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THE REAL DEAL

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2008

Volume 7 Issue 276

BEVERLY 90210 HILLS

Santa Monica Daily Press

THEY'RE BACK!
SEE PAGE 5

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE JUST FOR KICKS ISSUE

Resident charged in drug ring

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN A two-year investigation into drug trafficking between Canada and the United States, dubbed Operation Candystore, ended Tuesday with seven arrests and brings to 18 the number of defendants named in two indictments, officials said.

The seven arrested, including Santa Monica resident Michelle Enck, 39, are allegedly linked to a bi-national drug-trafficking ring that imported Ecstasy and marijuana from Canada to the United States and sent cocaine north of the border, said Thom Mrozek of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The organization was allegedly overseen in the United States by Jason I. Ming Wei, a Canadian national charged in the main indictment that levels eight charges against 17 defendants, Mrozek said.

Another suspect, Nathanael Garrard Lineham of Newport Beach, is accused of running a company called Data Locking and used and distributed encrypted Blackberries to facilitate drug trafficking. Lineham and Enck are believed to be boyfriend and girlfriend.

Enck was named in both indictments and faces charges of conspiracy to distribute Ecstasy and money laundering, along with Lineham.

During the investigation, authorities seized money and narcotics, including one 60-kilogram shipment of cocaine and another 35-kilogram shipment.

Mrozek said the arrests were made possible in part by work done by the Santa Monica Police Department's narcotics unit.

Officers with the SMPD, along with officers with U.S. Immigration and Customs

SEE ARRESTS PAGE 12



TAKING A SHOT

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Jaymee Morales (left), of Bakersfield College, plays the soccer ball into the air following a rebound as goalkeeper Sarah McElroy (right), of Santa Monica College, comes out to make a save at the Airport Park soccer field on Tuesday. The final score was 1-0 in favor of Bakersfield. It was the Corsairs' first loss of the season, putting their record at 4-1-3.

Supporting hungry kids at the charge of a card

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD A locally-based humanitarian aid organization is crossing its fingers that its project to treat thousands of malnourished children around the world will receive enough support from credit card holders to come out on top this month.

The International Medical Corps. (IMC), which is headquartered in Santa Monica, is sponsoring one of five projects named as finalists for the American Express Members Project on Tuesday. The project, which was originally conceived by New York City banker Paige Strackman, proposes to give starving children necessary nutrients through ready-to-use food, which in this case would be a product called "Plumpy Nut," a high-protein, peanut-based paste. The origins for the project could be traced to the summer when Strackman learned from a friend in Haiti the difficulties she had with her children feeding program.

"Due to the lack of resources, she sometimes has to choose who to feed," Strackman said. "I thought, 'I have to do something.'"

The mother of three children opened a lemonade stand and made roughly $250, which she used to ship about a 100 pounds of beans to Haiti. It was during that time when another friend alerted her to a news documentary that highlighted a product that was ready-to-eat and didn't require water or refrigeration.

Restricted from a lack of personal resources, Strackman decided to submit a project with the American Express Members Project, pledging to use the money to purchase Plumpy Nut for malnourished children all over the world.



Photo courtesy of Julie Pudlowski

A BITE OUT OF HUNGER: **Faran, 18 months, enjoys a serving of "Plumpy Nut," a high-protein, peanut-based paste that is ready to eat.**

More than 1,190 projects were submitted to the American Express Members Project, which seeks to raise social awareness by giving the average individual the opportunity to make a change. The long list of submissions was narrowed down to the top 25, which was later filtered down by voting card members to the final five.

"It's exhilarating because you feel like your project is going to be matched with the

SEE PROJECT PAGE 12



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WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Moon jellies galore
1600 Ocean Front Walk, 2 p.m. — 5 p.m.
The public will get its first look at the new moon jelly exhibit at Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium reopening today. The 180-gallon tank is the centerpiece of the marine education center's Pollution Corner, a newly remodeled section of the aquarium with interactive, 3-D features and a mural depicting the Santa Monica Bay illustrating human impact on the environment. The celebration kicks off the aquarium's winter hours, which are Tuesday through Friday, 2 p.m. — 5 p.m. and weekends from 12:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Get lost in thought
1008 11th St., Noon — 1 p.m.
Stressed out at work? Then take an hour to revitalize by walking and meditating at the First United Methodist Church's new permanent labyrinth in Simkins Hall. The labyrinth is open every Wednesday until Sept. 10, 2008. For more information contact Mary Garbesi at (310) 393-8258, ext. 106 or via e-mail at mary.garbesi@santamonicaumc.org.

Heal your body
1844 Lincoln Blvd., 6 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Come for free energy Pranic Healing for asthma, arthritis, cancer, addictions, depression, and phobias with Master Choa Kok Sui at the Kathmandu Boutique. The no-touch, painless, and effective healing art helps the body to repair itself. This healing treatment is offered as a service to the community, and all are welcome with no appointments necessary. For more information, call (310) 396-4036.

Cooking with cancer
2201 Wilshire Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Professionally trained chef and cancer survivor Elisa Hunziker specializes in anti-cancer cooking and will share her personal challenges and the solutions she discovered during her own journey. She will share ways you can customize your recipes based upon your individual food preferences and cooking skills. RSVP to caroline.capizzano@wholefoods.com. The free class is inside Whole Foods Market.

Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008

What's new this week
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
Join us for a free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories, at home and abroad — politics, the economy, society, and culture. Discussion moderator Jack Nordhaus is a former college history professor. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Pole position
1334 Lincoln Blvd., TBA
Learn how to entice that special someone while burning calories and boosting your self esteem during pole/lap dancing classes at Isabelle's Dance Academy. Classes are for ladies only. Private lessons are available as are those involving groups or couples. For more information, call (310) 392-3493, or go to www.isabellesalsa.com.

Free screening of 'The Secret — Extended Version'
1526 14th St. Suite 102, 7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Come see the newest high-definition, surround sound theater in Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Jaycees will host a free, one-time only special screening of "The Secret — Extended Version." Seating is given to the first 28 people who register in advance. Register by contacting Ho Nguyen at (310) 428 - 2134 or visit www.smjaycees.org.

Introduction to oriental medicine
1807 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 200, Weekdays through Dec. 21
Want to learn more about oriental medicine, but not sure about committing to a four-year program yet? Learn more about the ancient medicine through the opening series of introductory courses at Emperor's College. The courses are fully transferable into a masters degree program. For schedule details visit www.emperors.edu or call (310) 453-8300 ext. 127, or e-mail admissions@emperors.edu.

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.



HANGING' 10

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Judah Hogan, 9, virtual skis on a snowboard at Virginia Avenue Park on Saturday, during the third annual Pico Art Walk. The event featured food, live music and a number of vendors.

PTA endorses tax measures

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

ELECTION2008

DOWNTOWN A $295 million bond measure for Santa Monica College and an update to the Utility Users Tax continue to rack up support from the education community.

The two ballot measures — the latter of which has been advertised as having financial consequences for schools if it fails — earned moral backing from the Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs last week, the latest in a series of endorsements from political organizations and educational advocates.

The local chapter of the Parent Teacher Association took action on three measures which it believed could have some impact on public education, including Proposition T, which would limit commercial development to 75,000 square feet a year, Proposition SM, which would modernize the telecommunications portion of the UUT, and Proposition AA, which would fund various capital projects on the college campus.

The PTA ultimately decided not to take a position on Prop. T, ruling there is an insufficient link between the measure and future funding to the public school district. Opponents have argued the initiative could jeopardize the amount of money the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District would receive from City Hall under the Master Facility Use Agreement in which the two entities exchange access to school facilities for unrestricted revenue.

That money could be harmed because of the impact the measure would have in developers fees and business taxes, according to those against the proposition.

"We found that it was nebulous enough with one side saying there will be more of a dramatic financial impact than the other," Colleen O'Beirne Brydon, the co-chair of the PTA's Legislation Committee, said. "But a lot of the unbiased analyses of the issue was not coming out and saying there was significant and definitive fiscal effects."

The decision didn't come as a surprise to the measure's supporters who pointed out that the proposition is about fighting traffic, not hurting the schools.

"Parents, teachers, seniors, renters and homeowners throughout the city support Prop. T because the City Council has failed to put any limits on commercial development," Diana Gordon, the co-chair of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, said. "The result? Gridlock on our streets and no end in sight."

The coalition authored the measure.

The PTA's Legislation Committee, which consists of about 20 members, filtered down the long list of local, county and state measures to a small group of issues that pertained directly to public education. The group then made a recommendation to the full PTA organization, which made its decisions on Sept. 24.

The endorsements for the two measures didn't come as a surprise as many educational advocates have spoken in support of the two measures in recent weeks, arguing the need to maintain a competitive college cam-

SEE **PTA** PAGE 10

Deasy accepts position with Gates Foundation

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN Former Santa Monica-Malibu Superintendent John Deasy on Tuesday was named the deputy director of education for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, officials with the nonprofit said.

Deasy, who left the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in 2006, is currently superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools in Maryland, where he has earned a national reputation for his leadership in significantly narrowing the achievement gap between low-income and minority students and their peers.

"John put a strong plan in place and gained the trust of teachers, parents and the community, producing real results for all students," said Vicki L. Phillips, director of the foundation's education division. "Today, when nearly half of African-American and Hispanic students fail to graduate high

SEE **DEASY** PAGE 11

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

On guard

Editor:

A few days ago, while on a walk, a friend's dog was attacked by a pit bull. Her dog may not make it. It happened near Second Street and Idaho Avenue. The pit bull is owned by a homeless man and it was not on a leash.

She reported the incident, but was told nothing could be done, though I think the police and animal control could keep a lookout for this dangerous dog.

Please spread the word and advise everyone with dogs to walk with a can of pepper spray until this dog is taken off the streets.

Caroline Jacobs
Santa Monica

Saying no to the bailout

Editor:

The subprime loan crisis is perhaps the largest scam perpetuated against the American taxpayer. Anyone, and I mean anyone, who is knowledgeable about the loan business knew that some day this scheme would collapse.

Because the lobbyist were hard at work making their usual donations to continue this fraud on the American taxpayer and the executives of those involved in this scheme were making more money than they ever imagined, the fraud continued for longer than it should have.

The most likely outcome will be the taxpayers bailing out these companies by purchasing their bad loans and the government immediately selling these assets in multi-million dollar portfolios at huge discounts to the very wealthy, sticking the taxpayers with the losses. It is hard to believe our government is debating whether or not these executives who caused this fraud should get bonuses and golden parachutes upon taxpayer bailouts.

