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OCTOBER 4-5, 2008

Volume 7 Issue 279



THE DUDE RETURNS
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Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE IRREVERENT HEADLINE ISSUE

A going problem on promenade

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Barbara Nagel was browsing the racks in American Eagle Outfitters when she felt the urge.

"I need a restroom right away and I don't know where to go," Nagel said as she exited the Third Street Promenade store on Thursday.

The world-famous promenade, with its brand-name stores, high-end restaurants and street performers, is also known for a less than laudable reputation — a lack of publicly-accessible bathroom facilities.

The scant supply of wash closets in one of the biggest draws Downtown has to offer has long been a problem as there are only a handful of restrooms operated by City Hall, and few stores allow their customers to use their own. Aggrandizing the problem in recent months is the closure of Santa Monica Place where there were a number of restrooms available.

The Bayside District Corp., a public-private management organization that oversees Downtown for City Hall, is expected to analyze what steps could be taken to encourage some of the larger business owners on the promenade, such as Borders, Barnes & Noble and Banana Republic, to make their bathrooms available for patrons. All three retailers have shut down their bathrooms in the last few years, the most recent being Banana Republic, which is located at the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard.

Carolyn Brown, a spokeswoman for Barnes & Noble, said that the bathroom was

SEE BATHROOMS PAGE 13

SMC is on the road once more

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

LANCASTER A 1-3 record doesn't sound like much, but in the Western Division of the American Conference its good enough to remain in the hunt for a league title.

Santa Monica College takes to the road to take on new league rival Antelope Valley College on Saturday to determine which 1-3 team takes a somewhat commanding lead in a conference that has struggled for wins this season.

"A win this week puts us in the drivers seat," SMC head football coach Robert Taylor said.

A promising 38-24 win during the Corsairs' league and home opener last week against Los Angeles Valley College has the veteran coach optimistic heading into a game against a team that he predicted during the preseason would vie for a conference championship.

"We should be in pretty good shape in this game," Taylor said. "Being on the road is not going to be new to us."

The game will be SMC's fourth road game of the season, a place the Corsairs have had trouble winning ball games. The team was forced to take to the road early in the season while an artificial playing surface was installed at Corsair Field. All three previous road games have resulted in

SEE SMC PAGE 14



NEW GROWTH Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Construction crews have planted ginkgo biloba trees on Second Street, replacing ficus trees that were cut down or transplanted in recent weeks as part of a controversial streetscape improvement project that has garnered national attention.

Measure T creates rift within CEPS membership

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN One of the most active educational advocacy groups has come out in opposition to a controversial ballot measure that would restrict commercial development, a decision that might have cost it some of its longest-serving members.

The Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) on Friday announced a series of endorsements and positions on various races and ballot measures for the November election, included within it opposition to Measure T, which would place an annual 75,000-square-foot cap on commercial growth.

Those in opposition to the measure, which includes numerous city and school officials, have argued that it would have numerous downfalls, such as possibly impacting the amount of revenue flowing from City Hall to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

The pro-Measure T side has countered that there will be no impact on education and that the issue is about traffic, not schools.

Rochelle Fanali, who has volunteered for the district and served on several committees, and Maryanne Solomon, who was the CEPS Webmaster, resigned earlier this

SEE ELECTION PAGE 15

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Blessed are the animals
1008 11th St., 9 a.m.
The Blessing of the Animals takes place at First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica. The event features the blessing, a light breakfast and children's activities. Donations of new pet food, treats and toys will be collected for local shelters.

Dining etiquette
Virginia Avenue Park, 1 p.m.
Do you feel comfortable knowing the proper rules of dining? Due to demand, Social and Business Graces will be conducting a class in proper American-style dining etiquette. For more information, call (310) 210-6103.

Fresh roasted chilies
Virginia Avenue Park, 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
The Chile Roaster is back at the Pico Farmers' Market. Enjoy New Mexico style roasted chilies fresh from the farmers every Saturday during the month of September. The market is located at Virginia Park at Pico and Cloverfield boulevards.

Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008

Celebration of life
Crossroads School, 1715 Olympic Blvd., 4 p.m.
Join Judea Pearl, mother of slain Wall Street journalist Daniel Pearl, for an event celebrating harmony and unity through music: The Daniel Pearl World Music Days Performance, featuring Grammy and Emmy nominated guest artist Peter Himmelman, and local high school classical musicians. The event will take place at the Crossroads School for the Arts and Sciences, Norton Campus Community Room. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Hana Rosenbaum at (310) 452-3244 (home) or (310) 948-6822 (cell).

Freaky flamenco
Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice, 7 p.m. — 10 p.m.
The Flamenco Project is L.A.'s newest theater venue for flamenco music and dance. The first project, "Sonidos Tradicionales, Sonidos Actuales" (Traditional Sounds, Current Sounds), sets out to intertwine tradition with the contemporary, pure flamenco music and dance with the innovative. Artistic director and dancer Rina Orellana debuts this quarterly show alongside dancer Kerensa DeMars, singer Jesus Montoya, guitarist Kai Narezo and percussionist Joey Heredia. For more information call (310) 977-7332, or e-mail Rina Orellana at rina@rinaorellana.com.

In for a scare
Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Audience members help save Halloween in "Absolutely Halloween," a Rudie-DeCarlo Family Theatre musical tale of the aptly named Candy, a sweet, young girl who learns some surprising lessons about life, love, laughter and sugar, from an intriguing array of characters who take her on a magical All Hallow's Eve adventure. This musical is for audiences between 2 and 102 years of age. Come in costume and get two-for-one tickets for any future Family Theatre show. Tickets: $10.50 for children 12 and under, $12.50 for adults. Call for prices for the special birthday and tea parties, available in conjunction with any performance. For more information call (310) 394-9779, or visit www.santamonicaplayhouse.com.

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



CORRECTIONS

In the Oct. 1 article, "Resident charged in drug ring," it should have stated that federal authorities involved in Operation Candystore were not assisted by the Santa Monica Police Department. An arrest made by SMPD of an alleged drug dealer was separate from the federal investigation, although it did provide further evidence of wrongdoing in that case.

In the Oct. 3 "Laughing Matters," it was erroneously reported that legendary actor Tony Curtis is dead. He's alive and well.

ELECTION 2008

With 13 candidates running for four open seats on the City Council, it can be difficult for voters to determine who will represent them best. To make it easier, the Daily Press sent out questionnaires to each candidate, given them 1,000 words to explain their positions on a host of issues important to residents and business owners, as well as shed light on their personalities. Keep reading in the coming days as we continue to publish the responses from the rest of the pack.



Linda Piera-Avila

- Age: 52.
- Occupation: Home health physical therapist.
- Marital status/children: Married, two stepchildren.
- Your neighborhood? How long have you lived there? Pico Neighborhood, 28 years.
- Own or rent? Rent.

YOUR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION/MODEL, MAKE AND YEAR OF YOUR RIDE?
2001 green Toyota Prius.

YOUR PASSION?
All things green.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?
"The Wild Trees," by Richard Preston.

THE WATER AROUND THE SANTA MONICA PIER IS SOME OF THE MOST POLLUTED IN THE STATE AND POSES A SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK TO SWIMMERS. HOW DO WE CLEAN UP THE BEACH? HOW WOULD YOU SPEND MEASURE V FUNDS?
I would spend funds on a diversion pump system to make sure that dry-weather runoff gets to the SMURRF; re-plumb the hole in the strormdrain under the pier; re-plumb connections to the SMURRF from the Kenter/Pico StormDrain; and collect runoff from the airport, filter it through the Penmar golf course into underground storage and then use it for irrigation throughout the city.

WHAT'S A HIDDEN GEM IN THE CITY?
The Santa Monica YWCA's Housing and Education Program for young women 18-22 exiting the foster care system. The program provides selected applicants with a home, food, social support and services while they attend school, work part time, save for their future and attend life skills classes.

HOMELESSNESS IS FAR AND AWAY OUR CITY'S MOST PRESSING ISSUE, ACCORDING TO DAILY PRESS READERS. WHAT NEW IDEAS DO YOU BRING TO THE TABLE? DO YOU BELIEVE CITY HALL IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH ITS PLAN TO HOUSE THE MOST VULNERABLE WHILE STILL PROVIDING GRANTS TO SERVICE PROVIDERS?
With the economic crises facing our country more people may be losing their jobs and homes and living in their

SEE **PIERA-AVILA** PAGE 17



Michael Kovac

- Age: 33.
- Occupation: Small business advisor.
- Marital status/children: Eligible bachelor.
- Your neighborhood? How long have you lived there? Sunset Park, 4 years; Pico area before that.
- Own or rent? Own.

YOUR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION/MODEL, MAKE AND YEAR OF YOUR RIDE?
These days my preferred mode of transport is my feet, a classic 1975 Biped. Getting out and walking in Santa Monica has given me the opportunity to speak with the people I hope to represent — and keeps my fuel costs down.

YOUR PASSION?
I'm an avid photographer and international traveler. I'm a huge fan of combining those two activities.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?
The SMDP (of course!) and the e-mails I'm getting from the people of Santa Monica who have been incredibly responsive to my call for their input on the issues that matter most to them. These days, like many, I'm re-reading "Freakonomics," by Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt.

THE WATER AROUND THE SANTA MONICA PIER IS SOME OF THE MOST POLLUTED IN THE STATE AND POSES A SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK TO SWIMMERS. HOW DO WE CLEAN UP THE BEACH? HOW WOULD YOU SPEND MEASURE V FUNDS?
It's not only a matter of cleaning up the beach, but cleaning up the source of this pollution. I see three solutions the council should champion: direct the appropriate public agencies of Santa Monica to keep the beach clean; work with surrounding municipalities to identify and eliminate the sources of the pollution; and engage Santa Monica citizens and visitors alike in an environmental effort to keep the beach tidy. What do you, the voter think? Let me know at WhatSantaMonicaWants.com.

WHAT'S A HIDDEN GEM IN THE CITY?
The once iconic Civic Center [Auditorium], which hosted The Rolling Stones, Elton John and even The

SEE **KOVAC** PAGE 18



Ken Genser

- Age: 57.
- Occupation: City Council member, planner.
- Marital status/children: Single, no children.
- Your neighborhood? How long have you lived there? I've lived on the north side for 22 years, Santa Monica for 36.
- Own or rent? Rent.

YOUR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION/MODEL, MAKE AND YEAR OF YOUR RIDE?
2008 Saab.

YOUR PASSION?
Great design.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?
Primarily things I encounter on my travel around the Web.

THE WATER AROUND THE SANTA MONICA PIER IS SOME OF THE MOST POLLUTED IN THE STATE AND POSES A SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK TO SWIMMERS. HOW DO WE CLEAN UP THE BEACH? HOW WOULD YOU SPEND MEASURE V FUNDS?
The best way to keep our ocean and beaches clean is to keep runoff from reaching it. Santa Monica has pioneered facilities to divert runoff from our storm water system into our sewers, where it can be treated before reaching the sea. Ironically, a major contributor to the pollution at the pier is a faulty diversion valve. It is being replaced.

New development can and must be designed to prevent additional runoff. Prop. V funds should be prioritized to create more facilities that direct runoff into the ground where it is naturally filtered. Examples are the recent "greening" of one of our beach parking lots and the upcoming "green" street demonstration project.

WHAT'S A HIDDEN GEM IN THE CITY?
Among the most beautiful hidden gems in Santa Monica are the thousands of people who volunteer to help other people in our community. These include the parents who volunteer at our schools, the people who provide meals and a bit of companionship to those who can't get out of their homes, the volunteers who work with youth, the people who help keep our community prepared to respond to a disaster, and so many

SEE **GENSER** PAGE 19

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Going Galaga

Editor:

In response to Sunny Collins' letter concerning Santa Monica development, the relentless construction is actually very tedious, and there was nothing wrong with the former Santa Monica Place (except perhaps that consumers are finally tiring of the novelty of shopping malls).

More to point, a personal anecdote regarding the Santa Monica Pier: Last year I reunited with a childhood friend (call him "Roy"), and we dined and strolled, ending up at the pier. Roy is Chinese-American, and moved to China years ago to teach, and his position in the academic community there is highly respected, as is his increasing clout as a national financial advisor.

Roy's first question about the pier: "Does it have an arcade?" I said yes, and Roy lit up. Roy's second question: "Does the arcade have Galaga?" With this affirmative, we both smiled and hurried over there – amongst many tourists and locals – to waste quarters to our hearts' content.

While Collins may intend some sort of romantic nostalgia, she's obviously missing the social pleasures not only of coin-op video games, but of skee-ball, air hockey, street dance and the many other games which bring a consistent flow of people and revenue to everybody's pier.

But mainly, Collins, please don't take away Galaga; in doing so, you may be destroying all hope of future economic harmony among global superpowers.

Gregory Weinkauf
Santa Monica

More support for Obama

Editor:

Under whose watch is the current financial crisis happening? Republican presidential candidate John McCain wholeheartedly has and does support Bush and GOP failed economic polices.

Does America need another four years of the same? Isn't eight years of a snake oil salesman enough? Do we need another four years of GOP fiscal pranksters turning the economy upside-down in Washington?

America needs change – a "180 degree" turn – the country is heading in the wrong direction under conservative and Republican leadership.

Warning! The country is malfunctioning. When will the silent majority, who love their country, step up to the plate and take back the control from ideologues on the right.

Potential is enormous in America but is being stifled by financial institutions, big oil and the military industrial complex.

We need a reality check Nov. 4 – a change. Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

Ron Lowe
Santa Monica

Peace and harmony

Editor:

I have another poem for you.
"Valley of the Moon"
Ojai the beautiful valley of the moon
A nesting place for the bird tribe
The angelic children of the stars
Who come to rejuvenate their spirit
Inspiring creation by their presents
Echoing the brilliant jewel set within
The sacred geometry of their oneness
Meditating insightful intuitive wisdom
Resonating with all in universal love
Vibrant personification of heart coherence
Expressing prophetic poetic mystical magic
On their healing journey for self realization
Processing the alchemist elemental forces
To bring peace and harmony to life on earth

Hinton Harrison
Santa Monica



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The Internet cure

WHEN ONE OF THOSE MORNING "news" shows recently featured a story about people using the Internet to get medical information on the same day that the New York Times dealt with that subject, I knew that this medical surfing had become an epidemic.

I've never used the Internet to self-diagnose an ailment or second-guess my doctor. This is because it would only make me feel worse. I'm the kind of person who asks my doctor to refrain from telling me the possible side effects of medications, knowing that this information will make me imagine that I'm suffering from these side effects. So I don't think it's a good idea for folks to use the Internet for medical purposes if they are among those people who, whenever they're asked for their occupation, should truthfully answer, "hypochondriac."

Don't get me wrong. The Internet can be a marvelous resource. If I had a serious ailment or had something that several doctors were unable to diagnose, I would probably turn to the Internet. I'm sure that the Internet has saved lives and armed many patients with important information.

There are so many medical sites on the Web that some experts suggest that you only go to those whose names end in .gov. The theory is that if it is a government-approved site, we can trust it. Nice theory, but remember it's the same government that gave us the Great Economic Disease of 2008. I say, shop around and use whatever sites make sense to you. But use them wisely.

Those who think they know as much as doctors just because they have surfed the Web, are probably wrong. Those who give their friends medical advice based on what they read on the Internet last year are probably making a mistake. And those who learn things from the Internet but keep them a secret from their doctor are really being silly. Share what you learned with him or her. If your doctor is insulted that you went on the Internet, get another doctor.

