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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 288

Santa Monica Daily Press

LEGAL POT?
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE HANDLING BUSINESS ISSUE

Stabbing suspects arrested

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A pair of suspects were recently arrested in connection with a stabbing that took place after a Santa Monica High School football game last month.

Kenneth Keith Jones, 19, and Christopher Jerome Diaz, 18, were taken into custody on Oct. 2 and booked for attempted homicide and assault with a deadly weapon, which wasn't a firearm yet caused great bodily injury.

A 17-year-old Inglewood resident was stabbed multiple times on Sept. 23 after Samohi's game against Venice High School at Santa Monica College's Corsair Field. The incident occurred as the victim left the game in which Samohi lost. The suspect suffered non-life threatening injuries and is expected to recover.

While police said at the time that the attack did not appear to be gang-related, the suspects were booked under California Penal Code Section 186.22, which concerns individuals involved in criminal street gangs.

Police had no further information on the arrests.

news@smdp.com



HISTORY OF FLIGHT

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Museum of Flying Managing Director Daniel J. Ryan walks alongside a donated FedEx Boeing 727 fuselage on Airport Avenue Wednesday.

Santa Monica native returns from the White House

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CHICAGO On a chilly historic night in Grant Park, Alejandra Campoverdi witnessed history, standing up against the stage as her employer for the past few months — newly elected President Barack Obama — took the stage to address an electrifying audience.

"Being there in Grant Park that night was amazing because obviously we had all worked really hard and spent all this time working for something we really believed in and to experience that moment … and watching the crowd getting more excited when we realized it had gone our way is one I will never forget," she said. "Everyone was crying and screaming and the streets were filled with people.

"It was basically a whole night of celebration for everyone."

Nearly a year after the election, Campoverdi is still working for the same boss, this time in the White House where the Santa Monica native is the assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy.

It's been a long journey to the nation's capital for Campoverdi, the daughter of Mexican immigrants who grew up in Ocean Park, attended St. Monica Catholic High School and later graduated from USC with a degree in communications in 2001 and a masters from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government eight years later, volunteering in between with an organization that advocates for the rights of migrant farm workers.

But it's the Virginia Avenue Project that Campoverdi credits with helping her get to where is today.

She will return home tonight to be honored with the Community Hero Award during Virginia Avenue Project's 17th annual birthday gala at Casa del Mar, an event that will raise money for the nonprofit organization that has served more than 600 children in the community.

It was founded by actor and writer Leigh Curran, who moved to the West Coast after working with the 52nd Street Project in New York City, which is similarly a free afterschool performing arts and mentoring program for children.

SEE WHITE HOUSE PAGE 10



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009

Taking initiative

Common Ground Center
2012 Lincoln Blvd., 6 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Learn about the prevention and treatment programs offered by Common Ground. Talk to professional staff and volunteers, find out more about volunteer opportunities and hear directly from some of the people Common Ground serves. Call (310) 314-5480 ext. 120 for more information.

Friday, Oct. 9, 2009

Rockin' rotary

Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Dr., time TBA
The Santa Monica rotary club is a hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas. Those interested in attending the regular lunch should contact (310) 917-3313 for more information.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009

'Illumination'

Bob Poe Gallery — Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Photographer Bob Poe will be holding an opening for his latest work, "Illumination." Poe's exhibit is made up exclusively of photographs taken with his iPhone, in which he demonstrates the impact of light and movement on his subjects. Admission is free. Call (323) 936-1447 or e-mail ali@caapr.com for more information.

Brain clouds

Montana Avenue Library
1704 Montana Ave., 11 a.m. — noon
Dr. Matthew Shtrahman — physician, scientist and founder of the Initiative for the Collective Neuronal Dynamics and Epilepsy — will discuss the science of collective phenomenon and the brain. Admission is free. Call (310) 829-7081 for more information.

'Hopping fun'

Morgan-Wixson Theater
2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Watch this charming play and puppet show based on Sandy Asher's picture book about the joy of reading. It is best enjoyed by children ages 4 through 8. Admission is $6 — $8. Call (310) 828-7519 for more information.

Meet the author

Every Picture Tells a Story
1311-C Montana Ave., 6 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Acclaimed director Werner Herzog will sign his new book, "Conquest of the Useless," prior to introducing a screening of his film, "Fitzcarraldo," at the Aero Theatre. The signing is free. Call (310) 451-2700 for more information.

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.



COOL, DUDE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Spectators watch as skaters perform technical tricks at the newly built Venice Beach Skate Park on Tuesday afternoon. The 16,000-square-foot facility near Windward Avenue and Ocean Front Walk is a welcome sight to skaters living on the Westside.

Boxer plans hearing on toxic school drinking water

GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press Writer

FRESNO The head of the U.S. Senate Environment Committee said Wednesday that legislators will hold hearings to address toxic drinking water in the nation's schools following an Associated Press probe into the widespread problem.

California Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer called for the hearings to be held in Washington this year after an AP investigation revealed unsafe levels of lead, bacteria and pesticides have surfaced in the water supplies at thousands of schools.

In the last decade, contaminants have been found in drinking fountains and school pipes in all 50 states in small towns and inner cities. But the problem has gone largely unmonitored by the federal government, even as the number of water safety violations has multiplied.

Boxer, who chairs the Committee on Environment and Public Works that oversees the Environmental Protection Agency, has seized on the issue as a top priority, and has asked EPA officials to explain what actions they will take to protect school children from polluted water.

An EPA spokeswoman did not immediately return calls or e-mails seeking comment.

Aides for Boxer and Sen. Benjamin Cardin, a Maryland Democrat who leads a Senate subcommittee on water, attended the hour-and-a-half briefing with top EPA officials on Wednesday afternoon.

Among the issues discussed were the agency's inadequate record-keeping. The EPA only has authority to collect drinking water quality data from schools with wells, which represent 8 to 11 percent of the nation's schools.

In the past, EPA officials have said that schools with unsafe water represent a small percentage of the nation's 132,500 public and private schools. They also have said the agency has no legal power to require that all schools test their water, and can only provide guidance on environmental practices.

EPA officials acknowledge the agency's database of schools in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act is plagued with errors and omissions, however. The problem goes beyond schools that use wells since schools in Baltimore, Seattle, Los Angeles and other large cities that draw water from public utilities also have shown contamination.

Nick Nolte's son arrested

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Brawley Nolte, the 23-year-old son of actor Nick Nolte, was arrested Tuesday after a car accident in Santa Monica, suspected to be under the influence of a controlled substance.

Nolte was driving in the 600 block of Pacific Coast Highway when his 1998 Mercedes struck the car in front of him during an attempt to change lanes. There were no injuries in the crash.

He was booked for driving under the influence and for possession of a controlled substance — prescription drugs. The Malibu resident was released later that night after posting $5,000 bail, SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler said.

The younger Nolte has appeared in several films, including in the role of Mel Gibson's son in "Ransom."

His father was also arrested in 2002 in Malibu and charged with driving under the influence, an incident made famous by a mugshot that showed the actor disheveled in a blue Hawaiian shirt.

news@smdp.com

L.A. Zoo welcomes new exotic critters

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Two pairs of endangered species are settling in at the Los Angeles Zoo: two giant otters and two Francois' langurs, a kind of monkey from Southeast Asia.

Zoo officials announced the new arrivals on Wednesday.

The male and female monkeys came from the San Diego Zoo. They are active and noisy medium-sized primates, native to the rainforests and wetlands of China, Vietnam and Laos.

The population of Francois' langurs has been cut in half over the past 35 years, because of hunting and loss of habitat.

The giant otters are native to the rain forests and wetlands of north and central South America. They are also threatened by loss of habitat and hunted for their pelts, with only 1,000 to 5,000 left in the wild.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

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Editor:

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Caws went out – more crows in flight
They fought their foe in a fearsome fight,
And it looked as though they were having fun.
If they hadn’t arrived, that squirrel was done.

Now safely across, it reached its goal.
I’ve always felt that crows have soul.

G.E. Matthews
Santa Monica

LOL: laughing out loud
BRB: be right back
MUSM: miss you so much
A/S/L: age, sex, location
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
LULAS: love you like a sister
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let’s meet in real life

HDOP: help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council
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National Center for Missing & Exploited Children



Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The word on gossip

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I have worked at my current job for the past eight months. Over this time I feel like there has been more and more gossip in my office. My cubicle is at the end of the hall so others tend to come to my end of the office to whisper and complain since there are few people right around me. So far, none of the gossip has been negative about other people but more about things around the office like our boss never being there and decisions being made without our input. Is all gossip bad? What should I do?

Thanks for your help,
Concerned about Gossip

DEAR CONCERNED,

Workplace communication is a tricky thing. While there are numerous guides on professional business etiquette and effective communication, employees often end up communicating in very unique ways. A few years ago Inc.com surveyed over 1,500 workers and found that 60 percent stated that their biggest workplace annoyance was employees that gossip. If so many people are bothered by gossip, why does it become a big part of inner-office communication in companies throughout the world? For one, organizations themselves can often develop a particular culture that either supports open communication or restricts information so people feel the need to talk in private about their concerns.

