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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 254



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

FINAL WEEK OF PIER CONCERTS
INSIDE

THE **GOOD RUN** ISSUE

City officials to meet with FAA over flight schools

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMO Santa Monica officials announced that they will be traveling to Washington, D.C. next week to take on the FAA regarding the operation of flight schools at Santa Monica Airport.

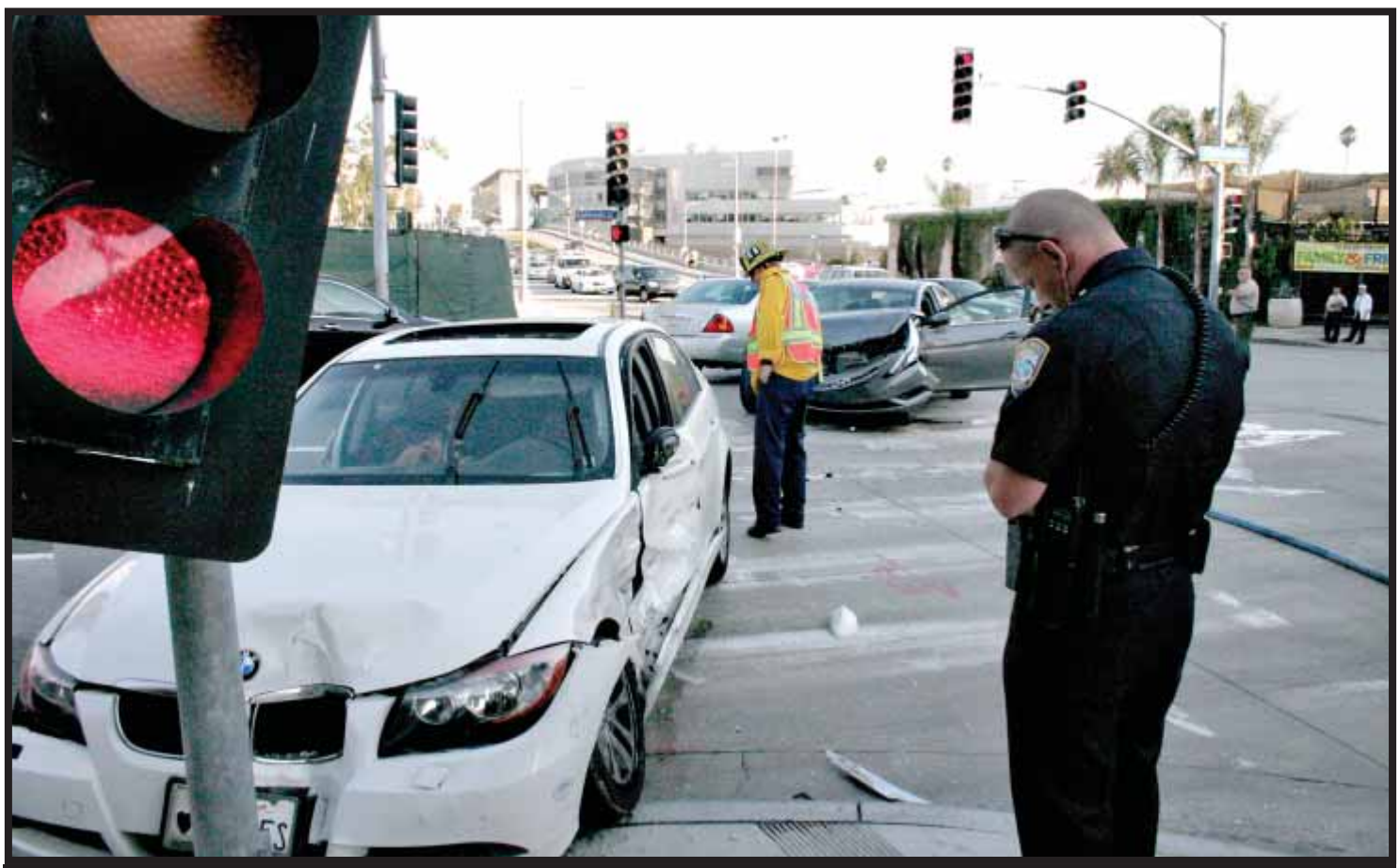
In an information item released on City Hall's website Friday, Public Works Director Martin Pastucha and assistant to the City Manager Kate Vernez laid out City Hall's response to the Aug. 29 incident where a student pilot crashed into a Sunset Park home.

At 2:30 p.m. that Monday, an unidentified student pilot in a Cessna 172 rented from local flight school Justice Aviation attempted to make a landing at the airport after completing a cross-country flight to an airport in Santa Barbara.

He failed and flew around to make another attempt when something went wrong, according to Airport Manager Bob Trimborn.

While in the air over the Sunset Park neighborhood, the pilot lost control for unknown reasons and crashed. He skirted

SEE **SMO** PAGE 10



CRUNCH TIME
Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*
A two-car collision on Tuesday snarled rush hour traffic and dislodged a traffic signal at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street.

Accounting firm owner allegedly took nearly $700K

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE The owner of an accounting firm that provided services for several political campaigns in Santa Monica appeared in federal court Tuesday on charges of taking almost $700,000 from a California candidate's coffers.

Kinde Durkee, of Durkee & Associates, appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Jay C. Gandhi at 2 p.m. at the Roybal Federal Building, but remains in custody until her next hearing on Friday.

She was arrested in her office on Friday by the FBI on charges of mail fraud.

According to a federal complaint released Tuesday, Durkee took out two cashier's checks worth $300,000 and $377,181.24 respectively from the money market account of Solorio for Assembly 2010, a political action committee established for State Assembly candidate Jose Solorio.

The two checks were then deposited in accounts for Durkee & Associates, but the withdrawals were never reflected in reports to the California Secretary of State.

So, rather than the $729,135 that Durkee claimed was in the account, Solorio for Assembly 2010 had only $33,175, bank records show.

The rest of the money was used to make payroll for members of her staff, as well as to pay Durkee's own mortgage, $50,000 for taxes, her mother's assisted-living facility and merchandise at Ariel's Grotto in Disneyland.

SEE **DURKEE** PAGE 9

Lawmakers seek stronger Internet sales tax law

ADAM WEINTRAUB,
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Supporters of a bill that would force Internet retailers to begin collecting sales taxes immediately pressed lawmakers on Tuesday to pass the measure before the end of the session this week.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill as part of this year's budget to expand tax collection by Internet retailers effective July 1, but Amazon.com has spent more than $5 million toward a 2012 ballot referendum to overturn it.

If approved, the bill under consideration this week could not be overturned by voters because it would be considered an urgency measure.

Democratic lawmakers and retail busi-

SEE **TAX** PAGE 9


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www.smffcharitygolftournament.eventbright.com
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2011

Branching out
Thelma Terry Building
Virginia Avenue Park, 6:30 p.m.
Come to a special meeting of the Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force to find out what trees are proposed for your street, and let the task force know what you think about it. If you're not able to attend a meeting, please visit www.santamonicatrees.com to see what's proposed for your street. Virginia Avenue Park is served by Big Blue Bus lines 7 and 11. The Thelma Terry Building is wheelchair accessible. To request a disability-related accommodation, please call (310) 458-8974 at least three business days in advance. Another meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14.

Farm fresh
Downtown Farmers' Market
Arizona Avenue and Third Street, 8:30 a.m.
Get some of the freshest produce around at the largest grower-only certified Farmers' Market in Southern California, a favorite of local chefs. The market turned 30 this year. Come down and celebrate.

Write the right way
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 1 p.m.
Learn dramatic structure and engage in the creative process of playwriting with instructor Anna Stramese. This eight-week workshop focuses on the basic elements of playwriting. Open to all. Cost: Free. For more information call (310) 458-8682 or visit smpl.org.

Thursday, Sept. 8, 2011

Jump in!
Santa Monica Pier
200 Santa Monica Pier, 7 p.m. — 10 p.m.
The 27th annual Twilight Dance Series is back! Come by the Santa Monica Pier Thursday night for the last performance this year featuring Jon Cleary's Philthy Phew.

Lights, camera, fashion
Santa Monica Place
395 Santa Monica Place, 6 p.m. — 11 p.m.
Enjoy a series of fashion shows and fashionistas as a night full of experts is there to fill your every fashion need. Seek a make-up consultation from expert Laura Mercier, enjoy retailer events and promotions and gain some shopper incentives. It's time to kick your heels up and have some fun because if you lose them, another pair will be available for purchase right around the corner.

Tiki time
California Heritage Museum
2612 Main St. 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Don't want summer to be over? Spend some time at the California Heritage Museum where Hawaiian lifestyle will be discovered. The ambiance of plumeria flowers, tropical colors, and Hawaiian ceramics will take you to the islands as you learn more about the Aloha culture.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MAIN STREET

Main is the new black



Main Street merchants are rolling out the red carpet this Thursday for "Fashion's Night Out," a worldwide event created in 2009 to celebrate fashion and restore consumer confidence during the recession.

Twenty-five businesses along Main Street will be celebrating with parties and deals all night.

This year the Vogue fashion boutique Uroborus (2407 Main St.) celebrates with a fashion party from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. While there, be sure to pick up a free raffle ticket. Uroborus, known for its European flair, will be giving away more than $1,500 in clothes and gift certificates.

Refreshments, sangria, appetizers and sweets will also be served along with other special offers. Owner and in-house designer Gigi Clark is excited to participate in this year's event.

"Fashion transcends borders, this is why 'Fashion's Night Out' has become such a popular worldwide event," Clark said.

Stop in to see the fall style preview runway show at 8 p.m. in the New Orleans Building courtyard (2665 Main St.) presented by Agabhumi the Best of Bali and Monkie. Manager of Agabhumi, Christina Norton, said, "We want to remind people that it's fun and affordable to get dressed up."

Other highlights are: Arm Candy Handbag Boutique (2717 Main St.) offers a DJ, wine, cheese, and giveaways all night. Enjoy a trunk show with jewelry designer Kyle Chan at Mindfulnest (2711 Main St.). Varga (2714 Main St.) offers champagne, strawberries. Closet (2708 Main St.) celebrates the grand opening of their new Santa Monica location with appetizers, drinks, music, gift bags and a photo booth.

Even Eyes on Main (3110 Main St.) is getting into the act with a storewide sale, refreshments and treats. "Eye glasses are the first thing you see when you look at someone," Even Eyes owner Susie Sykes said. "They should be the most fashionable thing you own."

For every purchase at participating businesses, attendees will be eligible to enter for a grand prize Main Street shopping spree valued at over $500.

For a list of participating stores, see www.mainstreetsm.com.

For more info on "Fashion's Night Out," see fashionsnightout.com.

KATHY LEONARDO

DOWNTOWN

Scholarships for farmers

Snyder Diamond, a family-owned kitchen and bath company with deep roots in Santa Monica, has teamed up with the Santa Monica Farmers' Market and appliance brands Sub-Zero and Wolf to launch a scholarship program in support of local farming education.

