



VIKINGS, THE PREQUEL
SEE PAGE 19

Santa Monica Daily Press

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THE YAYI CONNIE FIXED THE SERVER ISSUE



Story by Emily Skehan Page 16

Photo by Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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Calendar

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Literature book group

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
The Fairview Branch Library's group will discuss "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner.

Vox Virtus

1227 Fourth St., 6 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Cantantes Homines men's Chamber Ensemble will perform works by Faure, Ruffo, Hanawalt, and others at St. Augustine's by the Sea Episcopal Church. Tickets at the door are \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors and students. For more information, call (310) 339-8321.

Forever hangin' with the sistas

6000 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, gates open at 7 p.m.
Cinespia presents Woody Allen's "Hannah and Her Sisters" at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery. \$10 donation tickets available at the gate. For more information, visit www.cemeteryscreenings.com.

Ice cream for 'Music Man'

1008 11th St., doors open at 7 p.m.
First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica presents an ice cream social celebrating the 50th anniversary of 'The Music Man.' Tickets for kids and seniors are \$10; adults are \$15. Tickets available at the door, by calling (310) 472-1382 or visiting www.oceanaires.org.

Monthly Movie Musical: 'Top Hat'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Free screening of the Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers classic. All ages welcome. Seating first come, first served in the Main Library Auditorium.

Alaska Travel Show

1900 S. Sepulveda, West L.A., 11 a.m. — 1 p.m.
The AAA Travel Agency and Holland America Cruise Line will present a free Alaska Travel Show. Knowledgeable travel experts from the state of Alaska will conduct the live presentation -- accompanied by a video. There will be refreshments, door prizes, and travel discounts available to those attending.

Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007

Become a foxy dancer

16th Street and Marine, 6 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Foxtrot and Waltz classes are open to beginner dancers without any previous experience. Singles and couples are welcome. \$5 per lesson. Classes will be held in Marine Park's social hall.

Jewish stories

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Storyteller Karen Gold will perform an afternoon of songs and stories at the Main Library.

L.A. Greek Fest

1324 S. Normandie Ave., Los Angeles, noon — 10 p.m.
Wander over to the Byzantine Latino Quarter, at the corner of Normandie and Pico, for a family festival of Greek food, music and dance. Tonight's admission is free of charge.

The other Jerry's kids

1348 14th St., 7:30 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.
CUBENSIS brings the sights and sounds of a live Grateful Dead concert to 14 Below every Sunday. Don't forget to bring a tie-dye shirt and tinted glasses, man.

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





Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

CHECKING THE PRODUCT: Ali Attar, owner of Santa Monica Tobacco, stocks his walk-in humidor with premium cigars on Wednesday.

Tobacco prices on the rise?

Proposed tax increase has cigar makers in a panic

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILSHIRE BLVD Smoke 'em if you've got 'em because if Congress has its way, it will cost a small fortune to purchase your favorite cigar.

Under a proposal to expand the Children's Health Insurance Program, federal lawmakers are contemplating rais-

ing the tax on most stogies by as much as \$10, and that's just the hit importers and manufacturers will take. Retailers are expecting prices to jump by as much as \$30 or \$40 dollars for high quality cigars as they pass on the cost to consumers.

If that happens, the owners of The Tinder Box, a popular cigar shop on the east end of town say they may be forced to shut down.

"This could definitely put us out of business," said Jeanette Kolpin, owner of The Tinder Box, a fixture in the community since 1928 when her father in law Ed Kolpin, who died in April, left his father's pharmacy business to strike out on his own. "We had a salesman come in here the

other day that was telling us that it was amazing how many stores have already went bankrupt. Hopefully we can survive because we have a great group of employees here, but it they raise the taxes so high, I don't think we can survive."

Cigar retailers understand the need for child healthcare, but what they can't understand is why cigars, which make up a only a fraction of all tobacco sales (in 2006, nearly 400 billion cigarettes were sold in the U.S. compared to 5.3 billion cigars), are being taxed so heavily. Currently the federal tax on cigars is a nickel, far from the proposed \$10 increase.

SEE TAX PAGE 15

Keeping it just for the populace

Veterans plead for no commercialization

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

WEST L.A. Sandwiched between the congested I-405 Freeway and the high-rise Wilshire Boulevard buildings is more than 380 acres of land held sacred by the men and women that served their country.

Try and take any morsel of land away and that old fighting spirit comes back.

The West LA Veterans Administration campus is one of 18 sites across the country currently being reviewed by the Department of Veterans Affairs in an effort to modernize healthcare facilities. The Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) study process assesses the campuses and their inventory of buildings, identifying possible consolidation of services and the reuse, renovation and construction of facilities.

This could also include more lease

SEE VETS PAGE 20

The day that will change the world

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM PIER This Sunday the universe will change for the better, and you can play a major role in making that happen.

All you have to do is show up at the Santa Monica Pier at 9 a.m. and take part in what is being billed as "the biggest spiritual festival of the year," an event known as "Spirit Over Soul."

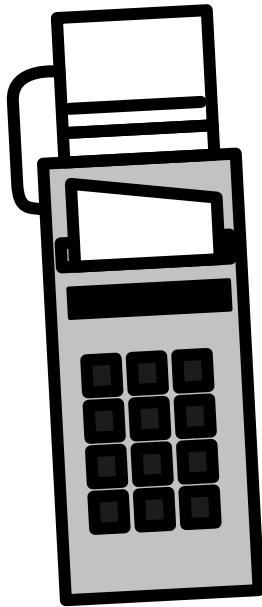
SEE NINES PAGE 14

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What’s the bigger problem?

Editor:

Another pedestrian is seriously injured – we hope this one survives as we have had other fatalities due to the negligence of these Big Blue Bus drivers. (“Mean streets,” page 1, Sept. 6)

All over the city, BBBs speed through red lights and often honk at pedestrians in the middle of crosswalks without slowing down or stopping. It must stop.

What is the hurry anyway? Please send a SMDP reporter over to the BBB offices and get the story about what the administration is doing to slow the buses down to a safe speed and insure that drivers obey the rules of the road and practice common courtesy.

Instead of annoying TVs on our city buses these should be outfitted with monitoring devices to insure that drivers operate them safely and within the posted speed limit.

One step further would be to down-grade the bus engines to travel no faster the city’s highest limit.

T. Stewart
Santa Monica

The police are accountable, too

Editor:

How many more pedestrians have to be hit or killed until the Santa Monica City Council and Police Department start taking the rights and safety of pedestrians in this city as a serious matter? (“Mean streets,” page 1, Sept. 6)

When I walk, I have to say that buses are often some of the most serious offenders. Certainly because they have schedules to maintain and very few car drivers are courteous nor want to let buses in so bus drivers have become increasingly aggressive as traffic on the Westside has become worse. However, that is not an excuse for any driver to disobey traffic laws or put people in danger.

Please, start enforcing the laws of this city. All of them. Have police stationed near cross walks and fine people who do not stop. I cannot remember the last time I saw an officer on Main Street. Fine the drivers who fly past Urth Cafe. Have one walk by it to fine the smokers who constantly violate the 20 feet law.

Fine people who litter, smoke, and bring their dogs on the beach. Do not allow camping in the parks. (Do not bother fining.) Maybe if the laws were enforced they would not be so frequently broken. Otherwise, come up with a solution that will keep our walkers/runners/skaters/PEOPLE safe. I keep reading about traffic patterns being a major issue. At some point, most of those people DO get out of their car. In a “Green” city, you should theoretically care as much or more about them. Please.

Heidi Marshall Booth
Santa Monica

Now just wait a second ...

Editor:

The unfortunate accident that occurred Wednesday evening involving Big Blue Bush and pedestrian is a sad occurrence. (“Mean streets,” page 1, Sept. 6) However, it is just one of thousands of near accidents that went the full course this time. Cars, bike riders and pedestrians all take un-needed chances everyday. We all need to take some level of responsibility for our own safety. As a driver for Big Blue, I can tell you that every driver in The Big Blue Bus should be commended for saving people from their own stupidity several times a day, every day. Cars turn in front of oncoming buses, people jump in front of buses without looking to see if they are safe and bicycles try to squeeze between the bus and the curb or try to pass a bus on the left as it is pulling away from a bus stop. While I cannot say at what level the Big Blue driver is at fault, it seems to me that anyone who does not check to make sure that it is safe to cross a street, whether in the right of way or not, is putting themselves in jeopardy of being hit by a car, bus, truck or whatever. We as bus drivers are on the alert for everything that moves in our path, but while we are professional drivers in every sense of the word, we are not super human with 360 degree vision or super reaction ability, but we are close to it.

Glenn Stacey
Big Blue Driver



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Do you like animals better than people?

DOGS HAVE BEEN IN THE NEWS lately. The cruelty surrounding the Michael Vick dogfighting ring outraged Americans. On the opposite end of the spectrum, billionaire Leona Helmsley died and left her dog, Trouble, \$12 million — and left two of her grandchildren nothing. Most Americans love pets. Do we love them more than we love people? And are some of us trying to turn our animals into people to justify that love?

Football players have gotten into trouble in the past for violent crimes against other people. But in some ways, the anger towards Michael Vick, the Atlanta Falcons quarterback involved with the violent dogfights, was greater than what people felt about those crimes against other people. I don’t think this is necessarily misplaced compassion. Despite their ability to bite and scratch, dogs are much more helpless than people. They can’t say, “Okay, I know this is dangerous, but I want to fight because I love fighting” as human boxers can. And very few dogs can dial 911 for help.

Americans care about pets more than ever today. Sixty-three percent of households have a pet, and pet lovers spent \$38.5 billion on their pets in 2006 – up from \$21 billion a decade earlier. According to the Census Bureau, in the last decade, the percentage of homes with pets has remained relatively stable, but the amount of money people spend on pets has doubled. We spend several billion dollars more on dog and cat food than on baby food. According to Bob Vetere, the president of the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association, 42 percent of pets sleep in the same bed as their owners — up from 34 percent in 1998. I found no statistic saying what percentage of people share their beds with other humans, but it’s obvious that pets are catching up.

Vetere feels the increase in people caring so much about pets is a reaction to 9/11. Pets provide company, calm, and comfort in troubling times. Others point to the fact that many people these days are deciding not to have children, so they have pets — and spend freely on them. Some people, very freely.

Before you start worrying that Trouble Helmsley is going to blow that \$12 million in one binge of eating all kinds of treats, or lose it all in Vegas with some dog of questionable breeding, or fall for some business scam, relax. The 12 million is in a trust for the dog, and Helmsley’s brother is the trustee. So, forget about sending your gold-digging retriever to sniff around Trouble.

I know that attributing these human characteristics to Trouble Helmsley is silly. But that’s exactly what more and more people are doing with their pets.

Some owners dress their pets in fancy outfits. They buy gourmet meals and perfume for their dogs and cats. After consumer electronics, “pet care” is the fastest growing retail business in America. Some owners pay for cosmetic surgery to get rid of pug noses, droopy eyes, and other “doggy features.” And there’s even a patented testicular implant that sells for up to \$919 a pair to restore the way pets looked before they were neutered. So far, 240,000 pairs of the implants have been sold.

SO, LOVE YOUR PETS. SPOIL THEM IF YOU WANT. BUT DON'T TRY TO TURN THEM INTO HUMANS. WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO KNOCK THEM DOWN A NOTCH?

The irony is that some of those who feel they care the most about animals are actually trying to rid them of their animal characteristics and make them more like people. Certain dogs are supposed to have “doggy features” like pug noses or droopy eyes. Why assume that a pet would like to wear a bikini or jewelry just because you do? And how much of a confused ego does an owner need to be obsessed by his pet’s genital area?

This excess brings us back to the late Leona Helmsley. To be fair, I should mention that she left the bulk of her money – billions – to charity. But still, leaving \$12 million to a dog?

Right around the time that the Vick and Helmsley stories broke, we (coincidentally, I think) adopted a dog from the pound. I wonder, which dog got more excited by the recent gift he or she got? Trouble after hearing the news about the \$12 million, or our dog after getting his new squeaky toy?

So, love your pets. Spoil them if you want. But don’t try to turn them into humans. Why would you want to knock them down a notch?

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from “Sesame Street” to “Family Ties” to “Home Improvement” to “Frasier.” He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the “Modern Times” column for CBSnews.com’s Opinion page and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com

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STRAY talk

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

"I wanted to be dramatic."

— Kim Porter, mother to rapper Sean 'Diddy' Combs' children, on leaving with everything — including the cars — while the rapper was away

"You have more time to get your thoughts together, and if you're at all articulate with the written word, then you can share your thoughts and no one sees you blush."

— Tupelo Hassman on the benefits of participating in an online class at Santa Monica College

"I am embarrassed over this situation and regret having ever taken these photos."

— Vanessa Hudgens, 18-year-old star of the squeaky-clean Disney movie, "High School Musical," responding to the release of nude pictures, which were posted on the Internet

"I got pissed off about it because I have seen myself in drag for television and I am an ugly woman."

— Actor Scott Baio, on his unborn baby girl's head being shaped like his, instead of his wife's

"Six bodies found from my family makes it more tragic for everybody."

— Haware Pasori, nephew of Adam Pasori, who died in a plane crash last Friday, along with five family members

"I'm not a celebrity. I'm a moderately successful person. I was more famous in 1998."

— Actress Janeane Garofalo to waiting paparazzi as she arrived at LAX

"I suspect those in West Hollywood will be doing more to remember her than Brits here because she was so loved by the gay community."

— Neil Fletcher, editor of Santa Monica's British Weekly, on the lack of concern by British expatriates regarding the 10-year anniversary of Princess Diana's death.

"I actually go to war, when I go to war. Bush just sends [people] to war."

— Rapper 50 Cent on the state of the war

Quotations captured and compiled with care by CYNTHIA VAZQUEZ.



John McGrail, C.Ht.

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The QLine

TAKING EDUCATION OFFICIALS TO SCHOOL

This past week, Q-line asked:

What do you feel are the school district's most pressing needs?