If our government had any guts at all, they would confiscate the billions of dollars in assets of those executives involved in this trillion dollar scam perpetuated on the American taxpayers.

Fred Alexander
Santa Monica

Pier needs some work

Editor:

My husband and I are former residents of Santa Monica and expect to move back there in the future. We are excited about the new shops, new apartments under construction and the new design of Santa Monica Place. However, it saddens us that the Santa Monica Pier is so much less than it could be. Even a chain store like Bubba Gump [Shrimp Co.] is an improvement, but more restaurants to fit every budget are needed.

Most importantly, the venue for video games should be removed. We think it's safe to say that the majority of Santa Monica residents do not avail themselves of these games; nor do most tourists. It adds nothing to this beautiful seaside atmosphere and is only a detriment.

To model this pier after some of California's other lovely piers and to provide additional parking would add greatly to the revitalization of this important city.

Roger and Sunny Collins
Palm Desert

Development costing too much

Editor:

Who said there's no such thing as a free lunch? Apparently the city has been serving it up for developers to the tune of $45 million. What? Like they have to entice developers to come to Santa Monica? How many police officers could we hire for $45 million? How many computers could be purchased for schools? Once again, the city cheats the residents of Santa Monica in favor of developers. Overdevelopment is costing residents dearly in time trapped in traffic and now, we learn, in $45 million in [alleged] uncollected fees.

Jeanne Laurie
Santa Monica



Going Postal

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

Beef, it's what should be made for supper

"Eat healthy, get plenty of sleep, workout regularly ... die anyway"
— Mario Veneroso, fitness guru and drinking buddy

THE NIRVANA OF PHYSICAL FITNESS culture co-exists within the "Twilight Zone" of the binge-and-purge dystopian nightmare of Dunkin' Donuts to the late night chili-cheese fries runs to Tommy's Joint on Pico. Many folks, however, apoplectically approach their bathroom scale in a fashion more reminiscent of a death row inmate walking the gastronomic "Green Mile" after their last meal.

I was working out at Finn McCool's the other day doing "rep-curls" with a frothy 16 oz. Guinness in my left hand when an exercise infomercial hit the Sony Jumbo-tron. It extolled the relative virtues of the latest fitness torture device that "absolutely guaranteed" upon its purchase, it would transform one's gelatinous jiggles into a paragon of Matthew McConnaghey's bongo-boy, hard-bodied frame. The complimentary bongo drums were yours to keep, however, if you weren't fully satisfied with your purchase.

I switched my Guinness to the other hand as I like to balance my "workouts" and reminisced about other past exercise cycle/treadmill/gizmos that have polluted the airwaves with celebrity endorsements yet have invariably serviced more as an expensive excuse from which to hang one's dry cleaning.

Anybody remember the "Thigh Master?" I only bought one because I thought that Suzanne Somers was included with the darn thing. Imagine my chagrin when I realized it didn't even come with a blow-up model in the box.

Caveat emptor!

Wesley "Blade" Snipes and Chuck "Walker" Norris hooked me into buying that damnable "Gym-Pak" contraption. I was strangling myself with the cables about five minutes after I got it out of the crate. I bought a RONCO "Pocket Fisherman." The doctors said I'd be fine as soon as they unhooked me.

Nutrition is another peg on the three-legged-stool of alleged good health. One is considered beneath contempt if all foodstuffs consumed in the exclusive temple of your Apollonian meat-suit lack the label of "organic." Recently, the PETA people issued a manifesto that Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream should be made from human milk. Sorry, but that's a little too "organic" for my taste. It should be interesting, however, to see what the dairy farm looks like. Vegetarian Pamela Anderson has volunteered for the project. I wonder if it will be on pay-per-view.

I have yet to meet a vegetarian, though, that did not look like he/she could use a good steak. It is my understanding, however, that the etymological roots of the word "vegetarian" means "crappy hunter."

Insofar as getting adequate sleep; I'll get plenty of "sleep" when I'm dead.

Don't get me wrong. I've been labeled as a "jock" ever since I began wearing one when I played Little League. I still go down to the "Cage" on Venice Beach and pound the iron three or four times a week, run through some old martial arts routines and get plenty of walking in the sun working my day job. I weigh in at a burly 205 pounds yet have been mistaken for a 35-year-old even though I'm over 50.

I HAVE YET TO MEET A VEGETARIAN, THOUGH, THAT DID NOT LOOK LIKE HE/SHE COULD USE A GOOD STEAK. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, THAT THE ETYMOLOGICAL ROOTS OF THE WORD 'VEGETARIAN' MEANS 'CRAPPY HUNTER.'

I'll eat anything [some of my ancestors were survivors of the Donner Party] whether it grows in the ground or runs on top of it. I'll try anything once and sometimes twice in case I was wrong the first time. I'm an inveterate connoisseur of the "perfect chili-cheese dog" yet I am a very fussy hussy when it comes to Japanese Kansai cuisine. I have roasted my own wood grubs [found under rotted logs] yet I can prepare spectacular Wild Turkey bourbon French toast with fresh raspberry/jalapeno chutney.

All food is good. Go ask the Romans.

I smoke and I drink (insert screams of politically correct horror here). I drink, but as I'm half Irish, I only drink half of the time. I smoke. You drive a car. My carbon footprint is insignificant compared to yours.

My 145 lb. Filipino grandfather dangled a Camel non-filter from his chops, non-stop, while wrestling 50-gallon drums of slop from the back of his '34 Ford pick-up truck to feed his beloved pigs on his farm until he passed at 84. I could bench press the old geezer but I could never beat him in arm wrestling.

He was skinny, but he was tough.

Personally, I believe that a certain joie de vivre, a lively "gallows humor," to the pitfalls and pratfalls toward our concerns is the most important dynamic in the epistemology of human longevity regardless of the horror show that the media may foist upon your unsuspecting midsection.

Folks, it's not as bad as you have been led to believe. Be a predator, not a sheep. You'll get thinner in the process.

STEVE BREEN is a conservative, meat eating carnivore and still "the best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

TV's big 9021-no

I SHOULDN'T CARE. THAT'S WHAT I KEEP telling myself. But having been with them for almost 10 years, I'm personally invested in their future. They left me eight years back in 2000 (one of them left me six years earlier), but I stayed loyal. Somehow, I knew they'd both be back.

And I was right. But the joy that came with the reunion of myself, Kelly Taylor, and Brenda Walsh was so short-lived that it almost wasn't worth it. Almost.

I know what you're thinking, "90210 doesn't seem like your kind of show, Kenny." That's not far from the truth. It isn't my kind of show.

I like to handicap the number of good speaking black parts on any given TV show or movie and, notwithstanding productions by the Wayans and Tyler Perry, the number is usually between 1.5 and 2.5—- and the under is almost always a safe bet.

If it had premiered this season, the new "90210" would join "Gossip Girl" and "Smallville" and everything else the CW broadcasts on my permanent ignore list. And please don't e-mail me to point out that "America's Next Top Model" features a black host because, I'm sorry, models are not supposed to talk. For proof, check out Cindy Crawford in "Fair Game."

But it didn't premier this season. It premiered in 1990 when I was doing a two-year bid in a small suburb of Albany, NY just trying to fit in with my new friends at Shenendehowa Central High School.

On some level, I identified with Brandon and Brenda Walsh as they tried to fit in with their new friends at West Beverly High (I identified with Brandon, I just wanted to have sex with Brenda).

I don't remember any good speaking black parts on the original show, but I suppressed my inner Chuck D just long enough to get hooked.

Imagine my happiness when the show not only returned, but they had trimmed the fat off the old cast (that's not a shot at Tiffani-Amber Thiessen, who, I'm sure, will be hot again some day).

Jason Priestly and Luke Perry haven't aged well enough, Tori Spelling is going to keep doing her reality show because her dad isn't signing the checks, and Brian Austin Green is going to keep doing Megan Fox as long as she lets him.

But Jenny Garth and Shannen Doherty were coming back. Kelly and Brenda back together again for the first time in 14 years? Be still my beating heart.

Then I read the fine print. Kelly Taylor was only signed on for 11 episodes, Brenda Walsh for four. I literally did a double take. Four episodes out of a 22-episode season? That's barely 20 percent.

How can the triumphant return of Brenda Walsh to the world's most famous zip code only merit four shows? She's been gone for almost a decade-and-a-half. It will take at least two shows to get caught up on where she's been, what she's been up to, and how she's going to patch things up with Kelly. Then, of course, we'll need some Brenda stories. Four episodes just isn't going to cut it.

I figured it was just part of the negotiation. Shannen was saying she couldn't commit to more than four shows because she's in the process of pitching another project (which is code for "screw you, pay me").

So the network would focus group the first couple of shows, check the ratings, and see if they should make an investment. Apparently, they've decided it's not worth it. So I'm preparing myself for the idea that last night's episode was the last time I'll ever see Brenda Walsh. Four episodes. It's not a lot, but I guess it will have to be enough and I'll have to be grateful.

As far as the new show is concerned, I'm not sure if I'll be there for the rest of the way. It was hard enough to buy a teenager who lived alone in his own beach house and drove a vintage Porsche Spyder to school, much less one who drives a Bentley convertible and has access to a private jet. And to be totally honest, Annie and Naomi are no Brenda and Kelly.

But there were two minutes that made it all worth it for me when I saw two things I never let myself believe I would see. It started at four hours and fifty minutes into the season with Brenda and Kelly walking through the halls of West Beverly High looking all grown up and MILFy and ended with Kelly's little sister, Silver, planting a kiss on the new Brandon, who is black. That's progress.

If I never see Brenda again, at least I'll know exactly when the new 90210 jumped the shark.

KENNY MACK is a writer, comedian, and social commentator living in Santa Monica who hopes Hollywood doesn't forget about the top end of the 18-49 demographic. He can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com

The Q Line

Popping questions

Some residents are concerned about development. Others are irked by homelessness. And seemingly everybody wants to know what can be done to ease traffic. The Daily Press is hosting a candidate's forum on Oct. 22 at the Main Library featuring both City Council and school board candidates. At the forum, dubbed Squirm Night, these topics will be discussed, among others.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What questions would you ask the candidates and why?

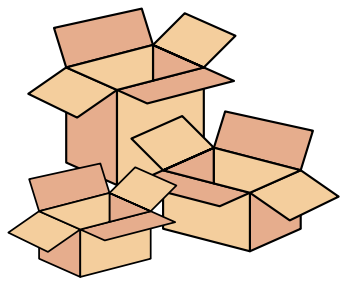
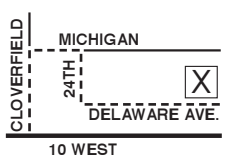
Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.

