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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 290

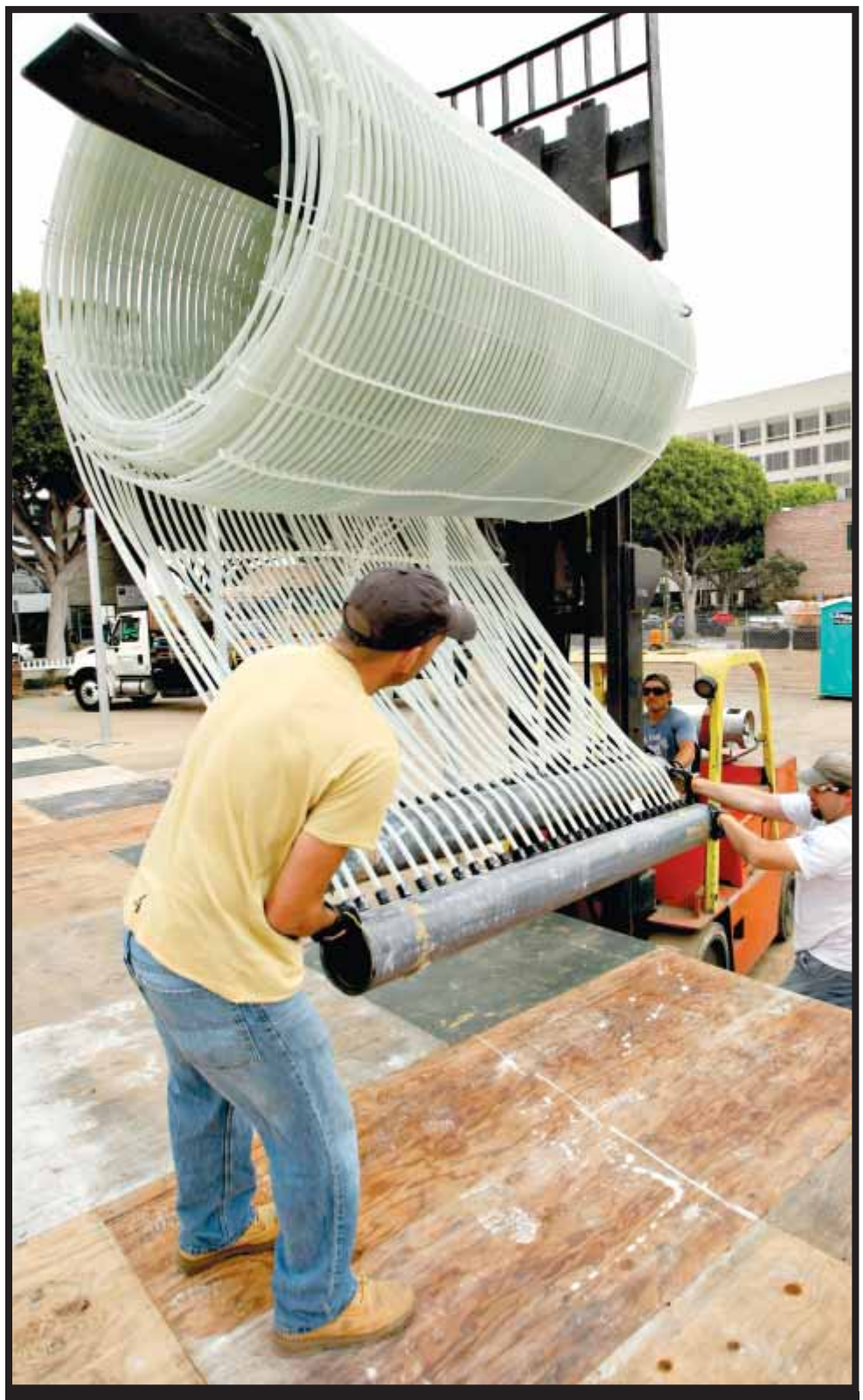


Santa Monica Daily Press

CARE TO DANCE?
SEE PAGE 5

We have you covered

THE VOTING IS GOOD FOR YOU ISSUE



ICE COMETH

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Ice technicians carry a cooling mat to its appropriate spot as they build the cooling system for the annual ICE at Santa Monica rink on the corner of Arizona Avenue and Fifth Street. Each mat weighs in at around 800 pounds and will be pumping environmentally safe anti-freeze at minus 10 degrees.

CAMPAIGN ROUNDUP

Patel not discouraged by establishment's snub

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN As Nov. 2 nears, a certain sector of the Santa Monica electorate is beginning to wonder: What's more important, experience or newcomer enthusiasm? And who's got the right mix of both?

The question may have the most relevance to the campaign of school board challenger Nimish Patel.

After beginning his campaign by mostly emphasizing his qualifications (he's a licensed CPA and has an MBA and a law degree) and his history of involvement with the district's Financial Oversight Committee and education advocacy group LEED, Patel in recent weeks has shifted toward talking up his outsider status, portraying himself as a candidate who's not beholden to local power brokers.

It's easy to read the change of tone as a reaction to a series of political misfortunes: Patel sought but failed to receive endorsements from Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights and from the local Democratic club, as well as from LEED and Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) — two groups he had worked with closely in the past year.

The snub from LEED in particular was a surprise, since the group shied away from backing the status quo, declining to support two incumbents, Ralph Mechur and Oscar de la Torre, and endorsing another political newcomer, Patrick Cady, and LEED co-founder Laurie Lieberman. But rather than support Patel, the group's leaders chose to

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 8

Schwarzenegger tweets on interesting race for governor

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is finally weighing in on the two candidates who want to replace him as governor.

Schwarzenegger was asked by a Twitter follower Thursday about comments caught on tape in which Democrat Jerry Brown and his associates discussed a Los Angeles police union's endorsement of Republican Meg Whitman.

Brown has said the union endorsed Whitman because she agreed to exempt public safety officers from her proposal to convert state government pensions to 401(k)-style plans.

Schwarzenegger was asked what he thought "about eMeg selling her vote to the police union." He responded, "It's appalling when anyone sells out."

Whitman has said the union's endorsement was not related to her pension exception for public-safety officers.

Schwarzenegger, also a Republican, initially tweeted a link to a Riverside Press-Enterprise story about GOP lawmakers who voted this month against a budget bill to roll back pension benefits for some state workers.

