REAL ESTATE & BUSINESS
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

Volume 7 Issue 252

# Santa Monica Daily Press

REMEMBER THE BARTENDER
SEE PAGE 4

*Since 2001: A news odyssey*

THE TALKING TREES ISSUE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

TREE BACKERS: **Members of local activist group Santa Monica Treesavers protest the relocation of ficus trees in Downtown on Tuesday.**

## Ficus tree relocation begins

**BY MELODY HANATANI**
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN A group of ficus trees that captured national attention after local environmentalists rallied to keep them in place are expected to be relocated starting this week.

Crews were out on Tuesday preparing at least one tree — located on the 1400 block of Fourth Street — for relocation to the Palisades Garden Walk behind the RAND Corp., sparking a demonstration that evening by the Santa Monica Treesavers.

The work by City Hall comes more than three months after 23 ficus trees that were deemed structurally deficient were cut down during the early morning hours of May 16, a move that was criticized by activists who claimed the specimens were intentionally removed with little notice.

The trees are part of a Downtown beautification project that includes the removal of 23 ficus and the relocation of seven others, a plan that has been challenged by the Treesavers over the past year.

Workers began removing the concrete sidewalk, curb and gutter at three ficus locations on Second and Fourth streets, according to Kate Vernez, assistant to the city manager on governmental relations. Boxes that will enclose the root ball of the tree, making it safer for relocation, will be built later this week.

Vernez estimates that all seven trees will be moved by the end of September.

"It takes a while to go through the process," she said.

The Treesavers rallied around the tree in front of 1447 Fourth St. on Tuesday evening, calling on City Hall to halt the project until a proposed urban forestry commission is put into place.

The City Council last month directed its staff to begin exploring the possibility of forming a board that would advise on tree matters.

"There's no need to rush and do this," Jerry Rubin, one of the founders of the Treesavers, said. "What we should be doing is having an emergency town hall meeting to discuss the whole aspect of whether it should be relocated or not and talk about it."

Rubin, who is running for City Council, said he had packed chains in anticipation of the demonstration and would lock himself to a tree if necessary.

SEE TREES PAGE 10

## Symphony fan makes generous donation

**BY MELODY HANATANI**
Daily Press Staff Writer

CIVIC CENTER When the sounds of the Santa Monica Symphony come alive for another season, it will be in remembrance of a life-long supporter whose final gift was to ensure the music never stops.

The first concert of the fall, scheduled for Nov. 9 at the Civic Auditorium, will pay tribute to Mary Elizabeth Booth, a former resident and member of the junior symphony who left the nonprofit arts organization more than $100,000 in her will.

Booth died on June 1 at the age of 75 from heart disease. The donation would make up more than 60 percent of the symphony's yearly budget of approximately $160,000, though the funds will be stored in reserves.

"This is an enormous shot in the arm for an organization that has done so much for this community," Nat Trives, president of the symphony's Board of Directors, said.

The endowment will enable the symphony, which debuted in 1945, to continue offering its four to six free concerts a year. But perhaps most importantly, symphony officials hope the sizable donation will raise awareness and popularity of the orchestra.

"Marketing classical music is not easy," Trives said.

Booth grew up in Santa Monica in the Sunset Park neighborhood, teaching fifth grade in the Los Angeles Unified School District for more than 25 years. Her love for music came from her years with the junior symphony for which she played the oboe and bassoon.

That passion carried on in her teaching career when Booth took her students on field trips to see the opera.

Booth paid for all the trips.

"There weren't enough funds for education in music at that time," Susan Davies, Booth's younger sister, said. "She made sure they understood the opera before they went."

SEE DONATION PAGE 10

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# WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

### Get lost in thought

1008 11th St., Noon — 1 p.m.

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

### Kicking it with Kiwanis

1332 Sixth St., Noon — 1:30 p.m.

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

### Heal Your Body

1844 Lincoln Blvd., 5:30—7:30pm

Come for free energy healing/Pranic Healing® for asthma, arthritis, cancer, addictions, depression, and phobias with Master Choa Kok Sui at the Kathmandu Boutique. The no-touch, painless, and effective healing art helps the body to repair itself. This healing treatment is offered as a service to the community, and all are welcome with no appointments necessary. For more information, call (310) 396-4036.

## Thursday, Sept. 4, 2008

### What's new this week?

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories, at home and abroad -- politics, the economy, society, and culture. Discussion moderator, Jack Nordhaus, is a former college history professor. For more information regarding this event at the Fairview Branch Library, call (310) 450-0443.

### Workouts for teens

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

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

### Magical night of improvisation

4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m. — 9 p.m.

The Magic Meathands perform an hour of fully improvised hilarity based on audience suggestions and participation, returning every Thursday to the Spot Cafe & Lounge. Presented by director Bill Johnson, in a great cafe that offers delicious coffee, food, and drink. They make it up as they go, and their best material comes from you. Admission is $5, and you get 20% off the Comedy Features Menu. For questions and more information, call (310) 559-8868 or e-mail nikki@magicmeathands.com.

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.

# Former F1 champ dies at 81

BY STEVE PARKER
Special to the Daily Press

SALINAS Phil Hill, the only American-born Formula One racing world champion, classic car expert, journalist, Italian opera aficionado, piano player and 70-year resident of Santa Monica, died Aug. 28 as a result of respiratory problems complicated by Parkinson's Disease. He was 81.

Philip Toll Hill, Jr. was born in Miami, Florida, on April 20, 1927. His family soon moved to Santa Monica, where his father served as postmaster. Hill lived in that family home, north of San Vicente Boulevard, until his death.

He drove his first car there at age 9, commandeering a family friend's then-new 1936 Oldsmobile.

Hill died during his annual sojourn to the Monterey Peninsula, where the vintage car races at Mazda Laguna Seca Raceway and the car world's top classic car exhibition, the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, are held every August. He occasionally drove in the vintage races and was a highly-respected Rolls-Royce and Ferrari judge at the Concours.

Hill won the Formula One title for Ferrari in 1961. Other highlights in his singular racing career include winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans three times (first American to ever win there), the 12 Hours of Sebring three times, the Argentine 1,000 Km three times, the Grand Prix of Italy twice and the Belgian Grand Prix. He raced for the factory teams of Ferrari, Ford and good friend, and sometimes driving partner, Jim Hall's Chapparal team.

He dropped out of the University of Southern California to work on and sometimes race cars. Hill raced from the 1950s

SEE HILL PAGE 11

# Police: Man found with weapons near Westwood campus

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WESTWOOD A man was being held without bail Tuesday awaiting a court appearance after police said they found five loaded semi-automatic pistols and thousands of rounds of ammunition in his possession.

Gene Bush, 52, was booked for investigation of negligently discharging a firearm after being arrested late Friday by campus police a block away from the University of California at Los Angeles, where officers said he had fired three shots at a stoplight.

Police searched him, his van and a storage unit, finding weapons, ammunition and what police called an anti-government manifesto.

"Given the situation, with the amount of guns and ammunition involved, we thought it best that he remain in custody until we know the full story behind him," said UCLA police Sgt. Phil Baguiao. "We would consider him a danger to society given the circumstances."

Police said Bush refused to get on the ground when ordered, saying "not until everyone else gets here." He was then subdued with a taser gun.

Police said Bush was carrying the pistols — which were equipped with laser sights — and 400 bullets. They also found another 7,800 rounds of ammunition in his van and 3,000 more in his storage locker, police said.

After his arrest, Bush made anti-government statements and told police to look in his nearby suitcase for "the secret," the release said. A Los Angeles police bomb squad found timers, paint thinner and other suspicious items inside, as well as his manifesto.

**BODY OF WORK**

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

**James Butts, former Santa Monica police chief and the Los Angeles World Airports deputy executive director of Airport Law Enforcement, awards first place in the women's novice division to his daughter Ashley, 22, (left) during the 2008 Muscle Beach Labor Day Bodybuilding Championship in Venice.**

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

### What we're really voting for

**Editor:**

I'm voting for Obama because I believe the government will do a better job of spending the money I earn than I would.

I'm voting for Obama because freedom of speech is fine as long as nobody is offended by it.

I'm voting for Obama because when we pull out of Iraq I trust that the bad guys will stop what they're doing because they now think we're good people.

I'm voting for Obama because I believe that people who can't tell us if it will rain on Friday can tell us that the polar ice caps will melt away in 10 years if I don't start driving a Prius.

I'm voting for Obama because I'm not concerned about the slaughter of millions of babies so long as we keep all death row inmates alive.

I'm voting for Obama because I believe that business should not be allowed to make profits for themselves. They need to break even and give the rest away to the government for redistribution as they see fit.

I'm voting for Obama because I believe three or four pointy headed elitist liberals need to rewrite the Constitution every few days to suit some fringe kooks who would never get their agendas passed the voters.

I'm voting for Obama because I believe that when the terrorists don't have to hide from us over there, they'll come over here, and I don't want to have any guns in the house to shoot them with.

I'm voting for Obama because I love the fact that I can now marry whatever I want. I've decided to marry my horse.