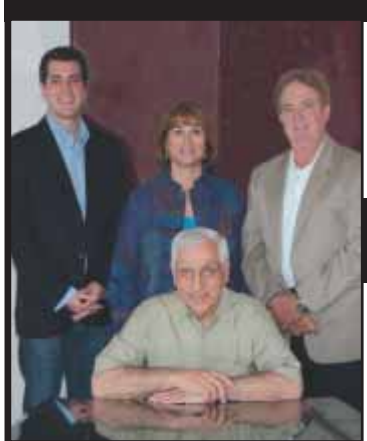
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East L.A. wants to be its own city

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES East L.A. — birthplace of the lowrider, Los Lobos and Oscar de la Hoya — is to Mexican-Americans what Harlem is to the black community.

Now it wants to become its own city.

Commonly mistaken for a part of Los Angeles, East L.A. is actually an unincorporated section of Los Angeles County, with more than 130,000 people — 96 percent of them Latino — packed into 7.4 square miles.

Cityhood proponents complain that East L.A. is treated as an afterthought by the county Board of Supervisors, and they want the community to take charge of its own destiny.

"We're a nationally branded area," said Diana Tarango, vice president of the East Los Angeles Residents Association, the prime backer of the effort. "We should be making our own decisions about planting trees on the street or putting up light poles."

While outsiders often see the area as gang-plagued and poverty-ridden, East L.A. possesses cultural and political symbolism for Mexican-Americans.

Fernando Guerra, director of the Center for the Study of Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University, pronounced East L.A. "the epicenter of Latino culture."

For decades, East L.A. has been a first stop for immigrants just over the border, though these days there are nearly as many Salvadoran pupuserias selling filled tortilla patties as Mexican taquerias selling tacos.

Neighborhoods seem plucked straight from Latin American villages: a backyard rooster can be heard crowing, or a man peddles the rice-based drink horchata from a shopping cart. Brilliantly colored murals of the Virgin of Guadalupe and Aztec chieftains decorate walls of housing projects and corner grocery stores.

In the 1960s and '70s, the community was the focus of the burgeoning Chicano civil-rights movement.

In 1970, police and thousands of Chicano anti-Vietnam war protesters battled in the street, and Los Angeles Times columnist Ruben Salazar was killed in the melee. A park in East L.A. is named for him. A boulevard nearby carries the name of Cesar Chavez, the migrant farmworker leader.

East L.A. is a fusion of cultures north and south of the border. Spanish is the predominant language, but it is a hybrid version, Spanglish, punctuated with Hispanicized English words: "breka" for break, "marqueta" for market, "cora" for quarter.

While nortena music booms from downtown stores, East L.A. has also produced artists such as Los Lobos, who have combined Mexican oompah sounds with American rock rhythms. Lowriders, often with customized Chicano-theme paint jobs, cruise the streets.

Among the community's famous sons are boxer De La Hoya and actor Edward James Olmos. Olmos came full circle when he starred in the 1988 movie "Stand and Deliver" as the real-life East L.A. teacher Jaime Escalante, who turned barrio kids into calculus champs.

Proponents of cityhood hope to draw on that cultural pride. The bid marks East L.A.'s fourth attempt at incorporation since 1961; the last one was in 1974. Tarango and others say the movement failed because of political infighting.

> **"WE'RE A NATIONALLY BRANDED AREA. WE SHOULD BE MAKING OUR OWN DECISIONS ABOUT PLANTING TREES ON THE STREET OR PUTTING UP LIGHT POLES."**
>
> Diana Tarango
> Vice president of the East Los Angeles Residents Association

Rep. Grace Napolitano, D-Calif., who supports cityhood, said she is encouraged this time because residents are well-organized and informed.

"It has a great chance of passing," said the congresswoman, whose district includes East L.A. "But they will need to allay fears that incorporation will mean an increase in property taxes."

Voters probably won't get their say on cityhood for two years while the issue wends its way through the bureaucratic and political process.

The residents association must first submit a petition by December asking a county commission to conduct a study on whether a city of East L.A. would have an adequate tax base. So far, organizers have collected about half the 10,000 signatures needed, said Oscar Gonzales Jr., association president.

Gonzales said he expects the study will be favorable — a similar report ordered up by the residents association found the city would generate $51 million in revenue, well above an expected budget of $45 million.

If the bid for cityhood passes muster with the study commission and the county supervisors, the question will be put to the voters of East L.A. The supervisors are not taking a position until they see the study.

Some East L.A. residents fear cityhood will cost them more. They worry, for example, that mom-and-pop stores that now manage to operate without business licenses might be forced to obtain them.

"I think it's good as it is," said Jacob Salazar, owner of a sporting good store. "I don't see any reason to change it."

But supporters say a city council would be more responsive than the county supervisors.

Auto dealer Louis Herrera said local officials would be more motivated to attract businesses like the Starbucks that opened last year. That would boost the downtown shopping district, which is dotted with 99-cent stores, dusty windowfronts filled with gowns for first communions and "quinceaneras," or Latin sweet-16 parties, and signs advertising Western Union money transfers to Mexico.

"The county is huge. Each supervisor has 2.1 million people," said Herrera, who also heads the East Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. "We're sort of like a lost child."



Market Matters

Brian Hepp

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Consolidating accounts can make living easier

JUGGLING ALL THE IMPORTANT responsibilities in your life, it's easy for things to get complicated in a hurry. Even with all the advances in technology that were supposed to make things simpler, some days it seems like there are too many demands on your time. With so many things competing for your attention, you probably welcome any opportunity to simplify things wherever you can. While there are many areas you could choose to work on, one good place to start may be your family's finances.

Like many people, you may have your money spread out at a number of different financial institutions. Typically, you won't gain much by spreading your assets this way, and in fact it may be making your life more difficult than it needs to be. To help restore a little order, think about minimizing the number of accounts you have at various institutions.

Consolidating your accounts can provide numerous benefits. For starters, there's the obvious benefit of only having one account to keep track of. And at the end of the year, filing your 1040 could be a lot easier because you'll have fewer tax forms to contend with. But these advantages are just the beginning. Consolidating into an asset management account — an option offered by most large financial services firms — gives you access to several features that are convenient and timesaving.

Depending on the institution, account features and fees may vary. But the basic goal of asset management accounts is the same: to help simplify the management of your investments. With the majority of your assets all in one place, it will be much easier for you and your financial consultant to see the big picture of your finances. That view will help considerably as you work to find the most appropriate asset allocation strategy to suit your financial situation.

If you've had your assets spread out among several different financial firms, you may be under the impression that this arrangement helps diversify your holdings. Unfortunately, however, it's not the number of accounts you have that determines your level of diversification. For example, let's say you hold 1,000 shares of a certain stock, and this represents a large portion of your portfolio. It wouldn't matter if you held that position at one institution or with 10 different investment firms; it still constitutes the same proportion of your overall investment mix. Consolidating to one account could actually help identify potential challenges or opportunities, and you could quickly see if your investments are well diversified.

By consolidating your assets, you may be worried that you'll be missing out on the different perspectives and opinions you receive from the multiple firms you currently associate with.

The truth is, however, working with a large financial services firm will still give you access to the opinions and investment advice of a diverse group of its economists and strategists, who work together to decide how to inform and educate clients.

You might also be concerned that consolidating your assets will require you to give up some control over your portfolio. In reality, you can actually decide just how involved you want to be with the decisions made on your account. Working together with your financial advisor, you can choose to participate in the investment decisions, you can delegate that responsibility to the advisor, or you can even explore the options of working with outside money managers.

Given how complicated life has become, it's never a bad idea to take advantage of opportunities to eliminate unnecessary complications. Consolidating your investments is a great place to start.

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

REAL ESTATE

Home prices post 16 percent annual drop in July

BY J.W. ELPHINSTONE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK A closely watched index released Tuesday showed home prices tumbling by the sharpest annual rate ever in July, and though the monthly rate of decline is slowing, there is no turnaround in sight.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing index fell a record 16.3 percent in July from the year-ago month, the largest drop since its inception in 2000. The 10-city index plunged 17.5 percent, its biggest decline in its 21-year history.

Prices in the 20-city index have plummeted nearly 20 percent since peaking in July 2006. The 10-city index has fallen more than 21 percent since its peak in June 2006.

No city in the Case-Shiller 20-city index saw annual price gains in July — for the fourth straight month. However, the pace of monthly declines is slowing, a possible silver lining. Between May and July, for example, home prices fell at a cumulative rate of 2.2 percent — less than half the cumulative rate experienced between February and April.

But there's "no evidence of a bottom," said David M. Blitzer, chairman of the index committee at S&P. Las Vegas prices plunged the most at nearly 30 percent, with Phoenix diving 29 percent and Miami, 28 percent. Prices in the seven cities in the Sunbelt all fell between 20 percent and 30 percent from a year ago.

Only seven cities showed positive or flat returns from June to July, down from nine that showed month-over-month gains in June. Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Denver and Minneapolis all posted positive returns for three months or more.

Though the Case-Shiller is a widely watched gauge of market conditions, the index lags other key housing indicators. August data on new and existing home prices and sales showed the real estate recession is still in full swing.

Last week, the National Association of Realtors said the median sales price of an existing home fell 9.5 percent to $203,100 last month, the largest annual price decline on records dating to 1999.

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Cuando:
Jueves, 16 de Octubure, 2008, 7-9 pm

Donde:
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Que:
Hacia los fines del 2006, la Ciudad de Santa Monica inició un proyecto para mejorar el diseño urbano de las calles 20th Street y Cloverfield Boulevard entre la vía hacia el este (la porción sur) del Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) y Pico Boulevard. Durante este taller, habrán representantes de la municipalidad que presentarán el concepto del diseño de las calles desarrollado por la municipalidad junto con recomendaciones del Concejo Municipal y de la comunidad (por medio de talleres previos).

For more information, please call Eugenia Chusid, Project Manager at **310-434-2618**
Para información en español, llame a Margaret Talamantes al **310.458.8721**

ECONOMY

Bailout revival sought; better deposit safety seen

BY CHARLES BABINGTON
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Congressional leaders, President Bush and the two rivals to succeed him rummaged through ideas new and old Tuesday, desperately seeking to change a dozen House members' votes and pass a multibillion-dollar economic rescue plan. At the top of the list: Raise confidence in the banking system by increasing the government's insurance.