There are a few things to consider before deciding your next steps. First, I would ask you, is the actual amount of gossip increasing or is it that people are becoming more comfortable with you and therefore it feels like it is increasing? It may take a few months for co-workers to warm up to a new hire and therefore about the same amount of time for you to see the first signs of gossip. The fact that most of the whispers revolve around the boss and related management decisions; I would guess that most of your colleagues are probably feeling left out of major decisions. While there may be a reason behind this administrative strategy it is likely leaving your coworkers hurt and underappreciated. Often times, the very root of gossip comes from feeling hurt or threatened by another person or action.

Even if you know the cause of gossip in your office, it is equally as important to consider the intent of such secrets. Some workplace gossip can actually be beneficial to creating and maintaining bonds with your coworkers. For instance, a low-level of gossip about celebrities or media issues has been found to help reinforce shared values, increase feelings of connectedness and strengthen relationships in the office which can further promote teamwork and collaboration. However, there is a fine line between healthy workplace gossip and secretive, negative comments that discuss the actions of others or are intended to hurt another person. This type of gossip is often categorized as workplace violence and can have very serious effects on individual workers and the organization as a whole. Your actions here might be written out for you as it is likely that your company or human resource department has an official policy and disciplinary action related to malicious workplace gossip.

Finally, I’d like you to think about your role in the office. Do your coworkers come to you because your office is at the end of the hall and they see that as a “safe space” or do you help reinforce their feelings? Do you share further details on what you’ve heard from others around the office or simply listen? Are you still able to get your work done or has the gossip reached a level where you are less productive during the day? It is easy to become part of the gossip circle within an office because of the desire to be connected to and supportive of those around you. There is a very careful balance that you must play between supporting your coworkers to create stronger bonds with them and being loyal to the management of your company. If you are looking for career advancement within your organization it is likely that they are noticing your interactions with others and your role or involvement in inner-office gossip.

There are some smaller steps that you can take to move away from the gossip-filled environment around you. For instance, if you can dispel the myths promoted by others you can help reduce unnecessary gossip by providing accurate information. Additionally, consider bonding with your coworkers in another way. Perhaps you can provide the support and encouragement your coworkers need in order to feel comfortable enough to go to their supervisor with their concerns rather than speaking secretively.

KATRINA DAVY, M.A., ED.M, is a professional career counselor who has worked in university and private settings. She holds degrees from Columbia and Cornell universities. Send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com. All questions are kept anonymous; let us help you with your life matters!

MUSM: miss you so much
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let’s meet in real life
HDOP: help delete online predators

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Meredith Pro Tem

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

Lost in Twitter-land

TWITTER CAN NOW COUNT ME AMONG its millions of users. Never one to miss out on a trend that involves naming rights, I actually became a registered Tweeter (Twiddle?) months ago, but didn't really know how it worked or what its purpose was (and still kind of don't) until recently.

This isn't the first time I've claimed a name online prematurely. A week before getting engaged (keeping a surprise under wraps has never been my husband's strong suit), I secured an e-mail address with my future married name. Two months before giving birth I locked one down for my daughter (she'll thank me in 12 years). I registered on Facebook about a year before I actually started using it. The souvenir Arizona license plate with my name on it that I got at the Phoenix airport 23 years ago is still in my possession (which has nothing to do with an online name, but I like my name on stuff nevertheless).

After much thought and minimal research, I finally decided to start following people on Twitter: my husband, Sarah Silverman, Michael Ian Black and Gail Collins (although I realized a few days ago that Gail hasn't Tweeted since Nov. 12, 2008, so I'm not sure she really counts).

I wanted to follow David Sedaris, but when I saw that he was following Kim Kardashian and Ricky Martin, I concluded it wasn't the David Sedaris I had in mind. Not that David Sedaris the writer is necessarily incapable of watching reality shows on E! or listening to Menudo, but if you're a fan of his, chances are you sort of hope he doesn't do either.

Lately there are other Tweeters whose pages I look at somewhat regularly, too. Like the cast of MTV's "The Hills" (particularly the secondary and tertiary characters). But it's really not cool to admit that, so far be it from me to officially follow them.

From the little time I've spent on Twitter, it seems that unless you're super famous, super infamous, super rich or super funny (like some guy called @S--tMyDadSays), you pretty much have to follow lots of people in order to get lots of followers. Nevertheless, I'd like to be the exception and just keep following my four people (although Gail Collins will likely be replaced soon if she doesn't Tweet anything new) and have people follow me en masse anyway even though I am none of the above.

Last Saturday, I decided to follow Barack Obama after seeing he had more than 2 million followers and was following about three quarters of a million people. I figured the chances he'd follow me were quite good (one in three, I thought). But when he didn't jump on my Twitter bandwagon after a few hours I unfollowed him. It was sort of empowering to dump the leader of the free world. This must have been how France felt in 2003.

It's not entirely surprising the president didn't opt to follow me, though. Nine Tweets into my Twitter tenure, I've said nothing witty, insightful or even remotely interesting.

On my smattering of followers, one is doing it just because we have the same name. Another, I'm pretty sure, is just following me so I'll click on his porn links. At least three of them don't seem to know me or update their accounts, so I suspect they're following me by accident. My husband has to follow me because that's what marriage is all about.

It was surprising to me that my husband signed up for Twitter and actually uses it a fair amount since he always claims to be averse to technology (although a Facebook account and a BlackBerry later, he should probably stop saying that). He has a decent Twitter following (or, more than three times as many followers as me). Not that it's a competition, of course. (But as of presstime I do have 12 more Facebook friends than he does.)

What I'm really supposed to be doing on Twitter is a bit of a mystery to me. And what I think I'm supposed to be doing I don't think I should do — after all, there's nothing more embarrassing than an ordinary Joe trying to be pithy and droll and failing.

The founder of Twitter was the subject of a New York Times piece last week about how he's made no money on the site and is just trying to build its value. I'm pretty sure that's code for he's puzzled about its purpose, too. As far as I can tell, Twitter is for people more sophisticated or popular than me, or for those who really, really want to ensure that if their tree falls in the forest, someone will read about it in 140 characters or less.

Follow **MEREDITH** on Twitter @MCCarroll and e-mail questions or comments to meredithccarroll@hotmail.com.

The Q Line

Changes at the top

As the retirement date for current City Manager Lamont Ewell approaches, city officials have begun looking for his replacement.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What qualities should the new city manager possess?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.



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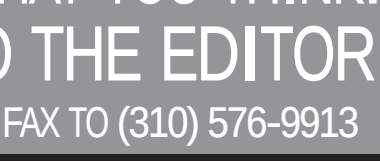
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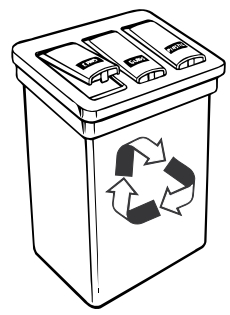
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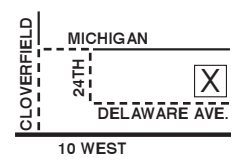


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Pot legalization movement grows

MARCUS WOHLSEN
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Marijuana advocates are gathering signatures to get at least three pot-legalization measures on the ballot in 2010 in California, setting up what could be a groundbreaking clash with the federal government over U.S. drug policy.

At least one poll shows voters would support lifting the pot prohibition, which would make the state of 40 million the first in the nation to legalize marijuana.

Such action would also send the state into a headlong conflict with the U.S. government while raising questions about how federal law enforcement could enforce its drug laws in the face of a massive government-sanctioned pot industry.

The state already has a thriving marijuana trade, thanks to a first-of-its-kind 1996 ballot measure that allowed people to smoke pot for medical purposes. But full legalization could turn medical marijuana dispensaries into all-purpose pot stores, and the open sale of joints could become commonplace on mom-and-pop liquor store counters in liberal locales like Oakland and Santa Cruz.

Under federal law, marijuana is illegal, period. After overseeing a series of raids that destroyed more than 300,000 marijuana plants in California's Sierra Nevada foothills this summer, federal drug czar Gil Kerlikowske proclaimed, "Legalization is not in the president's vocabulary, and it's not in mine."

The U.S. Supreme Court also has ruled that federal law enforcement agents have the right to crack down even on marijuana users and distributors who are in compliance with California's medical marijuana law.

But some legal scholars and policy analysts say the government will not be able to require California to help in enforcing the federal marijuana ban if the state legalizes the drug.

Without assistance from the state's legions of narcotics officers, they say, federal agents could do little to curb marijuana in California.

"Even though that federal ban is still in place and the federal government can enforce it, it doesn't mean the states have to follow suit," said Robert Mikos, a Vanderbilt University law professor who recently published a paper about the issue.

Nothing can stop federal anti-drug agents from making marijuana arrests, even if Californians legalize pot, he said. However, the U.S. government cannot pass a law requiring local and state police, sheriff's departments or state narcotics enforcers to help.

That is significant, because nearly all arrests for marijuana crimes are made at the state level. Of more than 847,000 marijuana-related arrests in 2008, for example, just over 6,300 suspects were booked by federal law enforcement, or fewer than 1 percent.

State marijuana bans have allowed the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to focus on big cases, said Rosalie Pacula, director of drug policy research at the Rand Corp.

