limbs and electrical cables crisscrossing the streets, some of which were flooded with ankle-deep water.

Tin roofing ripped from houses clunked hollowly as it bounced in the wind whistling through town.

"We began to feel the strong winds about 2 in the morn-

ing and you could hear that the trees were breaking and some tin roofs were coming off," said Miguel Colli, a 36-year-old store employee. "Everyone holed up in their houses. Thank God that the worst is over."

With the storm still screaming, there were no immediate reports of deaths, injuries or major damage, Quintana Roo Gov. Felix Gonzalez told Mexico's Televisa network, though officials had not been able to survey the area. In the Quintana Roo state capital, Chetumal, the storm downed trees and sent sheets of metal flying through the air.

EVERYONE HOLED UP IN THEIR HOUSES. THANK GOD THAT THE WORST IS OVER."

Miguel Colli, Store employee

At landfall, Dean had sustained winds near 165 mph and gusts that reached 200 mph. It was moving west-northwest near 20 mph across the Yucatan Peninsula.

The hurricane killed at least 12 people across the Caribbean, picked up strength after brushing Jamaica and the Cayman Islands and became a monstrous Category 5 hurricane Monday. Sections of the Jamaican capital and the island's east suffered severe damage in the storm, and the country postponed Aug. 27 general elections.

Bush hears out allied leaders, insists nations share an agenda

BY BEN FELLER | Associated Press Writer

MONTEBELLO, Quebec President Bush's summit with the leaders of Canada and Mexico is likely to produce additional assurances of what unites them and clear signs of what doesn't.

Bush came to this resort town on the Ottawa River to strengthen his ties with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Mexican President Felipe Calderon. They were poised to announce at least one wrinkle, an effort to clarify border security plans in emergencies.

For all the gestures of unity, there were differences that were handled much more gingerly, spanning from Arctic waterways to passport policies to the war in Afghanistan.

Overshadowing the two-day event was the menacing Hurricane Dean — to the point that the schedule was rearranged to accommodate Calderon. He will attend every event Tuesday but will leave Canada earlier than planned to head home, where Mexico is bracing for the storm.

Security and trade issues dominated talks among the North American leaders. Their goal is to make their borders safer without impeding their trade-and-tourism relationship.

Even their security partnership has stirred fears in Canada and the U.S. that more North American integration will derail national sovereignty. About 2,000 demonstrators descended on the Montebello in protest; police used tear gas to push back several dozen.

The leaders stressed their common missions. The three men enjoy good relations. There was much talk of listening, understanding, and disagreeing politely.

A Canadian official said Harper plainly told Bush what he's said publicly — that Canada's mission in Afghanistan will not be extended beyond 2009 without a consensus in Parliament. Canada has 2,500 troops in Afghanistan, a commitment important to Bush.

Dan Fisk, a White House National Security Council official who briefed reporters, said Bush now has "a better understanding" of the dynamics Harper faces in Canada.

Harper also used the meeting to assert his nation's claim to the Northwest Passage through the Arctic. The United States says the passage is part of international waters.

"I think it's fair to say the president came away with a far better understanding of Canada's position," Fisk said. However, he added, the U.S. position did not change at all.

With Mexico, the United States is working on an aid package for its neighbor to help stem its drug trade and associated violence. No final deal is ready to be announced.

Fisk said in private talks the U.S. and Mexican presidents "clearly reaffirmed their commitment that we do have a shared responsibility."

Calderon has repeatedly pushed the U.S. to take more responsibility in fighting the two countries' common drug problem, including doing more to stop the flow of illegal U.S. arms into Mexico and trying to combat the demand for drugs north of the border.

On security, Bush, Harper and Calderon want to find a way to protect citizens in an emergency without the tie-ups that slowed commerce after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The three leaders are also seeking middle ground on issues ranging from energy to trade, food safety to immigration. Few, if any, formal announcements are expected at the meeting at a highly secured red cedar chateau along the banks of the Ottawa River.

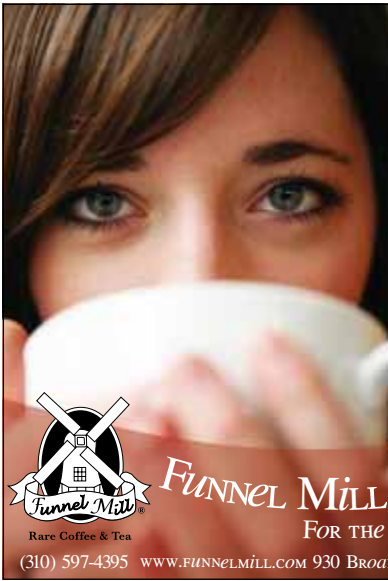
Several hundred demonstrators protested on issues such as the war in Iraq, human rights and integration of North America. One carried a banner that said, "Say No To Americanada."

Calderon and Harper both want tight relations with Bush, yet don't want to be seen as proteges of the unpopular president. The three exchanged friendly handshakes before their meetings, posed for photos and ended the day with a dinner inside a historic manor.

When Bush arrived Monday in Ottawa, he was greeted by a bagpiper and a ceremonial honor guard dressed in red jackets and tall, black fur hats. Bush flew to the resort on the Marine One presidential helicopter.

Late in the day, he even found time for one of his passions — a mountain bike ride. He went with Stockwell Day, the Canadian public safety minister.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police confirmed that tear gas was used against several dozen protesters who threw rocks, branches and plastic bottles.



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DreamWorks to drop Blu-ray

BY ALEX VEIGA | AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Paramount Pictures and DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc. will offer next-generation DVDs in the HD DVD format and drop support for Blu-ray, further complicating the race between the competing technologies.

Monday's announcement affects the upcoming DVD releases of the blockbusters "Shrek the Third" and "Transformers," along with movies distributed by Paramount Pictures, DreamWorks Pictures, Paramount Vantage, Nickelodeon Movies and MTV Films.

Movies directed by Steven Spielberg, however, will continue to be released in both formats.

Paramount, which owns DreamWorks Pictures and handles home sales for the separate company DreamWorks Animation, previously released movies in both Blu-ray and HD DVD.

"Part of our vision is to aggressively extend our movies beyond the theater, and deliver the quality and features that appeal to our audience," said Brad Grey, chairman and CEO of Paramount Pictures, a unit of Viacom Inc.

"I believe HD DVD is not only the affordable high-quality choice for consumers, but also the smart choice for Paramount," he said.

The competition between Blu-ray and HD DVD has kept confused consumers from rushing to buy new DVD players until they can determine which format will dominate the market.



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Brad Grey, Chairman and CEO of Paramount Pictures

Until recently, many consumers were able to defer the choice because players have been so expensive. But prices have been slashed by about half — Sony Corp.'s Blu-ray player now sells for \$499, and Toshiba Corp.'s cheapest HD

DVD player sells for \$299, with both likely to include as many as five free movies as an incentive.