In addition, there was talk of making it easier for financial institutions to hold questionable long-term assets, an idea embraced by some of the House Republicans who slapped down the bailout bill and sent stocks tumbling on Monday. Wall Street regained hope on Tuesday, and the Dow Jones industrials rose 485 points, making up a good bit of the ground lost in the 778-point plunge.

Congressional leaders hope the changes under discussion — or a few others that could be in the mix — will be enough to persuade as few as six House Republicans and six Democrats to undo Monday's stunning vote that rejected a proposed $700 billion rescue.

With the Capitol largely quiet because of the Jewish new year, no overall plan appeared to jell just yet.

Some lawmakers suggested the Senate might approve its own version on Wednesday, presumably with a few changes to the failed House bill, and then give the House a new crack at the legislation before the week is out.

Still, the House is where the problems are, and leaders there were scrounging for ideas that might appeal to a few of the 133 Republicans and 95 Democrats who rejected the proposal on Monday.

Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., told reporters, "I'm told a number of people who voted 'no' yesterday are having serious second thoughts about it." He added, however, "There's no game plan that's been decided."

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky said it was time for all lawmakers to "act like grown-ups, if you will, and get this done for all of the people." He predicted a bill would pass this week, although the House, not the Senate, is the focus of the dispute.

The idea drawing the biggest support was to raise the federal deposit insurance limit, now $100,000 per account, to $250,000. Several officials, including presidential nominees John McCain and Barack Obama, endorsed the change.

So did the agency that runs the program.

Within hours of the candidates' separate statements, Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. chairman Sheila Bair asked Congress for temporary authority to raise the limit by an unspecified amount. That could help ease a crisis of confidence in the banking system, Bair said.

She said the overwhelming majority of banks remain sound but an increase in the cap would help ease a crisis of confidence in the banking system as well as encourage banks to begin more lending.

Monday's House vote was a stinging setback to leaders of both parties and to Bush. The administration's proposal, still the heart of the legislation under consideration, would allow the government to buy bad mortgages and other deficient assets held by troubled financial institutions. If successful, advocates of the plan believe, that would help lift a major weight off the already sputtering national economy.

But the proposal ignited furious responses from thousands of Americans, who flooded congressional telephones. The final House vote, 228-205 against the plan. Some lawmakers reported a shift in constituent calls pouring into their offices Tuesday after the record stock market decline.

Bush renewed his efforts, speaking with McCain and Obama and making another statement from the White House. "Congress must act," he declared.

Though stock prices rose, more attention was on credit markets. A key rate that banks charge each other shot higher, further evidence of a tightening of credit availability.

Bush was talking about everyday Americans on Tuesday, not banks or other financial institutions. And no supporters were using the word "bailout."

The president noted that the maximum $700 billion in the proposed bailout was dwarfed by the $1 trillion in lost wealth that resulted from Monday's stock market decline.

"The dramatic drop in the stock market that we saw yesterday will have a direct impact on retirement accounts, pension funds and personal savings of millions of our citizens," Bush said. "And if our nation continues on this course, the economic damage will be painful and lasting."

"I recognize this is a difficult vote for members of Congress," Bush said. "But the reality is we are in an urgent situation and the consequences will grow worse each day if we do not act."

Republicans said the FDIC proposal might attract some conservatives who want to help small business owners and avert runs on banks by customers fearful of losing their savings.

Another possible change to the bill would modify "mark to market" accounting rules. Such rules require banks and other financial institutions to adjust the value of their assets to reflect current market prices, even if they plan to hold the assets for years.

Some House Republicans say current rules forced banks to report huge paper losses on mortgage-backed securities, which might have been avoided.

Liberal Democrats who opposed the bill are suggesting other changes. Their ideas include banning some forms of "short selling," in which investors bet that a stock's value will drop. Republicans showed little interest.

The rescue package was Topic A on the presidential campaign trail.

"The first thing I would do is say, 'Let's not call it a bailout. Let's call it a rescue,'" McCain told CNN. He said, "Americans are frightened right now" and political leaders must give them an immediate solution and a longer-term approach to the problem.



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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A home can be just steps away

I'M A BIG FAN OF "HOW TO" GUIDES. I love it when a guide lays out steps that make sense in real world conditions. Below I offer a quick reference, or "how to guide," for buying your first home.

STEP 1: I WANT A HOME – WHAT DO I DO NOW?

So you have decided it is time to grow up and buy a home. Before you go out and begin looking at places, find out what type of financing you can afford. You have a couple different routes to take.

You can call a mortgage broker and they will collect information from you, present information to several lenders, then present loan options from multiple lenders to you.

Alternatively, you could go to several different banks yourself, speak to loan officers at the banks and pick the best loan for you The latter option involves more legwork, but it also allows you to get a better understanding of loan products. In addition, you usually save money doing the work yourself. However, if time is of the essence and you do not have any time to spare running around to different lenders, go down the mortgage broker route.

STEP 2: I HAVE MY PRE-APPROVAL! NOW WHAT?

Once you have a pre-approval letter, you need to make some decisions. Buying a home involves a lot of variables, many of which we will not cover. However, what you want to figure out is how much space you need, where you want to live and how much money you want to spend. Some issues, such as schools, may be more important to you than space.

You have to figure out what your priorities are and make a list of them. Remember to be flexible on some items. You may find a condominium in a great school district, but it may only have one bathroom, when you wanted two. Remember the small differences, if you buy a house, you will have to maintain the property. If you buy a condo, you will not have to maintain the property yourself, but will have to pay condominium fees, which could lower the overall loan dollars you can borrower from a lender.

STEP 3: SHOW ME MY NEW HOME!

Once you have figured out what you want, you need to find a realtor to help you. You can purchase a home by yourself, but a realtor is a trained professional who helps people just like you purchase homes, day in and day out.

Ask your friends for a reference or drive around the area you want to purchase a home and stop at open houses. Most realtors are local experts on a real estate submarket and are worth talking with. Once you have found a realtor you like they will usually grant you access to the online MLS, which lists properties, for your specific criteria. You can also check out websites such as craigslist.org for listings.

STEP 4: I FOUND MY FUTURE HOME! IT MUST BE MINE!

If you have located the home you want, you want to take a step back and make sure you are not too emotionally vested.

Make sure you purchase a home that meets your criteria and is within your price range.

With that said, it is good to have your mind made up — now you can use the pre-approval letter and have your realtor make an offer on your behalf.

ONCE YOU HAVE FIGURED OUT WHAT YOU WANT, YOU NEED TO FIND A REALTOR TO HELP YOU. YOU CAN PURCHASE A HOME BY YOURSELF, BUT A REALTOR IS A TRAINED PROFESSIONAL WHO HELPS PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU PURCHASE HOMES, DAY IN AND DAY OUT.

It is important when you make an offer to listen to your realtor, but do not do anything that makes you uncomfortable — such as making an offer that is too high for you. Remember, after the novelty of owning a home wears off, you will be stuck making a mortgage payment for the next 15 to 30 years, or until you sell the property.

STEP 5: THEY ACCEPTED MY OFFER!

Your offer has been accepted, now it is time to open escrow with a deposit — usually 1 to 3 percent of the purchase price. You need to go to your mortgage broker or loan officer and begin the financing or loan process.

Getting a loan is a long process, but if you have a solid mortgage broker or loan officer helping you, it can be a pleasant experience.

STEP 6: MY LOAN IS APPROVED. NOW WHAT?

Once your loan is approved you need to take care of last minute details — such as a final walk through and placing the rest of your down payment into escrow.

STEP 7: MY LOAN FUNDED, ESCROW CLOSED ...

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

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City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2269, 2270, and 2271 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries, prepared by the City Attorney, of Ordinance Numbers 2269 (CCS), 2270 (CCS) and 2271 (CCS), which were adopted by the City Council on September 16, 2008.

Ordinance Number 2269 (CCS) deletes Municipal Code Section 4.08.700, which required attribution on all handbills; the ordinance was adopted to comply with First Amendment requirements.

Ordinance Number 2270 (CCS) clarifies municipal code provisions regulating campaign contributions by adding language expressing the Council's intent that contributions to independent committees should be limited to the same extent as other contributions but that this limitation is not meant to violate any individual's First Amendment rights.

Ordinance Number 2271 (CCS) adds a new provision to the Municipal Code that prohibits soliciting while seated on public benches on the Third Street Promenade and Transit Mall in order to ensure that those benches remain available to all members of the public for temporary respite.

These ordinances will become effective thirty days after adoption. Their full text is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica: phone (310) 458-8211.

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■ Prominent Placement of Company/Donor Name and Logo* as a sponsor on event T-Shirt
■ Acknowledgment from the podium during the program
*Based on date of confirmation – must be prior to October 8, 2007

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PTA opts for no position on RIFT

FROM PTA PAGE 3

pus and protect the existing level of revenue City Hall receives under the Utility Users Tax.

Proposition SM would update the telecommunications portion of the UUT, which is assessed on natural gas, cable, water/wastewater and electricity. The language in the local UUT was modeled after the Federal Excise Tax, which has since been repealed.

But a number of cities who drafted the language in their own UUTs in similar fashion have been sued since the Federal Excise Tax was repealed. City Hall said an update is needed to protect itself from litigation, which could result in the loss of $12 million in existing revenue. The money is used for services such as public safety and education.

The measure would expand the areas of telecommunications currently untaxed, such as T-1 Internet service. Those in opposition to the UUT have argued that the measure would open the door for City Hall to tax Internet and satellite television when a federal moratorium is repealed in 2014.

"We determined there would've been more of a significant and immediate effect on school funding if the UUT was not renewed," O'Beirne Brydon said.

> **"WE DETERMINED THERE WOULD'VE BEEN MORE OF A SIGNIFICANT AND IMMEDIATE EFFECT ON SCHOOL FUNDING IF THE UUT WAS NOT RENEWED."**
>
> **Colleen O'Beirne Brydon**
> Legislation Committee co-chair, Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs

The college bond would fund capital projects designed to improve teaching at the aging campus, replacing outdated buildings, many of which date back to the 1950s and were damaged by the Northridge Earthquake.

The average home or condominium owner would shell out $7 a month while renters would pay roughly $1 a month with the cost distributed over both Santa Monica and Malibu.

Some have argued that the proposition could have an impact on the school district's ability to get support for future bond or parcel tax measures. Voters in 2006 approved Measure BB, which brought in $268 million for construction projects to the school district, and Measure R in February, which continues the existing level of revenue received from two parcel taxes.