I still maintain that the Internet isn't the place to go every time you have a pain, a scratch, or a cough. I decided to put this to the test. I have some pain in my arm that I assume is from playing tennis. But how can I be sure? I'm not a doctor. So, I went online to see what the Web had to say about my pain.

The first site I went to listed 123 possible causes of arm pain. That seemed a bit overwhelming, so I left. The next site, honestly, had 61 causes of arm pain. It's interesting that this site had almost exactly half the causes of the other site. I wondered if it only dealt with one arm instead of two.

There is a kind of site that is the worst kind for anxious patients, and is there any other kind of patient? This site allows you to take the symptom — like arm pain — and then look at various causes which you can accept or reject, and then add a second symptom, etc. In other words, let's say you have arm pain, but sometimes you have an itchy left eye. That could mean that you have an entirely different problem from the person who has arm pain and is allergic to sour cream.

THERE ARE SO MANY MEDICAL SITES ON THE WEB THAT SOME EXPERTS SUGGEST THAT YOU ONLY GO TO THOSE WHOSE NAMES END IN .GOV. THE THEORY IS THAT IF IT IS A GOVERNMENT-APPROVED SITE, WE CAN TRUST IT. NICE THEORY, BUT REMEMBER IT'S THE SAME GOVERNMENT THAT GAVE US THE GREAT ECONOMIC DISEASE OF 2008.

Among the first 10 causes prominently listed on a site dealing with arm pain were angina, arteriosclerosis, and a chronic peptic ulcer. I couldn't even find tennis or any kind of exercise on the list. Was I wrong about my pain? I had to admit that I often have an upset stomach. Could the pain in my arm mean that I had an ulcer?

The longer I looked at possible symptoms, I felt I'd be lucky if it was "only" an ulcer. The more I read, the more I felt a need to read even more. "Just one more site," I promised myself, over and over again. After a while, the pain in my arm grew worse and worse. Was this psychological?

But before I checked out "reasons, psychological," I realized what was causing the increased pain. My arm was hurting me more and more because of all the typing I was doing. And I'm happy to say I resisted doing a search for "pain and stupid repetitive behavior."

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his Web site at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.

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STRAY talk

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

"Parents, teachers, seniors, renters and homeowners throughout the city support [Measure] 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.

"I've been thinking a lot about babies. It's not that I want to have one anytime soon. I don't. I can't possibly have a baby. I'm a selfish 28-year-old who will, in one month, be a selfish 29-year-old."

— SMDP columnist Mariel Howsepian writing in "West Dressed."

"We don't expect to surprise anybody this year. They are going to have to step up and be more physical to stop it."

— Santa Monica High School head football coach Zach Cuda.

"In addition to state bond measures 1A, 3, 10 and 12 (that'll add billions of dollars to California's budget deficit) and tax increase measures from both the city of Santa Monica and Santa Monica College, there's also Los Angeles County Measure R on November's ballot for local voters to ponder."

— SMDP columnist Bill Bauer writing in "My Write."

"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."

— SMDP columnist Kenny Mack writing in "Word in Edgewise."

"The reason we're so angry is Red Bull backed it. Red Bull said it was a legitimate business and Red Bull turned their backs on everyone."

— Mallory Dillon, an investor who lost money in a venture to distribute energy drink Red Bull via vending machines.

"This is what you get with a vindictive governor. This was an unusually high amount [of bills vetoed]."

— State Sen. Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) regarding the number of legislative bills Gov. Schwarzenegger vetoed this year.

"As a kid one of my favorite movies was 'Trapeze,' starring Burt Lancaster, Tony Curtis and Gina Lolobridgida. I always liked Tony Curtis, who was originally Bernie Schwartz from the Bronx. He'd been married six times and appeared in over 100 films. Both sound exhausting."

— SMDP columnist Jack Neworth writing in "Laughing Matters."

"I'm a BBQ freak. I'll drive miles for good Q. Maybe it's genetic, or maybe it's the recollections of childhood days in the back yard with the family, and Ida Mae grilling BBQ in the back yard."

— SMDP food columnist Merv Hecht writing in "The Re-View."


John McGrail, C.Ht.

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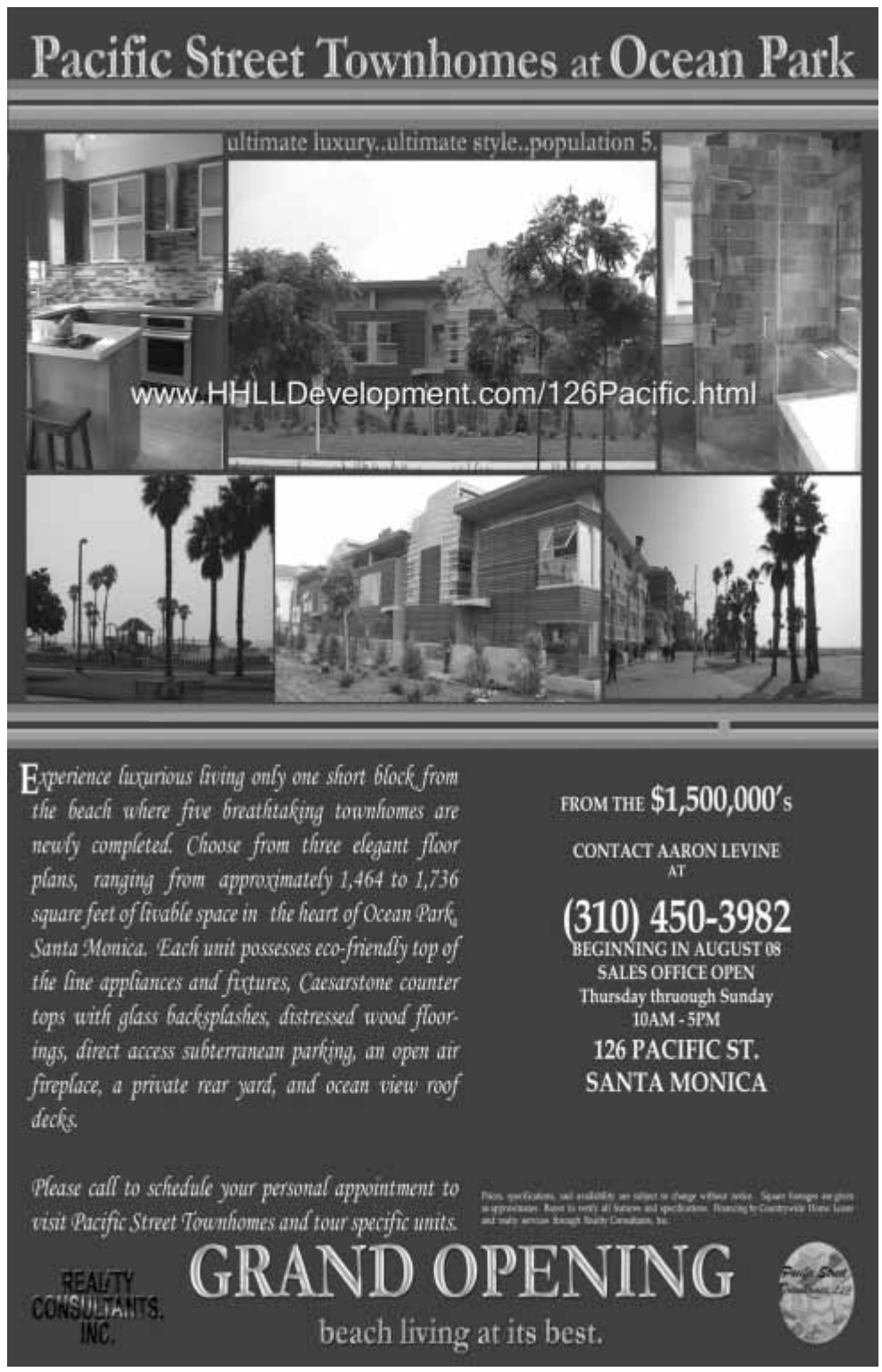
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The Q Line

Popping questions

This past week, Q-line asked:

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. What questions would you ask the candidates and why?

Here are your responses:

"WELL, ALL THE ISSUES YOU HAVE mentioned are serious problems in our city. I have to say that the out-of-control influx of transients is the worst. We are overrun with drug addicts and sellers, alcoholics, crazies that should be in institutions, not on our streets, parks and stores, and free-loaders from all over California and the whole country. Not to mention the hoard of criminals and ex-cons. No one feels safe anymore. And the police seem to turn a blind eye to much of this nightmare."

"IT IS LUDICROUS TO BELIEVE THAT ANY municipal-level candidate is capable of solving any problem other than raising the price of parking meters. Only state and federal governments have the billions of dollars it would take to solve the problems of homelessness and traffic congestion. The two individuals who should attend the forum are Governor Arnold "I'll Be Back" Schwarzenegger and President George "Everything is Wonderful" Bush. Sitting on the sidelines should be Barack Obama, Joe Biden, and John McCain and Sarah Palin bickering with one another. Everyone attending the forum should be served a double shot of whiskey with a water chaser just to liven things up. To get the forum rolling, a comedian the caliber of the late Las Vegas entertainer Red Fox should enter upon stage and tell the audience to go blank themselves and walk off stage. At the end of the forum, the comedian should again walk on stage and say 'I thought I told all of you to go blank yourselves.' Makes sense to me."

"WELL, THE ONE THING TO ASK IS WHAT are you going to do about the bums? It's obvious because it's Santa Monica – you can't go anywhere or do anything without having a drunken, smelly, noisy bum bothering you, asking for money and cursing at you or worse if you don't give him anything."

"WHAT QUESTIONS WOULD I ASK THE candidates and why? One regards the City Council and development. I mean, why is there so much emphasis on over development and for taxes? It seems like the council or the representative of the city seems to be more interested in securing their power than the welfare and the stewardship of the city of Santa Monica. A big question I'd ask is, what about graffiti? What have they done? How about ... making the parent responsible for the clean up? And how about liquor stores selling to homeless people? How about something about that rather than having police at a checkpoint and using all the police for that getting very little results for that. That's all I can think of immediately. I think that they should just try to run the city best rather than going home. Do whatever they're doing. With regards to the bums and the homeless near the beach, by the hotels, that should be looked at."

"I WOULD ASK THE CITY COUNCIL candidates if they would be open to the possibility of repealing the outdoor smoking ban, or if not, at least modifying it. And/or for businesses, particularly small, independently-owned local businesses to be able to get permits from the city to allow outdoor smoking which would help out those businesses in these rough economic times when small businesses need all the encouragement they can get. ... And I would ask all the school board candidates if they would be in favor of returning to the old policy regarding expulsions and discipline, which a rather dubious group called Mothers for Justice was responsible for getting rid of, and since then, since those provisions have been gotten rid of, there seem to have been security problems in these schools that did not exist under the old rules. I would also ask the City Council candidates about whether they're willing to admit that Santa Monica's homeless programs have largely failed. In general, I would ask all the candidates if they would be willing to scrap Santa Monica's policies of progressivism for progressivism's sake and merely be content with having a well-run, well-functioning city that doesn't try to interfere in the lives of the citizens too much."

"THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION I would ask I would like to direct just to Bobby Shriver. I understand why the other City Councilmen perhaps did not vote to try to help save the trees or did not want to help save the ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets – they wanted dappled shade, that sort of thing – crazy reasons, but Bob Shriver never said what his reasoning was except perhaps safety issues which, if he knew that what the city was putting forth about the trees i.e. that they were not safe was not true, I think he would have wanted the trees to stay, but I just wanted him to say what his position was on the trees, especially based on the fact that what the city had said about the trees was not true, i.e. that they were not safe - most of them were completely safe and well – and what his position on it is now. He never talked about it, and as he campaigned for a green Santa Monica – that was his big thing. I'm just curious about that."

"WHAT IN YOUR OPINION ARE THE MAJOR changes both positive and negative that Santa Monica has undergone in the past 10 years? How would you proceed if elected or reelected? I'm asking why in order to determine the candidates' satisfaction or dissatisfaction level with the direction Santa Monica has taken in recent years."

"I CAN'T COME TO A MEETING AFTER dark since I don't drive, so I'll ask my questions now. One: Why doesn't the Santa Monica City Council have term limits like everybody else? Two: There's no representation for the Pico district or the south-eastern end of Santa Monica in Sunset Park which is impacted by the people problems of traffic, crowded busses, and the overwhelming presence of Santa Monica College. Three: Can the city deforester, Walt Warriner, be fired, and the increasing lack of shade on the Santa Monica streets be reversed? Four: Why are Santa Monicans continuing to subsidize the schools of the millionaires enclaves several miles distance? Five: Let's get some new blood on City Council. They can't be any worse."

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Simple Real Food

Amanda Cushman
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Variety is the spice of life

I AM A HUGE FAN OF ASIAN FOOD AND especially sushi, so I was thrilled to accept and invitation to dine at Takami in Downtown Los Angeles this past week.

What a place. Located at the top of a tall high rise on Wilshire Boulevard, Takami has 360 degree views of the city with windows that are half open at the top so the air is coming in while you are dining. The atmosphere is sophisticated and inviting with deep comfortable booth tables and a beautiful robata bar.

Robata, which are small skewers of grilled meats, fish and vegetables, is a delicious appetizer that is served here with a variety of delectable sauces. We ordered scallops, shitake mushrooms and eggplant for our Robata choices and they came cooked perfectly and well seasoned. I have tried this Japanese specialty in other restaurants but found it rather bland. At Takami this was not the case and I would highly recommend this dish.

We then ordered the following; garden roll, albacore lemon roll and spicy tuna on crispy rice. All three items came beautifully garnished and on white serving dishes. This was a lovely presentation and the food itself was wonderful.

The rolls were both seasoned well with abundant fish and vegetables and the portions were generous. The spicy tuna was perched on top of a small rice cake that was lightly fried and the combination was ideal. Crisp sesame flavor, spicy chilled tuna and jalapeno garnish which added that tiny bit of heat at the end of the bite.

The service was professional, warm and well trained. The waiter took the time to explain each item and recommended his personal favorites. It was difficult to decide what to choose as the menu is extensive and appealing.

The place was fairly crowded for a Tuesday night and, from the looks of it, gets more of a happening late night scene as evening approaches.

Across the hall is another establishment owned by the same group called Elevate. This was not open when we were there as it is a late night club with appetizers and cocktails. This was described as a hot club where dancing under the stars is one of the highlights.

I would love to return to Takami for another meal and this time with a few more people to try a wider range of items.

STANDING FOR BURGERS

On another completely different note I would like to say the new Father's Office in Culver City is open and doing booming business.

If you don't know about F.O. as it is known to locals, it's the best burger to be had in a bar atmosphere anywhere in L.A.

The original F.O. is on Montana and 11th Street and is a small, crowded bar with an amazing selection of beers on tap as well as some terrific local wines. The place is charming but you need to arrive early to insure a chance at sitting down as they have an absurd "first come first serve" rule when it comes to getting a table.

THE ATMOSPHERE IS SOPHISTICATED AND INVITING WITH DEEP COMFORTABLE BOOTH TABLES AND A BEAUTIFUL ROBATA BAR.

We discovered it years ago and have enjoyed many a burger and brew there. The highlight is the burgers as the menu has little else. They come as is — no substitutes — with arugula, caramelized onions, blue cheese and an aioli sauce on the side. No ketchup to be found.