The governor won pension concessions in the budget deal he signed last week that will roll back pension formulas for new employees to pre-1999 levels and increase current employees' contributions toward pension benefits by 3 percent. The deal also raised the age at which many state employees can collect their pensions, to at least 55 for public safety workers and 60 for others.

Schwarzenegger has mostly refrained from commenting on the governor's race but is scheduled to appear onstage with the two candidates later this month at the California Women's Conference for a conversation about the challenges facing the state.

Brown apologized to Whitman for the union comment during their debate Tuesday but also defended it, noting it was said during a private conversation in September as the group discussed the endorsement.

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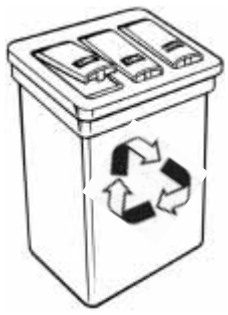
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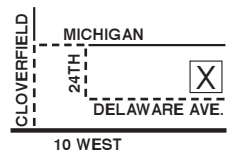
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Tuesday, October 19, 2010
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Le Merigot* - *a JW Marriot Beach Hotel & Spa
1740 Ocean Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Join us in the main courtyard for food, refreshments, gifts, and recognitions, as we welcome new teachers and public safety personnel to Santa Monica! This year's celebration will inaugurate the Annual Inspirational Hero Award by honoring the memory of SAMOHI's cherished athletic director and football coach, Norm Lacy.



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SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Chief **Tim Jackman**
SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT
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This celebration is made possible by Bayside District Corporation and the RAND Corporation.

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$5 for students

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SANTA MONICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RAND CORPORATION

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, Oct. 15, 2010

Support the Vikings
Coleman Stadium
401 Inglewood Ave., Inglewood, 7 p.m.
Santa Monica High School's football team opens Ocean League play against Inglewood on the road. The Vikings are 3-2 this season.

Yoga by the bay
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 9 a.m. — 10 a.m.
Relax with a weekly yoga session at the Annenberg Community Beach House. Practice your downward dogs and lotus positions in harmony, while you take in the ocean breeze. To sign up, visit recenroll.smgov.net.

Heal yourself with pranic energy
Aanand Saagar, 1318 Second St. #21
6:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Starting this Friday, energy healings led by Master Choa Kok Sui will be performed to help with stress, asthma, arthritis, addictions, stress, and other ailments. Suggested donation of $10. For more information, contact, (310) 883-8371.

Write what you know
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
Learn how to write stories and memoirs about your life.
Call (310) 458-8681 to register.

Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010

Party on Pico
Pico Boulevard, 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
The fifth annual Pico Festival, resented by the Pico Improvement Organization and the city of Santa Monica, will feature art exhibitions, live art demonstrations, a photo contest, a variety of drawing opportunities for kids, musical performances, food, a classic car show and, for the first time, a sidewalk sale. For more information, visit www.picopassport.com.

Fresh is best
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave., 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Fresh fruits and vegetable galore at this weekly market. For more information, visit www01.smgov.net/farmersmarket.

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.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Inspiring young minds

The Virginia Avenue Project, a free Santa Monica-based after-school arts program, will celebrate its 18th anniversary with their annual Inspiration Gala, this year named the "Power of the Pencil," on Oct. 18, at Casa del Mar.

The evening includes dinner and also features both a silent and live auction with gifts from Saks Fifth Avenue, the Montage Hotel, the Trump National Golf Club and more.

For this year's gala, the project will honor their participating students as well as recognizing four leaders in the community who have shown ongoing support for the project's role in bringing arts education to students.

The local leaders are Shoshana and Wayne S. Blank, developers of the Bergamot Station Arts Center and the Shoshana Wayne Gallery; Barbara Jacobs, COO of the Edison; and Blake Mycoskie, founder and chief shoe giver of TOMS Shoes.

Jonathan Gold of the L.A. Weekly and KCRW's Good Food will be the night's special guest and will draw the winning ticket in the "5 for 52" raffle – where the lucky winner will receive a free dinner each week at Los Angeles restaurants.

The Virginia Avenue Project was founded in 1992 by Leigh Curran as a program committed to helping area children think creatively, critically and confidently about their lives. The project has shown success in helping the area's kids by combining the performing arts with long-term, one-on-one mentoring to help kids discover their full potential. Through a sequence of writing and performing programs, over 350 project kids develop life skills and give voice to their creativity each year.

The project's children start with the program as young as 6 and stay through high school. Since the project's inception 18 years ago, 100 percent of participants have graduated from high school, 95 percent have gone on to college and 98 percent are the first in the families to do so.

DAILY PRESS

DOWNTOWN

YWCA help kids have a happy Halloween

The YWCA of Santa Monica has been collecting Halloween costumes for the past two months and will begin offering them to local families in need in the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica and the Police Activities League here in Santa Monica, as well as to some local churches, including the Delaware Avenue SDA Church and the Church on Pearl.

Allison Griffith, the assistant director of housing at the YWCA, estimates there are at least 100 child-size costumes – ranging from small toddler sizes to larger preteen and teen sizes. There are also some adult costumes available which the YWCA plans to donate on Halloween night, which this year will fall on a Sunday.

"The YWCA thought costumes would be helpful and we want all of our Santa Monica youth to have a healthy and happy Halloween," Griffith said.

"Any of us with children knows that a costume can run you a fortune. When things go in the economy, parents have to ask themselves: do I buy food or does my kid need a costume?"

The YWCA has served Santa Monica for over 20 years by providing a sheltered place for women and children.

"This is our first year running the give-away, but hopefully not the last," said Allison. "I think this could definitely turn into an annual tradition."

DP



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

TOUCHING SIGHT: **Visitors to Santa Monica Beach stop and look at the Arlington West memorial last year.**

Arlington West gets artful commemoration

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BLVD Arlington West — the makeshift cemetery that volunteers construct on the beach near the Santa Monica Pier each Sunday as a memorial to troops killed in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — is by now a familiar part of the landscape for most locals.

Now, six and-a-half years after its debut in Santa Monica, the mock graveyard itself is getting memorialized.

Photographer Mathieu Grandjean, who spent two years, from 2005 to 2007, documenting the mourners and peace activists who come to the monument, has collected his work in a self-published book. In conjunction with its release, an exhibit of his work is on display through Sunday at the UnUrban Cafe on Pico Boulevard.