Rebecca Kennerly, the president of the PTA, said it's important to look at the college and K-12 communities as one.

"All of our students will have access to Santa Monica College both in Santa Monica and Malibu so it has a direct impact on all learners," Kennerly said. "It's short-sighted to say we can't support one institutional organization in our community because it might hurt the other one."

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEF



Photo courtesy Stuart Pettigan

FRESH VOICE: **Gemma Hayes opens for My Bloody Valentine at the Civic Auditorium tonight.**

Rocking the Civic

Haunting melodies, delicate harmonics, and an ethereal voice describe Irish singer/songwriter Gemma Hayes' latest CD, "The Hollow of Morning."

Hayes has grown immensely as an artist and "Hollow" reflects this maturity. The track "In Over My Head" (which begins with the tolling of a bell and birdsong) is a short but sweet tale of how easy it is to lose oneself when in love. "At Constant Speed," in which she gently sings, "I'm beginning to forget you ... I hope that's alright?" depicts the arduous emotional journey one must face when separating from a former lover. You'll find yourself getting lost in the music, which is as it should be.

Hayes will open for My Bloody Valentine at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, Oct. 1 and 2, promoting her CD's release. The shows are sold out, but some general admission tickets are still available.

DAILY PRESS

Deasy moves on to new national post

FROM **DEASY** PAGE 3

school, we're eager to take what he has learned and accomplished in Prince George's County and continue to help students all across the country prepare for college."

Deasy's departure comes shortly after the school board launched an investigation regarding Deasy's doctoral degree from the University of Louisville in Kentucky. It was reported that Deasy was awarded a doctorate of philosophy at the university in 2004, even though he only completed nine credit hours at the school.

The school's dean at the time was Robert Felner, who resigned in June and is currently under investigation for allegedly misappropriating a $649,000 grant. Felner reportedly oversaw Deasy's doctoral dissertation.

Two years before Deasy received the doctorate the SMMUSD awarded a contract to Felner's organization, the National Center on Public Education and Social Policy, to conduct surveys in Deasy's school district for $125,000 per year, according to reports.

In his new position with the foundation, Deasy will focus on promoting policies and practices throughout the country designed to ensure that all students graduate high school with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college. Since 2000, the foundation has invested $2 billion in innovative school models and districts' efforts toward its goal of increasing graduation and college readiness rates. He is expected to begin work at the foundation on Feb. 1, 2009.

"At the heart of the work of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is a fundamental belief that every young person in our country can and should be given the opportunity to reach their full potential," Deasy said. "I've been honored to work with the Prince George's County Board of Education and with extraordinary young people, parents and teachers. I believe that through strong policies, leadership and accountability other districts can see significant achievement gains and more young people succeeding."

As superintendent of Prince Georges County Public Schools, the nation's 18th largest school district, Deasy moved quickly to institute a series of Children Come First initiatives to strengthen teaching and learning beginning in 2006.

The Board of Education set a foundation for equity by developing policies to ensure that district improvements focused on boosting school and district accountability and expanding access to Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses in high schools.

In 2008, the district saw large achievement gains across all grade levels and all major race and ethnic groups, with particularly dramatic gains among English Language Learners, low-income and special education students.

From 2007 to 2008, Prince George's County doubled the number of schools in which 80 percent of students scored proficient or advanced in reading and math on the Maryland state exam.

> **AT THE HEART OF THE WORK OF THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION IS A FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF THAT EVERY YOUNG PERSON IN OUR COUNTRY CAN AND SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.**
>
> John Deasy
> Former Santa Monica-Malibu Superintendent

"For the Prince George's County Board of Education, it is bittersweet to lose an effective superintendent but we see his move to a national level as validation of the tremendous achievements of our school district," said Board Chair Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq. "When elected, this Board recognized the historic inequities in our county's schools and has since codified our commitments in policy to make equitable investments and close gaps in achievement between schools and students.

"We are grateful for the passion and energy that Dr. John Deasy brought to making improvements in teaching and learning for all students regardless of their backgrounds or where they live," Jacobs added. "Our school system is poised to serve as a national model for improvement in large urban systems."

Deasy is also well known for presenting a pilot pay-for-performance plan that was approved by the Board of Education and developed jointly with labor, making the district a leader nationally in efforts to reward its teachers for gains in student achievement. The plan had strong support of the Prince George's County Educators' Association.

Before coming to SMMUSD, Deasy served as superintendent of Coventry Public Schools in Rhode Island. In all three districts, he championed fair teacher and administrator evaluations, pay-for-performance, staff development and training, and data-based decision-making.

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Work of SMPD led to arrests

FROM **ARRESTS** PAGE 1

Enforcement, in July arrested Alexandru Sabau, 37, for allegedly smuggling Ecstasy into the U.S. from Canada and exchanging it for caches of cocaine. The arrest was the result of a three-month joint undercover probe between SMPD and ICE.

SMPD officers started by arresting low-level dealers and then worked their way up the food chain to major supplies.

Sabau was arrested near his Newport Beach apartment after he arrived for a roadside meeting with an informant to finalize a deal to trade approximately 100,000 Ecstasy tablets for 25 kilograms of cocaine, authorities said. When Sabau flashed the drugs, officers moved in for the arrest.

The pills, which typically retail for $20 a tablet, would have brought as much as $2 million on the street.

The arrests Tuesday have dismantled one of the largest drug operations in the southwest, said SMPD Sgt. Bob Almada, who is in charge of vice and narcotics.

Since the arrest of Sabau and the disruption of the ring, the street value for Ecstasy has increased while the quality and supply have decreased, almost to the point where the supply "has dried up," Almada said.

Mrozek said the arrest of Sabau led authorities to dozens of accomplices.

Arrested Tuesday were:

• Jerry Fanyuan Lin, 32, of Temple City, who allegedly obtained

narcotics from Wei and had his own distribution network;

• Jose G. Garibay, also known as "Guero," 28, of La Puente, an alleged methamphetamine supplier;

• Fausto Villa Perez, 49, of Santa Ana, who allegedly helped distribute cocaine on behalf of Wei;

• Ming Chien Hsieh, also known as "Sonny," 24, of San Gabriel, who allegedly distributed narcotics for Lin;

• Alexander Chiang, a 19-year-old UC Santa Barbara student allegedly involved in a series of drug transactions with Lin;

• Nathanael Garrard Lineham, 39, of Newport Beach, who is named in both indictments and accused of conspiracy to distribute ecstasy and conspiracy to launder money.

Mrozek said that Wei, 30, of Temple City, was arrested Sunday night at Los Angeles International Airport while preparing to board a flight to Canada. He was brought to court Monday and ordered held without bond pending arraignment on Oct. 8.

Others named in the indictments are:

• Ren Sui, also known as "Jeffrey," 31, of Rosemead, who allegedly acted as a middleman between Lin and an undercover FBI agent;

• Erik Damien Vicente, 41, of Baldwin Park, who is accused of supplying methamphetamine;

• Shane Kelter, 31, of Vancouver, Canada, who allegedly oversaw Wei in his smuggling operation between the two countries;

• Adrian Garcia De Alba, also known as "Pedro," 31, of Canyon Lake, an alleged drug courier;

• Jagmohan S. Dhillon, 35, of Toronto, a courier who allegedly took drugs to Canada on behalf of Wei;

• Paramijt Singh, also known as "Pumma," 32, of Toronto, who allegedly had the same role as Dhillon;

• Walther Edgardo Orellana Aguilar, also known as "Sharky," 28, of Vancouver and Los Angeles. He allegedly helped distribute Wei's cocaine in Canada;

• Long Yee Chow, also known as "Annie," 28, of Rowland Heights, Lin's girlfriend;

• Marco Antonio Silva Mota, 35, of Los Angeles, an alleged methamphetamine supplier; and

• John Wark, also known as "Keith," 39, of Vancouver, Canada, who is charged with Lineham and Enck in the second indictment.

Most of the defendants face a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison if convicted, Mrozek said.

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Humanitarian group's project selected as Amex finalist

FROM **PROJECT** PAGE 1

resources to make it happen," Strackman said. "These kids are going to get help."

Upon being selected as the top 25, Strackman was paired with IMC to serve as the agency to put the project into place. The nonprofit organization, which works in more than 25 countries, was already using the Plumpy Nut product when it was contacted by American Express.

"When you see a kid go from skin and bones to plumpy and waddling around, it's inspirational that with proper treatment, kids can be saved," Stephanie Bowen, the communications manager for IMC, said.

Approximately 178 million children around the world are considered to be malnourished and only 3 percent get proper treatment, according to the IMC. Between three and five million children die every year as a result of malnourishment, which is more than AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria-caused deaths combined.

"The need is greater than ever," Crystal Wells, the communications officer for IMC, said.

Included among the top five are projects that would create an education program about the importance of seeking early diagnosis for Alzheimer's Disease, a school lunch program in India, an Internet-based platform that would allow the average person to invest in businesses, and money for school resources for 100,000 children in low-income communities.

Members will have until Oct. 13 to vote for the top project, which will receive $1.5 million. All of the top five projects are guaranteed to receive at least $100,000 toward making their proposals a reality.

"This is a grassroots effort driven by everyday people," Bowen said.

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Would Palin help mothers as VP?

BY JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

NEW YORK As Sarah Palin gets set for this week's debate grilling on topics from foreign policy to the economy, some fellow working mothers are hoping she'll get grilled on something else, too: Her ability to stand up for them in Washington.

Sure, Palin is a working mother herself, something that women voters across the political spectrum have noted with genuine excitement. But what, some women want to know, would Palin do for them as vice president? Would she stand for paid maternity leave? Expanded family leave and flexible work hours? Better health care?

"Where is she on all of this? I just don't feel any empathy from her as a woman," says Nina Dulabaum, a Chicago educator and mother who is a self-described independent voter.

A group of fellow mothers connected to the grass roots group MomsRising tried to ask such questions of the Alaska governor last week. Putting their questions in writing, they went to her Washington office to leave their petition, the group says — but were told they needed to mail it instead. (Palin herself was in New York.)

The group is concerned that Palin hasn't shared her positions on the hot-button issues concerning working women, says Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, who co-founded MomsRising three years ago. And while the members — close to 200,000, she says — are "absolutely delighted" to see a working mom on center stage, they're also quite aware of the differences between Palin, who had her fifth child only months ago as governor, and many other women.