Here are your responses:

"THE MOST PRESSING NEEDS IN our schools are security and the safety of our children. Keep the police on campus. Weed out the druggies and alcoholics who not only disrupt the students' learning atmosphere, but ply their trade in compliance with organized crime."

"CONSIDERING THAT THE SCHOOL officials have to deliberate what to do with the major BB funds that were picked from the pockets of the tax payers seemingly without a monetary crisis destination, [it] would indicate that the tax rip-off was not needed in its inception. My suggestion would be to return the money to the taxpayers."

"THE SCHOOL SHOULD HAVE TWO things to consider: First, they should just get rid of all the illegal aliens – that would reduce overcrowding – and then take all the bad kids and put them in a special reform school. That way, the other kids will be able to get a decent education without being interrupted by the bad kids like the gang members and the drug addicts and the punks who keep destroying things. They don't belong in a regular school."

"OUR MOST PRESSING NEED IS TO GET rid of our City Council except for [Kevin] McKeown, and elect intelligent, knowledgeable members who understand the importance of trees to our environment, and can recognize a police badge whether it is imprinted with the City Hall or the police station. [We need] one who will address our most pressing needs, our homeless people, and a better education for our homeless people."

"THE DISTRICT'S MOST PRESSING need is to break up this illegal partnership and let Malibu pay for its own schools. No place on earth is less in need of our charity."

"MY OPINION IS THAT WE NEED to have a stricter, constructive discipline for the students and for the parents to get involved and be responsible for their children no matter their ages. Teachers are paid a very good salary; test the teacher. Keep the staff monitored and the schools monitored to keep us all safe. Bring God back and let the kids bring back God in the schools and let the kids pray if they want to. Give them nutritious food, reduce the price, but not [make it] totally free. Take out all the school junk food, [and] kids will appreciate it more. Respectful dress code for girls and boys. Clean up all the school kids and make Americans and all people who come to America respect our country, or deport them."

"AGAIN, WE HAVE A HUGE SOCIALIST organization second only to City Hall in unchecked spending of taxpayer money. First, the school district needs to curb its endless raises for its eight month employees, known as teachers. Number two, its astronomical raises for management, like two principles for each elementary school. That's at least \$250,000 a school. When you have this kind of no-competition bloat, how can you trust? Cough cough. Administrators have \$268 million of public money to spend wisely. Example: \$23 million for Edison Language Academy, where 50 percent of students are from L.A. The school board must stop its contempt for the taxpayer before spending any funds. It should decrease the inflated paychecks of its inert educational welfare hucksters. Bring in outside successful businesspeople to decide the distribution of public funds to real needful expansion or repair. The only positive view of the school district is of the maintenance people I see every week performing their task: Painting, sweeping and cutting the grass. As always, the best indicator of any organization is how well the people at the lower levels perform. I am most impressed by their workmanship."

"OPENNESS! LET THEM SHOW HOW they need to use this money. We have been passing bond issues after bond issues and still its not enough. And besides the bond issues, the city is giving millions of dollars to the school district and still its not enough. So, how much is enough?"

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Murder trial is a daytime drama

Defense: Prosecutors want jury to think Spector a 'madman'

BY LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES A lawyer for Phil Spector implored jurors Thursday to resist convicting the music producer of murder out of hatred spawned by prosecutors who cast the dead Lana Clarkson as "a vulnerable victim against the evil madman."

"What the government wants you to believe is that Phil Spector is a bad man and therefore he shot her," Linda Kenney-Baden said. "They want you to hate him and supplant the facts of this case with that hatred. They want you to use emotion to convict Phil Spector rather than rely on the scientific evidence that clearly exonerates him."

Kenney-Baden depicted both Clarkson and Spector as flawed people in a lengthy closing argument that was to continue Friday. After a prosecution rebuttal, the jury will get the case, possibly late Friday or Monday.

Spector, 67, is accused of second-degree murder. Clarkson, 40, died of a gunshot fired in her mouth while seated in a chair in the foyer of his mansion about 5 a.m. on Feb. 3, 2003. The star of the 1985 cult film "Barbarian Queen" had gone home with him from her job as a hostess at a nightclub where she had just met him.

The defense contends Clarkson was depressed about her acting career struggles, financial problems and other personal problems and that she made a spontaneous decision to kill herself at Spector's home.

Kenney-Baden addressed the issue of how Clarkson would have known there was a gun in a drawer in the foyer.

"Let's get over the idea that the gun was secreted with Phil Spector's bullets in Phil Spector's drawer," she said, citing testimony by a woman friend of Spector that when they first went out he advised her he had a gun in his car.

"So you can infer ... that he told Lana Clarkson, since it was the first time he met her, that he had a gun or carried a gun and that he had put it in the holster and he put it in the drawer when he came home," she said.

The defense attorney spent hours citing scientific evidence she said clears Spector of murder, and accused prosecutors of resorting to theatrics in their efforts to mark "the first celebrity notch in the government's gun belt."

The reference called up memories of previous California celebrity cases which resulted in acquittals: O.J. Simpson, Robert Blake and Michael Jackson.

Kenney-Baden said prosecutors resorted to "accusations and demonizations rather than showing you what evidence they have that proves their case beyond a reasonable doubt."

She addressed issues involving blood spatter on Spector's jacket, gunshot residue on Clarkson's hands, the testimony of prosecution experts pitted against defense experts.

And she sought to rebut perhaps the prosecution's strongest point — Spector's words as related by a Brazilian immigrant chauffeur who said he saw him come out of his house with a gun in his hand. Adriano De Souza quoted Spector as saying: "I think I killed somebody."

Kenney-Baden said De Souza's problems with English — his second language — the noise of a fountain in Spector's courtyard, a car radio playing and music coming from the house, made the quote suspect.

"Mr. De Souza had the classic problem of a lot of witnesses," she said. "He was simply mistaken."

Kenney-Baden's argument about what happened inside the foyer came down to assertions that Spector was too far away to have fired the gun and that Clarkson killed herself.

Showing a photo of a white coat Spector was wearing, she said it was "pristine" to the naked eye and only had minuscule blood spatters, but would have been covered with blood and tissue if he had shot Clarkson.

"Science is the best, the most accurate and the only impartial witness," she said, adding, "The court is not an entertainment for the masses."

Prosecutor Alan Jackson presented a long summation Wednesday that was heavy on drama with video clips of women who accused Spector of past threatening acts with guns. It concluded with a video accompanied by music showing the glamorous Clarkson dancing, smiling and singing. It was meant to show that the actress was not despondent, had plans for her future and would not have shot herself as the defense claims.

Kenney-Baden responded to Jackson's claim of a "checkbook defense" which used Spector's money to hire high-profile forensic experts.

"For all their talk about a checkbook defense, it is the government who has a combined budget of billions of dollars," she said. "They had every forensic tool available to them as to who fired the gun that night — every forensic tool, every scientist, a crime lab, thousands of investigators."

Kenney-Baden ridiculed the prosecutor for presenting a series of improbable speculations on Wednesday.

"Some of them, you heard yesterday, include: The gun fell into her mouth. She was talking and he put the gun in her mouth. She screamed and he put the gun in her mouth. It even got to the point (where) a big gust of wind or an earthquake could have made the gun go off. It must have been San Andreas' fault," she said sarcastically.

After jurors left the room, prosecutor Jackson acknowledged to Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler that the prosecution theory of the case had changed since it began five months ago with him declaring that Spector placed a gun in Clarkson's mouth and killed her.

"Our theory is that Phil Spector pointed that loaded weapon at her face and he pointed it in a threatening and menacing manner and somehow the tip of it gets in her mouth. I don't know how it gets in there. Maybe she screams," he said.

The prosecutor said it still constitutes second-degree murder.



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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Contingency plans drawn up for water rationing

Contingency plans currently being drawn up could force Southern California water officials to order rationing next year.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, serving 18 million people in six counties, warned Wednesday that mandatory rationing could become necessary for the first time since 1991.

The district imports about two-thirds of its water from Northern California and the Colorado River.

Last week, U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger in Fresno ruled water imports from the north must be cut up to 30 percent to protect the delta smelt, a small fish threatened with extinction.

Adding to the problem are the threat of earthquakes and flooding, salt-water intrusion and aging levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

"We have further evidence that the delta is in crisis, if there was any doubt about it," said Lester Snow, director of the state Department of Water Resources.

The Metropolitan Water District stands to lose more than 10 percent of all the water members use because of the court decision.

Although it's unclear how much water will move south, the district is preparing an allocation plan on how much it might be able to provide the 26 cities and water agencies it serves, assistant general manager Roger Patterson said.

Each member agency will determine how much residents will have to cut back.

"The question is 'how soon do we need to go into that kind of decision-making?' Do we have to do that in 2008, or do we rely on our reserve account – or (banked water) savings – to not do that in 2008? Those are the policy decisions that will be made," Patterson said.

It's hoped a rainy winter and voluntary conservation efforts will thwart rationing, he said.

Los Angeles gets nearly 70 percent of its water from the district.

"If we have rationing in Los Angeles, it won't be the first time that that has happened," said David Nahai, president of Department of Water and Power commissioners.

"If that is what will be needed in order to safeguard our water supplies, well, so be it. But we'll have to see just what this plan is that Metropolitan Water District will be putting forward."

The district plans to present its allocation plan to the DWP board this fall.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORRANCE

Police rescue infant locked in van while mom shopped

Police rescued an infant locked inside a van while the baby's mother went shopping.

The mother, who arrived 20 minutes after police broke into the vehicle, told officers she forgot the baby was in the van because the child was sleeping, investigators said Thursday.

The infant was hot, red and crying when officers rescued the baby, Officer Dave Crispin said.

Shoppers called police at 6:35 p.m. Wednesday when they saw the baby crying in the locked van in a Mervyns department store parking lot. The van was locked, but an officer managed to reach through a rear vent window to open it.

"The child was sweating and appeared to be in distress," Crispin said. Paramedics were called in to examine the child and the infant was apparently unharmed.

The afternoon high in Torrance had been 82 degrees.

"I could see a baby crying and there was lots of trash all over the floor in the van," said Joe Dominguez, a Hawthorne resident who called 911.

When the mother returned with her two other children, she said she had forgotten the baby was inside, Crispin said. The woman, whose name wasn't released, wasn't arrested, but Crispin said police were investigating the incident.

The baby was returned to the woman.

"Obviously with the heat we just went through, this could have been a very critical situation for the young kid," the officer said.

AP

VICTORVILLE

Mom arrested for allegedly driving son to gang fight

A mother was arrested after she allegedly drove her son to a school to fight with members of a rival gang.

Sophia Elam, 41, drove her 16-year-old son and several adults to Silverado High School to fight with gang members who had been threatening her son in an ongoing dispute.

"(Elam) says she's going to make sure her son gets to class safely, but instead of doing it the right way, she took matters into her own hands," San Bernardino County sheriff's Deputy Heather Vallejos said.

Elam was arrested Thursday for investigation of child endangerment.

Five adults and one juvenile were also arrested when detectives searched Elam's house and the home of a rival gang member.

Detectives allegedly found a gun at Elam's house.

AP

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Officials decide to open up roads

U.S. grants truck permit to Mexican firm to comply with NAFTA

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO The U.S. Transportation Department granted permission Thursday to a Mexican trucking company to haul cargo anywhere in the United States, fulfilling a long-delayed requirement of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Transportes Olympic, based in a Monterrey, Mexico, suburb, won the permit after Mexico granted authority to Stagecoach Cartage & Distribution Inc. of El Paso, Texas, to travel anywhere in Mexico.

Both companies can cross the border immediately but may not do so for several days while they determine new routes, said John Hill, who runs the U.S. Federal

Motor Carrier Safety Administration, which regulates truck safety.

"What we're hearing from the carriers is they could be ready to go as soon as days from now," Hill told reporters on a conference call from Washington.

The U.S. plans to give up to 25 Mexican firms permission by the end of September and add another 25 companies each month until hitting 100 by the end of this year under a one-year pilot program, Hill said.

Mexico has also committed to allow up to 100 U.S. firms anywhere in Mexico by the end of this year, he said, and 14 are poised to receive permission.

So far, 38 Mexican trucking firms have been prescreened to go anywhere in the U.S., said Hill, who expressed confidence that 100 firms would eventually qualify as word spreads. Some trucking firms have been reluctant to apply because the program has been shrouded in uncertainty, he said.

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

Study: Back Pain Sufferers Benefit From New Technology

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

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

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

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

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

To get your free copy of Dr. Bullock's recently released DVD, just call (310) 562-6700 and listen to the 24 hr recorded message on how to have it mailed to you for free. Or log on to: www.lordexsamo.com and click on "Free Report."

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Roadside bombing led to killings

By the Associated Pres

CAMP PENDLETON A Marine sergeant accused of murdering 17 Iraqi civilians told a military court Thursday “the threat had to be neutralized” after a roadside bomb hit his convoy and killed a fellow Marine.

Marine Staff Sgt. Frank Wuterich made his unsworn statement as a military hearing ended into the 2005 incident in the town of Haditha.

“Engaging was the only choice,” he said. Wuterich also said he will “always mourn the unfortunate deaths of the innocent Iraqis who were killed during our response to that attack.”

Under military law, prosecutors could not cross-examine Wuterich about the killings that sparked the biggest criminal case against U.S. troops in the war in Iraq.

In all, 24 civilians were killed by Wuterich’s squad in the aftermath of a bomb

blast on Nov. 19, 2005.

Among the dead were women and children who were killed in their homes as Marines went on a house-to-house sweep.

On Wednesday, three high-ranking Marines were given censures, the military’s



ENGAGING WAS THE ONLY CHOICE.”

Frank Wuterich , Marine Staff Sergeant.

most severe administrative punishment, for their roles in investigating the deaths.

Maj. Gen. Richard A. Huck, former commanding general of the 2nd Marine Division, received a letter of censure from the secretary of the Navy, according to a Marine Corps statement .

Huck’s chief of staff, Col. Robert G. Sokoloski, also received a censure, for unsatisfactory performance of his duties. Col.

Stephen W. Davis was given a censure for failure to take action.

