



Santa Monica Daily Press

HANDS OF GOLD
SEE PAGE 11

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE ARE WE THERE YET? ISSUE

Fluoride becomes standard

Controversial mineral to be added to city's water supply

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE The regional agency that supplies roughly 90 percent of Santa Monica's drinking water will move forward with plans to mix in fluoride this fall, despite lingering debates over the additive's health benefits.

The Metropolitan Water District board of directors voted in 2003 to fluoridate the water it supplies in a six-county service area, a move supported by advocates who fought for the change as a method of preventing tooth decay.



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com
GULP: Michael Hegedus, a waiter at Michael D's, pours a glass of water.

After years of planning, the agency, which heard testimony from both sides of the issue Monday, is prepared to fluoridate the water at its Riverside treatment plant in late October, before moving on to four others, including the F.E. Weymouth Treatment Plant in LaVerne, which supplies water to Los Angeles County communities, said Edgar G. Dymally, senior environmental specialist with water quality for MWD.

"We are convinced here, and we deal with protecting the public health as part of our mission, that the water is safe," Dymally said. "There has been no credible evidence presented to us or the water community indicating that drinking water fortified with fluoride is deleterious to public health.

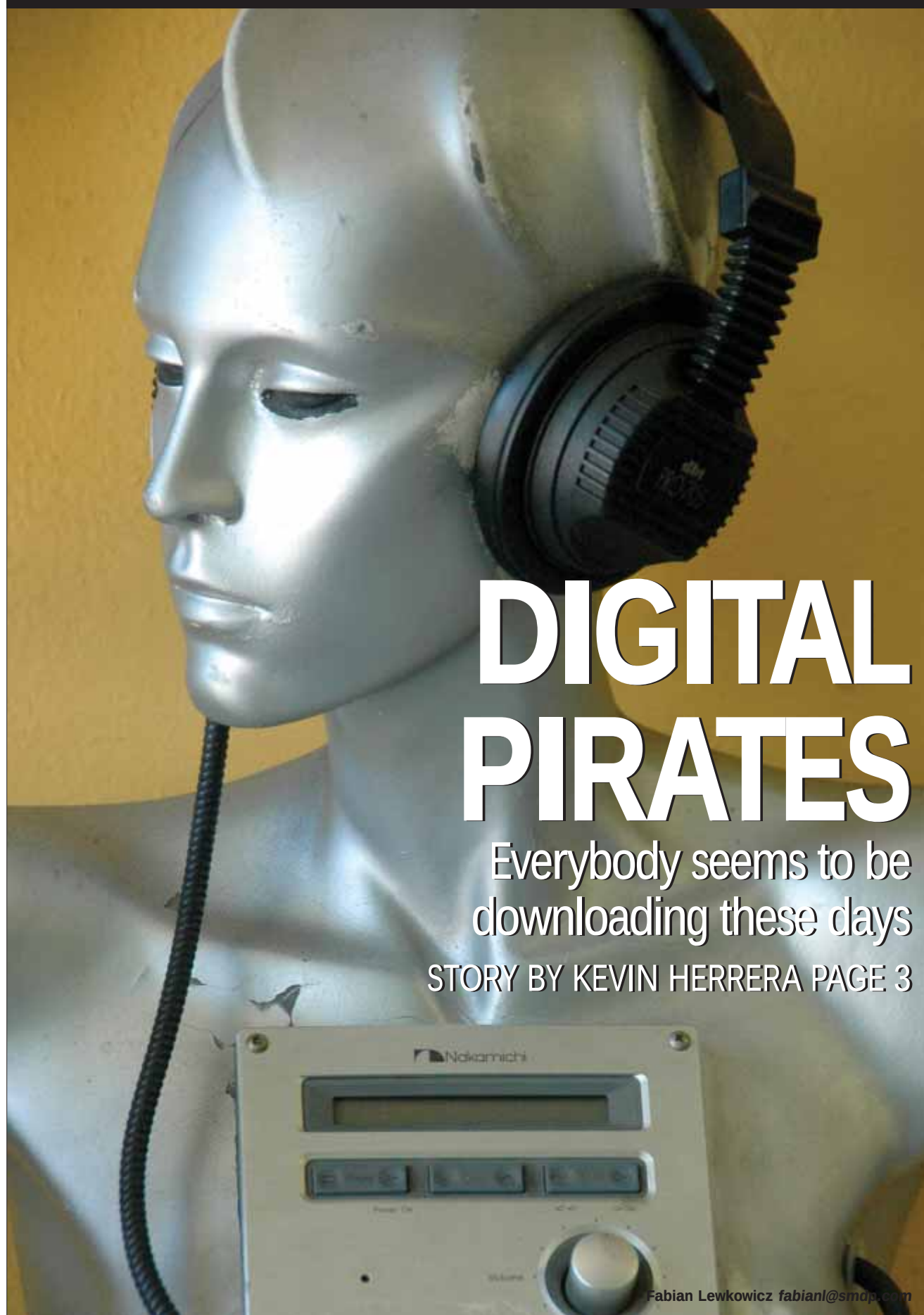
"This has been proven to be safe and effective."

Fluoridated water is expected to start flowing from Santa Monica taps by Nov. 12. Gil Borboa, City Hall's water resource manager, said city staff will also add fluoride to the remaining 10 percent of water supplied to residents and local businesses from a well beneath San Vicente Boulevard.

Notices will be sent out to every residence and business soon informing people about the change. About 0.2 to 0.4

SEE WATER PAGE 13

LIFESTYLE



DIGITAL PIRATES

Everybody seems to be downloading these days

STORY BY KEVIN HERRERA PAGE 3

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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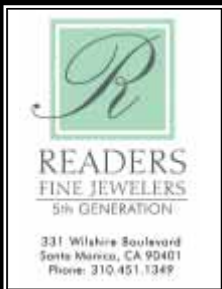
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Calendar

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



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.

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. For more information, visit www.brentwoodcountrymart.com.

Yappy Hour @ Tails of Santa Monica

2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

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

The 12 Steps for Everybody

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

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

Friday, Aug. 24, 2007

Friday Family Flicks: 'The Wizard of Oz'

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

The Main Library's Friday Family Flicks festival continues with the classic, "The Wizard of Oz," starring Judy Garland. Free family fun. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Seek help for your creepy momma fixation at the Aero

1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m.

The Aero Theater presents Hitchcock's "Psycho," followed by "Spellbound," starring Ingrid Bergman as Gregory Peck's psychiatrist. Guests subject to availability. Advance tickets available through www.fandango.com.

Brazilian Friday

1026 Wilshire Blvd., 8:30 p.m.

Don't get them confused, but Sambajah and Sambada are performing tonight at Temple Bar, along with DJ Manu Gil. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. For more information, visit www.templebarlive.com.

Ruskin's Shakespeare

3000 Airport Ave., 8 p.m.

The Ruskin Group Theatre presents the comedy "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)." All of Shakespeare's plays are presented within 97 minutes. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students and senior citizens. Call (310) 397-3244 or visit www.ruskingrouptheatre.com.

'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.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



CORRECTION:

In an article detailing the imminent closing of Ceragem International ("Rubbed out for good," Aug. 22), it should have stated that the massage bed retailer is closing its downtown office on or after Aug. 31.

Defamation suit settled for Hilton

Heiress was accused of spreading falsities

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COURTHOUSE Paris Hilton won't be seen crying for mommy here anytime soon.

A \$10 million defamation lawsuit against the hotel heiress was settled out of court on Wednesday just before the jury selection process was to commence for the trial in which model Zeta Graff claimed Hilton spread lies about her to a gossip columnist.

The attorneys for both parties announced Wednesday morning to Judge Linda Lefkowitz that their clients had reached an amicable resolution, leaving entertainment reporters that arrived after the fact surprised, some seemingly disappointed.

The terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

Word apparently spread quickly of the settlement, the hallway leading to the courtroom strangely devoid of Hollywood journalists for such a high-profile case. The Santa Monica Courthouse was buzzing with the news as discussions about Hilton could be heard down the corridors, some county employees expressing disappointment, others relieved to have avoided an anticipated media circus.

The attorneys for both parties — Bruce Broillet, Michael Avenatti and Alan Van Gelder for Graff, and Henry Gradstein for Hilton — released a joint statement on Wednesday.

"Both parties are glad that the matter could be resolved without the time and expense of a trial," they said.

The drama surrounding the two socialites centered on a July 2005 Page Six column that detailed a run-in at a London night club. The New York Post gossip item stated that Graff became consumed in a jealous rage after she saw Hilton dancing with her ex-boyfriend, Greek shipping

SEE HILTON PAGE 13



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

PAYING TO PLAY: Bennett Stein, a film director, listens to some jazz Wednesday before making a purchase at Benway Records on Pico Boulevard. The rampant piracy of music and movie downloads has cost entertainers and others in the business dearly.

Pirates pervade SM

Illegal downloading a common practice of many residents

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

THIRD STREET Aaron Paulson knows what he's doing is wrong, but he just can't help it.

The 19-year-old UCLA student is addicted to downloading free music and movies over the Internet. Whether it's songs from his favorite artists or bootlegged movies that have yet to arrive in theaters, Paulson can't seem to say "no" to piracy, even though he knows that by downloading he's not only breaking the law, he's taking food out of the mouths of his favorite artists.

"It's really just a matter of convenience,

and I'm broke," said Paulson, as he walked along the Third Street Promenade Wednesday with his iPod in hand, listening to The White Stripes' latest "Icky Thump," which he downloaded for free off of the peer file sharing network LimeWire.

"It's gotten to the point where I just don't even think about it anymore," added Paulson, a public policy major. "I just click a button and, within a few minutes, I've got the song I want and I move on to the next one. I think that as long as I'm going to [concerts] or going to the movies, I'm supporting them.

"I see the free stuff as kind of a bonus."

One in every four people in Los Angeles County knowingly bought, copied or downloaded illegal goods over the past year, according to a new Gallup Organization survey that was commissioned by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The survey, which included 892 respon-

dents, focused on the attitudes and behaviors of consumers here who knowingly buy fake goods, including bootleg movies, illegally copied CDs, knockoff Gucci handbags and counterfeit auto and airplane parts.

It found that the piracy rate in Los Angeles County was 25 percent — considerably higher than the 20 percent rate discovered nationwide in a separate study conducted last year.

"This really confirmed what we already knew, but it's definitely interesting to have that perception confirmed and it shows that we have a lot more work to do in educating consumers and local officials about how serious a problem this is," said Rob Calia, senior manager for anti-counterfitting and piracy for the chamber.

The survey was released just in time for a week-long conference on piracy in Los

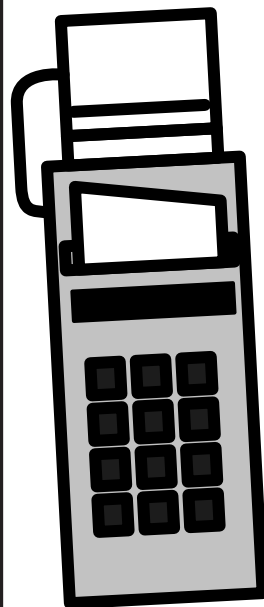
SEE PIRACY PAGE 12

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cops, Council perpetuate cycle
Editor:

David Pissarra’s column about prohibiting walking on the bike path (“Walking shouldn’t be allowed on path,” Aug. 21) brings up a sore point with me. For years, I made an annual summer call to the Santa Monica Police asking why they refused to enforce the statute. I always got the same reply: “Manpower.”

Finally, about three years ago, I gave up riding the path because it was close to impossible to use it safely to get exercise – as opposed to trolling along at 5 mph, dodging pedestrians (always in groups of two or three), joggers, prams and Rollerbladers, hand-in-hand, swaying to the music across both lanes.

As for any member of the City Council riding a bike – on the path or elsewhere – I can only ask: “Are you havin’ a laugh?”

They aren’t that green.