"Look at what she had: preset pay, health care, paid sick days, a salary high enough so her husband could help care for the baby," says Rowe-Finkbeiner. "Unfortunately that is not the case for most working mothers."

She notes that more than 170 countries have mandated paid maternity leave — all except four: Papua New Guinea, Swaziland, Liberia and the United States. (A few states have adopted their own provisions.)

Maria Comella, a spokeswoman for the McCain-Palin campaign, said that a McCain-Palin administration would support workplace flexibility, telecommuting and "making health care more portable for today's changing economy."

"As a working mom, Governor Palin understands the challenges American families face balancing life at home and in the workplace," she said. "As Governor, Sarah Palin has worked to make sure parents have flexibility so they can meet the demands of family life and their jobs."

Palin has drawn much attention with her choice to return to work soon after giving birth. But women like Angela Sasseville, a Denver mother who's struggled for years to achieve the right balance of career and family, thinks that's the wrong message for a woman in a powerful job to send other mothers, for whom it's simply not realistic for many reasons: their own health and that of the baby, inadequate child care, inflexible work hours.

"What if she'd said, 'I'm going to take the time I need?' Now THAT would have been an empowering message," says Sasseville, a self-employed psychotherapist who plans to vote for Barack Obama.

An Associated Press-Yahoo News poll taken Sept. 5-15 showed McCain and Obama running about even among working women, but McCain leading Obama among working women with children at home. In a more recent poll by Gallup, though, Obama led among all working women, including those with children under 18.

And recent surveys have shown that her popularity overall, while still strong, has begun to fade. In one, a Fox News-Opinion Dynamics poll, her net positive rating shrunk from 27 points in early September to 11 points a week ago. At the same time, the candidate has been widely perceived to have struggled through a pair of TV interviews, particularly the recent one with Katie Couric of CBS.

For a time, the narrative on Palin was dominated by questions of whether the self-proclaimed hockey mom with five kids — including a pregnant teenage daughter and a baby boy with Down syndrome — should be running at all, given those responsibilities.

Ellen Bravo, an expert on workplace issues at the University of Wisconsin, thinks that was the wrong question. The choice was Palin's to make, says Bravo, an activist for family friendly policies.

"But it IS the voters' business to know how she will help or hinder them in their lives," says Bravo. "The problem is, there's just not that much information out there."

For example, she notes, women with special-needs children were excited when Palin declared in her convention speech that they'd "have a friend and advocate in the White House." Now, she says, she hears women asking: "What will I do when the school calls and says I need to come right away, but if I leave work I'll be written up? I need flexible hours. Will she help me with that?"

Comella said Palin had a record of improving special education, including signing legislation this year that increased spending for special needs students in Alaska.

There are those who feel that no matter what her positions, Palin's ascent to national prominence will help working mothers. One of them is Carol Evans, CEO of Working Mother Media Inc.

First, she says, it's about visibility. "This is putting our issues front and center in every discussion," she says. But also, she adds, it aligns conservatives — traditionally chillier to the concept of women in the workplace — with the cause of working women, and moreover women in so-called "extreme jobs" — CEOs, partners, doctors and lawyers, those in overseas postings and the like.

"That's where the pushback has been the last 10 years," says Evans, whose company publishes Working Mother magazine. "Now you have the usual doubters lining up behind Sarah Palin and saying she can do it! It's a topsy-turvy world."

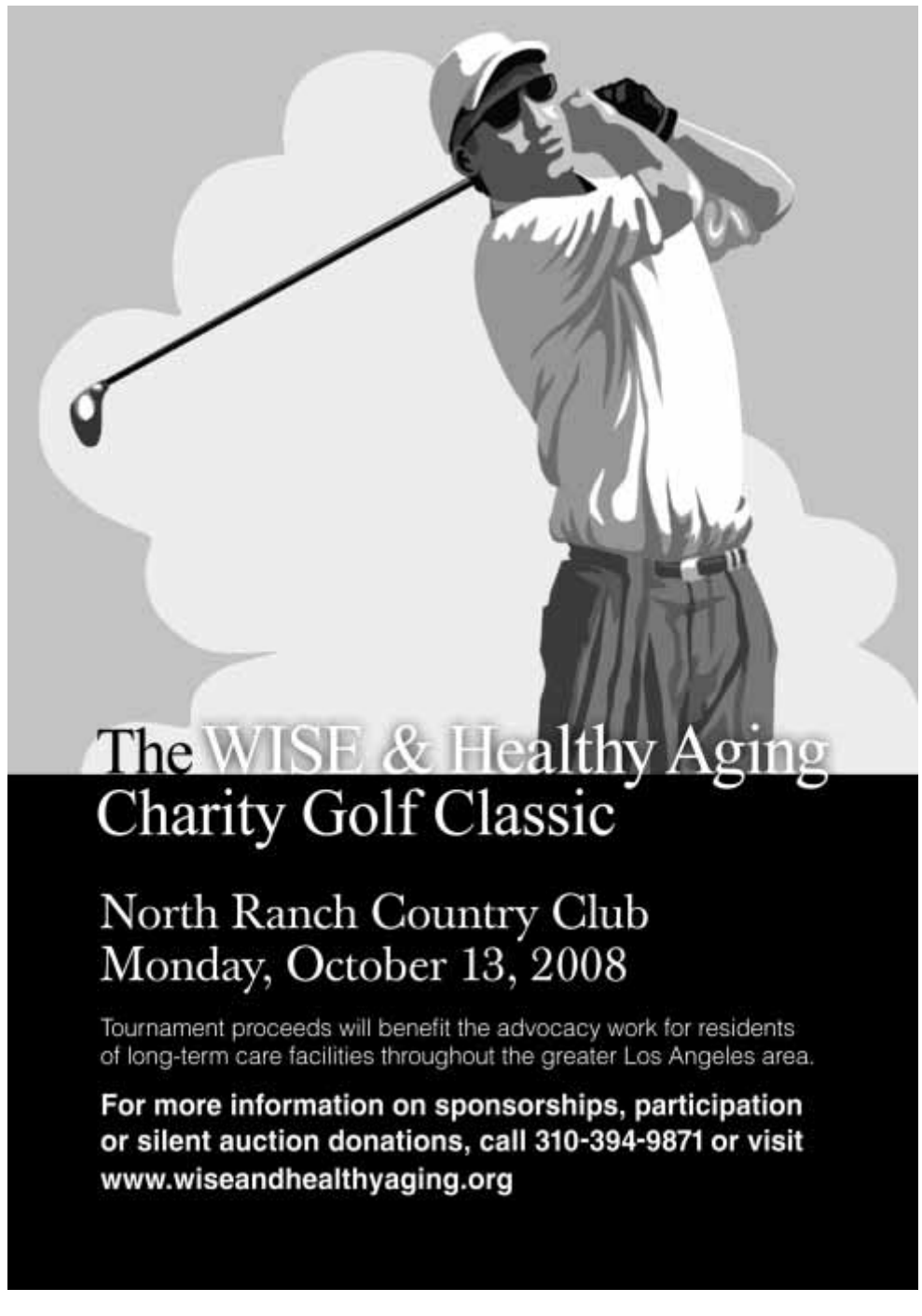
That's all fine and good, says Bravo, of the University of Wisconsin. But in the end, she says, "what matters to most voters is what affects their pocketbooks — their health care, their own ability to manage. The symbolic stuff doesn't trickle down very far."

Dulabaum, of Chicago, has been trying to look beyond the symbolism, and hasn't seen enough there. With three small children, she's been seeking full-time work for several years. Instead she's settled for a combination of part-time jobs.





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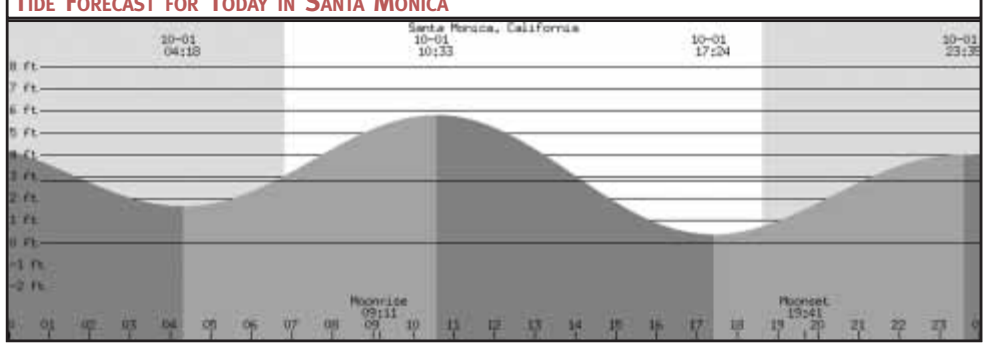
Swell Forecast (1-2 FT)

Wednesday the 1st is not looking to start out much better than today, although light southern hemi should still produce some waist high waves around south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Saturday the 4th the WNW swell should decline to waist to chest high.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **September 23, 2008**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 39 / as
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / as

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth	A+	as
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	as
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Abas creeks	A+	as
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	as
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A	as
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	as
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	as
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	as
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	as
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	as
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	F	as
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	as
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	as
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	as
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	B	as
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	D	as
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	as
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	as
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	as
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	as
Tuna Canyon	A+	as
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	as
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	as
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	as
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	as

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

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
as -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MLB

Schmidt: Angels favorite to win the World Series

BY MIKE SCHMIDT
For The Associated Press

It's that time again. Every night a game worth watching, every morning a game worth discussing. Every game has a moment that provides 24 hours of discussion, from water coolers to radio talk shows to ESPN.

So let's get it started.

There are four clear-cut favorites to win it all — the Los Angeles Angels, Tampa Bay, Boston, and the Chicago Cubs.

The best pitching, on both ends, hitters who understand close-game situational hitting, great defense and leadership from managers and tested players.

Tampa brings a scary element: Youthful, never-say-die, yes-we-can, young confidence and exuberance. "Go ahead and try to beat us," they say. Watch out for them with the home-field advantage.

Philly and Milwaukee, both on a high. They live by the home run, are not great at doing the little things that breed consistency, but can heat up in a short series if their hitters are hot.

Think about what wins a postseason series. The Angels are the template, with the Red Sox and Cubs a close second. Heck, Josh Beckett is pitching Game 3. Pitching, pitching and more pitching. Forget hitting, it's unpredictable. Few, if any, World Series champions hit their way to the title.