"It's only something the feds are going to be concerned about if you're growing tons of pot," Pacula said. For anything less, she said, "they don't have the resources to waste on it."

In a typical recent prosecution, 29-year-old Luke Scarmazzo was sentenced to nearly 22 years and co-defendant Ricardo Ruiz Montes to 20 years in federal prison for drug trafficking through a medical marijuana dispensary in Modesto.

At his bond hearing, prosecutors showed a rap video in which Scarmazzo boasts about his successful marijuana business, taunts federal authorities and carries cardboard boxes filled with cash. The DEA said the pair made more than $4.5 million in marijuana sales in less than two years.

The DEA would not speculate on the effects of any decision by California to legalize pot. "Marijuana is illegal under federal law and DEA will continue to attack large-scale drug trafficking organizations at every level," spokeswoman Dawn Dearden said.

The most conservative of the three ballot measures would only legalize possession of up to one ounce of pot for personal use by adults 21 and older — an amount that already under state law can only result at most in a $100 fine.

The proposal would also allow anyone to grow a plot of marijuana up to 5 feet-by-5 feet on their private property. The size, Pacula said, seems specifically designed to keep the total number of plants grown below 100, the threshold for DEA attention.

The greatest potential for conflict with the U.S. government would likely come from the provision that would give local governments the power to decide city-by-city whether to allow pot sales.

Hundreds of medical marijuana dispensaries across the state already operate openly with only modest federal interference. If recreational marijuana became legal, these businesses could operate without requiring their customers to qualify as patients.

Any business that grew bigger than the already typical storefront shops, however, would probably be too tempting a target for federal prosecution, experts said.

Even if Washington could no longer count on California to keep pot off its own streets, Congress or the Obama administration could try to coerce cooperation by withholding federal funds.

But with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's announcement earlier this year that the Justice Department would defer to state laws on marijuana, the federal response to possible legalization remains unclear.

Doug Richardson, a spokesman for the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy, said the office is in the process of re-evaluating its policies on marijuana and other drugs.

Richardson said the office under Obama was pursuing a "more comprehensive" approach than the previous administration, with emphasis on prevention and treatment as well as law enforcement.

"We're trying to base stuff on the facts, the evidence and the science," he said, "not some particular prejudice somebody brings to the table."

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Magazine closes ending an era

J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

After nearly 70 years of fine eating, the lavish meal known as Gourmet magazine is over.

Conde Nast blamed the tough economic climate Monday when it told its staff it was closing the stalwart of the food media world, long considered the dean of culinary publishing.

"It's the center of gravity, a major planet that's just disappearing," said chef and author Anthony Bourdain, who said Gourmet was the first food publication to give him a chance as a writer. "There's been a lot of speculation about this happening, but I'm still stunned."

Conde Nast also said it was shuttering Modern Bride, Elegant Bride and Cookie, a parenting magazine. Earlier in the year it ceased publication of Portfolio, a business magazine, and Domino, a homes title. Sister Conde Nast publication Bon Appetit survived the cuts, and will likely absorb many of Gourmet's readers.

For those in the food world, the closure is a bit like waking up to find the old Life magazine had closed shop.

"It's certainly the grand dame of food magazines," said Tim Ryan, president of the Culinary Institute of America. "We'll never see the likes of a Gourmet magazine in that form again."

Since 1999, Gourmet has been headed by Ruth Reichl, a doyenne of the food world and former New York Times restaurant critic. Reichl ushered the magazine firmly into the 21st century, overseeing launches of award-winning Web sites and television series.

More than just a cooking magazine, Gourmet explored the culture — and increasingly the politics — of food.

It was that connecting of the dots between policy, the environment and the dinner table that food writer Michael Pollan, author of "The Omnivore's Dilemma," most lamented losing.

"They were reaching an audience that wasn't sensitive to the political and ecological implications of their eating," he said in an e-mail. "It was largely a hedonistic community that Ruth introduced to some hard issues."

In a memo to staff Monday, Conde Nast CEO Charles Townsend said the company would remain committed to Gourmet's book-publishing and television franchises and keep its recipes on the popular Epicurious.com.

It was unclear what would become of the magazine's Web site, and Conde Nast spokeswoman Maurie Perl said it is still uncertain whether Reichl will stay with the company. The editors of the other three shuttered publications will be leaving, among roughly 180 employees cut.

Few expect another publication — virtual or otherwise — will fill the vacuum. Magazines that do rise from the rubble probably will reflect the newer trends in food publishing, driven by personalities and brands, such as Martha Stewart's Everyday Food and Food Network Magazine.

The greatest casualty may be the long-form food journalism favored by Gourmet, said Dana Cowin, editor-in-chief of Food & Wine, another of food publishing's Big Three, along with Gourmet and Bon Appetit.

"Ruth definitely devoted a lot more space, time and interest to literary writing and it's a shame to see that go," Cowin said. "You're not going to see that on a blog and when you use a recipe search tool."

Since its launch in 1941, Gourmet weathered repeated upheavals of the American food scene. At its inception, people ate local and seasonal because, well, that's all there was. When processed food supplanted the farm stand, Gourmet marched on.

And when food morphed from meal to movement and Americans ate local and seasonal as a political statement, Gourmet was there.

During Reichl's time at Gourmet, she saw the rise of the locavore movement — people eating locally produced foods — and molecular gastronomy, the art of preparing foods with chemistry and physics instead of traditional cooking techniques. She highlighted both trends in her first issue a decade ago.

But in recent years, how Americans got their food media also changed. Despite Gourmet's robust Web presence, keeping a bricks-and-mortar publication afloat proved too taxing.

"The transition from hard paper to the Internet is not as easy as it should be," said celebrity chef Bobby Flay. "We just take it as a sign of the way things are going to be now."

Gourmet's demise also illustrates the change in how power is held in the food world. The ability of print media to make — or break — anything is waning. Increasingly, it is the viral aspect of social networking and blogging that gives rise to new faces, places and flavors.

And in perhaps a nod to that, Reichl's first public comment after the announcement was made via Twitter.

"Thank you all SO much for this outpouring of support. It means a lot," she wrote. "Sorry not to be posting now, but I'm packing. We're all stunned, sad."

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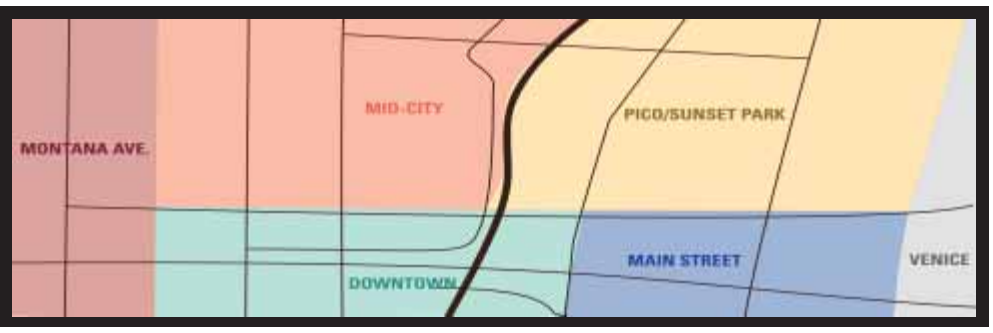
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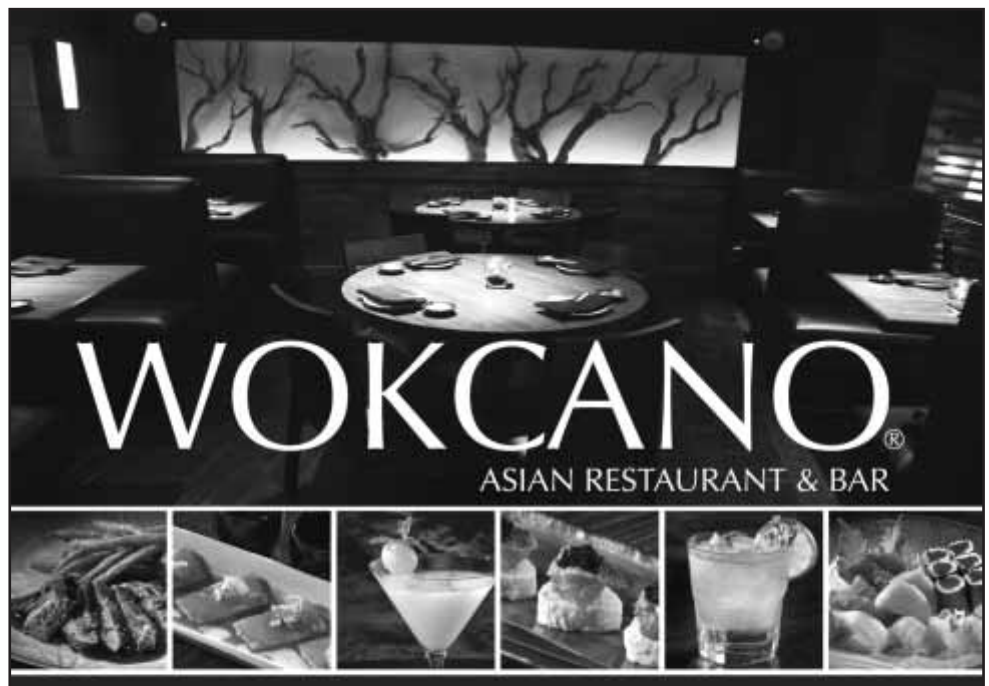
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From Santa Monica to the White House



Photo courtesy Alejandra Campoverdi

CAMPOVERDI

> IT WAS NOT SO MUCH BECAUSE THE PROJECT WAS ABOUT TRYING TO MAKE KIDS INTO PERFORMERS AS ENCOURAGING US TO FIND OUT OWN VOICE AND REALLY FEEL CONFIDENT ABOUT EXPRESSING THAT IN AN AUTHENTIC WAY."
>
> Alejandra Campoverdi

FROM **WHITE HOUSE** PAGE 1

She named the program the Virginia Avenue Project because sessions were held at the old Police Activities League center at Virginia Avenue Park before it moved to its current location at Memorial Park.