The Snyder Diamond Scholarship program was created to promote farmer education and outreach, to help build and reinforce the locally-grown food system and to strengthen the local farm community, city officials said.

Fourteen scholarship awards of $500 each will be presented today at 8 a.m. at the Downtown Farmers' Market. This is the second round of scholarship awards to be granted by Snyder Diamond.

The award ceremony will take place on the Third Street Promenade at Arizona Avenue. Awards will be personally presented by Snyder Diamond President Russ Diamond. Also in attendance will be Santa Monica Farmers' Market Supervisor Laura Avery and members of the City Council.

The Snyder Diamond Scholarship Program represents a unique partnership between a longtime Santa Monica-based business and the Santa Monica Farmers' Market, which turns 30 years old this year, Avery said.

The program was created by Diamond to promote awareness of the connection between the kitchen and the farm, and to celebrate the culinary pleasures of farm fresh produce.

KEVIN HERRERA



DIGGING IT

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Jesus Rochio works on a city bathroom sewer project near the beach on Tuesday.

Crooks catching gold fever

THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Gus Rodriguez looks more like a soldier than a jewelry store security guard, with a Beretta handgun strapped to his bulletproof vest, shades wrapped around his shaved head and pepper spray bulging from a breast pocket.

"I am not afraid," the former Ecuadorean military man says, patting his pistol. "They call me Rambo."

After a summer of brazen attacks on gold stores, parts of downtown Los Angeles now look more like a militarized zone than a commercial corridor.

The gold fever that has driven prices to an all-time high is also fueling a crime spree in the precious metal. Police nationwide are seeing an uptick in robberies and burglaries related to gold prices, which peaked at $1,891 an ounce last month, up more than $600 from a year earlier.

The FBI doesn't keep numbers for gold thefts but local police departments have plenty of anecdotal evidence of a spike. Dozens of women have had their necklaces snatched in daylight attacks, burglars are targeting gold in homes and robbers in New Jersey even cleared out a mining museum's irreplaceable collection of nuggets.

"It's really bad," said the owner of Abel's Jewelry, one of scores of gold stores lining Broadway, a grubby street through the heart of downtown Los Angeles. "You work all your life trying to have something for the family and they want to take it all in one day."

The beauty of gold, from a criminal stand point, is that it's easy to fence. Rings and necklaces can be melted down — destroying the evidence — and sold. Precious items such as diamonds are harder to alter and easier to trace.

Abel, the jewelry store owner, asked his last name not be used for fear of bringing unwanted attention from criminals. His store has already been robbed twice this year, most recently about two months ago when three men smashed his glass displays with hammers and made off with about $10,000 of gold. They escaped in a getaway car.

There were at least six Los Angeles gold store robberies in June and July. On Aug. 22, four men with hammers were arrested outside a jewelry store, Los Angeles police Lt. Paul Vernon said.

These thefts were suspected to have been carried out by gang members who covered their faces with hoods and hats, then rushed into stores and swiped what they could in a matter of seconds. One surveillance video shows a shopkeeper being blasted by pepper spray while robbers destroy display cabinets

SEE **GOLD** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

SMO isn't sustainable

Editor:

Open letter to the Santa Monica City Council:

Last week, a student pilot crashed into a Santa Monica home. Why on Earth do we allow student pilots to learn to fly in such a densely populated area? Each time I drive through the airport it kills me (pun intended) to see the sign that reads, "$89 for your first flight lesson."

Santa Monica touts itself as a sustainable community. Many of us bike, use public transportation, compost, stay local, etc. Private jets are the most unsustainable method of transportation! One hour in a private jet is the equivalent of an entire year of driving! Why are so many of us doing our best to reduce our carbon imprint, only to allow the super-rich to squelch all of our efforts with one flight? How can we consider ourselves a sustainable city and allow for so many private jets out of our airport?

On top of all of this, most piston planes are still using leaded fuel. This is absolutely unconscionable!

I support the movement to close the airport. In the meantime, we need [to] stop allowing flight schools to use our homes as their training ground, to ban leaded fuel from being used at the airport and to sharply reduce the number and the size of the jets taking off from the airport.

I first moved into Sunset Park as a child in 1985. Yes, it's true, the airport was here before I got here. Some will argue that since it was here before me I have no right to complain about it. This argument always makes me think of when I read "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson as a Samohi student. Are we really going to continue a mindless practice because this is the way it has always been?

The airport is unnecessary and unsustainable and is a significant health threat to our community and to the planet. Let's close it down in 2015 and show the world Santa Monica is a truly sustainable and mindful city. There are many other ways we could use that incredibly valuable piece of land to generate jobs and revenue that do not have such a major negative impact.

Dr. Colleen Londoño
Santa Monica

No students allowed

Editor:

I know the City Council has been working long and hard trying to prevent large jets from using Santa Monica Airport. After this latest accident, I'd like to see student and new pilots also not be able to use this airport. It's too close to homes. My home, too. I live two blocks away from where this latest plane went down.

My son's best friend's little sister rides her scooter in front of the house that the plane hit. A few blocks from the airport, Marine Park has a preschool and a ball field filled with children every day of the week. Do we have to have our children killed in a tragic accident before any action is taken?

The FAA is funded by our tax dollars and is supposed to be protecting the public and our best interests. Therefore, they should allow the city to close the airport down for good.

Maureen Antonio
Santa Monica



Meredith Pro Tem



Meredith C. Carroll — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Baby names reveal cultural trends

Editor's note: Meredith C. Carroll is on maternity leave. This column originally appeared in December of 2007.

BABYCENTER.COM RELEASED ITS ANNUAL Top Baby Names List on Thursday. There were few surprises among the most popular names, with mainstays like Jacob, Noah, Madison and Emily maintaining spots in the top 10.

Sophia landed at No. 1 on the girl's list, up six spots from last year. Olivia moved down two to No. 10, perhaps because the legions of well-meaning parents are finally realizing the popular children's book character after which they were naming their daughters is actually a pig (albeit a precious one), thereby setting themselves up for years of psychotherapy bills and eating disorder evaluations.

The name Reagan made its debut on the girl's list at No. 80. Fifty-six year old Rush Limbaugh is said to be considering becoming a first-time father in order to move the name up even more on next year's list, just in time for the presidential election. The name Layla shot up 60 spots to No. 40, perhaps because of the release of Eric Clapton's autobiography. Addison and Bailey also rocketed up the list in 2007 to Nos. 6 and 60 respectively, thanks to characters of the same names on the popular TV drama "Grey's Anatomy."

Of course naming babies after celebrities isn't a new trend. The number of newborn girls named Shirley more than doubled between 1933 and 1935, which is right around the time when Shirley Temple starred in the film "Bright Eyes." Elvis shot up 527 spots on the Social Security Administration's 1,000 top baby names' list when the king of rock 'n' roll released "Heartbreak Hotel" in 1956.

After Tyra Banks appeared on the cover of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue in 1997, her name surged more than 50 percent among newborns the following year. No word on if the name took a nosedive this year after the former supermodel appeared again on a beach in a swimsuit, but this time with an additional 30-plus pounds packed onto her frame.

In 2007, the name Ava fell two spots in popularity to No. 5 on BabyCenter's list. Part of the downgrade blame could potentially be attributed to the highly publicized divorce of actress Reese Witherspoon and actor Ryan Phillippe, whose 8-year-old daughter is named Ava. A new report out this year claims divorce has a crucial effect on global warming, so it's quite possible that eco-friendly parents don't want to associate their newborn baby girls with the child of a broken, non-environmentally friendly home. (Plus, Reese's most recent film, "Rendition," was a total box office bust.)

Maddox, the name of the oldest child in Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt's ever-expanding brood, did not make the top 10 this year, but its popularity has nevertheless surged threefold in the past few years. And apparently new parents in Nebraska and Kansas have taken a liking to the name more so than new parents in any other state.

Likewise, the name of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes' daughter, Suri, didn't crack the list of most popular names, according to BabyCenter. However, that hasn't stopped residents in the great nutmeg state of Connecticut in particular from naming their baby girls after the daughter of the couple that landed in the No. 2 slot in Us Weekly's Couple of the Year issue. (Brangelina was No. 1.)

Naming their daughter Apple has done little to help Oscar-winner Gwyneth Paltrow and Grammy-winner Chris Martin boost the frequency of children being named after fruit. Not only did Apple not make it onto BabyCenter's list, but it has never appeared on the Social Security Administration's list, either.

However, 3-year-old Apple Martin shouldn't take it personally, as nature's candy has always fared poorly in the first-name slot. The only exception is Orange. In 1884, 13 boys were named after the nectar of Florida's official beverage. Popularity of the name took a nosedive when only six boys were named it in 1892. However, it rebounded significantly — to approximately 12 namings — around 1898. In a show of solidarity, Olives everywhere are hoping for Apple and Orange comebacks in 2008.

In 2007 Aiden, continued its reign as the most popular boy's name for the third year running on BabyCenter's list. No doubt "Sex and the City" enthusiasts, who have largely graduated from singledom to mommydom, have had a hand in the enduring popularity of the name of Carrie Bradshaw's onetime fiancé.

Jayden, the name of Britney Spears' second biggest surprise in life (biggest surprise and son No. 1, Sean Preston, was born a year before Jayden), made its debut this year in the No. 4 slot. BabyCenter noted the name had more varied spellings — 26 in all — than any other name on the list. Twenty-five of the different Jayden spellings are being attributed to Spears, who completed only one year of high school.

More outrageous names are expected among 2008's crop of newborns, who will be born just as a slew of celebrities give birth. Expectant mothers everywhere are hoping Jennifer Lopez, Christina Aguilera, Nicole Richie, Halle Berry, Jessica Alba and Paris Hilton (who isn't pregnant, but is sure to either get knocked up or arrested in the new year) don't let them down.

More at www.meredithcarroll.com



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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2011. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Your column here

Billy Parish

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Keystone XL pipeline a bad idea

FAMILIES ACROSS THE MIDDLE SWATH OF our country — from North Dakota to Louisiana — have a disturbing question to ask themselves: "Do we want a leaky pipeline pumping 800,000 barrels of oil a day running through our community?"

The proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline, which would transport tar sands -- a mixture of sand, clay, water and a dense tar-like form of petroleum, from the Boreal forests of Alberta, Canada to refineries in the Gulf of Mexico region — is a 1,700-mile time bomb that either will be activated or defused in the coming days.

The pipeline would travel directly across the Ogallala Aquifer, the largest underground aquifer in North America, which provides drinking water and irrigation for much of the plains region. The thick raw "bitumen" tar sands are mixed with a volatile natural gas, making a highly corrosive, acidic and unstable combination -- not something you'd want flowing in enormous quantities anywhere near where you sit down for dinner with your family.

The fact that the predecessor pipeline and its pumping stations have leaked a dozen times this past year should be enough to make anyone question the intelligence of this scheme. Can farmers, families, cities and ecosystems really afford an on-land spill similar to the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico?