Jeffrey Katzenberg, CEO of DreamWorks Animation, said consumers seeking to switch to high-definition DVDs will be enticed by the movies available for HD-DVD players. He added the lower price for the Toshiba devices will appeal to the family market.

"It's a game-changer, what they're doing, and it's why we decided to throw in with them," Katzenberg said.

Standalone HD DVD players have a bigger slice of the market than Blu-ray players. But when you count Sony's PlayStation 3 game console, which comes with a Blu-ray drive, there are more Blu-ray players in U.S. homes.

Rob Moore, president of Paramount Worldwide Distribution, said market data shows that people who own gaming consoles buy fewer movies than those who invest in a movie-only player.

Andy Parsons, chairman of the Blu-ray Disc Association trade group, questioned the studios' decision to adopt HD DVD over Blu-ray, saying price differences between players have diminished in recent months.

Feds hope report will lead to drilling in Arctic

BY JEANNETTE J. LEE
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska Under orders from a federal judge, the Interior Department on Monday released a revised report of how oil and gas exploration would affect one of the most important habitats for calving caribou and migratory birds in northern Alaska.

The department hopes the updated report will help put it back on track to lease

400,000 acres around Teshekpuk Lake in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska to oil and gas companies eager to expand operations on the fuel-rich North Slope.

"This sets the stage for determining future actions," said Sharon Wilson, a spokeswoman for the Bureau of Land Management in Anchorage.

The report by the Bureau of Land Management contains broader descriptions than before of wildlife, industry and Alaska

Native communities in the region, but makes few concrete appraisals about how drilling would affect the area.

"We pretty much just paint of picture of how things are right now and come to no conclusions," Wilson said. "This report is not going to give you any predictions. We are really looking for input from the public."

The document does say the drilling could adversely impact polar bears, which live in the petroleum reserve and are under consid-

eration for addition to the Endangered Species List.

The lake sits above an estimated 2 billion barrels of recoverable oil, but previous administrations have left it untouched because of its environmental sensitivity.

Teshekpuk harbors migratory game birds that are popular with hunters as far south as Texas, such as the brant and the white-fronted goose, said Stan Senner, executive director of the Audubon Society in Alaska.

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Market Matters

Brian Hepp

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Disciplined investing should lack emotion

KNOWING THAT FINANCIAL MARKETS are constantly changing, it's often hard to gauge when the best time would be to jump in. Trying to time your investments in this way can cause you undue stress and cost you financially when you try to invest by guessing when the market has hit the "top" or the "bottom."

Fortunately, however, there are several timeless strategies that can help you eliminate the emotional component and get you on the right track to successful investing.

THINK LONG TERM

While past performance is never a guarantee of future results, the markets have historically performed well over the long run. Successful investors are the ones who develop the discipline and patience to stay the course over the long run, despite market fluctuations.

PATIENTLY ACCEPT VOLATILITY

Building on the last point, it's important to realize that market highs and lows are a natural occurrence, and should be considered a normal part of investing. Once you accept that fact, you can prepare yourself to resist the emotional urges to jump in and out of the market based solely on its current direction.

STAY IN THE MARKET

Some investors attempt to time the market. When it's down, they sit on the sidelines waiting for it to rally before they get in on the action. Conversely, when the market is up, they wait for a correction so they can buy at what they see as bargain rates. Moving in and out of the market by timing its ups and downs is a skill not even the most seasoned investment professionals have mastered. Consistent investment — in both up and down markets — will produce more reliable results over time.

DIVERSIFY

Possibly one of the most important investment principles — and, at the same time, most overlooked — is the need for

careful asset allocation. The popular adage that tells you not to keep all your eggs in one basket is especially true when it comes to your investments. A well-diversified portfolio should include complementary asset classes, so they can cushion each other against the effects of market downturns and lower your portfolio's overall risk.

WATCH YOUR ASSET ALLOCATION

Even if you properly diversify your portfolio in the beginning, changing markets will affect the value of your investments and could alter your actual allocation. Consistent reviews will help you identify when your portfolio needs to be rebalanced, helping you maintain a proper asset mix.

PAY YOURSELF FIRST

You may have heard this before, but it's certainly worth repeating: Save first and then spend what you have left, rather than spending first and saving what you have left. Inevitably, if you attempt to do the latter, you'll often find there's nothing left to save.

REINVEST DIVIDENDS

Many quality companies have a history of paying dividends, regardless of overall stock market performance. Reinvesting these dividends offers you an excellent way to easily build your stock positions.

SET GOALS

While this may seem like the most basic idea, it's still one of the most important. When considering your investments, you need to have a clear idea of where you are, a goal in mind of where you want to go, and then put strategies in place to help you get there. By incorporating all of the above-mentioned ideas, you will have a guide to help you in all your important investment decisions.

BRIAN HEPP is a financial consultant for Santa Monica-based A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Member SIPC. He can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com.

USDA denies almond request

BY JULIANA BARBASSA
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO A new rule requiring all California almonds to be pasteurized will go into effect Sept. 1, despite farmers' requests to postpone the provision for six months, federal agricultural officials said.

The growers, represented by the California Almond Board, said they needed the extra time to get the necessary equipment and processes in place to avoid an interruption in the flow of nuts to market.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision to implement the rule stemmed from salmonella outbreaks in 2001 and 2004 that were traced to raw almonds.

Farmers' worries about being able to meet the rule's requirements, particularly when faced with an expected bumper crop of 1.33 billion pounds of almonds this year, were taken into consideration, but public health was the main concern, federal officials said.

"While we understand the Board's concerns, USDA also wants to ensure that the quality and safety of almonds and almond products in the marketplace continue to improve," Robert Keeney, deputy administrator of the department's fruit and vegetable programs, wrote in a letter to the Almond Board dated Thursday. "These goals require measures to help reduce the potential of a third salmonella outbreak linked to almonds."

Almond production in the United States has surged as the nut's popularity increases among health-conscious consumers, and California has dominated world production. The state's 6,000 almond farmers expect their crop to fetch \$1.4 billion this year.

Followers of raw food diets and shoppers who prefer unprocessed, organic nuts protested the government's original pasteurization decision and organized a national letter-writing campaign asking the USDA to reconsider.

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McClellan gets let off hook

Prosecutors drop charges against self-described pedophile arrested last week

BY GREG RISLING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Prosecutors on Tuesday dropped charges against a self-described pedophile who was arrested last week after he allegedly violated an order that prohibited him from being within 30 feet of children.

Prosecutors opted not to pursue charges against Jack McClellan after they determined the judge who issued the order failed to set a hearing to argue its merits and hadn't given the 45-year-old transient proper notice.

McClellan was released from jail Tuesday following a court hearing. A cell phone message left for him was not immediately returned.

"We determined the judge had acted improperly by failing to comply with the notice and hearing requirements for issuing a three-year order," said Nick Velasquez, a spokesman for the city attorney's office.