It's guys like Catfish Hunter, Jack Morris, Roger Clemens, John Smoltz, Josh Beckett and the Mariano Riveras. Stud starters and automatic closers, and who has both? The Angels, Red Sox and Cubs.

The Rays, Phils, Dodgers all have decent starters with a good No. 1 and 2 and good bullpens, but not in the elite class. I'm talking four guys who can throw a shutout for seven innings and a closer who is automatic.

Philly has an automatic closer in Brad Lidge and one guy who can throw zeros for nine. The Dodgers could make some noise with the best bullpen ERA in the NL, and a closer that has the stuff, but no experience.

The Rays and Brewers and the AL Central champ are good, not stellar. Pitching is king in the postseason. You cannot win in today's postseason, due to the number of games, without dominant pitching.

Book it!

There's another reason dominant pitching wins in the postseason — it keeps the hitters in the right frame of mind.

Close-game hitting is so much different than come-from-behind hitting. In close-game hitting, you are thinking small: move a runner, draw a walk, drop a bunt, make contact, hit a single. Something small can lead to a win. Hitters with that mind-set are dangerous and tough to pitch to.

Hitters trying to do it all with every swing get overanxious, failure multiplies and becomes magnified on the big stage and frustration sets in. You've seen it — I went 1-for-20 in the 1983 World Series, I've experienced it.

Another crucial element of postseason play is leadership. Teams with guys that have been there, especially guys that have won, have an enormous advantage. I call it the "Rose-ian" theory.

We were there for three years with great young teams, without him. Then Pete Rose arrived, we won.

This is an underrated aspect of the postseason. Look around at the teams, who has that guy? It can be a manager or a coach, but it's best if it's a player.

Yes, there's power, defense, speed, and home-field advantage to consider, other aspects than pitching and leadership. When that's all put into the computer, it would spit out an American League champion, most likely the Angels.

MLB

Padres decide to keep Black

BY BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO Padres general manager Kevin Towers figured the first step toward digging out from a 99-loss season was to bring back Bud Black as manager.

"This is still the right guy to lead this organization," Towers said during a news conference in the home dugout at Petco Park on Tuesday. "I don't think based on the record we could hold him fully responsible for the outcome of the season."

The Padres had their worst finish in 15 years, dropping to last in the NL West at 63-99, 21 games behind the Los Angeles Dodgers. San Diego won the NL West in 2005-06, then, in Black's first season, fell one loss short of clinching the wild-card in 2007.

"As we look at this season, I think we all should be held accountable, from players to front office to the coaching staff on why we ended up where we're at," Towers said. "I don't think Buddy got stupid in one year. He did a very good job for a first-year manager, took us one pitch away from making the postseason. I kind of chalk this up to a bad year."

Black, who has one year left on his contract, met with Towers for several hours last week while the Padres were in Los Angeles. Black met with CEO Sandy Alderson and Towers on Sunday morning, then the front office and coaches met on Monday.

At one point, Towers said he told his superiors: "I guess I'm willing to put my neck in the noose with him going forward that he's the right guy to help us turn this thing around."

Black is 152-173 in two seasons. The former big league pitcher was hired in November 2006 after Bruce Bochy was allowed to jump to the division-rival San Francisco Giants despite having a year left on his contract.

MOVIE TIMES

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Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13) 1hr 36min
2:30, 4:50, 7:05, 9:25

The Women (PG-13) 1hr 54min
2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Igor (PG) 1hr 26min
2:55, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15

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Lakeview Terrace (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

Tropic Thunder (R) 1hr 47min
2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35

Miracle at St. Anna (R) 2hrs 46min
2:45, 6:15, 9:40

Righteous Kill (R) 1hr 41min
2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

Appaloosa (R) 1hr 48min
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55

Ghost Town (PG-13) 1hr 42min
2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:20

Burn After Reading (R) 1hr 37min
2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

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Choke (R) 1hr 29min
1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:15

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1:20, 2:40, 4:00, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40

Man on Wire (PG-13) 1hr 30min
4:30, 9:50

Frozen River (R) 1hr 37min
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Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
12:20, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20

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11:30am, 1:20, 2:20, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00

My Best Friend's Girl (R) 1hr 41min
12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30

Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13) 1hr 37min
12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:10

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

Say yes, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Expect a mixed bag, and one in which you feel you have no control. Your leverage and ability to communicate might not be up to snuff until you relax and trust events and what is occurring. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Plunge into work, but have faith that diversity will float through your day. Enjoy the unpredictable elements in your life. A close encounter becomes possible if you relax. Try to look at the big picture. Tonight: Sort through possibilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You are able to make a difference. Your abilities to create solutions and find an answer emerge once more. Your creativity emerges when dealing with finances and/or a key partner. Know that anything is possible. Tonight: Pace yourself. You are only one person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Settle in, and do not push. Examine possibilities with your eyes wide open. Your creativity emerges in the afternoon when someone catches your interest and desire to relate. Listen to feedback. Tonight: Ever playful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You must stay on top of your game. Understand what is happening behind the scenes. You are secure and able to make a difference. Your understanding grows. You might not be able to identify with an associate. Tonight: Mosey on home, stopping to do an errand or two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Investigate options, and move forward with a big project. Do not allow financial chaos to stalemate you. Keep moving forward and allowing greater stability in your life. Through asking questions, you get answers. Tonight: Live it up. What would that look like in your life?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Move quickly in the morning, and you'll succeed beyond the call of duty. Your achievements could be much more than you believed possible, on hindsight. Deal with a financial matter directly. No one can replace you. Tonight: Let go and relax.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might move slowly, but once you get going, it could be close to impossible to stop you. Know that you will lighten up and relax far more once you get most of your chores done. Knowing where you come from and what you want helps you achieve your desires. Tonight: Close to perfect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Use the a.m. for dealing with people. Research and thought flourish in the p.m. Someone might plant a provocative thought financially, possibly a risk that feels very good. Use caution anyway. Tonight: Take some much-needed down time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might feel weighed down by responsibilities. You are able to make headway, and quickly at that. Investigate possibilities more openly than in before. Success could make you smile this p.m. Tonight: As you wish. Use your imagination.

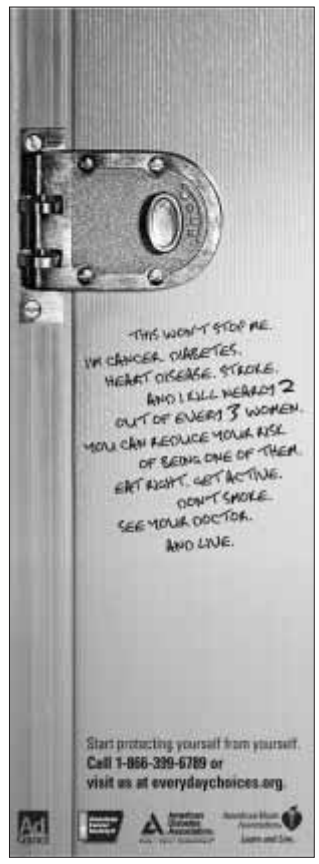
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You really do make a difference. By taking a strong, heartfelt action, you will be moved by the results. Demonstrate your abilities and leadership. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Investigate possibilities and understand that you might not have all the answers. Start with close and trusted associates, but explore with others and discover alternatives. Be direct and firm. Know that you would like another path. Tonight: Try something new.

Happy birthday

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

You are able to ask questions and find answers this year. You will feel empowered. Through exploration and your curiosity, you could change your direction and choices. Understand what is happening behind the scenes, and you gain. Do not hesitate to take a novel step. Property and investments grow with careful thought and nurturing. You might add to your home, remodel or buy a home. If you are single, you will grow and gain through a relationship. 2009 might produce a very special bond, if you are ready. If you are attached, your relationship revolves more than usual around security and home. Romance flares in 2009. SCORPIO can be challenging financially.



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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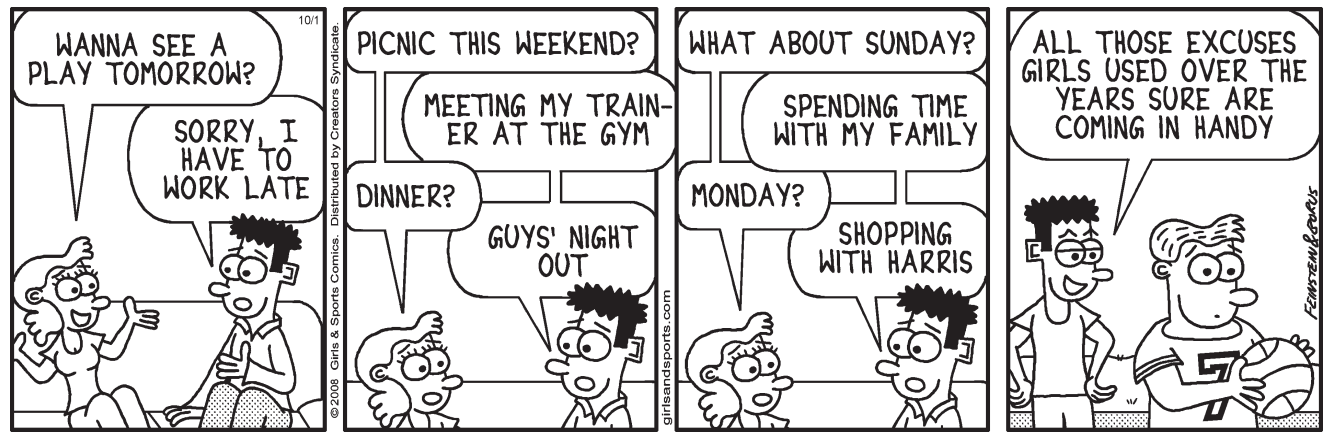
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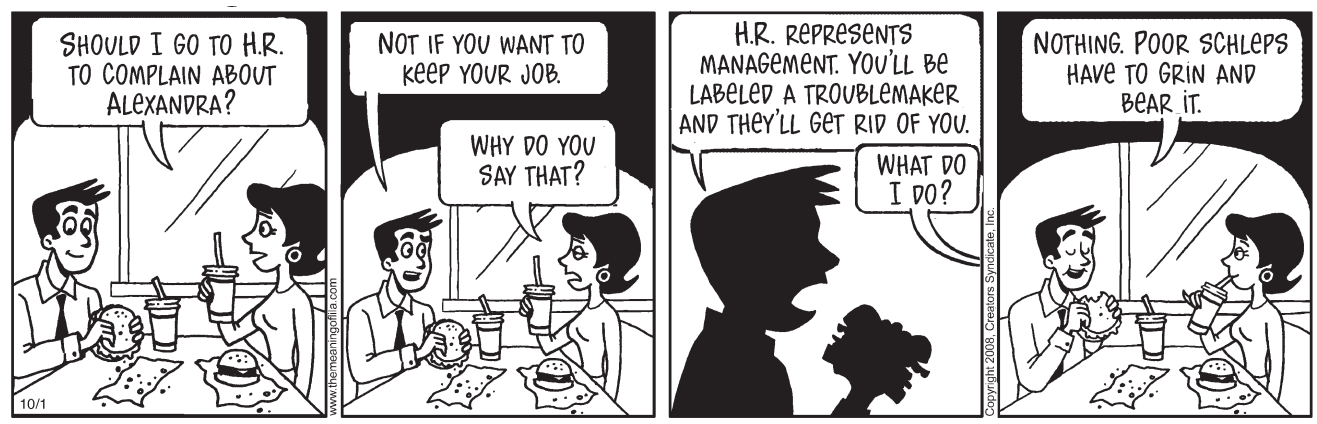
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