To Grandjean, the power of Arlington West is about its combined meaning as a symbol of mourning and a symbol for peace.

"They create this memorial of course to honor the American soldiers who were killed in Iraq and Afghanistan ... [but] their commitment is also to prevent war and create a dialogue about war and the needs of the veterans," he said.

Grandjean, originally from France, became fascinated with Arlington West shortly after the group Veterans for Peace launched the project. His coverage of the cemetery became part of a larger undertaking he calls "Backdraft," which he said is an effort to document the psychological consequences of America's wars.

For the project he's spent time mainly with private organizations that seek to assist veterans struggling to successfully re-enter civilian society.

For a preview of Grandjean's work, visit www.mathieugrandjean.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Make them pay

Editor:

To Maria Fotopoulos,

(Re: "Think about it, McKeown," Letters to the Editor, Oct. 8)

Speaking of Econ 101, and a reality check, have you attended any of the Planning Commission meetings, read the paper, or followed the elections? There is a reason why developers want to build in the Utopia that is Santa Monica.

Developers are always asking for exceptions to the building codes so they can build bigger monstrosities that result in more traffic and less parking, trying to turn Santa Monica into New York City. The developers are supposed to trade off for the exceptions with benefits provided to the city of Santa Monica.

An example is a trade off where the developer offers a percentage of units to affordable housing. The developer then sells the units for $500,000 each with no penalty. How many bus passes can be purchased for millions of dollars?

In the last election, developers contributed millions to defeat Prop. T that would have limited building. Do you actually think those were charitable deductions? Developers contribute generously to council member campaigns, and it pays off.

Do you think that any developer is going hungry after making contributions to council members' campaigns and defeating rules to regulate building? Or, do you think developers expect a return on their investments?

The light rail hasn't been built. It won't be here for years, if at all. Yet developers count phantom riders for the purpose of meeting the city's zero traffic growth requirements. This also allows them to reduce the amount of parking area so they can build more profitable units where the parking lot should be. Developers also include in no-traffic-increase numbers, the number of people who will be taking an elevator to work instead of commuting. How many people can buy $500,000 condos to commute to their $10 an hour jobs?

Developers are reaping huge profits without even honoring their obligations. They are feasting on caviar and Dom Perignon champagne while some Santa Monicans are forced to eat less because other expenses, like bus fares, have gone up in price.

The developers do not live in Santa Monica; they just make fortunes here. Kevin McKeown is the only City Council member who is always looking out for the people of Santa Monica. He doesn't take any money from developers.

Providing bus passes wouldn't put a dent in the bank accounts of developers. Providing bus passes would at least partially count toward a trade off and reducing car trips. The trade off could also be collected in advance instead of never. Unless you want the people who will actually be driving to work to park on your front lawn, you might want to rethink how you selectively apply Econ 101.

Jeanne Laurie
Santa Monica

Can't trust Sacramento

Editor:

We can't leave Santa Monica's future in the hands of Sacramento politicians. California's financial crisis seems to go from bad to worse. Sacramento continues to "solve" the problem by stealing money from cities that is meant to go to local schools, including our schools here in Santa Monica.

Unfortunately, even if the economy recovers, Sacramento has caused a funding crisis for our schools that will last for many more years. Santa Monica cannot afford to short-change our schools or our children.

That's why I'm supporting Measures Y and YY. We need locally controlled revenue for our schools and our community.

Thelma Felstiner
Santa Monica

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

SMDP EDITORIALS

Digging the design concepts for Civic Center parks plan

The Daily Press would like to congratulate City Hall for hiring New York landscape architecture firm James Corner Field Operations to help create two parks — Palisades Garden Walk and Town Square — that will cover roughly 7 acres in the Civic Center at a cost of $25 million. The firm has developed three exciting concepts that veer far from the boring, flat, grass-dominated parks of old. These are revolutionary park designs that try to imitate nature with fluid pathways and rolling hills that spill onto the beach below.

Creating these parks is critical. We have a tremendous demand for more open space in Santa Monica. By merging with the Santa Monica High School redesign, the Civic Center will be a center for athletic activity while also providing a relaxing environment for those who want to take a stroll and enjoy the ocean breeze. If City Hall and the school district work together, there will be plenty of room for these innovative parks as well as ball fields for our youth and weekend warriors who love their soccer or flag football games.

We are not endorsing one concept over the other. We believe all three — The Arroyo Wash, Arroyo Ravine and Arroyo Dune — are all terrific designs that will provide generations of enjoyment. We encourage the public to voice their opinions and visit City Hall's website for more information.

That said, we do believe that public safety is key. There needs to be careful consideration given to securing the area in the evenings to avoid any repeat of the persistent drug dealing that occurred in the 1990s in Palisades Park. While we don't believe we will see crack dealers openly in the park, we must be prepared for anything. And while we encourage the council to approve a design that is more imaginative than flat grasslands, we are concerned about some of the terrain proposed being used to conceal homeless encampments, with areas quickly becoming dens of iniquity.

Perhaps we are being too extreme, however, in this context you have to be. This is most likely the last opportunity to create new open space in Santa Monica. We have to get it right and we believe City Hall will as long as residents get active and voice their opinions and preferences. With James Corner at the helm, these parks should be crown jewels.

All apologies for Q-Line

We want to let our readers know that we truly value their opinions and could not function without them. That's why we apologize for the frustration many of you felt when we abruptly made a change in how we collect answers for our popular weekly feature Q-Line, which is intended to provide an outlet for our readers who may not feel comfortable letting loose in a letter to the editor and would prefer to remain anonymous. Let us assure you, that is still our goal and we will honor confidentiality now that we have asked respondents to use e-mails instead of leaving voice mail messages. E-mail addresses and names will not be printed and you can trust that we will not burn our sources.

We made the change because we want to be more accurate. Sometimes callers would mumble or the reception was fuzzy and that led us to cut out portions of people's comments or, in rare cases, print something that wasn't accurate. With e-mails, there is no ambiguity. We know there are some who still do not have computers because they cannot afford them or they are afraid of technology. We have set up a new voicemail account for those folks to call in. However, we hope this change will encourage people to tackle the Internet. Contact City Hall to find out which libraries offer computer courses and take advantage. We hope our readers will continue to participate. We get a kick out of the responses and we hope our readers do, too.