But this is a problem that should worry us all. The threat to immediate public health is compounded by the threat the tar sands pose to our planet's atmosphere. Bizarre weather patterns are playing out the climate change crisis — Irene, record floods and droughts around the world, freak tornados and wildfires. The atmosphere is changing, and the accelerating use of fossil fuels is a major driver.

The tar sands represent the second-largest pool of carbon on the planet, second only to the oil remaining under the desert of Saudi Arabia. If we actually go through with clear-cutting enormous tracts of Boreal forests, processing the thick tar with steam and water, mixing it with natural gas and transporting, refining and burning it, it would take the concentration of carbon in the atmosphere from nearly 400 parts per million to 600 parts per million, something leading scientists have been sounding the alarm about for years.

As James Hansen, NASA's top climatologist, put it, if we have any chance of getting back to a stable climate, "unconventional fossil fuels, such as tar sands, must be left in the ground." In other words, "If the tar sands are thrown into the mix, it is essentially game over."

The project developers want us to believe we need these tar sands -- that there is no alternative. They want us to forget that the solar industry employs more Americans than U.S. steel production, and that entrepreneurs nationwide, like myself and my team at Solar Mosaic, are finding creative ways to help communities prosper through clean energy.

THE THREAT TO IMMEDIATE PUBLIC HEALTH IS COMPOUNDED BY THE THREAT THE TAR SANDS POSE TO OUR PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE.

Because of their belief in better alternatives to our energy needs, 1,200 people have been arrested these past few weeks while peacefully protesting in front of the White House. These are people of every generation -- religious leaders, union workers and business people. Actors Danny Glover and Darryl Hannah joined what has become the largest environmental civil disobedience in a generation.

The two individuals with exclusive power to stop construction of the pipeline are Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. Because the pipeline would cross the border, the secretary of state and, ultimately, the president must sign a certificate of "national interest" for the development to begin.

If jobs are the president's big concern, let's not set the planet on fire for what the State Department estimates would be only 5,000 to 6,000 jobs. With even a modest carbon fee, the president could raise enough money to support an Apollo-style program to rebuild America's lagging infrastructure and really catalyze transition to a clean-energy economy.

Your phone call this week will actually make a difference. Even if we can't protest in front of the White House, we can step up and speak out.

Our water, our health, our environment and the natural beauty of a 1,700-mile swath of America need you.

PARISH is president of Solar Mosaic, a solar energy marketplace, and author of the forthcoming book, "Making Good: Finding Meaning, Money and Community in a Changing World."



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The Q Line

Make way for the gangway

City officials plan to build a gangway and 2,160-square-foot barge on the southern side of the Santa Monica Pier to expedite evacuations in case of an emergency. Although bringing boats back to the pier is not in the cards right now, the gangway will be constructed with the future in mind.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Would you support returning recreational boating back to the pier, helping the landmark reclaim some of its past glory?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**





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‘The Help’ works overtime, remains No. 1 at box office

DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES "The Help" stayed on the job over Labor Day, finishing as the No. 1 film for the third-straight weekend.

The acclaimed drama about Southern black maids speaking out during the civil-rights movement took in $19 million over the long holiday weekend, according to studio estimates Monday.

That raised the film's domestic total to $123.4 million. "The Help" also has begun rolling out overseas, pulling in $1.7 million in its first international market, Australia.

A DreamWorks Pictures release distributed by Disney, "The Help" has been a triumph amid a rush of late-summer duds that ended Hollywood's busiest season. Another batch of new movies this weekend packed in modest to small crowds.

"'The Help' is literally in a league of its own at the end of a summer movie season where the competition was virtually nonexistent," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "It's a really good movie that happened to land in the perfect spot at the perfect time. They are really just reaping the benefit of the worst dog days of August that we have seen in years."

Best among the newcomers was Focus Features' Holocaust-revenge thriller "The Debt" at No. 2 with $12.6 million from Friday to Monday. "The Debt" stars Helen Mirren and features "The Help" co-star Jessica Chastain.

The Weinstein Co. sci-fi horror tale "Apollo 18" opened at No. 3 with $10.7 million. Another fright flick, Relativity Media's "Shark Night 3D," debuted at No. 4 with $10.3 million.

A handful of other movies opened in narrower release well outside the weekend's top 10, including Visio Entertainment's golf drama "Seven Days in Utopia," which stars Robert Duvall and Lucas Black and pulled in a modest $1.6 million.

Pantelion Films' action comedy "Saving Private Perez" debuted with $830,000, while Samuel Goldwyn Films' sex comedy "A Good Old Fashioned Orgy" opened with just $153,000.

While holdover films almost always have big drops in revenue in subsequent weekends, "The Help" did the same business this past Friday to Sunday as it did a week earlier.

Starring Viola Davis, Emma Stone and Octavia Spencer, "The Help" has followed the path of the book on which it is based, which became a literary phenomenon through word-of-mouth among readers.

The film began solidly with a No. 2 opening, then rose to its three-week reign at No. 1 as fans talked it up to friends.

"The Help" gave Hollywood a slight boost over Labor Day weekend a year ago. Overall domestic revenues for the four days came in at $139 million, up 5 percent from the same weekend last year, when "The American" opened at No. 1 with $16.7 million, according to Hollywood.com.

Domestic receipts from the first weekend in May through Labor Day finished at about $4.38 billion, up a fraction from summer 2010 revenues, Hollywood.com estimates.

But factoring in this year's higher ticket prices, actual movie attendance was down slightly, the fourth-straight summer that admissions have dropped.

Overseas, the family smash "The Smurfs" continued to dominate, pulling in $23.3 million to pad its international total to $295.8 million and its worldwide haul to about $430 million. "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" ran second internationally with $19.4 million, lifting its overseas take to $186.5 million and its worldwide total to about $350 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Monday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Tuesday.

By the numbers

1. "The Help," $19 million.
2. "The Debt," $12.6 million.
3. "Apollo 18," $10.7 million.
4. "Shark Night 3D," $10.3 million.
5. "Rise of the Planet of the Apes," $10.25 million.
6. "Colombiana," $9.4 million.
7. "Our Idiot Brother," $7 million.
8. "Spy Kids: All the Time in the World," $6.6 million.
9. "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark," $6.1 million.
10. "The Smurfs," $5.6 million.

Retailers agree to limit toxic cadmium in jewelry

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Major national retailers, including Target Corp. and Gap Inc., have agreed to all but eliminate the toxic metal cadmium in jewelry and other accessories they sell.

Starting in 2012, jewelry sold at the stores in California must contain less than 0.03 percent cadmium — a soft, whitish metal that in high enough amounts can cause cancer and other harm. Because of the size of California's market, that effectively becomes a national limit — though it doesn't carry the force of law in other states.

Five states have passed legislation limiting cadmium in jewelry, but typically they apply to items intended for kids, who are especially vulnerable to poisoning.

The new legal agreement, approved by a California judge Friday, applies to children's and adult jewelry. It is between the Oakland-based Center for Environmental Health and 26 retailers and suppliers, also among them Aeropostale, Old Navy, Banana Republic and Claire's, an international jewelry chain store.

The state laws and lawsuits followed an Associated Press investigation that last year revealed some Chinese jewelry manufacturers were substituting cadmium for lead, which Congress effectively banned due to its own hazards. Several bracelet charms and pendants tested for AP were more than 90 percent cadmium.

Settlement negotiations began last year, after the CEH filed notices under California's Proposition 65, a law intended to keep potentially hazardous materials away from the public. Those filings effectively forced the firms to the table.

SEE TOXIN PAGE 7

Bad pet breath may be sign of dental disease

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Dogs have 42 teeth, humans have 32, cats have 30 and Mario has none.

The cat was eating poorly, hiding in the closet, and had red, sore gums when he was diagnosed with a mouth infection called stomatitis. Three surgeries and $10,000 later, all his teeth had been pulled.

"Once he started feeling better, he again became a happy, normal, healthy cat, very loving, affectionate and playful," said Mary Roever of Green Bay, Wis., who with her husband adopted Mario from a shelter. "His cheek appears ever so slightly sunken in, but you really have to look to see it."

The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates that by age 2, 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats have some form of dental disease. Infections have been linked to diabetes, heart attacks, strokes, kidney disease and other life- threatening problems.

Dental disease was the most common problem found among the 2.2 million dogs and 450,000 cats treated at Banfield Pet Hospitals in 2010, according to the group's "State of Pet Health 2011 Report." With 770 hospitals in 43 states, Banfield is the world's largest general vet practice.

It can be hard to tell if your dog or cat has a toothache but there are warning signs, said Dr. Kevin S. Stepaniuk, president-elect of the American Veterinary Dental Society, and assistant clinical professor and veterinary dentist at the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Bad breath, loose or discolored teeth, cowering if touched on the jaw or snout, drooling, dropping food, bleeding from the gums, loss of appetite and loss of weight are some signs, Stepaniuk said.

Pets might also paw at their mouth and make exaggerated jaw movements when eating or drinking, he said.

"It hurts and it's very smelly," said veterinarian Edgardo Ortiz, Banfield's medical director for New York and New Jersey. "When the pets are healthy, owners will kiss them. With severe tooth trouble, people don't want to kiss their pets so they don't get as much love. That's reality."

Mario's symptoms even included a squeaky meow, though it returned to normal after his surgery. Still, there are a few things the toothless cat can't do, Roever said: "He has no teeth to pick things up with. We pile his canned food up into a mountain so it's easier for him to eat." She also buys extra-small kibble.

He will ignore furry toys and go for smooth, cloth-covered ones instead, she said. "I suspect the furry cloth feels funny on the gums."

Tooth decay can happen at any age, but is more likely in older pets and in smaller toy breeds. "They eat more canned food and more will get stuck in their teeth," Ortiz said. Larger dogs tend to eat more dry food, which scrapes the teeth, and helps remove tartar, he said.

"Ask yourself the question: 'If you did not brush your teeth daily, what would happen?' In a few days you would have significant plaque and within a few more, increased tartar," Stepaniuk said.

Owners are advised to take their pets to the vet twice a year for routine checkups and get their teeth cleaned once a year.

In a perfect world, Ortiz said pet owners would brush their dog's or cat's teeth twice a day, but twice a week will produce amazing results.

Add dental chews and a water additive that helps prevent tartar and pets should stay very kissable, Ortiz said.

Brushing an older pet's teeth for the first time can prove challenging, the vets acknowledged, but it is easy to teach a puppy or kitten to learn to like it, Ortiz said.

"Start with your bare finger and rub it along their gums and teeth. Get them used to having something in their mouth. Then get a finger-sized toothbrush with small fibers that do not scrape the teeth," he said. Toothpaste isn't necessary to remove tartar, but once the pet is used to the brush, it can be added.

Cats usually won't sit still for too long, so it helps if the toothpaste is tuna or chicken-flavored, Ortiz said.

Stepaniuk warned not to give pets human toothpaste. "If human toothpaste is swallowed, which pets will do, it is toxic (due to the high levels of fluoride) as well as a gastrointestinal irritant," he said.