I'm voting for Obama because I believe oil companies' profits of 4 percent on a gallon of gas are obscene, but the government taxing the same gallon of gas at 15 percent isn't.

Makes you wonder why anyone would ever vote for John McCain, now doesn't it?

**Barry Barker**
Santa Monica

### McCain can't be trusted

**Editor:**

The L.A. Times says ("Stakes of McCain bet are clearer," Sept. 2) that "a well known trait of McCain's (is) that he sometimes makes decisions on emotion instead of careful deliberation."

If that's the case, as in the choice of Sarah Palin as his running mate, what are we to expect from McCain in regards to cabinet choices, judgeships, and any number of other important decisions a president of the U.S. makes?

**Katherine McTaggart and Andrew Kay Liberman**
Santa Monica

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## Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Real counter intelligence

HOW MANY OF YOU ARE CHEAPSKATES?

How many of you, when you were out partying and trying to impress some cute little hottie with a clubfoot and an eye patch that you picked up at the dry cleaners, have stiffed the bartender or waitress paying a restaurant or bar tab?

I worked for about a half dozen years as a bartender. Being a bartender gives you a great insight into the nature and nurture of the hominid beasties here on the sociological Serengeti Plain. From time to time everybody has shown up at the watering hole for celebration, cerebration, misery or mirth. A customer will sometimes tell his bartender things he would never tell his wife, priest or parole officer.

A bartender is the king of the blue-collar workers. Where else can you work and be Elvis every night? You are five belly buttons deep across a 50 foot rail and yet you are the Lone Ranger without Tonto because someone called out sick on a Labor Day weekend night. You're bustin' your hump to make mixological magic like a nine-armed octopus, but you never lose your cool.

And by some miracle of St. Dymphna, the patroness saint of the insane and mentally ill, you somehow pull it off and you feel like a god. Tom Cruise got nuthin' [sic] on you.

A cocktail waitress is the Duchess of the dance floor.

If you doubt this, try balancing, one handed, a 14-inch tray above your head with six Irish Car Bombs and an "ups" Martini while bobbing and weaving through a mosh pit of frolicking inebriates and not spill a drop, make correct change amidst ear hemorrhaging Gothic Cowboy Punk music (you learn to read lips like a deaf-mute for survival) while fending off wolfishly amorous advances from man-scaped Euro-trash poseurs.

Now picture those scenarios and then your customer "party-fouled" a miserly 10 percent tip. Pretty grim numbers, eh?

OK, Diamond Jim Brady, if you can't figure out how to budget your disco dollars to include a reasonable gratuity (adults pay 20 percent plus) for the individual that you have treated for the last four hours as your personal bootlick, then maybe you should've stayed on the curb outside the local Qwik-E-Mart swilling Duff Malt liquor 40's with the rest of your unwashed sponge monkey brethren.

And some of you ladies are, in many cases, much worse. Is it a case of "math is hard, boys are cute" syndrome or a group manifested delusion that you are all channeled descendants of inter-galactic royalty that somehow entitles you to run a diner waitress ragged and leave as a "gratuity" what is essentially parking meter change on a $30 breakfast?

This is not the "change" your server has been waiting for.

If you folks can bust out the Benjamins for a $200 pair of ripped organic hemp jeans or a new $300 whale skin purse in order to wow your friends at Temple Bar, then you better excavate some "dead presidents" from your lint-lined Lucky jeans for some of the hardest workin' people in show business.

Believe me, the grub and grog racket is "show business" because it takes a great actor to smile at a customer over whom you've lost flesh to service after they've just left you a pittance because they're just another self-absorbed jackass.

Well, they say you are what you eat.

Let me tell you an old bartender secret that guarantees instant service: When you go to a crowded nightclub or hangout, go to the bar and place your order. Don't run a tab. When you are presented with the first bill, drop a 40 percent tip.

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When you show up for a second round, that bartender (or waitress) will be on you like white on rice. Onlookers, including your clubfoot date, will think you are Brad Pitt's stunt double. For the second and any successive rounds drop 20 percent.

Don't expect something for which you cannot afford. The service industry is tough enough in this "instant gratification isn't fast enough" culture. If you can't be merciful with your demands then be generous with your wallet.

And use those two words your Mother taught you that are increasingly disappearing from the vernacular: "please" and "thanks."

It has been my distinct privilege to know some great bartenders and restaurant waitresses in this pretentious little bastion of "liberalism." Why do liberals want to pay welfare to deadbeats who don't want to work but then shortchange the barkeep? I have a few favorite haunts where the company behind the bar is more civil and decent than many of the Thunderdome mooks on my side of the rail.

A man's got to believe in something. I believe I'll have another drink.

STEVE BREEN is a conservative connoisseur who likes his liquor like his politics: clean, neat and straight and is still "the best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com

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## Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# One bad Obama rap

HAVING BEEN BORN IN THE 1970S, I WAS raised on rap. I'm not ashamed to admit I love rap music. That said, readers of this column should know by now that I refuse to listen to rappers when they talk. I refuse to listen to most rappers when they rap, too, but that's a topic for another day. My problem this week is that some rappers have started to get involved in the presidential election. Have you ever heard the expression "beware of Greeks bearing gifts?" That sums up how I feel about rappers who want to get political.

It started about a month ago. Somebody asked Barack Obama what he was listening to on his iPod and he happened to mention the rapper Ludacris (a.k.a. Chris Bridges). Apparently, this inspired the rapper in question to write a verse that I'm sure he thinks is "political" because it mentions President Bush, Hillary Clinton, Jesse Jackson, John McCain, and the White House. Here is part of it:

*Said I handled his biz and I'm one of his favorite rappers*
*Well give Luda a special pardon if I'm ever in the slammer*
*Better yet put him in office, make me your vice president*
*Hillary hated on you, so that b...h is irrelevant*
*Jesse talking slick and apologizing for what?*
*If you said it then you meant it how you want it have a gut!*
*And all you other politicians trying to hate on my man,*
*watch us win a majority vote in every state on my man*
*You can't stop what's bout to happen, we bout to make history*
*The first black president is destined and it's meant to be*
*The threats ain't fazing us, the nooses or the jokes*
*So get off your ass, black people, it's time to get out and vote!*
*Paint the White House black and I'm sure that's got 'em terrified*
*McCain don't belong in any chair unless he's paralyzed*
*Yeah I said it cause Bush is mentally handicapped*
*Ball up all of his speeches and I throw 'em like candy wrap*
*'cause what you talking I hear nothing even relevant*
*and you the worst of all 43 presidents*

Yo, Luda, lemme holla [sic] at you for a minute. Most white people don't understand what you're saying most of the time, so they focus on the parts they can decipher like "watch us win a majority vote in every state" and "paint the White House black." And some of them will get skerred [sic]. Though we both know you have no idea what you're talking about when it comes to politics, a lot of white people will blame Barack for your stupidity. They will take every rhyme you've ever said and try to attach your words to our next president. I guarantee you that some right-winger somewhere is mashing up footage of Barack looking scary with your song "Move, B...h (Get Out the Way)." Is that what you want?

Just as Mr. Bridges' (yes, I used his government name) contribution had started to fade into memory, Sean "Diddy" Combs decided to get involved. I had been waiting for his "Vote or Die" campaign to get mobilized, so imagine my disappointment when his first foray into this election cycle wasn't a PSA featuring any of the dozens of celebs who are already on the Obama train. Instead, it was a vlog (video Weblog) posting of his criticism of John McCain's selection of Alaska Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate — featuring a spinning close-up that is so dizzying it would make Michael Bay proud.

In the span of about two minutes, Mr. Combs (yes, I used his government name, too) manages to embarrass himself more than those times he shared a stage with Jimmy Page and Sting.

The best (worst) part is when he wonders, "Alaska, motherf....r? What is the reality in Alaska? There's not even no crackheads in Alaska. No black people. There's not even no, like, crime … . Ya'll need to get versed on black policies, on youth policies. We the future." He proceeds to tell Sen. McCain no fewer than a half-dozen times that he is "bugging the (expletive) out." I don't know if you realize this, Sean, but you can't use the phrase "bugging out" to tell a fighter pilot he's made a mistake — he won't get it.

I just wish rappers would leave the job of sounding smart about politics to those of us who actually are. Because the only thing worse than the idea of Barack losing this election is the idea that it could have been lost because some idiot like Bridges or Combs got the bright idea to get involved.

To Chris and Sean: I've got nothing but love for you, but please step off.

KENNY MACK is a writer, comedian, and social commentator living in Santa Monica who thinks Lupe Fiasco might be the Barack Obama of rap music. He can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com.

## The Q Line

**Cheers**

The Amethyst Initiative, a group of college and university presidents from around the country, claim the current legal age to drink needs to be lowered. It has sparked a nationwide debate regarding the controversial subject.

**So this week's Q-Line question asks:**
How would lowering the legal drinking age play out? Do you think it would lead to more problems or make young adults more responsible when it comes to binge drinking?