McClellan was arrested Aug. 13 for investigation of violating the order when he was found near a child care facility at the University of California, Los Angeles. He had a camera with him at the time, but he told a local TV station that there wasn't any film in it.

McClellan was arrested again several hours later this time for trespassing after he did an interview with the TV station on school grounds. He had been told not to return to the campus after his first arrest.

Prosecutors did not pursue the trespassing charges.

Two orders were issued by Superior Court Judge Melvin Sandvig earlier this month, which came as news to city prosecutors who believed as late as Friday there had been only one.

The first was a temporary restraining order that didn't allow McClellan to come within 10 yards of children in Santa Clarita in northern Los Angeles County, authorities said. The order was sought by attorneys Anthony Zinnanti and Richard Patterson, both parents of young children in that town.

While a hearing was scheduled for Friday on that order, there wasn't a hearing set for the second ruling that said McClellan had to stay at least 30 feet away from every person under age 18 in California for a three-year period, Velasquez said.

Some legal experts said the second order was too broad and infringed on McClellan's constitutional rights.

Temporary restraining orders in California are good for 22 days and a hearing is held within that time frame to determine whether they should be extended, made permanent or dropped. Prosecutors said Sandvig's three-year order "was in excess of the court's jurisdiction."

"The people cannot proceed with a criminal prosecution after they discover that an element of the charged offense cannot be proved," prosecutors wrote in court documents.

McClellan is unemployed and has been living out of his car. He stirred controversy in Southern California when he arrived earlier this summer from Washington state, where he had lived with his parents.

McClellan maintained a Web site in Washington where he posted photos of children he had taken in public places. He also discussed how he liked to stake out parks, public libraries, fast-food restaurants and other areas where little girls, or "LGs," congregated.

His server took his Web site down more than a month ago.

McClellan, who said he lives on supplemental security income and suffers from depression, has maintained that he launched the site as a form of therapy and wouldn't do anything illegal.



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Law would prohibit leaks of information

FROM BROWNLEY PAGE 3

after learning there wasn't one on the books, said Wayne Bilowit, the legislative advocate for the county sheriff's office. Hilton's recent stint in the women's jail in Lynwood only magnified the situation when it was revealed that a photographer was willing to pay up to \$500,000 for a photo of the celebuntante in her county prison digs.



GIBSON

The problem lies in the Internet media, which Bilowit believes is much more aggressive than mainstream news media in getting out headlines immediately. He contrasts it to the O.J. Simpson murder trial in the 1990s when there didn't seem to be as much pressure to release exclusive information.

"They're willing to pay more money," he said. "It's checkbook journalism in order to get heads up."

The bill was unanimously passed in the State Assembly in May and is due on the State Senate floor in the next two weeks.

The California Newspaper Publishers Association has come out against the proposed bill, calling it a violation of First Amendment rights.

Whether a document is confidential and prohibited from disclosure depends on timing, said Tom Newton, the attorney for CNPA.

"It's a matter of timing and context so when you create criminal liability for release of information that is sometimes prohibited and sometimes not, you're creating a lot of confusion unnecessarily," Newton.

In Santa Monica, where the city was prominently featured in tabloids and entertainment networks after Lindsay Lohan was arrested for drunken driving last month, there hasn't been any recent case of a law enforcement officer disclosing information that is off limits to the public, said Lt. Alex Padilla of the Santa Monica Police Department. That includes the Lohan arrest.

"Every law enforcement agency at some time runs into a situation where something might get out to the public," Padilla said. "We're pretty good about keeping that information within the organization."

melodyh@smdp.com



REPLACE YOUR DIVOTS

More than 1,000 golf balls are dropped from a helicopter Monday morning over the MountainGate Country Club in Brentwood. 'The Great Golf Ball Drop' was staged to raise money for the Santa Monica Red Cross. Marty Popkin scored the \$500 prize after his ball, which cost \$15 to participate, dropped in for a seriously challenging hole-in-one.

Photo courtesy Judy Beck

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Council gets on the up and up

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL No one said life was fair, but when one goes before the City Council on an appeal, they should have every right to expect a fair hearing.

At least that's what one would hope, but that didn't seem to be the case during a contentious council meeting in June when attorney Christopher Harding argued to have a landmarks designation overturned for his client, the University of Illinois Foundation, the owners of an historic cottage at 2219 Ocean Avenue.

With only five members present, Harding asked for the item to be postponed to a later date, something he considered to be a common practice. That request was not granted and the landmarks designation was allowed to stand after the council failed to act.

At one point during the meeting, Council member Pam O'Connor walked off, leaving only four members. It takes four votes to overturn a landmarks designation.

Harding, who did not return phone

calls requesting comment for this story, was visibly upset and frustrated with the council, calling their decision not to postpone "unprecedented" in light of the lack of a full council. Harding went so far as to threaten to sue City Hall.



HERE IT SEEMS THE CURE IS WORSE THEN THE PERCEIVED DISEASE."

Kevin McKeown, Councilman

The council last week discussed the potential lawsuit in closed session, and then during a public meeting, members O'Connor and Bob Holbrook broached the subject of fairness, saying something needed to be done to ensure the process cannot be manipulated.

They then asked the council to change its rules so that on nights when an appeal is heard and fewer than six council members are present, the appellant would have the option to continue the hearing to a later date.

"If a vote comes to four-one, that is

really a tough situation to face," Holbrook said. "If this is a trial and the jury was supposed to have seven members and the jury kept getting smaller and smaller, would anyone like this or think it is fair?"

The council agreed, all except Kevin

was a rare one.

Councilman Ken Genser suggested a council member could inform staff that they would be present for a hearing and then not show up. He was also concerned about manipulation by appellants, who could request an item be postponed if they didn't have the votes in his or her favor.

While he was leery of amending council rules, Genser did vote to explore the issue further.

Mayor Richard Bloom, who was also reluctant to change council rules, said the issue really is about treating one another with respect.

"If there is an issue of respect and a lack of courtesy, we should force ourselves to address that problem," Bloom said. "I'm concerned that we would turn immediately to a rule change ... For us to take action that gives up control of our agenda, like a judge giving up control of his docket, I don't think we should be doing that. We should be working out our issues with one another, and if all else fails, maybe then something needs to change."

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Free massages will soon come to end

FROM RUB PAGE 3

vibrancy, you are going to have other options. If the area is stagnant, you are going backwards and will see a lot of vacancies and maybe the replacements will be less desirable than what went out."

Choi said the company, which also has offices in downtown Los Angeles and Thousand Oaks, has no plans of reopening in Santa Monica. The company generally will open up shop in a city and when the market is saturated, move on to another.

Rent increase is a big reason why the company is leaving, but also, it feels that it has made its mark in Santa Monica, he said.

"The company has been here for four years and we've helped so many people in that time," Choi said. "The response from the community has been remarkable, but it's time for us to close shop."

Ceragem does offer opportunities for entrepreneurs to buy into the franchise and operate their own showrooms, according to Choi, and in the next few days will be offering an interest-free financing plan for customers to purchase their own beds.