The actual burger is thick and juicy and as close to homemade as one could find in the outside world. It comes with a large handful of thin crunchy fries that go perfectly with the aioli sauce.

So this is the deal; you get there and push into the bar, order a beer or glass of wine, a burger and maybe their roasted beet salad (which is large and very well done).

They give you a number and then you spend the next 15 minutes hovering over tables that look like they might be almost done. The second someone moves to leave you pounce. This is the way it works at both the original and the latest expanded version of F.O.

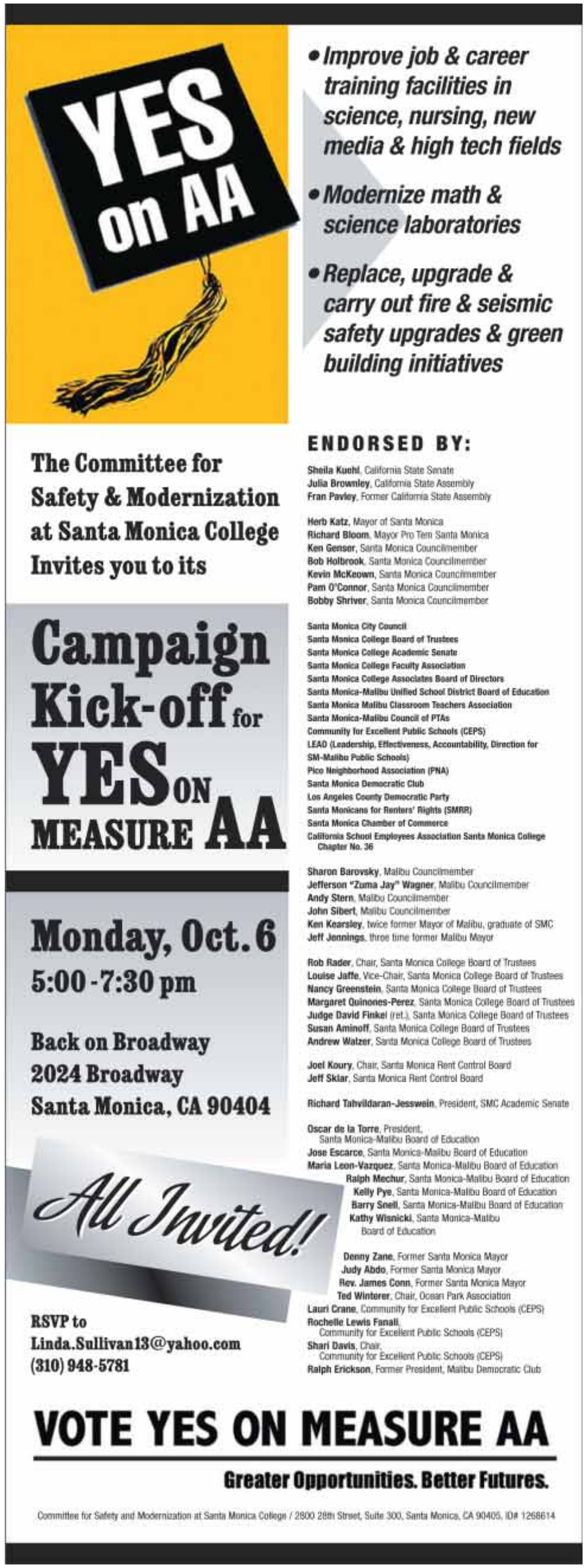
So recently we went there at prime time about 8 p.m. and found ourselves starving and wishing we didn't have to go through this painful process before sitting down to enjoy our meal.

There were four of us so we branched out and stood right next to four different tables waiting to get lucky. You have to be aggressive lest the other vultures will nab your spot, so the nice ones finish last.

It took us about 15 minutes to finally slide into seats and as usual the wait was worth it. The same menu and the same non-service abides in the new location with three times the amount of room.

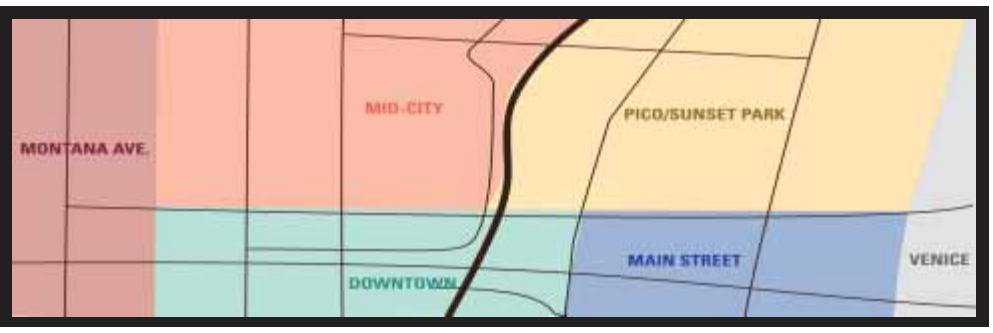
I most definitely recommend Father's Office but wish they would grow up and get the staff they need to accommodate us hungry souls.

AMANDA CUSHMAN is a culinary educator who has cooked professionally for 25 years. She teaches privately for groups of two to 20 students. She has developed hundreds of recipes for cookbooks as well as food magazines and Web sites. She can be reached amandascooking@gmail.com.



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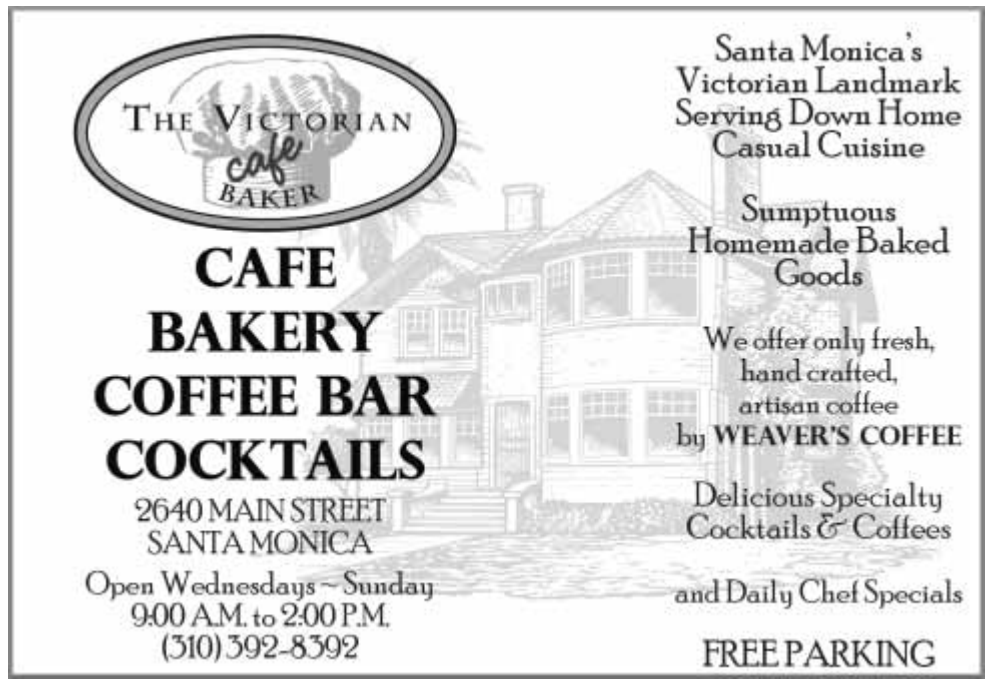
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Troubled economy means serious talks for parents

BY HEATHER LALLEY
For The Associated Press

If there's one bright side to this country's growing economic crisis, it may be that it's forcing parents to sit down and have the talk with their kids.

No, no. Not that talk.

This conversation is about dollars and cents, not birds and bees. But it's no less important.

"The way you raise fiscally responsible children is by not making money this thing that's shrouded in mystery," says Mir Kamin, a 37-year-old mother of two in Athens, Ga. "If more people did that with their kids, we wouldn't be in the mess we're in now."

Even before this financial meltdown, Kamin, who runs the money-saving Web site WantNot.net, taught her kids to live frugally. At the grocery store, her 9- and 10-year-old look for sale items and stock up on in-season produce, she says.

Each week, the children must save and donate a portion of their allowances to charity. And, Kamin says, "If you ask my kids how credit cards work, they will explain it to you. They can also tell you never buy anything on a credit card you don't have the money for."

It's the kind of conversation experts say more parents should have in coming months. Even the youngest of children can sense their parents' stress about the economy and start to worry, says Catherine Solheim, a professor in the Department of Family Social Science at the University of Minnesota, who teaches personal and family finance.

It's important for parents to discuss the financial crisis, especially with older kids, says Mark Schug, a professor emeritus with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Economic Education. But do so in a way that won't cause them to panic or lose sleep.

"It's good enough for young kids to know we may be in for a bit of an economic downturn and they're not used to that," Schug says. "They would have no memory of a time when the American economy was in a little bit of a rough patch."

Debbie Moors' family in Berthoud, Colo., is already feeling the squeeze.

Moors, 44, the mother of two elementary school-aged girls, stuck to basic school supplies this year and used last year's lunch boxes. The family camped close to home this summer instead of taking a big vacation. They're walking more now. And Moors says she's cutting in half this year how much she'd typically donate to school fundraisers.

"We're looking for ideas and ways to cut," says Moors. "Every once in a while, we'll talk about, "Oh, that's not in our budget."

Gary Foreman, editor and publisher of frugal-living Web site the Dollar Stretcher, says he's heard from some parents looking to cut child-related costs, but not in great numbers.

"We have had a few people indicate that what they would've considered routine extracurriculars last year, this year, they're giving it more thought than usual," says Foreman, who works in Bradenton, Fla. "I don't expect ballet classes and little leagues to be empty in the next couple of months .... Parents are more likely to cut out a couple of Starbucks."

That's not to say there aren't tough choices being made. For Kamin, a gas shortage in the Southeast is teaching the family to conserve every gallon.

"My son got braces and had a broken wire," she says. "The orthodontist is also across town. It was distressing to have to make this trip when gas is such a precious commodity right now."

But it did encourage the family to start planning meals and shopping once a week instead of dashing to the store every couple of days, she says.

The Dollar Stretcher recently posted an article about how to budget creatively to fund after-school activities.

Among the tips: Ask the child to donate some rarely used toys for a fund-raising garage sale. Ask relatives to give to a "sports fund" instead of giving birthday or holiday gifts. Have kids hand over part of their allowance to pay for activities.

"In a way, this is good for the children," Foreman says. "It's good for kids to understand that their little league or their piano lessons have a cost. These things are not free. Somebody has to pay for them. It's good for them to understand that expenses have to be put in context of the family budget, and when money is tight, something has to be cut."

TIPS FOR TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT THE ECONOMY

If children sense your stress about the economy, try the approach suggested by Catherine Solheim, a professor in the Department of Family Social Science at the University of Minnesota:

- For the youngest of children, Solheim suggests getting out some play money and setting up a shopping scenario.

"What if you want to buy something and you don't have the money?" she advises asking. "It's a real teachable moment."

- For older kids and teenagers, you can discuss the financial downturn in greater detail, she says.
- But in all cases, you should involve your kids in finding solutions when money is tight.

If your daughter needs a new soccer uniform, for example, encourage her to think of ways to find money in the budget to buy one. And when you do save money, be sure to set it aside in a jar or envelope to watch it add up, she says.

"THE WAY YOU RAISE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE CHILDREN IS BY NOT MAKING MONEY THIS THING THAT'S SHROUDED IN MYSTERY. IF MORE PEOPLE DID THAT WITH THEIR KIDS, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THE MESS WE'RE IN NOW."

Mir Kamin
Mother of two in Athens, Ga.

ON THE NET
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WTC ownership rewrites expectations at ground zero

BY AMY WESTFELDT
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK The owners of the World Trade Center site announced a delay in the completion of a multibillion-dollar transit hub Thursday but pledged to open a nearly finished Sept. 11 memorial by the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

They set no firm schedule for the completion of the entire site, which includes four office towers and a performing arts center. The report also said the 1,776-foot Freedom Tower skyscraper has been delayed by up to a year, meaning the signature project of the site won't open until at least 2013.

In a 70-page report on ground zero's tortuous rebuilding process, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey said the elaborate rail hub will cost $3.2 billion, $700 million more than planned, and should open in 2014, five years after the original projected completion date.

The memorial, "Reflecting Absence," will open on Sept. 11, 2011, with two waterfall-filled pools built in the shape of the twin towers' footprints, and surrounded by the names of nearly 3,000 victims, the report said. But some of the 500 trees in a cobblestoned plaza may not all be planted by that time and a visitor's center may not be open.

The report was issued after Gov. David Paterson ordered a re-evaluation of the rebuilding process in June, saying that there was little clarity about who was responsible for rebuilding the site. He and Mayor Michael Bloomberg had publicly urged the agency to guarantee completion of the memorial by the anniversary.

The report gives certainty to the rebuilding process, Paterson said.

"We know what we are building, how long it will take and how much it will cost," he said.

Bloomberg, who leads the foundation building the memorial, gave only measured support to the pledge to open the memorial on time.

"Fully completing the memorial by the 10th anniversary of 9/11 remains our goal, and this plan doesn't accomplish that," he said.

The Port Authority's executive director, Christopher Ward, said he could not offer a schedule for three office towers being built by developer Larry Silverstein or for the arts center.

The schedule for another office tower under the agency's control would be driven by demand for office space, Ward said. The current financial crisis has made the city's commercial real estate prospects uncertain.

Silverstein said in a statement that he would study the report "to gauge the impact on our part of the World Trade Center rebuilding effort." A lease between Silverstein and the Port Authority requires the developer to give up rights to the towers if he doesn't finish building them in the next five or six years, although there was talk of renegotiating that part of the lease.

An underground Sept. 11 museum should open in 2013, four years later than originally planned, the report said.

Completion of the signature project, the 1,776-foot Freedom Tower now under construction, is about $200 million over budget and will be delayed several months to 2013. Additional parts of the project are also over budget, bringing the final tally to more than $1 billion over estimates.

"While we still face many challenges ahead, we believe we have created a level of certainty and control over this project that has been missing since its inception," Ward said in a letter to Paterson.

The report reflects an understanding of the realities of building from scratch a complex of interconnected skyscrapers, transit links and cultural space in a hole seven stories deep, Ward said, adding that he realized the new deadlines "will be met with a degree of skepticism."

Deadlines for almost every project at the site have changed since plans were first introduced in 2003, and Ward acknowledged the new schedule could also change.

"I cannot promise that we will meet every single milestone every step of the way," he wrote. "This is the most complex construction program in the region's history and setbacks are inevitable."

Most of the report appeared to involve transportation plans, including the rail hub designed by Santiago Calatrava and links to several subway lines, one of which sits in the midst of several construction projects.

The hub's mezzanine will be redesigned, adding columns to an open space. Ward said that the agency considered leaving a temporary hub in place and not building further, but that federal transit funds had been dedicated to Calatrava's design, which is meant to be reminiscent of Grand Central Terminal. The target completion date, 2014, is five years after the hub's original completion date.

Bloomberg, who heads the foundation building the memorial, and foundation officials had pressured the agency to commit to a 10th anniversary opening, saying the public must be able to visit the area by that symbolic date.

ON THE NET
Report available at http://www.panynj.gov

Computers help docs spot breast cancer on X-rays

BY STEPHANIE NANO
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK A computer is as good as a second pair of eyes for helping a radiologist spot breast cancer on a mammogram, one of the largest and most rigorous tests of computer-aided detection found.