Wuterich, 27, of Meriden, Conn., is accused of unpremeditated murder in 17 of the killings.

At his preliminary hearing, Marine Corps

answered questions from his attorney.

Haditha was “ominously quiet” as his men rolled out on a supply run the day of the attack, he said. After the bomb exploded and rained shrapnel on a Humvee carrying Wuterich, the mission quickly shifted to countering the attack, he testified.

“I realized my mission had changed. We had practiced this scenario before, in classrooms, on whiteboards,” he said.

Wuterich, who was on his first combat tour, described shooting five men because they were starting to run away.

Sgt. Sanick Dela Cruz, a squadmate, previously testified the men weren’t running but were instead “just standing around,” some with hands interlocked on their heads.

Dela Cruz testified with immunity after prosecutors dropped murder charges against him. He also said Wuterich had told him to tell anyone who asked that the men had been running away.

Complaint details case against congressman from California

BY ERICA WERNER | Associated Press Writer

LEESBURG, Va. Rep. Bob Filner stormed into a United Airlines baggage office at Dulles International Airport, barged past other customers, screamed at employees and repeatedly pushed a female baggage worker, according to a criminal complaint.

“You can’t stop me,” the San Diego Democrat yelled.

“The police can,” replied the baggage worker, Joanne Kay Kunkel.

Filner backed off only when he heard another employee

on the phone with airport police, says the complaint, which offers more details on an Aug. 19 incident that resulted in misdemeanor assault and battery charges against Filner.

Filner was served Monday with a summons for an Oct. 2 court hearing on the incident. The complaint was subsequently filed in Loudoun County, Va., General District Court and released Thursday to The Associated Press.

It is based on a sworn statement from Kunkel, whose name had not previously been released, and was signed by a Loudoun County magistrate who found probable cause for charging Filner.

“Mr. Robert Filner came storming into our baggage office demanding help with his delayed baggage. He barged in front of a line, interrupting our business with other passengers. He is screaming,” the complaint begins.

It goes on to describe Filner trying to shove his way into an employee-only office as Kunkel tells him to stop and tries to block him by stretching out her arms. That’s when Filner tells Kunkel she can’t stop him, and she tells him that the police can.

“At this point I am yelling for co-workers to call the police,” according to the complaint.

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That card in your wallet isn't so great

Fish conservation movement moves to the source of problem

BY MICHELE KAYAL
Associated Press Writer

It was 4 a.m. in San Francisco's Fish Alley and Paul Johnson stared with disgust at the 1,000-pound bins stacked to the ceiling with quivering rockfish. Rivers of yellow roe the fish had been spawning coursed into the harbor, where one boat was still unloading and a second circled impatiently to disgorge yet more fish.

"I just remember looking over my shoulder at this 80-year-old Italian I knew, Victor," Johnson said of that morning in the late 1990s. "He just looked at me and said 'What a waste, huh?'"

The founder of the Monterey Fish Market, with stores in San Francisco and Berkeley, Calif., dedicated himself right there to fighting overfishing in his purchasing and sales policies. That was also about the time others began realizing the oceans were in trouble, and several campaigns emerged that urged consumers to choose their fish responsibly. Most visible were the popular wallet cards that list stressed species and recommend certain purchases.

But critics say the efforts have not tangibly affected consumption of troubled species. The movement is now taking a broader approach that considers the way fish habitats are managed, how the fish are caught, and even who is catching them.

Amid reports like one published last year in the journal *Science* forecasting that the

oceans will run out of seafood by 2048, here's the good news: Regular consumers can still make a difference.

THE NEW LABELING

The Marine Stewardship Council, a London-based conservation group that certifies sustainable fisheries and suppliers, began offering a label in 2000 that lets consumers know the fish they are buying comes from a responsible source.

By 2007, use of the label — a blue oval with a white fish sketch — has exploded, growing from 500 products to more than 800 worldwide, with 120 in the United States. The label guarantees that the fish comes from stocks that are healthy and plentiful and was caught with minimal impact on the environment in a well-managed habitat.

Each labeled fish is fully traceable to the person or company that caught it. Before a store is allowed to sell fish with the label, it must prove to MSC that it can properly manage the product and keep it separate from fish that have not met the same standards.

Some corporate giants have responded. Wal-Mart, for example, began offering sustainable seafood last year and plans to exclusively market fully sustainable species within the next seven years.

Since 2002, McDonalds has shifted roughly a third of the 50,000 metric tons of whitefish it buys annually to fisheries it considers better and healthier, say company executives.

Many sustainability advocates say the only way to achieve long term and faster impacts is to build on this corporate awareness, and shift the burden from consumers to the companies catching, buying and selling fish.

Firefighters make gains in northeast Sierra Nevada fire

By the Associated Press

GREENVILLE Firefighters reported progress Friday in combating a wildfire that has blackened a swath of remote forest in the northeast Sierra Nevada.

The 28,520-acre blaze had not expanded overnight, giving fire officials hope they were turning a corner, said Mark Beaulieu, a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service. "Once you've stopped its growth, you've made significant progress," he said by telephone Friday morning.

There were no new evacuations beyond the roughly 100 homes already emptied, and no injuries or new damage aside from the handful of structures burned earlier in the week, he said.

The official proportion of the fire contained was 8 percent, but firefighters had established lines "around a significant amount of the fire," Beaulieu said. Officials on the scene were being cautious about labeling a bigger portion of the fire "contained" in case a spark jumped the lines and ignited a fire elsewhere.

Light wind was allowing firefighters to be aggressive on the attack, Beaulieu added.

"The wind isn't driving it any more — the fire is trying to find its own path through the fuels. They're hitting it pretty hard today with aerial operations," he said.

Ten helicopters and three air tankers were blasting the flames with fire retardants, and performing surveillance, he said. Eight more aircraft were on order, and some 1,900 firefighters were deployed.

But significant obstacles remained before fire crews could declare victory, Beaulieu said.

"The weather is dangerous, but so is the steep terrain and extremely dry fuel, some of the driest in history," he said.

The fire, covering a swath of about 45 square miles, is burning about 150 miles north of Sacramento and 230 miles northeast of San Francisco, and has spawned a blanket of smoky haze that reached both cities.

A second Northern California wildfire, burning in Henry W. Coe State Park south of San Jose, stood at 27,640 acres Friday — also roughly the same as Thursday evening.

The situation in that isolated parkland area appeared less predictable, said John Amos, a spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

"It might take off and it might not," Amos said.

Cool temperatures and almost no winds helped the efforts of the more than 1,700 firefighters on the scene, he said.

About 25 homes and 10 other structures were threatened, but no evacuations have been ordered, officials said.



CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE OF UPCOMING PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica will be advertising on or near September 17th, 2007 to receive sealed bids and proposals for the:

DESIGN – BUILD SERVICES FOR THE CHARNOCK WELL FIELD RESTORATION PROJECT

SPECIAL PROVISION NO. 1973

The Request for Bids will be available for review beginning on September 17, 2007 and proposals shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Engineer, Suite 300, 1437 4th Street, Santa Monica, California, not later than 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 17, 2007**. Each Bid/Proposal shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents.

Contract Documents may be obtained and examined in the Office of the City Engineer, phone number (310) 458-8721 beginning on September 17, 2007. Additional information may be obtained on the City's website at www.santa-monica.org/engineering.



City of Santa Monica Ordinance Number 2238 (CCS) (City Council Series)

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2238 (CCS) prepared by the City Attorney.

Ordinance 2238 Number (CCS)("the Ordinance") modifies, on an interim basis, development standards in the LMSD and M1 zoning districts. Under the Ordinance, except for City projects or projects authorized by development agreements, no project in these two zones may exceed 7500 square feet of floor area; and no project in the LMSD zone may exceed 15 dwelling units, artist studio units or single room occupancy units; and, in the M1 zone, no project may exceed 5 dwelling units, artist studio units or single room occupancy units. For purposes of determining whether this prohibition applies, density bonus units are excluded. Additionally, the Ordinance requires a development agreement to authorize changes of use on parcels in the LMSD zone that exceed 32,000 square feet and on parcels in the M1 zone that exceed 15,000 square feet. However, no development agreement shall be required for a change of use within an existing multi-tenant property unless the Planning Director makes a written determination that the change will constitute a substantial alteration in the mode or character of operation of the property as a whole based on factors such as occupancy, hours of operation, intensity of use, traffic, noise and odor. Auto dealerships are not subject to the Ordinance but remain subject to other property development standards.

Ordinance Number 2238 (CCS) was adopted on August 28, 2007 and became effective upon adoption.

The full text of the Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica; phone: (310) 458-8211.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK! WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS CITY OF SANTA MONICA BAYSIDE DISTRICT CORPORATION UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2010.

Applicants must be City residents or persons who are employed, own property or hold business licenses in the City of Santa Monica.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, October 16, 2007.

Appointment to be made by City Council, October 23, 2007.

On behalf of the City of Santa Monica, the Bayside District Corporation promotes economic stability, growth, and community life within the Bayside District and Downtown through responsible planning, development, management, and coordination of programs, projects, and services designed to benefit the community as a whole, which includes the District's businesses, property owners, visitors, and residents.

No Santa Monica City employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires Commission members to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action by filing a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at <http://www.smgov.net>. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

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Di Dio's Italian Ices 1305 Montana Ave.	(310) 393-2788	
Father's Office 1018 Montana Ave.	(310) 393-2337	
Il Dolce Cafe 1023 Montana Ave #B	(310) 458-4880	
Le Marmiton 1327 Montana Ave	(310) 393-7716	
Locanda Portofino 1110 Montana Ave.	(310) 394-2070	
Louise's Trattoria 1008 Montana Ave.	(310) 394-8888	
Marmalade 710 Montana Ave.	(310) 829-0093	
Montana Restaurant & Lounge 1323 Montana Blvd.	(323) 330-8010	
Patty's Gourmet Take & Bake Pizza 625 Montana Ave.	(310) 576-6616	
Pradeeps 1405 Montana Ave.	(310) 393-1467	
Ristorante Vincenzo 714 Montana Ave.	(310) 395-6619	
Rosti 931 Montana Ave.	(310) 838-4900	
Spumoni 713 Montana Ave.	(310) 393-2944	
Sushi Sho 1303 Montana Ave.	(310) 393-0035	
Via Dolce 1627 Montana Ave.	(310) 458-1562	
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Back On Broadway 2024 Broadway	(310) 453-8919	
Baja Fresh Mexican Grill 720 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 393-9313	
Bergamot Cafe 2525 Michigan Ave. # A3	(310) 828-4001	
Big Jos 1955 Broadway	(310) 828-3191	
Bistro Of Santa Monica Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 453-5442	
Bizou Garden 2450 Colorado Ave. #1050	(310) 472-6020	
Bread And Porridge 2315 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-4941	
Buon Giorno Caffè 1431 Santa Monica Bl	(310) 260-0073	
Cafe L'etoile D'or 2311 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 315-4375	
Chandni Vegetarian 1909 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-7060	
Coogie's Cafe 2906 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 828-7871	
The Corner Cafe 28th St. #121	(310) 452-2905	
The Cutting Board 1260 15th St. #105	(310) 434-9924	
Dagwoods Pizza 820 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 899-3030	
Daily Grill 2501 Colorado Ave. #b-190	(310) 309-2170	
Drago Restaurant 2628 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-1585	
Dragon Palace 2832 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 829-1462	
El Cholo 1025 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 899-1106	
Fromins 1832 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 829-5443	
House Of Billiards 1901 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-9203	
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Koo Koo Roo 2002-2004 Wilshire Blvd	(978) 778-1121	
L & L Hawaiian B B Q 1916 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 414-9523	
L A Farm Ltd 3000 Olympic Blvd	(310) 449-4007	
La Salsa #104 2200 Colorado Ave.	(805) 563-3644	
Lee's Chinese Food 1610 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 828-5304	
The Lincoln 2460 Wilshire Bl	(310) 828-2217	
Lucys Lunchbox 710 Wilshire Bl #100	(818) 762-6267	
Maya Japanese Food 2840 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 453-2612	
Manhattan Bagel 2216 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-3228	
Nawab Of India 1621 Wilshire Bl	(310) 829-1106	
Networks Cafe 2700 Colorado Ave. #190	(310) 315-0502	
Noma Restaurant 2031 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-4848	
Norms Santa Monica 1601 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 395-6310	
O' Briens 2226 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 829-5303	
Our Cafe 2104 Wilshire Bl	(310) 828-5313	
Overunder 1333 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 899-0076	
Pacific Dining Car 2700 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-4000	
Pot & Pan Thai Food 2315 Santa Monica Blvd	(818) 439-7083	
Santa Monica Pizza 1318 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 393-4554	
The Shack Restaurant 2518 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 449-1171	
The Slice 915 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-2367	
Sizzler 2025 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-3250	
Snug Harbor 2323 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-2991	
Sunshine Cafe & Grill 2021 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 449-7777	
Sushi King 1330 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 395-0120	
Tacos Por Favor 1406 Olympic Blvd	(310) 392-5768	
Taqueria Chihuahua 1909 Lincoln Bl	(310) 874-2057	
Tazzina 1620 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 413-4270	
Thai Dishes 111 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 394-6189	
Toi On Wilshire 1120 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 394-7804	
Wilshire Restaurant 2454 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 586-1707	

DOWNTOWN		
3 on Fourth 1432 4th St. #A	(310) 395-6765	
Abode Restaurant 1541 Ocean Av #150	(310) 394-3463	
B O A 101 Santa Monica Bl	(323) 655-3372	
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Broadway Deli 1457 Third Street Promenade	(310) 451-0616	
Brunos Italian Rest Deli 1652 Ocean Ave.	(310) 395-5589	
Bubba Gump Shrimp Co 301 SM Pier	(310) 393-0458	
Buca Di Beppo 1442 2nd St.	(310) 587-0771	
The Cafe 445 Pacific Coast Hwy	(310) 393-8282	
Cafe Crepe 1460 Third Street Promenade	(310) 576-0499	
Cafe Paradiso 2408 Wilshire Blvd	(818) 427-1796	
Cafe Presto 2425 Colorado Ave. #107 B	(310) 829-7757	
Cafe Sol 2425 Colorado Ave.	(310) 829-0031	
California Chicken Cafe 2401 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 453-0477	