Debra Garlak was thinking of doing just that following her free massage session. The Venice resident said she has been visiting the center since she was hurt in a bad

bicycle accident roughly two years ago. She learned about the free massages from a friend, as Ceragem does not advertise, allowing the beds to sell themselves.

"This place is great, and it's not just because of the massages," Garlak said. "You meet so many different people from all backgrounds here. It's one of the most diverse places in Los Angeles."



I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITHOUT THEM. OH BOY."

Ashtra Miller, Grandmother

A look around the showroom confirms Garlak's description. There are seniors from all walks of life, young urban professionals and a few teens every now and then.

All seem to be attracted to the healing powers of the beds, which use jade to increase the effects of Far-Infrared Radiant heat, which is supposed to stimulate healing, oxygenate and increase blood flow, reduce swelling and help cleanse the body of toxic acid waste.

Choi said the beds work so well that a client once told him that after using the bed just three times, he coughed up a dime that had been stuck in his body for most of his life. Choi said the man could not afford an operation to have the coin removed, but once he used the bed, it came right up.

For others like Garlak and Miller, the beds haven't produced any money, but they have saved them quite a bit of change since they do not have to go to a doctor for treatment. With Ceragem leaving Santa Monica, some customers said they will travel to Thousand Oaks and continue their treatment while others said they would take advantage of the financing deal being offered by the company.

"They've helped a lot of people get over their aches and pains, so I have no hard feelings about them leaving," Garlak said. "I'm going to miss them. I think they are a representation of a lot of the unique businesses that we are losing here and in Venice to some of the bigger chains."

"It's a shame, but that's just the way it goes sometimes."

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Homeless veterans getting help

FROM VETS PAGE 1

of his first term three years ago as a Santa Monica City Councilmember, lobbied everyone from local VA administrators to his own brother-in-law, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, to persuade the veteran affairs secretary.

The designation has also been supported in the past by Congressman Henry Waxman, Congresswoman Jane Harman and LA County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

Those who have worked on the campaign from the beginning say they had given up hope that the designation would ever happen.

“(I’ve) been beating my head against the wall for three years,” said Jean Sedillos, who volunteered for Shriver’s election campaign in 2004 and continues to assist him in his councilmember duties. “It’s been a long time.”

The three buildings, which are located in the northern part of the campus, were originally constructed for mental patients and had been sitting dormant for 25 years, Shriver said.

“They were suited for looking after the people with mental difficulties, which a lot of homeless people have,” he said on Tuesday. “With the number of homeless veterans in LA, and looking at the empty buildings built for veterans with mental disabilities, it was absolutely outrageous they hadn’t been used in 25 years.”

The announcement essentially takes the three buildings out of the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services study, a system-wide assessment to shape VA campuses for the future needs of veterans.

The study looks at empty buildings and the consolidation of services.

The clinical staff at the West LA VA will now develop a request for proposals to seek a social service provider to run the homeless service programs.

“These buildings are now exclusively for the use of homeless veterans, period,” Shriver said. “Nothing else can go up there, even other veterans’ uses can’t go out.”



File photo

melodyh@smdp.com

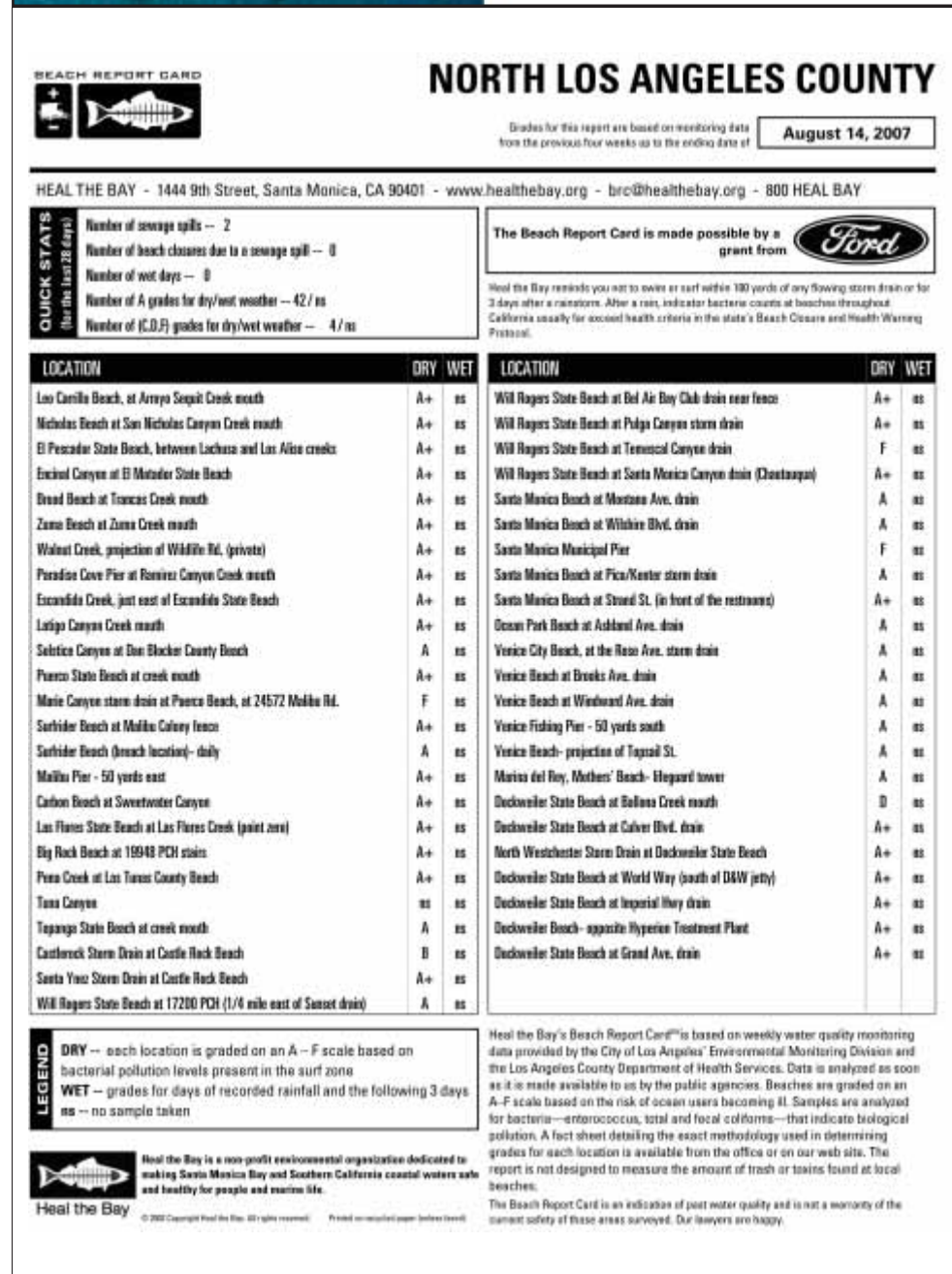
PLACE IN THE SUN: Homeless vets would now be able to seek help at the local Veterans Administration facility.