Draft picks on the way

I know all of you are anxiously awaiting the release of the Daily Press' endorsements for the upcoming election. Well, you're going to have to wait just a little longer. We plan to publish our picks for the local, state and federal races beginning Friday, Oct. 22. We will kick things off with the local races and measures and then move on to the sate and federal races the week after. As you know, the ballot is stacked this year and it is more critical than ever to invest the time to digest as much campaign literature, news articles and endorsements as you can find so that you make a sound decision and help California pull itself out of the depths of the recession. That is why we are waiting until the 22nd to drop our picks. We're giving ourselves added time to do our research and you should, too.

Keeping with that theme, we at the Daily Press would like to thank all of those who attended our candidate's forum "Squirm Night" on Oct. 4, especially all the candidate's who showed up. We had a tremendous turnout, filling the MLK Auditorium at the Main Library. We couldn't have done it without our staff, our dedicated neighborhood sponsors (Friends of Sunset Park, Pico Neighborhood Association, Ocean Park Association, Mid-City Neighbors, Wilshire-Montana and North of Montana Neighborhood Association), library staff and those who attended and asked questions of the candidates.

It feels great to live and work in a community that is educated, involved and appreciates quality journalism. Kudos to you, Santa Monica, for getting involved. Don't forget to vote Tuesday, Nov. 2. Make sure your voice is heard.

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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

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

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dancing with dictators

LAST WEEK, I SAW A TV SHOW THAT WAS both riveting and disturbing. And no, I'm not referring to Michael Bolton getting kicked off "Dancing With the Stars" (a show whose success mystifies me).

"The Most Dangerous Man in America" is an Oscar-nominated documentary, which aired on PBS (available online). It's the transformational story of Daniel Ellsberg, a State Department analyst and advocate of the Vietnam War, who was driven by conscience to leak the Pentagon Papers to the New York Times in June of 1971. So began a constitutional scandal, which culminated in Watergate, sent shock waves across America and forced a presidential resignation.

The Pentagon Papers were government files that exposed lies told by JFK, LBJ and Nixon in their prosecution of the Vietnam War. Weeks after its publication in The Times, Ellsberg was arrested and faced 115 years in prison.

Watching the film, I couldn't help but recognize the parallels of the 13-year Vietnam War to Iraq and Afghanistan. (Oct. 7 began our 10th year in Afghanistan!) I was also reminded of the Santa Monica connection as Ellsberg worked at the RAND Corporation.

The Pentagon Papers began as a top-secret study conducted at RAND chronicling our inglorious history in Vietnam. It was commissioned in 1967 by Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, who had growing doubts about the war. LBJ, however, was determined at all costs not to be the first president to lose a war to the Communists (an indefensible rationale for an indefensible war).

Curiously, Ellsberg had first-hand knowledge of perhaps the biggest lie of Vietnam. On Aug. 4, 1964, Ellsberg, a Harvard graduate and former marine officer, began working at the Pentagon. That day, cables were received from U.S. warships in the Gulf of Tonkin, claiming that the North Vietnamese had fired on them. Within hours, however, another cable arrived saying that "all previous cables are in question."

As it turned out, the so-called "attacks" were likely radar malfunctions. (LBJ even joked, "For all I know, our Navy was shooting at whales.") In 2005, a National Security Agency report stated, "It is not simply that there is a different story as to what happened; it is that no attack happened."

And yet, on Aug. 7, Congress passed the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, giving LBJ authorization to use military force in Southeast Asia. (Eight years ago tomorrow, Congress authorized George Bush to invade Iraq, proving the lessons of Vietnam had been sadly forgotten.)

Faced with a painful moral dilemma, in 1969 Ellsberg decided to sneak the incriminating files out of RAND and photocopy the approximately 7,000 documents. For a year and a half, he tried to get Congressional leaders to hold hearings, but to no avail. Finally, he went to the press. On the morning of June 13, 1971, a shocked nation read portions of the Pentagon Papers on the front page of the New York Times.

"The Most Dangerous Man in America" plays like a political thriller. Among the highlights (or lowlights) are that JFK sent troops to Vietnam in violation of the Geneva Accords; that LBJ, while campaigning as the "peace candidate" in 1964, planned to widen the war; and that Richard Nixon secretly bombed Cambodia and Laos and contemplated nuking Vietnam. (On the audio we hear Nixon bark at Henry Kissinger, "Are you afraid to drop a nuclear bomb on these people?")

Paranoid about intelligence leaks, Nixon orchestrated the aptly named "plumbers," a clandestine operation that wiretapped Ellsberg's phone and broke into his psychiatrist's office (and later, the Watergate Hotel).

Due to gross governmental misconduct and illegal evidence gathering (and offering Ellsberg's trial judge the directorship of the FBI) on May 11, 1973, all charges against Ellsberg were dismissed. On Aug. 9, 1974, Nixon resigned in disgrace, and in April 1975, the Vietnam War finally ended. And so concluded one of the darkest chapters in American history.

In retrospect, among the more disturbing revelations in the Pentagon Papers was the CIA coordination of the assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem, our handpicked dictator in South Vietnam. This was just one example of our "dancing with dictators," a list that includes Norriega, the Shah of Iran and Saddam Hussein, to name but a few.

Even Tea Partier Glenn Beck deciphers the downside of dealing with despots. (Alliteration, anyone?) Shortly after 9/11, Beck commented, "Did we deserve to be attacked? No! Were we minding our own business? No. Were we in bed with dictators? Yes! Does that cause problems. Yes!" (To which I respond, is it weird to be agreeing with Glenn Beck? Yes!)

"The Most Dangerous Man in America," directed by Judith Ehrlich and Rick Goldsmith, and narrated by Daniel Ellsberg, is online through Oct. 27 at www.pbs.org. For fans of the show, I apologize because I have no idea when the next "Dancing with the Stars" airs.

When **JACK** isn't busy lamenting disastrous wars, he can be reached at Jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

What on Y?

Measure Y, which calls for a half-cent sales tax increase, has been put on the ballot to help City Hall increase revenue to shore up a budget that could be facing serious cuts in coming years. An advisory measure, YY, has also been placed on the ballot to gauge the public's interest in giving up to half of the expected $12M the tax would raise each year to local public schools.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
How will you vote on Measures Y and YY, and why?

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

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CVS to pay $75 million fine for sale of meth ingredient

GREG RISLING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES CVS Pharmacy Inc. has agreed to pay $75 million in fines for allowing repeated purchases of a key ingredient in the making of methamphetamine in at least five states that also led to a spike in Southern California drug trafficking, authorities said Thursday.