California Crisp 13 Santa Monica Place	(310) 394-3800
California Pizza Kitchen 214 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 393-9335
Callahans Restaurant 1213 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 394-6210
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Crepes Company Inc 213 Arizona Ave.	(310) 801-0670
Dennys Restaurant 1645 1560 Lincoln Blvd	(714) 251-5409
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Gaucha Grill 1251 Third Street Promenade	(323) 468-0220
Georges Bistro 1321 Third Street	(310) 451-8823
Hedwigs Cafe 1509 4th St.	(310) 394-3956
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I Cugini Restaurant 1501 Ocean Ave.	(310) 451-4595
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Infuzion Cafe 1149 3rd St. #100	(310) 393-9985
Interactive Cafe 215 Broadway	(310) 395-5009
Ipanema Cafe 150 Santa Monica Place	(310) 838-8586
Ivy At The Shore 1535 Ocean Ave.	(310) 278-2908
Jinkys Cafe 1447 2nd St.	(818) 981-2250
Jiraffe Restaurant 504 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 917-6671
Johnny Rockets 1322 Third Street	(949) 643-6100
Kaiten Restaurant 1456 Third Street	(310) 451-8080
La Botte, Inc. 620 Santa Monica Blvd #A	(310) 576-3072
La Salsa #44 1401 Third Street Promenade	(310) 587-0755
La Serenata 1416 4th St.	(310) 204-5360
Le Merigot Hotel 1740 Ocean Ave.	(310) 395-9700
Leonidas 331 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 417-8851
Light House Buffet 201 Arizona Ave.	(310) 451-2076
The Lobster 1602 Ocean Ave.	(310) 458-9294
Locanda Del Lago 231 Arizona Ave.	(310) 451-3525
Loews Santa Monica 1700 Ocean Ave.	(310) 458-6700
Manchu Wok 111 Santa Monica Pl	(310) 458-3558
Mariasol 401 Santa Monica Pier	(213) 626-5554
Michaels 1147 3rd St.	(310) 395-7911
Musha Restaurant 424 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 576-6330
Newroom Santa Monica Inc 530 Wilshire	(310) 451-9444
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Panera Bread 501 Wilshire Bl	(714) 241-7705
Perrys Pizz 930 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 372-3138
Perrys Pizza 2600 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 372-3138
Perrys Pizza 1200 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 458-3975
Perrys Pizza 2400 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 372-3138
Promenade Cafe 321 Santa Monica Bl	(213) 700-2373
R A W 609 Broadway	(310) 451-4148
Real Food Daily 514 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 393-0804
Renees Court Yard 522 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 451-9341
Rustic Canyon 1119 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 560-7787
Scarboni 312 Wilshire Bl	(310) 704-8079
Stefano's 1310 Third Street Promenade	(310) 216-7716
Sunset Bar & Grill 1240 Third Street	(310) 393-3959
Sushi Mon 401 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 576-7011
Sushi Roku Santa Monica 1401 Ocean Av	(310) 655-3372
Sushi Shogun 1315 Third Street	(213) 500-4989
Sushi Teri Express 1551 Ocean Ave. #130 B	(310) 394-2189

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Tandoor Cafe 395 Santa Monica Place #009	(310) 435-3845
Tastie16 Santa Monica Place	(310) 770-6745
Thai Dishes Restaurant 1910 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 828-5634
Tokyo Kitchen 15 Santa Monica Pl	(310) 451-5385
T's Thai 1215 4th St.	(310) 395-4106
Tudor House 1403 2nd St.	(310) 451-8470
Victoria Pizzeria 1607 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 394-6863
Villa Italian Specialties 8 Santa Monica Pl	(310) 451-3031
Wahoo's Fish Taco 418 Wilshire Blvd	(949) 222-0670
Whist 1819 Ocean Av	(310) 260-7509
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Yangtze 1333 Third Street Promenade	(310)260-1994
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Bravo Pizzeria & Deli 2400 Main St.	(310) 392-7466
Chinois On Main 2709 Main St.	(310) 392-3038
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 396-6706
Creative Sushi 2518 Main St.	(310) 396-2711
Dhaba Cuisine Of India 2104 Main St.	(310) 390-9451
Elvira's Cha Cha Chicken 1906 Ocean Ave.	(310) 581-1684
The Enterprise Fish Co 174 Kinney St.	(310) 392-8366
Euphoria Loves RAWvolution 2301 Main St.	(310) 392-9501
Finn McCools Irish Pub & Restaurant 2700 Main St.	(310) 452-1734
Groundwork Coffee Co. 2908 Main St.	(310) 930-3910
The Galley 2442 Main St.	(310) 452-1934
Holy Guacamole 2906 Main St.	(310) 314-4850
It's All Good Bakery 2629 Main St.	(310) 260-0233
Joes Main Street Diner 2917 Main St.	(310) 392-5804
La Vecchia Cucina 2654 Main St	(310) 399-7979
Library Alehouse 2911 Main St.	(310) 314-4855
Lula Cocina Mexicana 2720 Main St.	(310) 392-5711
Main Street Bagels 2905 Main St.	(310) 392-6373
Mallia 2424 Main St.	(310) 396-4122
Mani's Bakery & Cafe 2507 Main St.	(310) 396-7700
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Schatzi On Main 3110 Main St	(310) 399-4800
Shoop's Delicatessen 2400 Main St	(310) 452-1019
Sparky's Fine Frozen Yogurt 3110 Main St. #12	(310) 399-4513
Urth Caffe 2327 Main St.	(310) 749-8879
Via Veneto 3009 Main St.	(310) 399-1843
The Victorian Baker Cafe 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-4956
Wildflour 2807 Main St.	(310) 452-7739
World Cafe 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-1661
Yose Restaurant 2435 Main St.	(310) 255-0680

VENICE

26 Beach Restaurant 3100 Washington Blvd.	(310) 823-7526
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Abbot's Habit 1401 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 399-1171
Abbot's Pizza Co 1407 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 396-7334
Agra Indian Kitchen 2553 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-8749
Axe 1009 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 664-9787
Azteca Restaurant 835 Sunset Ave.	(310) 396-6576
Baby Blues BBQ 444 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-7675
Beechwood 822 W. Washington Blvd.	(310) 448-8884
Benice 1715 Pacific Ave.	(310) 396-9938
Big Daddy and Sons 1425 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 508-2793
The Brig 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-7537
The Brick House Cafe 826 Hampton Dr.	(310) 581-1639
Cafe 50's 838 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 399-1955
Casablanca Restaurant 220 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 392-5751
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China Beach Bistro 2024 Pacific Ave.	(310) 823-4646
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Great Western Steak & Hoagie Company 1720 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 450-4545
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James Beach 60 N. Venice Blvd.	(310) 823-5396
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La Cabana Restaurant 738 Rose Ave.	(310) 392-6161
La Meditrina 1029 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-5000
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Lilly's French Cafe & Bar 1031 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-0004
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Rose Cafe 220 Rose Ave.	(310) 399-0711
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Wabi-Sabi 1635 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-2229
Wacky Wok 2805 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 822-7373

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New agers are seeing nines

FROM NINES PAGE 3

Why Sunday, you ask? Well, it's all about numerology, or the use of numbers to interpret a person's character or to divine the future. Sunday, or 9/9/2007, is a special day in that when you add up each of the components, you get 9-9-9, which creates a powerful and rare universal vibe or frequency that will allow humanity to make a quantum leap, said the event's sponsor, Coral, a "multifaceted healer, psychic and analyzer," who uses the energies of the universe to take away one's pain and reach into their soul.

"I want the festival to be not just fun and pleasurable," Coral, who speaks only Hebrew, said through an interpreter Wednesday. "I want it to be a big step for all spiri-

tual people who are concerned about the violence in the world and one's own internal struggles."

The festival, which will take place on and around the pier from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., is free to the public and will feature over 60 booths offering psychic and healing treatments, as well as demonstrations on laughter yoga, Chakra breathing, and spiritual belly dancing.

According to numerology, each number holds an immense amount of energy, potential, character, influence and opportunity. Each number has its own beat, its own vibe, which responds differently to the other numbers, Coral said.

Each number creates a special numerical draw. These numbers' internal frequencies are the ones that affect all

life forms and create the behavioral pattern of stimulation and response.

The number 9 is so important because it offers a heightened spirituality. The wholeness of number 9 can be seen everywhere in nature. There are 9 planets that circle the sun. An average human being inhales and exhales 18 times a minute (18 divided by 2 equals 9). The heart beats on average 4,320 times an hour (2 plus 3 plus 4 equals 9). In a circle there are 360 degrees (3 plus 6 equals 9) and the first four digits of the mathematical constant known as "pi" are 3.141 (3 plus 1 plus 4 plus 1 equals 9).

Coral says the number 9 also has the shape of a fetus and after 9 months of pregnancy, a baby is born and enters a new phase of their spiritual journey.

"In the numerical combination of 999, each one of the 9's creates a special pattern of stimulation and response with the other, and the three of them together create a powerful and eternal energy frequency, a vibe that will allow humanity to open a completely new and different circle, which will last 9 years as well," Coral said.

"This powerful and strong frequency will create a total and complete change in human consciousness: Even those who are "asleep" and "unaware" will wake up to a new frequency — meaning a wider and much more developed collective consciousness."

The Santa Monica Pier is the perfect location for the event because of its close proximity to the ocean, which will have a cleansing effect on all those who participate, helping them to wash away their pain and bad thoughts, Coral said.

"It is very important to cleanse ourselves and our soul from the unwanted pains of life," Coral said. "If we don't, we are blocking ourselves."

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Photo courtesy IPCPR
SWEET SMOKE: Jeanette Kolpin of the Tinder Box on Wilshire Boulevard is examines high-quality tobacco leaves like those used by the makers of brand name hand-rolled cigars.

Tax upsets makers

FROM TAX PAGE 3

“They are painting us with the same brush as cigarettes and that’s not right,” said Charlie Templeton, a spokesman for the International Premium Cigar and Pipe Retailers Association, which is involved in a nationwide campaign to inform consumers about the proposed tax hike. “If you want to have an impact on children’s health, let’s go after snack foods or sugared soft drinks. If you really want to do something for the country, tax them.”

Many casual smokers are well heeled enough to drop \$10 for a premium puff, but would they pay \$15 to \$20 for the same pleasure?

Lucas Capra, general manager of the Lone Wolf premium cigar shop in downtown, doesn’t think so.

“It would be crippling to the industry,” Capra said as he punched in numbers on a small calculator to demonstrate how the extra cost would be passed on from the manufacturers to the distributors, retailers and finally, the smokers. “I think this is really draconian. It’s not even handed. It’s really just punitive and has the potential to be very damaging.”

Capra fears that the tax increase would fuel activity on the black market, just as prohibition did in the 1920s.

“There is a huge black market for tobacco,” Capra said as he pulled out a packet of cigarettes to display the state and federal tax stamps, which can cost as much as 20 cents per pack. “This will make the black market more profitable. I

have people almost every day trying to sell me cigarettes from Canada or somewhere else that just happened to fall off the back of a truck ...It’s really unfortunate.”

Money generated from the tax would fund payments to states to help buy medical coverage for kids not poor enough for Medicaid. While the proposed tax on cigars is drawing the most attention, the proposal, which would generate an extra \$35 to \$50 billion a year, mainly focuses on cigarettes. If approved, federal taxes on a pack would jump from 39 cents to \$1.

Approval may be difficult as President Bush has vowed to veto the bill, not over the cigar provision, but over objections expanding federally finances health care for the non-indigent.

Smokers said no matter what the cost, they will most likely continue to indulge, some because they are addicted while others feel puffing on a quality cigar while drinking a dry Cognac is the key to relaxation.

At Santa Monica Tobacco, owner Ali Attar said he was concerned about the tax and its effect on his business, but in the end he believes customers will keep coming back no matter the price.

“Every time they raise the tax, people will stay away for the first few months,” Attar said. “But they always come back... Instead of trying to raise taxes to pay for healthcare, the government should reconsider all the money they are spending on the war in Iraq. We are already paying our fair share.”

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KILLING TIME: A group of commuters wait for the bus in downtown Santa Monica on Wednesday afternoon. An SMDP investigation discovered that the local bus service is generally dependable.

Communing with the commute

Big Blue Bus is on the money when it comes to reliability

BY EMILY SKEHAN | Special to the Daily Press

CITY WIDE Los Angeles may be the notorious city of drivers, but Santa Monica might have a leg up on mass transit.

"I take the bus all the time!" Said Santa Monica resident Shirley Rakuljic, who was waiting for the no. 4 bus on Friday morning, "the Big Blue Bus is just really community-friendly."

The Santa Monica system has received plenty of recognition for its public transit services — in 1998, the fleet was named the number one urban transit system in a comparative study conducted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and in 2000 it won the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Achievement Award — but do the busses run smoothly?

Over three days, I took a variety of local busses to locations around Santa Monica and beyond, from the Third Street Promenade to the Westside Pavilion to UCLA to Venice. I arrived at bus stops five minutes before the next scheduled bus, and waited to see how timely they were.

I started with the 2 Line, which runs on Wilshire from UCLA to Venice. Unfortunately, this was my first bus and I showed up about two minutes late — only to see the big blue vehicle pass me by.

I walked two blocks to catch the one Los Angeles Metro bus that I rode throughout my journey — the rapid 704 that runs from Downtown Los Angeles to the beach on Santa Monica Boulevard, which came within

three minutes of my arrival to the bus stop. While this bus ride (which cost \$1.25) was admittedly faster — it only took about seven minutes to get from 26th Street to Third Street, a trip that would carve out a good 15 minutes on the Big Blue — the Metro rapid busses don't have extensive stops in Santa Monica, and this one only let off passengers at 20th, 14th, and Third streets.

of the time it's pretty easy."

Mendez says she has never been late because of the bus, and her only complaint is that during peak hours it can get a little crowded.