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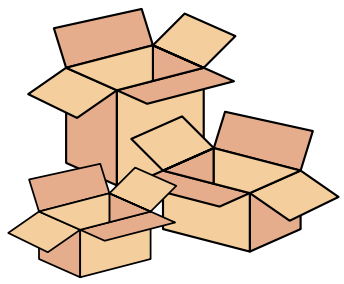
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# Police shooting in Inglewood prompts call for more review

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INGLEWOOD County investigators reviewing police shootings in Inglewood have another case to review — a homeless man shot dead by officers after he brandished a toy gun.

Eddie Felix Franco, 56, died at a hospital Sunday, about an hour after he reached for the replica weapon in his waistband, police said. The death is the department's fourth officer-involved fatal shooting in four months.

The latest case came several weeks after an officer killed an armed man at his front door, prompting the city to seek an independent review of the department by Los Angeles County investigators.

The shooting also prompted Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., to call for a federal investigation.

It was unclear Monday whether the U.S. attorney's office has obliged.

"Everybody should be asking questions," police Lt. Steve Overly told The Associated Press. The shootings are "a concern in the department as well. We take all of these very seriously."

Police said the latest shooting began Sunday afternoon when officers responded to a report of an armed man. The officers found two men on the scene, one with what appeared to be a chrome-plated handgun tucked into his waistband.

Police said the man with the gun refused to put his hands up, and officers first fired beanbag rounds at the suspect. The man then allegedly reached for his waistband and was fatally shot. Police later learned the gun was a replica.

> **"EVERYBODY SHOULD BE ASKING QUESTIONS. [THE SHOOTINGS ARE] A CONCERN IN THE DEPARTMENT AS WELL. WE TAKE ALL OF THESE VERY SERIOUSLY."**
>
> **Lt. Steve Overly**
> Policeman

Coroner's officials said the man later died at UCLA Medical Center.

Police did not say how many officers fired their weapons, how many shots were fired or how many officers would be placed on administrative leave.

Overly said a driver who had stopped at a traffic light nearby was grazed by a bullet but was not seriously injured.

He said officers also fired three shots at the men's pit bull but did not know what prompted them to shoot. He said the dog was treated for a broken leg and was recovering at an animal shelter.

The second man at the scene obeyed officers' commands and was detained without incident, Overly said.

Along with Inglewood police, the district attorney's office and the county's Office of Independent Review were investigating the incident.

The department is facing a lawsuit from the father of Kevin Wicks, who was shot after midnight on July 21 in the doorway of his apartment by officers responding to a domestic dispute report. Police have said Wicks answered the door holding a gun, but relatives said it was likely for his safety since he lived in a dangerous neighborhood.

Wicks' father is suing the city, alleging his son's constitutional rights were violated.

The shooting on Sunday has prompted more criticism from community activists.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson, president of the Los Angeles Urban Policy Roundtable, held a press conference Monday asking for a congressional inquiry into the Police Department. He said a formal request had been made to Michigan Rep. John Conyers, chair of the House Judiciary Committee.

"We're not rushing to judgment. We're not finger-pointing. We're not blaming, but we do want some answers from the police department and the City of Inglewood," Hutchinson told ABC7. "We need it because there's such great concern in the community about the level of violence, the number of shootings."

# LaFontaine, voice of movie trailers, dies

BY RAQUEL MARIA DILLON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Don LaFontaine, the man who popularized the now loved-catch phrase, "in a world where..." and lent his voice to thousands of movie trailers, has died. He was 68.

LaFontaine died Monday at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center from complications in the treatment of an ongoing illness, said Vanessa Gilbert, his agent.

LaFontaine made more than 5,000 trailers in his 33-year career while working for the top studios and television networks.

In a rare on-screen appearance in 2006, he parodied himself on a series of national television commercials for a car insurance company where he played himself telling a customer, "In a world where both of our cars were totally under water..."

In an interview last year, LaFontaine explained the strategy behind the phrase.

"We have to very rapidly establish the world we are transporting them to," he said of his viewers. "That's very easily done by saying, 'In a world where ... violence rules.' 'In a world where ... men are slaves and women are the conquerors.' You very rapidly set the scene."

LaFontaine insisted he never cared that no one knew his name or his face, though everyone knew his voice.

LaFontaine went on to work in the promo industry in the early 1960s.

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## STATE BRIEFS

MADERA
### Woman goes missing in Sierra on dog walk

Search and rescue teams are searching the Sierra National Forest in eastern Madera County for a 71-year-old woman who vanished while walking her dog. Authorities say Ruth Elaine Terry went for her regular morning half-mile walk Sunday with her English sheepdog mix at Wagner's Mammoth Pool Resort on the San Joaquin River east of North Fork. Terry and her husband had been working at Wagner's as camp hosts. She is described as being 5-feet-4, 152 pounds with gray hair and glasses. Madera County sheriff's authorities say search dogs followed the woman's regular path, but lost the scent of both her and her dog at her turnaround point. Sixty volunteers and seven canine teams are involved. ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAKERSFIELD
### Oil spill closes Hwy 46 in Kern County

Truckloads of sand are on their way to an oil spill that has closed a stretch of Kern County highway after a minivan collided with an oil tanker. The California Highway Patrol reports that more than 3,800 gallons of crude oil spilled onto Highway 46 before dawn Tuesday. A detour has been set up. Authorities say the tanker with double trailers apparently was making a U-turn when the van crashed into its rear. Injuries were minor. Hazardous materials crews are on the scene, and officials hope to have the road reopened by noon. AP

COVINA
### Police: Woman flees kidnapper by leap from trunk

Authorities say a 21-year-old woman allegedly attacked by a man in Covina and forced into the trunk of her own car escaped by leaping from the vehicle as it raced down a freeway. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Gary Lindenmayer says the woman, whose name has not been released, met a 25-year-old man at a party and left with him early Sunday. Lindenmayer says the man then knocked the woman unconscious. He says the woman woke up in the trunk and managed to jump out of the vehicle as it sped along the 57 Freeway. She suffered road rash and injuries believed to be non-life threatening. A suspect's identity is being withheld pending further investigation. AP

OAKLAND
### One dead, four injured in shootout

One man is dead and four others injured after an apparent shootout on an East Oakland street. One of the wounded is being held on suspicion of murder. Police say the shootout between two groups happened around 6:40 p.m. Monday outside an apartment complex. The name of the 22-year-old man killed has not been released. The four injured include two 16-year-old and two 19-year-old males, and all are expected to recover. Police still are investigating the motive of the shootout. AP

CAMARILLO
### Pilot identified in small plane crash

Authorities have identified the pilot of a single-engine plane attempting to tow an advertising banner who was killed when the aircraft crashed during takeoff from the Camarillo Airport. Ventura County Senior Deputy Medical Examiner Craig Stevens says an autopsy of 53-year-old Marc Fiorini of Mesa, Ariz., shows he died of multiple blunt-force injuries in Sunday morning's crash. Federal Aviation Administration and local officials say Fiorini was attempting to pick up an aerial ad banner when the plane slammed onto an unused section of runway. The airport restaurant's manager, Sondra Phelps, says she saw the banner collapse as the plane was taking off. AP

LOS ANGELES
### Pedestrian on tracks killed by commuter train

Officials say a person has been hit and killed by a commuter train in the San Fernando Valley. Los Angeles Fire Department Spokesman Brian Humphrey says the person was walking on the tracks in the Northridge area at about 7:15 a.m. Tuesday morning. The person was declared dead at the scene when paramedics arrived. Humphrey says the victim was walking in an area where pedestrians were not allowed. The train, part of Metrolink's Ventura County line, was headed for downtown Los Angeles. AP

BAKERSFIELD
### Man drowns in Kern County lake

Officials say a 50-year-old man who couldn't swim has apparently drowned in a Kern County lake. Kern County fire spokesman Sean Collins says the Bakersfield man, whose name has been withheld by authorities, went missing in Buena Vista Lake Sunday afternoon. Search and rescue crews found the man's body hours later below 10- to 15 feet of water. Collins says the man was walking in the water in an area where the lake's bottom drops. He was not wearing a life vest. No one on the train was injured. The victim has not been identified. AP

PASO ROBLES
### CenCoast father and 3-year-old son die on highway

A 3-year-old boy and his father have died after being ejected from a truck that rolled over and off of Highway 46 in Templeton. The California Highway Patrol says 33-year-old Ronnie Clemmons of Cambria and his son Caleb were passengers when they were thrown from the vehicle before noon Monday. Officials say Caleb, who was in a car seat, died at the scene. The CHP was investigating whether the seat was properly restrained. Ronnie Clemmons died later Monday at a Templeton hospital. CHP officials say the truck had drifted off the highway when its driver, 20-year-old Nichole Clemmons, overcorrected trying to get it back on the road. The truck ending up rolling over. The woman and 10-month-old Lauren Clemmons had minor injuries. AP

RIVERSIDE
### Police shoot domestic violence suspect

Riverside Police answering a report of a domestic assault have shot and wounded a man. Police spokesman Steven Frasher says police received a call of an assault and a woman in need of medical help at about 8:15 Monday night in the city's La Sierra Hills neighborhood and arrived to find a man with a gun in the front yard. AP

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## Market Matters

Brian Hepp
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Your home is full of investment ideas

MANY ECONOMISTS BELIEVE THE economy is growing slowly. And in a slower-growth economy, consumers may be less willing to spend on luxury items or products and services that aren't essential to daily living. For example, they may postpone major purchases such as a new stereo system or new furniture. And they may not be eating out at restaurants as much. But consumers will still need to buy food and supplies no matter what the economy's pace.