The core goal of the program was similar to the 52nd Street Project — mentor children between the ages of 6-18 and allow them to reach their full potential through the performing arts, helping them become successful in other areas of their life, including school.

Since its inception, all students who have gone through the Virginia Avenue Project have graduated from high school with 95 percent of them going on to college. Approximately 98 percent of the college-bound students were the first in their family to go.

"The reason the statistic is so high is we are in their lives literally the whole time they're growing up and going to school," Curran said. "We are like a second family, a second support system."

The program started with acting and writing lessons and has since expanded to offer courses in video, photography and poetry.

Campoverdi was just 13 when she enrolled in the Virginia Avenue Project as part of the organization's first class of students, staying until she graduated from high school and returning to volunteer after finishing USC.

Her mother felt that a program focused on the arts would help the shy Campoverdi blossom, which it did.

"It was not so much because the project was about trying to make kids into performers as encouraging us to find out own voice and really feel confident about expressing that in an authentic way," Campoverdi said.

She wrote three plays during her time with the program, all of which were produced. Her first play told an abstract story about a woman who was grappling with her own feelings about "nothingness." The story was inspired by events that were then going on at home.

The play was performed on stage at UCLA.

"You can imagine when you're a kid and you go on stage and you're sitting there and you're watching an audience react to your words," she said. "It's such an amazing experience for a kid."

The Community Hero Award is given each year to a person who has had an impact on the community, regardless of whether it's arts related.

Campoverdi was selected because she came from little and found her way to success, dedicating her life to nonprofit work and public service, Curran said.

"It's an extraordinary journey and I think she inspired all of us to become the best we can," Curran said. "She's one of our kids who is an extraordinary role model for other kids involved in the project."

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Morale improving at Fort Carson after deaths

DAN ELLIOTT
Associated Press Writer

FORT CARSON, Colo. The Pentagon announcement Wednesday confirmed their worst fears — the eight American soldiers killed in a bloody weekend attack in Afghanistan were all from a single Fort Carson unit. But commanders here insisted that unit's morale is rebounding.

"They were attacked, the unit fought bravely, and in the end, they won the day," said Maj. Daniel Chandler, the rear detachment commander for the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division. "The brave soldiers that we lost and all of the comrades that were left there, there were a lot of heroes on that day," he said.

Hundreds of insurgents armed with automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenades attacked the soldiers at two U.S. outposts in Nuristan province Saturday, causing one of the highest U.S. death tolls in Afghanistan in a single battle in more than a year.

The Defense Department had already said that at least some of the eight soldiers killed were from the Colorado Springs-area base.

Wednesday's announcement that all were from a Fort Carson brigade that has seen some of the fiercest fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan came with their names: Staff Sgt. Vernon W. Martin, 25 of Savannah, Ga.; Sgt. Justin T. Gallegos, 27, of Tucson, Ariz.; Sgt. Joshua M. Hardt, 24, of Applegate, Calif.; Sgt. Joshua J. Kirk, 30, of South Portland, Maine; Sgt. Michael P. Scusa, 22, of Villas, N.J.; Spc. Christopher T. Griffin, 24, of Kincheloe, Mich.; Spc. Stephan L. Mace, 21, of Lovettsville, Va.; and Pfc. Kevin C. Thomson, 22, of Reno, Nev.

Fort Carson commanders offered their condolences to the soldiers' families and said that support teams have contacted them. The commanders also said that the families of four of the victims were living in Colorado Springs at the time of the deaths but officials weren't sure if they were still in Colorado.

Corie Weathers, whose husband, Matt, is a chaplain in Afghanistan with the brigade, said her husband has told her that since the battle, "They have had moments of laughter to the point of tears in the midst of their grieving."

Weathers said her husband told her: "We are taking a moment to pause and hug each other over the loss of our brothers. However, we will be ready for the next mission at hand."

Lt. Col. Steve Wollman, a spokesman for the 4th Infantry Division, said about 3,500 troops from the brigade are in Afghanistan.

Since 2003, more than 12,000 troops from Fort Carson have been deployed to Iraq, where 255 have been killed.

Also Wednesday, military officials said that a ninth Fort Carson soldier had died in Afghanistan over the weekend but in a separate attack. With the death of 23-year-old Spc. Kevin O. Hill, of Brooklyn, N.Y., on Sunday, the death toll for Fort Carson soldiers in Afghanistan rose to 24.

Holder, Duncan plan to fight Chicago teen violence

KAREN HAWKINS
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and Education Secretary Arne Duncan on Wednesday pledged federal support to fight a surge in youth violence in Chicago and other cities, calling the brutal beating death of a teenager on the city's South Side a wake-up call for the country.

But neither offered specifics or outlined any new strategies on how the government would help quell the increase in the number of violent deaths among teens.

Duncan and Holder were sent to Chicago by President Barack Obama to meet with officials, parents and students from Christian Fenger Academy High School after the vicious beating of a 16-year-old sophomore whose Sept. 24 after-school death was captured on a cell phone video.

Holder said the disturbing images of Derrion Albert's beating death have been a wake-up call for the country and a call to action for the Obama administration.

"Youth violence is not a Chicago problem, any more than it is a black problem, a white problem or a Hispanic problem," Holder said. "It is an American problem."

A study on youth violence funded by the Department of Justice and released Wednesday found that 60 percent of respondents had been exposed to violence in the past year, and nearly half had been assaulted at least once, Holder said. Exposure to violence included a range from minor to serious incidents. The findings also appeared Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

Obama's administration has asked for $25 million in next year's budget for community-based crime prevention programs, Holder said. Duncan said an emergency grant of about $500,000 would go to Fenger for counselors or other programs.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley said the high-profile involvement of Obama's administration isn't "show and tell" but a genuine commitment to address youth violence.

Duncan wouldn't say when or where the meeting with Fenger's principal, students and parents took place Wednesday, but he and Holder had breakfast with Daley and community and faith-based leaders at the Four Seasons Hotel off the ritzy Magnificent Mile downtown.

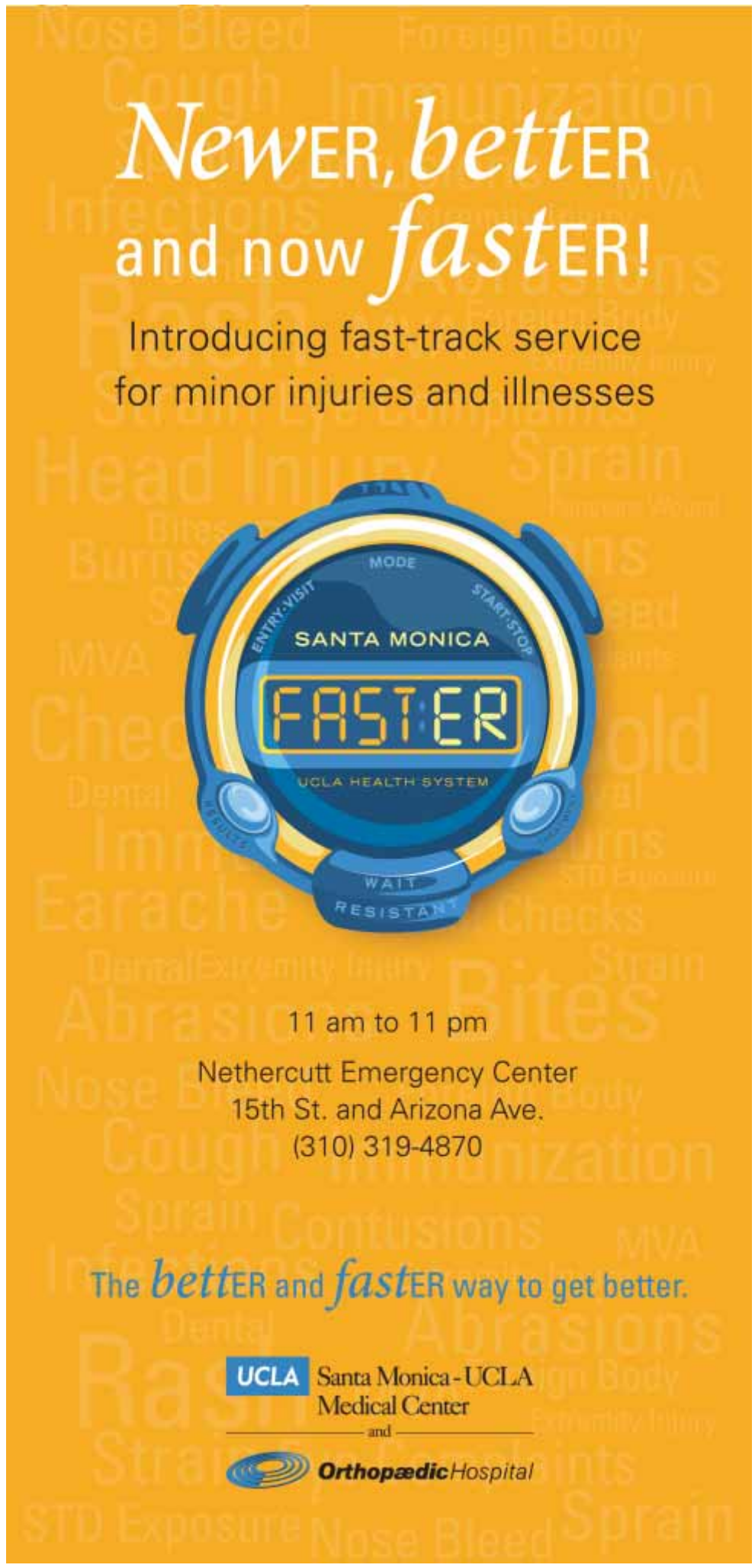
When asked why the meeting wasn't held near Fenger, on the city's far South Side, Duncan said he didn't want to disrupt the school with a media "circus."