"I hate when there are so many people that you start getting pushed around," she said, "besides that I wouldn't change anything."

**I TAKE THE BUS ALL THE TIME!
THE BIG BLUE BUS IS
JUST REALLY COMMUNITY-FRIENDLY."**

Shirley Rakuljic, Santa Monica resident

My day continued with trips on the 7, 4, and 1 lines, which run on Pico, San Vicente, and Santa Monica boulevards, respectively. Each bus ran very close to schedule, generally with two to three minutes left. During morning and afternoon hours, the busses were mostly full with students, while mid-day trips generally consisted of senior citizens.

"I take the bus everyday to school," said Venice Skills Center student Margarita Mendez, an 11th grader who was waiting for the 3 Line on Thursday afternoon. "Most

The general mood of passengers was relaxed, although I did note that when the bus ran even a few minutes late travelers stationed at bus stops began to get a little agitated, checking their watches and looking expectantly down the street. When I had to be somewhere on time, I couldn't help but get a little on edge myself.

In 2005, 20,543,294 mass transit riders took the Big Blue Bus, averaging about 56,282 riders a day.

SEE BUS PAGE 17



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

PARK AND RIDE: Abraham Lewis loads his racing bike onto the Big Blue Bus on Pico Boulevard on Wednesday. Many bike riders take advantage of the bike rack in front of most busses.

Local service does little to disappoint its riders

FROM BUS PAGE 16

This summer, the Big Blue Bus underwent some changes this summer, with the introduction of the Mini-Blue lines and a revamping of the fare system.

The Mini-Blue lines are a fleet of smaller, intra-city busses that run every 15 minutes on less expansive routes throughout Santa Monica. For a quarter, I caught one of these from Main Street to the Promenade. While schedules have yet to be posted, I didn't have to wait more than ten minutes for my baby blue to arrive.

This summer, the old transfer system was retooled and new fares were set in place. Adults still ride for 75 cents, seniors for 25, and students for 50. Transfers now cost 50 cents, but can be used on any bus line going in any direction for two hours. As a student under 20 years old, I bought a day pass for \$1.25 that allowed me to travel all over the city until 2 a.m. — although I was asleep long before then.

After taking more than 12 bus trips in three days, I was pretty impressed. Not only did almost every bus run on time, they covered quite an extensive territory.

Yes, some lines were up to 10 minutes late, and while the East-West routes are easier to navigate than those that move North-South — one must either be all the way up at Bundy Drive or in downtown to traverse from Santa Monica to the Venice and West Los Angeles areas — but overall, the busses were efficient and got me to where I needed to go.

Furthermore, the busses are a pretty green alternative to driving around the city — 43 percent of the fleet is fueled by liquefied natural gas, which is 77 percent cleaner burning than diesel-fueled buses.

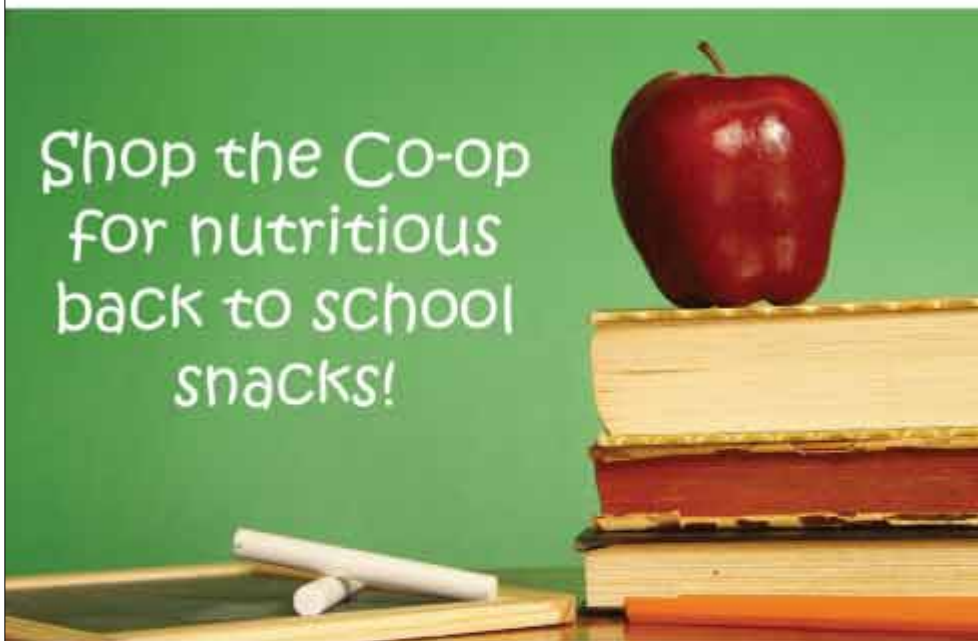
"The Big Blue Bus is clean, safe and generally a better way to travel downtown because parking here can be really hard," said Rakuljic. "It's just so easy to take the bus."

Rakuljic added that although she's usually impressed with the Big Blue's schedule, it can be difficult to take the public system when she's in a rush.

"If you have a 30 minute window, you're going to be okay," she said. "If you have a five minute window, you might not be."

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Remembering the little Vikings

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI They might be pint-sized football players, but they have the competitive spirit of Brian Urlacher and Hines Ward combined.

The Santa Monica Vikings — a youth sports organization comprised of five football teams ranging in age from 7 to 14 years old — will kick off its 2007 season today at the Santa Monica High School field, hosting conference rival the Montebello XTreme.

"We have a lot of returners," said Jake Ford, the coach of the Vikings' Midget squad. "The outlook this year is we're a playoff team."

The 150-member Santa Monica Vikings organization is one of 22 youth football leagues in the Pacific Coast Conference, including such foes as Buena Park, Lakewood, El Segundo and Palos Verdes.

The Vikings are scheduled to play eight games this season, culminating the 2007 campaign with a showdown against divisional rival Culver City before heading into the playoffs.

Following a 2006 season in which the Vikings were ranked sixth in winning percentage with playoff losses for two of the squads — the Mitey Mite and the Jr. Pee Wees — falling short of the ever-so elusive title, the boys are ready to come out strong.

"We have a good couple of kids, veterans coming back and a lot of our new kids are fast and good tacklers," said 11-year-old Jordan Detamore, the quarterback for the Pee Wee squad. "I think we are going to do really well this year."

For Detamore, a sixth grader at John Adams Middle School, there is no feeling like running out on the field with more than 200 fans cheering him on.

"You're just focused on football," he said. "You can't wait for it to finally start."

The Santa Monica Vikings and the Pacific Coast Conference were once part of the national Pop Warner youth football league until a divorce between the organizations about five years ago. The conference then joined American Youth Football, breaking off into its own organization last year, said Hank Lopez-Ona, the athletic director for the Vikings.

With youth football players from the Westside, the Santa Monica Vikings was founded in 1996, producing stars such as current Samohi starting quarterback Ryan Katz, who is expected to head to Oregon State University next year.

The kids are introduced into the system at about 7 years of age, starting their foot-

ball careers with the Mitey Mites and gradually working their way through the league as they get older to Jr. Pee Wee, Jr. Midget, and Pee Wee before concluding their stay on the Midget squad.

The youngest of the crop usually have no problem grasping the fundamentals of football, said Rick Regalado, the coach of the Mitey Mites. It's a matter of drilling the same routine in their heads, running the same plays over and over again, he said.

More than half of the students that finish with the Santa Monica Vikings go onto play high school ball, Lopez-Ona estimated.

Pee Wee Coach Michael Erlich paid a visit to the Santa Monica High School freshman football practice a few weeks ago, counting 16 kids on the field who once played on his squad.

"Ryan Katz who is a stud is a Division one prospect who came through this program as well and was coached by Regalado," Erlich said.

The coaches all seem optimistic about the year to come, though each see a different set of challenges.

Allan Hanckel, the coach of the Jr. Pee Wee, will oversee a team with only 19 players, meaning that several kids will play both offense and defense.

"The outlook is going to be dependent on how well we do with the very small squad," Hanckel said. "We don't have a lot of kids, but we have a lot of good kids."

The Jr. Midget squad on the other hand has 35 players total, at least 17 of whom are returning players.

"Everybody is ready," said Coach Tim Hayes. "These kids are stoked."

The Pacific Coast Conference requires every single team member be involved with at least six plays, prompting coaches to get creative.

Erlich said he tries to fulfill the minimum requirement by the end of the first half so that in the second half, he can have the strongest 11 players on the field.

The Vikings program has been credited with steering the youth football players in the right direction, keeping them off the streets and instead focused on the game.

In the four years that Ryan Sedighan has played for the Vikings, his older sister Leila, who has been president of the organization for two years, has seen quite a difference in her younger brother, not only progression as an athlete, but as a young man.

The program has not only boosted his self-confidence, but his focus on academics, the elder Sedighan said of the 11-year-old football player.



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

TEAM FIRST: The Santa Monica Vikings Mitey Mites, a youth football league of 7 to 9 years old players, practices on Wednesday.

"It's not all about winning or what star athlete you are," she said. "It's being part of a team."

The game kicks off at 9 a.m. at Santa Monica High School. The Midget squad will have a bye week.

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Vets want to keep business away

FROM VETS PAGE 3

agreements.

Following a two-year hiatus, a local CARES advisory panel comprised of experts and city officials reconvened on Thursday to hear on four different proposals to prepare the West LA campus and its healthcare facilities for the next few decades.

The meeting hardly touched on the designation of three buildings for homeless veterans services.

The presentation, prepared by consultant PriceWaterhouseCoopers, was a snapshot of a 177-page report released last month detailing the four so-called Business Plan Options, each of which would take at least 13 years to fully implement.

The four plans range from the basic yet time consuming option one, which would renovate existing buildings to meet safety standards, to the heavier construction projects laid out in the three other options, which includes a combination of new research facilities and nursing homes. The VA will collect public input on the four proposals for the next few weeks before presenting them to outgoing VA Secretary Jim Nicholson.

Some veterans in attendance criticized the findings in the report, specifically one line that stated the number of enrolled veterans would decline by 23 percent over the next 20 years.



**THEY ARE SITTING ON
THE OUTSIDE TREATED
LIKE SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS."**

Keith Jeffries, Audience member

"That can't be in light of what is going on in Iraq," said Jackie Freedman, co-president of Coalition for Veterans' Land.

But the theme of the day was anti-commercialization.

As expected, the meeting was a contentious one, well-attended by veterans of wars dating as far back as the Korean War, many members of local veterans groups, many donning wedge caps.

These veterans demanded that no part of their beloved

387-acre campus be commercialized, leased to private entities. The campus currently houses a storage lot for rental cars and the Wadsworth Theater is leased for private events.

In many cases, the veterans are excluded from these private events whose ticket prices are far out of reach, according to one speaker, Keith Jeffries.

"They are sitting on the outside treated like second-class citizens," Jeffries said.

Several county officials and representatives of state and national elected leaders read statements denouncing any further moves to commercialize the VA property, eliciting an ovation from the audience.

The CARES panel voted unanimously to recommend to Nicholson that the campus have no enhanced use leases for commercialization and not sell any piece of property for commercial development.

"You must carry back the message there can be no such thing as surplus or excess until (you've cared for) every last veteran," said Mike Eveloff, the treasurer for the Coalition for Veterans' Land.

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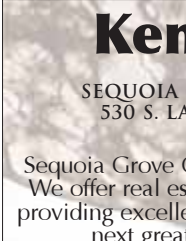
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Search for Fossett yields few clues

Area of concern expanded to 10,000 square miles

BY BRENDAN RILEY | Associated Press Writer

MINDEN, Nev. The pilots and ground crews who set out to find Steve Fossett when the famed aviator disappeared this week hoped their quest would be a short one.

It hasn't turned out that way. On Friday, they'll return to the skies over a greatly expanded search area, about the size of Massachusetts, with little clue of where the 63-year-old adventurer and his plane might be.

Despite the frustration, they know Fossett has Houdini-like history of escaping seemingly impossible jams.

"Each day when I walk into the operational briefing, everybody's hopeful that this will be the day that we find Mr. Fossett," said Chuck Allen, a Nevada Highway Patrol trooper helping lead the effort.

The search grid was expanded to 10,000 square miles, suggesting that rescuers have few clues about which direction Fossett was flying when he took off Monday from a private airstrip about 80 miles southeast of Reno. There was no flight plan for the Bellanca Citabria Super Decathlon, and no signals had been picked up from the plane's locator beacon.

The terrain of western Nevada's high desert makes the quest especially tough.

"It is not the flat desert that you think of when you think of the Mojave or the Sahara," Nevada National Guard member April Conway told NBC's "Today" show Friday. "The

mountains are very, very tall, very rugged. Lot of deep ravines, lots of deep crevices, lots of places for people to hide.

"It is not uncommon for us to be on Day 4, Day 5 and not have any clues. We have an awful lot of people out there searching, and we will turn up something."

Though the small plane carried enough food and water for Fossett to survive about two weeks, the knowledge that he may be in trouble in a harsh landscape weighs on the searchers.

"You wonder what they're doing down there at this time, you know, whether they're really still alive or not," said Robert Todd, one of the Nevada Civil Air Patrol pilots involved in the search. "You always hold out hope that they are alive."



IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR US TO BE ON DAY 4, DAY 5 AND NOT HAVE ANY CLUES. WE HAVE AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE SEARCHING, AND WE WILL TURN UP SOMETHING."

April Conway, Nevada National Guard

A squadron of about 10 airplanes and helicopters has been making repeated passes over a search area marked by 10,000-foot peaks, steep canyons and scrub brush-covered desert. Rescuers also used sonar to search Walker Lake, about 15 miles northeast of the private ranch where Fossett had been staying. They hoped to rule the lake out as a possible crash site.

The search has generated worldwide attention because of

the adventurer's past exploits and his connection to British billionaire Richard Branson, who has bankrolled many of Fossett's record attempts.

Fossett became a multimillionaire operating a series of Chicago-based investment firms before turning his attention to long-distance and high-speed adventures. He has set 116 land and air records, including becoming the first person to circle the globe in a balloon solo and the first to do so alone in a plane without refueling.