At times like these, investors tend to gravitate toward larger companies that provide products consumers use on a daily basis. You may use many of these items in your home but not ever thought of investing in the companies that make these products. Let's take a look around the house and see what investment ideas we can find.

Kitchen: Think about the items that are vital in your kitchen but not necessarily glamorous: for example, dishwashing detergent, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies and trash bags. These products will always be in demand. Also, don't forget about the places where you get the food in your kitchen — grocery store chains.

Bathroom: Like most people, you probably fill your bathroom with products made by "defensive" companies. "Defensive" companies are those that typically perform well regardless of the current economic climate. These companies make items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant, which

**AT TIMES LIKE THESE, INVESTORS TEND TO GRAVITATE TOWARD LARGER COMPANIES THAT PROVIDE PRODUCTS CONSUMERS USE ON A DAILY BASIS.**

are constantly needed year-round. Also, pharmaceutical companies, and their many drug products, are important in everyday life. Prescriptions need constant filling and consumers will always need medication to maintain their everyday health.

Garage: When you think of your garage, the first thing that comes to mind is probably your car.

Although investors own millions of shares in the automobile industry, the stocks of vehicle manufacturers may not perform as well when the economy is in a lower gear. In slower-growth economies, consumers tend to buy fewer new cars and instead may spend more money on maintaining their existing vehicles. This presents an opportunity to consider companies such as car-parts manufacturers, auto repair shops and oil and/or gasoline suppliers.

Other everyday items: Don't forget about the other products and services you use daily both at home and at work. For example, consumers and corporations are still buying more affordable computers and computer equipment, while office managers are still purchasing the everyday office supplies sold by general merchandise retail stores. And don't forget about utility companies such as electric, gas and telephone providers. After all, people need to keep their lights on and their homes warm.

A slower-growth economy does not signal problems for investors, it merely reminds them to be more careful about the companies they select as investments during such periods. With a little help, you can find quality companies whose products are likely to be in demand for as long your investment objectives would need. Keep in mind that investing in stocks involves risk. Your principal value will fluctuate with changes in market conditions and you may receive more or less than your original investment when your shares are sold. Please remember that past performance is no guarantee of future results.

BRIAN HEPP is a financial consultant and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com.

ECONOMY

# Manufacturing shrinks in August, construction down

BY ELLEN SIMON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK For the nation's lumber companies, automakers, home builders and other manufacturers, the final half of 2008 may be as sluggish as the first.

Slow consumer spending and high gas prices have stalled manufacturing, and even some bright spots are expected to dim. Exports, which have propped up the sector, may slide as economies overseas slow. Meanwhile, construction spending is at a seven-year low that has spread from housing to nonresidential projects.

The Institute for Supply Management said Tuesday its reading for the nation's manufacturers fell to 49.9 in August from 50 in July, matching economists' expectations, according to Thomson/IFR. A reading below 50 signals contraction, while a reading above 50 signals growth. The index has hovered near the 50 "boom-bust" line all year and industry groups say they expect similarly weak growth for the remainder of the year.

"With the global economy slowing and the rebate boost fading, we look for a mild sagging trend to unfold in the second half of the year," said Sherry Cooper, chief economist at BMO Capital Markets.

The second half of 2008 has started especially slowly for certain sectors. U.S. auto sales hit a 16-year low in July.

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## Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Real estate is all about timing

TIMING CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE between success and failure. On a small scale, you could look at the things you lost because you hesitated. Just the other day I found the perfect digital camera. However, I thought I could find it cheaper online and waited. I did not find a lower price online and when I went back to the original retailer the camera was sold out. Not a huge deal, but it goes to show that timing and action can make the difference.

On a larger scale, one of my friends was looking to buy a four-unit building. However, he went in and out of escrow several times, with several different properties only to discover that the financing had changed from 15 percent down to 20 percent down, effectively pricing him out of the marketplace for another six months. Had my friend followed through on the first deal, he would have a property.

In many areas of Los Angeles County home values are receding. Homebuyers are not able to get the asking price they want. Is it possible to sell your house in a declining market? Yes, of course it is, the real question is whether you can get the sales price you want for your home.

No one likes the idea of their home dropping in value, but if you need or want to move you have to get past the "I could have made 'X' more" mentality. My friend's brother sold his home three weeks ago. I asked him why he sold it now and why he did not wait for the real estate market to rebound. He gave me an interesting answer. He said, "I could have waited two or three years. Heck I could have waited 10 years, but my family's growing up. My daughter's going into 10th grade, my son's going into sixth grade and I don't want them to miss living in a new home. I want us to enjoy the new home as a family."

He sold his home for $400,000 in two days — I will get back to how later. He purchased his home for $110,000 and had made principal reductions along the way. The new home he purchased was larger and in a highly desirable part of town.

The purchase price was $600,000 of which he and his wife put down $450,000 from the sale of their old home and cash. Now he pays about the same each month, but has a beautiful home for his family.

How in the world did he sell his home in two days in a market where homes are listed for over two months? Simple, he priced his home at the same level as the bank-owned homes. Banks have properties listed at specific prices, many that are below the market value, but the problem is dealing with a bank is difficult. You could deal with a bank for six months and still not end up closing escrow. Banks need to sell properties, but they are not motivated like true homeowners.

A homeowner usually wants to finish the sale of their home as quickly as possible because a job, another home purchase or some other life event causing the sale. To the homeowner selling their home, timing is everything — they are motivated. To a bank, timing is not as important as calculating what loss, if any, the bank is taking.

If you sell your property in two days for a 5 percent loss versus keeping it on the market for three months, who is to say that 3 months from now your home is not going to be worth 5 percent, 6 percent or even 7 percent less.

One other benefit is that in a buyer's market, if you sell your home at a discount and attain multiple offers, you have leverage as a seller.

You can ask the buyer to waive certain contingencies because you have backup buyers. Of course, this type of strategy and all of the details should be left to a real estate broker.

When moving to sell your home you have options. You could list the property yourself and post it online, with Web sites such as Craigslist.org. However, if you are inexperienced, do not try to sell your house by yourself.

I cannot emphasize how important it is to find a creditable real estate broker. Most real estate brokers are regional and understand a submarket.

If you are trying to sell your home, decide what is more important to you — price or life events. Sometimes you do not have a choice in the matter. The adage "a bird in the hand is better than two in the bush" comes to mind when I hear homeowners talking about waiting for that next buyer who is going to offer them 3 percent more for their home. Buyers are not as prevalent as they once were, mainly because of the difficulties in attaining financing.

If you are in a position where you must sell and can make enough to pay off any debt on the property, you should weigh all your options. Just remember that timing can mean the difference between success and failure.

MIKE HEAYN is a Washington Mutual multi-family loan consultant. He can be reached at (310) 428-1342 or michael.heayn@wamu.net.

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# Treesavers hold demonstration over ficus tree relocation plan

FROM **TREES** PAGE 1

The trees became a local issue last year when the City Council approved funding for the beautification plan, which includes curb extensions, sidewalk repair and lighting improvements along Second and Fourth streets.

The original proposal called for the relocation of 31 ficus trees but that number was later shaved down to seven. The plan also includes two new ginkgo biloba trees for each displaced ficus.

The Treesavers took City Hall to court in October of last year, claiming violations to state environmental laws. The case came to an end in May when the California Appellate Court rejected the Treesavers' legal challenge.

City Hall has stressed that it has a strong record in safely relocating trees citywide, boasting a 95 percent success rate.

The trees in their new location will allow them to live even longer, not requiring extensive pruning that would be necessary if it remains on the sidewalk, city officials said.

"These trees are expected to thrive in the new Palisades Garden Walk," Vernez said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Photo courtesy Santa Monica Symphony

MUSIC MAN: **Allen Gross, conductor of the Santa Monica Symphony, hopes more people donate to the symphony.**

# Symphony officials hope donation will bring in more money

FROM **DONATION** PAGE 1

Booth continued to support the symphony well past her time with the organization, helping to establish a fundraising arm about two decades ago, jump-starting the fund with a contribution of $20,000, according to Donald Brandsen, her successor trustee.

While Booth would eventually contribute more than $130,000 to the symphony, she also made donations to a number of other nonprofits, including religious groups, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Amnesty International.

"She was a very charitable lady and was very active in the community," Brandsen said.

Davies said the donation to the symphony was hardly a surprise.

"I'm surprised she didn't leave even more," she said. "As far as she was concerned, it was the place that money belonged."

Booth was a regular at concerts, though her presence had decreased over the past year.

Allen Gross, the symphony's conductor, said that smaller orchestras in particular benefit from donations made through wills.

"I was very touched by her thinking of the symphony," Gross said. "I certainly hope that others think about the experience the Santa Monica Symphony has given to them as well."

The organization is funded through donations and grants received from City Hall and the county. The symphony received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts this year.