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A child is calling for help.



Soccer superstar revives a mania

BY BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

CARSON A month into his hugely hyped arrival with the Los Angeles Galaxy, David Beckham has finally made a splash on the field.

His timing was impeccable.

Just when Beckham mania appeared to be fading, the English superstar revived it by scoring his first goal and notching three assists while playing major minutes in two games last week.

Beckham's first goal for the Galaxy came in a 2-0 SuperLiga victory over D.C. United last Wednesday, his first start for his new team.

That famous bending free kick led to a fresh round of next-day Becks' highlights on everything from ESPN's "SportsCenter" to the tabloid show "Inside Edition."

"I've scored a lot of important goals in my career, big goals in my career, and this ranks among them," he said. "I wanted to get off to a good start with the team and with the fans."

Then he drew 66,237 to Giants Stadium for his first Major League Soccer start. Beckham set up two goals, but the Galaxy lost 5-4 to the New York Red Bulls on Saturday.

"Oh, yeah, there's tremendous pressure," Galaxy general manager Alexi Lalas said. "We're not naive to the fact that a lot of people want to see him and that there's a lot of people buying tickets specifically to see him."

The initial Beckham buzz had quickly died down because of a left ankle injury that relegated the former England captain to the bench for much of his first month.

Instead of “Bend It Like Beckham,” it was more “Bench It Like Beckham.”

He played a total of 37 minutes in two token appearances in his first eight games, disappointing fans in sellout crowds who were forced to buy tickets for multiple games just to see Beckham.

His first extended road trip drew an average of 42,211 fans to Toronto, Washington, New England and New York, although he sat out in Toronto and New England.

Lalas made no apologies for aggressively marketing Beckham despite his injury that occurred a month before he joined the team.

"When you buy a ticket to see the Galaxy, it says L.A. Galaxy on that ticket. It doesn't say any of our players' names and we can't guarantee that any of them will be out there," he said.

"We were upfront and said he could miss games because of injury, he could miss games because of England call-ups, all of these things that occur in every other sport."

Indeed, Beckham hopes his ankle is well enough for him to make his 97th appearance for England against Germany in London on Wednesday night. Then he'll fly across eight time zones to try to make Thursday's night MLS game against Chivas USA in Carson.

Not only are fans buying tickets — although just 17,223 saw his first goal in Carson — they're snapping up No. 23 jerseys.

Even with his injury, merchandise sales are up 700 percent for the Galaxy this season and 300 percent leaguewide because of Beckham, according to MLS.

However, until the most scrutinized left ankle in sports is fully healed, Beckham

may continue to play in fits and starts, prompting more of the criticism that's been directed at him and the team.

"It's unfair," Galaxy midfielder Peter Vagenas said. "If it were truly up to him, and if it were medically the right thing to do, he would have been out there a long time ago."

Beckham didn't practice with the team for the first time until last week. Before then, the Galaxy had limited media access to Beckham to news conferences. The team had been vague about his ankle and his playing status.

"It's so hard to come into a new situation where everything is so hyped and not be able to do anything about it," Galaxy goalkeeper Joe Cannon said. "It's been a trying time for all of us."

Beckham recently admitted that his ankle wasn't ready when he made his July 21 debut in an exhibition against Chelsea attended by a star-studded sellout crowd of 27,000 and shown live on ESPN.



I'VE SCORED A LOT OF IMPORTANT GOALS IN MY CAREER, BIG GOALS IN MY CAREER, AND THIS RANKS AMONG THEM,"

David Beckham, Los Angeles Galaxy

"It definitely aggravated it and put me back at least a week," he said.

But Lalas said Beckham himself decided to play that night.

"There was certainly a tremendous amount of pressure and in a perfect world, we would just say no and we would have set him down for a month," the general manager said. "But this is not a perfect world. This is a sport that is growing, and David has a tremendous responsibility that he accepts and recognizes."

When Beckham finally did start for the first time last Wednesday, what the public likely didn't notice was that by simply playing extended minutes for the first time, Becks became one of the guys.

“When he’s on the field with you and he’s helping you and contributing, then you look at him in a different way and he looks at us in a different way,” Landon Donovan said. “Not that we didn’t respect him before, but now there’s so much more respect.”

The air of mystery about Beckham's ankle and the amount of time he spent rehabbing it during his first month had created an unintentional distance between him and his new teammates. He was reluctant to take a leadership role and tell others what to do when he had yet to play much.

That changed last week when Donovan and Beckham chatted while walking to their cars after practice. Donovan, the Galaxy's biggest star until Beckham arrived, offered his captain's armband to Beckham.

"It made him immediately part of the team in a real sense," Donovan said. "Guys looked at him differently and he could say things to guys differently."

Red carpet TV Guide Network signs Fatone as co-host of its awards coverage

JOEY FATONE has signed on for red-carpet duty as co-host with Lisa Rinna of TV Guide Network's red-carpet coverage of major awards shows.

Their first gig together: the Emmy Awards on Sept. 16.

"Joey is a top-notch professional with a natural likeability and great sense of humor, all of which are

essential attributes of a red-carpet host," said TV Guide Network President Ryan O'Hara in a statement Tuesday.

"He will be a terrific complement to Lisa, who is also incredibly charismatic and brings a wealth of fashion savvy and insight," O'Hara said.

Fatone, 30, is host of NBC's sing-along variety

game show, "The Singing Bee." He was part of boy band N'Sync, and has appeared in several Broadway musicals, including "Little Shop of Horrors."

In a statement, Fatone said he plans to make "the red carpet experience entertaining, spontaneous and most of all fun – not only for those walking the

red carpet, but also for the fans watching at home."

He will co-host TV Guide's red-carpet coverage through 2008, including the Academy Awards, Golden Globe awards, Grammy Awards and Screen Actors Guild awards.

Rinna, 44, was announced as replacing Joan Rivers on the red

carpet in April 2007. Rivers and her daughter, Melissa, launched TV Guide's red-carpet programming in January 2005. They had previously appeared as red-carpet hosts on E! Entertainment.

Fatone and Rinna competed on separate seasons of ABC's "Dancing With the Stars."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GWEN STEFANI COVERS UP

GWEN STEFANI was a good girl, just like she promised.

The 37-year-old pop star wowed fans in Muslim-majority Malaysia on Tuesday, performing in costumes that showed almost no skin after Islamic critics claimed that her revealing clothes could corrupt the country's youth.

She burst onto the stage wearing a black leotard under a white short-sleeved shirt and black-and-white striped hot pants suit, with black gloves up to her elbows.