Ron Di Costanzo
Santa Monica

Bikers headed down wrong path
Editor:

I agree that walkers should stay off the bike paths (“Walking shouldn’t be allowed on path,” Aug. 21). It is unsafe and inconsiderate.

However, I wonder if David Pissarra has ever considered that many bikers also use the sidewalks and the walking paths? I have seen many near-collisions between bikes and walkers on the walking paths in Palisades Park and on the sidewalks all over Santa Monica – with the designated street bike paths less than 50 feet away. Bikers are usually moving much faster than the walkers and pose a great hazard to seniors and toddlers.

Bikers also ride two abreast on the designated street bike paths, making it dangerous for them and for the drivers trying to go by them in cars while staying in their designated right car lane.

Perhaps there needs to be consideration both ways, and tickets issued to those walkers and bikers who are in the wrong place.

Oh, yes, I just remembered, the police may be too busy watching the Palisades Park employees put out traps for the ground squirrels to do the ticketing. There were officers from three squad cars in the park (the other) morning, watching the traps be set!

Carol Landsberg
Santa Monica

Got earphones, will travel
Editor:

In the revolving world of the damages of our newfound technology and cityscape, earplugs are needed for most of the day in day-to-day travels. You will find it is not just about tuning out the noises and noise pollution of the constant barrage of honking, but also the irritable cellphone screamers who have no concept of the reality that perhaps their conversation is not really all that important or even mildly remotely interesting to the rest of the world.

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The Rand Stand

Onkar Ghat

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Just say no to the
‘self-esteem’ pushers

THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR is an appropriate time to question how our schools propose to teach our children.

Today’s educators, observing wide-spread self-doubt among the young, believe that the way to get a student to learn is to inflate his self-confidence. They believe that the curriculum should be designed, in the words of a resolution from the National Education Association, to “foster positive self-esteem.”

There is indeed a lack of self-esteem among our students. The real tragedy, however, is that the educators’ irrational view of “positive self-esteem” not only prevents a solution to this problem — it is itself part of the very cause.

Too many educators believe that self-esteem can be achieved simply by encouraging a child to “feel good” about himself. They continually exhort students to praise themselves causelessly, by such means as chanting in class: “I am me and I am enough.”

The actual reality of the child’s life — the choices he makes, the thinking he engages in, the effort he exerts, the actions he takes — is disregarded. As one guide-book on self-esteem explains: “Children have the right to feel good about themselves exactly as they are ... A child’s value is unconditional. Nothing the child does, says or chooses can change it.”

This is absurd. Real self-esteem consists not in unearned self-praise, but in an earned conviction about yourself. It is the unshakable knowledge that you — by your choices, effort and actions — have made yourself into the kind of person able to deal with reality. It is the conviction — based on the evidence of your own volitional functioning — that you are fundamentally able to succeed in life and, therefore, are deserving of success.

Since it is only through careful, logical thought and action that one develops the ability to cope with reality, self-esteem results from an individual’s commitment to reason. A rational, productive person will possess self-esteem; a drug-addicted bum will not.

In the view of our Dewey-inspired educators, however, logic is a “straitjacket.” Students are taught by “progressive” educators that there are no rigid principles in life, and that emotion, not reason, is one’s link to reality; the purpose of education is to teach the child to effectively express his feelings.

But a child who makes bad choices because he feels like it — who does not think, but drifts in class, who shuts down his mind at the first sign of difficulty, who heads for the mall instead of exerting the effort that learning requires — will not acquire self-esteem. Constantly getting the answers wrong in class and feeling bewildered by the world outside, such a child will experience only uncertainty, helplessness and self-doubt.

How then will these educators make

him “feel good” about himself? By attempting to obliterate any facts that lead him to a negative estimate of himself. More and more, they teach him that there are never any wrong answers.

This is what gives rise to such nightmarish phenomena as inventive spelling, whereby a fourth-grader who spells “favorite” as “ffifit” is lauded by the teacher for expressing a “creative feeling.” This viewpoint infects even the most objective of disciplines, mathematics. One educator explains the root of a girl’s errors in mathematics: “She was trying to get these problems right. The alternative was to get them wrong ... So this is a situation within the win-lose world in which there’s no way the child can feel good about the assignment.”

THERE IS CERTAINLY A
CRISIS OF SELF-ESTEEM
AMONG AMERICA’S
STUDENTS. BUT DON’T
LOOK TO THE MODERN
PUSHERS OF PSEUDO
SELF-ESTEEM FOR THE
REMEDY.

Erase the concepts of objective reality and truth from the child’s mind — these educators maintain — and he will never discover that he is thinking or acting wrongly. If he believes that anything he does is right because he feels it, he will always “feel good” about himself. For this reason, a Minnesota Education Association’s guide to self-esteem tells students: “Express your beliefs ... as your point of view — not as the ‘truth.’”

Today’s child lacks self-esteem precisely because modern educators encourage him to dispense with his mind and indulge his feelings. Self-doubt is the inevitable result, as the child realizes that he lacks the tool by which to comprehend reality.

Yet, to solve the problem they themselves have created, educational leaders propose to continue the same anti-reason, emotionalist approach to teaching.

There is certainly a crisis of self-esteem among America’s students. But don’t look to the modern pushers of pseudo self-esteem for the remedy. Their ideas are the disease.

Dr. Onkar Ghat is a senior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. Contact the writer at media@aynrand.org.

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

 Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Peace, love and a sub-zero existence

IN A CRUSHING BLOW TO FREE SPIRITS everywhere, China has banned Buddhist monks in Tibet from reincarnating without government permission, according to Newsweek. The Chinese State Administration for Religious Affairs said the new law, which goes into effect next month to "institutionalize management of reincarnation," also bans Buddhist monks outside of China from seeking life after death.

For his part, the Dalai Lama is sticking his tongue out and saying nanny-nanny-poo-poo, refusing to be reborn in Tibet anyway as long as the Chinese are in control. Buddhist devotees around the world are grumbling that reincarnating just isn't what it used to be, especially for dalai lamas, who are said to have controlled every aspect of their rebirths since the 1400s or so.

The news couldn't have come at a worse time for the Bohemian community. While hippies across the country prepared to celebrate the 38th anniversary of Woodstock this month, word got out that the home in Bethel, N.Y., once owned by Max Yasgur, is up for sale.

Yasgur's farm, the site of the legendary 1969 concert that became synonymous with sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll, will next become the crash pad for a flower child willing to shell out from his or her Guatemalan change purse the \$8 million asking price. The 103-acre property adjacent to the alfalfa field where 500,000 people joined together for three days of peace and music comes with a farmhouse, barn and 2,000-square-foot house with 22-foot vaulted ceilings and a gourmet kitchen stocked with double convection ovens, stainless steel appliances, a Viking stove and an antique soapstone sink.

And, of course, no free-love nest would be complete without a steam shower, double whirlpool tub and bidet.

While the alfalfa field where the actual concert was held isn't for sale (cable tycoon Alan Gerry won't part ways with that property, which he turned into a 12,000-person concert venue last year), acid flashbacks to the infamous August weekend will be included at no additional charge.

The current owner is packing up his tie-dyes and flashing a figurative peace-sign goodbye after struggling unsuccessfully for years to get local officials to grant permission for Woodstock reunion gatherings. With the intentions of a potential new homeowner unknown, nonconformists are expected to

begin flocking en masse in their Birkenstocks and Range Rovers to catch a final glimpse of the spot where the Summer of Love peaked.

Fortunately, not all the news of late is dim for modern-day followers of 1960s counter-culture. Last month, the Starbucks coffee chain signed folk icon and Woodstock performer Joni Mitchell to its music label. Her first new album in five years will hit java joints Sept. 25. Mitchell joins Paul "All You Need is Love" McCartney on the coffee megachain's growing roster of artists.

And for those lefty radicals who can't wait five and a half weeks to hear from one of the great artists of yore while sipping a Blueberries and Crème Frappuccino, available now in Starbucks is a two-disc compilation of another Woodstock performer, the Grateful Dead. Those hunting for bootlegs of the collection will do little more than chase their tails in circles, though, as the album, "Eternally Grateful," is only available at Starbucks locations.

Bob Dylan, believed by many to be a pioneer of the cultural dissent movement because of his unwavering rejection of established institutions, pulled out of performing at Woodstock because his son was ill. However, he precedes Mitchell and the Dead in performing specifically for caffeine aficionados. Through the Starbucks label, he released a disc of some of his earliest known recordings a few years ago.

And he's no stranger to alternative retail as a way to get his music to the public. After appearing in a Victoria's Secret TV commercial, the bra and panty überchain made available in their shops a \$10 custom CD compilation of Dylan's "most seductive" tunes. Now treehuggers and stoners alike are panting at the prospect of a mega collaboration between Dylan, Mitchell and the Dead, hoping the idols might bond over a cup of joe and come together to help affect change through music, just like in the old days. Updating Mitchell's 1970 landmark tune, "Woodstock," is one option.

For example:

"We're in Starbucks/We are golden/Caught in the devils bargain/But we've got to get ourselves/Back to Madison Square Garden."

No word from Starbucks if they plan to begin selling "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Past Life Regression" or serving Kool-Aid Chai Lattes anytime soon.

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



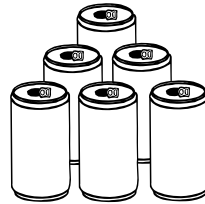
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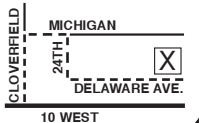
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The Q-Line

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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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Loophole lets interns be teachers

BY JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO When Maribel Heredia's son told her that his first-grade teacher was "going to college" and there would be a substitute in the classroom two days a week, she started asking questions.

Only then did she learn the teacher the Hayward Unified School District labels "highly qualified" is still a student herself.

Calling the teacher highly qualified allows the district to meet the provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind education law, which requires that all students be taught by skilled teachers in core subjects such as English and math. The district's classification is legal.

Heredia said she believes such classifications are misleading and allow districts to place unqualified teachers in classrooms. On Tuesday, she was among a group of parents

and education advocates who sued the U.S. Department of Education over its interpretation of what makes a highly qualified teacher.

"I didn't know that they let the teachers right from college, let them take a class all by themselves," Heredia said. "So the fact that she was considered highly qualified, that was a shocker to me."

Cheryl Petermann, assistant superintendent of human resources for the Hayward district, declined to comment.

The loophole in the law allows school districts around the country to skirt the spirit of No Child Left Behind, according to the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco. The suit claims that only teachers with full state certification should be considered highly qualified.

"Congress did not intend that an individual with no prior training in how to teach would be labeled 'highly qualified' on her

first day in the classroom merely because she is 'participating' in an alternative route to certification," the lawsuit states.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Education declined to comment on the lawsuit. A message left by The Associated Press with the House Committee on Education and Labor, chaired by Democratic Rep. George Miller, of California, was not returned.

The provision, which covers teachers in alternative certification programs, allows more than 10,000 interns in California to be classified as highly qualified, the lawsuit claims.

Nationwide, there are tens of thousands of "highly qualified" interns in the classroom, although there is no way to know the exact number because states are not required to report it, said John Affeldt, managing attorney with Public Advocates, a San Francisco law firm that is among the parties

to the lawsuit.

A law passed by the state Legislature requires California school districts to report the number of interns on their staffs. That report shows only the number, however, making it difficult for parents such as Heredia to know how much training their child's teacher has.

The No Child Left Behind Act also requires schools that receive federal poverty funding to notify parents when their child is taught for more than four weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified. Districts can skip the mandate if the teachers are part of an alternative teacher training program.

Intern teachers who are still learning don't like the loophole either and should not be held to the same standard as teachers who have decades of experience in the classroom, said Chelsea Byers, an intern teacher in the Oakland Unified School District who also is labeled as highly qualified.