Like spell-checkers looking for mistakes, the computers flag suspicious areas on X-rays for a closer look by a radiologist. Mammograms are used to screen women for early signs of breast cancer but the tests aren't perfect. In the U.S., the X-rays are read by a single radiologist and cancers are sometimes missed.

Computer-aided detection, or CAD, was developed to help radiologists pick up more cancers. Approved a decade ago, these computer programs are now used for about a third of the nation's mammograms. But the value and accuracy of the technology has continued to be debated.

Now, British researchers are reporting results from a randomized study of 31,000 women. Mammograms in Britain are routinely checked by two radiologists or technicians, which is thought to be better than a single review. Researchers wanted to know if a single expert aided by a computer could do as well as two pairs of eyes.

They found that computer-aided detection spotted nearly the same number of cancers, 198 out of 227, compared to 199 for the two readers.

In places like the United States, "Where single reading is standard practice, computer-aided detection has the potential to improve cancer-detection rates to the level achieved by double reading," the researchers said. Their findings were published online Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine,

The study was done at three centers in England that do a large number of routine mammograms. Most of the women in the study were assigned to have their mammograms reviewed twice — once by a pair of experts and a second time by a single reviewer aided by a computer.

"What we demonstrated was that one reader using CAD could pick up as many cancers as the two readers could," said radiologist Fiona J. Gilbert of the University of Aberdeen, lead author of the study.

She said computer-aided detection could be used to expand screening by Britain's national health service, which now offers the test every three years to women 50 to 70. The cost-effectiveness will have to be determined first, she said.

The new findings are encouraging, said Dr. Carol H. Lee, a radiologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

"In the United States, it's just not practical in most practices to do double readings by physicians," said Lee, who is head of the American College of Radiology's Breast Imaging Commission. "These results are reassuring to me that single reading with CAD can achieve that same sensitivity."

The U.S. government recommends mammograms every one or two years starting at age 40. Experts said there aren't enough radiologists to give mammograms two readings, and insurers don't pay for a second look. Medicare does pay an additional $15 for computer-aided detection.

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After school activities don't need to be very expensive

BY CANDICE CHOI
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The itinerary of athletic meets, music lessons, and club activities that's triggered when the school bell rings isn't just chaotic — it comes with a hefty price tag, too.

As the school year gets under way in this shaky economy, there are measures you can take to ensure your children's pursuits don't eat away at your household budget. Second-hand sports gear and musical instruments and affordable after school activities are a few ways to keep spending in check.

The effort will be worthwhile if it means keeping your kids involved in extracurriculars.

"I know that parents are thinking it's a hardship, but it's worth it. Children who have a connection to the arts do better in school, are more engaged and have better attendance," said Jan Harp Domene, national president for the Parent Teachers Association.

Even just one of these options below may help boost your budget this school year.

BUY USED SPORTS AND MUSICAL EQUIPMENT

When it comes to sports, consider going second-hand since children can outgrow gear quickly. You may not want to shell out $120 for new ice hockey skates, for instance, if your son will only need a bigger size next year.

Beyond the more obvious venues, such as eBay.com, the Salvation Army and garage sales, one place to get used equipment is Play It Again Sports, which has 400 locations across the country. Used items typically sell anywhere from 40 percent to 70 percent off the regular retail price, said Steven Murphy, president of franchising for parent company Winmark Corp. The stores also sell discounted new equipment.

Don't let old equipment sit around the house either — sell it online or at a consignment shop for cash or store credit.

For musical instruction, some schools lease instruments through a music store on a monthly basis. If your child is likely to stick with the trumpet, however, it might save to buy rather than taking the pay-as-you-go method.

Prices for musical instruments vary widely depending on the brand, so be sure to compare the costs of your school's leasing program versus buying.

Music Go Round, another franchise owned by Winmark, has 37 locations around the country. You can find out if there's a location near you by visiting wwww.musicgoround.com. Even if there's not a local store, you can check the inventory of individual stores online. If you find what you're looking for you can call that store and have the item shipped.

Independent music stores in your area may also sell used instruments. Enlist friends and family, too — you may be surprised to find they still have an old flute or clarinet stored away somewhere.

FIND AFFORDABLE INSTRUCTION

If one-on-one lessons are too expensive, consider some affordable alternatives.

Michelle Menegaz, a 41-year-old mother in San Francisco, signed up for a $10 membership at the Boys & Girls Clubs of America this year so her 6-year-old daughter Gabi could take after school swimming lessons (which cost an additional $5 a month).

"It was prompted by a need to find quality, affordable care," said Menegaz, whose budget ruled out a popular $300-a-month care program offered at her daughter's school.

> **"I KNOW THAT PARENTS ARE THINKING IT'S A HARDSHIP, BUT IT'S WORTH IT. CHILDREN WHO HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE ARTS DO BETTER IN SCHOOL, ARE MORE ENGAGED AND HAVE BETTER ATTENDANCE."**
>
> Jan Harp Domene
> National president
> for the Parent Teachers Association

Membership fees vary at the 4,300 Boys & Girls Club locations across the country. Even if you can't afford the fee, children can pay their way by helping out around the club. Boys and Girls Clubs offer an array of programs focusing on sports, homework, the arts, and even nutrition.

There are also more than 2,600 YMCA branches nationwide, with prices varying by location as well.

As a reference point, a family membership at the YMCA in Metuchen, N.J. cost $724 a year, with certain classes, such as swimming, dance, art and drama, costing extra.

Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts meanwhile charge just $10 for annual membership, with additional fees possible for troupe meetings or outings. Many local councils for both groups often collect used uniforms for those who can't afford them.

Little League baseball isn't expensive, either. In fact, local leagues are not allowed to turn away any children who can't pay, said Chris Downs, a Little League spokesman.

The average season fee to participate in a local Little League is $50, Downs said, but may be much less. Some leagues rely on local businesses for funding and are free to kids.

TAP FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Lastly, make it a point to meet other parents in your neighborhood or at your child's school. It's likely you'll find others looking for ways to budget in this economy as well. If your children participate in the same activities, you may save time and gas money by car pooling.

Getting to know other families also widens the pool of people you can tap for hand-me-down equipment, clothes or musical instruments and potential baby sitters or tutors.

One way to connect with parents is to go online. You may find your neighborhood already has a parents group, such as ParkSlopeParent.com, which is based in Brooklyn.

On Meetup.com, members can search for groups by city or topic, such as "parents," which lists numerous groups centered on an array of specific interests. Moms in several locations can connect with other mothers in their area at Momslikeme.com.

New restroom under construction at garage

FROM **BATHROOMS** PAGE 1

closed a few years back because of security issues.

"We have no immediate plans to provide one," she said.

The issue recently came before the Bayside Board of Directors meeting when member Rob Rader raised concerns about the number of public bathrooms that have been lost over the past few years, especially from the retail sector.

"As someone who has a wife and young family, it has become more and more difficult to find clean and available bathroom facilities," Rader said. "When Barnes & Noble and Borders closed their bathrooms, it was an enormous loss and put more pressure on other bathrooms that remained open."

For Viraj Didwania, a tourist on vacation from New York City, the bathroom situation on the promenade reminds him of his home town.

Most New Yorkers will go to Starbucks and buy a latte just to use the bathroom, he said.

"Taxi drivers have a horrible time," Didwania said. "They usually have hook ups with restaurants where they pay around $10 a month [to use the restroom]."

The lack of facilities have put operators like Yankees Doodles — a sports bar located across from Borders and near Santa Monica Place — in a tight situation where there are more and more passers by seeking urinary respite.

When the restaurant is busy, anyone who is not a customer is turned away from using the bathroom. The restaurant has also experienced problems with homeless individuals who use the sink as makeshift showers, according to manager Jairo Hernandez.

The number of requests to use the bathroom have increased considerably since the mall shut down earlier this year, Hernandez said. The responsibility of providing public bathrooms should be borne on City Hall, considering the promenade is a high traffic area that brings in a lot of money, Hernandez said.

"Restrooms seem like a mandatory thing to have to accommodate people coming into the area," he said.

A new central public bathroom facility is expected to open by the end of the year at a City Hall-owned parking garage on the 1300 block of Second Street. The estimated $4.7 million project includes seismic upgrade to Parking Structure 4, a new central area for trash bins, and bathrooms that will include more than 20 stalls between the men and women's rooms.

The opening is expect to take the pressure off of some of the businesses.

Miriam Mack, the economic development manager for City Hall, said there have been discussions about whether City Hall could impose any kind of requirement on the larger existing or new businesses to have a bathroom that is open for their customers.

"There are arguments on both sides of that equation in that businesses that have restrooms open to the public can enjoy additional customers," Mack said. "On the other hand one can argue that the business incurs additional cost with maintenance."

Such regulations might be difficult to impose on the promenade, which is a public street made up of individual buildings, as opposed to a private shopping center like Santa Monica Place, which is operated by one developer.

There are public bathrooms currently available in five of the six bathrooms along Second and Fourth streets. Parking Structure 3, which is located on the 1300 block of Fourth Street, is occasionally staffed by a bathroom attendant.

The attendant is provided by the continuation of a 2006 pilot program in which City Hall hired several employees from Chrysalis — an organization that helps homeless individuals find jobs — to staff the restrooms in the parking garages to ensure a safer and cleaner environment. Another attendant — which will be paid through revenue from the new Bayside assessment district — is expected to be placed at the new bathroom after it opens in a few months.

Bayside consultant Rob York said the bathrooms in the parking structures are very hidden and not comfortable.

"They were very old facilities, off the alley and not well-signed," he said.

Rader said he believes that the lack of restrooms could eventually hurt the promenade.

"Parking and bathrooms are sort of the bread and butter for a district like ours," he said. "People will remember a negative experience and that will stay with them when they say they want to go shopping at the promenade but can't go to the bathroom."

melodyh@smdp.com. Christina Walker contributed to this report

Cops nab burglary suspects

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN Suspects involved in a distraction style burglary that occurred in the 500 block of Bay Street earlier this week were arrested thanks to help from the victim, police said Friday.

Delia Yonko, of Los Angeles; Laura Mark-Stevens, of Hayward; and Tammy Boswell, a transient, were arrested Sept. 30 by officers from the Los Angeles Police Department's Southwest Division after the victim wrote down their license plate number and handed it to police.

SMPD Sgt. Renaldi Thruston said the suspects made up a story and asked the victim to allow them inside her home to wash their hands. Once inside, on suspect distracted the victim, while another suspect stole the victim's wallet from her purse.

After they left, the victim noticed her wallet was missing and wrote down the license plate number of the suspect's vehicle before they drove off.

LAPD officers arrested the suspects and they were transferred to the Santa Monica Jail, where they were booked for burglary and conspiracy to commit a crime.

The investigation is still ongoing and anyone with information is encouraged to call SMPD detectives at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8427. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call the WeTip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27468).

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Corsairs hope to build on victory

FROM SMC PAGE 1

blowout losses.

With both squads victorious last week, this game features players and coaches hoping to build on that success and potentially challenging for conference supremacy.

"We're feeling pretty good right now," Antelope Valley head coach Perry Jehlicka said. "(Last week) was our best game that we played all season. We were far from perfect, but the year is still young."

Jehlicka hopes his starting quarterback, sophomore Rodney Dorsette, returns from a high ankle sprain, but he's comfortable with freshman back up John Perez running the offense. Perez lead the Marauders to a 28-14 victory last week against Santa Barbara City College. Dorsette, who the coach describes as "a little bigger and stronger" than Perez, led the team to a 9-2 record last season.

Although this is the first meeting in recent memory, SMC's Taylor said he knows enough about the team to prepare his defense for a potent running attack.

"They are not a confusing team," Taylor said. "Their offense has a couple of good running backs. I'm hoping they try to run the football more than throw it."

Aside from stopping the run, a key to a second SMC victory comes down to disciplined play on both sides of the ball. The Corsairs compiled 10 penalties in last week's win over Valley College, a fact that tempers the coach's enthusiasm over the game.

"We're gong to limit these penalties," he said. "We have the whole team working on it. Our offensive line is guilty of a lot of things. I don't expect them to play perfect, but we need to cut down penalties to three, maybe four."

On offense, SMC has exhibited the ability to gain tough yards on the ground. Sophomore running back Daron Bartholomew ran for 130 yards against Valley College. Fellow running back sophomore Cedric Hayes spelled Bartholomew on occasion with a degree of success. Most surprising was freshman quarterback Ryan Burns' ability to throw the ball down field during last week's victory. Making his first start of his career, he tossed a couple of deep touchdown passes.

The successes of last week gave Taylor a reason to think that perhaps his squad has turned it around after starting the season 0-3.

"We finally made some big plays," he said. "I believe in my heart that they now know what winning is and what it takes to get it done."

daniela@smdp.com

Kuehl slams Measure T

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN State Sen. Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) is opposed to Measure T, an initiative on the November ballot that would put a cap on commercial development in an effort to relieve traffic congestion.

Kuehl, a resident of Santa Monica, joins a broad-based coalition opposed to the measure that include developers, architects as well as education officials and members of Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, the leading political party in the seaside city.

"After taking time to review the arguments, pro and con, for Measure T, I have decided to oppose it," Kuehl said. "I've concluded that it would not actually reduce traffic, and is, therefore, not the answer to a real problem that requires a real solution.

"Secondly, though I'm sure the proponents didn't intend this particular consequence, Measure T could actually jeopardize the dwindling supply of affordable housing that so many of us have worked hard over the years to protect," the senator added.

"Measure T would have the effect of allowing, and even encouraging, landlords to demolish affordable apartments and displace renters, in order to build the only unfettered development under the measure, thereby putting our community's working families and seniors at much greater risk."

Measure T would amend the city's General Plan through 2023 to established a city-wide annual limit on commercial development of 75,000 square feet, which would apply to the types of projects that require City Council or Planning Commission approval.

The measure would not apply to residential projects, parking, hospitals, schools, child and adult care, as well as government facilities. It would allow borrowing square footage from future years if the five-year average stays within the limit.

Supporters claim commercial development, such as the Water Garden complex, create more traffic and push out small, locally-owned businesses. By putting a cap on development, it is their belief that city officials will have the time to better manage traffic at a time when Santa Monica is overwhelmed.

Those opposed feel the measure will do nothing to impact traffic and could put funding in jeopardy because of a decrease in development fees.

Measure T has been endorsed by the five major neighborhood groups as well as the Los Angeles County Democratic Party and some local business owners.

Joining Kuehl in opposing Measure T are HERE, the hotel and restaurant workers union, and Sue Edwards, widow of Santa Monica's former mayor, Ken Edwards.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

CEPS backs council and school board candidates

FROM ELECTION PAGE 1

week. Both women declined to comment on their exit, but Solomon did provide a copy of her resignation letter to the Daily Press.

"Despite contentions of the developers funding the campaign against it, you must know that [Measure] T will not harm our schools," Solomon said in the letter. "Everyone knows that if you can make a 'schools' argument you can get the sympathy of voters.

"And everyone knows the argument here is nothing more than a scare tactic."

She continues in the letter that education groups are under pressure to support the City Council because of the school funding allocations under the Master Facility Use Agreement in which the district and City Hall exchange money for access to school facilities.

The majority of council members have come out against Measure T.