The nation's largest operator of retail pharmacies will pay what federal prosecutors said was the largest civil penalty ever assessed under the Controlled Substances Act.

The company also will forfeit about $2.6 million in profits earned from the sales of pseudoephedrine, which can often be found in cold medicine and is used to make meth.

Authorities said CVS didn't provide enough safeguards to monitor how much pseudoephedrine someone was buying, and the company violated federal drug regulations in Arizona, Georgia, California, Nevada, South Carolina and possibly 20 other states.

"CVS knew it had a duty to prevent methamphetamine trafficking," said U.S. Attorney Andre Birotte Jr. "But it failed to take steps to control the sale of a regulated drug used by methamphetamine cooks as an essential ingredient for their poisonous stew."

The company was expected to pay the $75 million fine by Friday. The remaining forfeiture is due within 30 days.

Thomas Ryan, chairman and CEO of parent company CVS Caremark, said the company unacceptably breached its policies and has worked to fix the problem.

"To make certain this kind of lapse never takes place again, we have strengthened our internal controls and compliance measures and made substantial investments to improve our handling and monitoring of (pseudoephedrine) by implementing enhanced technology and making other improvements in our stores and distribution centers," Ryan said.

Federal agents began investigating CVS in 2008 after the arrest of several people in Southern California for unlawful possession of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture meth. They said those people had bought large amounts of the ingredient from CVS stores in the region.

Investigators learned CVS had committed thousands of violations of a federal law limiting the amount of pseudoephedrine a customer can buy in a day. Although the pharmacy chain created an automated system known as Meth Tracker to record individual sales, it didn't prevent multiple purchases by someone on the same day, authorities said.

As a result, federal authorities in Southern California saw an increase in meth production. In Los Angeles and Orange counties, so-called "smurfers," who traveled from store to store picking up pseudoephedrine, inundated CVS locations. In some locations, buyers would clear store shelves of cough and cold medicines.

Between September 2007 and November 2008, CVS became one of the largest suppliers of pseudoephedrine to meth providers in Southern California, authorities said.

"CVS did not set out to be part of the meth trafficking trade but they made a poor decision," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Shana Mintz. "Rather than choosing to over-comply like their competitors did, they knowingly under-complied with the law."

CVS employees and store managers notified management about the large amount of pseudoephedrine purchased in California and Nevada, but prosecutors said the company failed to promptly investigate.

CVS spokeswoman Carolyn Castel declined comment on that issue.

Over a 10-month period in 2008, sales of products containing pseudoephedrine increased more than 150 percent in Los Angeles County, compared with the same period in 2007, authorities said.

"We know those sales were not your general customer who had a cold," Mintz said. "Some people were making 10 purchases at a time. Suppliers couldn't keep up with the demand."

The company eventually changed its sales practices but only after it became aware of the investigation, prosecutors said.

By agreeing to pay the fine, CVS will not face potential criminal charges and the company will implement a compliance and ethics program over the next three years.

Dog collar light inventor sells to government agencies

SUE MANNING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Jackie Simoni is a computer geek turned inventor of a special light to make dogs safer after dark. Now, she's also a government contractor.

Simoni invented PupLight six years ago. She came up with the idea of a light that attaches to a collar while fumbling with a leash, flashlight, poop bags and animal repellant during a walk with her 90-pound, very social golden retriever.

It took 15 prototypes, but the lights are now sold at Petco, her biggest customer, Cabela's outfitters and on Amazon.com. "I thought I would sell a million a year," she said.

So far, the number is closer to 150,000 at $19.95 each. But Simoni's luck could be changing.

The Secret Service has been using the lights for a couple of years. A few weeks ago, she got a five-year, $125,000 contract with the General Services Administration so she can sell to more than 1,000 other government departments, said Rita Haake, program manager of the Center for Entrepreneurship at the College of DuPage in Illinois.

"The process that Jackie had to go through is thorough and substantial. The federal government evaluates the product offering and then negotiates for best pricing from the company," said Haake, who helped Simoni with her GSA application.

All Simoni has to do now is contact the departments that use dogs and sell them on PupLight, then they can order the lights through the GSA.

Hot prospects include: the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with its canine search and rescue corps; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for airport detection and narcotics canines; and Customs and Border Patrol for dogs that search for narcotics or find themselves in dark border tunnels, Haake said.

PupLight was recently one of six products — out of 1,300 entries — chosen by the Edison Nation product search competition. Edison Nation is running television infomercials through October to determine if it will sponsor the light in a national direct sales ad campaign.

That could mean sales in the millions and licensing royalties, said Simoni, who lives in suburban Chicago.

Four years ago, Robert Eschenberg, 43, an auto repair technician from Ventura, Calif., and his wife, Kim, adopted Maggie, a 10-month-old Lab mix who had been abused. Every once in a while, she would freeze in fear.

On a walk one night, a neighbor complained that she couldn't see Maggie, even though Eschenberg was carrying a flashlight. At a dog show, the neighbor found a PupLight and bought it for the dog.

"Maggie was a little leery of it at first, but when it got dark and I reached down to turn it on, something changed in her. Her chest popped out and she started to strut. She was proud. Maggie now had a job and that gave her confidence," Eschenberg said.

They would meet people on their walks and the people would smile and ask about the light. "It helped in socializing her," he said.





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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Cops bust two for transporting medical pot

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

TUESDAY, OCT. 5, AT 12:20 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers on routine patrol in the area of Cloverfield Boulevard and Colorado Avenue observed a vehicle with a modified exhaust system and other vehicle code violations. Officers stopped the driver near 26th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. Officers made contact with the driver and saw five pounds of marijuana in the backseat of the car, police said. The driver allegedly told officers that he had a medical marijuana prescription that allowed him to be in possession of the drug. He said he had transported the marijuana from Tulare, Calif. and was going to donate it to a medical marijuana facility. As officers were talking to the driver, another person arrived. That person said he was with the driver and had permission to possess or transport five pounds of weed. Further investigation revealed that a qualified patient or primary caregiver may possess no more than eight ounces of dried marijuana per qualified patient. The officers arrested both men. They were booked for possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana for sale. The suspect's were identified as Timothy Chlouber, 47, and Thomas Martinez, 25; both from Ivanhoe, Calif. Martinez had an additional charge of possession of lost property because he allegedly had someone else's health card in his possession. Their bail was set at $25,000.