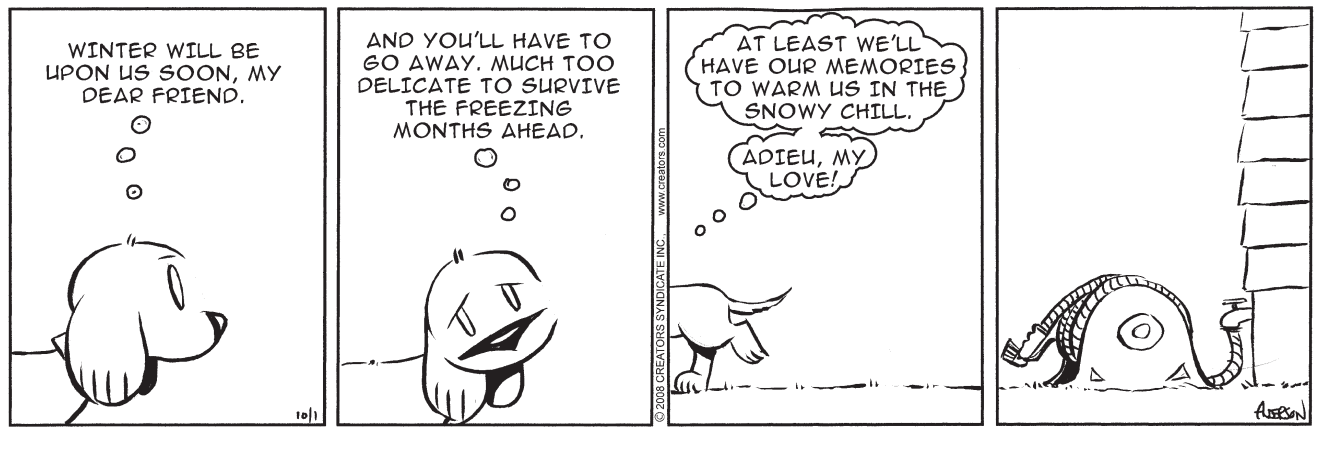
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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Went over the limit
5 Scopes trial lawyer
11 Car for hire
12 Large lizard
13 Poker payment
14 Let off steam
15 Earth: Prefix
16 Flexed
17 Perch
19 Superlative suffix
22 Stop, as rain
24 Foot, to fathom
26 Eye part
27 Citi Field's forerunner
28 Breath fresheners
30 Taken wing
31 Cribbage need
32 Spirit
34 Eye line
35 Male cat
38 Eucalyptus eaters
41 Lode setting
42 Atlas section
43 Early Peruvian
44 Reunion girls
45 Like some wines

DOWN

1 Without a date
2 Window piece
3 Blackmailing
4 Conk out
5 Shabby joints
6 Hollywood workers
7 Little one
8 Sewer dweller
9 Count starter
10 Bunch of bills
16 Jazz variety
18 Banish
19 Urging on
20 Simmer
21 Compared with
22 Walk unevenly
23 American lake
25 Vacation spot
29 Predicament
30 Handful
33 Gardening aids
34 Political alliance
36 Formerly
37 Honeyed drink
38 Writer Follett
39 Arles assent
40 "Right you —!"
41 Soccer's Hamm

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

Yesterday's answer

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

10-1

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4 7 21 31 32
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Fantasy 5
18 27 34 35 39

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 9 8 1
EVENING: 1 1 1

DAILY DERBY
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1.46.70

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Recent Alarming Headlines: (1) "Elephant beats heroin habit with detox" (Reuters, 9-4-08) (Chinese poachers had spiked his bananas with heroin to control him). (2) "Court grants injunction to stop woman cutting off man's penis" (Daily Telegraph, Sydney, 8-15-08) (He told the judge in Darwin, Australia, that to escape her pursuit recently, he had to hide in tall grass). (3) "Police: Chihuahuas provoke baton attack on nude beach" (KGW-TV website, 7-28-08) (A naked beachcomber, 74, near Portland, Ore., may have overreacted to two Chihuahuas advancing on him).

■ The Weirdo-American Community: A wave of motorists fondling themselves in drive-thru lanes of Seattle-area espresso stands continues, police said, despite a recent arrest. In August, an employee of Java Girls in Parkland, Wash., disgusted with a bra-wearing man, tossed boiling water in his face (to which he reportedly responded, "Oooh, yeah" and drove off). In September, a 20-year-old driver admitted several fondling incidents from February to May in Monroe, Wash., but expressed relief that police caught him. "I need to stop," he said, "and I can't do it alone. Once you start, it's hard to stop."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1908 Henry Ford introduced his Model T automobile to the market.

1918 Damascus fell to Arab forces as Turkish Ottoman officials surrendered the city.

1936 Gen. Francisco Franco was proclaimed the head of an insurgent Spanish state.

1949 Mao Zedong proclaimed the People's Republic of China during a ceremony in Beijing.

1958 the American Express charge card made its official debut.

1964 the Free Speech Movement was launched at the University of California at Berkeley.

WORD UP!

fettle \FET-l\, *noun*:
A state or condition of fitness or order; state of mind; spirits -- often used in the phrase "in fine fettle."

Santa Monica Daily Press

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MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 208 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1150/mo on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 3976 Inglewood Blvd. Unit 1, 2+2 lower $1475/Mo, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, balcony, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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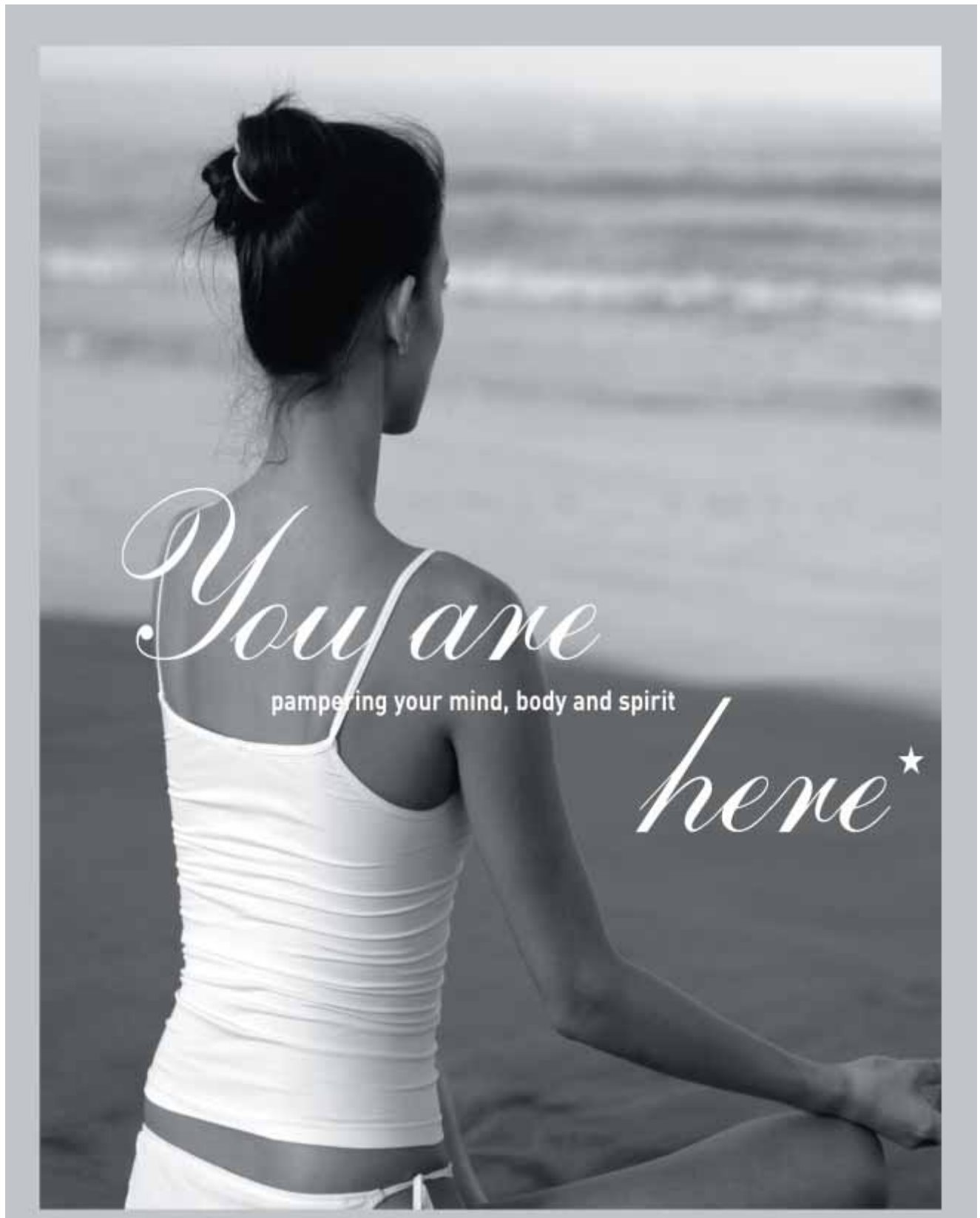
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Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Early October 2008

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$ 3,219,667	$ 5,730,000
North of Montana	$ 3,644,880	$ 2,072,265
Between Wilshire & Montana	$ 3,357,100	$ 950,248
South of Wilshire	$ 1,280,857	$ 720,915
Sunset Park	$ 1,357,964	$ 626,077

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Kate Bransfield
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