"I know that people aspiring for local office do not want to face the ire of developers and their deep pockets, which one risks by refusing to do their bidding here," she said. "However, we should not allow ourselves to be blackmailed into opposing a ballot measure that has nothing to do with schools just to help the developers and appease the City Councilmembers."

She concludes by urging the organization to reconsider its position on Measure T.

Shari Davis, the chairwoman of CEPS, said the organization decided to oppose the measure because one of its highest priorities is to maximize resource for the schools.

"It was a very difficult decision and the majority decided that … there was a chance that funding for the schools from the city could be taken into consideration that we decided on an opposing position," she said.

She added that there are good and intelligent people committed to the community who are advocating on both sides of the issue.

"Both sides presented data and we do the best we can to objectively take the information," she said. "As evidenced throughout the city, this is an issue on which many disagree."

The opposition by CEPS, which was made last week, is a departure from the decision the Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs made last month, voting to take no position on Measure T, formerly known as the Residents' Initiative to Fight Traffic (RIFT). Following the announcement of the PTA's positions on the various measures, its supporters pointed out again that it has nothing to do with education.

"The impartial experts agree 'T' will have no effect on any funding for public education," Diana Gordon, the co-chair of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, said. The coalition is sponsoring the measure.

Councilmember Ken Genser, who is opposed to the measure, said while he can't say for sure that school funding would be cut in the future, he is certain it will reduce funding to City Hall's general fund significantly over time.

"The general fund is the source for paying for things like police, fire, library, parks and schools," he said. "If that fund takes a large hit, something has got to be cut."

CEPS also decided to back the $295 million Santa Monica College bond measure and the update to the Utility Users Tax.

The college bond, known as Measure AA, would pay for capital projects on campus. Measure SM would update the telecommunications portion of the Utility Users Tax, which has not been touched in decades. The UUT would be expanded to tax T-1 Internet service. City officials argue the measure is needed to protect itself from litigation and $12 million in existing revenue.

SUPPORT FOR INCUMBENTS

All four City Council and three Board of Education incumbents who are running for re-election received the backing of CEPS. The organization also backed newcomer Ben Allen for the fourth school board seat.

CEPS interviewed the school board and council candidates over the past few weeks, including hosting a candidates forum in late September. The endorsements were all made last week.

The endorsees include Ralph Mechur, Maria Leon-Vazquez, Jose Escarce, and Allen for the school board. CEPS also backed incumbents Bobby Shriver, Mayor Herb Katz, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Bloom and Genser for the council.

"We think the incumbents have shown the leadership has been good and they have gotten our district to high achievement," Davis said. "They realize they have problems to tackle and are committing themselves to tackling them and have shown themselves to be aware of the challenges."

Escarce, who currently serves as vice president of the school board, was previously endorsed by CEPS in 2004.

"CEPS is a grassroots organization that got together to try to enhance the resources to our district and I think their involvement in candidates speaks to the desire to speak out on who they think has done an excellent job," Escarce said.

Both elected bodies came under scrutiny in the past year — the school board for issues in financial accountability and special education, and the council for withholding roughly half a million dollars from the district. The money, which is part of the Master Facility Use Agreement, was held up because of concerns over the special education department.

"We would prefer the money not be withheld," Davis said. "We are hopeful and optimistic the $529,000 will be released in the near future."

She added that the organization decided to back the council incumbents because they have verbally committed to supporting the full amount of funding under the agreement.

Katz called the support of the parent organization a "huge boost" to his campaign.

"It tells people … that school parents do understand that I have done a lot for the schools," he said.

Genser said he feels strongly that City Hall needs to continue partnering with the schools.

"I'm glad the city is able to backfill the funds the state is not providing to the district," he said. "We can't afford to lose a generation."

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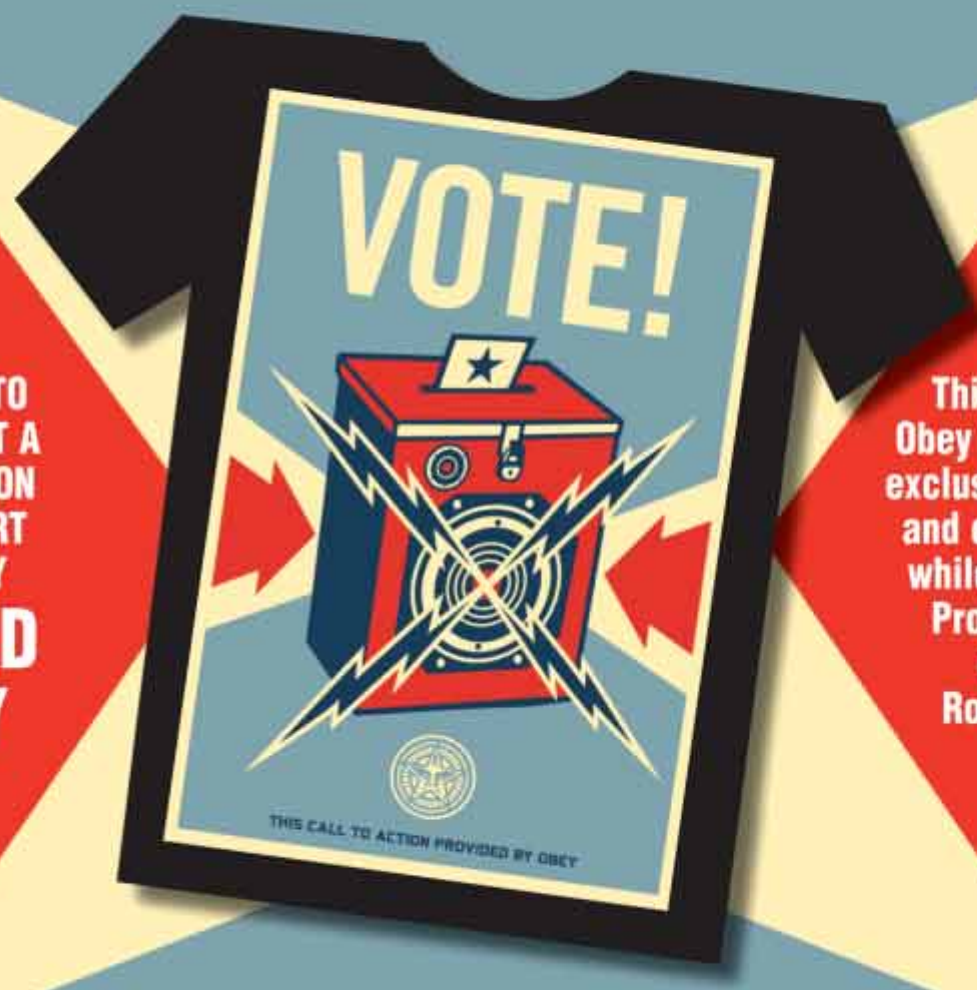
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ABE VIGODA

The Chino-bred, LA-based no-wavey band (and frequent players on The Smell stage) play songs from their latest release *Skeleton* — out now on PostPresentMedium Records.
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FROM PIERA-AVILA PAGE 3

cars as a result. I would like to see a certain portion of the homeless services budget allocated to outreach to these individuals/families.

Yes, the city's continuum of care services are making progress toward helping homeless individuals find housing and appropriate services. The L.A. Homeless Services Authority reported that on any given night in Santa Monica the number of homeless individuals decreased by 24 percent between January '05 and January '07. I support the city's regional approach to the homeless situation where other cities and the county share in providing solutions.

FAVORITE FILM AND RECORDING ARTIST?
Viggo Mortensen, John Trudell.

HOW DO YOU SPEND A DAY OFF IN SANTA MONICA?
Shop for delectable produce at the Farmers' Market, take my cat for a walk on the leash (yes, my cat!), take myself for a walk in Palisades Park, being sure to stop and smell the roses in the Arcadia Bandini de Baker garden, then dinner at Earth, Wind and Flour.

DEVELOPMENT IS A TOPIC THAT HAS GAINED MORE ATTENTION IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, WITH MANY RESIDENTS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE INCREASE IN COMMERCIAL AND CONDO DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN DOWNTOWN. DO YOU BELIEVE THE NEW LAND USE AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT PROPERLY ADDRESSES CONCERNS? DOES IT GO FAR ENOUGH TO PROTECT NEIGHBORHOODS OR DOES IT ALLOW DENSE DEVELOPMENT WITH BUILDINGS HEIGHTS THAT ARE TOO INTRUSIVE? WHAT IS YOUR STANCE ON PROP. T? DO YOU BELIEVE IT IS A PROPER RESPONSE TO TRAFFIC WOES?
The LUCE approach is to protect existing neighborhoods and concentrate new development in just approximately 2 percent of the city. In these commercial areas, development is planned to encourage use of public transit and walking.

The question of heights is only being studied in the LUCE; the exact heights are not going to be established until the zoning code amendments and implementing ordinances are written. The LUCE does not speak to the amount of commercial development itself. I support Prop. T. It is one response to traffic. We also need improved transit and transportation demand management programs.

IF YOU COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY THREE PEOPLE IN HISTORY, WHO WOULD THEY BE (FAMILY MEMBERS EXCLUDED)?
St. Anne, Sacajawea, Susan B. Anthony.

LOCAL BUSINESSES PROVIDE THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUES, YET SANTA MONICA HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A DIFFICULT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS. HOW WOULD YOU ENTICE MORE BUSINESSES, DIFFERENT BUSINESSES, TO OPEN UP SHOP?
My impression is that there is robust competition to do business in Santa Monica, despite certain obstacles. I would incentivize community serving, "green," and permaculture oriented businesses to entice them to set up shop here. In order to help small business owners navigate the city's maze of requirements I would establish an ombudsperson office.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST THREAT FACING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SANTA MONICA
The biggest threats facing us in Santa Monica are shared by other municipalities in the region: climate change and peak oil and the environmental as well as civil and economic disruption both may cause. If elected I would promote programs to counter said challenges by expanding the Sustainable City program, including the distributed generation of alternative energy within our community to help us become more locally energy self-reliant and less dependent upon the energy grid. I would promote permaculture designs, increase the number of community gardens and open space, and create an Urban Forestry Commission, conserving and augmenting as much of our tree canopy as possible. I would encourage increased bicycle ridership. I would add more bus routes and shuttles, especially on north/south routes. I would initiate rainwater harvesting and catchment programs, codifying new construction to include this feature. Civic leaders need to ensure that vital city services won't be disrupted.

IZZY'S CORN BEEF SANDWICH OR A TOFU TURKEY SANDWICH FROM CO-OPPORTUNITY?
Veggie tamale from the Co-Op.

DOES THE CITY NEED MORE PARKING SPACES, OR WILL THAT JUST ATTRACT MORE DRIVERS? WHAT INCENTIVES SHOULD THE CITY OFFER TO GET PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS?
We need a variety of transportation demand management programs like employer paid bus passes and on site showers for those who choose to commute by bicycle. We can increase bicycle ridership with things like more bike lanes, a bike station, expanding the successful bike valet program and by constructing barriers between the bike lane and auto traffic.

For new apartments we can consider reducing the amount of parking provided and instead locate them near transit nodes and bike lanes so they are less automobile dependent. Providing fewer parking spaces also cuts down on the cost per unit, helping make more housing affordable for low and middle income residents. Bus schedules should be expanded to enhance resident accessibility.

FREE FORM. WHAT'S PUTTING A BURR UNDER YOUR SADDLE?
I would like to see a solution to the monthly Critical Mass bike riders' troubles with the SMPD. Since bicyclists do not pollute, nor use fossil fuels, I think their healthy mode of transportation should be encouraged. The monthly ride is a joyous celebration and also a timely example to others of the option to go by bike. I would be in favor of discussing having a police escort for the riders as they have in San Francisco.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO RUN FOR OFFICE?
I endeavor to listen to all sides with an open mind and to respect all points of view. I have been an activist for many years. (See my Web site: www.linda-piera-avila.org). I will base my decisions on what I think is in the best interest of the future of Santa Monica's residents.

WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CITY COUNCIL PLAY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION? DID THE COUNCIL OVERSTEP ITS BOUNDARIES BY DEMANDING CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION BEFORE RELEASING ROUGHLY $500,00 TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT? IF ELECTED, WOULD YOU DEDICATE MORE FUNDS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR WOULD YOU REDUCE THE CONTRIBUTION? IF SO, BY HOW MUCH?
Since the City Council is called upon to assist with school funding, it is, by default, obligated to play a role in public education. But because the council is not elected to run the schools, this is a very slippery slope and one that the council needs to tread very lightly on.

No, the Council was within its purview regarding the special education funding. I support continuation of the $7 million that the city currently allocates on an annual basis to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. If it is decided that more money is needed in the future, and economic circumstances permit, I would be open to discussing increasing the funding and would encourage the district to allow residents access to facilities in exchange, such as athletic fields and auditoriums.

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FROM KOVAC PAGE 3

Academy Awards is our diamond in the rough. It's time to polish this gem, restore it to its former glory, and use it to reflect the current cultural needs of our community.

HOMELESSNESS IS FAR AND AWAY OUR CITY'S MOST PRESSING ISSUE, ACCORDING TO DAILY PRESS READERS. WHAT NEW IDEAS DO YOU BRING TO THE TABLE? DO YOU BELIEVE CITY HALL IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH ITS PLAN TO HOUSE THE MOST VULNERABLE WHILE STILL PROVIDING GRANTS TO SERVICE PROVIDERS?

As much as we'd like to solve this issue ourselves, it reaches beyond our community as we provide services to the homeless from the entire region. My business background requires that we look at other cities that have successful approaches that we can use in creating our own comprehensive solution. For inspiration, I look to New York City's Doe Fund that develops programs to help empower homeless individuals become contributing, working members of society. Closer to home, Google's Project Connect provides free lifetime voice mail to San Francisco's homeless. We need to look around, identify the most successful approaches, and incorporate them into our plans.

FAVORITE FILM AND RECORDING ARTIST?

I'm a big fan of Eric Clapton and of the "Bourne Identity" series.

HOW DO YOU SPEND A DAY OFF IN SANTA MONICA?

These days it tends to be "hours off" instead of days off. The beauty of our city is being able to do so many things close by. Our prized Farmers' Markets, a stroll down the Third Street Promenade, and catching as many sunsets as possible when jogging on the strand are a few of my favorites.

DEVELOPMENT IS A TOPIC THAT HAS GAINED MORE ATTENTION IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, WITH MANY RESIDENTS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE INCREASE IN COMMERCIAL AND CONDO DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN DOWNTOWN. DO YOU BELIEVE THE NEW LAND USE AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT PROPERLY ADDRESSES CONCERNS? DOES IT GO FAR ENOUGH TO PROTECT NEIGHBORHOODS OR DOES IT ALLOW DENSE DEVELOPMENT WITH BUILDINGS HEIGHTS THAT ARE TOO INTRUSIVE? WHAT IS YOUR STANCE ON PROP. T? DO YOU BELIEVE IT IS A PROPER RESPONSE TO TRAFFIC WOES?

As the son of a residential architect, I'm hyper aware of the issues that affect city planning. And like most of my neighbors, I'm looking for real solutions to our traffic woes. As I've been speaking with Santa Monicans, I've noticed that many of them are concerned with the potential effects (both positive and negative) of Prop T. Economically, it shouldn't have a material affect on our economy for the next 10-15 years, but at the same time, it doesn't focus on reducing traffic so much as reducing development. We need to focus on actually reducing traffic on our roads, beaches, and airspace.

IF YOU COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY THREE PEOPLE IN HISTORY, WHO WOULD THEY BE?