Lawmakers end budget standoff, pass \$145 billion package

BY AARON C. DAVIS
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO California lawmakers on Tuesday ended one of the state's longest budget stalemates in 30 years, agreeing to a \$145 billion spending plan that reins in expenses and addresses myriad concerns of holdout Republicans.

The deal emerged quickly on Tuesday after Assembly and Senate leaders agreed in

principle to the deal late Monday night, more than seven weeks after the July 1 start of the budget year.

"I'll state the obvious: Thank God this is over," Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland, said after the vote. "I'm still perplexed why it took so long."

As part of the agreement, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vowed to use his line-item veto power to cut \$700 million and eliminate the state's chronic operating deficit, at

least for one year. The deficit is forecast to swell to more than \$5 billion next year.

Once Schwarzenegger signs the budget, the state will begin releasing billions of dollars in overdue payments to schools, hospitals and a variety of social service agencies that rely on state funding. The money could begin flowing by the end of the week.

The deal also clears the Legislature and Schwarzenegger to move forward on an ambitious policy agenda that includes

sweeping health care reform and a proposal to overhaul California's massive water-delivery system of reservoirs, pumps and canals.

Whether the two parties will be able to compromise following the bitter, 51-day budget standoff, however, remains unclear.

Republicans already have said they oppose many of the health care reforms proposed by Democrats and Schwarzenegger.

The budget plan was approved 27-12 in the Senate with two Republican votes.



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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES
Lawsuit filed over alleged Inglewood police rape

A Florida woman who claims she was raped by an Inglewood police officer sued department officials, contending the department's policies created an "unrestrained, undisciplined and out of control" atmosphere.

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in federal court, contends that the 23-year-old woman was in town to visit relatives on Dec. 15 when she was stopped by two officers while walking to a fast-food restaurant. The officers accused her of being a prostitute and followed her back to her motel, where according to the suit, one officer insisted that she take him to her room and forced her to have sex.

No criminal charges have been filed in the case but the Los Angeles County district attorney's office was investigating her claims.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORRANCE
Mail carrier in intensive care after pit bull attack

A 60-year-old mail carrier needed reconstructive facial surgery after he was attacked by a pit bull as he walked his route, officials said.

"He was mauled very badly on the right side of his face," said Postal Service spokesman Rich Maher. Maher said the carrier was in stable but serious condition in intensive care and needed a tube in his throat to breathe.

Postal officials did not identify the carrier, but customers on his route told the Daily Breeze the man is Moon Choi of Cerritos.

Cameron Brown, who lives with the dog's owners, said he was watering the lawn when the carrier walked past the home Monday and said "No mail for you today."

The 100-pound pit bull began barking, leaped over a nearly 4-foot iron fence and bit the carrier on the head.

AP

SAN BERNARDINO
County upholds law restricting off-road vehicles

Supervisors in San Bernardino County have agreed to keep intact a law passed last year restricting the use of off-road vehicles, but said they will reconsider one of its provisions.

The county's huge stretches of dirt are popular with off-road riders, but after complaints from neighbors over noise, dust and trespassing, the supervisors passed a law in April 2006 requiring riders to have written permission from owners when on private property, to use vehicles that meet state noise standards, and to have a \$155 temporary-event permit when 10 or more riders gather.

The supervisors agreed to take a look at the law a year later and on Monday voted to uphold it after a four-hour public hearing.

AP

LA HABRA
City pays \$5.2 million to shut down strip club

Following years of controversy and litigation, the city will pay more than \$5 million to shut down a strip club.

The City Council voted 4-0 Monday to approve a deal with the owner of the Taboo Gentleman's Club, shelling out a total of \$5.2 million to settle the last of several lawsuits and to buy the club and the two acres of land it sits on.

City officials claimed the club, with its fully nude dancers and blacked-out windows, were a blight on the community and a magnet for criminal activity. They hope to turn the site, which was originally home to a bank, over to a retail business that will help with the city's attempts to revitalize downtown.

"There are already developers interested in the land," Mayor Jim Gomez said. "We'll be able to flip that building over quickly."

Taboo owner Badi "Bill" Gammoh and the city have sued each other repeatedly since the business opened in 1998, and the lawsuits have cost the city \$1.5 million in attorneys fees.

AP

PISMO BEACH
Pier pigeons get new lease on life with removal program

The pigeons of the Pismo Pier won't become zoo food.

The Pismo Beach City Council reversed course Tuesday on a measure that would have used a trap-and-kill eradication program for the estimated 400 pigeons that flock to the pier every day, opting for a contract with the Humane Pigeon Relocation Group instead.

That Santa Maria-based organization plans to remove the pigeons, along with their eggs and nests, to a farm in Cuyama, and to put netting under the pier to keep new birds from roosting there.

The Council had voted unanimously in July to hire a pest control company to trap and kill the pigeons and to use their carcasses for food for the animals at Zoo to You, a zoo for abused and abandoned animals in Paso Robles. The vote came in response to worries that pigeon droppings were contributing to elevated bacteria levels in the water near the pier.

AP

ANAHEIM
Voters to decide on Disneyland housing plan

The City Council voted Tuesday to let voters decide whether housing, including more than 200 affordable condominiums, should be built a few blocks from Disneyland.

City spokesman John Nicoletti said the council voted 4-1 to place a referendum on the June 3 ballot asking whether the council's earlier vote to change zoning in a nonresidential district should be rescinded. That vote paved the way toward allowing housing to be placed across the street from Disney-owned land.

AP

Study: Back Pain Sufferers Benefit From New Technology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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A map of Los Angeles showing the locations of the five neighborhoods. The map is color-coded: Downtown is light blue, Mid-City is light red, Main Street is light green, Pico/Sunset Park is light orange, and Venice is light yellow. A thick black line runs vertically through the center, separating the western and eastern parts of the city.



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Dean doesn't fear primary shuffle

BY STEVEN K. PAULSON
Associated Press Writer

DENVER Democratic National Committee chairman Howard Dean said Wednesday he believes states that are rushing to move their primaries and caucuses to Feb. 5 will have little impact on the Democratic presidential race — but that they still could face sanctions if their schedules break party rules.

“One of two things will happen, and Feb. 5 isn't going to be deciding, no matter what,” Dean said. “Either somebody will sweep through three or four of the first primaries or caucuses, in which case Feb. 5 will rubber-stamp that person, or we won't know after the three or four first caucuses, in which case we'll divide on Feb. 5 too.”

“So, I expect we'll either know the nominee in January or we're going to know the nominee probably sometime in March,” Dean said.

Dean's remarks came after he gave a speech at a rally celebrating the one-year countdown to the party's nominating convention here. Gov. Bill Ritter and Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper also addressed the rally.

“Our objective is to continue the present schedule that we have. We intend to do that, and there are some pretty strong sanctions in the rules of the DNC that were agreed to

by every single state last year and I expect the rules committee will probably enforce the rules,” Dean said at Denver's downtown Pepsi Center, site of the 2008 convention.

The DNC's rules committee will meet Saturday to decide what to do about the primary shuffle, he said. Sanctions could include a boycott by presidential candidates of states that break the rules, as occurred in 1996, when Iowa and New Hampshire engineered candidate boycotts of the Louisiana caucuses and Delaware primary.

The scramble to change primary and caucus dates was touched off when South Carolina Republicans pushed up their 2008 presidential primary to Jan. 19. That provoked a dramatic shift in the nominating calendar and could mean the first votes are cast in December.

New Hampshire is expected to follow suit to protect its first-in-the-nation primary status. Iowa, home to the leadoff caucuses, left little doubt it would do whatever necessary to ensure it keeps the lead in the nominating process it has had for three decades.

Both national party committees have said they will penalize states that schedule nominating contests before Feb. 5 by withholding half of those states' delegates to the conventions next summer. The threat has largely been ignored because states assume that, as in past elections, whoever the party nominates will take over the national committees before the

conventions and won't enforce the penalty.

During Wednesday's rally, Dean told supporters this will be one of the most innovative conventions in history, combining technology and environmentally friendly standards. He, Ritter and Hickenlooper emphasized inroads made by Democrats in the West and said the convention will underscore the region's importance to winning the White House.

“This convention will shine a spotlight not just on the people and places that make the West such an important part of the road to the White House but also on the pragmatic problem-solving nature of our Western leaders,” Ritter declared.

Neither Dean nor the Denver host committee would disclose how much money has been raised for the convention.

The host committee's goal is to raise \$40 million in cash and \$15 million in in-kind contributions by June 2008. But it stopped issuing fundraising updates after falling short of its first benchmark. For June 1, it reported about \$6 million in cash, short of its \$7.5 million goal.

Former Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rollie Heath said he's not worried about raising the money, saying people always wait until the last minute.

“You always worry. I think the majority of these people will grasp it when the pressure is on,” Heath said.

Multiple states set goal for reducing emissions

BY PAUL DAVENPORT
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX Eight Western U.S. states and Canadian provinces on Wednesday staked out a regional goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, partly by creating a trading block for pollution credits and requiring less-polluting autos.

Governors and premiers whose states and provinces belong to the Western Climate Initiative agreed the region would reduce emissions by 15 percent over 2005 levels within 13 years.

The group consists Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Washington and the provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba. Several other states are observing and could join in the future.

The issue of greenhouse gases and their warming impact on climate change is important for the region because it affects concerns ranging from drought to air quality.

Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski said the regional bloc was “leading the way for North America in adopting real measures and programs to combat global warming and to secure economic and environmental opportunity.”

The regional goal represents an aggregation of goals set individually by the participating states and provinces and does

not change those goals, officials said.

Governors of the U.S. states involved except Utah created the WCI in February, pledging to work together to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Utah, British Columbia and Manitoba subsequently joined the WCI, and a joint announcement by the eight states and provinces Wednesday said all agreed to the regional goal.

“Our collective commitment will build

planned by California.

Also, the U.S. states involved are supporting California's bid for a federal waiver to be allowed to impose tougher limits on automobile tailpipe emissions, officials said.

“We all need that” to provide a regional solution, said Sarah Cottrell, energy and environment policy adviser to New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson.

Steps being taken by individual states including mandating use of renewable

policy advisers to the governors.

The WCI members have set an August 2008 deadline for designing the market-based mechanism.

Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano said the states need to act because the federal government “is choosing to delay action.”

Napolitano told Arizona reporters that the regional goal likely would not require outright prohibitions on construction of new coal-fired power plants in the region.

However, the traditional technology of burning pulverized coal “is really becoming outdated” and most state will look toward alternatives ways to use coal, said Steve Owens, director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. “That's the trend.”

Spokesmen for several environmental groups welcomed the goal, which Sierra Club spokesman Rob Smith said was “a good first step but it's a modest one compared to all that needs to be done.”

Added Smith: “Hopefully this will lead to some pressure for Congress to take this step on a national level.”

David Van't Hof, Kulongoski's sustainability and renewable energy adviser, said there are no compliance mechanisms within the agreement other than monitoring. However, he added that a state that doesn't provide promised reductions presumably could be kicked out of the partnership.

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A SUCCESSFUL REGIONAL SYSTEM TO BE
LINKED WITH OTHER REGIONAL EFFORTS ACROSS
THE NATION AND EVENTUALLY THE WORLD.**

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, R-CA

a successful regional system to be linked with other regional efforts across the nation and eventually the world,” California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said in a prepared statement released with the announcement.

Each individual state and province will take steps on its own but collectively they are committed to design a market-based system such as a cap-and-trade program

energy sources, imposing performance standards on new power plants and purchasing alternative-fuel vehicles.

The trading program, intended to reduce overall emissions by providing a monetary incentive for industries to reduce emissions, would involve multiple economic sectors, including energy and transportation but key issues in its design remain to be worked out, according to

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Hometown hero truly had a golden glove

BY GERRY SHIH
Special to the Daily Press

LOS ANGELES The late Major League pitcher Earl Wilson once said: "A baseball game is simply a nervous breakdown divided into nine innings."