Any invasive dental work on pets — extractions, root canals, and any thorough exam involving instruments and X-rays — requires anesthesia, Stepaniuk said. There are no such things as dog dentures, he said, and implants and bridges are almost nonexistent, but some dogs — usually show dogs — do get braces.

Pets do cope with the loss of teeth, Ortiz said, and their health and behavior typically improve once the pain is gone.

Veterinarians will try to save strategic teeth when possible. These include the canine teeth and carnassial teeth (the big chewing teeth), Stepaniuk said.

Other types of pets are also vulnerable to dental problems. Ferrets can get tooth decay just like dogs and cats. Rabbits, guinea pigs, and chinchillas have continually growing cheek teeth and incisors; given the wrong diet, their teeth will overgrow and cause abscessed teeth, Stepaniuk said.

TOXIN

FROM PAGE 6

A key point was how to determine what made a piece of jewelry a problem.

While the companies wanted to focus on how much cadmium could rub onto someone's hands during normal use — and then go from hand to mouth to stomach — the CEH insisted on a test that measures how much cadmium a piece contains, whether or not it escapes.

It's a much more health-protective approach, and one that industry has said is overkill.

"The cost of trying to get a rational standard would have been much more expensive," because the cases would have to be litigated rather than settled out of court, said attorney Eileen Nottoli, who represented about half of the firms involved.

Over time, even small quantities of cadmium can damage the kidneys and bones. Some research suggests it can stunt the development of young brains.

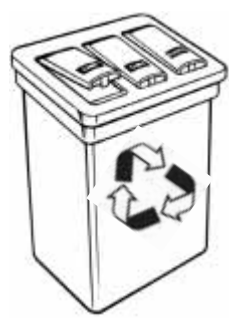
"We welcome this strong action, which will protect our children and families from the health risks of an unnecessary hazard in jewelry," said Michael Green, executive director of CEH.

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GOLD
FROM PAGE 3

and grab what they can.

"Certainly the surging gold prices motivated these people to want to do these smash-and-grabs," Vernon said. "They are not trading what they steal at the market value of gold. Even if they get it half that, they are making a pretty penny."

In Oakland, police say dozens of women have had gold necklaces yanked from their necks on the street. More than 100 similar thefts have been reported in Los Angeles, a rash of robberies is taking place in St. Paul, Minn., and police in Phoenix say muggers chatted up high school girls then ripped their gold necklaces from them.

"We've never seen this," said Oakland police Sgt. Holly Joshi. Most of the victims were robbed while distractedly looking at their phones.

In July, thieves smashed open a glass display in the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in New Jersey and made off with about $400,000 in gold samples collected from mines across the globe.

Rodriguez, the LA security guard, hasn't had to use his weapon in the four months he's stood guard. The stocky 44-year-old earned his nickname from gang members who he says regularly look him over as they slowly drive past the shops he patrols.

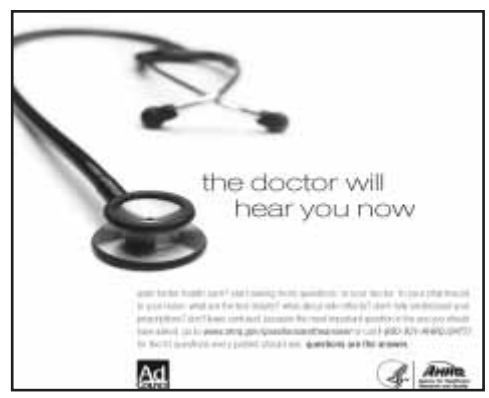
Most of the jewelry stores on Broadway are low-end enterprises with owners keen to make a quick buck buying jewelry, melting it and reselling it. The street alternates from squalid to splendid, dotted with crumbling former theaters and refurbished art deco high rises.

Opposing forces of gentrification and homelessness play out on the street, where hustlers stand outside cheap electronics stores blasting Mexican music and drivers swoop into secured garages beneath newly renovated apartment buildings.

A couple hundred yards down the street from Rodriguez, another gold store guard pops open the leather clasp securing his .357 magnum pistol when he sees two young men walking toward him.

Oscar Quintero says he's never had to fully unholster his gun but a few weeks ago thwarted a robbery by blasting pepper spray at a man who tried to run away with a gold chain around his neck.





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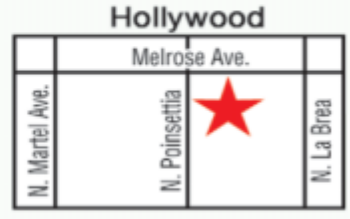
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Santa Monica



Hollywood



DURKEE
FROM PAGE 1

According to the complaint, Durkee admitted to agents that she had "personal and business tax problems."

Other purchases included cosmetics, airfare, gift certificates and clothes.

Durkee also transferred money to other candidate accounts under her control, including the Committee to Re-elect Loretta Sanchez and Beth Krom for Congress.

Durkee, who worked as the treasurer on numerous campaigns in Santa Monica including that of Santa Monicans for Quality Government and Friends of Santa Monica College, had control over 400 different accounts.

Lauren Horwood, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Sacramento, Calif., said the investigation is expected to result in additional charges.

Durkee's office, located in Burbank, Calif., did not return a call for comment.

This isn't the first time Durkee has run afoul of enforcement agencies.

The California Fair Political Practices Committee has documented multiple infractions, including a $104,500 fine for failing to report payments made to subvendors, expenses and money paid to Durkee & Associates during Steve Westly's gubernatorial campaign.

Locally, Durkee worked on the 2010 Santa Monicans for Quality Government campaign that came under local heat from another group, Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, for filing financial disclosure statements past the deadline.

She's also served as treasurer for Friends of Santa Monica College's 2006 effort to elect members to the College Board and City Councilmember Terry O'Day's election campaign.

The news came as a surprise to some of those that she'd worked with.

"I am concerned. I am disappointed," O'Day said. "I am filing requests and trying to figure out the disposition of the funds that I have, and the balance remaining in the account."

O'Day said that he's received many references for Durkee's services.

"I just hope that not too many people were hurt by this," he said.

Fred Huebscher, the political consultant that headed up the Quality Government campaign, said that he hadn't noticed any funds going out of his own coffers, but that only time would tell.

"I don't know how she operated, or how the alleged embezzlement took place," Huebscher said.

ashley@smdp.com

••••
FROM PAGE 1

nesses that support the new bill, AB155, say Amazon is trying to undermine the legislation with a proposal to add 7,000 California jobs at new distribution centers if the online sales tax law is delayed for at least two years.

Speaker of the Assembly John Perez, a Los Angeles Democrat, said Amazon and other Internet retailers kill thousands of California-based jobs each year by unfairly undercutting local businesses on price because they don't charge the tax.

In the flurry of legislative activity in the last week of the session, Perez said, "California will not sacrifice real jobs for phantom promises."

Amazon has proposed adding a total of nearly 22,000 jobs in six states that have stepped up tax collection efforts, which would amount to roughly a two-thirds increase in its worldwide workforce, said Bill Dombrowski, president of the California Retailers Association.

"The job numbers appear to be nothing but fiction," Dombrowski said.

Amazon has been pushing for a major expansion of its distribution network, proposing at least an additional 15 distribution centers as part of an effort to speed deliveries to customers.

Amazon did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Amazon's lobbyists began circulating a proposal last week to carve out an exemption from the tax collection rules for retailers that invest $500 million in the state and add 7,000 full-time jobs with health benefits by the end of 2014. So far, the proposal has not been incorporated in any bill.



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SMO
FROM PAGE 1

the top of one house, blew through the upper branches of a tree and then hit the side of an unoccupied house on the 3100 block of 21st Street.

The pilot suffered a broken leg and one of four men painting the house at the time of the accident was hit, possibly with debris, according to Santa Monica Fire Department spokesman Judah Mitchell.

The incident is still under investigation, although Wayne Pollack, a senior investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board said that a preliminary report would be available as soon as Thursday.

The final report will take around nine months to complete.

The crash has renewed local outcry that the airport is a danger to homes, and that flight schools, which constitute over 80 percent of the flight traffic according to some estimates, are a burden on both air quality and residents' well-being.

Vernez and Pastucha wrote that Santa Monica officials would be meeting with members of the FAA to talk about flight school operations and safety at the airport.

City Manager Rod Gould wouldn't give exact topics for the trip or even the dates city representatives would fly out.

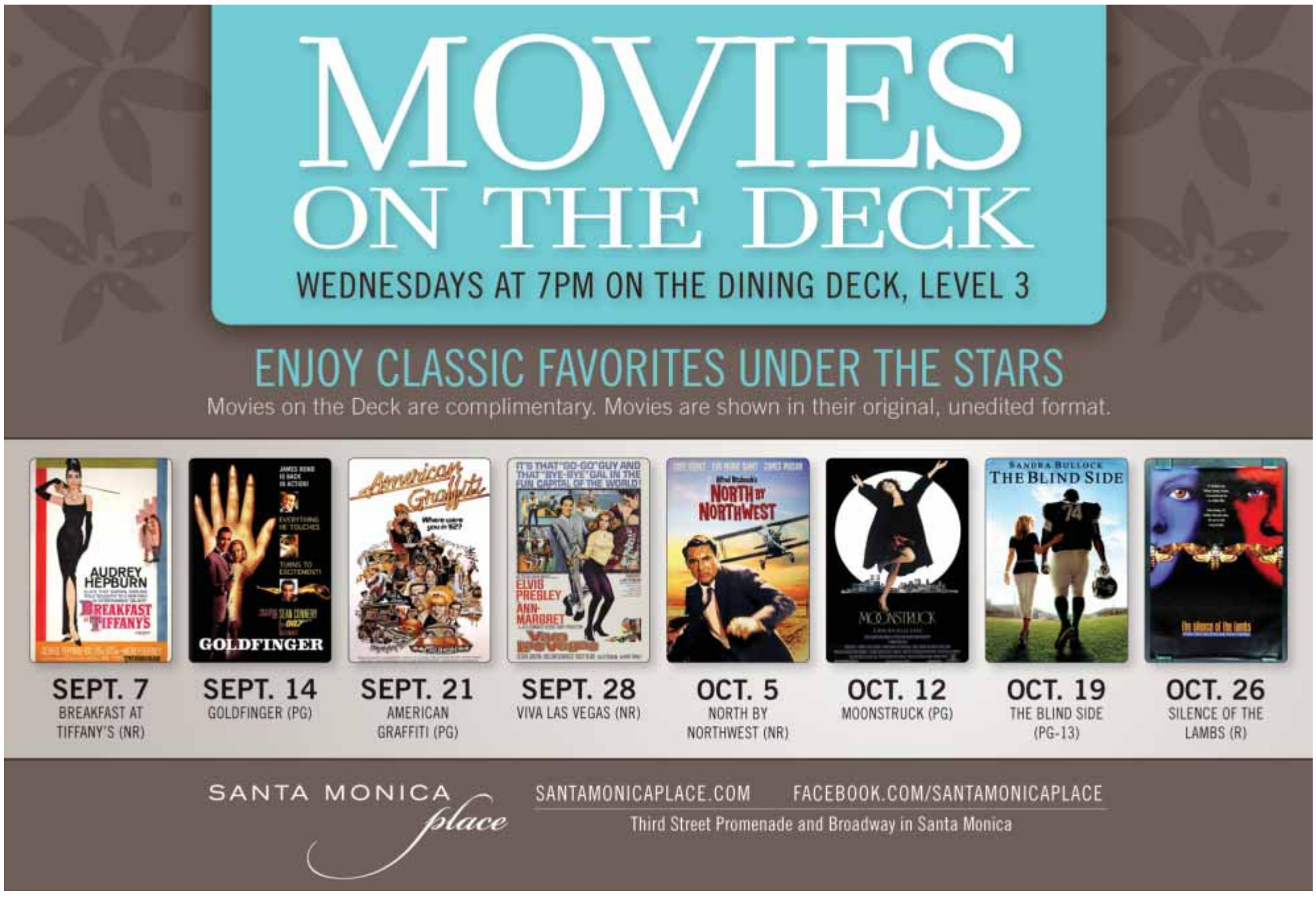
"I don't want to negotiate with the newspapers, and so forth," Gould said. "We have got negotiating to do with the FAA, the flight schools and talks with stakeholders. We don't want to create expectations that we cannot meet."