AP

Kanye West considers a particular 'SexyBack' singer his biggest rival

"My biggest inspiration and biggest competition is Justin Timberlake," the 29-year-old rapper tells XXL magazine in its October issue, on newsstands Sept. 11. "He's the only other person that gets an across-the-board response and respect level – black radio, white radio."

"If Justin hadn't come out and killed the game, I can't say that my album, singles and videos would be on the same level that they're on," he says. "We push each other. I look at me and Justin like Prince and Michael Jackson in their day."

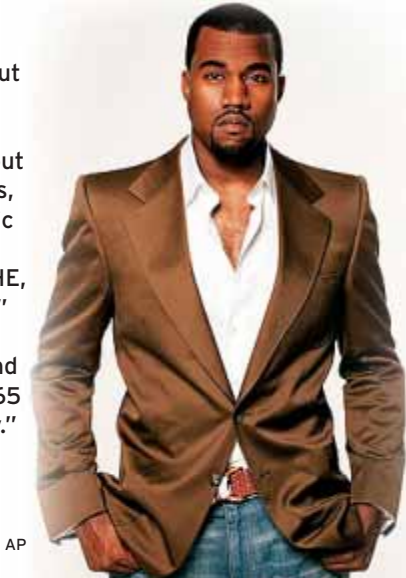
A sly dig at 50 Cent? Earlier this month, the 31-year-old gangsta rapper, whose real name is Curtis James Jackson, promised to quit his solo

career if West's new album, "Graduation," outsells his upcoming CD, "Curtis." Both albums are due out Sept. 11.

West, a six-time Grammy winner, tells XXL that he's "never cared about being No. 1." Record sales, he figures, aren't as important as how the music connects with people.

"I feel like my lyrics are, if not THE, then equal to, the realest lyrics out," he says. "I connected with so many people without talkin' about guns and drugs. ... It's harder to go to work 365 days than shoot a person in one day."

"There's nothing about wearing a pink Polo that would make anyone believe that I would hold a gun."



AP

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Where the action is, Aquarius

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You might want to head in another direction. Listen to your inner voice with a partnership and/or financial involvement. Judging or reacting will not get the results you want. If you are single, working out a relationship could be difficult. You might hook up with someone from your past. If you are attached, you will need to be understanding and accepting, as misunderstandings could run rampant. Trust that your sweetie will be step No. 1. SAGITTARIUS helps you smile.



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Guitarist John Lee Hooker (1917)

Author Ray Bradbury (1920)
Actress Valerie Harper (1940)

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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ A lively discussion opens doors. Know that much more can come out than you think. You will see a situation with far more understanding if you tune in to your loving side. Tonight: Let your hair down.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You might want to defer to someone else who will handle a situation differently. This person might seem to have a better understanding of the basics than many of those around you. Know when to defer. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Others want greater feedback. You might want to see them with more light and understanding. Reach out for someone at a distance. Speak your mind more clearly, yet with greater caring. You'll get a new vision of what is possible. Tonight: Let others make a decision.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You might want to see a situation in a different light. Recognize what could be possible if you relax and take in more information. Emphasize what you can do as opposed to what you cannot accomplish. Tonight: Run errands.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might have difficulties that are unforeseen. Perhaps the reason is your very difficult or touchy attitude. Others do their best to inspire you, though someone does it through the unexpected. Surprises mark your thoughts. Tonight: Invite fun in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Upset surrounds interactions with friends and partners. Close down for a short time, and you will see life far differently. Focus on home and security. Tonight: Order in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Friends and those on your team cheer you on. It does seem possible that you will hit a home run. Understand what might be ailing a close friend or relative. Actions you take might be greeted with surprise. Tonight: Hanging out is always fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Cash -- its existence or lack thereof -- might be an issue, as expenditures could have recently been more than anticipated. Tonight: Treat yourself to a special dessert, plant or whatever suits your fancy!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Your spirit survives even through a morning jolt. You come back better than ever. If you keep returning to the same thought or idea, do follow through on it. News from a distance might be quite good. Tonight: You have reason to smile!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Deal with one person carefully and privately. Respect this person's pride and privacy, which could make a big difference in your relationship. The unexpected encourages you to loosen up. Tonight: As you like.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Aim high even if you experience some morning wildness. Lesser signs might be tossed into a tizzy, but not you. Stay on top of a project or a long-term desire. You are just about to make a desire a reality. Tonight: Where the action is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Examine what is happening, but not in such a manner that you force an irrevocable change. Using care and responsibility will pay off even if impulsiveness rages in your heart. Chill and use self-discipline! Tonight: Could be a late night.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Vertigo
7:30

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

Bourne Ultimatum, The (PG-13)
1:30, 4:05, 6:55, 9:45
Daddy Day Camp (PG)
2:15, 4:35
The Last Legion (PG-13)
2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:00
Simpsons Movie, The (PG-13)
1:35, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:10
Transformers (PG-13)
7:00, 10:05

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

The Bourne Ultimatum (PG)
1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
Hairspray (PG)
1:45, 4:40, 7:35, 10:20
I Now Pronounce You Chuck & Larry (PG-13)
7:50, 10:25
No Reservations (PG)
2:00, 4:35, 7:25, 10:00
Ratatouille (G)
2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:50
The Simpsons Movie (PG-13)
1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30
Stardust (PG-13)
1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:35
Underdog (PG)
1:15, 3:25, 5:35

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Death at a Funeral (R)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Talk to Me (R)
1:00, 7:00
This Is England (NR)
4:00, 9:45

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

2 Days in Paris
(Deux jours a Paris) (R)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55
Becoming Jane (PG)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Delirious (NR)
1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50
La Vie en Rose
(La Mome) (PG-13)
1:20, 4:45, 8:10

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

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13)
12:10, 3:10, 6:30, 9:50
The Invasion (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
Rush Hour 3 (PG-13)
11:40am, 12:20, 2:10, 2:50, 4:40, 5:20, 7:10, 7:50, 9:20, 10:00
Superbad (R)
11:00am, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

INTRODUCING: THE MARRIED COUPLE

SO WE HIRED A SWEDISH AU PAIR TO HELP US WITH THE BABY

SHE WAS THE RUNNER-UP IN THE MISS SWEDEN PAGEANT AND IS A FORMER OLYMPIC SWIMMER

ARE THERE ANY RULES AGAINST HIRING A SWEDISH AU PAIR BEFORE YOU HAVE A BABY?

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, METROMART CUSTOMERS WILL NOW BE CALLED "GUESTS."

AND CUSTOMER SERVICE WILL NOW BE REFERRED TO AS "GUEST SERVICES."

AND EMPLOYEES WILL NOW BE REFERRED TO AS PATHETIC LOSERS WHO WORK FOR MINIMUM WAGE JUST TO GET MEDIOCRE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS.

WHAT?

I ADDED THE LAST LINE.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

LINDSAY LOHAN AND PARIS HILTON HAVE ENTERED A NUNNERY, SWORN OFF ALCOHOL AND TAKEN VOWS OF SILENCE.