The concert season runs from November through May every year, attracting anywhere between 1,000 and 1,200 people per concert.

Symphony officials say they hope that Booth's donation will set an example for the rest of the community.

melodyh@smdp.com

## LABOR OF LOVE

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

**The cook of the day, Nicolas Barry (center), and his friends use a grill at Clover Park on Labor Day to cook up some Argentinean specialties for their friends and family. Across Santa Monica many people were seen celebrating the national holiday by gathering with loved ones outdoors.**

# Hill was a driver with few peers

FROM HILL PAGE 3

through 1967, when he retired. Though deaths in racing occurred then with a sickening regularity, Hill remained relatively unscathed. His driving abilities, combined with an intimate knowledge and understanding of the parts and engineering which went into each of his race cars, gave him better odds than most in finishing with his car's wheels still on the ground.

He was also a longtime contributor to Road & Track magazine. Hill's coverage of Grand Prix racing in Europe was, for many American readers, their first taste of F1 racing and other motoring events "on the continent."

Hill and Vaughn, a business once co-owned by Hill when it was widely regarded as one of the world's finest Rolls-Royce restoration facilities, was located for many years on Lincoln Boulevard, a block north of Interstate 10.

When he was 12, an aunt helped him buy a Ford Model T, and thus began his lifelong passion. He went to England as a Jaguar trainee in 1949 and signed with Enzo Ferrari in 1956. He made his debut in the French Grand Prix at Rheims, France in 1958, driving a Maserati.

Cars owned by Hill twice won the most-coveted prize in car collecting, the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance Best in Show. Some readers may remember seeing these cars on local streets, including a 1931 Pierce-Arrow 41 LeBaron Convertible Town Cabriolet which won in 1955, and the winner in 1977, a 1927 Packard 343 Murphy Convertible Sedan. His winning two of those trophies, more than two decades apart, is a true achievement.

Hill was inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1991, and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in Novi, MI, in 1989.

His son, Derek, ended his own burgeoning racing career to help his father as his Parkinson's Disease advanced.

Hill is survived by his wife of 37 years, Alma Baran Hill, a daughter, Vanessa Hill Rogers of Phoenix, Arizona and son Derek Hill, of Culver City; also a sister, Helen Kellogg, of Essex, N.Y.; a stepdaughter, Jennifer Svendsen Delaney, of Niwot, Colo., and four grandchildren.

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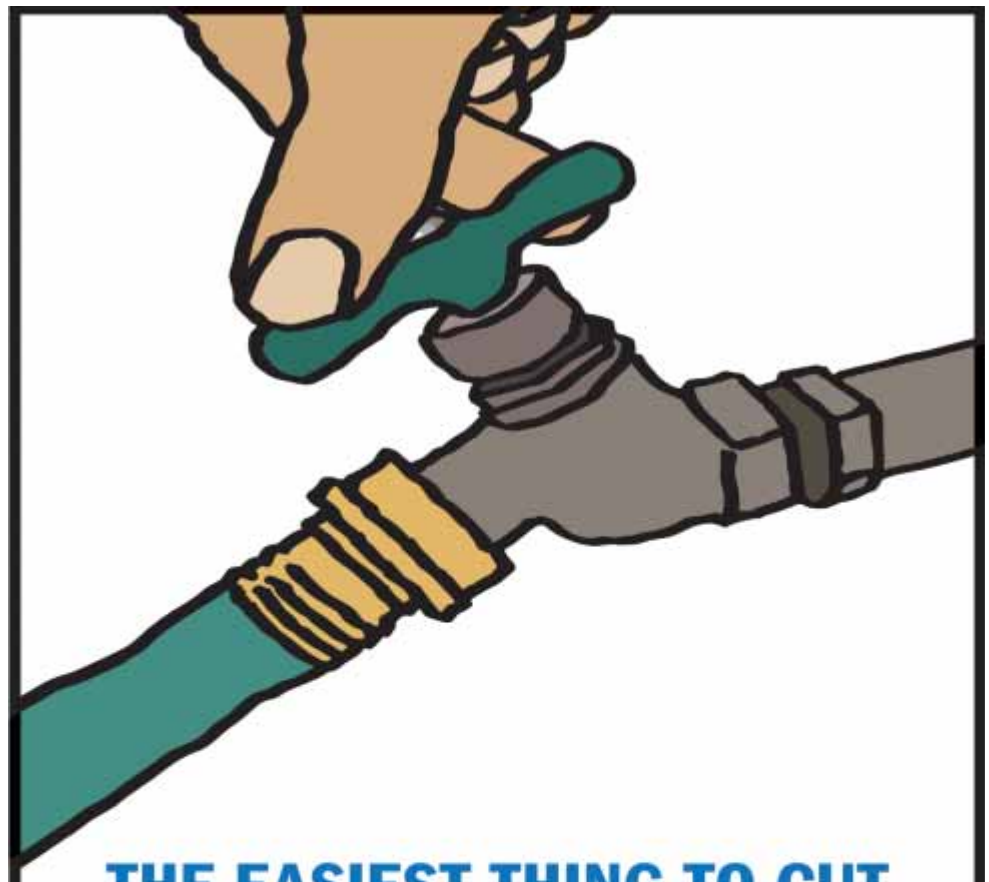

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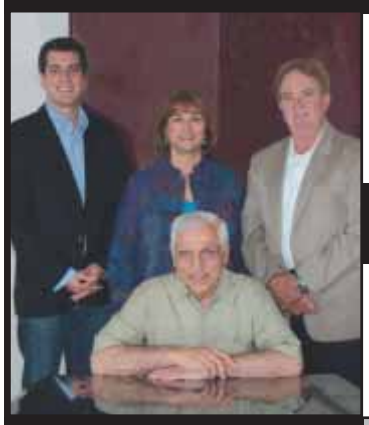

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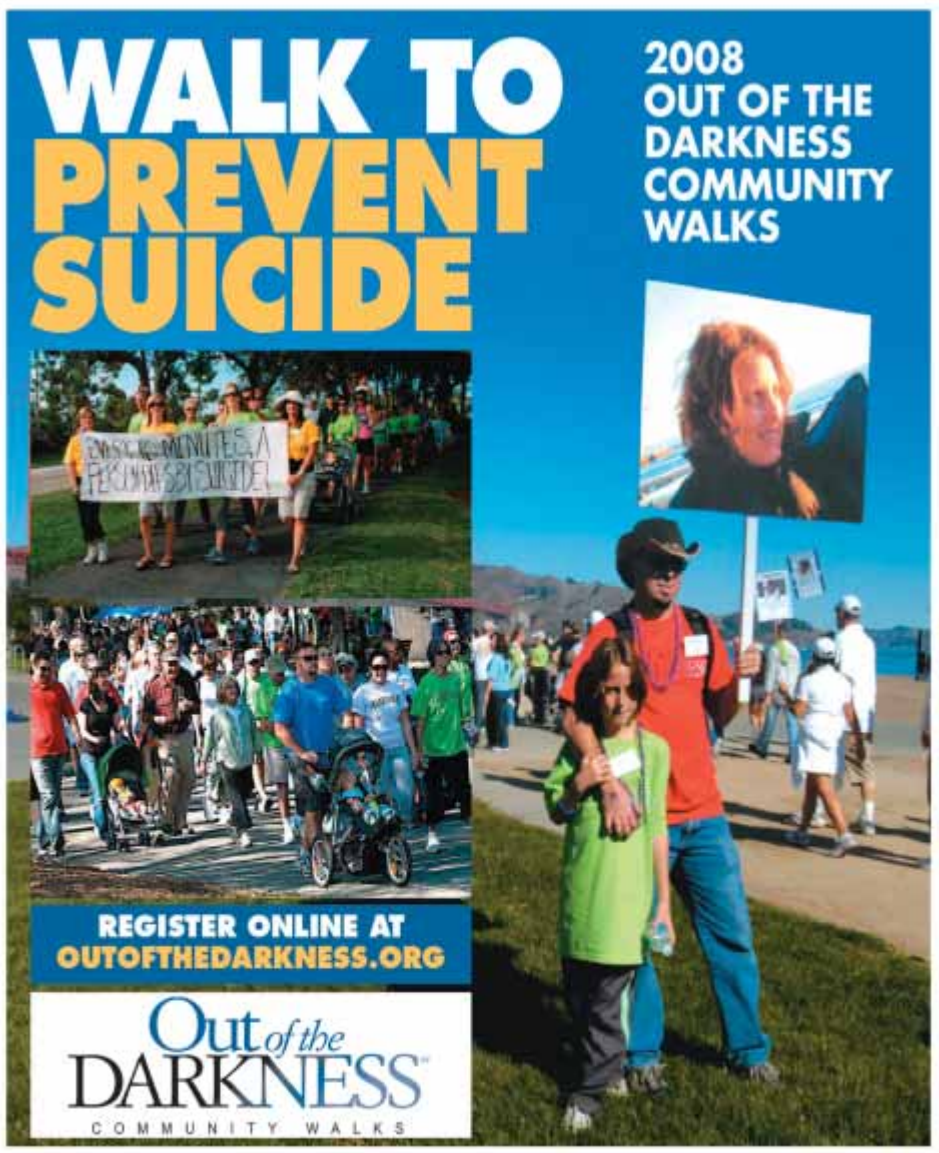


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NCAA FOOTBALL

# Trojans nab top spot in AP poll

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK By staying away from the cupcakes, Southern California earned itself a slim new ranking.