A message left for Fenger's principal wasn't immediately returned Wednesday afternoon.

Some Fenger students who didn't attend the meeting said they appreciated the visit from Duncan and Holder because it showed that the outside world cares about them. But they said the power to stop the violence ultimately lies with them.

"It's up to us to make a change," said junior Shanequa Burgess, 17.





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Grass-roots health care supporters dig deeper

BETH FOUHY
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK Fired up? Ready to go? You might not know it from the way President Barack Obama's grass-roots supporters have been largely drowned out in the raucous debate over his health care plan.

Yes, they're behind him, officials say — volunteering in their communities and contacting lawmakers in Congress. But some Obama organizers are calling their forces a "silent majority," embracing Republican terminology of long ago. And if the final legislation doesn't include a government run plan to compete with private insurers, they may be invisible, too.

While opponents of the health care revamp have largely controlled the image war with rowdy town halls and a huge march on Washington last month, Obama supporters have been mobilizing across the country as well, tapping into the unprecedented network his presidential campaign built last year.

"We're building a long-term organization with leaders in the community who are trained. It was successful in the election and it will be successful again," says Jeremy Bird, deputy director of Organizing for America.

OFA, the pro-Obama effort annexed to the Democratic National Committee, says it has enlisted more than 2 million people in active support of the plan since the beginning of the summer. It recently completed a 19-stop cross country bus tour, and leaders say they have held over 18,000 health care events in all 50 states and 435 congressional districts.

The intensity of such efforts is difficult to gauge, particularly when compared to the angry town hall meetings across the country over the summer and the "tea party" march that drew tens of thousands to Washington. A flood of questions at one recent OFA meeting in New York suggested it's far easier to ramp up the campaign to defeat the plan, even if proponents are turning out in the large numbers OFA claims.

What, some in the group of 50 or so pro-Obama volunteers asked, are the specifics of the health care bills moving through Congress? Do they all include provisions for end-of-life counseling, which led to the erroneous "death panel" accusations leveled by some Republicans? And will Obama stand firm on the federal insurance option to compete with private coverage?

"Where can we get the information to speak intelligently and cogently about it?" Queens resident David Dawson asked about the plan. Others complained that Obama had waffled on the federal "public option" and suggested they might not get involved in helping push for the overhaul as a result.

Organizer Geoff Berman acknowledged the concerns but urged attendees to focus on other aspects of the plan, including the central provision to keep insurers from refusing coverage because of pre-existing conditions.

"There are other important parts of the health care legislation President Obama doesn't want to be lost on people by the entire dialogue being about the public option," Berman told the group.

However, Howard Dean, the former Democratic National Committee chairman and 2004 presidential contender, said the public health care plan is essential to motivating the party's base voters.

"It has to be there. Without the public option, it's going to be very hard to organize Democrats," Dean said in an interview.

To be sure, not everything is harmonious on the anti-overhaul side either as mainstream Republicans and disaffected conservatives jostle for advantage.

After electoral wipeouts in 2006 and 2008, the Republican National Committee has used the health care debate to help build state parties and increase GOP membership. It's also proved an effective fundraising tool, with the RNC adding more than 2,400 donors a day in September, up from just under 400 per day in February.

But the most visible anti-revamp organizing has been done by conservatives who say they are fed up with both political parties in Washington. Many stayed out of the 2008 presidential race because they'd grown disillusioned with George W. Bush and were never much excited about GOP nominee John McCain.

These people have been drawn to the tea party protests largely organized by FreedomWorks, founded by former GOP House Leader Dick Armey. FreedomWorks and affiliated groups such as the National Taxpayers Union have adapted organizing tactics pioneered by the political left, many of which were well executed by the Obama campaign last year.

Spokesman Adam Brandon said all staffers are given a copy of "Rules for Radicals," the famed community organizing manual penned by the late activist and author Saul Alinsky. Brandon said most of the group's agenda is dictated by the grass roots.

"We've done a fantastic job of organizing, and we want to have an influence on the political process — health care, cap and trade (energy) legislation and next year, a midterm election," Brandon said. He added that his group is largely disdainful of the RNC's efforts and blames Republicans and Democrats alike for excessive government spending and debt.

"RNC strategists don't know what's going on and wouldn't understand if they tried," Brandon said. "If Michael Steele were to come and say how much Republicans had promoted liberty in the last eight years, people would laugh."

Debbie Dooley, a FreedomWorks volunteer in Georgia, said she got involved after last year's federal bank bailout and is now doing most of her organizing around local tax matters and opposition to health care reform.

"To build a grass-roots army and keep them energized, you have to address all the issues," Dooley said

Such efforts have been dismissed by many Democrats as fake grass roots, or "astroturfing." And pro-Obama organizers say that while their campaign may lack the intensity of the anti-Obama forces, it is more strategic and just as committed. No one would expect the exuberance of the president's "fired up" 2008 election rallies.

At a coffee shop outside Columbus, Ohio, recently, about 20 pro-Obama volunteers phoned through long lists of local Democratic voters, asking them to press members of Congress to support the president's plan.

"We realized that we need to have Obama's back," said Peter Kovarik, an adjunct biology professor at Columbus State University and OFA volunteer who said his job didn't provide health insurance.

Volunteers like Kovarik are giving voice to the "silent majority."

Third of parents oppose swine flu vaccine

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA As the first wave of swine flu vaccine crosses the country, more than a third of parents don't want their kids vaccinated, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll.

Some parents say they are concerned about side effects from the new vaccine — even though nothing serious has turned up in tests so far — while others say swine flu doesn't amount to any greater health threat than seasonal flu.

Jackie Shea of Newtown, Conn., the mother of a 5-year-old boy named Emmett, says the vaccine is too new and too untested.

"I will not be first in line in October to get him vaccinated," she said in an interview last month. "We're talking about putting an unknown into him. I can't do that."

The AP poll found that 38 percent of parents said they were unlikely to give permission for their kids to be vaccinated at school.

The belief that the new vaccine could be risky is one federal health officials have been fighting from the start, and they plan an unprecedented system of monitoring for side effects.

They note that swine flu vaccine is made the same way as seasonal flu vaccines that have been used for years. And no scary side effects have turned up in tests on volunteers, including children.

On Wednesday, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius appealed for widespread inoculation against swine flu, vouching unconditionally for the vaccine: "We know it's safe and secure."

The AP poll, conducted Oct. 1-5, found 72 percent of those surveyed are worried about side effects, although more than half say that wouldn't stop them from getting the vaccine to protect their kids from the new flu.

Giving flu shots to schoolchildren is also an idea many parents are still getting used to. It was only last year that the government recommendation kicked in for virtually all children to get it. Seasonal flu vaccination rates for children last year ranged from about 48 percent for toddlers to about 9 percent for teens.

It traditionally takes a while for parents to learn about and accept a new vaccine and years for immunization rates to grow, said Dr. Matthew Davis, a University of Michigan Medical School associate professor who has overseen polling on flu issues.

Special swine flu vaccination clinics at schools are being planned in many states. Children are the main spreaders of infectious disease, and if large numbers are coming down with swine flu, there are ripple effects for everyone else.

The AP poll found 59 percent are likely to let their kids be vaccinated at school. But the kind of concerns voiced by parents could put a dent in public health efforts.

A survey Davis directed for C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Michigan suggested one reason for rejecting the vaccine is that about half of parents said they did not consider swine flu any worse than the seasonal bug.

"Basically, the swine flu is the flu. I'm not overly excited about it," said Julie Uehlein, a Tullahoma, Tenn., mother who is against swine flu vaccinations for her 8-year-old son and 3-year-old daughter.