Many of his pursuits also have ended in failure, requiring costly and daring rescues. In 1998, one of his attempts to circumnavigate the globe ended when his balloon crashed into the Coral Sea about 500 miles off Australia's coast.

Pioneer starts drilling at Stariski

By the Associated Press

KENAI, Alaska Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska Inc. wants to see if a 40-year-old oil discovery still has promise.

The Anchorage company has begun drilling an appraisal well from an onshore location near Stariski, which is along Cook Inlet.

The field, which the company says has the potential to produce 50 million barrels of oil, was first discovered by Pennzoil in 1967.

The independent exploration and production company expects the drilling to last up to 70 days, plus another 60 days for testing, said Tadd Owens, Pioneer Alaska's director of government and public affairs.

"The gross resource potential is 30 million to 50 million barrels of oil," he said. "Pending the success of our appraisal well, we expect approximately 12 horizontal directional wells for development."

Only onshore drilling is being considered at this time. The tentative site development schedule calls for permitting in 2008, facility construction in 2008-2009, and development drilling in 2009 and 2010. Oil production would begin in about three years, Owens said.

ConocoPhillips drilled a well at the site in 2003. Subsequently, Pioneer became the operator and 100-percent working-interest owner of the Cosmopolitan Unit, though ConocoPhillips retains a small royalty share, Owens said.

Pioneer's drilling will involve a well off initial drilling by ConocoPhillips and will test the known reservoir of oil.

Pioneer is evaluating trucking options as well as the feasibility of building a pipeline to ship the oil.

"Initially, we will be trucking the oil to the Tesoro Refinery," Owens said. "We need an economy of scale for a pipeline and we won't know for some time whether we can justify building a pipeline."

While oil is the prime target, there will be some residual gas produced as well, which Pioneer will pump into the Kenai-Kachemak Pipeline. However, the volumes won't be enough to materially affect the local gas market, Owens said.

About 50 workers will be employed at the site during the drilling operations, Owens said.

The company is a subsidiary of Pioneer Natural Resources Co., which is based in Irving, Texas, and has operations in the North Slope, the Lower 48, South Africa and Tunisia.

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Bread overdose kills prison cows

By the Associated Press

WASILLA, Alaska A bread overdose is being blamed for the deaths of seven cows at a prison farm north of Anchorage.

The cows died Aug. 22 at the Point MacKenzie Correctional Farm as a result of bloat from eating too much bread, state Department of Corrections officials said Thursday.

The bread was mixed in with the feed, a combination of hay and green, leafy vegetables and vegetable trimmings, for the 100-head herd.

Corrections spokesman Richard Schmitz said the farm had previously added bread to the mix without incident. But the seven cows apparently ate from inadequately mixed feed and consumed too much bread.

"We've changed policies and procedures so that they do not feed bread, or feed it only to the swine herd, not to the cattle," Schmitz said.

Point MacKenzie Correctional Farm is a minimum-security correctional center that houses 112 male offenders. The farm grows vegetables and raises chickens and cattle for feedstock.

Schmitz said the seven cows that died were not salvaged for meat.

State veterinarian Dr. Robert Gerlach said cattle are sometimes fed bread or grain products. Cattle like the high-carbohydrate, high-energy food and it can provide good weight gain, he said. However, he said if a cow overeats on grain products there can be disastrous and rapid effects.

Cattle have four stomachs. The largest is the rumen, where bacteria ferment what they eat. If a lot of bacteria are present in the rumen and a large amount of grain is added, the fermentation process speeds up. The

finely ground grain in bread provides a lot of surface area for the bacteria to attack, speeding the process further, he said.

"It creates a lot of gas and a slime," Gerlach said. "Normally a cow, when they start to produce gas, they just burp it up. With that slime in there, they can't burp it up."

In short, the stomach enlarges rapidly, placing pressure on the esophagus, lungs, heart and circulatory system, and without a way to release the buildup, the animal can die. The process can happen when cows get into a field of grain, clover or alfalfa, he said. It can be fatal within a couple of hours.

Agencies release Columbia fish recovery plan, upsetting opponents

BY SARAH SKIDMORE | Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. Federal agencies have released a plan that they say will improve the recovery of Columbia Basin salmon and steelhead. But wildlife advocates immediately dismissed it as a failure and a continued breach of the Endangered Species Act.

"This plan leaves little doubt that the federal government is not really committed to finding a solution for our communities," said Dustin Aherin of the Idaho-based Citizens for Progress.

The Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation submitted the plan to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries at the end of August. The plan was made public Thursday.

NOAA will conduct its own analysis of the plan and assess its effect on the species.

Federal courts have repeatedly rejected plans submitted by the agencies.

The government said the latest one is the most comprehensive approach to date. Agency officials said it includes the most extensive analysis of the fish stocks in a larger area, represents a major collaboration with groups including tribes, and has more action items that cost more. The ten-year plan includes steps to address the habitat, hatcheries and predator control surrounding the fish.

"We've included a robust set of actions that we think will make a substantial contribution to the recovery of these fish," said Steve Wright, BPA administrator. "So we believe, given what the judge has told us ... we have responded to that."

But critics called it warmed-over.

"This is the same plan with a new ribbon on it," said Nicole Cordan of Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition.

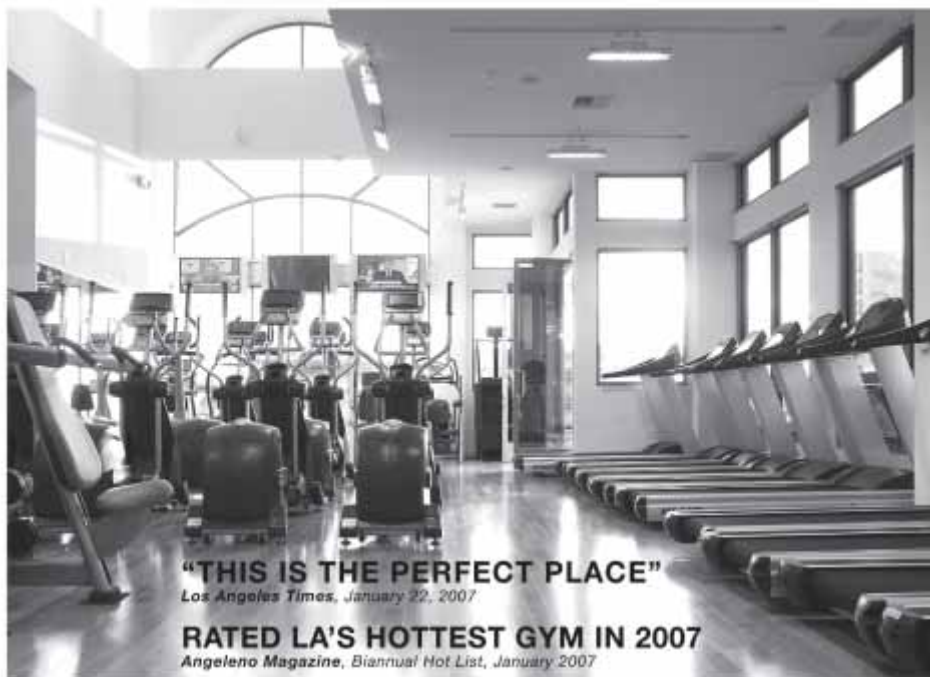
Their primary criticism is that the plan ignores the

impact of the hydropower systems on the Columbia River and Upper Snake River. Several groups say hydropower is the main cause of deteriorating fish runs in the Northwest.

Nola Layde, spokeswoman for the Corps of Engineers, said the organizations have already improved fish passage at the dams to the point where only minor improvements could be made to improve the fish's survival. So the agencies instead focused their attention on changes that could be made elsewhere.

"The only thing they are committing to is something they are already doing and that isn't working," said Glen Spain of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, which represents commercial fishing families.

"The federal agencies can slice the numbers and spin the data any way they want," said James Schroeder, senior environmental policy specialist with the National Wildlife Federation. "But the bottom line is clear: Fewer and fewer fish are returning each year."



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Los Angeles Times, January 22, 2007

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Angeleno Magazine, Biannual Hot List, January 2007

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COLLECTIBLES

Rare Wagner card sold for \$2.8 million

By the Associated Press

MISSION VIEJO A rare Honus Wagner baseball card has been sold for a record \$2.8 million, just over six months after it was bought for a then-record \$2.35 million.

Referred to as the "Mona Lisa" of baseball cards, the almost mint-condition collectible — released in 1909 by the American Tobacco Company — was sold by Brian Seigel of Las Vegas to an unidentified Southern California collector in February. SCP Auctions was a minority owner, but David Kohler, the company's president and CEO, said that's no longer the case.

Kohler said the new owner wishes to remain a private collector for now, but might identify himself at a later date. The sale was completed last week and announced Thursday.

The T206 baseball card features a youthful Wagner in his Pittsburgh Pirates uniform. At the time of the February sale, it was displayed at a Dodger Stadium news conference.

"This has always been the holy grail, the Mona Lisa of baseball cards," Kohler said.

Adding to its value is that only 50 to 60 Wagner cards are believed to exist, and none of the others in circulation are close to the quality of this one, which has been encased in protective sheeting for decades.

"This is the finest by far per condition," Kohler said.

There are no immediate plans to put the card on display, Kohler said.

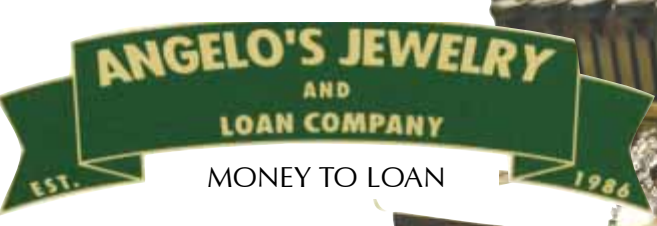
"There's a possibility that might happen in the future, we don't know for sure," Kohler said. "It was displayed last month at the National Sports Collectors Convention in Cleveland. Next year, it's in Chicago. I'm sure we'll have it on display again. I'm sure the new owner won't have a problem with that."

Seigel, the CEO of an asset management company, paid a record \$1.265 million when he bought the card in 2000. Among the previous owners were hockey great Wayne Gretzky and Bruce McNall, former owner of the Los Angeles Kings, who paid \$451,000 for it in 1991.

Wagner's card was among the first of hundreds of cards of major league players produced by the American Tobacco Co. and included in packages of cigarettes.

Unlike other players, however, Wagner quickly demanded that his card be withdrawn. Theories vary as to why, with one being that he didn't believe American Tobacco paid him enough.

A non-smoker, the Pittsburgh shortstop was arguably the second-greatest baseball player of his era, behind Ty Cobb. Wagner hit .344 during his rookie year of 1897.



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— Man's divinity —

Deep in the consciousness of all men is the awareness of the divine. With some, it is nearer the surface of the mind; in others it lies relatively unknown and undiscovered until some major event or stimulus awakens it from sleep. Thus some affirm readily the existence of the divine while many reject, often heatedly, the reality of all that cannot be known, measured and understood by their five senses.

Today, many are sensing, more and more, the presence of Maitreya, whose energies penetrate all the planes of consciousness. They may know not the name, or even of his existence, but, responding to his energy, are aware of a new and spiritual climate in the world.

They find it difficult to explain but know with growing certainty that they live in the aura of the divine, and that all will be well. They know, too, that they are not alone, that their prayers are being answered, and that something wonderful and sacred is happening on planet Earth. They sense that the stressful and dangerous conditions of today are nearing their end, that beyond the fear and failures of our time is a new and better world to be fashioned and that it will be so fashioned.

Meanwhile, Maitreya prepares to engage with all that hinders man's progress and well-being, with all that prevents the expression of his divinity, and also with man's own fear and frailty.

He will show that man has come from the highest source and is

equipped with all the potential of Gods; that, freed from the fear which holds him in thrall, man can build a civilization worthy of his divinity and creative genius.

He will show that fear and lack of trust alone condemn men to the present dangerous conditions which threaten their existence; that the simple act of sharing will bring justice and peace to their troubled

world; that men must recognize themselves as one, one group, sons of the one father.

Thus will he speak. Thus will he call on men to change.

How will men respond? How will they find Maitreya's analysis of their position and problems? Maitreya is not alone

in urging change and reform in the world. Many wise men and women are responding to his thoughts and energy and propound, widely, his ideas. Slowly but surely, these ideas are taking root, and educating large masses of hitherto uninterested and uncommitted people. Thus is Maitreya's way being prepared.

Even so, how can Maitreya touch the hearts of the millions needed to change direction? The answer lies in the potency of his energies. Never before has a teacher of such power stood before the world. With each word uttered, his beneficent force flows, from heart to heart. Useless and unnecessary is argument and debate. His truth calls forth the truth in the heart of the listener, and in the crucible of their shared divinity is recognized as truth itself.

This article, published in *Share International* magazine, was written by a Master of Wisdom. The Masters, headed by Maitreya, the World Teacher, are highly advanced teachers and advisors of humanity who are planning to work openly in the world very soon.