No. 1 always seems to fit USC.

Southern California jumped two spots to No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 on Tuesday, rewarded by voters for opening the season with a dominant performance on the road against a BCS conference opponent.

Georgia and Ohio State, the preseason Nos. 1 and 2, respectively, started their seasons with glorified scrimmages at home against FCS (formerly I-AA) teams. USC, however, traveled across country to face Virginia and could not have been more impressive in a 52-7 victory.

Georgia fell to No. 2 and Ohio State to No 3.

"We realize that rankings so early in a season are certainly fluid. But rankings do help establish a pecking order for things later in the season," USC coach Pete Carroll said in a statement. "As for moving into the No. 1 spot, it's nice to know that people think highly of our team."

Since reaching No. 1 on Dec. 7, 2003, the final-regular season AP poll of that season, USC has been No. 1 in 39 polls, by far the most of any team during that time.

"Some have said the voters are taking our schedule into consideration," Carroll said. "Our philosophy has always been to schedule outstanding opponents. We need to play challenging games like we just did, traveling across the country to open the season at Virginia. Games like that bring out our best and make us stronger as a team."

The latest voting was close. USC received 21 first-place votes and 1,539 points from the 65-member media panel. Georgia had 20 first-place votes and 1,506 points. Ohio State got 15 first-place votes and 1,497 points.

"I'd say we've evolved as pollsters," said Stewart Mandel of SI.com, who moved USC up to No. 1. "In the past, voters just kind of automatically moved teams up and kept teams where they were if they won."

Georgia beat Georgia Southern 45-21 on Saturday and Ohio State opened with a 43-0 win over Youngstown State.

"There's a bit of a growing backlash for the amount of teams that open with I-AA cupcakes," said Mandel, whose book "Bowl, Polls and Tattered Souls" chronicles college football's controversies. "To see a team (USC) go on the road and play a New Year's Day bowl team from last season, and not only play them but destroy them, how could you not reward that team?"

USC also jumped past Georgia to No. 1 in the USA Today coaches' poll, which has the same top five as the AP poll.

"It's definitely a privilege to be No. 1. But it's not heartbreaking to me if we drop," Georgia offensive lineman Josh Davis said. "It doesn't matter right now what we're ranked. What matters is our next game and right now, that's Central Michigan. The only time the polls matter is in December. That's when the polls matter."

While the Bulldogs' opened easy, their schedule ultimately should be as difficult as any team's. Georgia's big nonconference test is at No. 15 Arizona State on Sept. 20. The Bulldogs also face six Southeastern Conference rivals that've been ranked in the first two polls.

> "WE REALIZE THAT RANKINGS SO EARLY IN A SEASON ARE CERTAINLY FLUID. BUT RANKINGS DO HELP ESTABLISH A PECKING ORDER FOR THINGS LATER IN THE SEASON."
>
> Pete Carroll
> USC coach

As for Ohio State, the Buckeyes play at USC on Sept. 13 before getting into the Big Ten schedule.

But of the teams in this week's top 10, USC and Texas are the only ones that don't play an FCS opponent, and the Trojans are the only team that doesn't play a team from a non-BCS conference.

The last team to drop from No. 1 after a victory was USC last season. LSU jumped from No. 2 to No. 1 when it beat Tulane 34-9, the same week the Trojans edged Washington on the road, 27-24.

The last preseason No. 1 team to lose the top spot after winning its opening game was Florida in 2001. The Gators beat Marshall 49-14, but preseason No. 2 Miami opened with a 33-7 victory over Penn State and the Hurricanes jumped to No. 1 with Florida slipping to second.

The next four teams in the new Top 25 stayed the same: No. 4 Oklahoma (two first-place votes), No. 5 Florida (five first-place votes), No. 6 Missouri (one first-place votes), No. 7 LSU (one first-place votes) and No. 8 West Virginia.

No. 9 Auburn and No. 10 Texas each moved up a spot, taking advantage of Clemson's big drop. Clemson, ninth in the preseason, fell out after losing 34-10 to Alabama on Saturday.

Also falling out after losses were Virginia Tech, Pittsburgh and Tennessee.

Moving into the rankings were No. 21 Fresno State, No. 22 Utah, No. 23 UCLA and No. 24 South Carolina.

Alabama moved up 11 spots after its big victory over Clemson.

The second 10 started with No. 11 Wisconsin, followed by Texas Tech, Alabama, Kansas and BYU and Arizona State were tied for 15th. Rivals BYU and Utah are both ranked for the first time since 1996.

South Florida was No. 17, ahead of Oregon, Penn State, and Wake Forest at No. 20.

The final five were all the teams to move into the ranking, except for Illinois, which dropped four spots and tied South Carolina for No. 24.

# SURF REPORT

**Surf Conditions** **Water Temp:** 67°

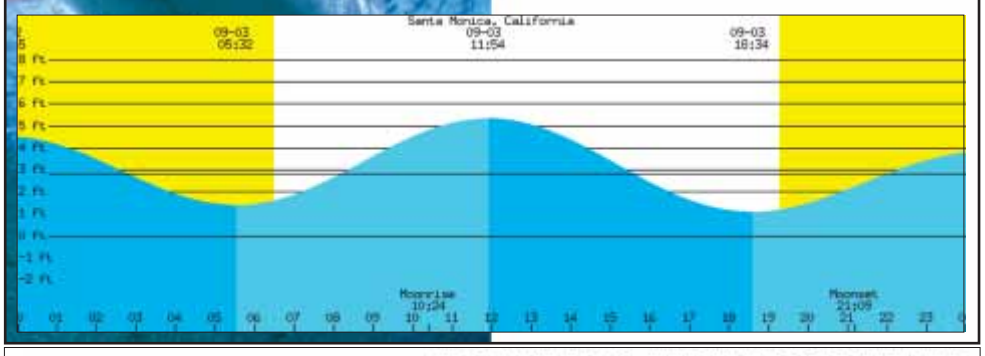
## Swell Forecast ( 1-1 FT )

**Wednesday the 3rd southern hemi swell increases. This is from a system that formed south of French Polynesia over a week ago on a course that took it toward Pitcairn, and eventually on to Chile. This system maxed out with 35-foot seas, throwing most of its energy directly at us from about 5000 miles away (when it neared Pitcairn). This should result in surf running head high to possibly a couple feet overhead in SoCal.**

## Long Range Synopsis

Friday the 5th will likely still see head high waves ...

## Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica




BEACH REPORT CARD

# NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of: **August 26, 2008**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

**QUICK STATS** (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / ns

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

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

| LOCATION | DRY | WET |
|---|---|---|
| Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks | A+ | ns |
| Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach | A+ | ns |
| Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private) | A+ | ns |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach | A+ | ns |
| Latigo Canyon Creek mouth | A | ns |
| Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach | C | ns |
| Puerco State Beach at creek mouth | A+ | ns |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd. | F | ns |
| Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence | A+ | ns |
| Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily | C | ns |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east | C | 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 |
| Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach | A+ | ns |
| Tuna Canyon | A+ | ns |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth | A | ns |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach | A | ns |
| Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain) | A+ | ns |

| LOCATION | DRY | WET |
|---|---|---|
| Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua) | A | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain | D | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain | F | ns |
| Santa Monica Municipal Pier | B | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain | A | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms) | C | ns |
| Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain | A+ | ns |
| Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain | A+ | ns |
| Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south | A | ns |
| Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St. | D | ns |
| Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth | D | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain | B | ns |
| North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty) | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain | A+ | ns |

**LEGEND**

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

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

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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## MOVIE TIMES

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AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
**1441 Third Street Promenade**

**College (R) 1hr 34min**
2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

**Hamlet 2 (R) 1hr 32min**
1:00, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30

**Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13) 1hr 36min**
12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20

**The Rocker (PG-13) 1hr 42min**
1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
**1310 Third St.**
**(310) 289-4262**

**Disaster Movie (PG-13) 1hr 30min**
12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

**Death Race (R) 1hr 29min**
12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:35

**Fly Me to The Moon 3-D (G) 1hr 30min**
12:30, 2:45, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30

**Tropic Thunder (R) 1hr 47min**
12:05, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:25

**The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, The (PG-13) 1hr 54min**
4:55, 10:30

**Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2, The (PG-13) 1hr 57min**
1:50, 7:40

**The House Bunny (PG-13) 1hr 38min**
12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

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**1332 Second St.**
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**Elegy (R) 1hr 48min**
1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

**Bottle Shock (PG-13) 1hr 50min**
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55

**Trouble the Water (NR) 1hr 36min**
1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

**Tell No One (Ne le dis a personne) (NR) 2hrs 05min**
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
**1313 Third St.**
**(310) 395-1599**

**Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min**
12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:30

**The Longshots (PG) 1hr 34min**
11:40am, 4:30, 9:30

**Traitor (PG-13) 1hr 50min**
11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

**The Pineapple Express (R) 1hr 45min**
11:30am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

**Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) 1hr 38min**
1:50, 6:50

**Babylon A.D. (PG-13) 1hr 30min**
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

**Mamma Mia! (PG-13) 1hr 48min**
11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

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

# Screen calls, Sagittarius

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**
★★★★ Others encourage you to express your deeper feelings. Many people are not very sure of themselves, even if they act like they are. Reach out for more information. You could be overwhelmed by an offer or opportunity. Tonight: A long-overdue chat.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**
★★★★★ You might want or need to defer to others in order to accomplish what must happen. Schedule meetings for later in the day. Network and catch up on others' news. Investigate what seems like a risk before deciding yes or no. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**
★★★★ Your playful ways intrigues someone you care about a lot. Be willing to take in important information that heads your direction. A partner discovers he or she is in very powerful position. Push hard and get additional work done in the p.m. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**
★★★ If you can work from home, you might accomplish a lot more. A conversation with a child or dear friend about a special project could be far more difficult than you anticipate. Tonight: Let go by having fun.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**
★★★★ You might want to open doors. Start up talks, and listen to what others share. You might not be able to, because you are worried about something you cannot identify with. Get past a problem. Tonight: Do not imagine. Ask.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**
★★★★ Curb a need to possess others or to have them do things a certain way. Relax and follow your instincts about your efforts. You could be surprised by how others so react. Tonight: Talk and share.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**
★★★★★ Use the daytime hours to the max. Someone you care about inspires you in some manner. You feel the need to emulate this person in some form, or perhaps follow a suggestion of his or hers. Curb a tendency to be possessive. Tonight: Watch spending.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**
★★★ Lie low into the afternoon. Just because you might not be in a firestorm does not mean you are not thinking and evaluating. You know what you need and where you are heading. Head out on your chosen course later in the day. Tonight: Use that famous magnetism.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**
★★★★ Use the early part of the day for anything that is very important. In the later day, close your door. You find great thinking time, whether you are working on a project or just chatting with a close associate. Tonight: Screen calls.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**
★★★★ Others see what you are doing. They wonder quite honestly if they could do the same. In any case, because of your proactive stand, many people are following your advice and leadership. Tonight: Where people are.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**
★★★★ Think about the long term and your expectations. Walk in another's shoes, and choose to be understanding. A friendship is changing and growing at the same time. You cannot avoid a must appearance. Tonight: Out and about.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**
★★★★ A close partnership might be way more important than you realize. Know when to pull back and say that enough is enough. Look past the obvious when seeking solutions. You could be delighted by what comes up. Tonight: Let your mind wander.

## Happy birthday

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

Often this year, you might wonder whether you are coming or going. Just when you resolve an issue, you discover that there is another direction or situation. You have the wherewithal to handle issues by honoring your priorities. You might want to learn to say "no" more often, as you easily could be stretching yourself too far. You are likely to revamp your personal life, probably by remodeling or updating your digs. Relationships, in general, improve. If you are single, you want to really get to know someone before you decide he or she is "it." Take a full year before making a decision. SCORPIO challenges your ideas.

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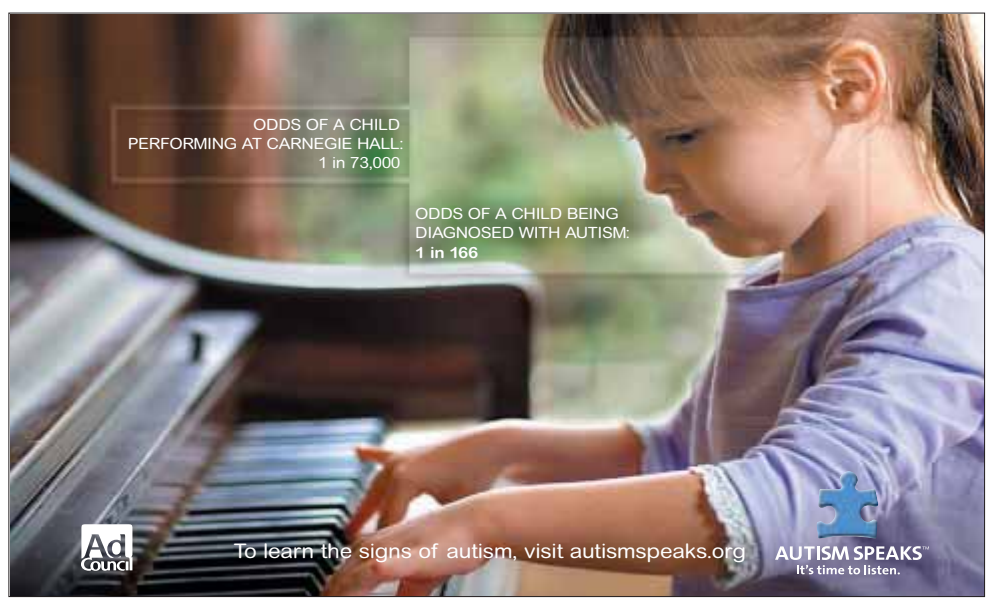

# Sudoku

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 ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

## GETTING STARTED

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

**SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE**

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

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Saturday 10am-2pm

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Insurance Lic. #:0164884
Bus: 310-696-0555
Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm

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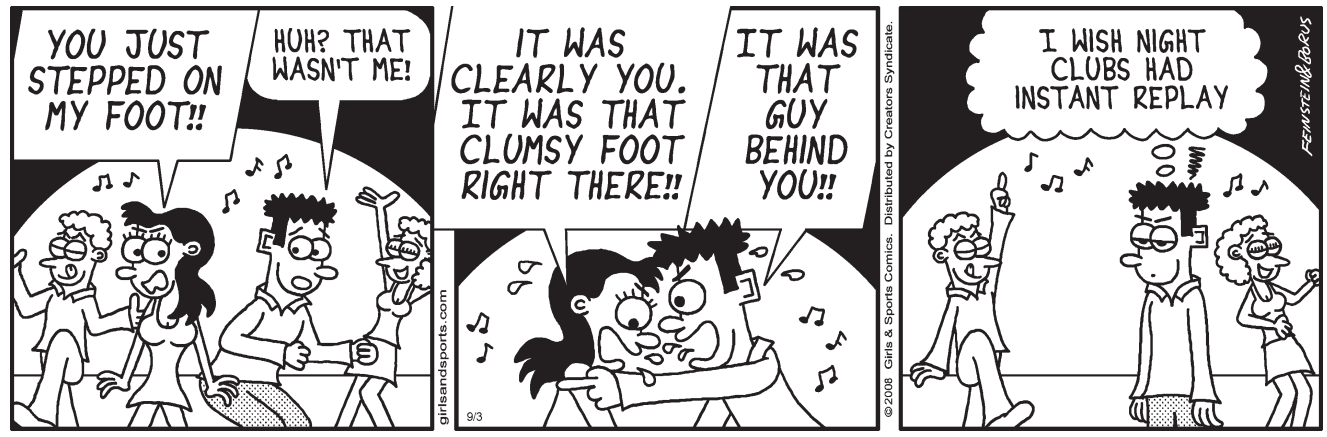
statefarm.com®

PD2B02 11/04

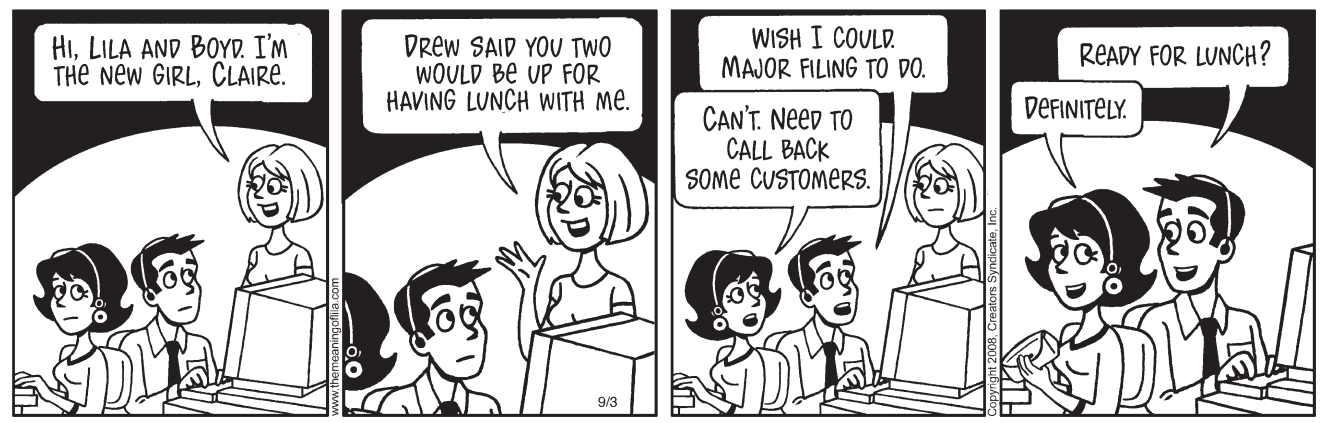
# Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein




# The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose




# The Other Coast

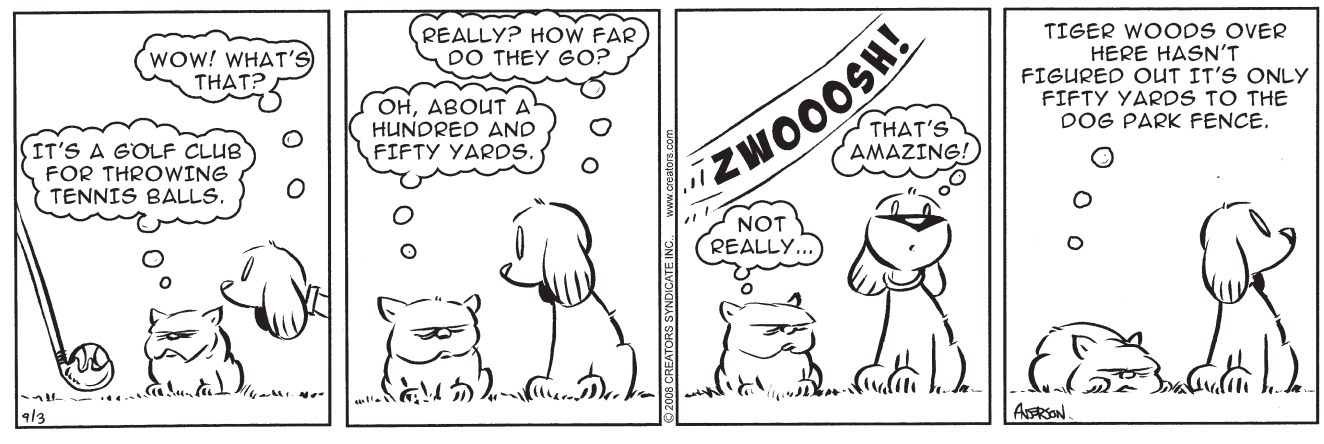
By Adrian Raeside

# Garfield

By Jim Davis

# Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



## The Dinette Set by Julie Larson

## Strange Brew

By John Deering

## Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly

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## MYSTERY PHOTO

Alexandra Bissonnette *news@smdp.com*

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

## CROSSWORD

### By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

**1** Reverberate
**5** President from Independence
**11** Empty
**12** Misplay at bridge
**13** Advantage
**14** Fixed copy
**15** Stadium cry
**16** Suit part
**17** Stop
**19** Bowler, e.g.
**22** Portly
**24** Suspect's claim
**26** Decant
**27** Give the once-over
**28** Quiver item
**30** Grate fill
**31** Acrobat's insurance
**32** Early Mexican
**34** Liberate
**35** Bumbler
**38** Brokers' purchases
**41** Shorebird
**42** Frittata
**43** Poker payment
**44** Diluted
**45** Put away

**DOWN**

**1** At any time
**2** Musical close
**3** Chief justice's place
**4** Exalted verse
**5** Grove view
**6** Suez Canal outlet
**7** Mile or meter
**8** Ran into
**9** Wisdom bringer
**10** Newsman Potter
**16** Brewery sight
**18** Continental currency
**19** Like fine sheets
**20** Skilled
**21** Binds
**22** Go across
**23** Shredded
**25** Finish last
**29** Football coach Pop
**30** Ended a fast
**33** With zing
**34** Do a clerical job
**36** Choir voice
**37** Took wing
**38** Gift topper
**39** Thurman of "Gattaca"
**40** Still
**41** Ethane, for one

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A | I | L | ■ | ■ | F | U | R | O | R |
| E | D | G | A | R | ■ | I | N | O | N | E |
| R | A | N | S | O | M | N | O | T | E | S |
| E | G | O | ■ | B | A | D | ■ | A | M | I |
| S | E | R | V | E | R | ■ | S | T | A | N |
| ■ | S | E | E | R | S | ■ | P | E | N | S |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | E | T | U | D | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| C | R | O | P | ■ | P | I | C | A | S | ■ |
| H | I | P | S | ■ | I | N | S | O | L | E |
| A | V | E | ■ | M | A | I | ■ | R | E | A |
| M | E | N | T | A | L | N | O | T | E | S |
| P | R | E | E | N | ■ | G | R | A | V | E |
| S | A | D | L | Y | ■ | ■ | R | E | E | L |

**Yesterday's answer**

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

9-3

## DAILY LOTTERY

**MEGA MILLIONS**
21 25 26 50 51
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: $12M

**SUPER LOTTO PLUS**
2 4 13 20 41
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: $17M

**Fantasy 5**
4 8 29 38 39

**DAILY 3**
MIDDAY: 9 7 0
EVENING: 3 5 7

**DAILY DERBY**
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:47.46

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

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Least Competent Multitaskers: A Dallas entrepreneur recently created a programmable device for those busy, busy parents who actually need to be reminded that they brought their tots with them in the car (lest their child become one of the several hot-car deaths a year in America). Provided that they're not too busy to set the system up, an alarm alerts them if they exit the car without the baby. Said one Texas woman interviewed by NBC News, "As a mom, you can get really distracted."

■ A rule for federal lawsuits (Rule 8a) requires the initial pleading that commences the case to be "short and plain," and another (9b) requires it to be to the point, with several pages usually plenty to give the other party notice of what he's being sued for. In June, federal judge Ronald Leighton summarily tossed out the initial pleading of Washington state attorney Dean Browning Webb, whose client is suing GMAC Mortgage, because Webb had submitted 465 pages, with meticulous detail, including 37 pages quoting e-mails, and 341 pages asserting claims that freely repeated each other on points they had in common.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**1189** England's King Richard I (the Lion-Hearted) was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

**1658** Oliver Cromwell, the Lord Protector of England, died in London.

**1939** Britain, France, Australia and New Zealand declared war on Germany, two days after the Nazi invasion of Poland.

**1943** the British Eighth Army invaded Italy during World War II, the same day Italy signed a secret armistice with the Allies.

**1951** the television soap opera "Search for Tomorrow" made its debut on CBS. (It ran on CBS until 1982, when it moved to NBC until its final episode, which aired in December 1986.)

**1967** Nguyen Van Thieu was elected president of South Vietnam under a new constitution.

## WORD UP!

**comestible** \kuh-MES-tuh-buhl\, *adjective*:
1. Suitable to be eaten; edible.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Commerical Lease
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Storage Space
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Services
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Low Mileage, 34 MPG
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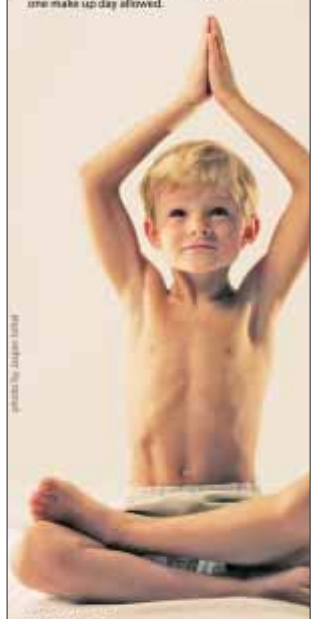
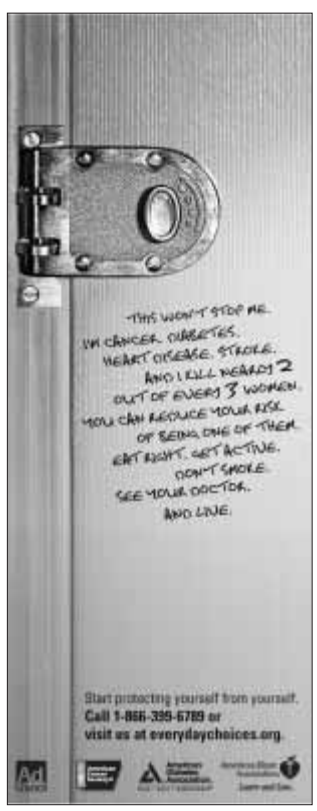


Heidi Jo Corey
(310) 569-6990
www.heidijocorey.com
Go to website to sign up for info on upcoming Kids Yoga Camps starting in June
Yo Mama Yoga
1404 3rd. Street Promenade, Suite 204 (Upstairs, between Anthropology and Lush)
Santa Monica, CA 90401



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Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Properties
Listed for Sale As of Early September 2008

| | Single Family Homes | Condos & Townhomes |
|---|---|---|
| Santa Monica Canyon | $ 3,278,200 | $ 5,730,000 |
| North of Montana | $ 4,028,632 | $ 2,067,625 |
| Between Wilshire & Montana | $ 3,640,875 | $ 1,010,927 |
| South of Wilshire | $ 1,139,439 | $ 718,171 |
| Sunset Park | $ 1,390,224 | $ 678,273 |
| Ocean Park | $ 1,627,538 | $ 1,128,805 |

Statistics Updated Every Monday

Kate Bransfield
Estates Director
Society of Excellence
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$62,829,398 of Real Estate Sold in 2007

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