Martha Washington, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Eleanor Roosevelt. I think those three might be able to provide me with unparalleled insight into the thinking behind historical decisions.

LOCAL BUSINESSES PROVIDE THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUES, YET SANTA MONICA HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A DIFFICULT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS. HOW WOULD YOU ENTICE MORE BUSINESSES, DIFFERENT BUSINESSES, TO OPEN UP SHOP?

I have a three-phased plan to eliminate the perception of Santa Monica as an anti-business city. First, we have to acknowledge the beneficial effects that small businesses can have on our community — reducing traffic and our environmental footprint — by bringing businesses closer to the people while simultaneously increasing tax revenues. Second, we have to streamline the actions required to set up businesses within our city. Finally, we should actively recruit desirable businesses by promoting Santa Monica around the world.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST THREAT FACING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SANTA MONICA?

The quality of life in Santa Monica is good, and while there are no immediate threats, we need dynamic leadership in order to maintain and enhance our quality of life.

IZZY'S CORN BEEF SANDWICH OR A TOFU TURKEY SANDWICH FROM CO-OPPORTUNITY?

Perfection is a breakfast sandwich at Urth, Italian tuna for lunch at Amelia's, whatever is on 'special' for dinner at Real Food Daily, and a late-night snack at Swingers.

DOES THE CITY NEED MORE PARKING SPACES, OR WILL THAT JUST ATTRACT MORE DRIVERS? WHAT INCENTIVES SHOULD THE CITY OFFER TO GET PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS?

This question is one of the reasons I'm running for the council because it illustrates the need to involve the citizens of our city. We need a grassroots solution with input from our residents that takes into account the fact that we're accustomed to a lifestyle based on automobile use.

FREE FORM. WHAT'S PUTTING A BURR UNDER YOUR SADDLE?

Santa Monica has often been a leader in the state and even our country with strong environmental, living wage, and residents rights initiatives.

But our lead has rapidly narrowed as we allow our election process to be controlled by a group that stands in the way of developing a new generation of politically involved leaders and truly progressive candidates.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO RUN FOR OFFICE?

My work in the Clinton White House for the Office of National AIDS Policy and the White House Conference on Small Business gave me an understanding of public policy.

Advising small businesses has given me experience working with diverse issues in different industries with many stakeholders. My efforts to create more accountability, enhance communications, and improve responsiveness for my clients are applicable on my first day as a councilman.

WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CITY COUNCIL PLAY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION? DID THE COUNCIL OVERSTEP ITS BOUNDARIES BY DEMANDING CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION BEFORE RELEASING ROUGHLY $500,00 TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT? IF ELECTED, WOULD YOU DEDICATE MORE FUNDS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR WOULD YOU REDUCE THE CONTRIBUTION? IF SO, BY HOW MUCH?

The City Council should realize that maintaining a top-notch school system is key to ensuring Santa Monica's standing as one of the most desirable places to live and raise a family.

Simply put, good schools make good neighborhoods by creating intellectually curious youth and ensuring that property values remain stable. As a council member, education will be one of my top priorities.

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FROM **GENSER** PAGE 3

others. We are very fortunate to live in such an involved and caring community.

HOMELESSNESS IS FAR AND AWAY OUR CITY'S MOST PRESSING ISSUE, ACCORDING TO DAILY PRESS READERS. WHAT NEW IDEAS DO YOU BRING TO THE TABLE? DO YOU BELIEVE CITY HALL IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH ITS PLAN TO HOUSE THE MOST VULNERABLE WHILE STILL PROVIDING GRANTS TO SERVICE PROVIDERS?
I don't claim to have new ideas. Rather, it is more important to implement good ideas. I do support the "housing first" model by which the most vulnerable people on the street are housed.

In other communities, this has been shown to be beneficial and cost effective. I think it is also essential that we continue to fund programs that help people move off the streets, such as employment counseling, access to substance abuse treatment, etc. Moreover, we must make sure our programs are designed so they don't serve as magnets to attract more homeless individuals to our small city. Enforcement of our laws is critical; inappropriate behavior by any individual in our public spaces must not be tolerated.

FAVORITE FILM AND RECORDING ARTIST?
My tastes are too diverse — and quirky — to have a favorite. Variety truly is the spice of life.

HOW DO YOU SPEND A DAY OFF IN SANTA MONICA?
My life is not compartmentalized, so there is no such thing as having a "day off" when I am home. If I want a day off, I have to leave town.

DEVELOPMENT IS A TOPIC THAT HAS GAINED MORE ATTENTION IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, WITH MANY RESIDENTS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE INCREASE IN COMMERCIAL AND CONDO DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN DOWNTOWN. DO YOU BELIEVE THE NEW LAND USE AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT PROPERLY ADDRESSES CONCERNS? DOES IT GO FAR ENOUGH TO PROTECT NEIGHBORHOODS OR DOES IT ALLOW DENSE DEVELOPMENT WITH BUILDINGS HEIGHTS THAT ARE TOO INTRUSIVE? WHAT IS YOUR STANCE ON PROP. T? DO YOU BELIEVE IT IS A PROPER RESPONSE TO TRAFFIC WOES?
I do not believe that the draft Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) properly addresses residents' concerns about the scale of development in Santa Monica, and I have been aggressively working to get the votes on the council to change it. The draft LUCE has a number of very good policies to protect existing neighborhoods, but the scale of the new development it would allow is not in keeping with what I think most residents want.

I do not support Prop. T. I think it is well meaning, but upon analysis, it is merely a "feel good" measure that will not reduce traffic. Unfortunately, it will have a number of unintended, adverse consequences for residents.

Traffic and congestion are two of the most significant issues threatening our quality of life, and thoughtful, carefully targeted policies can improve the situation. Among these is the adoption of a policy in the draft LUCE I have advocated: we should link the issuance of development permits directly to our success in achieving traffic reduction goals.

If we don't meet our traffic reduction goals, we shouldn't approve more traffic-generating development.

IF YOU COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY THREE PEOPLE IN HISTORY, WHO WOULD THEY BE?
Ben Franklin, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and my father.

LOCAL BUSINESSES PROVIDE THE MAJORITY OF THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUES, YET SANTA MONICA HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A DIFFICULT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS. HOW WOULD YOU ENTICE MORE BUSINESSES, DIFFERENT BUSINESSES, TO OPEN UP SHOP?
It's hard to conduct business in Santa Monica? That reminds me of Casey Stengel saying, "Nobody goes there any more, it's too crowded."

I don't think we need more businesses per se, but we need to focus on keeping and attracting those businesses that are useful and affordable to residents. Thoughtful land use regulations can help in this area.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST THREAT FACING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SANTA MONICA?
For many, it is the loss of affordable housing opportunities. For everyone, it is traffic and congestion.

IZZY'S CORN BEEF SANDWICH OR A TOFU TURKEY SANDWICH FROM CO-OPPORTUNITY?
Both! I'm a lifelong member of the Clean Plate Club.

DOES THE CITY NEED MORE PARKING SPACES, OR WILL THAT JUST ATTRACT MORE DRIVERS? WHAT INCENTIVES SHOULD THE CITY OFFER TO GET PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS?
We need to carefully balance the number of parking spaces with both the parking demand and the carrying capacity of our streets. For example, a lack of available parking — coupled with a lack of easy to use transit — will increase traffic as people circle to find a place to park. We need to provide a range of options including both parking and additional transportation choices, and gradually encourage people to shift from private cars to alternative forms of transportation.

FREE FORM. WHAT'S PUTTING A BURR UNDER YOUR SADDLE?
One thing that always gets under my skin is when people cannot hear ideas that might question their existing perceptions.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO RUN FOR OFFICE?
I am committed to making Santa Monica the best it can be for its residents. I bring thoughtful, reasoned decision-making, integrated with respectful consideration of public opinion. In vote after vote, I have demonstrated my commitment to slow growth, environmental stewardship, preservation of affordable housing, support for education, enhancement of our park system, provision of high quality, cost-effective city services, and sound fiscal management.

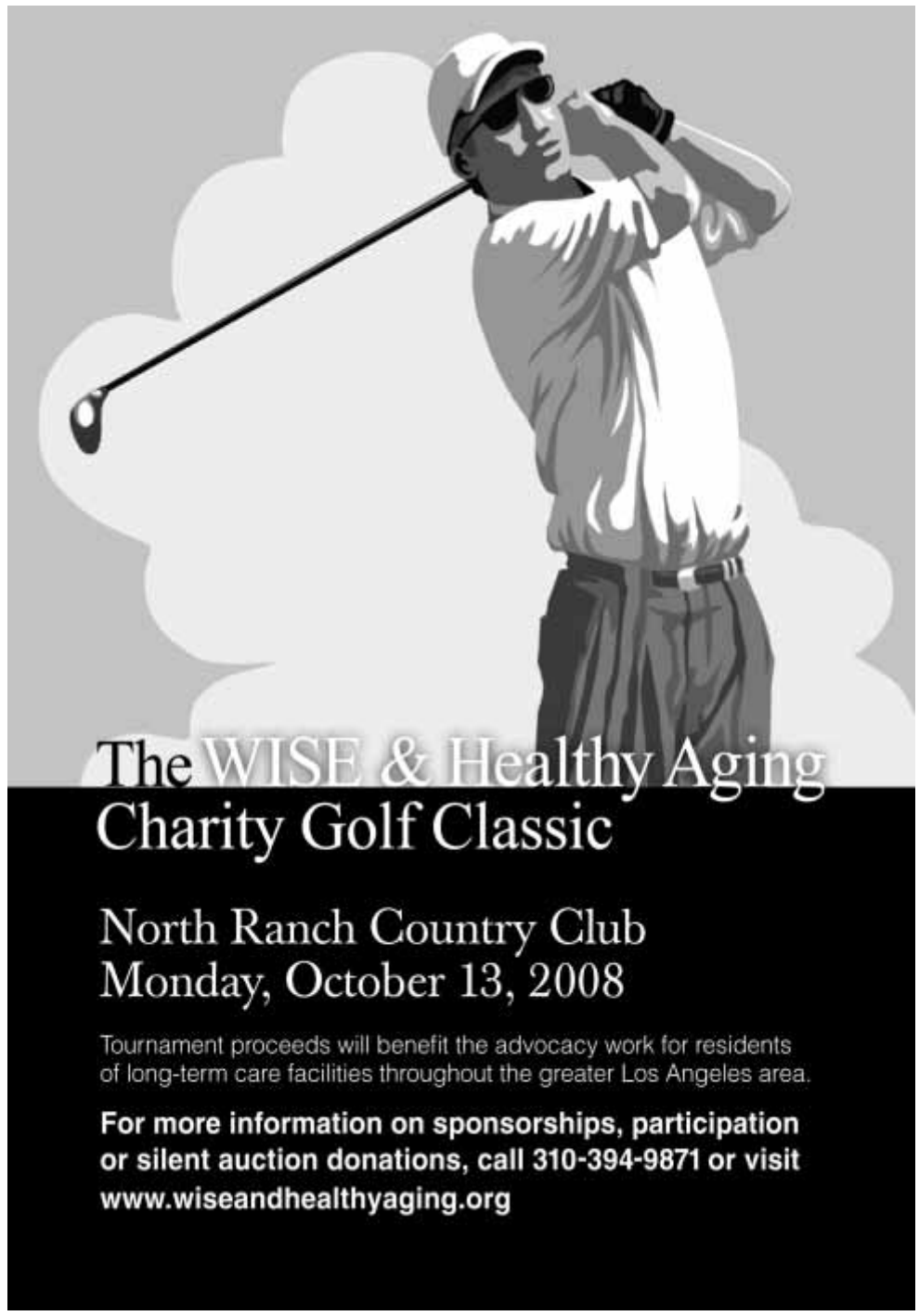
WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CITY COUNCIL PLAY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION? DID THE COUNCIL OVERSTEP ITS BOUNDARIES BY DEMANDING CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION BEFORE RELEASING ROUGHLY $500,00 TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT? IF ELECTED, WOULD YOU DEDICATE MORE FUNDS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR WOULD YOU REDUCE THE CONTRIBUTION? IF SO, BY HOW MUCH?
I strongly support the city providing financial assistance to our public schools, and was one of the architects of the city's current agreement with the school district. I do not support reducing the funding the city provides, and I hope to increase it over time.
Even though the city provides financial assistance to the district, I do not think it is generally wise for the council to involve itself directly in educational policy.

That is why we have a separate, elected Board of Education. I consider the current withholding of funds as something different. I think it is reasonable for the city to use its influence to ensure that all our families, including those with special needs children, have equal access to the services the district provides.









World markets higher ahead of bailout vote

BY PAN PYLAS
AP Business Writer

LONDON European and U.S. markets brushed aside earlier losses in Asia and weaker than expected U.S. jobs data to post healthy gains Friday on expectations the U.S. House of Representative will finally back the government's $700 billion bank bailout, which was approved on Friday.

At the close, Britain's FTSE 100 index was up 109.91 points, or 2.2 percent at 4,980.25, while Germany's DAX was 136.40, or 2.4 percent higher at 5,797.03. The CAC 40 in France performed the best of all up 117.47 points, or 3.0 percent, at 4,080.75.

In the U.S., the Dow Jones index was 195.37 points, or 1.9 percent, at 10,678.22, recovering some of the 348 point losses recorded Thursday, while the Nasdaq index was 55.1 points, or 2.78 percent higher, at 2,031.77.

Investors are eager to see the government's plan to buy up the bad mortgage-related debt on US banks' balance sheets passed by the House. Earlier this week, the Senate backed the proposal by a large majority, giving a lifeline to the package spectacularly rejected on Monday by the House.

Observers think that the House will back the proposal this time, following changes to the proposals. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said a vote would not be brought to the floor unless passage was likely. The vote was expected to take place during market hours.

"A lot of the move today is pricing in a yes vote by the House," said Adam Seagrave, a sales trader at CMC Markets.

Even though the pressures in stock markets appear to have settled down for the moment, more stress showed in money markets, particularly in Europe, where the euro interbank offered rate, or Euribor, hit a new all-time high of 5.33 percent. Meanwhile, the key London interbank bank offered rate, or Libor, also climbed to a nine-month high of 4.33 percent.

Analysts and officials say that the U.S. bailout plan will not be enough in itself to free up money market lending and that further coordinated action by policy-makers across the globe will be required. A meeting of EU leaders this weekend in Paris and next week's meeting of officials from the G7 countries may offer policy-makers an opportunity to draw up such plans.

With money market rates elevated there is a growing consensus interest rate cuts may be on the way from the U.S. Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank and the Bank of England.

The key economic event Friday was the US non-farm payrolls report for September. The Labor Department reported that employers slashed payrolls by 159,000 in September, the most in more than five years, piling on the pressure on lawmakers to pass the bailout plan.

"They make it more likely that the House will approve the rescue plan tonight, and they may also trigger another Fed rate cut," said Dr. Harm Bandholz, economist at UniCredit.

Wall Street investors did find some room for optimism by the news that Wells Fargo & Co. has trumped Citigroup Inc. with its $15.1 billion dollar all-stock takeover of Wachovia. The deal cheered investors because, unlike several recent banking tie-ups, it wasn't put together at the behest of regulators or using government money. The agreement upends a plan announced Monday by Citigroup to acquire Wachovia's banking operations for $2.16 billion, a move orchestrated by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

"The deal shows that there's some strength in some of the banks and that some of the better capitalised banks have the financing...it's not all doom and gloom," said CMC's Seagrave.