"My concerns about the vaccine are what are the long-term effects," she added.

Some, like Shea, recall the 1976 swine flu immunization campaign that vaccinated 40 million Americans against an epidemic that never materialized. Worse, many who got the shots back then filed injury claims blaming health problems on the vaccine, with some reporting a paralyzing condition called Guillain-Barre syndrome.

Health officials did not find evidence the vaccine caused the condition, noting it occurs naturally anyway and would be bound to show up in such a large group. Many people were unjustifiably blaming all sorts of health problems on the vaccine, some health experts believe.

That's why the government is already trying to educate people about how common many health problems are, and why it's handing out cards telling people how to report any side effects.

For some parents, fears are compounded by worries about thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative that will be in roughly 60 percent of the 225 million swine flu doses ordered for Americans.

The preservative is not in the FluMist nasal spray, which can be given to healthy kids age 2 and older. But it's in many injectable doses, which are packaged in multi-dose vials that require thimerosal to prevent bacterial contamination.

Fears that the preservative or something in vaccines themselves can lead to autism remain entrenched in some quarters — despite no evidence from the most rigorous scientific studies.

Some autism advocacy groups echo parents' concerns about swine flu vaccine, and also argue it's a bad idea to spend so much time and money on the new flu.

"We're flipping out over swine flu, but it's only affected a few thousand people. Why isn't somebody freaking out about the autism epidemic?" said Wendy Fournier, president of the National Autism Association.

Vaccine makers are sensitive to demand for preservative-free shots. Parents can ask their doctors to order preservative-free, single-dose vaccine for their kids, said Dr. Tom Frieden, head of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

As for his own two school-age children, Frieden said in a recent interview: "I would have no hesitation about getting my kids vaccinated by thimerosal-containing vaccines."

Health officials and many parents are strong believers in the vaccine, and warn about the potential dangers of a virus that has caused at least 9,000 U.S. hospitalizations and at least 600 deaths, including 60 children.

Jennifer Barnes enrolled herself and her two children in one of the government studies of the new vaccine, seizing an opportunity to get them all immunized before the illness became widespread.

"I thought, 'This is an opportunity to get the kids vaccinated, and I better jump on it,'" said Barnes, 32, a speech language pathologist who lives in Decatur, Ga.

Barnes said she gets her kids vaccinated against flu each year not only for their own health but to protect others. "My kids hang around kids who might have lowered immune systems. I would hate for them to get something and pass it on," she said.

Thousands mob Detroit center in hopes of free cash

COREY WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT Scuffles erupted as thousands of Detroiters jockeyed, pushed and shoved Wednesday to get free money being offered to only 3,500 of the city's recently or soon to be homeless.

Several received medical treatment for fainting or exhaustion while frantically trying to obtain the applications for federal assistance. The long lines and short tempers highlighted the frustration and desperation that Detroiters feel struggling through an economic nightmare.

The line around downtown's Cobo Center started forming well before daybreak. Anger flared within a few hours as more people sought out a dwindling number of applications for the program.

Members of the Detroit Police Department's Gang Squad and other tactical units were called in for crowd control. Several people reportedly passed out from exhaustion and had to be treated by emergency medical personnel. Some minor injuries were reported, and no arrests were made.

"It's a sign of the times, and we can't deny we have people here who are in need," said Karen Dumas, communications director for Mayor Dave Bing. "It's scary and very disappointing. It also shows a need for redirection for our city."

One in four working-age adults in Detroit is without a job and the city's home foreclosure rate continues to be among the nation's highest. One in four families and three out of every 10 individuals live below the poverty level, according to the U.S. Census.

Before Wednesday, Detroit Planning and Development workers already had spent two days handling long lines at City Hall and other locations. Rumors that $3,000 stimulus checks from the Obama administration spurred heavy turnouts.

That helped get 33-year-old William Lambert and his 27-year-old fiancee, Iesha Wagner, to City Hall on Tuesday. Lambert said he is out of work and living with Wagner at her mother's home.

"We kind of fell on hard times," he said. "It's hard working as a carpenter and then not working at all. It's not good right now."

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Find Out The Latest On Extension of Expo Line
The Expo Construction Authority is conducting community meetings October 5, 7 and 14 to report on the progress of its environmental study about the possible extension of the LA to Culver City Expo Line farther west to Santa Monica. Log on to *BuildExpo.org* for meeting times and locations.

Metro Vanpool Wins Outstanding Service Award
The Association for Commuter Transportation presented the successful Metro Vanpool Program with its Outstanding Service Award for 2009. There are more than 800 vanpools that are now part of the growing Metro Vanpool family, all getting up to $400 a month toward the lease of a van. Find out how to join at *metro.net*.

Comment on Crenshaw Transit Options
Will it be bus or rail? Find out the latest and comment on options being proposed for a new transit line for the Crenshaw Corridor at four public meetings being held September 30 through October 6. Visit *metro.net* for times and locations.

Line 220 Offers Better Service To Beverly Center
Metro Local Line 220 is now your direct connection to Beverly Center. The route of the line has been restructured, now offering service between Culver City and the center along Robertson Boulevard and no longer traveling to West Hollywood. Check online at *metro.net* for the new route and timetable.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Masoli may not play against UCLA

ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. Oregon quarterback Jeremiah Masoli rejoined practice with the No. 13 Oregon Ducks on a limited basis Wednesday after missing two days with a right knee injury.

It appeared that backup quarterback Nate Costa will get the start on Saturday at UCLA. Masoli was scheduled to have his knee re-examined by doctors on Thursday.

Masoli was sacked in the first half of Oregon's 52-6 victory over Washington State last Saturday and left the game shortly thereafter. He was seen icing his knee on the sidelines before returning after halftime wearing his warmups.

Masoli was adamant afterward that his knee was fine, and he jogged to the tunnel at Autzen at game's end. He was also listed atop Oregon's depth chart for the UCLA game.

However, he did not practice Monday or Tuesday, leading some to speculate the injury was more serious. On Wednesday he wore shells rather than full pads.

Coach Chip Kelly would not comment on Masoli's injury. His policy this season concerning injured players is to say they're either out or day-to-day. The Masoli case was no exception.

The ongoing mystery over Masoli's injury is the latest drama to befall the Ducks. The team started the season with an embarrassing loss to Boise State on national television, after which running back LeGarrette Blount punched Broncos defensive end Byron Hout.

Blount was suspended for the rest of the season, but last week Kelly said it was possible for him to return if he met certain academic and behavioral conditions.

Masoli's injury brought back bad memories for many Duck fans who saw their team vying for a national championship when Heisman candidate Dennis Dixon went down with a knee injury.

In fact, knee injuries to Oregon's quarterbacks have caused some to speculate whether the spread option offense puts mobile QBs at increased risk.

Masoli was just coming into his own after a slow start. In Oregon's last two games, victories over California and the Cougars, Masoli has completed 35 of 43 passes for four touchdowns and no interceptions. He has also rushed for 73 yards and a touchdown over the span.

Costa, who has missed the past two seasons because of knee injuries, took over after Masoli was knocked out by Washington State.

Earlier this season when Masoli was struggling with his passing game, fans called for Costa, who is more of a traditional quarterback.

"I'm completely confident in Nate. Those guys battled and competed in fall camp and they're both great football players and if they weren't, they wouldn't be here, center Jordan Holmes said.

Also injured for the Ducks this week was cornerback Willie Glasper, who will miss the rest of the season because of a right knee injury that will require surgery.

Glasper was injured Tuesday at practice. He had been starting for cornerback Walter Thurmond III, who is also out for the season because of a knee injury.

He finishes his career at Oregon with 65 tackles, one fumble recovery and one interception.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

NFL

Raiders O-line faces tough test against Giants

Facing the New York Giants defensive line is a tough enough task for an offensive line in the best of circumstances. The banged-up Oakland Raiders have to do it this week with backups in three of the five spots.

Left tackle Mario Henderson views this as a good opportunity to "go out there and make a name for ourselves."

Henderson is one of two starters who will be in his usual spot this week, along with right guard Cooper Carlisle. Starting left guard Robert Gallery is out with a broken bone in his left leg and right tackle Cornell Green is sidelined with a strained calf.

Those injuries will likely force center Chris Morris to move to left guard, and backup center Samson Satele and backup tackle Erik Pears into the starting lineup.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

GMs pick Lakers, LeBron to repeat in 2010

NBA general managers predict repeats this season for the Los Angeles Lakers and LeBron James.

The league executives who responded to the eighth annual NBA.com GM survey picked the Lakers to win another NBA title – though their opponent is unclear – and saw James as the runaway winner of another MVP award.

The Lakers received 61 percent of the votes to win the championship while Boston and Cleveland shared second place at 18 percent. The Celtics took 50 percent of the vote to capture the Eastern Conference crown and the Cavaliers 43 percent.

Orlando, the defending East champion, received only 7 percent to win the conference and no votes to earn its first championship. Dwight Howard, the Magic's All-Star center, played down the voting results.

"Those are general managers," Howard said during a call to promote the NBA Live 10 video game. "Those are guys who aren't playing basketball anymore, so of course they're going to pick their teams to win, and we understand that."