But for Dodgers fans flocking to Chavez Ravine from 1964 to 1972, the sight of Wes Parker warming up was immediate reassurance, a guarantee that at least first base would be in safe hands.

On Wednesday, the deft fielding "Mr. Steady" provided over his nine seasons with the Dodgers earned Parker a place on the all-time Rawlings Gold Glove team. The Southern California native — his father worked in Santa Monica, his mother a Samohi grad — was selected by fans as the greatest fielding first baseman in baseball history.

"I am proud to bring this award home to Los Angeles, prouder still to call it my own personal Hall of Fame," said Parker, who grew up in Brentwood.

The 67-year-old Parker still recalls pestering his father for a TV set back in 1958, but settled for renting movies and a 16mm projector from a Westwood camera shop every weekend. Then there would be the Sunday ballgames, when father and son would sit behind first base, and Parker Sr. would "almost taunt" his son by goading him into studying how Gil Hodges (the inaugural Gold Glove first baseman) plied his trade.

Despite his relatively short career and mediocre hitting, Parker garnered 53 percent of the vote by fans and topped five

other greats for inclusion on the Rawlings Gold Glove team, including Don Mattingly and Keith Hernandez, a testament to his extraordinary defensive value at a position typically considered a placeholder for sluggers.

Fans began voting online, by mail or at Major League stadiums back in February, selecting the final team from a pool of 50 nominees chosen by baseball officials and journalists. Nearly a million votes were ultimately cast to decide the best defensive player at each position in the half century since the inception of the Gold Glove award.

"I was a weak kid who had asthma growing and was sick a lot," Parker told the Daily Press on Wednesday. "I didn't have confidence that I was good enough."

But he landed a gig training with the Dodgers while still a senior in high school. Before games, he would be out on the field throwing the ball around with the players, learning early on to deal with 60,000 pairs of eyes on his back.

Following his graduation from Claremont McKenna College, Parker claimed former idol Gil Hodges' old position with the Dodgers within two years. The switch-hitter, unimpressive at the plate with a .267 career batting average and 64 home runs, became an exemplary component of a strong defense led by formidable pitching tandem Sandy Koufax



PARKER

and Don Drysdale — whom Parker described as "equally" unnerving to play behind.

Parker won six straight Gold Gloves from 1967 to 1972 — his final season — and quit after having won the 1965 World Series and finishing with a Major League record .996 fielding percentage at first base.

He attributes his defensive acumen to a combination of good natural ability, an insatiable desire to improve and a fiery competitiveness that still burns today.

"Don't hit it to me because if you do, I'm taking you down and I'm burying you," he said of his mentality as an infielder. "When a batter hit the ball my way, I took it as an insult — a personal challenge — and I gloried in getting guys out. When batters like Joe Morgan screamed at me in frustration after I got them out, it was as good a compliment as I could get."

The only member of the Rawlings team not in the National Baseball Hall of Fame, or projected to be a Hall of Famer, Parker was considered by many a surprise inclusion in the final list of nine names that also includes Greg Maddux (pitcher), Johnny Bench (catcher), Morgan (second base), Ozzie Smith (shortstop), Brooks Robinson (third base), Willie Mays (outfield), Ken Griffey Jr. (outfield) and

Roberto Clemente (outfield). The nine have won a combined 100 Gold Gloves, awarded annually to the best fielding player at his given position.

Over the years, Parker's heavy focus on defense attracted harsh critical scrutiny of his overall ability.

Many local fans dismiss the criticism and consider him to be a remarkable player in Dodgers history — precisely because his impeccable fielding remains salient today.

"It's pretty significant that even though he's not a household name, people still remember him after all these years just for his defense," said Alex Tamber, a resident of Marina del Rey. "It's a good story because he beat out guys like Mattingly and Keith Hernandez, and those guys can really play some first base."

Parker personally parries the criticism, and said that there has always been an over-emphasis on hitting. His approach to playing his position, he said made a valuable contribution to the greater game.

"The thing about first base is it's very easy to play poorly and very difficult to play well," he said. "You can get by just digging balls out of the dirt and catching throws, and there are low expectations. Hopefully, when I played, I raised everybody's expectations. I was not typical in the entire way I played first base — my thoughtfulness, my desire to be good ... I truly cared about it."

"This award wraps up my career in the most beautiful way possible," Parker said. "I am a very proud man right now."

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

COMMON PRACTICE: One in every four people in Los Angeles County knowingly bought, copied or downloaded illegal goods over the past year, according to a new Gallup Organization survey that was commissioned by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Illegal downloading plagues entertainers

FROM PIRACY PAGE 3

Angeles. Lawmakers will be moderating a town hall meeting on counterfeiting and piracy today, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood. Representatives from the Entertainment Software Association and the Recording Industry Association of America will be featured, along with a member of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Not surprisingly, most of the counterfeit purchases were movies and CDs, followed by brand name clothing, bags and footwear, and consumer goods such as shampoo, computer software, auto parts, video games and, even, bottled water.

The majority of respondents said the most common reason for committing piracy was convenience and the easy availability. Cost was the second most common factor, followed by the desire to have something before it is released by the manufacturer.

REMEMBERING THE LITTLE PEOPLE

The Gallup study follows a report this year by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp. that concluded that global piracy cost nine industries across Los Angeles more than 100,000 jobs and about \$5.2 billion in lost sales in 2005.

But even with those figures, it's hard to get people to realize the true impact of their decision to be a pirate.

"Consumers are apathetic about artists and movie stars because they see this as a problem of Tom Cruise not being able to buy a fifth giant mansion, or something like that, and not a problem of the camera guys and the lighting guys and the catering company who could lose their jobs because of this," Calia said.

"That argument hasn't been as convincing as we'd like it to be."

Representatives from the Recording Industry Association of America said music piracy has cost the U.S. economy \$12.5 billion and 71,060 jobs, and have called on lawmakers to increase enforcement.

"Vigorous efforts to protect a legal marketplace will help sustain a music community that's suffering because of rampant theft and send the right message to future generations of fans: Just because it may be easy to obtain music illegally does not make it right," read a statement from the RIAA.

Music lover Ricardo Lopez doesn't think it's right either. Rather than steal tunes, he gets them the old fashioned way, by walking into a record store and paying for it. He believes record companies do produce a lot of bad music, forcing fans to purchase an entire album for just one or two good songs. But with the popularity of Web sites like iTunes, now listeners can purchase only the songs they want for about \$1.

**NOBODY'S PERFECT,
AND I'M SURE I MIGHT
DOWNLOAD A SONG OR TWO IF I
WASN'T STILL LIVING IN THE
FLINTSTONES ERA."**

Ricardo Lopez, Music lover

"Stealing is wrong, but companies should not just take that hard line of prosecuting everyone, but instead try to adapt or offer more incentives to consumers," said Lopez, as he browsed the racks at Hear Music, which allows customers to listen to all the CDs in their catalogue, select songs and then burn their own discs, complete with a cover and packaging, for \$8.99 and up.

"Nobody's perfect, and I'm sure I might download a song or two if I wasn't still living in the Flintstones era," he said. "But I think we need to really support these artists or whomever is making the product. It's only fair."

While much attention is focused on DVDs and CDs, Calia said society shouldn't forget about counterfeit medications and airplane parts. With those items, it's not just about money, but also public safety.

The survey did offer some positive news: 72 percent of the respondents believed counterfeiting and piracy laws should be stricter, and 90 percent said they wouldn't have acquired fake products if they knew doing so supported terrorism or organized crime.

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

TO SIP OR NOT TO SIP: A Montana Avenue area homeowner looks for refreshment in the form of garden hose tap water on Wednesday. Santa Monica's drinking water will have fluoride mixed in this fall, despite lingering debates over the additive's health benefits.

Lawmakers add mineral to water

FROM WATER PAGE 1

milligrams of fluoride occur naturally in drinking water. The MWD and City Hall plan to bump that up to 0.7 to 0.8 milligrams per liter, which they believe is safe and beneficial.

"There's no question this is a very polarizing issue and there are very strong opinions, both pro and con," Borboa said. "The decision to fluoridate in Santa Monica was (City) Council-driven and our Council debated it and voted to proceed with fluoridation after considering all kinds of evidence. Many opinions were expressed and the council decided, ultimately, to go ahead with it."

There really wasn't any other choice available, considering City Hall is forced to buy water from MWD because Santa Monica's major wells were contaminated with a toxic fuel additive known as MTBE. The city received \$131 million in December as part of a settlement with three major oil companies responsible for polluting the wells. The money is going to be used to build a water treatment facility to clean the wells and get them pumping water again.

Borboa said city staff is still in the design phase and hopes to have it up and running by 2010.

Despite assurances from water quality officials, opponents of fluoridation are still not convinced that increasing the level of the naturally occurring element will be beneficial to their health.

Instead, they believe that too much fluoride can be dangerous, particularly for young babies that get most of their nutri-

tion from powdered or liquid infant formula mixed with water containing fluoride. The American Dental Association issued a warning to parents last year warning them to watch their child's fluoride intake so that they do not develop dental fluorosis — a defect of the teeth which can result in staining and even corrosion of the enamel.

THEY NEED TO BE UPFRONT BEFORE THEY BEGIN THE MASS MEDICATION OF 18 MILLION PEOPLE."

Gene Burke, Santa Monicans for Safe Drinking Water Coalition

"If they move ahead with this process in October, they are making a terrible mistake," said Gene Burke of Santa Monicans for Safe Drinking Water Coalition. "We feel there are all sorts of misrepresentations and omissions of fact amid a lack of transparency in this whole fluoridation process. The MWD has not done their due diligence in investigating this and it's urgent that they do that."

"They need to be upfront before they begin the mass medication of 18 million people in six counties."

kevinh@smdp.com

Hilton settles lawsuit

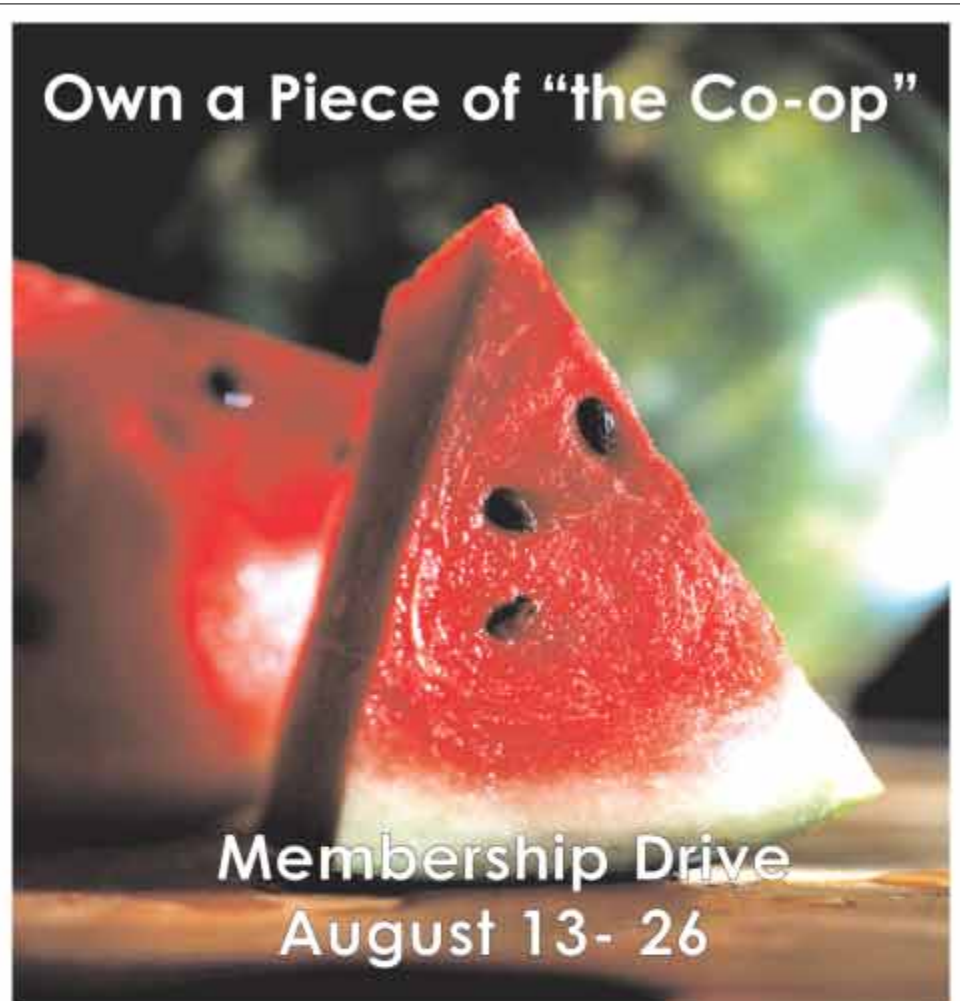
FROM HILTON PAGE 3

heir Paris Latsis, who was engaged to Hilton at the time. The diamond heiress allegedly attacked Hilton at the Kabaret nightclub and attempted to snatch her diamond necklace, the report stated.