MONDAY, OCT. 4, AT 11:23 P.M.,
Officers were patrolling the area of the 2000 block of Ocean Avenue when they saw someone riding a bike on the sidewalk. Officers stopped the man for the municipal code violation. Officers said the suspect did not have any identification on him. Further investigation revealed he was in possession of methamphetamine, a glass pipe and burglary tools. The suspect was arrested for possession of drugs, paraphernalia, burglary tools and for the municipal code and probation violations. He was identified as Kurt Nelson, 48, a transient. His bail was set at $10,000.

THURSDAY, OCT. 7, AT 6:40 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Pico Boulevard (El Texate) regarding a customer refusing to pay for his meal. When officers arrived, they were advised by an employee at the restaurant that the suspect ordered $18.62 worth of food. After eating, the suspect allegedly told employees that he had no money to pay for the meal. Officers recognized the suspect as someone who had tried this before at two other restaurants within the last week. The suspect was arrested and booked for burglary. He was identified as Damon Bradbury, 23, a transient in Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, OCT. 7, AT 1:04 A.M.,
Officers received a call from a citizen reporting a wrong-way driver on Interstate 10. As officers were checking the freeway, they were advised that a vehicle had just been involved in a hit and run and was proceeding westbound toward Pacific Coast Highway. Officers checked the area and noticed a vehicle parked in the lot at PCH and Temescal. As the officers approached the vehicle, the driver shut the door and started walking into the middle of PCH. Officers were able to direct the driver back to the sidewalk. As officers talked with the driver, they believed he was under the influence of alcohol. They observed some fresh damage to his vehicle. Officers had the driver perform a series of balance and coordination tests and determined he was drunk. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for DUI and for driving without a license. He was identified as Ganbaatar Battur, 28. His bail was set at $30,000.

SATURDAY, OCT. 9, AT 7:10 P.M.,
Officers responded to the area of Fourth Street and Colorado Avenue regarding an auto burglary in progress. While en route, officers were advised that the suspect was possibly fleeing the area. As officers arrived, they heard someone yelling for help. Officers located the person yelling and saw him holding the suspect in a bear hug. The officers took custody of the suspect. They were advised by the victims that they were walking to their car when they observed the suspect inside of their vehicle and he had on one of the grandchildren's sweatshirts. The victims confronted the suspect and got back the sweatshirt. As the suspect was giving it back, he attempted to strike one of the victims, but was unsuccessful, police said. The suspect then fled. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for robbery and burglary. He was identified as Kelsey Richardson, 27, of Culver City. His bail was set at $50,000.

SATURDAY, OCT. 9, AT 7:34 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1500 block of Fifth Street regarding a domestic violence call. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told officers that she was in a dating relationship with the suspect for the last eight years. He came over to the apartment and was drinking beer. While there, the victim received a phone call from a family member and after talking with that person for awhile, the suspect grabbed the phone and started talking. The suspect allegedly threw the phone at the victim's back. The victim then went to take a shower. The suspect allegedly pulled her out of the shower and started choking her, striking her in the face and kicking her in the stomach. The victim was able to break free and ran out of the apartment. The suspect gave chase and caught her in the courtyard. He allegedly choked her and tried to drag her back into the apartment. The victim again broke free and ran to a neighbor's place. The suspect fled. Officers located the suspect at his home and placed him under arrest for attempted murder, kidnapping, domestic violence and a parole violation. He was identified as Rufus Williams, 47, of Los Angeles. He was not eligible for bail.

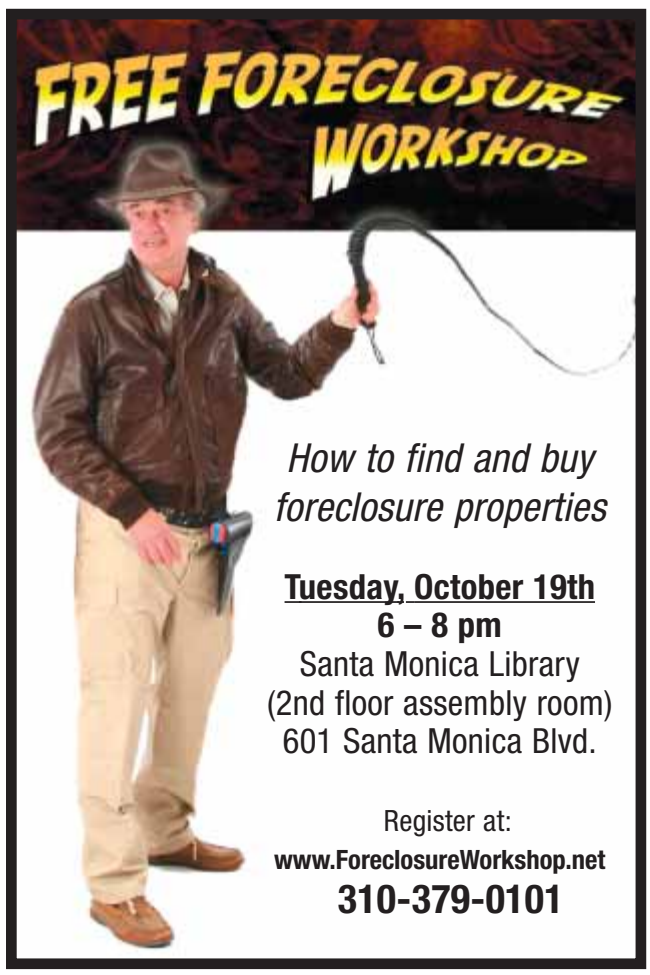
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Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.











ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE 1

back an incomplete slate for the four open seats. (LEED also endorsed Barry Snell, the current board president).

"That was a little surprising, the way that came down," Patel told the Daily Press this week, especially since he felt he was privately being encouraged to run by members of the group.

Despite the lack of institutional support, Patel said he's as determined as ever to campaign hard. His war chest of more than $63,000 gives him one big reason for optimism (that's more than double the amount raised by the second-place fundraiser, Chris Bley, and about 10 times more than the best-financed incumbent).

"I expect to win. I'm not doing this for fifth place," he said, adding he doesn't feel under-qualified, despite the lack of confidence from LEED and CEPS.

After failing to win endorsements, he said leaders from the groups told him: "Nimish, you're intelligent, you would be really good for the school board, you've got everything that were looking for — but you're relatively new."