Other teams selected to win their divisions Tuesday included San Antonio in the Southwest and Portland edging Denver in the Northwest.

General managers were not permitted to vote for their own teams or players.

James drew 69 percent of the MVP vote, easily outdistancing 2008 winner Kobe Bryant (17 percent) and Howard (7 percent). James was chosen by 79 percent of GMs when asked which player they would sign if starting a franchise today.

Blake Griffin, the overall No. 1 draft choice of the Clippers, was picked by 79 percent to be rookie of the year.

AP

NFL

49ers agree to deal with Crabtree

Michael Crabtree is confident he can play a big role for the San Francisco 49ers as a rookie even though he's months behind.

He will get his chances in an offense that could really use him.

Crabtree signed a six-year contract early Wednesday after a drawn-out negotiation process that had some wondering whether the star wide receiver would ever show up this season.

"It's a lot of relief off my shoulders," Crabtree said when formally introduced at team headquarters.

AP

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 66°

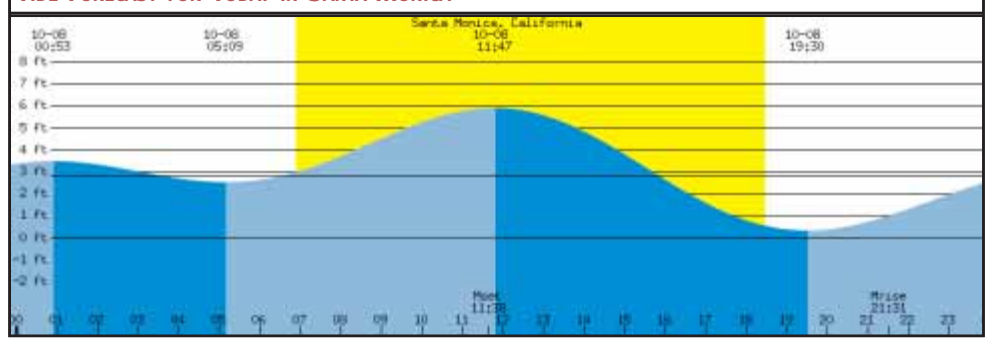
Swell Forecast

Should see the peak of this southerly swell with chest high sets for south facing breaks. NW wind swell is looking nil. Winds should be lightly offshore in the AM, and onshore in the afternoon to 15 mph.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking smaller as well, perhaps just knee high most everywhere. Winds should be lightly offshore in the AM, and onshore in the afternoon 8-13 mph.

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 29, 2009**

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 -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerrillos 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 Alisos creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	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.	F	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.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	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.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	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..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Planes, Trains & Automobiles (R) 1hr 33min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell (R) 1hr 45min
2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

Jennifer's Body (R) 1hr 42min
4:55, 9:20

Love Happens (PG-13) 1hr 49min
2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

9 (PG-13) 1hr 19min
2:45, 7:20

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) 1hr 21min
1:30, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15

Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 40min
2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Surrogates (PG-13) 1hr 29min
2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

Toy Story & Toy Story 2 in 3D Double Feature (G) 2hr 49min
1:00, 4:45, 8:30

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
12:30, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Bright Star (PG) 1hr 59min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Burning Plain (R) 1hr 51min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Providence Effect (PG) 1hr 32min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:55

Paris (R) 2hr 10min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

District 9 (R) 1hr 53min
1:10, 9:10

The Informant! (R) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20

Inglourious Basterds (R) 2hrs 32min
12:00, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00

Fame (PG) 1hr 47min
3:50, 6:30

Fame in Digital Projection (PG) 1hr 47min
11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

Pandorum (R) 1hr 48min
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:20am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

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

Break patterns, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Serious dream time points to new possibilities. Do you know how to proceed with a seemingly wild idea? Solutions appear as long as you are willing to allow others to share more of their perspective and thoughts. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Indulge others and listen to their suggestions. You bring many assets to the table, but so do others, and they can be very different. Combining the best of what everyone offers can mix into a great idea, project or situation. Tonight: Could be late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You beam, and others respond. Don't discount someone who is at a distance. This person can make a considerable difference in your life. Think positively without restricting yourself, for now. You can wonder how practical an idea is later. Tonight: Break past patterns.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Take your time with a friend or loved one who often preys on your weaknesses. Ask yourself why you allow this. A partner has more than enough feedback. Not only does this person mean well, but he also has wisdom to share. Tonight: Listen to the echoes!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Zero in on what is important with an eye to change and growth. How you deal with someone and the choices you make will reflect on the nature of this bond. Don't take someone for granted, or you could be very sorry. Tonight: Where the gang is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Take a stand and comprehend what is going on around you. Your understanding grows if you are willing to assume responsibility. In fact, you will learn so much more if you simply walk in another person's shoes. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for new ideas. A serious talk or idea colors your morning. Later on, you'll relax and see life from a renewed perspective. Your spirit turns toward adventure and mischief. Tonight: Let your mind relax and your imagination take over.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Working directly with a key person in your life could turn the tides. A serious talk or conversation could color your thinking. You are coming from a secure position, but allow your mind to work overtime. Answers will come forward. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Keep communication happening and open. You might not like everything you hear, but in the long run, you will see yet another perspective. Stay open with others, even if you feel uncomfortable. Tonight: Decide what is going on below the surface.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your evenness draws unusual responses. Are you ready to deal with someone who causes you a lot of aggravation? Even a talk trying to identify with this person doesn't prove to be easy. Let go of what you cannot change. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You have the imagination to find the right answer, even when a partner hits a dead end. Your creativity seems to bubble forth. Use that extra energy to make what you want happen. Tonight: Let go and relax.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ If you can work from home, please do. You could be amazed by what you can accomplish if you just slow the busy pace and surround yourself with some quiet thinking time. Your instincts serve you well. Tonight: Order in.

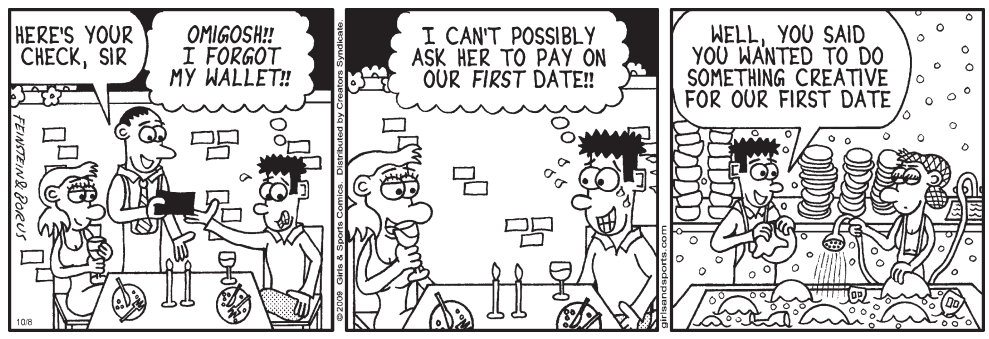
Happy birthday

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

This year, you make a difference wherever you go. You have an upbeat mind and are full of many innovative ideas. Use these gifts well, and you will succeed wherever you focus. Your lightness and fun ideas draw many different people from many different lifestyles. Travel and education will only increase your ability to grasp issues that many cannot. If you are single, you will have many admirers to choose from. The real issue remains if you are ready to settle in. If you are attached, remember your sweetie and give more of your time and attention to his or her needs and interests. GEMINI always likes to draw you into an unconventional conversation.

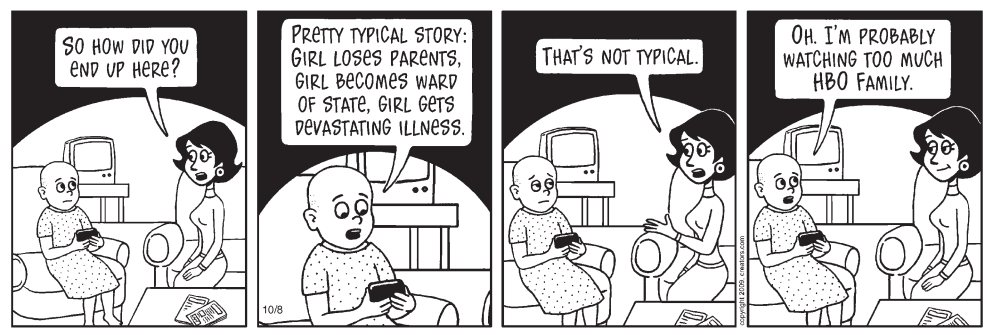
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



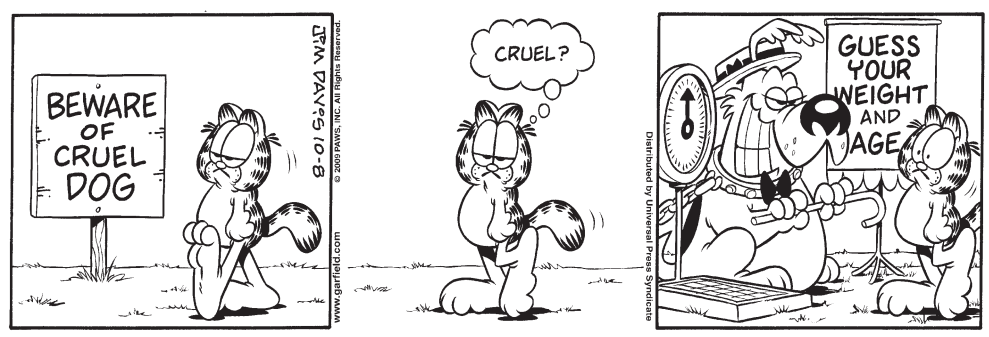
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