Graff filed the defamation suit a few

weeks after the column ran, claiming that Hilton spread lies about her. According to media reports, Rob Shuter, Hilton's former publicist, testified that the "Simple Life" actress asked him to plant the story in Page Six.

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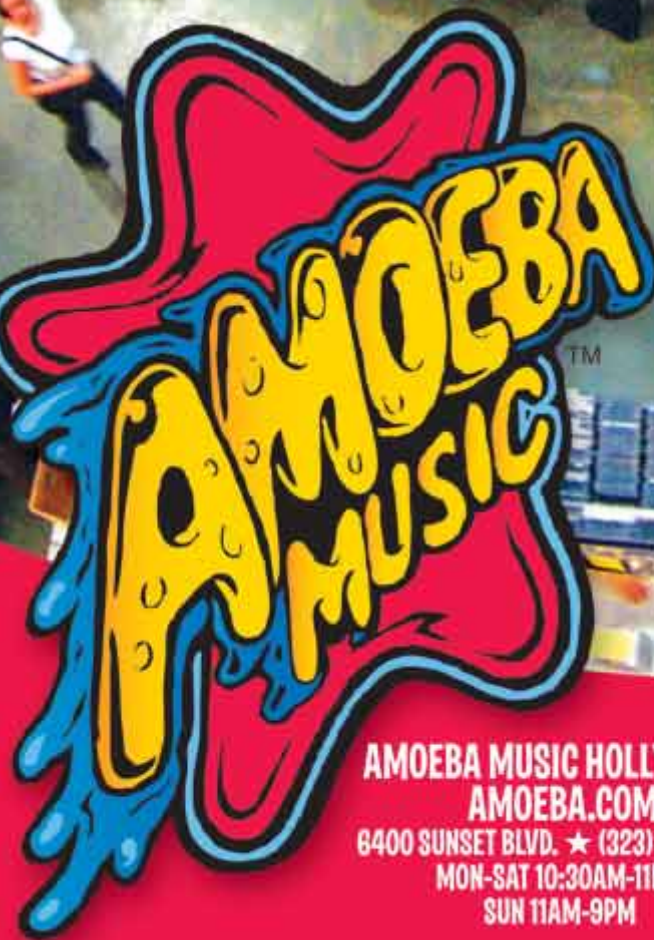
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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Paramount

LAUGHS ON ICE: Will Ferrell and Jon Heder goof around in 'Blades of Glory.'

'Blades of Glory'

Two rival Olympic ice skaters (Jon Heder and Will Ferrell) are stripped of their gold medals and permanently banned from singles competition. Their long fall from grace at the top of their sport is halted when a loophole is discovered that allows them to perform as a pair. The contrasting personalities slowly put aside their differences, training under "Coach" Craig T. Nelson to return to championship form. Famous names from the sport including Nancy Kerrigan, Peggy Fleming and Scott Hamilton add authenticity, as does veteran Olympic broadcaster Jim Lampley. Special features include deleted scenes, a gag reel, alternate takes and a making-of presentation. Ferrell, a sports information major at USC, has starred as a race car driver ("Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby") and soccer coach ("Kicking & Screaming") and will be featured in a film about basketball in "Semi-Pro" next year. (Paramount)

'Kansas City Confidential'

A disgruntled cop (Preston Foster) sets up a flower delivery man (John Payne) as the fall guy for a bank robbery. This classic bit of film noir is greatly aided by spell-binding performances from the scary mugs of a trio of thugs: Lee Van Cleef, Neville Brand and Jack Elam. Tightly directed by B-movie veteran Phil Karlson, this clever, gritty crime caper from 1952 is presented with A-level quality and will remind genre fans of related recent films like Quentin Tarantino's "Reservoir Dogs". (MGM)

'Back to School: Extra Curricular Edition'

Bug-eyed comedian Rodney Dangerfield plays millionaire Thornton Melon, who enrolls in college with his misfit son, who is not clear about the importance of a "good education." Shot primarily at the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus, Dangerfield is joined by Adrienne Barbeau and Sally Kellerman. Sam Kinison plays a professor in one of the final movie appearances of the late funnyman. Many bonus features include a tribute to the late Dangerfield, a look at the film's production and some twisted views of the story's diving sequences. (Fox)

'Friday Night Lights: Season One'

Inspired by the best-selling book and theatrical film hit, the debut season of the television series and its look at the emotional dynamics of small-time life using Texas high school football as the backdrop now comes to DVD. The five-disc package contains all 22 episodes. Bonus materials include deleted scenes, cast commentaries and a making-of special. Peter Berg, one of the show runners and the director of the film version, is also the cousin of the author from which it is all based, H.G. "Buzz" Bissinger. (Universal)

'The Odd Couple: Season Two'

Two divorced men – sloppy sportswriter Oscar Madison (Jack Klugman) and fastidious photographer Felix Unger (Tony Randall) – share a New York City apartment, where their divergent ways of living sparks constant mirth. Based on the Neil Simon play, this 23-episode, four-disc presentation of season two, which was filmed before a live audience (the premier season used the same apartment as the movie version, but used a single-camera format and laugh track), also stars Penny Marshall, whose brother Garry developed the popular series. Klugman and Randall would both win Emmys for their roles during the show's five-season run. (Paramount)

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



Odd Man Out

By Mark Marchillo

[Send comments to editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

The art of the hook-up can become tiresome

SO I HOOKED UP THE OTHER NIGHT. I'M neither a hooker nor am I a trick, but the term still applies. Which was actually one of the conversations he and I had prior to getting down to business. In our world, you gotta set the record straight. As straight as possible, anyhow. That said, hooking up with a guy who would consider me a trick and still be cool with that, does give one reason to pause. And I did.

Then he hit fast forward. Funny the things that run through one's mind while stripping down. Shouldn't we have kissed first? Why is it all so quick? Firstly, let me declare — there was no nudity involved here (well very little). I'm way prude, as everyone probably has guessed by now. My version of "hooking up" pretty much consists of sleeping. Well, he slept. And snored. I tossed. I know, not a true hook-up. This is a process for me. I usually don't get this far, and almost never do I sleep over. I absolutely hate it. But, he was truly beautiful and after a while, it was nice. To be close to someone, even with all the pretenses is still a good deal. After all, who is this guy? I dunno. I don't even know that I cared at the moment. He seemed into it, and who was I to argue.

So again, we only slept. In underwear. Watching "Terabithia" or something. Watching Disney while doing the illicit is so

fun. So is waking up with no toothbrush or deodorant in sight. Overnight bags stashed in the backseat are absolutely essential in this day and age! Ah, that walk of shame feels mighty judgmental at 11 a.m.

And wow, were my friends gleeful. Has it really been that long? Oh right — it has.

People must gauge happiness by sex. All the while my friends are hooting and congratulating I'm thinking, "They must have a lot of it ... that's why there's friends and then there are lovers."

I'm telling you, this town is so over-loaded with sex it sparkles. But the morning after, that sparkle has dulled. It has withered and died. Gone the way of all flesh: Puffy, saggy and creased. Still, no one complains. A lousy morning hangover is 100 percent proof that you had a grand ol' night.

So I hooked up. So what? That's just it. So what. Maybe it felt good. Sure. But right? No. But for me, it only feels right with ... well, all in the past. I suppose if we feel good during the act, and nothing afterwards, at least we felt good sometime.

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

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy Joss Stone

GROOVY CHICK: Joss Stone makes a tour stop at The Greek Theatre.

Hi, my name is ...

The singularly precocious, 20-year old Joss Stone is making a tour stop at The Greek Theatre next week. She's currently touring in support of her latest release, "Introducing Joss Stone." With three albums to her name, the Dover, England-born Stone is already an industry veteran who has performed with big names such as the Rolling Stones, Gladys Knight, and John Mayer. Stone's successful sound combines hip hop grooves with a voice capable of both a smooth R&B purr or belted out classic soul.

The outdoor show will be at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 27. The Greek is located at 2700 North Vermont, Griffith Canyon, Los Angeles.

Tickets are \$30-40 and available at the theatre's box office or through Ticketmaster (www.ticketmaster.com) outlets. For more information or to charge by phone, call (213) 480-3232 or (714) 740-2000.

GERRY SHIH

Go hysterical

Apparently, you can never have too much good stuff.

The critically praised production of Charles Busch's "The Lady in Question" has re-opened at the Asylum Theatre in Hollywood. The original cast has reunited in full for the encore round of performances to run through Sept. 2.

The play, set in 1940, tells the story of a glamorous and absurdly self-absorbed concert pianist, Gertrude Garnet, who meets a handsome American professor, Erik Maxwell, while on tour in Bavaria. Garnet's usual aloofness succumbs to Maxwell's charisma as they collaborate to rescue Maxwell's mother from a Nazi prison.

Directed by Lilly Thomassian, the melodrama contains outrageous dialogue, slapstick, and of course acclaimed countertenor R. Christofer Sands cross-dressing as Garnet. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and \$15 for pre-sale, students, seniors, and 4-A Union Members. The Asylum Theatre is located at 6322 Santa Monica Blvd. in Hollywood.

of the body," according to the gallery. Kohn employs a specific color palette as well as many tactile materials including plaster, gauze, foam, paper mache, plastic, wire and glue to generate a sense of decay. The entrance of the gallery contains Kohn's drawings, the main space features her sculptural pieces, and the back room was transformed into a cocoon-like cave as the finale of the artistic journey.

Kohn has a BA from Skidmore College and is currently completing the final year of her MFA at Hunter College.

The Tarryn Teresa Gallery is located at 2525 Michigan Ave. in Santa Monica. Please call (310) 453-4752 for more information.

GS

Stand-up gal

Nadine Rajabi, comedian and radio personality, will speak on Aug. 27 as a part of the Santa Monica College Academy of Entertainment and Technology's lecture series. Rajabi has established herself in numerous appearances on TV, national commercials, and comedy clubs. She was once the Hollywood IMPROV's youngest paid regular. Rajabi currently appears daily on XM Radio Channel 154 and discusses celebrity pop culture gossip.

The lecture series is free and held at 7 p.m. on Mondays in the Academy's Screening Room at 1660 Stewart St. in Santa Monica.

GS

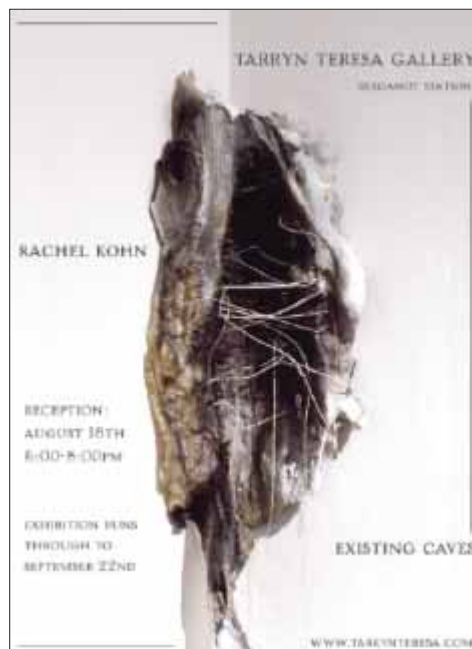


Photo courtesy Tarryn Teresa Gallery

TRUE DECAY: Rachel Kohn's work on display.