Wachovia shares rose $2.72, or nearly 70 percent, to $6.64 in New York, while Wells Fargo increased $2.44, or 6.9 percent, to $37.60. Shares in Citigroup, which is demanding that Wachovia abide by the terms of the earlier deal, were down $2.15, or 11.6 percent.

Chinese pandas being fed chicken soup for their health

BY AUDRA ANG
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING Everyone needs some chicken soup for the soul — even pandas.

The Wuhan Zoo in central China has been feeding its two pandas home-cooked chicken soup twice in a month to reduce stress and give them a nutritional boost, a zoo official said Friday.

He Zhihua said 3-year-old Xiwang and Weiwei — literally meaning "Hope" and "Greatness" — were tired and suffering from a little shock since the start Monday of the weeklong National Day holiday, one of the biggest travel seasons of the year.

On Wednesday, up to 30,000 people swarmed the zoo and about 1,000 tourists packed the panda enclosure, shouting to get the animals' attention, He said. The pandas paced restlessly.

"They had been getting less sleep, and they had to run around more," he said. "We felt it would be good to give them the soup because they were fatigued and had a bit of a shock."

Reflecting the Chinese tradition of drinking slow-cooked chicken soup for health, the zookeepers boiled roosters in water overnight and added a pinch of salt to the concentrated stock.

The pandas were served 2.2 pounds (1 kilogram) of soup in giant dishes, in addition to their regular diet of bamboo, milk and buns, He said.

It was a hit.



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Caribbean Cruise FROM $409*
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Mexican Riviera Cruise FROM $419*
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Vacations

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Mediterranean Europe Cruise FROM $699*
INCLUDES 7-night cruise aboard the Celebrity Century in an interior stateroom. FEATURES Barcelona, Cannes, Portofino, Florence, Rome (Civitavecchia), Naples/Capri, Barcelona. UPGRADE Ocean view stateroom from $899*.

Oahu FROM $739*
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Vacations

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Vietnam Highlights Tour FROM $1215*
INCLUDES 10-day Contiki tour with hotel accommodation, sightseeing & some meals. ITINERARY Ho Chi Minh City, Nha Trang, Hoi An, Hue, Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hanoi. HIGHLIGHT Overnight cruise in a traditional Junk boat in Halong Bay.

Vacations

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Sydney FROM $1449*
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 7 nights 4.5-star accommodations.

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers, inter-island transfers & 4 nights 4-star accommodations. BONUS flower lei & one black pearl pendant.

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INCLUDES 7-day Globus tour with superior hotel accommodation, sightseeing & some meals. ITINERARY Rome, Venice, Verona, Lake Garda, Florence, Orvieto, Rome. HIGHLIGHT Private boat ride in Venice.

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Universal

'The Big Lebowski' 10th Anniversary Edition

One of the Coen Brothers' best efforts, Jeff Bridges stars as The Dude, a professional slacker, whose life is turned chaotic in a case of mistaken identity. With a backdrop of bowling and avant-garde art, the quirky comedy-thriller also stars John Goodman, Julianne Moore, Steve Buscemi, and John Turturro. The twin-disc presentation offers new bonus features such as The Lebowski Fest; The Dude's Life; Flying Carpets and Bowling Pin Dreams as well as Jeff Bridges' photo book. (Universal)

'The Forbidden Kingdom' 2-Disc Special Edition

This is the first film to bring together martial arts stars Jackie Chan and Jet Li. Choreographed by Woo-Ping Yuen ("Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"), here is a tale of two archrivals who unite to challenge a warlord in a battle of good versus evil to free the imprisoned Monkey King. Special features include The Kung Fu Dream Team; Discovering China; Filming in Chinawood; a blooper reel as well as a digital copy of the feature film for ITunes and Windows Media. (Lionsgate)

'Joy House'

A classic tale of intrigue, seduction and murder from French director Rene Clement. Jane Fonda, Alain Delon, and Lola Albright star in this thriller that was originally released theatrically in America in 1964. Set along the French Riviera, Delon portrays a notorious playboy and con man who soon finds himself on the run after a mobster learns his wife had an affair with the Euro pretty boy. Thinking he has found refuge at a posh villa working for a beautiful American widower (Albright) and her niece (Fonda), Delon couldn't have been more wrong ... and more in trouble. Enhancing this 1960s cool picture is a brilliant music score by celebrated composer Lalo Schifrin. (Koch Lorber)

'The Little Mermaid: Ariel's Beginning'

Here is an exploration of the mischievous mermaid's oceanic adventures in the magical kingdom of Atlantica. Joining Ariel are her friends Sebastian and Flounder and her six sisters along with the wicked villainess Marina Del Rey. Supplements include a song sing along, deleted scenes, and the use of dance in the animation creation. (Disney)

'The Simpsons' 11TH Season Limited Edition Collector's Box

The most recent DVD product from one of America's favorite animated families of all-time, comes with a cool three-dimensional cover, a special Krusty The Clown themed box that contains a surprise insert for the die hard fan. Guest stars include Mel Gibson, Kid Rock, Willie Nelson, and Britney Spears. In addition to all 22 episodes, this collection also includes animation showcases; deleted scenes; a Krusty segment; a special introduction by creator Matt Groening and footage of The Simpsons receiving their star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. (Fox)

'Globetrekker: South America'

The intrepid hosts of this popular travel series take viewers off the typical tourist tracks. Spread out over seven discs, this comprehensive box set includes visits to the glaciers of Patagonia, tango clubs in Buenos Aires, exploration of the Amazonian rainforest, and the mysteries of Bolivia, the cradle of the amazing Incan Empire. Known for exploring areas not often serviced by packaged tours, here's an arm-chair adventure that takes you deep south of the border. (Globetrekkertv.com)

'Married With Children' Complete Ninth Season

The Bundy clan (Ed O'Neill, Katey Sagal, David Faustino and Christina Applegate) return for more twists on domestic bliss. Storylines revolve around strip clubs, prom dates, driving schools and TV commercials with all 28 episodes in a three-disc set. The series' 200th episode special "Get the Dodge Out of Hell" is included.(Fox)

'Horatio Hornblower' Collector's Edition

The swashbuckling Emmy-winning series based on C.S. Forester's novel, follows the course of Mr. Hornblower who joins the British Royal Navy at the outset of the Napoleonic Wars. The eight-disc adventure takes us through the West Indies and the African coast. The treasure chest of extras include an interactive 3-D naval cannon, nautical terms and a guide to royal warships. (A&E)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at writtenbyrw@yahoo.com





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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 65°

Swell Forecast (4-6 FT)

Saturday the 4th the WNW swell should decline to chest high (max). Sunday the 5th the southern hemi swell should back off to a more even chest high for south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Monday the 6th the WNW should peak at head high around most all west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **September 30, 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 -- 40 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / ns

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay 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

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.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Trojans recovering from shocking loss

BY KEN PETERS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Each of the past two years, mighty Southern California was knocked off by a Pac-10 underdog. Each time, the Trojans bounced back with some impressive victories — and then lost again.

They've already had their first shock of the season, in their conference opener at Oregon State last week. Another loss almost certainly would knock USC out of national title contention and dent their chances of a seventh consecutive Pac-10 title.

Dropped from No. 1 to No. 9 following their 27-21 loss at Corvallis, the Trojans (2-1, 0-1) try to return to form when they face No. 23 Oregon (4-1, 2-0) Saturday at the Coliseum.

"An opportunity is what this is," USC coach Pete Carroll said. "We want to see our guys find our way to get the focus that takes us right back to the way we're capable of playing.

"That's what we do. We've done this before and been in this situation."

The Ducks beat USC 24-17 at Eugene last year, but still couldn't break USC's grip on the Pac-10 title and Rose Bowl berth.

"There are all those different elements there, playing in a huge game in the Coliseum on national television," Ducks quarterback Jeremiah Masoli said. "We've just got to stay level-headed like we were playing (Washington State) last week."

Watching USC's loss to Oregon State last Thursday probably gave the Ducks clues to what might work against the Trojans' defense. USC had all kinds of problems tackling 5-foot-7 freshman Jacquizz Rodgers, who rushed for 186 yards and two touchdowns to key the Beavers' victory.

The ground game is Oregon's strong suit, with their running back tandem of LeGarrette Blount and Jeremiah Johnson. Blount has averaged 7.3 yards a carry and 96.2 yards a game and scored eight touchdowns, while Johnson has averaged 6.8 and 88 and has scored six TDs.

USC defensive end Kyle Moore said the Trojans didn't do a good job of getting rid of their blockers and spotting the diminutive Rodgers.

"This week, the coaches have been telling us that we have to beat the man in front of us first, then worry about the runner," Moore said.

The Ducks' ground attack has helped them survive a string of quarterback injuries. Starter Nate Costa was lost of the year in the preseason to a knee injury. Second-stringer Justin Roper been in and out of the lineup with a knee injury. Either he or Masoli, who had been No. 3 on the depth chart, will start against USC.

Trojans quarterback Mark Sanchez had the look of a Heisman candidate against Virginia and Ohio State before the Trojans stumbled in Corvallis. Their committee of tailbacks, led by Joe McKnight, also sputtered against the Beavers.

Sanchez's former high school teammate, Ducks defensive end Nick Reed, is Oregon's best pass rusher. He already has 8.5 tackles for loss, five sacks and a fumble recovery.

The Trojans are expected to be without middle linebacker Rey Maualuga, one of their defensive mainstays who has a knee injury.

Although USC is coming off a surprising loss, the Ducks figure the Trojans will be the same as usual.

"Every time I watch USC, they seem pretty even-keeled," Oregon center Max Unger. "Maybe it's their coaching or how they play or that they have All-Americans backing up All-Americans, but it kind of seems like they don't get super ridiculously fired up or play down to anybody."

Ducks coach Mike Bellotti wants to make sure his 60 players from California don't get distracted.

"We talk about first and foremost, it's a business trip," he said. "It's not a visitation, it's not a vacation. It's go there to do our business, and that's play our best football and win the game.

"The second thing is, we always talk about the fact you have to control your emotions so they work for you, not against you. It's an opportunity to play for friends and family for maybe the first and only time this year."

Although USC holds a 36-16-2 record in the series that began in 1915 and is 19-7-1 in the last 27 games, the Ducks have won five of the last eight and six of the last 10.

LEGAL NEWS

Phillips sentenced to prison

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Former football star Lawrence Phillips was sentenced Friday to 10 years in prison, two years after he was convicted of assault with a deadly weapon.

The sentencing was repeatedly delayed while Phillips fought to withdraw a guilty plea in a domestic abuse case that could have led to a stiffer sentence.

Phillips was convicted in 2006 of seven counts of assault with a deadly weapon.

The 31-year-old former Nebraska running back has been jailed since August 2005, when he drove onto a field near Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and his car struck two boys, ages 14 and 15, and a 19-year-old man, who suffered cuts and bruises. The car narrowly missed four other people.

He was upset over losing a pickup football game to the youths, prosecutors said.

In court, Phillips tearfully apologized to one of the victims.

"I'm sorry that your leg is messed up," Phillips told Rodney Flores, after hearing the young man tell the court that he was unable to pursue his dream of playing high school sports as a result of being hit when he was 16.

"I'm sorry you have to come in here like this," Phillips said, adding that he "wanted the chance to say I didn't mean to hurt people."

He had tried to avoid a potential 20-year prison term in the assault case by trying to withdraw a 2000 guilty plea to hitting a woman he had been dating during a confrontation at the Beverly Hills Hotel, prosecutors said.

MOVIE TIMES

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

African Queen (1951) (NR) 1hr 03min
7:30

Prizzi's Honor (NR) 2hrs 09min
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

Flash of Genius (PG-13) 1hr 59min
11:10am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Tropic Thunder (R) 1hr 47min
7:40, 10:20

Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13) 1hr 36min
11:55am, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40

An American Carol (PG-13) 1hr 23min
12:55, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:20

Igor (PG) 1hr 26min
11:00am, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15

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

Lakeview Terrace (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:25

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) 1hr 25min
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) 1hr 25min
11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

Miracle at St. Anna (R) 2hrs 46min
11:50am, 3:20, 10:05

The Express (PG)
7:00

Appaloosa (R) 1hr 48min
11:05am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:55

Ghost Town (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:40am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15

Burn After Reading (R) 1hr 37min
11:55am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

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

The Duchess (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Religulous (R) 1hr 41min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45

Blindness (R) 1hr 58min
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

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

How to Lose Friends & Alienate People (R) 1hr 50min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30, 12:00am

Eagle Eye (PG-13) 1hr 58min
12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:40, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:10, 12:10am

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:40am, 12:40, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:00, 9:20, 10:20, 11:30

Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13) 1hr 37min
12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

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

Out and about, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ If possible, opt for a day trip and get some fresh air. A walk or picnic easily could fit the bill. You might note that there is nothing like exercise to re-energize you. You can be direct with someone you care about. Tonight: Try a new restaurant or cuisine.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ A partner could be touchy and difficult. Work with this person, knowing that he or she could be a bit off. Indulge a little. Evaluate possibilities. Remain positive or upbeat. A child or a loved one could feel neglected! Tonight: Remain responsive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Others run with the ball. You cannot slow the pace, so decide whether you want to join in. You could be overwhelmed by a domestic or personal issue. Cheer up and understand limits to what you need or want. Evaluate. Tonight: Ever social.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Get more exercise by trying out a new sport or hobby. If you don't like where you work out or walk, change the environment. Do not allow anyone to push you too hard. Establish limits. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Let your imagination play out when dealing with key people. You might be more tired than you realize. Say "stop" if you need to. Curb spending, and see that the mighty dollar might not be as important as you think when having fun. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You smile, and someone else shares. You might be surprised by the end results of giving up an "attitude." Lighten up and have an overdue discussion. Be direct in your dealings with a child or a loved one. Tonight: Do not hold back.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Investigating possibilities could become your trademark. Be aware of the cost of holding back on a decision. Whether the deal is over in a few days or you lose your enthusiasm is hard to tell. Make what you want happen. Tonight: Out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Be aware of a tendency to indulge, which will mount in the next few weeks. Spending could damage a fragile budget. Do not act without using good sense. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are energized and full of snap, crackle and pop. You see a situation in a different, more positive light. A family member or someone older could rain on your parade. You have more bounce than that. Tonight: Investigate and decide what works.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You could be upbeat and quite understanding. If you want to gain a perspective through finding other views, you could find that you are pulling teeth. Yet someone could be hostile and tell you a lot through his or her anger. Do not react, but take in the meaning behind these words. Tonight: Aim high.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You know what you want to do. That's right: Surround yourself with friends. A boss might push hard to achieve goals, or someone you looked up to could make unusual demands. Go with the flow. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You are on top of your game. Consider your options that surround a must appearance more carefully. You have to go the whole way with a loved one or someone you care about. Think positively. Tonight: Plan a mini-retreat or outing.

Happy birthday

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

You could be much more provocative and directed this year than you have been in a long time. You can expect some shocking reactions, too. What you see and what occurs could change radically this year. You learn to test others' minds with questions. You could push way too hard or turn someone off by trying too hard. If you are single, you will meet someone through simply hanging out. A neighbor or party could be the path of encounter. If you are attached, the two of you become much closer, the more you share, Just do that. Make sure you have old-fashioned dates sprinkled into your life together. SAGITTARIUS opens you up to new ideas.