IN RELATED NEWS, OVER ONE HUNDRED ENTERTAINMENT REPORTERS WERE LAID OFF.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

I'M SORRY ABOUT OUR DATE TONIGHT, LIZ

IT WAS DIFFERENT

I'VE NEVER SEEN A RESTAURANT RUN OUT OF FOOD BEFORE

THAT HAPPENS TO US ALL THE TIME

AND I'VE NEVER BEEN THROWN OUT OF AN AQUARIUM

THAT TOO

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

HUMMINGBIRDS ARE CUTE. NAUSEATING, BUT CUTE.

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew By John Deering



Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



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

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Spotted cat

7 Jane Austen novel

11 Lifelong resident

12 Added amount

13 Sender's inquiry

14 Overcast

15 Diamond period

17 Endure

20 Pride sounds

23 Census question

24 Letters for settler, e.g.

26 Stock holder

27 Match part

28 Daiquiri need

29 Without pausing to think

31 Hot drink

32 "Platoon" director

33 Catherine — (wife of Henry VIII)

34 Turn

37 Litmus reddener

39 Bully

43 Remote button

44 Galahad's mother

DOWN

1 Neighbor of Mich.

2 Highway sight

3 Airport abbr.

4 Allowed

5 Kitchen fixture

6 Seabird

7 Seasonal drink

8 Tequila drink

9 Farrow of films

10 Which-ever one

16 Fuming

45 Pod contents

46 Ready for the body shop

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

Yesterday's answer

17 Azure mineral

18 007, for one

19 Lisbon miss

21 Daytona entrant

22 Malign

24 Useful ability

25 Court divider

30 Battery ends

33 Texan tree

35 Made fun of

36 Floor piece

37 Band blaster

38 Prompt

40 Collection

41 After-noon hour

42 Newsman Potter

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
			15			16				
17	18	19				20			21	22
23				24	25					
26				27				28		
29			30					31		
32							33			
			34			35	36			
37	38				39			40	41	42
43					44					
45					46					

DAILY LOTTERY

8 38 54 55 56
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: \$171M

Super LOTTO

24 34 37 39 40
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: \$74M

Fantasy 5

14 18 21 34 37

DAILY 3

MIDDAY: 0 0 9
EVENING: 9 0 1

DAILY DERRY

1st: 07 Eureka!
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:47.80

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Kyle Krichbaum, 12, of Adrian, Mich., has had an obsession with vacuum cleaners since infancy, when he was mesmerized by the whirring, said his mother, and for years, he says, he has enjoyed vacuuming so much that he does the house up to five times a day, with one of the 165 new and used vacuum cleaners in his collection. Said a former teacher, "It's not that he didn't like recess. He just preferred to stay inside vacuuming." Older sister Michelle, interviewed for a July CBS News profile of Kyle, spoke for all of us: "He's constantly vacuuming. I'm just like 'why, why, why, why, why, why?' I don't understand."

■ Government in Action! In April, Britain's Office of Work and Pensions acknowledged to the Daily Mail that the multiple wives of polygamous husbands who are legally in the country routinely draw dependents' unemployment allowances from the government (even though polygamy itself is illegal in the U.K.). A single person receives the equivalent of about \$120 a week, and a married couple about \$180, with each additional wife about \$60.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1775 King George III declares the American colonies to be in open rebellion.

1902 Theodore Roosevelt became the first President of the United States to ride in an automobile.

1922 Michael Collins, Commander-in-Chief of the Irish Free State Army is shot dead during an Anti-Treaty ambush at Beal na mBlath, County Cork, during the Irish Civil War.

1950 Althea Gibson becomes the first black competitor in international tennis.

1962 An attempt to assassinate French president Charles de Gaulle fails.

1973 U.S. President Richard Nixon names Henry Kissinger as Secretary of State.

2003 Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore was suspended after refusing to comply with a federal court order to remove a rock inscribed with the Ten Commandments from the lobby of the Alabama Supreme Court building.

WORD UP!

indurate \IN-dur-it; -dyur-, adjective: 1. Physically or morally hardened; unfeeling; stubborn. transitive verb: 1. To make hard; to harden.2. To harden against; to make hardy; to habituate. 3. To make hardened; to make callous or stubborn. 4. To establish; to fix firmly. intransitive verb: 1. To grow hard; to harden. 2. To become established or fixed.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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--	---	--	---	--	--

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Miscellaneous

AFFORDABLE HOUSE CLEANING \$40

by day, honest reliable, own transportation, references, L.I./L.O. nanny housekeepers. Low fees, been in business since 1988, open 7 days. Call, ask for Adeline (818)705-0295 or fax (818)705-0297

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CAMPING MEMBERSHIP: Coast to coast USA/Canada. \$8.00/night (full hook-up), paid \$2595, illness forces sale, \$595. 1-800-236-0327

LOSE WEIGHT Now; Ask Me How! Herbalife Distributor! 10% Discount! Call Julian 310-451-1421. <http://herbal-nutrition.net/jkaelin>

Employment

BUSY, BRIGHT Pilates Studio needs part-time (M, T, W, F) Office Manager. Must be organized, have front desk, phone, banking and some computer experience. Call (310)582-8820

CASHIER / RETAIL SALES Seeking energetic individuals. F/T including Sat. Some experience, a plus. Bldg Materials location. Will train. Apply in person: Bourget Bros. 1636 11th St. Santa Monica, CA 90404

SECURITY OFFICERS

Make a change for the better NOW!
Lantz Security has great jobs in the beach area, all shifts. Guard card preferred. Apply online www.lantzsecurity.com or call (800) 870-4357

COUNTER HELP needed. Cafe near 3rd St. Promenade 215 Broadway. Must be experienced. Immediate openings morning and evening shifts. Apply afternoons in person. (310) 396-9898.

Employment

CO-OPPORTUNITY NOW HIRING!

Janitorial Assistant
Go to www.coopportunity.com for more info or stop by the store at 1525 Broadway for an application.

DANIEL'S PLUMBING now hiring plumbers. Must have clean Drivers license & background check. Please call (310)954 7709



DISPATCHERS NEEDED. Towing company is hiring dispatchers with previous experience. Be familiar with SM area. Please contact (310)923-8888

EARN \$1150 WEEKLY, Assembling Toys from Home. 1-866-258-9175, www.toyunion.net

FULL TIME operator/office assistant. Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Reliable and friendly. \$10/hr. + benefits. Call Susan (310)998-2200.

GENERAL OFFICE help for Swartz Glass Co., permanent position, full-time. w/ benefits. (310)829-0251

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the Environmental Services Department. Looking for part time housekeepers/floor techs. Hospital Experience preferred. Call (310)829-8431 for interview.

LIGHT OFFICE Work; P/T A.M.'s 10-15 hrs/wk. fax info 310-319-1335 or colin@drpaoletti.com.

PERRY'S BEACH Club – Now Hiring!
Work at the beach and get paid.
Hiring: Bike Rental Attendants
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Apply at Perry's, 2400 Ocean Front Walk and call Mary at (310)722-5853. (No calls on Thursdays.)