City Hall is bound by a 1984 operational agreement with the FAA, which lists flight schools as a "prescribed activity."

FAA spokesman Ian Gregor has previously stated that, generally speaking, the operator of an airport that has accepted money from the federal government for airport improvements could be in violation of its federal agreements if it tried to evict a certain type of tenant without "just cause."

Santa Monica last accepted money from the federal government in 1984. Generally, grants carry with them a 20-year

SEE **SMO** PAGE 11





Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

CLOSER LOOK: **Safety personnel inspect the wreckage of a plane that crashed in Sunset Park last month. The plane was attempting to land at nearby Santa Monica Airport before it went down.**

SMO
FROM PAGE 10

obligation to the FAA, codified in the operational agreement.

City officials contend that agreement expires in 2015, at which point the FAA will not have control over the fate of the airport.

The FAA counters that it's actually in control until 2023, and that the airport represents a crucial link in an aerial emergency safety network in the Los Angeles area.

Vernez and Pastucha acknowledged in their report that Santa Monica officials may not have much say in the presence of the flight schools right now.

"The city alone cannot restrict flight school operations outside of the Santa Monica Municipal Code, Federal Air Regulations or provisions of their respective lease agreements," they wrote.

Officials have begun a review of the leases to see what flexibility exists for local control over the flight schools, however.

These efforts come at a time when City Hall has begun a "visioning process," looking at the potential uses for the airport in a post-2015 world.

No options are off the table, and range from shutting it down and creating public open space to keeping it more or less as it is.

"Any decisions about the future of the airport will eventually be made within the context of a complex jurisdictional and legal environment," the information item states. "However, the expiration of the 1984 agreement presents opportunities for the city to determine what is in the best interests of the city and its citizens."

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Play Time
Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Climbing out of the 'Rabbit Hole'

IN MARCH 2009, A THEATER COMPANY in Malibu mounted a run of David Lindsay-Abaire's play "Rabbit Hole," which chronicles the effects of the death of a 4-year-old on the rest of his family. While it was a fine production overall, this is what I wrote about it then:

"For more than two hours the audience is plunged into this unadulterated grief … The time spent feels like sitting through a long requiem mass without even the benefit of a Hallelujah Chorus!"

Now, two and a half years later, "Rabbit Hole" is being presented again, this time at the Pierson Playhouse in the Pacific Palisades, and it is a much more engaging, less intense experience to sit through. I credit this to the tight direction of Tony Torrisi, who keeps the play moving at a quickened pace and the actors alive and even funny amidst their overwhelming grief.

In this rendition, Becca, the mother, is played softly by Lara Doucette. She has withdrawn into numbness, unable to reach out to her husband, Howie (Samuel Huntington). He, on the other hand, carries his pain clutched tight to his bosom, releasing it sporadically in angry bursts. They are a well-matched, sympathetic pair.

The two other members of the family are Izzy (Lauren Dykes), Becca's impulsive younger sister, and Nat (Catherine Lydon), the girls' imprudent and tactless mother who unwittingly rubs everyone the wrong way with her pithy comments. She, too, has lost a son — a 30-year-old drug addict who hanged himself, but Becca coldly refuses to equate her mother's loss of a son with her own loss.

And finally, there is Jason (Michael Conoscenti), the teenager who was driving the car that killed their little boy as he ran into the street after his dog. Jason is as tormented as Becca and Howie, and Conoscenti conveys his emotions with a twitchy unease that makes his anguish palpable.

In the end, however, life moves on. The family rallies around the ecstatically pregnant Izzy, and Becca and Howie begin to understand that "at some point (the grief) becomes bearable" as they move toward recovery and an attempt to renew their disrupted relationship.

"Rabbit Hole" is a well-written, thoughtful play. And, as director Torrisi notes in the playbill, it's "not a play about death, but about living."

"Rabbit Hole" will continue at the Pierson Playhouse, 941 Temescal Canyon Rd., in Pacific Palisades, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Oct. 2. Call (310) 454-1970 for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2366-2368 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries of Ordinances Number 2366 through 2368, which were adopted by the City Council on August 23, 2011.

Ordinance Number 2366 sets the tax rate for Library General Obligations Bonds for 2011/12 at $.006973 per $100 of assessed valuation.

Ordinance Number 2367 approves the development agreement between the City and Colorado Creative Studios for a four story, 192,000 square foot creative arts and entertainment production facility at 2834 Colorado.

Ordinance Number 2368 authorizes the City to participate in the alternative voluntary redevelopment program established by Assembly Bill 27. The authorization is subject to certain conditions and reservations. They reflect the legal challenge pending in the State Supreme Court that will determine the validity of both AB 27 and AB 26, which eliminated the prior redevelopment program.

Ordinance Number 2366 was effective upon adoption. Ordinances Number 2367 and 2368 will become effective thirty days after their adoption. The full text of the ordinances is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone (310) 458-8211.

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Ad Council
AICPA

Man opens fire on Guard members, two shot dead

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON CITY, Nev. A man with a rifle shot an entire group of five uniformed National Guard members eating breakfast at a Nevada IHOP on Tuesday, killing two of them and another person in a hail of gunfire, authorities and witnesses said.

The suspect also shot himself and later died at a hospital. Six people were wounded in the attack.

Authorities weren't saying whether the gunman targeted the Guard members. But Nevada National Guard spokeswoman April Conway said there's no indication he had any connection with the Guard.

Conway didn't know why the five Guard members had met at the IHOP, in a strip mall on Carson City's main street. But she noted the restaurant is about four miles from the Guard's headquarters complex.

The two Guard members killed were a man and a woman.

Authorities were at first worried about the violence being more widespread. They locked down the state Capitol and Supreme Court buildings for about 40 minutes, and put extra security in place at state and military buildings in northern Nevada.

"There were concerns at the onset, so we took certain steps to ensure we had the capability to embrace an even larger circumstance," Carson City Sheriff Kenny Furlong said. "At this point in time it appears to be isolated to this parking lot."

Witnesses said the gunman pulled up in a blue minivan around 9 a.m. and shot a man on a motorcycle, then walked inside the restaurant and started shooting. He then walked back outside and fired shots toward a barbecue restaurant and an H&R Block in the strip mall, and toward a casino across the street.

"I don't know what's happening to my city," Fran Hunter, who works at the Sierra Le Bone pet shop just north of the IHOP, told the Reno Gazette-Journal. "This happens in L.A. or Las Vegas but not here."

Furlong said officers received a call about the gunfire and responded within minutes. He said the suspect was wounded and lying in the parking lot when they arrived at the scene.

Furlong added the person who was shot on the motorcycle also was alive when officers arrived, and was transported to a hospital.

Local and state police and FBI agents descended on the scene, and yellow police tape surrounded the parking lot at the restaurant, which is near a Kohl's department store. A body lay on the ground at the scene, covered with a white sheet except for the feet, which were in tan boots.

"As you know when you have people in uniform who are randomly targeted for whatever reason this may have been, it is a safety precaution we take very seriously," Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper Chuck Allen said.

Renown Regional Medicare Center spokesman Dan Davis told The Associated Press four of the shooting victims were being treated at the hospital in Reno, but he said he could not discuss their condition or provide any other information.

Care Flight spokesman Kurt Althof told the Gazette-Journal that three victims had been taken to Renown by helicopter and two were in critical condition.

Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, who is scheduled to speak in North Las Vegas on Tuesday, expressed sorrow over the shooting.

"I am deeply saddened by the senseless violence today in Carson City," Romney said in a statement. "My thoughts and prayers go out to the victims and their families."

Other lawmakers who offered condolences to the victims' families included Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev.; Rep. Dean Heller, R-Nev.; and Rep. Joe Heck, R-Nev.

Europe's debt brings stocks down

DAVID K. RANDALL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Europe's debt problems rumbled through global financial markets again Tuesday.

U.S. stocks fell sharply in early trading when it appeared that European markets were heading for a second straight day of deep losses. The Dow Jones industrial average lost as many as 307 points by 10:45 a.m. Late-day recoveries in both the U.S. and Europe left indexes with relatively modest losses. The Dow ended down 101 points.

"It's becoming a pattern that the U.S. market breathes a sign of relief once trading in Europe is finished," said Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial.

Europe's debt problems, which have simmered for more than a year, are deepening. Bailouts for Ireland and Greece have not quelled fears that either country will default on its loans, an event that could lead to the collapse of the euro.

The Stoxx 600 Europe index lost 4.1 percent Monday, while U.S. markets were closed for Labor Day, as traders worried that Europe's debt problems could slow economic growth around the world. Italy was hit by a general strike Tuesday ahead of votes this week on a budget-cutting package needed to shore up that country's finances.

Peter Boockvar, equity strategist at Miller Tabak & Co., said investors are becoming more fearful that the Greek government may not pay bond investors back. "Officials are coming to the realization that there's no way Greece can pay its money back and maybe we're better off just letting it default," he said.

September is historically the worst month for the stock market. The Dow has dropped an average of 0.9 percent each September since 1950, according to the Stock Trader's Almanac.

Traders expect the trend to hold true this year as uncertainty continues over Europe's debt crisis and the stagnating U.S. economy. The U.S. government reported Friday that there was no job growth last month. It was the worst reading on jobs since September 2010.