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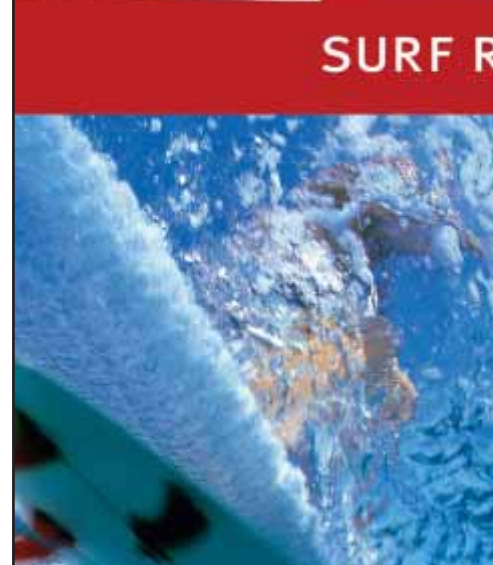
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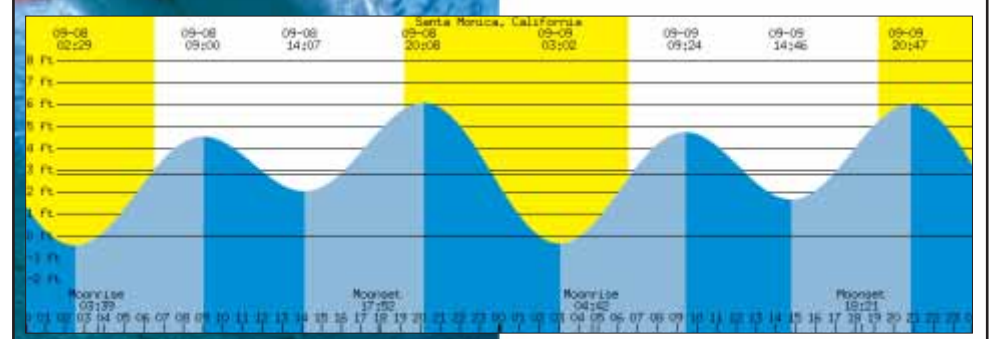
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WATER TEMP: 65°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)
Today looks to be the best day for size for the weekend as SW remains moderate in the waist to chest high range and NW backs off to nearly nil. Winds could be a bit of an issue though this weekend with Saturday likely to have onshores picking up early in the morning, and then reaching 14-18 mph in the afternoon. The tide will also reach a relatively deep high midmorning.

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NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 1

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

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 10

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Camillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (beacarella)	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Las Aliso creeks	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Bread Beach at Trabancas Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Selenia Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach	A	ns
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns
Serfider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	B	ns
Serfider Beach (beach location)- daily	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zone)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Flores County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	C	ns

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken

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

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NHL

Niedermayer will miss time

Ducks' defenseman to skip start of camp, ponders the future

BY KEN PETERS
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM Scott Niedermayer is certain about only one thing in his hockey future — he won't be on the ice when the Anaheim Ducks open camp next week.

The decision whether or not to retire is proving to be more difficult.

"It's sort of unfortunate that this decision has taken this long for me to make," the 34-year-old defenseman said Thursday at a news conference. "It's definitely become harder than I had envisioned.

"The last thing I want is for it to be a distraction to the work and the team that's going to be hitting the ice. Brian (Ducks general manager Brian Burke) has been very good at allowing me this time. I've made it clear to him where I'm at and the fact I don't have an answer whether I'll be playing this year or not."

The Ducks' captain did not rule out the possibility of joining the team during the season. He said he was out of shape now and would need about four weeks to get in condition.

IT'S DEFINITELY BECOME HARDER THAN I HAD ENVISIONED."

Scott Niedermayer, Ducks defenseman

"If I wanted to come back, I don't think they would lock the door on me," he said.

Roger Clemens, 45, sat out the first part of the baseball season before his latest comeback with the New York Yankees. The seven-time Cy Young Award winner pitched his first game on June 9, and is 6-6 with a 4.45 ERA.

Weighing in on the side of retirement, Niedermayer said, are thoughts of having more free time, more time with his family and maybe even pursuing a new career. But he sounded as if it may be hard for him to stay away from the ice when he knows his brother Rob, a Ducks center who often swings by to pick up his older sibling, will be heading to practice and he won't.

Burke said he wanted to dispel any notions that Niedermayer was creating difficulty for the Ducks or his teammates, saying Niedermayer has been encouraged to take as much time as needed to make his decision.

The GM also said that he didn't want to create any false hope that Niedermayer's going to play a partial season.

"Right now, we're starting without him," Burke said. "If he wants to come back, that's great news."

Niedermayer hoisted the Stanley Cup for the fourth time earlier this year, and won his first Conn Smythe Trophy as the Most Valuable Player of the playoffs. The NHL title was the first for the Ducks, but Niedermayer played on three Cup champions with New Jersey before coming to Anaheim in 2005.

One of the big reasons he chose the Ducks was so he could play with his brother. Scott said he believes Rob wants him to keep playing, but the decision is up to him.

"There is no question I'm going to miss a lot of things about the game if I retire. That's why the decision is as difficult as it is," he said. "There are things on both sides of the question that are appealing to me; obviously playing with the group of guys that I played here with the last two years."

"It's a great group of guys, coming off the year we had. It's a huge challenge to come back and defend that (Stanley Cup title). I don't want to drag this out any longer than I have to. The team has enough to worry about."

Another of the Ducks' veteran stars, 37-year-old right wing Teemu Selanne, also hasn't said whether he'll retire.

"He's in the same situation. We've talked over the summer," Niedermayer said.

Unlike Niedermayer, Selanne is a free agent.

Burke said he spoke with Selanne on the phone last week, and is giving him time to make his decision as well.

"Teemu has earned the right to call his shots," Burke said. "Both players deserve and are entitled to some patience on our part."

Niedermayer has two years and \$13.5 million left on his contract. Since he will not report for the start of camp next Tuesday, the Ducks will suspend him.

His absence for even a few months could free up some money under the salary cap for the Ducks, since they won't be paying him.

Asked if he is leaning one way, he smiled and said, "I think it's 50-50 until I make it 100-0."

Niedermayer, who signed as a free agent with Anaheim, won the Norris Trophy as the NHL's top defenseman for the 2003-04 season with New Jersey.

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LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION



Bye, bye Fischer of 'The Office' separates from director husband, according to sources

JENNA FISCHER of "The Office" and her husband, filmmaker James Gunn, have separated after six years of marriage, Fischer's publicist, Lewis Kay, said Friday.

"We are sorry for any pain this causes family and friends," the pair said in a statement on Gunn's MySpace page. "The enthusiasm we have for each other's lives,

spirits and careers is real – we have been each other's cheerleader and friend during the past six years and continue to be so now and in the future." The 33-year-old actress

was nominated for an Emmy this year for her work on NBC's "The Office." She portrays mousy secretary Pam Beesly, who found confidence last season when

she confessed her romantic feelings to co-worker Jim Halpert (John Krasinski). Gunn, 37, directed last year's "Slither," which co-starred Fischer.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPLITS-VILLE

MICHELLE WILLIAMS' father says the actress has split up with Heath Ledger.

Larry Williams – a prominent stock trader based in Australia while he faces U.S. tax evasion charges – told Sydney's The Daily Telegraph about the Hollywood couple.

"We've known about their troubles for a while but it's always a very difficult thing in life when these things happen," Williams was quoted as saying.

AP

Judge denies arbitration request by lawyer who represented Birkhead

LARRY BIRKHEAD'S ex-lawyer cannot settle their dispute over legal bills from the Anna Nicole Smith paternity case in private arbitration, a judge ruled. Superior Court Judge Charles C. Lee rejected Debra Opri's arbitration request in a ruling dated Thursday. The judge said Opri did not sufficiently address Birkhead's claims that he was defrauded and never agreed to arbitration. Opri contends that

Birkhead owes her more than \$600,000 for her legal work on his request for DNA testing of Smith's baby daughter – testing that in April showed he was the father. Opri withdrew from the case in March and sued Birkhead two months later, seeking binding arbitration over the legal bills. Birkhead countersued, contending that Opri owes him \$505,250 held in a client trust account. He

claims the money – along with \$200,000 that Opri already returned – came from a deal he had with the Bravo cable network to talk about the paternity case. Calls to Opri and her publicist were not immediately returned Thursday. Birkhead's lawyer welcomed the ruling. "I believe that the judge made the right decision," attorney Michael Trope said. The decision means the

suits, instead of being settled behind closed doors, could be handled in public proceedings. The judge set a hearing in the matter for Oct. 31. In December, a Los Angeles judge ruled in Birkhead's favor and a DNA test later revealed that he was the baby's father. Smith died in Florida on Feb. 8 of an accidental overdose of prescription drugs.

AP

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

Go for what you want, Libra

Happy Birthday!

This year you often feel that you are balancing and juggling situations. If they tumble one way or the other, the outcome could be quite different, and neither one acceptable. Tune in to your desires and needs. Often you appear far more serious than in the past. Investigate what is happening below the surface with others, and their vulnerabilities might be quite touching. You excel professionally, though you often feel that others are critical. Pull back and know that much of this is your stuff.



Born Today
Actor Peter Sellers
(1925)

Singer Pink (1979)

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

★★★★★ Your hot energy finally seems to find an avenue of self-expression. You feel fortunate, and you really are. Easy does it. Others might not feel as inventive or experimental as you. Much that has been a problem could be resolved. Tonight: Say yes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ At last you feel a sense of freedom that up till now has been unparalleled. You might want to change gears and do something in a very different manner. As a result, you will come to a positive conclusion and understanding. Tonight: Happy at home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Let your hair down and allow a greater sense of self-expression to emerge. Your life takes a new turn. You make quite a big difference. A romantic tie or child could become a higher priority. Tonight: Clear the air with a smile.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You dance to a new tune and make a difference where you hadn't before. A family, property or real-estate matter comes to the forefront. You discover answers that previously were not accessible. Know what you want. Tonight: Entertain at home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Speak your mind. Listen to news that heads your way. Review facts with an eye to the future. Your ability to make headway and have someone respond is suddenly enhanced. Start opening up a difficult situation. Tonight: Be the gregarious Lion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Money often is a prime issue in people's lives today. You might want to approach a monetary matter differently. Investigate possibilities with an eye to feeling better. A purchase might be OK because of how you will feel. Tonight: Your treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Open up a situation through a different approach. You could change your mind and find a friendship most rewarding. Knowing your priorities could make a big difference. A smile will carry you far. Tonight: Go for what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Understanding takes you in a new direction. Realize the role of greater friendship and understanding in your life. Listen to your inner voice. Listen to feedback with an eye to success. Tonight: Others clearly want you involved.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Once more, try to understand what is going on with a friend. Between detaching and tuning in to your higher mind, you'll find solutions. Experiment and ask sensitive questions that have meaning for you. Tonight: In the whirlwind of a happening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Do rethink a situation more carefully. You might not be sure which is the best way to go. Investigate a situation with a clearer eye to what works. If you want, you can connect with a family member or someone you look up to. Tonight: The story reveals itself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Finally, opportunities strike to clear the air and see life from a revised, new perspective. Listen to what you are hearing, and remain sensitive to others. Someone finally lets you know how much he or she cares. Tonight: Sort through suggestions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ An even attitude goes far when dealing with a routine matter that suddenly gets complex. If you need feedback, ask sensitive questions. You discover that others are becoming far friendlier than before. Tonight: Be supportive.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

42nd Street (NR)
7:30
Swing Time (1936)
7:30

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

Balls of Fury (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
Bourne Ultimatum, The (PG-13)
1:30, 4:10, 6:55, 9:50
Simpsons Movie, The (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25
War (R) 1hr
11:55am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:25, 9:5

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

3:10 to Yuma (R)
11:05am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35,
10:30
Bourne Ultimatum, The (PG-13)
11:25am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:45
Brothers Solomon, The (R)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
Death Sentence (R)
11:40am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20,
10:00
Hairspray (PG)
11:15am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:40,
10:25
Mr. Bean's Holiday (G)
11:00am, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00,
10:15
Stardust (PG-13)
11:10am, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:35

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Death at a Funeral (R)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
The Nines (R)
12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

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

The 11th Hour (PG)
1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20
2 Days in Paris
(Deux jours a Paris) (R)
1:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
Becoming Jane (PG)
1:45, 4:30, 7:10
No End in Sight (NR)
11:00
Paris, je t'aime (R)
11:00am, 9:45
Self-Medicating (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
Once Upon a Christmas
Village (NR)
12:50, 1:10

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

Halloween (R)
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
Ladron que Roba a Ladron
(PG-13)
12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 7:50,
Nanny Diaries, The (PG-13)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
Rush Hour 3 (PG-13)
12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
Shoot 'Em Up (R)
12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:30, 10:00
Superbad (R)
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

More information email news@smdp.com



Do you have business briefs?
Submit news releases to: editor@smdp.com or fax (310) 576-9913

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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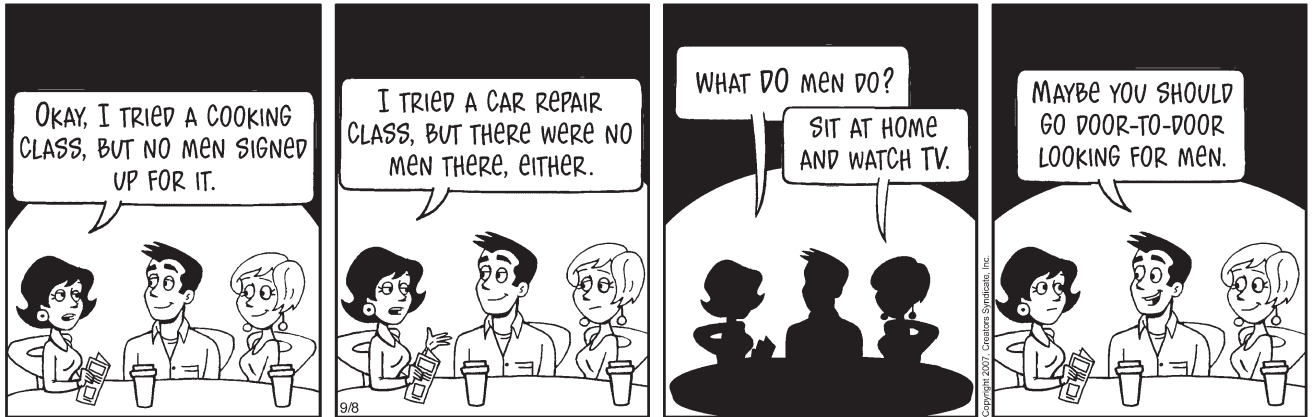
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