Sources within LEED essentially confirmed that view, telling the Daily Press the consensus was that while promising as a potential leader, Patel wasn't yet experienced enough with local politics to win an endorsement.

For his part, Patel said he doesn't think being a newcomer should stand in his way.

"I feel like I know the issues, I've been involved. I think that's sort of my strength — being new sometimes is refreshing and it brings a new perspective," he said. "For the insiders that may not resonate, but for the outsiders that message is resonating loud and clear."

LONG SHOT CANDIDATE GOES ALL-OUT

So, who is Jeff Decker?

As a write-in candidate for City Council whose name won't appear on the ballot, local odds-makers are rating him a heavy underdog — to put it mildly — to win one of five seats that are up for grabs on Nov. 2.

But that hasn't kept him from going all-out, printing up campaign signs, holding fundraisers and hosting voter registration drives at The Yard, a Downtown bar and restaurant he co-owns.

"I wanted to give a whole-hearted campaign, regardless of my write-in status, and really see what kind of impact I can make," he said on Thursday.

He said he's concerned with the same issues most local politicians cite as most important: traffic, homelessness and development.

Still, he claims he would bring a unique perspective to the council.

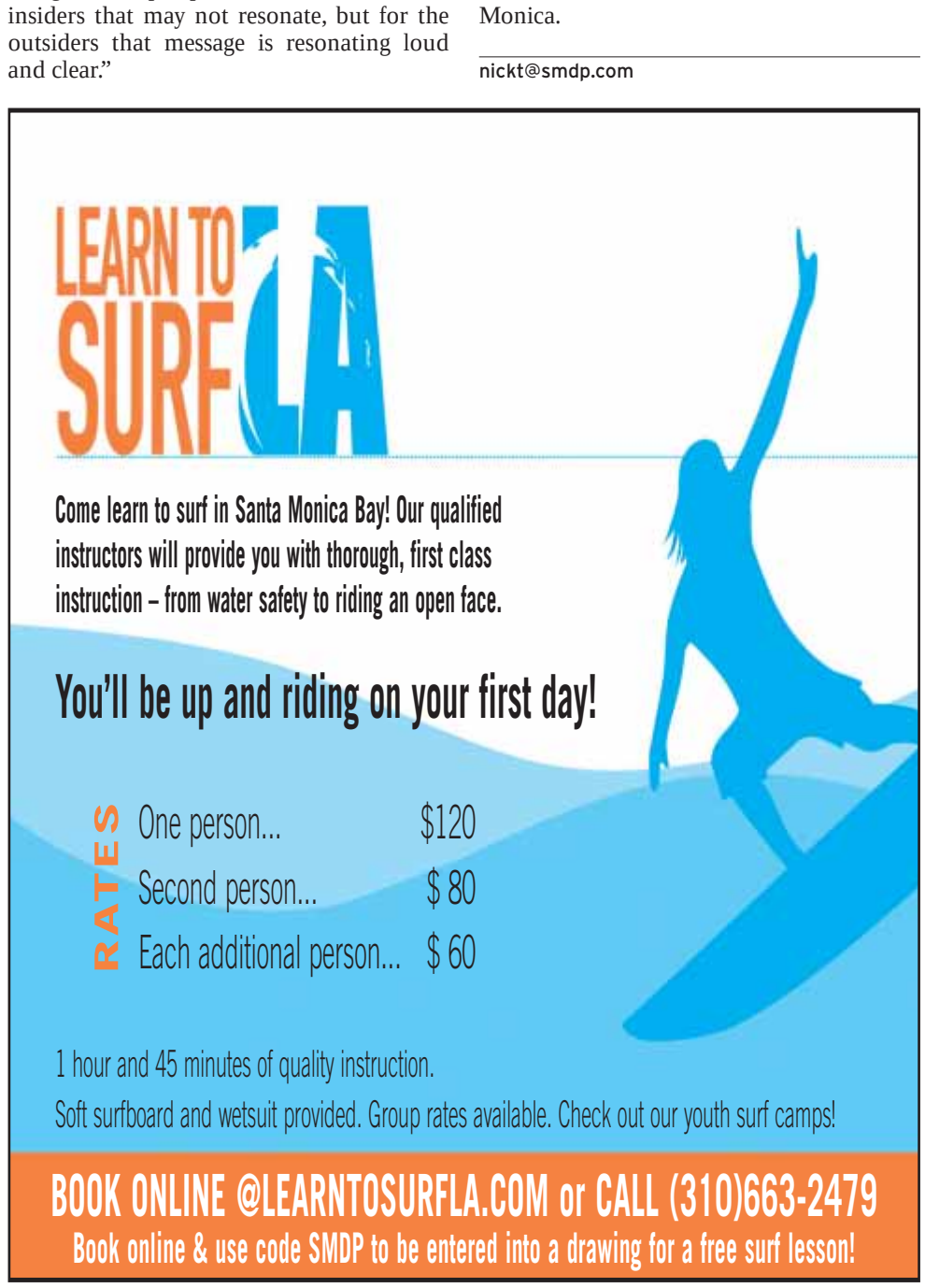
"I do have a different exposure because of my restaurant," he said. "I do have more access to 20- to 30-somethings, so maybe I need to be that voice."

He said he also has support among fellow Downtown business people who sometimes feel ignored by City Hall.

"The second that I talk to other business owners, they say, 'We have to get you on there. We need a voice,'" he said. "There is a certain need to get some representation for the business community, but doing it in a balanced way."

The son of a political consultant who ran campaigns for Democrats and Republicans in Scranton, Penn., Decker has lived on the Westside for 16 years, 10 of them in Santa Monica, he said. He opened The Yard, located on Broadway, in 2007 and previously operated another establishment under the same name from 2002 to 2004 in Santa Monica.

nickt@smdp.com



Rescued Chilean miners adjust to life above ground

MICHAEL WARREN
Associated Press Writer

COPIAPO, Chile The Chilean miners began their unfamiliar new lives as national heroes Thursday and got a taste of what awaits them outside the hospital doors — a swarm of reporters, TV producers, publicity agents and even soccer teams all desperate for a piece of their story.

A day after their epic rescue, still wearing the oddly fashionable sunglasses that protected them from the bright light when they were hoisted from 2,000 feet underground, the men posed in hospital bathrobes for a group photo with President Sebastian Pinera.