A New York state of body

The Tarryn Teresa Gallery in Santa Monica will display New York-based artist Rachel Kohn's work through Sept. 18. Kohn's exhibit, entitled Existing Caves, offers the viewer "a way to explore the internal landscapes

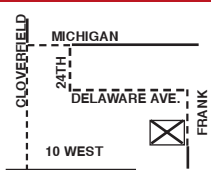
Moving out, moving in

TeAda Productions, Santa Monica's cutting-edge theatre group, is tackling the issue of Santa Monica's gentrification in its latest show, "OUTFLOW." The performance work will feature a collection of personal and public oral histories from the residents of Santa Monica to highlight this racially and culturally shifting community. Artists to participate include Joy Anderson, Jessica Gudiel, Marcus Kuiland-Nazario, Mitsu Salmon, and more. The production will be presented at Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St. Friday and Saturday shows (Aug. 24-25) will be at 8 p.m., and the Sunday show will be at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15-20. For more information and reservations, call (310) 315-1459.

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy Carol Kleinman
FOUND: Jerry Drino with Sudanese orphans.

Creative solutions for Sudan

When the fundamentalist government in Khartoum raided southern Sudan, they burned the villages, poisoned the water sources, made the young girls slaves and massacred 2.5 million. Another 4 million were displaced. Among these are a group of boys who escaped because they were away from the villages tending sheep. Like Peter Pan’s cadre of lost boys, they formed into roving groups and started walking 1,000 miles to Ethiopia. UN examiners have said these are the most badly war-traumatized children ever examined.

The one thing the children ask for is to be able to go to school. Over 25 percent of the money from this art sale will help the dream of education come true. Just \$25 feeds, houses and clothes an orphan for one month. Just \$100 buys shoes and uniforms for one year. Another \$250 covers tuition and board for one term.

A group of politically-minded local artists have selected pieces to display at this show. A highlight of the day promises to be the bargain tables of artist’s work aptly names “Scribbles and Scratches.” Stop by for a glass of lemonade and chat with the artists. This event takes place Saturday at Saint Augustine’s by the Sea, from 12 to 6 p.m. St. Augustine’s is located at 1227 Fourth St. in Santa Monica.

EMILY SKEHAN



Photo courtesy of
READING ON AIR: Michael Ondaatje visits KCRW.

Tune in

Lovers of literacy should put an ear to the radio today, Aug. 23 at 2:30 p.m., for KCRW’s program Bookworm. Hosted by Michael Silverblatt, Bookworm this week features Michael Ondaatje’s novel “Divisadero.” The show explores the mysterious convergences in this novel – convergences that link a family ranch in contemporary California with the life and works of a forgotten French poet and novelist. KCRW, which broadcasts from Santa Monica College, can be found at 89.9 FM or streaming online at kcrw.com.

ES



Photo courtesy Kelis
GUEST: Kelis has made an appearance on ‘The Trap.’

Just want a video fixin’

Hip Hop Crack (www.hiphopcrack.com) has made giant steps lately as it looks to emerge as an online nexus of the hip hop community. The Web site contains news, interviews, message boards, and exclusive video and audio content, including “The Trap,” a show hosted every two weeks by VJ Heron that features the hottest artists in the game as well as athletes and celebrities. Past episodes have included Kanye West, Common, Nas, Kelis, Jim Jones, Funk Master Flex, and more. The written content is certainly not Pulitzer caliber, and CrackSpace, the social networking element, has yet to really take off, but do visit the site if only for the meat and drink of every armchair hustler on the Internet: “The Trap.”

GS

Boys’ shorts

The American Cinematheque at the Egyptian Theatre will take a lighthearted look at the hilarity and terrors of gay childhood on Wednesday, Aug. 29. Six short films – four American, one Canadian, and one Indian – will begin at 7:30 p.m. and conclude with a discussion with four of the filmmakers. The Lloyd E. Rigler Egyptian Theatre is located at 6712 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles. For more information, call (323) 466-3456.

GS

Clinebell rising

John Clinebell, a Santa Monica-based singer/songwriter known to most as an artist frequently crooning his original songs on the Third Street Promenade, will play at the Genghis Cohen club on Tuesday, Aug. 28 to promote his new album, “Stomping Grounds.” A tenor, Clinebell lists John Mayer, Ray LaMontagne, and Joseph Arthur as some of the influences in his acoustic rock sound.

The show will begin at 9:30 p.m. on the Music Room stage. The Genghis Cohen is a combined restaurant and music venue, located at 740 N. Fairfax Ave. in Los Angeles. For more information, contact Clinebell personally at (310) 254-6896.

GS

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On the Hunt for some funk

Soul singer makes a pair of local stops on current national tour

BY EMILY SKEHAN
Special to the Daily Press

SANTA MONICA Soul returns to Santa Monica this week, as R&B singer/songwriter Van Hunt stops in at local hideouts Temple Bar and Zanzibar. Club goers with a penchant for Prince, Rick James or Neil Young — during his soul phase — should be sure not to miss performances by this multi-instrumentalist and sultry singer tonight as well as later in the week.

“I do what I want to do,” said Hunt of his career. “It gets no simpler and no more pleasant for me than that.”

The Grammy-winner will play sets at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Bar tonight, and at Zanzibar — located on Fifth and Arizona streets — this Sunday. Doors for both locations open at 9 p.m. The shows are sponsored by local radio station KCRW.

Hunt, an Ohio native who attended Morehouse College, lists Richard Pryor, Thelonious Monk, and Sly Stone as some of his primary influences.

“For my new record in particular,” he said, “I focused more on channeling classical composers.”

“Popular” is the title of his upcoming full-length album, which was preceded by an EP that came out earlier this month.

While in college, Hunt began producing demos for Atlanta rappers to make ends meet. In doing so, he became connected with big names in the music industry and artists like TLC and Jermaine Dupri. His career in songwriting jump-started when he joined forces with Dionne Farris of Arrested Development.

Hunt soon was signed to Capitol



Photo courtesy Clay Patrick McBride

SOULFUL DUDE: Van Hunt will be making a pair of appearances in Santa Monica this weekend. One at Temple Bar the other at Zanzibar.

Records and went on to release a solo album in 2004, and again in 2006. He has performed with the likes of Alicia Keys, Coldplay, The Roots and Kanye West.

Both his self-titled album and a collaboration song with Joss Stone for a Sly & the Family Stone tribute album were nominated for Grammys, and he took home the award for the cover of Sly’s “Family Affair.”

Temple Bar is the site of Hunt’s first performance in Los Angeles, and he looks forward to returning.

“There’s something really attractive and

cool about performing just outside of that Hollywood core of Los Angeles,” he said.

Plus, Hunt added, the owner is “super-cool.” However, Zanzibar hasn’t always provided the same laid back atmosphere for the artist.

“I went there once to see a DJ spinning and ended up in an argument with some crazy guy and leaving,” laughed Hunt.

“It wasn’t the best experience.”

However, he isn’t worried about further mishaps.

As far as the theme of the performanc-

es, the neo-soul crooner isn’t set on a routine.

“I’m going for the anti-vibe,” said Hunt. “It’s definitely going to be a spontaneous thing.”

While the artist assures that concert goers will groove out to his brand of R&B, he says it’s up to them to make the most of the show.

“They’re responsible for their own enjoyment, not me!” he laughed.

news@smdp.com

Concert-goers can get their gospel groove on

BY EMILY SKEHAN | Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER A rocking conglomeration of gospel, pop and bluegrass will resound tonight at the Santa Monica Pier. Imagine jukebox rock paired with Sunday morning service — hand-in-hand with fiddle-riddled country — and you’ll have a good idea of what to expect from this week’s free Twilight Dance Series concert, featuring the Holmes Brothers and Carrie Rodriguez.

The Holmes Brothers — comprised of bassist Sherman Holmes, guitarist and pianist Wendell Holmes, and drummer Popsy Dixon — began their careers close to 40 years ago playing in New York blues clubs. The trio sing in a harmony of deep soul and Americana with a dash of consecrated gospel, and have performed everywhere from Los Angeles to Turkey to Russia.

“The Holmes Brothers are the quintessential blues, soul, gospel and country trio,” said Marc Lipkin, the band’s publicist. “They’re completely comfortable with just about every type of American music.”

The group — which has recorded with prominent artists such as Van Morrison, Willie Nelson and Joan Osborne — never performs with a set list, Lipkin said, instead winging their performance based on the feel of the night.

“Outside on the pier on a beautiful night, their three-part harmonies are just going to soar over that audience,” he said.

The Brothers’ 10th album, “State of Grace,” was released earlier this year.

Tonight’s second act also follows American roots traditions, but she is a relative newcomer in the music



Photo courtesy Holmes Brothers

A LITTLE BIT GOSPEL: The Holmes Brothers will bring their unique blues sound to the Santa Monica Pier tonight.

scene. Carrie Rodriguez, a singer/songwriter and violinist, was discovered by Chip Taylor — of “Wild Thing” infamy — at an in-store performance in Austin, Texas, during the South by Southwest Music Festival in 2001.

Rodriguez and Taylor collaborated on three albums, touring North America and Europe.

Known for her seductive twang and unique cosmo-

politan spin on down-home country music, Rodriguez released her solo effort “Angels on a Bicycle” in 2006.

Located on the west lot of the Santa Monica Pier, the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. A free bike valet will be provided.

news@smdp.com

ON THE SHELVES

BY EMILY SKEHAN

Dropkick Murphys ‘The Meanest of Times’

The Dropkick Murphys dance – or rather, thrash – the line between defiance and tradition, punk and century-old roots. They’re like a raucous crossbreed between The Ramones and your inebriated Irish uncle who, in bouts of nostalgia, bellows his old country ballads. The band, oft-compared to Celtic punk classics The Pogues, truly embraces this duality on their new album, “The Meanest of Times.” It’s The Clash’s fast-moving rock with a touch of bagpipe, contemporary political commentary with a side of old folk legend. As put in the album’s fourth song, it’s “yesterday’s values living in tomorrow’s industry.”

Songs move from “Famous for Nothing,” a celebration of juvenile angst and energy, to “Fairmont Hill,” a dramatic guitar-laced Celtic ballad. The album does blend together a bit, and the punk craze hasn’t been the same since, say, 1985. There isn’t much originality in the band’s layered punk rock melodies or lyrics, and none of the songs are epic. The Murphys might be stuck in the past, but the next time you’re going bar crawling or are heading off to a Red Sox game, pop this album in and you’ll be ready to throw back a pint. (Born & Bred Records)

Peppino D’Agostino ‘Every Step of the Way’

Once street-musician Peppino D’Agostino lands on a soothing, Mediterranean soundscape in his new album. The Italian born, self-taught guitarist brings a poetic, ambient sensibility to “Every Step of the Way.” With mellow strings and flowing, easy rhythms, D’Agostino’s music is reminiscent of Paco de Lucia’s or that of a less edgy Carlos Santana. “Costa Rica” and “Desert Flowers” are fitting tracks for the soundtrack to a night of cooking and drinking wine, or an inti-

mate, bohemian cocktail party. The album is far from flawless, as it essentially retraces the same calm, worldly sound without much diversity, and tracks like “Under the Same Sky” are over-sentimental with flourishing arcs of finger plucking. However, “Every Step of the Way” is pleasant above all else; not a groundbreaking album by any means but perfectly enjoyable. Local music fans may note that he’ll be playing Santa Monica’s own McCabes Tonight.