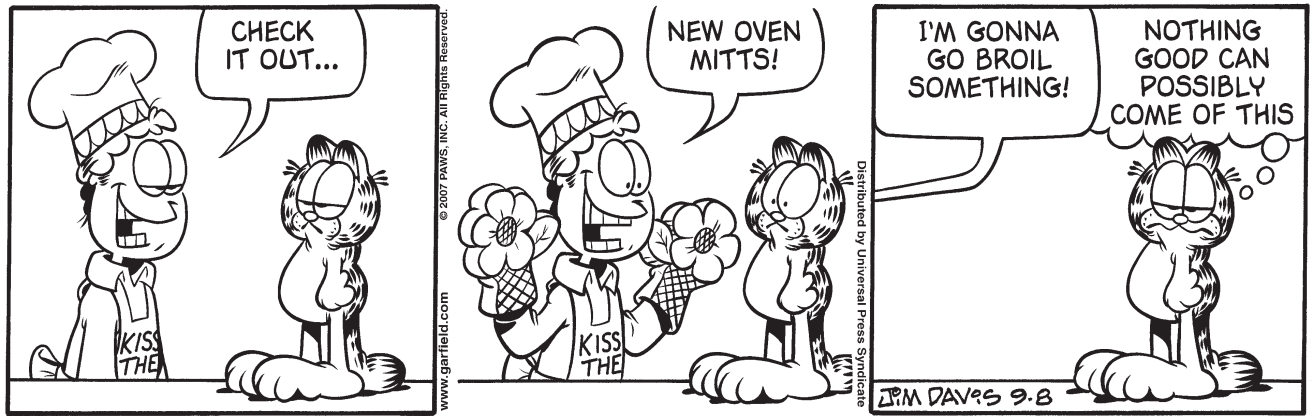
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



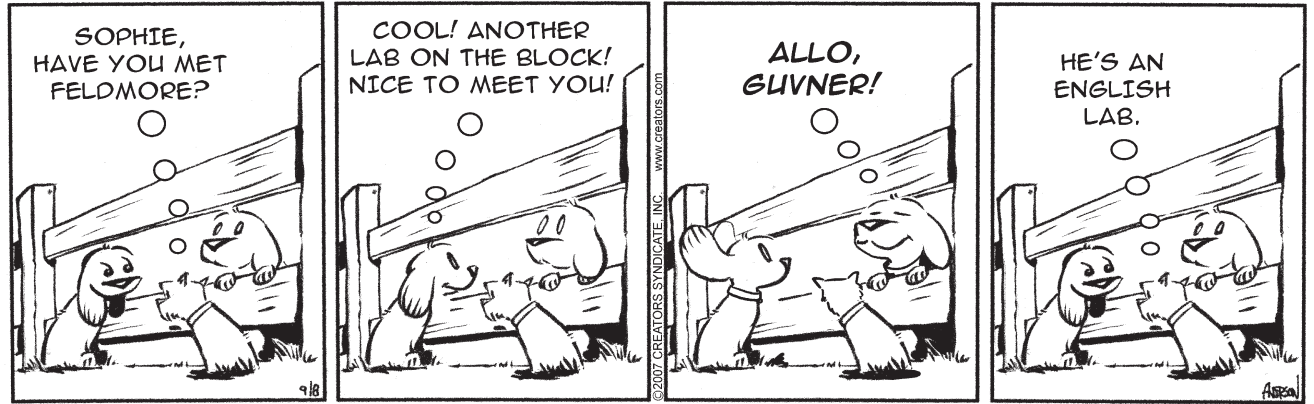
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



MYSTERY PHOTO

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jimmy of TV
 - 6 Fiat
 - 11 "The Fifer" painter
 - 12 Variety show
 - 13 Silly
 - 14 Merchandise
 - 15 Raised
 - 17 Future fish
 - 18 Bulldog backer
 - 19 Letter writing, to some
 - 22 Combo instrument
 - 23 City on the Kansas River
 - 24 "As You Like It" forest
 - 25 Tex-Mex snack
 - 27 Sauna site
 - 30 Sent
 - 31 Solo in space
 - 32 Golf's Trevino
 - 33 Gospel author
 - 35 "You don't say!"
- DOWN**
- 2 Beams
 - 3 Luzon city
 - 4 Facing trouble
 - 5 Camp home
 - 6 Quick and keen
 - 7 Assn.
 - 8 Old car
 - 9 "From the New World" composer
 - 10 Bowler's button
 - 16 Random drawings
 - 20 Highway danger
 - 21 Rating max
 - 24 Guitar blaster
 - 25 Durocher nickname
 - 38 Not urban
 - 39 Heaps
 - 40 Battery end
 - 41 Ocelot feature
 - 42 Longs for

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

Yesterday's answer

- 9 Writer Welty
- 10 Bowler's button
- 16 Random drawings
- 20 Highway danger
- 21 Rating max
- 24 Guitar blaster
- 25 Durocher nickname
- 26 Danny of "Moon-struck"
- 27 Gless or Stone
- 28 Easter event
- 29 Low joints
- 30 Missteps
- 34 Paul of film
- 36 Track act
- 37 Snaky letter

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

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

Comics & Stuff

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
3 6 11 42 46
Meganumber: 38
Jackpot: \$17M

Super LOTTO
6 13 15 34 41
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: \$9M

Fantasy 5 2 7 19 32 35

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 1 6 6
EVENING: 1 7 0

DAILY DERRY
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.46.91

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

■ World of Warcraft is an online game as popular as Second Life, with warrior-players amassing digital gold coins from every opponent they vanquish, and the greater the lucre, the higher they advance in the WOW ranks. Some players take the easy route, though, and buy their WOW gold coins from dealers, who mostly get them from "Chinese gold farmers" in Nanjing and other cities -- men and women hired to play the game 80 hours a week, not for advancement but to score coins that they can sell to other players, at the equivalent of about \$1.25 per 100 coins (marked up to \$20 per 100, retail), according to a June New York Times Magazine article.

■ Solving Two Female Problems at Once: Cytori Therapeutics (cited in a recent Chemistry and Industry Magazine report) has developed a procedure to grow breast tissue from a mixture of stem cells and fat liposuctioned from the recipient's belly, thighs or butt. A spokesman for British plastic surgeons said he was hopeful for success, on behalf of mastectomy patients, but less generous toward women seeking ordinary breast-enlargement. The implanting surgery is still in clinical trials, but is expected to be available in Europe next year.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1930 3M begins marketing Scotch transparent tape.

1934 Off the New Jersey coast, a fire aboard the passenger liner SS Morro Castle kills 135 people.

1935 US Senator from Louisiana, Huey Long, nicknamed "Kingfish," is fatally shot in the Louisiana capitol building.

1941 World War II: Siege of Leningrad begins. German forces begin a siege against the Soviet Union's second-largest city, Leningrad. Stalin orders the Volga Deutsche deported to Siberia.

1943 World War II: The O.B.S. (German General Headquarters for the Mediterranean zone) in Frascati was bombed by USAAF.

1945 Cold War: United States troops arrive to partition the southern part of Korea in response to Soviet troops occupying the northern part of the peninsula a month earlier.

1951 Treaty of San Francisco: In San Francisco, California, 48 nations sign a peace treaty with Japan in formal recognition of the end of the Pacific War.

WORD UP!

salient \SAY-lee-unt; SAY-lunt/, *adjective*: 1. Shooting out or up; projecting. 2. Forcing itself on the attention; prominent; conspicuous; noticeable. 3. Leaping; springing; jumping. *noun*: 1. An outwardly projecting part of a fortification, trench system, or line of defense. 2. A projecting angle or part.

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AFFORDABLE HOUSE CLEANING \$40
by day, honest reliable, own transportation, references, L.I./L.O. nanny housekeepers. Low fees, been in business since 1988, open 7 days. Call, ask for Adeline (818)705-0295 or fax (818)705-0297

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

Employment

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BOLD IT! MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL: ASSISTANT, SALES, KKGO-FM/KMZT-AM: Mount Wilson FM Broadcasters, Inc-KKGO 105.1 FM/KMZT 1260AM is seeking a Sales Assistant to work with sales group. Application must have excellent computer skills, detail oriented and able to work in a fast paced environment. Excellent computers skills in a Windows environment with working knowledge of Excel, Power point and Microsoft Word. Salary commensurate with experience. EOE (Equal Opportunity Employer). No phone calls, please. Please send COVER LETTER and RESUME via email or fax to: ATTN: KANE BISCAYA, MOUNT WILSON FM BROADCASTERS INC., 1500 COTNER AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90025 FAX: (310)445-1439 EMAIL:KBISCAYA@MOUNTWILSONINC.COM (SUBJ LINE:"SALES ASSISTANT") SUBMITTED:09/06 EOE DEADLINE:10/06/07

ADVERTISING SALES: Sales Rep for Travel, Lifestyle magazine. Must show previous sales success. Contact: Michael@flyingadventures.com

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Immediate openings in beautiful Malibu gated communities Guard Card apply at www.lantzsecurity.com or call (818) 871-0193

CO-OPPORTUNITY NOW HIRING! Produce, Grocery, Community Deli and Maintenance Assistants
Go to www.coopportunity.com for more info or stop by the store at 1525 Broadway for an application.

COUNTER HELP/BAKERS needed! Newly opened Grateful Bread Bakery, on Montana Avenue & 15th Street in Santa Monica. Immediate part time & full time openings. Apply in person or call Ty at the bakery (310)394-7178. www.gratefulbread.org. gratefulbread2@gmail.com

Employment

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



DISPATCHERS NEEDED. Minimum of Driving required. Towing company is hiring dispatchers with previous experience. Be familiar with SM area. Please contact 2200 Centinela, WLA crossing st. Olympic (310)923-8888

F/T MEDICAL Assistant/Front office position in nice Pediatric Cardiology office. Benefits available. Salary DOE. fax resume 626.583.2524 attn: C. Hayes

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

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

GIVE OF YOURSELF volunteers wanted at the discovery shop. Help us contribute to the American cancer society by spending 4 hours per week assisting in our resale shop in Santa Monica. Contact Terry or Shaunna at (310)458-4490

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

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

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

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

PART TIME mail sorter/cashier wanted for busy Santa Monica mailbox store. Pleasant environment + competitive pay. No exp nec. Apply 2118 Wilshire Bl, Santa Monica. (310)-8645

RETAIL SALES, jr. trendy clothing store in Santa Monica looking for sales associates and stroe mgt. personnel. Call 310-638-9931 or fax (310)638-9938

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

For Sale

SPA/HOT TUB 2007 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5950, sell for \$1950 (310) 479-3054

Pets

DOBERMAN PUPPIES ckc with akc champ lines. \$450-\$800. Great temperament. 5 females, 4 males. 661-713-0290

GOLDEN DOODLE pups f1. 7 weeks old. Available Aug. 25. \$1050. Current vaccinations. Due-clawed, de- wormed and parent-on-site. (661)588-1448

PUREBRED GOLDEN retriever pups. 6 males, 5 females. Born 8/15/07. \$600. Only 11 left! (310)396-5475

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1BDRM/1BATH \$950. North Inglewood.. No pets. Non-smokers, near 405 Available now. Utilities included, hardwood floors. (310)671-2507

BRENTWOOD \$900+
Studio/1Ba, no pets, ref pool, quiet, utilities \$900/MO
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1bd/Ba; pool Laundry balcony, ref stove, PKG \$1295/MO
We have others From \$650.00 310-276-0881 www.apartmenthunterz.com

BRENTWOOD \$900+
Studio/1Ba, no pets, ref pool, quiet, , balcony, carpets, parking \$1300/MO
2bd /1Ba spac. lower unit, carpet. stove, D/W. F/P PKG \$1695/MO
We have others From \$650.00 310-276-0881 www.apartmenthunterz.com

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PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205, \$1175. upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, on-site laundry, wall AC, ceiling fan, garage parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwpproperties.com

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HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP (310) 869-7901

11206 st. unit 5 2bdrm/1bath \$2300
1234 11th st. 1bdrm \$1995/mo
931 Euclid #202 2bdrm/2.5ba \$2500

PLEASE Visit our website for complete listings at:
www.howardmanagement.com

MARINA DEL Rey \$1000+
Studio/1Ba, Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym Pool, \$1250/Mo
1BD/BA Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym, Pool, Cat ok \$1350 /MO
2bd/2Ba Carpet, Fan, F/P, D/W, Gym, Pool, Cat ok \$11850/Mo
We have others From \$650.00 310-276-0881 www.apartmenthunterz.com

SANTA MONICA \$800+
Studio Lower, Bright, Carpet, ref, stove, kit, No Smoke \$800/MO
Studio 1/Ba; No pet, balcony, carpets, parking \$950/MO
1bd/Ba upper, no pets, ref stove, new paint SMC, PKG \$1100/MO
We have others From \$650.00 310-276-0881 www.apartmenthunterz.com

SANTA MONICA Condo. 1301 Franklin unit 11. 2+1 stove, fridge, microwave, tile floors, dish washer hardwood floors. Laundry. Intercom entry. Gated, shared garage parking. No pets. \$2350 (310)578-7512 jkwpproperties.com

VENICE \$900+
Studio/1 Ba, view, No Pkg, LDY, Stove , HDWD \$950/Mo
1BD/BA Sunny upper unit, 1 block from the beach \$1045/MO
2bd/2Ba CRTYRD, laundry, Stve, bal, carpets, F/P \$1900/Mo
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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BARBARA J. DANKS CASE NO. LP012896

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by INGRID BIRMINGHAM in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that INGRID BIRMINGHAM be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for exami-

Notices

nation in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 10/04/07 at 9:00AM in Dept. A located at 6230 SYLMAR AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CA 91405 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

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

Attorney for Petitioner
 David T. Pisarra, Esq.
 Pisarra & Grist
 1305 Pico Blvd
 Santa Monica, CA 90405

PUB.Dates:
 9/7/2007, 9/8/2007, 9/14/2007
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD NORMAN MILLER CASE NO. BP105908

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by NICOLE BARTH KANE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that NICOLE BARTH KANE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 10/10/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided

Notices

in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

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

Attorney for Petitioner
 PASSMAN, SANFORD M.
 6303 WILSHIRE BLVD., #207
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90048
 LARRY LARSON
 6303 WILSHIRE BLVD., #201
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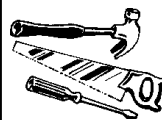
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