City of Santa Monica
California Incline Bridge Replacement Project
Re-circulated Draft EIR/EA Notice of Availability and Public Meeting

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED: The City of Santa Monica, in cooperation with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration, is proposing to reconstruct the structurally deficient California Incline to meet current seismic standards. The incline extends from the intersection of Ocean and California Avenues at the top of the Palisades Bluffs to State Route 1 (SR-1). The proposed project entails demolition of the existing structure and construction of a new incline at the same location. The new incline would be approximately 750 feet long and consist of a reinforced concrete slab structure with spans on the order of 44 feet. Overall width of the new incline would be 51 feet 8 inches, an increase of 5 feet 8 inches over the existing structure. The roadway on the new incline structure would be restriped to allow for a designated bicycle lane along the vehicular lanes, and improvements to the pedestrian sidewalk. Construction would also require slope stability measures and the reconstruction of the upper and lower approaches to the California Incline at Ocean Avenue and SR-1, respectively. The new structure would be supported on pile bents founded below the unstable surface of the bluff. A new railing, similar to the existing concrete balustrade, with the addition of low-level LED lighting for pedestrian and bicyclist safety would also be constructed.

WHY THIS NOTICE: A draft EIR/EA environmental impact report/environmental assessment (EIR/EA) for the proposed project was previously circulated for public review from May 23, 2007, to July 9, 2007, and a public meeting was held on June 20, 2007. Subsequent to circulation of the draft EIR/EA, refinements to the design, resulting in the identification of two design options for further review, have occurred as a result of the Caltrans type selection process. In addition, comments received during circulation of the draft EIR/EA in 2007 regarding construction traffic led to a comprehensive review of the impacts and the mitigation plan. Restriping to accommodate a bicycle lane, slope stability measures, and a temporary construction road are now proposed as part of the project. Therefore, the lead agencies have prepared this revised draft EIR/EA for recirculation to address the project as currently proposed, including these recent changes.
This notice is provided to (1) inform you that the City of Santa Monica has prepared a re-circulated draft environmental impact report/environmental assessment (EIR/EA), which describes potential environmental impacts of the California Incline Bridge Replacement Project, and (2) invite you to attend the scheduled public meeting/workshop to find out more about the project and comment on the re-circulated draft EIR/EA. The proposed project could result in unavoidable significant adverse impacts to historical resources, land use plans (historic preservation policies), as well as noise and traffic (construction only).

DRAFT EIR/EA WORKSHOP
Wednesday, October 12, 2011
Community Room, Santa Monica Main Library
601 Santa Monica Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90401
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The FACILITY is wheelchair accessible; to request another disability-related accommodation, please contact Eric Bailey at (310) 458-2201, Ext. 5107 or e-mail **Eric.Bailey@SMGOV.NET** at least one week before the meeting date.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP: The workshop will be organized in an open house format and provide an opportunity for the public to submit written comments on the re-circulated draft EIR/EA. Experts will be available to answer questions on a variety of topics, including the California Incline Bridge Replacement Project, the environmental process, and environmental issues, including traffic.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: The re-circulated draft EIR/EA and related documents are available for public review at the following locations:

Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Santa Monica Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave.
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main St.
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Pacific Palisades Branch Library
861 Alma Real Dr.
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

The re-circulated draft EIR/EA is also available for viewing on the City website: **http://www.smgov.net/Departments/PublicWorks/ContentCivEng.aspx?id=9673**

HOW TO GET INVOLVED: Your comments will be made part of the public record, and all substantive comments on environmental issues will be addressed in the final EIR/EA. Written comments on the re-circulated draft EIR/EA will be accepted through October 28, 2011. Please send comments to Eric Bailey, P.E., Public Works Department, ***Civil Engineering Division***, 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Comments on the re-circulated draft EIR/EA may also be sent via e-mail to **Eric.Bailey@SMGOV.NET**. For more information about the workshop, please contact Eric Bailey at 310-458-2201 ext. 5107.

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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**







NCAA FOOTBALL

Football players cluster into majors

PAUL NEWBERRY
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA When Jay Finch arrived at Georgia Tech, he wasn't just interested in being a lineman for the Yellow Jackets football team. He wanted to study architecture, too.

Then he talked with some student advisers, who gave him a dose of reality.

"They were like, 'You can expect anywhere from 100 to 120 hours of studio time,'" Finch recalled. "I said, 'Oh, like in a month.' And they were like, 'No, in a week.' And I was like, 'On top of football?'"

With that, Finch hopped aboard the M Train.

At Georgia Tech, where the famous fight song proclaims "I'm a heck of an engineer," nearly 70 percent of the football team (43 of 62 players) has chosen to major in management, a business degree dubbed the "M Train" by those on campus who consider it an easier route to a diploma than the school's renowned engineering program.

But the Yellow Jackets are hardly the only school where players tend to congregate in the same fields of study. There are four others universities where at least half the sophomores, juniors and seniors playing football are pursuing the same degree, The Associated Press found in a survey of the 68 schools in the conferences which receive automatic bids to the Bowl Championship Series, plus Notre Dame and Big East-member-to-be TCU.

At Vanderbilt, it's human and organizational development (35 of 59). At UCLA, history is a big draw (27 of 47). At Wake Forest, there's been a gridiron run on the communications department (34 of 60). At Baylor, upset winners over TCU on the opening weekend of this season, expect to find a lot of big guys in general studies (27 of 53).

This is not mere coincidence, of course. While it's natural for a selected group of students — in this case, male athletes — to be interested in the same classroom subjects, it's also apparent many are drawn to courses that are more accommodating to their Saturday pursuit.

"I wanted to dedicate myself more toward football," conceded Finch, a sophomore center. "Yeah, I did take a little bit of the easier road. Management is still hard. You've still got to go to class.

"But," he added, "at least I'm not up 'til 3 in the morning drawing."

The trend is so prevalent it has its own name — clustering — and extends far beyond Georgia Tech, Vanderbilt, UCLA, Wake Forest and Baylor.

The AP survey, compiled from media guides, university websites and information provided by the schools, showed at least half the football players with declared majors at a dozen other universities are bunched in two fields of study. At 22 schools, 50 percent or more are pursuing a degree from a group of three majors.

That means more than half of the schools at the core of major college football — 39 of 68 teams — have some level of clustering.

At a recent summit hosted by NCAA President Mark Emmert, where a rash of rule-breaking was the main focus, university presidents quietly discussed the impact that clustering has on the academic experience for student-athletes.

While the governing body has no intention of mandating more diversity in the selection of majors, it is looking at compiling more data on what players are studying, hoping it can be used to improve athletes' academic experience.

"We're not going to say certain majors are out of bounds. We're not going to say you have to take certain majors," said Kevin Lennon, the NCAA's vice president of academic and membership affairs. "Those are personal decisions that every student-athlete has to make, just like any student."

The situation puts into focus one of the ever-present conflicts in big-time college sports: winning games, making money and keeping the boosters happy vs. providing athletes with a quality education and keeping up school standards.

Georgia Tech, for instance, receives more requests from the football team than any other for special admissions — enrollment for those who don't meet the standards applied to the overall student body. But officials at the Atlanta school point out management is one of the most rigorous business programs in the country, requiring everyone to take two calculus courses and two lab sciences.

"There's always going to be that tension," said Anderson Smith, the senior vice provost for academic affairs. "You've got to recruit who the best players are. But it's a much more heterogeneous population than what we have applying to Georgia Tech as regular students."

Vanderbilt is considered the toughest academic school in the football-crazy Southeastern Conference, which is usually cited as the reason the Commodores perennially wind up at the bottom of the league standings. And yet 35 of 59 non-freshmen were going for the same degree.

By the way, what is human and organizational development anyway?

"Leadership is one of the things that we focus on, and we have a very active and engaged student body," said Beth Shinn, who chairs the department. "My guess is any club or sorority you would look at would have an overrepresentation of HOD people."

In fact, human and organization development is the most popular major on campus among all students, including three of the last six student government presidents, according to Shinn. It's a wide-ranging field, requiring courses in calculus, economics, statistics and social sciences, as well as psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science and public policy.

"Our students are prepared for a vast variety of careers," Shinn said. "We don't do basket-weaving, thank you."

Chris Marve can attest to that. The senior linebacker is actually pursuing a double-major, combining human and organizational development with sociology. As part of his HOD curriculum, he interned over the summer at a Nashville law firm and has his sights on becoming an attorney.

"This major is definitely not just an athlete's major," Marve said. "People who come here are very intelligent and have a very high intellect, so it's not an easy major at all even though a lot of athletes do sign up for it. I think it's the most powerful major you can leave out of here with."

The majors winning the popularity contest vary from school to school.

At Cincinnati, 40 players picked criminal justice as their major. At Mississippi State, 30 players have declared in kinesiology. Sports administration is the choice of 28 players at LSU. Twenty-one Iowa players are majoring in interdepartmental studies, while 20 players Clemson went with sociology.

"We used to call 'em Mickey Mouse courses. They exists at every university," said Murray Sperber, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley, is a professor emeritus at Indiana University and author of the book, "Beer & Circus: How Big-time College Sports Is Crippling Undergraduate Education."

"As an educator, my concern is: Are they getting a meaningful education?"

Some athletes seem baffled by the whole process of sorting out a major.

The vast majority of Florida players start out in social and behavioral sciences, which is actually a broad area of study that leads to choosing a major and getting a degree.

Tight end Trey Burton, a sophomore, wants to pursue a career in business. He isn't sure why he started out in social and behavioral sciences.

"I have no clue," he said. "I guess they just give you that when you get here and that's what you start out with. I really don't even know what that is. What is it? Social and behavioral? I don't even know what that is, to be honest with you."

Sperber believes the Academic Progress Rate, a landmark program set up by the NCAA to compel schools to move student-athletes into meaningful courses and show they are moving toward a degree, has actually led to more clustering of majors.

Schools can be stripped of scholarships if not enough players are making the grade. Therefore, he said, advisers tend to steer players toward less-demanding classes.

"The whole APR stuff puts a tremendous amount of pressure on academic advisers. It puts pressure on athletes to choose their major very early. It's the law of unintended consequences," Sperber said. "You think of a good defense, and immediately the offense is thinking of ways to get around it."

The NCAA makes no apologies for the APR, saying it has led to tougher academic standards and ensured that athletes from all sports graduate at a rate that matches or exceeds the student body as a whole.

"We need to remind ourselves that before the reform effort, some students weren't getting a degree at all," Lennon said. "The APR is incredibly significant. We have more young people moving toward a degree. We have many more getting degrees. That's the most important thing."

The NCAA has also done extensive research that shows the vast majority of athletes — more than eight in 10 — are satisfied with their choice of major.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

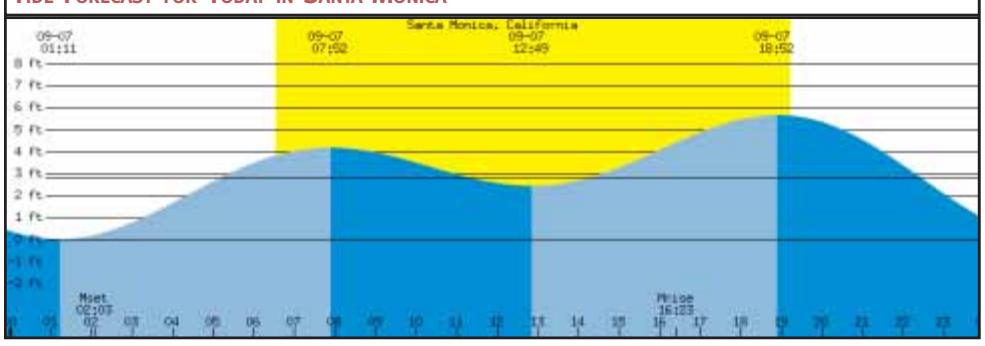
Swell Forecast

Direct south swell coming ashore, about chest to at times head high at south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Chest to head high at south facing breaks.