Photo courtesy Born & Bred Records
CELTIC SOUNDS: The Dropkick Murphys are a bit punk, a bit old country.

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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

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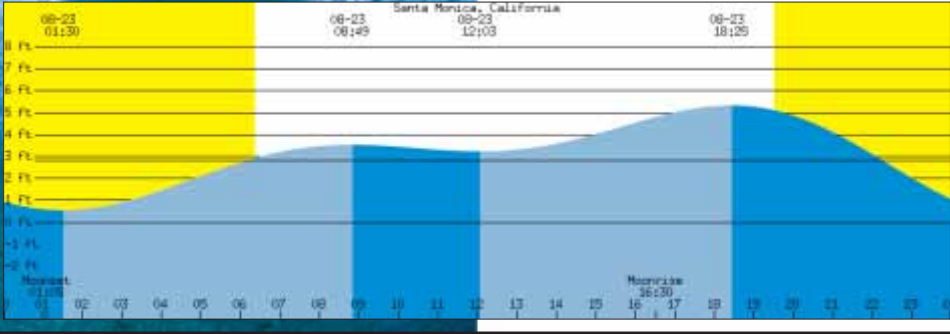
SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)

Today the southerly swell fades further as wind swell hits its peak. Size-wise, things are looking similar to Wednesday: waist to chest at west facing breaks, possibly shoulder high at standout west facing spots. South facing breaks will rely mostly on the NW wrap, mixing with trace southern hemi for waist high waves.

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QUICK STATS

(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 2

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / 44

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 44

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sepulch Creek mouth	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachasa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns
Enchanted Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Grand Beach at Tomales Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildfire Rd. (private)	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Escamido Creek, just east of Escamido State Beach	A+	ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Saltonia Canyon at San Blas County Beach	A	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns
Maine Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Muller Rd.	F	ns
Sunridge Beach at Muller Canyon fence	A+	ns
Sunridge Beach (beach location)- daily	A	ns
Mallory Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns
Puma Creek at Los Toros County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	ns	ns
Tapanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Cardenok Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	B	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17280 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A	ns

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A -- F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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

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CHANNELSURFING

BY JACK NEWORTH



Examining war's human expense

FRIENDS OFTEN ASK ABOUT TV SHOWS

I'm about to review. When I begin to describe "Alive Day Memories," about permanently disabled veterans home from the Iraq war, the response has generally been, "Sorry, I can't handle it." I suppose it shouldn't be a surprise. From the beginning the human cost of this war has just been numbers, except for those doing the fighting. The Pentagon banned photographs of the flag-draped coffins to protect "the privacy of the families." (And yet family members are also prohibited from taking photos.) Former First Lady, Barbara Bush, famously commented on Good Morning America, "Why should we hear about body bags and deaths? Why should I waste my beautiful mind on something like that?"

On Sept. 9, HBO will air "Alive Day Memories" which is guaranteed to upset some beautiful minds. During the hour-long show, executive producer James Gandolfini (aka, Tony Soprano) interviews 10 severely disabled soldiers who talk about their injuries, their futures and their devotion to America. "Alive Day" is the term severely wounded soldiers have given to that day he/she narrowly escaped death in Iraq. A day they will never forget. The viewer should expect a roller coaster of emotions from frustration to rage, from despair to hope. Also expect tears.

The interviews are conducted on a near barren set. Gandolfini greets each soldier, most of whom come on stage with great difficulty. The two sit down and begin talking. The camera and boom operators are in full view so as to dispel any pretense. While often painful, the conversations are compelling and moving. They're intercut with footage from the war, sometimes of the exact incident that caused their injuries. (The show uses videotape from the insurgents of the explosions, followed by chants praising Allah.)

Due to incredible advances in medical technology, 90 percent of our wounded in Iraq survive and yet the percentage of soldiers with amputations is the highest since the Civil War. So, while many lives are saved, many also face a lifetime of suffering. The 10 men and women Gandolfini interviews are either amputees (often double) or victims of traumatic brain injuries, blindness, or post traumatic stress disorder. "Alive Day" doesn't preach or play politics. It's only about the veteran's struggle to cope with their debilitating injuries. As one soldier comments, "When we left Iraq and came home our real fight had just begun."

One, of the "luckiest" was Staff Sgt. Jay Wilkerson who suffered facial and cheek wounds and had shrapnel enter his brain, affecting his memory. He shared the frustration of not being able to remember the name of his children. Gandolfini gently asks what are his children's names and Wilkerson is relieved that, for the moment, he can remember.

Sgt. Eddie Ryan's scars make his head look as though it has been reassembled. At 22 he's dependent on his heroic mother

Photo courtesy Timothy Greenfield-Sanders
REAL DRAMA: 'Alive Day Memories: Home From Iraq' features John Jones.

who never leaves his side. His memory and speech faculties are so poor he's almost incoherent. Ironically, he can remember the Marine Fight song which he sings on camera. He also repeats an expression he shares with his mother about the process of getting better, "Inch by inch is a cinch."

I suspect the most haunting injuries for HBO's audience might be those of the women. Dawn Halfaker, 27, is beautiful and intelligent. She was a lieutenant in the army until a rocket blew off her arm and shoulder. She wonders if she will ever have a boyfriend again or get married. Tearfully she realizes if she ever has children she will not be able pick them up. She also wonders out loud if she could even be a good mother. Off camera, I could almost feel the tears roll down Gandolfini's cheeks as he answers, "For what it's worth, I think you will make a wonderful mother."

John Barlett lost both of his legs in Iraq but amazingly not his sense of humor. As he greets Gandolfini he smiles, "I know who you are." Motioning him to sit, Gandolfini says humbly, "My name is Jim." Later Barlett says, as many of the soldiers did, he would like to return to Iraq. He adds jokingly, "This time, however, I'd like to avoid the explosions."

Gandolfini's documentary is chilling and has stayed with me for days. The injuries are heartbreaking, but their courage and determination are magnificent. The work is so honest I wish everyone in America would be forced to see it, maybe even Barbara Bush. After all, the truth shouldn't ruin a beautiful mind.

"Alive Day Memories: Home From Iraq" debuts on HBO Sept. 9, at 10:30 p.m.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON

‘Gangster Film Reader’

Edited by Alan Silver and James Ursini • Amadeus Press

With “Gangster Film Reader” the co-editors Alain Silver and James Ursini have given to us, the gangster film buffs of the world, another volume to add to our film library. This book contains a collection of 25 essays covering the gangster genre of cinema from the 1930s to “The Sopranos.”

What is so interesting is the gangster motif is a saga. It seems people are fascinated with modern day outlawry and modern day outlaws. That may be the reason “The Sopranos” lasted so long. It’s also the reason we enjoyed “The Godfather” so much.

The book presents three sections: Section one covers seminal works, section two covers case studies of individual movies, section three presents contemporary views of the genre.

In section one we are told the American gangster film genre began back in the1930s with “Little Caesar,” “Scarface,” and “The Public Enemy.” The silent era had gangster films but the motif of the bad guy grappling for power and position surfaced with these three films as the basis. Another motif is the vet returning from war a changed man often turning to crime rather than away from it.

The gangster film genre, it is pointed out, was influenced by many factors. The depression era influenced American gangster films heavily. The Japanese gangster film was similarly influenced by the Samurai warrior. The

British gangster film was influenced by the atmosphere arising from the end of WWII. The second section suggests that the mythology surrounding the gangster culture influenced popular writing. In the essay “White Heat” the connection between the movie and some of the James Bond novels is noted.

Further on the essay suggests “The Fort Knox passage’s similarity to final heist of ‘White Heat’ is too exact to be coincidental.”

This section gives instances of theme development as seen in individual movies such as “Prizzi’s Honor,” “The Godfather,” and “Scarface.”

One of the essays in the third section compares the gangster motif to the horror motif. “Some of the most terrifying realist horror offerings in the cinema are better known as gangster movies,” states Catherine Don Diego in her essay “Hits, Whacks, And Smokes.”

Even the female role in the genre is discussed: In “A New Kind Of Woman,” essayist Dominique Mainon states “A fallen woman’s power is usually false, controlled by the man.” She goes on to write, “After an initial flash of anger, she accepts the trade off of her physical commodities for entrance into a socio-economic realm previously denied to her.” Yet she reminds us, “The cuckolded male is the mainstay of the gangster film, whether he is willing-ly cuckolded or not.”

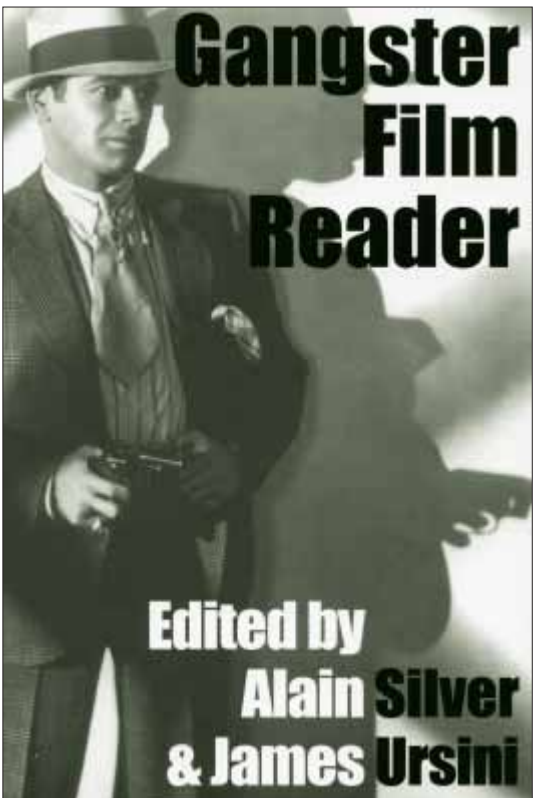


Photo courtesy Amadeus Press

TOUGH GUYS: A good read for fans of the genre.

Some of the areas handled in this last section are: The British gangster film, reforming the Hollywood gangsters and the Hong Kong gangster film, which is very similar to its western counterparts. This reader is a good one for students of a film studies class as well as the general reader who enjoys the gangster film genre.

Books. Books. Books. **DANE ROBERT SWANSON** reads and reviews books. His reviews are printed every two weeks. Contact him with feedback at smdp_review@yahoo.com.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★ Positive ★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult

Avoid feisty people, Pisces

Happy Birthday!

You will be able to launch successful projects this year because of your willingness to brainstorm and think. You might be well advised to steer a clear course and aim precisely for what you want. If you are single, 2008 will give you an opportunity to change your status. If you are attached, a more joyous, romantic period wings into your life in 2008. Could there be a new addition or other element to your loving bond? CAPRICORN can and will lighten up with a nudge from you.



Born Today
Basketball player Kobe Bryant (1978)
Actor River Phoenix (1970)
Dancer Gene Kelly (1912)

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

★★★★ Changes occur because of your willingness to grasp the big picture. In order to achieve your goals, you will need to assume greater responsibility. You will do just this if you care about the end results. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You move into another dimension as you evaluate a partnership and see a different point of view. The more you grow and evolve, the better the net results will be. Tonight: Know that, in truth, the world is your oyster if you are willing to look.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ The emphasis right now is not on you but on a pivotal relationship. You might have mixed feelings about a situation. Address them before cementing an agreement. You have more than enough energy to meet the demands. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Let others run with the ball, especially since they feel they have the right answer. No one has a rock-solid answer, so exploration might be needed. Curb a tendency to act on anger through exercise and self-discipline. Tonight: Consider an interesting offer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might want to attempt a different approach and presentation. If that is the case, start in the workplace or your day-to-day life. Creatively manifesting a better environment and personal attitude works. Tonight: Put your feet up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to try something very different in the near future. Investigate new possibilities. You might be hard-pressed to perform or act in a certain manner. Say “no” if you wish. Tonight: Kick up your heels and let go of stress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Your ability to make waves and break from precedent comes forward. If you like what you are seeing, take a stand and support an action. Others flock to you, and you feel their power and energy. Tonight: Mosey on home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Another's strong demand can become your strength if you follow through. The power of self-discipline mixed with the ability to transform can never be underrated, no matter who you are. Tonight: Out with your pals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You reverse gears because of your ability to read past the obvious. Someone might challenge your decisions. Your ability to remain open even during an argument could define your success. Tonight: Buy yourself a treat on the way home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might move in a new direction. Understanding will increase if you are willing to take a step forward and perhaps scare yourself a touch. Through this action comes another opportunity. Tonight: Work with someone directly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Exercise and understand the role of self-control combined with a willingness to change. A goal actually might be on the horizon and ready to greet you. Mull over an offer. Tonight: Stall on a decision.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You see an evolving situation differently from others. Honor your role in making this event happen. Sometimes you push too hard to make what you need happen. Trust that the path will come forward. Tonight: Avoid feisty people.