Employment

LOOKING FOR A GREAT PART TIME JOB?

A leading Market Research Company is looking for Hosts/Hostesses for its Los Angeles Focus Group facilities located in Santa Monica. Must have previous experience in Hospitality, Hostessing, Hotel or Wait Staff or in Market Research or related field. Interested applicants must be computer literate, responsible and flexible, well spoken and have previous experience with direct client interaction both in person and on the telephone. Job responsibilities include greeting clients, meal serving/clearing, audio & video recording as well as basic office and reception duties. Please email with "CSR Position" in subject line for consideration to mnorris@focuspointeglobal.com.

MOVE-IN COORDINATOR

Ocean House, an upscale retirement community, is looking for an ideal candidate to work part time as a Move-In Coordinator. Job duties include assisting new residents moving in with all required paperwork, making sure apartments are ready, giving tours of the community and assisting as necessary with the sales and marketing efforts. This position is part time, 3 days per week. Prior experience in an assisted living facility is a plus. If you are interested, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

MUSIC AIRPLAY CAMPAIGN SALES POTENTIAL \$80,000 P/T. (310)998-8305 XT 83

MYSTERY SHOPPERS! Earn up to \$150 daily. Get paid to shop pt/ft. Call now 800-690-1272.

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT company seeking full-time maintenance with experience in painting, plumbing, and electrical repairs. Salary range \$1733.40-\$2080/month doe. Benefits include vacation, sick, health insurance and 401k. Fax 714-940-0521 or email resumes@barkermgt.com.

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Employment

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RECEPTIONIST

OCEAN House, an upscale retirement community, is looking for an ideal candidate to work as a receptionist at our front desk. Job duties include answering phones, greeting residents and visitors and responding to inquiries. Some light clerical work is also involved. This is a full time position and benefits eligible after 90 days. If you are interested, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

SANTA MONICA Nissan as an immediate opening for a Warranty Administrator in the service department. We pay top \$ based on experience. Nissan/Automotive experience preferred but not mandatory. We're looking for a team player with strong administrative skills, who's well organized and self-motivated. Please contact Todd Maroot, Service Director for Santa Monica Nissan. 310-998-2222 ext 182.

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Diagnose, test repair, phone programming & software updates. Provide high level technical customer service support. B.S. Electronics & Communications Engineering, 40 hrs/week. Send ad & resume to: Wireless Experts Inc. 721 S. Glasgow Ave. Unit B. Inglewood, Ca. 90301.

TOW TRUCK drivers needed. Towing company is hiring drivers, will train. Must be able to pass drug and alcohol test with clean driving records. 2200 Centinela, Los Angeles, Cross st. Olympic. Please contact (310)923-8888

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737

WLA DENTAL office Looking for self-motivated, excellent communication, and people skills. B/f office. Will train. Fax resume to (310)474-7944

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

YUMMY CUPCAKES is now looking for energetic, smart, responsible, fun, hard workers to join our team. If you love people and love cupcakes this is the place for you! Please reply to enjoy@yummycupcakes.com

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FOR SALE

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Full size, double-sided pillow-top, Sterns & Fosters mattress with box spring. The mattress is 14" thick and the box spring is 4.5" thick. The mattress is in excellent condition but is dirty on one side from being moved out of storage. The mattress and the box spring are being sold together for \$200.00.

Full size antique, mahogany bed frame. This bed frame is incredibly easy to assemble and has wheels on the ends of the legs for easy moving. The frame is being sold alone for \$50.00.

IKEA chest of drawers is in good condition. It is the IKEA Robin style, white with three drawers. The measurements are: height at 32.5", width at 35.1" and depth is 16". Sale price is \$10.00.

If you are interested in any of these items please contact Audrey at 323-422-1980.

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www.apartmenthunterz.com

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APR 7.6%

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APR 7.74%

5.5%

1 MO./1 MO. ARM

APR 8.5%

1.5**

*Rates subject to change

* As of August 1, 2007

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Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (UCC Sec. 6105) Escrow No. 41415-JH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s) and business address(es) of the seller(s) is/are: SUSAN NEUBERG, 728 MONTANA AVE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

Doing business as: LIAT HOME & BODY

All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s), is/are: NONE

The name(s) and business address of the buyer(s) is/are: ANDREW'S CHEESE SHOP, LLC, 728 MONTANA AVE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

The assets being sold are generally described as: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, TRADE NAME, LEASEHOLD INTEREST & IMPROVEMENTS and is located at: 728 MONTANA AVE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403

The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: BUSINESS TITLE ESCROW INC, 25152 SPRINGFIELD CT, STE 285, VALENCIA, CA 91355 and the anticipated sale date is SEPTEMBER 10, 2007

The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform

Notices

Commercial Code Section 6106.2. The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: BUSINESS TITLE ESCROW INC, 25152 SPRINGFIELD CT, STE 285, VALENCIA, CA 91355 and the last day for filing claims by any creditor shall be SEPTEMBER 7, 2007, which is the business day before the anticipated sale date specified above.

Dated: AUGUST 18, 2007

ANDREW'S CHEESE SHOP, LLC, Buyer(s)

PCTS LA133125 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 8/22/2007

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (Division 6 of the Commercial Code) Escrow No. 07-61957-S

(1) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.

(2) The name(s) and business address(es) of the seller(s) is/are: ROBERT M. SAKAMOTO, 3250 PICO BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

(3) The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: SAME AS ABOVE

(4) The name(s) and business address of the buyer(s) is/are: THRIFTY PAYLESS, INC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, P.O. BOX 3165, HARRISBURG, PA 17105

(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: ALL SALEABLE INVENTORY, ALL PRESCRIPTION FILES AND RECORDS, THE TRADE NAME AIRPORT PHARMACY OR ANY PART OR COMBINATION THEREOF, ALL COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND HARDWARE AT THE LOCATION AND DATA CONTAINED THEREON REPRESENTING THE FILES AND RECORDS, INCLUDING ANY SOFTWARE REQUIRED TO ACCESS THE FILES AND RECORDS, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, IMPROVEMENTS AND ALL OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY, OF THAT CERTAIN BUSINESS and is located at: 3250 PICO BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at the said location is: AIRPORT PHARMACY

(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is SEPTEMBER 10, 2007, at the office of MISSION VALLEY ESCROW, 25665 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH, SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-3779, ESCROW NO. 07-61957-S, ESCROW OFFICER: SUE D'SPAIN

(8) Claims may be filed the same as "7" above.

(9) The last date for filing claims is: SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial

(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business name(s) and addresses used by the Seller within three years before such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE

Dated: AUGUST 9, 2007

THRIFTY PAYLESS, INC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, Buyer(s)

PCTS LA133098 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 8/22/2007

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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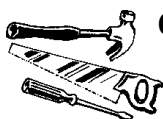
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