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 30 days up to the ending date of **August 31, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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 Lechasa and Las Alisa 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 Rameer Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	C	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	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.	B	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	D	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	C	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	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.	B	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.	F	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.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

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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NCAA FOOTBALL

UCLA's Neuheisel unhappy with team's defensive start

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Although coach Rick Neuheisel saw much that he liked in UCLA's season opener, most of it happened when the Bruins had the ball.

Neuheisel shared most of his fans' unimpressed viewpoint of the UCLA defense's debut under new coordinator Joe Tresey in the Bruins' 38-34 loss at Houston last weekend.

But while criticizing his linebackers and his entire unit's tackling skills, Neuheisel says he's confident the defense can correct many of its mistakes before Saturday's home opener against San Jose State.

"I have a great deal of faith in my defensive coordinator, and I have a feeling Joe Tresey will get it done," Neuheisel said. "This was our first game in his system, and we didn't play fast enough to show what it's capable of doing. We're going to play better. You have to have faith in letting guys do the job you hired them to do, and I continue to have great faith in Joe."

UCLA outgained Houston with 554 yards to the Cougars' 469, with quarterback Richard Brehaut leading the Bruins' comeback effort after oft-injured starter Kevin Prince was sidelined with a concussion and a sprained throwing shoulder.

Neuheisel isn't ready to rule out Prince from Saturday's game, even saying there's a "better than 50-50 chance" Prince will be available. Neuheisel said he'll decide on a starter after seeing how much Prince can practice this week.

"We have to wait and see what Kevin's situation is," Neuheisel said of Prince, who missed seven games last season with an injured right knee. "The concussion has cleared, so I expect that not to be an issue. ... I don't think (ruling out Prince) would be fair to Kevin. I think Kevin is dying to get himself ready to go."

Neuheisel said Prince must test his pain tolerance for the shoulder injury in practice. Although Brehaut rushed for 87 yards against Houston, Neuheisel said Prince "does give us a little bit faster player at quarterback."

Ever an optimist even while sitting on his self-described hot seat, Neuheisel focused on his offense's second-half resilience under Brehaut's direction. UCLA's passing game was among the nation's worst last season, but the Bruins threw for 322 yards under new coordinator Mike Johnson — more than they managed in any game in 2010.

"We found out a great deal about ourselves despite the fact that we didn't end up with more points," Neuheisel said. "We came back from a deficit on the road. Even though we didn't get it done, there's coaches and players that are excited about getting that done."

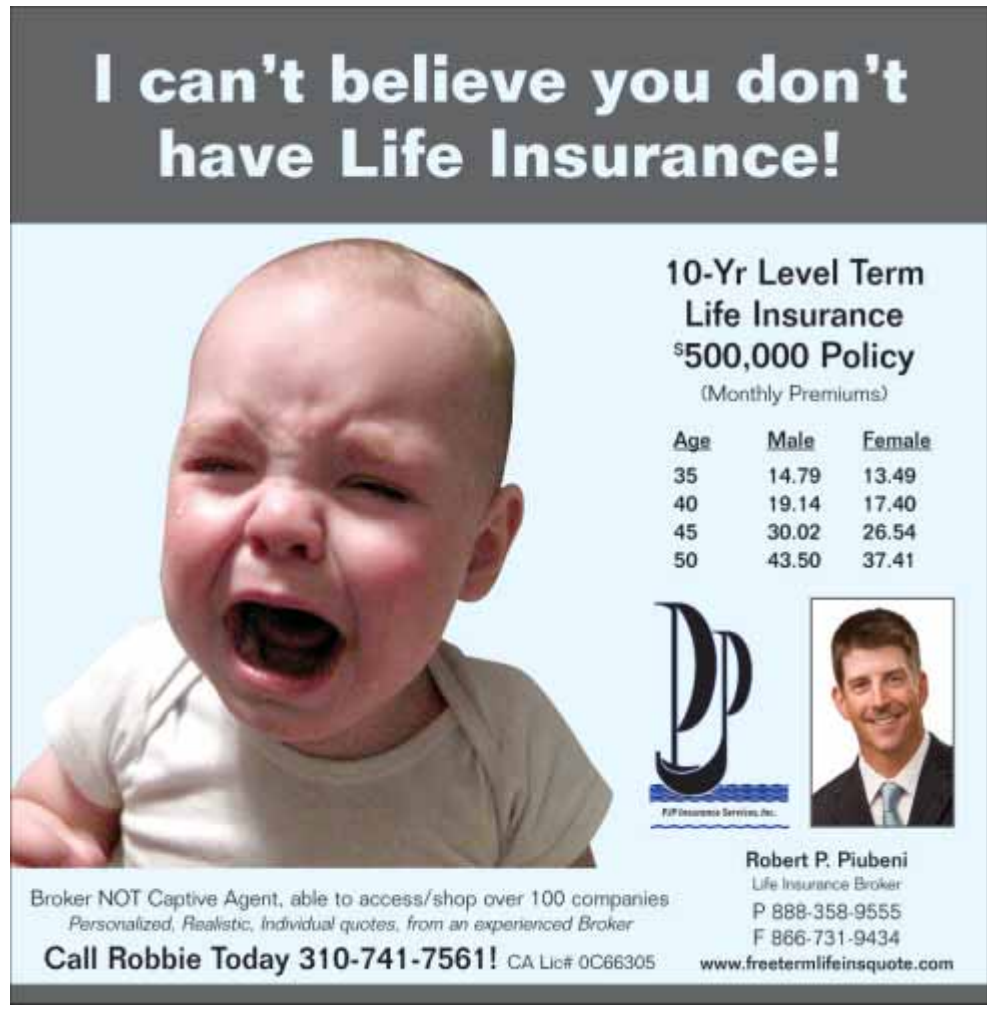
While Neuheisel waits to choose a starting quarterback, he'll also evaluate his kickers again. Talented freshman Kip Smith won the job in camp, but missed a 32-yard field goal and an extra point in a four-point loss.

Neuheisel still supports Smith, but won't hesitate to yank him in favor of punter Jeff Locke.

"You can't watch (Smith) in practice and not come away thinking a kicker is inside," Neuheisel said. "We just have to work on getting him to trust himself. Confidence is everything in an individual sport. Right now, we'll have to analyze that. We'll keep track of what's the prudent thing to do."

Neuheisel also plans to welcome back Jeff Baca, the talented offensive lineman and two-year starter who missed last season with academic issues before breaking his left ankle on the second day of spring practice. Neuheisel said Baca will be back in practice Tuesday, working at tackle as he attempts to get back in the lineup.

"We know he's excited to be out there, and hopefully we'll get him going as fast as possible," Neuheisel said.



MOVIE TIMES

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(310) 260-1528

Call theatre for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:35am, 2:45pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1hr 44min
12:15pm, 2:55pm, 5:30pm, 8:15pm, 10:45pm

One Day (PG-13) 1hr 47min
5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Smurfs (PG) 1hr 42min
11:30am, 2:15pm

Good Old Fashioned Orgy (R) 1hr 35min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Debt (R) 1hr 53min
11:10am, 2:05pm, 5:05pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:05am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Colombiana (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Help (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
11:55am, 3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:25pm

Shark Night 3D (PG-13) 1hr 35min
2:20pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm

Spy Kids: All the Time in the World 3D (PG) 1hr 29min
1:45pm, 7:00pm

Shark Night (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:45am, 4:50pm

Spy Kids: All the Time in the World (PG) 1hr 29min
11:20am, 4:20pm, 9:30pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Mozart's Sister (Nannerl, la Soeur de Mozart) (NR) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 3:20pm, 8:30pm

Sarah's Key (Elle s'appelait Sarah) (PG-13) 1hr 51min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Buck (PG) 1hr 29min
11:00am

Our Idiot Brother (R) 1hr 30min
12:30pm, 2:55pm, 5:20pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

Chasing Madoff! (NR) 1hr 31min
11:00am, 1:00pm, 6:10pm

5 Days of War (R) 1hr 53min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:25pm

Cowboys & Aliens (PG-13) 1hr 58min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

30 Minutes or Less (R) 1hr 23min
4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark (R) 1hr 40min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Apollo 18 (PG-13) 1hr 26min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min
11:10am, 1:40pm

Saving Private Perez (Salvando al soldado Perez) (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:05am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

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

Treat yourself well tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Take the lead, knowing some opportunities only happen once. A partner might not feel like bailing out, but he or she certainly has an issue, which for now is armored. You could be surprised by what goes down. Tonight: Avoid an argument.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Reach out for someone at a distance. You could be trying to make an impression when you don't need to. Stop; clear; be yourself. An argument could be inevitable, but don't hit below the belt. Tonight: Try to understand where someone is coming from.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Investigate new possibilities with the help of a key associate. Together you'll get past a block you might be experiencing. Be open to different types of self-expression. Not everyone says things the way you want them to. Tonight: Togetherness works.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You cannot always let others dominate the scene, but right now, you might not have a choice. Slow down and evaluate what would be most effective. Don't allow insecurity and/or a low level of negativity to dominate. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Stay on top of your work and projects. Try not to cut someone off, and be as brief as you can. You might be best off screening your calls. Surely you feel overwhelmed at the possibility of everything you feel is about to happen. Tonight: Listen carefully.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Allow for greater give-and-take right now. You might be surprised by what is going on within a friendship, but given your energy and ingenuity, you are right on top of any unexpected developments. Someone around you could be quite distraught. Tonight: Enjoy every single moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are anchored and centered. You need to understand why you are having such a strong reaction with a key person. Try to demonstrate more warmth. You could feel stressed by your family and career demands. Tonight: Happy at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You read a situation well, but be careful about absorbing another person's anger. Clear the air. If you are resisting, look within -- maybe you are more comfortable with the distance. Feel empowered through mastery of your feelings. Tonight: Hanging out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might have difficulty unleashing someone who feels a lot like an albatross. You might try diplomacy, but arguments could start brewing. Choose your words with care. A friend could be difficult in either case. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your energy, poise and knowledge could be quite challenging to many. You certainly will see the results of these qualities. You cannot turn a situation around, for now. Let the other person have his or her space. Say little. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Know when to back off. News from another person isn't forthcoming. You are not getting the full story. Don't make a judgment just yet; stay open. A pleasant attitude will go far without revealing too much! Tonight: Some personal time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Don't hesitate to zero in on a long-term goal. Meetings hold promise. You'll discover just how much others support you in a venture. Your sensitivity comes out when dealing with a child or loved one. Your goals might differ from someone else's. Tonight: Midweek break.