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New West Symphony
Presents
Bravo Beethoven
Sunday, October 12, 2008
Barnum Hall, Santa Monica 4pm

Boris Brott, Conductor
Corey Cerovsek, Violin
2006 Grammy Nominee

Beethoven Leonore Overture No, 3, Opus 72a
Beethoven Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Opus 36
Beethoven Concerto in D Major for Violin & Orchestra, Opus 61



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Park at Civic Center lot on 4th Street

Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

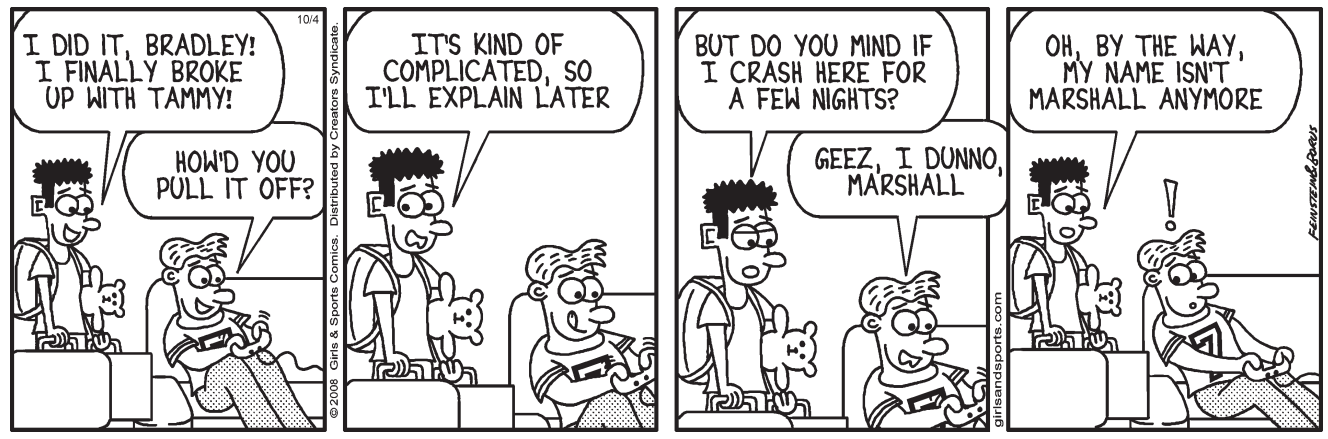
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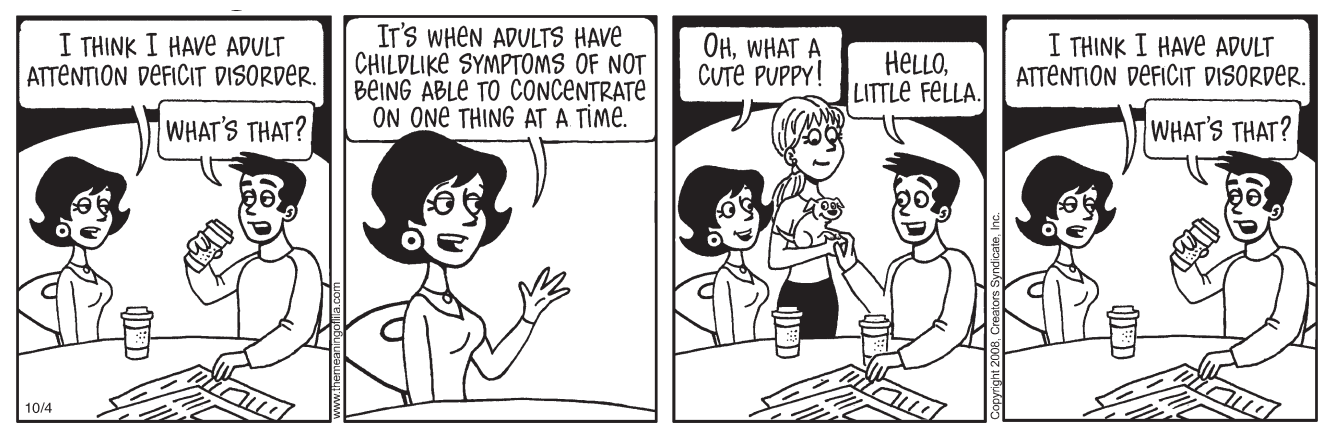
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



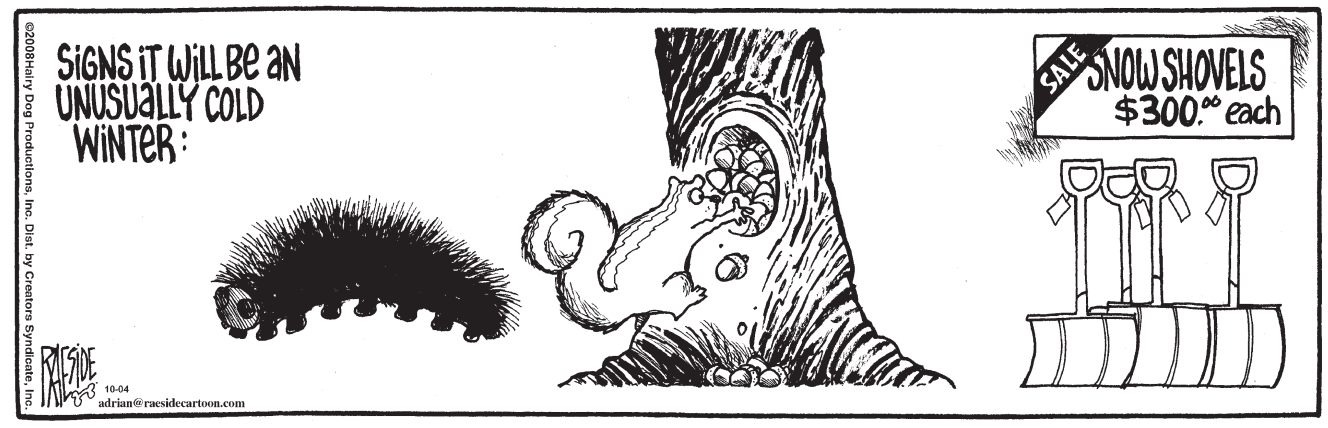
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



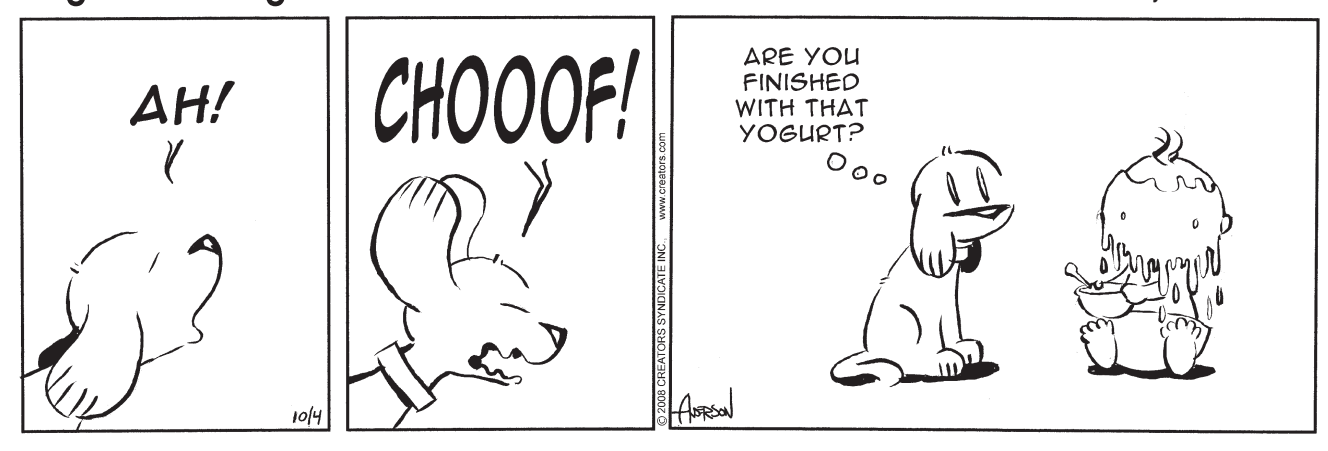
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

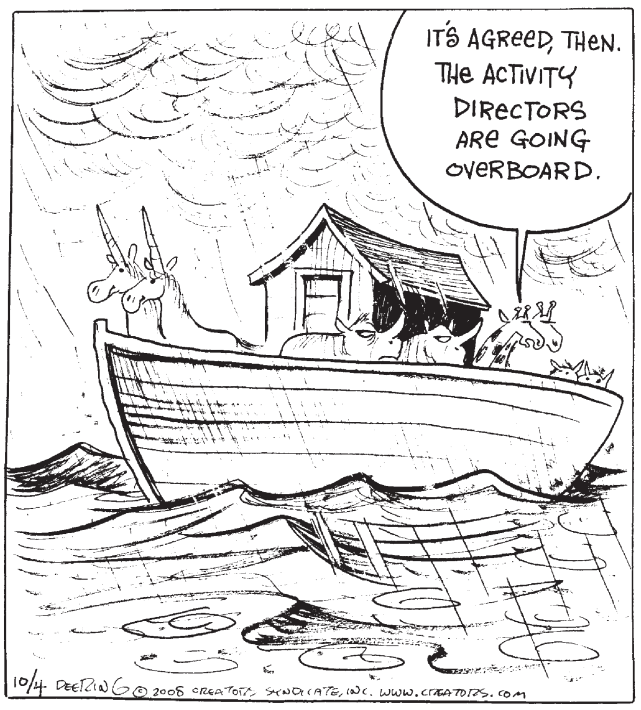


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Indies export
6 Elroy's pooch
11 Body of law
12 "Two Women" star
13 Dazzling posters
14 Saw
15 Official documents
17 Coq au —
18 Needle part
19 Kind of bonus
22 Convened
23 Refrain bit
24 Calendar page
25 Origin
27 Ball club?
30 Crawl expert
31 Compass pt.
32 Amigo
33 Capitol group
35 Cuzco natives
38 Boarded
39 Taunt
40 Like lambs
41 Intuit
42 Nymph chaser

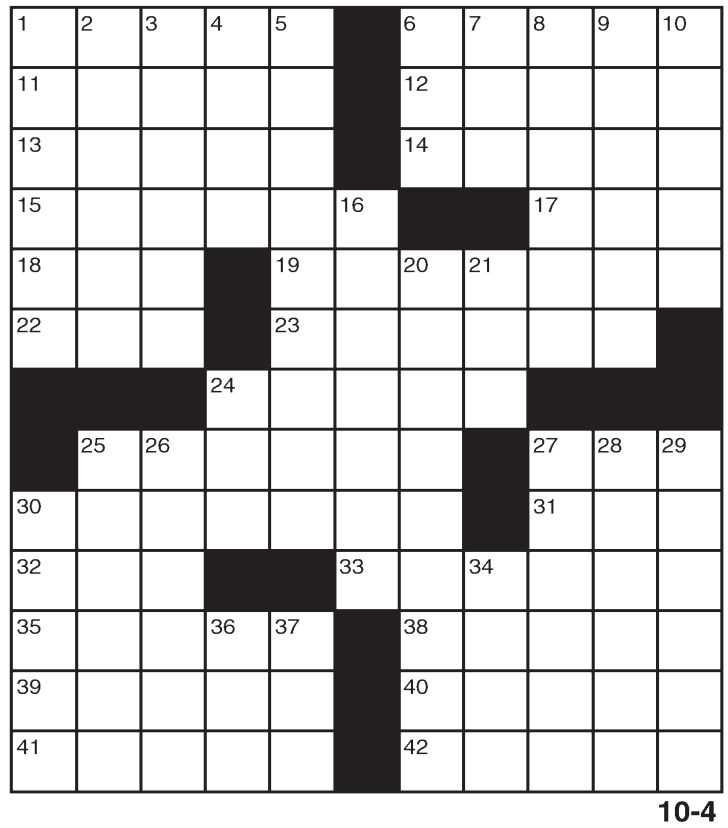
DOWN

1 Defendant of 1925
2 Tropical fruit
3 Sulky
4 Heart
5 Competitor's application
6 Copying
7 Grassy clump
8 See the world
9 Saskatchewan's capital
10 Without break
16 Medium shows
20 Jekyll and Hyde, e.g.
21 Team scream
24 Silent
25 River of song
26 Tin Man's prop
27 Michael Jackson hit
28 Caesar's friend
29 Adolescent
30 Barbecue rods
34 Stellar sight
36 Farm beast
37 Take in

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

Yesterday's answer

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



10-4

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 13 28 32 41 52
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: $42M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 5 13 15 20 36
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $36M

FANTASY 5: 18 29 31 35 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 6 5
EVENING: 5 1 8

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1.49.19

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ "In many ways," reported the Los Angeles Times in August, the Torajans of Indonesia's Sulawesi Island "spend a lifetime preparing for their demise," in that the most glorious highlight of their existence appears to be planning the elaborate celebration of the end of it. In fact, taking one's last breath is only the beginning of a lengthy tribute, such as the one for Toraja's last king, who died in 2003 but has not been put away yet, pending completion of the necessary ritual animal sacrifices. (In the interim, the deceased is considered more "sick" than "dead.") Said one local ("cheerfully," according to the Times), "Torajans! (We) live to die!"

■ About 250,000 women in the southern India states of Karnataka and Maharashtra are self-described "elite" sex workers whose impoverished, or devoutly pious, parents "dedicated" them as children to the Hindu goddess Yellamma, according to an August dispatch in The New Yorker. Despite the state's outlawing the practice in 1982, the women's fate as "devadasis" remains an attractive alternative to ordinary marriage (which would usually be to poor and abusive men) and provides a degree of status, in that they dress nicely and can inherit family property, while street prostitutes cannot. However, devadasis still fall victim to the region's rampant HIV rate.

■ Castrillo de Murcia, Spain, lacks a "running of the bulls" tradition, but since 1620, it has included in its annual El Colacho festival a "leaping over the babies." In late May, the town's infants are laid on mattresses in the village square, and people in red-and-yellow devil costumes jump over them and keep running, to symbolize the vanquishing of demons from their lives.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1957 the Space Age began as the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite, into orbit.

1970 rock singer Janis Joplin, 27, was found dead in her Hollywood, Calif., hotel room.

WORD UP!

littoral \LIH-tuh-rul\, *adjective*:

1. Of, relating to, or on a coastal or shore region, especially a seashore.

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PALMS 9804 Regent unit #3. 2+2 $1625/mo, dishwasher stove, fridge, carpet, on-site laundry, parking, no pets, (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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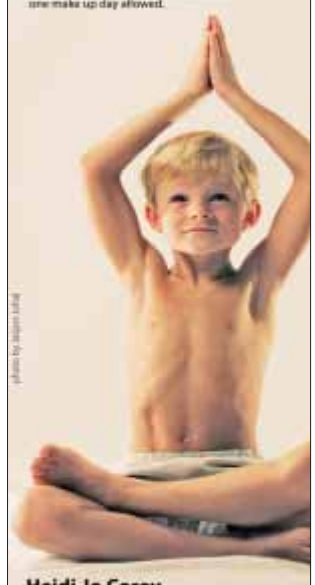
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North of Montana	$ 3,644,880	$ 2,072,265
Between Wilshire & Montana	$ 3,357,100	$ 950,248
South of Wilshire	$ 1,280,857	$ 720,915
Sunset Park	$ 1,357,964	$ 626,077

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