Entertainment

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

The 39 Steps (PG)
7:30
The Lady Vanishes (NR)
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

More information email news@smdp.com

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press attn Editor: 1427 Third Street Promenade Suite 202 Santa Monica • 90401 • editor@smdp.com

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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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

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

INTRODUCING: THE MARRIED COUPLE

IT'S REMARKABLE THAT YOU TWO HAVE BEEN DATING SO LONG AND YET YOU'RE NOT ENGAGED

JOANN, YOU'RE A SAINT TO STICK WITH BRADLEY WITHOUT ANY REAL COMMITMENT

AND BRADLEY, I'M IMPRESSED YOU'VE KEPT JOANN GIVEN WHAT A SUCCESSFUL, DESIRABLE YOUNG MAN YOU'VE BECOME

CAFE I HATE YOU!!

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The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

PARIS HILTON IS STARTING A PROGRAM TO HELP WOMEN GET BACK ON THEIR FEET AFTER LEAVING PRISON.

THAT'S SO NICE..

THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.

APPARENTLY SHE'S GOING TO TEACH THEM HOW TO WALK THE RED CARPET AND POSE FOR PAPARAZZI.

PARIS IS THE NEW MOTHER TERESA!

I NEED NEW FRIENDS.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

VETERINARY CLINIC

GRRRR

THIS IS DOCTOR LANE. HE'S OUR SPECIALIST IN SMALL DOGS.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT THE DATE, JON... I HAD A GREAT TIME

SO DID I...

BURP

AND SO DID GARFIELD

KISS HER, STUPID, BEFORE THE MOMENT PASSES

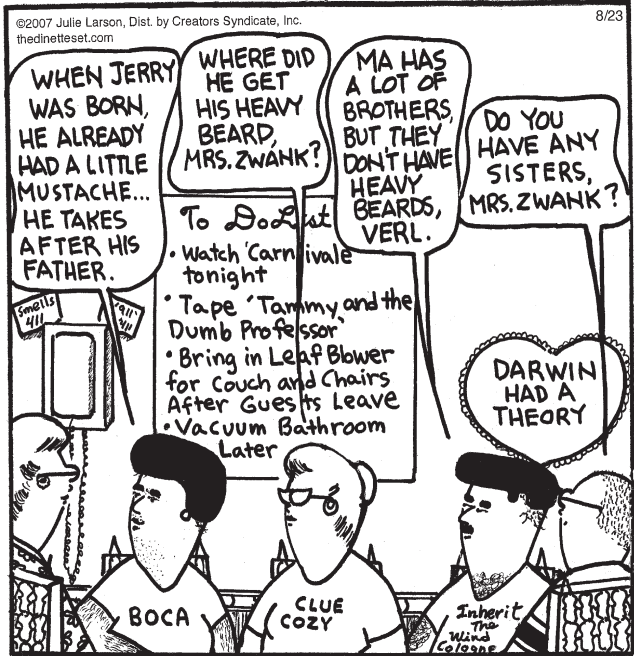
Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

WHAT'S ON THE MENU TODAY, CHEF STINKY PANTS?

CHEFS CERTAINLY ARE A MOODY LOT!

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



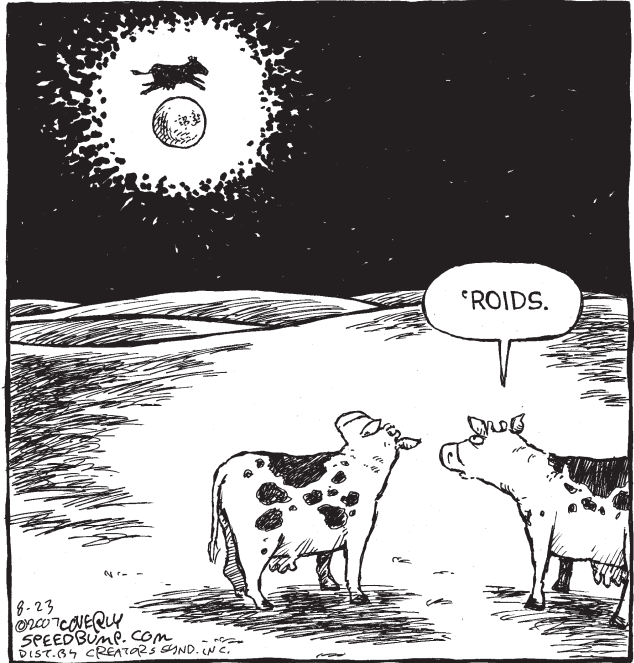
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Lacks

1 Close

5 Cowboy wear

10 Asian capital

12 Like haunted houses

13 Visitor from afar

14 Muham-mad Ali's daughter

15 Stroke

16 Bubbly quaff

18 Real looker

20 Pindar work

21 Ticks off

23 Auction indication

24 Concert receipts

26 Family

28 Snaky swimmer

29 Shocking

31 Nearest star

32 Alaskan bear

36 Twisted snack

39 Go astray

40 Texas A&M player

41 Flat form

DOWN

1 Form

2 "Roots" author

3 Join

4 Loafer part

5 Con holder

6 Miami team

7 Hopi home

8 Intensi-fied

9 Black-ened

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

Yesterday's answer

11 Covered

17 Big deer

19 Suitable

22 Book's

precu-rsors

24 Painter

Seurat

25 Maintains

27 Was in

front

28 Sevilla

setting

30 Mamie's

man

33 Stern with

bows

34 Usher's

spot

35 Dandling

spots

37 Ocean

motion

38 Relish

42 Greek

vowel

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

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

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 8 38 54 55 56
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: \$201M

Super LOTTO 15 18 24 25 45
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: \$74M

Fantasy 5 1 9 11 20 37

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 1 3 5
EVENING: 7 3 1

DAILY DERRY 1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1.49.12

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Miles Nurse and Jennifer Plomt, condominium owners in Vancouver, British Columbia, learned in July that they would have to cohabit with as many as 80 bats that had infested their unit for the following six weeks because the B.C. Wildlife Act prevents disturbing the critters during their mating season, which would end in late August. At press time for a July Vancouver Sun story, the couple had found one bat in bed with them, another hanging upside down from a bathroom door frame and five in the ceiling over a kitchen pantry.

■ It's Good to Be a British Prisoner: (1) Faced with overcrowding, the government announced earlier this year that 25,500 inmates would be early-released, and since that would take away their "free" housing for the remainder of their sentences, awarded each released person "room and board" expenses to live on until their terms expired. (2) Britain's Prison Service announced in May that inmate obesity was such a problem that it had hired "dozens" of fitness trainers to serve at 25 U.K. jails. Trainers will provide individualized exercise routines and "holistic, alternative therap(ies)," according to a report in The Sun.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1833 Slavery abolished in the British colonies.

1904 The automobile tire chain is patented.

1927 Italian anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti are executed in Boston, Massachusetts after being found guilty of first degree murder.

1952 The Arab League goes into effect.

1959 Sally Brown debuts on the Peanuts strip (as an infant).

1968 Ringo Starr temporarily quits The Beatles.

1985 Hans Tiedge, top counter-spy of West Germany, defects to East Germany.

1989 Singing Revolution: two million people from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania stand on the Vilnius-Tallinn road, holding hands (Baltic Way).

1996 Osama bin Laden issues message entitled 'A declaration of war against the Americans occupying the land of the two holy places.'

2005 Astronaut wings were presented to retired NASA pilot William H. Dana and to family members of deceased pilots Joseph A. Walker and John B. McKay

WORD UP!

manumit \man-yuh-MIT\, transitive verb: To free from slavery or servitude.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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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.

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.

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Employment

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

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

HOUSEKEEPER OCEAN House, an elegant assisted living community, is looking for an ideal candidate with a positive attitude to provide housekeeping services for our elderly residents. Prior hotel or senior living community experience a plus. Job duties include daily cleaning of apartments and common areas. The position is part-time. Meal plan is available as well. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405.

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@drpaletti.com.

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.

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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.

Employment

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.

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PUZZLE ZOO has offered it's customers a unique variety of toys as well as classic toys and collectibles since 1993 in Santa Monica, in the heart of the Third St. Promenade. We are inviting enthusiastic, positive, and self-motivated individuals to join our team. Retail associates are responsible for providing stellar service to our guests, ringing up sales, and merchandising toys. If you are up for a challenge and ready to have some fun in a fast paced environment, please forward your resume to: Puzzle Zoo, 1413 Third St. Promenade, Santa Monica, Ca. 90401 or fax (310)393-9891 or email lindatsukamoto2000@yahoo.com



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

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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Employment

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.

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Mattress, box spring, mahogany bed frame and IKEA chest of drawers *

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.

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

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Notices

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of BELLE GALENSON.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SANDY MOSKEWICH in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SANDY MOSKEWICH AKA SANDRA MOSKEWICH be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 09/21/07 at 9:15AM in Dept. R located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
NANCY R. FREEDMAN
LEVIN & FREEDMAN LLP
12400 WILSHIRE BLVD., #1300
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1044
8/23, 8/24, 8/30/07
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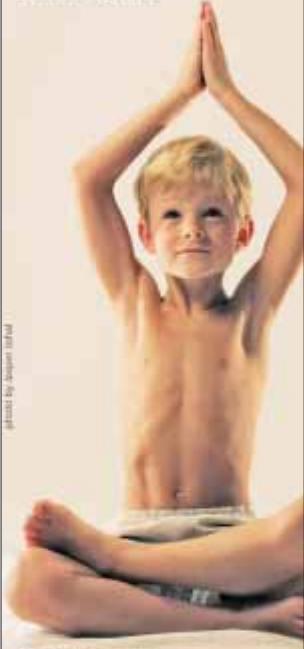
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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CONTACT ASSOCIATE EDITOR **DANIEL ARCHULETA** AT **DANIELA@SMDP.COM**.



DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20071624764 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BEST HEALTH PRODUCTS 4 PEOPLE, PETS + ENVIRO, 3514 MENTONE AVE. #4 LOS ANGELES, CA. 90034. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : SANDY KRUEGER, 3514 MENTONE AVE. #4, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90034 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/ SANDY KRUEGER

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/9/2007. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 8/9/2007, 9/16/2007, 9/23/2007, 9/30/2007

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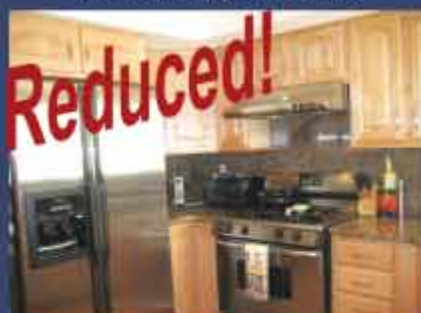


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Best Location - Brentwood Flats

Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Late August 2007

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos & Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,372,000	No Listings
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,605,526	\$ 2,166,290
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,150,182	\$ 874,199
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,032,222	\$ 696,856
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,445,522	\$ 686,695
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,970,545	\$ 1,151,190

Statistics updated every Friday

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

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.