Happy birthday

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

Be smart -- avoid arguments, yet clearly own your feelings. You won't hold in your emotions and cause yourself secondary issues and at the same time you will keep the air clear. You often are too concerned about your finances, being such a practical sign. You also can learn to visualize and manifest more often. If you are single, romance won't elude you, but on the other hand, be discriminating as to who you date and make a commitment to. You might want to play the field. If you are attached, the two of you need to walk away from fights and eye the greater good of the coupling. A new addition is likely. CAPRICORN encourages you to imagine.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@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*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



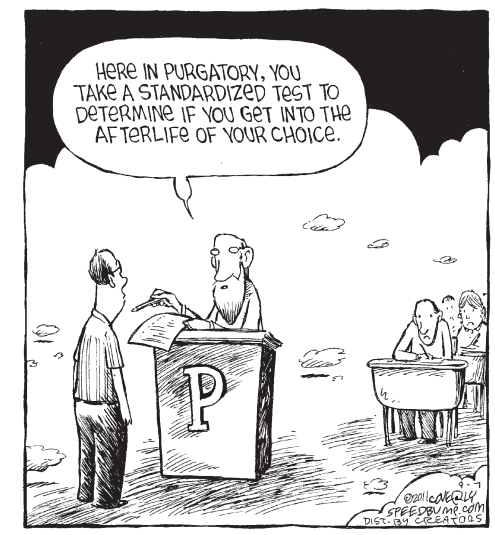
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Barn area
5 Soak up the sun
9 Burger topper
11 Tycoon
12 Annual visitor
13 Plain silly
14 Yale student
15 "The Telephone" composer
17 "The Barber of Seville" composer
19 Solo in space
20 1814 treaty site
21 Moving truck
22 Concur
24 Woolen cap
26 Singer Lennox
29 Heir, often
30 "The Four Seasons" composer
32 "Tosca" composer
34 Sassy talk
35 "... who lived in ___"
36 Juan Perón's wife
38 Feeds the pigs
39 Trig functions
40 Just
41 Helps out

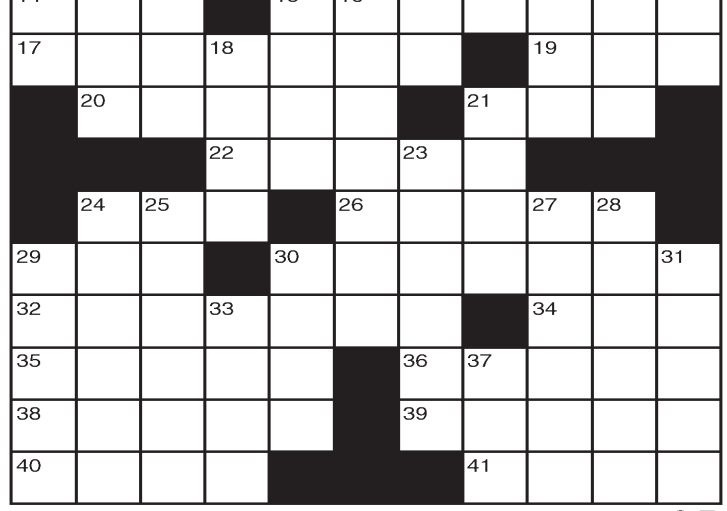
DOWN

1 Chump
2 Like a bump —
3 End
4 Young one
5 U2 singer
6 Hercule's creator
7 Surfer's shade
8 Designer Calvin
10 Christening
11 Skirt type
16 Go aboard
18 Pants line
21 — cava
23 Is jealous of
24 Dishevel
25 News star
27 Big Ten's Fighting —
28 Fixed copy
29 Tic
30 Competes
31 Bridge utterance
33 Get by
37 Through

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

Yesterday's answer

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



9-7

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 25 44 48 49 55
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: $37M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 30 39 42 47
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5: 1 4 21 31 38

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 4 8
EVENING: 0 8 8

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 08 George George
RACE TIME: 1:41.93

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

■ When Laura Diprimo, 43, and Thomas Lee, 28, were arrested for child endangerment in Louisville, Ky., in June, it appeared to be yet another instance of a mother leaving an infant locked in a hot car (91-degree heat index outside) while frolicking elsewhere (drinking with Lee at the Deja Vu club). According to a report on WDRB-TV, while the two were in the police car en route to jail, Lee complained that the back seat of the cruiser was uncomfortably warm.

■ Undignified, Ironic Deaths: (1) A 55-year-old man participating in a protest of New York's mandatory-helmet law was killed after losing control of his motorcycle and hitting his head on the pavement, even though doctors said he surely would have survived had he been wearing a regulation helmet (Lafayette, N.Y., July). (2) An 18-year-old man, celebrating on the evening of May 21 after it had become clear that the world would not end as predicted by a radio evangelist, drowned after jumping playfully off a bridge into Michigan's Kalamazoo River.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1988 Abdul Ahad Mohmand, the first Afghan in space, returns aboard the Soviet spacecraft Soyuz TM-5 after 9 days on the Mir space station.

1996 American Hip-Hop star Tupac Shakur is fatally shot four times on the Las Vegas strip after leaving the Tyson-Seldon boxing match.

1999 A 5.9 magnitude earthquake rocks Athens, rupturing a previously unknown fault, killing 143, injuring more than 500, and leaving 50,000 people homeless.

2004 Hurricane Ivan, a Category 5 hurricane hits Grenada, killing 39 and damaging 90% of its buildings.

2005 First presidential election is held in Egypt.

2008 The US Government takes control of the two largest mortgage financing companies in the US, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

WORD UP!

gammon **\GAM-uhn** , verb; 1. To deceive. noun: 1. In backgammon, a victory in which the winner throws off all his or her pieces before the opponent throws off any.

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

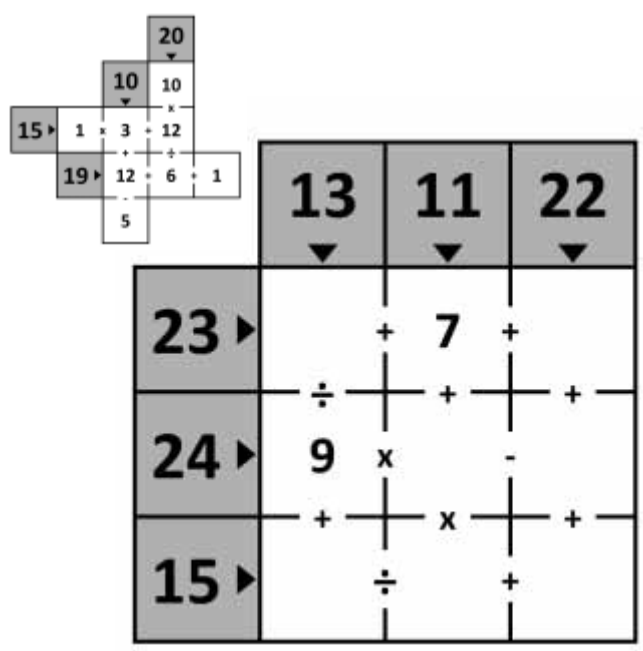
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 12

Solution for Task 560



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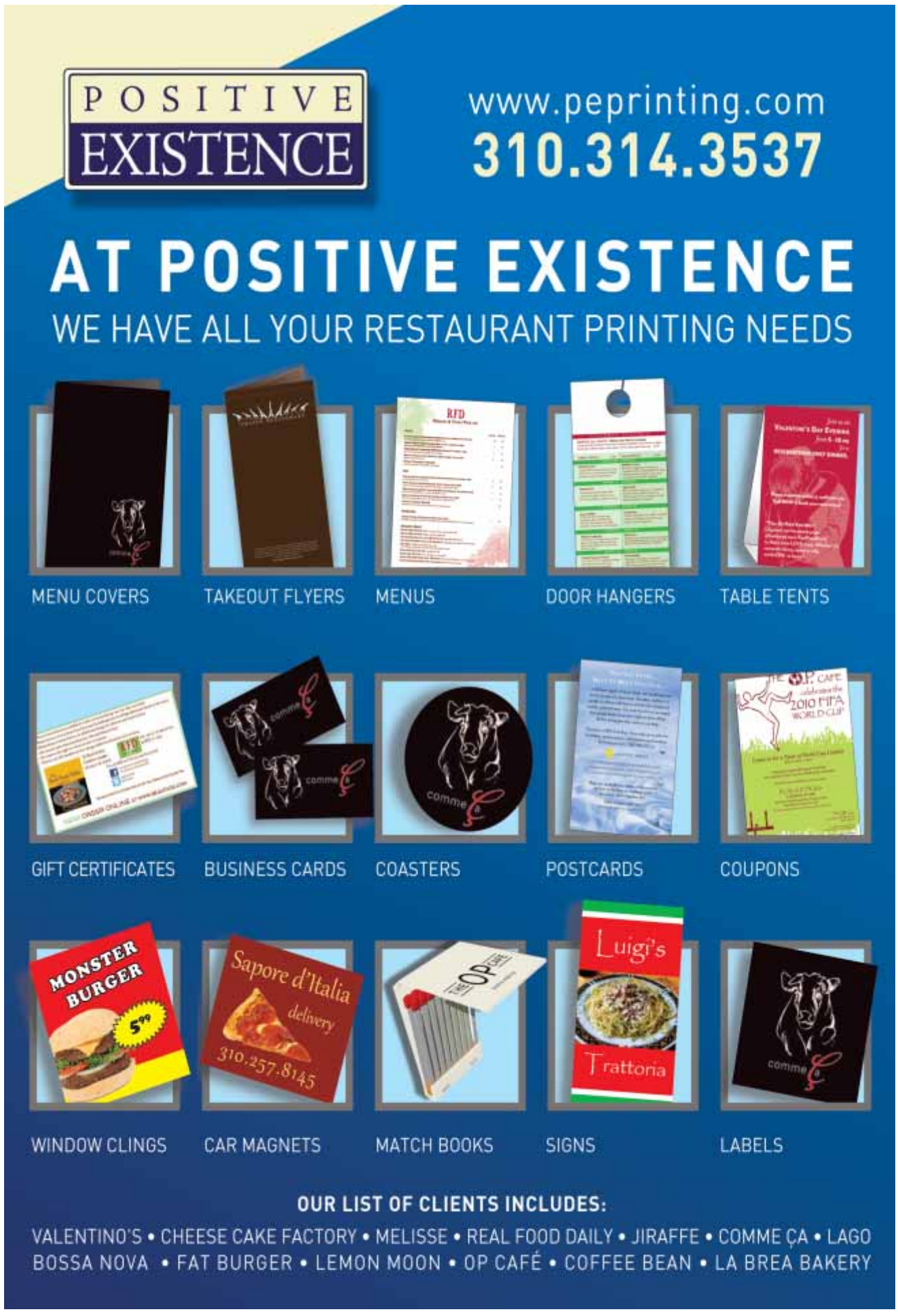
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From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
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North of Montana	=	$2,995,000	$1,047,500
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