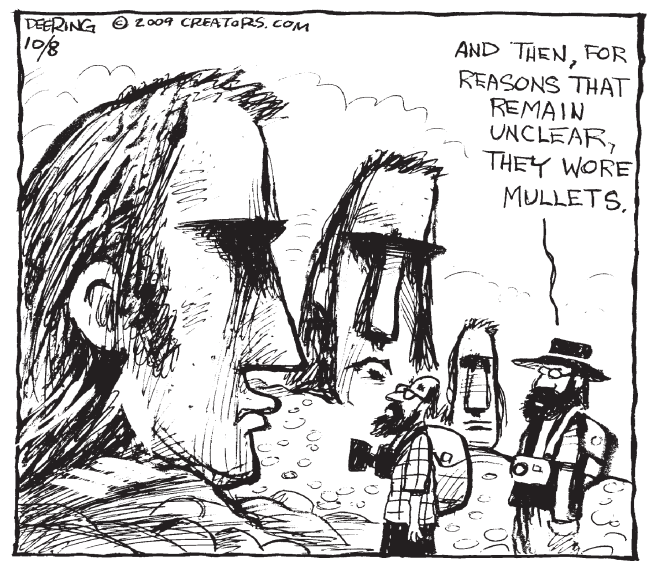
Garfield

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Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Racket
5 Olympics symbol
10 Corker
11 Wading birds
12 Wading bird
13 Frequents
14 Coordinated
16 Closing, in a way
20 Crime outings
23 Tic-tac-toe win
24 Happen
25 Prisoner's place
27 Fellows
28 Take in
29 Fixing jeans, perhaps
32 Nest activity
36 Cruel fellow
39 Jacob's twin
40 Willing to consider
41 — mater
42 Full of info
43 Consider

4 Body-builder's pride
5 Currency replaced by the euro
6 Chuckle
7 Writer Beattie
8 Got together
9 Twisty turn
11 Vouchers
15 Fabled race loser
17 Skye of "Say Anything"
18 Approvals
19 Blame recipient
20 Summer spot for some
21 Vicinity
22 Cream buy
25 Brittle metal
26 Brainiac
28 "The same"
30 Face parts
31 Rash
33 Vacation spot
34 Résumé heading
35 "Where America's Day Begins"
36 Heir, at times
37 Clumsy fellow
38 Drops on the lawn

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

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

10-8

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 9 33 51 53 56
Meganumber: 39
Jackpot: $145M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 25 29 45 46
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: $11M

FANTASY 5: 11 13 15 21 22

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 8 5
EVENING: 0 1 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1.47.40

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

■ Sharron Thornton had been blinded nine years ago from a severe reaction to medication that caused her mucus membranes, including the eye's lens, to die and shed (and caused her also to lose hair, skin and nails, though the latter three grew back). In a revolutionary procedure, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute at the University of Miami (Fla.) had the bright idea to shore up her eye with a piece of her tooth and jawbone (the cuspid, or "eye tooth") so that a prosthetic lens could be implanted. That was only part of it: The tooth portion, with the implanted lens, had to be micro-sculpted and implanted first into Thornton's chest for access to nutrients. Thornton's vision is now 20/70 without eyeglasses.

■ Recent Inexplicable Side Effects of Brain Injury: (1) Malcolm Darby, 70, awoke from surgery following a stroke in Oakham, England, last year to find that he had near-perfect vision (after having worn eyeglasses since age 2) but later discovered that he no longer spoke or understood French. (2) A 37-year-old German woman, who had been treated for epileptic seizures in 2006, reported recently that among the side effects were occasional feelings that she had undergone a sex change and was a man.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1600 San Marino adopts its written constitution.

1806 Napoleonic Wars: Forces of the British Empire lay siege to the port of Boulogne in France by using Congreve rockets, invented by Sir William Congreve.

1813 The Treaty of Ried was signed between Bayern and Austria.

1821 The government of general José de San Martín establishes the Peruvian Navy.

1829 Rail transport: Stephenson's The Rocket wins The Rainhill Trials.

1856 The Second Opium War between several western powers and China begins with the Arrow Incident on the Pearl River.

1860 Telegraph line between Los Angeles and San Francisco opens.

1895 Eulmi incident- Queen Min of Joseon, the last empress of Korea, is assassinated and her corpse burnt by the Japanese in Gyeongbok Palace.

WORD UP!

foofaraw \FOO-fuh-raw\ , noun: 1. Excessive or flashy ornamentation or decoration.

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1474 Crest Dr. upper 2+1 $1375 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, ceiling fan, garage space, no pets. $500 (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

2478 Corinth Ave. $1575 front unit 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, ceiling fan, onsite laundry, small gated front yard 2 parking spaces, 20 lb. pet OK w/ deposit $300 off move-in (888)414-7778

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PALMS ADJ/ LaCienga Hghts. $995.00 1 Bdrm, 1Bath, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #10 Open daily 8am-7pm . Additional info in unit

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I Will Provide You With This Information At The Beginning of Each Month...Hope You Find It Helpful!

First Nine Months of 2008 compared to First Nine Months of 2009

Santa Monica Single Family Homes

Santa Monica Canyon

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	10	15	50%
Average Days on the Market	108	55	-49%
Lowest Price	$1,487,000	$875,000	-41%
Median Price	$2,000,000	$1,900,000	-5%
Highest Price	$4,200,000	$4,700,000	12%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$860	$876	2%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	96%	92%	-4%

North of Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	53	41	-23%
Average Days on the Market	51	70	37%
Lowest Price	$1,575,000	$1,400,000	-11%
Median Price	$3,000,000	$2,500,000	-17%
Highest Price	$5,945,000	$4,500,000	-24%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$913	$798	-13%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	93%	-4%

Between Wilshire and Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	19	17	-11%
Average Days on the Market	53	81	53%
Lowest Price	$400,000	$1,027,125	157%
Median Price	$1,960,000	$1,500,000	-23%
Highest Price	$3,000,000	$2,800,000	-7%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$858	$671	-22%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	94%	-3%

South of Wilshire

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	7	2	-71%
Average Days on the Market	38	134	253%
Lowest Price	$699,000	$659,500	-6%
Median Price	$940,000	$699,250	-26%
Highest Price	$1,250,000	$739,000	-41%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$515	$759	47%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	98%	93%	-5%

Sunset Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	24	26	8%
Average Days on the Market	59	73	24%
Lowest Price	$780,000	$675,000	-13%
Median Price	$1,120,000	$1,078,000	-4%
Highest Price	$2,520,000	$1,875,000	-26%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$659	$600	-9%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	93%	94%	1%

Ocean Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	13	14	8%
Average Days on the Market	178	61	-66%
Lowest Price	$615,000	$656,050	7%
Median Price	$1,050,000	$1,183,500	13%
Highest Price	$2,225,000	$2,775,000	25%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$892	$788	-12%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	92%	96%	4%

Santa Monica Condo's & Townhomes

Santa Monica Canyon

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	1	3	200%
Average Days on the Market	330	51	-85%
Lowest Price	$1,150,000	$1,014,000	-12%
Median Price	$1,150,000	$1,475,000	28%
Highest Price	$1,150,000	$5,100,000	343%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$824	$1,304	58%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	96%	93%	-3%

North of Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	25	13	-48%
Average Days on the Market	70	111	59%
Lowest Price	$465,000	$630,000	35%
Median Price	$1,295,000	$1,225,000	-5%
Highest Price	$5,800,000	$3,175,000	-45%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$920	$885	-4%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	90%	92%	2%

Between Wilshire and Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	87	95	9%
Average Days on the Market	55	56	2%
Lowest Price	$394,000	$270,000	-31%
Median Price	$756,000	$700,000	-7%
Highest Price	$1,600,000	$3,100,000	94%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$618	$582	-6%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	96%	-1%

South of Wilshire

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	75	68	-9%
Average Days on the Market	85	84	-1%
Lowest Price	$330,000	$277,000	-16%
Median Price	$585,000	$537,500	-8%
Highest Price	$1,040,000	$945,000	-9%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$519	$458	-12%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	96%	96%	0%

Sunset Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	24	17	-29%
Average Days on the Market	61	55	-10%
Lowest Price	$345,000	$439,000	27%
Median Price	$732,500	$555,000	-24%
Highest Price	$1,199,000	$975,000	-19%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$488	$420	-14%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	98%	1%

Ocean Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 9-30-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 9-30-09	% change
Number of Sales	38	40	5%
Average Days on the Market	114	63	-45%
Lowest Price	$375,000	$395,000	5%
Median Price	$760,125	$822,500	8%
Highest Price	$1,750,000	$1,200,000	-31%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$704	$621	-12%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	95%	97%	2%

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