Unity helped the men, known as "los 33," survive for 69 days underground, including more than two weeks when no one knew whether they were alive.

But the moment they walk out the hospital doors, they'll go beyond the reach of a government operation that has cared for, fed and protected them in a carefully coordinated campaign to ensure each of them would leave in top condition.

"Now they're going to have to find their equilibrium and take care of themselves," the hospital chaplain, the Rev. Luis Lopez, told The Associated Press.

They got quite the preview Thursday of what lies ahead. On their first full day of fresh air, the miners were probably the 33 most in-demand people on the planet.

A Greek mining company wants to bring them to the sunny Aegean islands, competing with rainy Chiloe in the country's southern archipelago, whose tourism bureau wants them to stay for a week.

Soccer teams in Madrid, Manchester and Buenos Aires want them in their stadiums. Bolivia's president wants them at his palace. TV host Don Francisco wants them all on his popular "Sabado Gigante" show in Miami.

Hearing that miner Edison Pena jogged regularly in the tunnels below the collapsed rock, the New York City marathon invited him to participate in next month's race.

What about a reality show? Some other kind of TV work? Why not, said television writer-producer and Oscar nominee Lionel Chetwynd, who said he expected projects were being pitched around Hollywood within hours of the rescue.

"Television is a quick-response medium," he said, joking: "In fact, I think I'll call my agent when we get off the phone."

Three of the men were discharged from the hospital Thursday evening and others were expected to follow on Friday and over the weekend.

Chilean state television showed the men leaving Copiapo's regional hospital by a side exit and getting into a white van.

Among the three was Pena. State TV showed him being enthusiastically greeted by applauding neighbors as he arrived at his house. He described his raucous greeting as "very beautiful."

"I thought I would never return," he said.

The miners families and friends were organizing welcome-home dinners, street celebrations and even weddings. Lilianett Ramirez, whose husband Mario Gomez promised her a church wedding in the "Dear Lila" letter Pinera read on TV when the men were found alive, said they have now set a date: "If God and the Virgin desire it, we'll get married on Nov. 7, his birthday," she said, beaming as she left the hospital.

The government promised six months of psychological treatment, made sure each has a bank account only he can operate, and coached them on dealing with rude questions.

The rescue team even asked Guinness World Records to honor all 33 with the record for longest time trapped underground, rather than the last miner out, Luis Urzua. Guinness spokeswoman Jamie Panas said the organization was studying the question.

The men certainly have an extraordinary story to tell. No one before them had been trapped so long and survived.

Pinera also was defining face of the rescue, embracing Luis Urzua when he climbed out of the pod to become the 33rd miner out, then leading a joyous crowd in the national anthem.

"They have experienced a new life, a rebirth," he said, and so has Chile: "We aren't the same that we were before the collapse on Aug. 5. Today Chile is a country much more unified, stronger and much more respected and loved in the entire world."

The billionaire businessman-turned-politician also promised "radical" changes and tougher safety laws to improve how businesses treat their workers.

"Never again in our country will we permit people to work in conditions so unsafe and inhuman as they worked in the San Jose mine, and in many other places in our country," said Pinera, who took office in March as Chile's first elected right-wing president in a half-century.

Among the most compelling stories from the ordeal will be Urzua's. He was the shift foreman when 700,000 tons of rock sealed them in. It was his strict rationing of the 48-hour food supply that helped them stay alive until help came.

Early reports on their food supply were based on memories and partial information from down below. Based on new details the miners shared Thursday with their families, the rationing appears to have been even more extreme than previously thought.

"He told me they only had 10 cans of tuna to share, and water, but it isn't true the thing about milk, because it was bad, out of date," Alberto Sepulveda said after visiting his brother Dario.

Other family members were told the tuna amounted to about half a capful from the top of a soda bottle — and that the only water they could drink tasted of oil.

"I think he was a fundamental pillar that enabled them to keep discipline," said Manuel Gonzalez, the first rescuer down and the last to leave.

"The guys that were down there, I think they never lost their hope," he added. "There were critical moments, but at the end they never lost their hope because they had very positive leaders who kept the group unified."

None of the miners are suffering from shock despite their harrowing entrapment, a reflection of the daily care and feeding sent through a narrow bore hole by a team of hundreds, and the team of psychologists that helped keep them sane.

"We don't see any problems of a psychological or a medical nature," said Dr. Jorge Montes, deputy director of the Copiapo Regional Hospital.

"We were completely surprised," added Health Minister Jaime Manalich. "Any effort we could have made doesn't explain the health condition these people have today."

The miners told relatives Thursday that their rescue ride was as smooth as a skyscraper elevator. The rescue was planned with extreme care, with plans to monitor the miners by video on the way up for signs of panic, provide them with oxygen masks and dark glasses to protect their eyes, and sweaters.

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Warner Bros

'Two and a Half Men' The Seventh Season

The popular trio of the swinging Malibu bachelor, the chiropractor and the teen are back for 22 more episodes. Some of the story lines include some bad karma catching up with Charlie Harper's (Charlie Sheen, who attended Santa Monica High School) love-em and leave 'em lifestyle when his fiancée Chelsea (Jennifer Taylor) dumps him for a caring doctor while Alan (Jon Cryer) tries to make himself more appealing by supplementing his hair with some of the spray-on variety. A gag reel and a reunion of Charlie' ex-lovers are also included. (Warner Bros)

'Human Target' The Complete First Season

For those who like to imagine the thrill of putting themselves in harm's way, here is a show for you. Based on the popular DC comic book series, Mark Valley ("Boston Legal") stars as Christopher Chance, a unique private contractor/bodyguard hired to protect his clients from danger at all costs. From piloting a distressed, upside-down jumbo jet to serving as a bodyguard for a D.A. targeted by a notorious gang, each of the 12 episodes sees the star leave it to chance yet again. The three-disc set includes deleted scenes and audio commentary. (Warner Bros)

'Ladies and Gentlemen The Rolling Stones' (Blu-ray)

Now out on DVD comes one of the most sought-after concert performances by the world's greatest rock 'n' roll band. Fully restored and digitally remastered from the original print covering the four-night performance in Texas in 1972 of the "Exile on Main Street" U.S. tour, this is considered by many to be the band's finest performance captured on celluloid. Bonus material includes tour rehearsal footage and two interviews with Mick Jagger, one in 1972 and one in 2010. (Eagle Rock Entertainment)

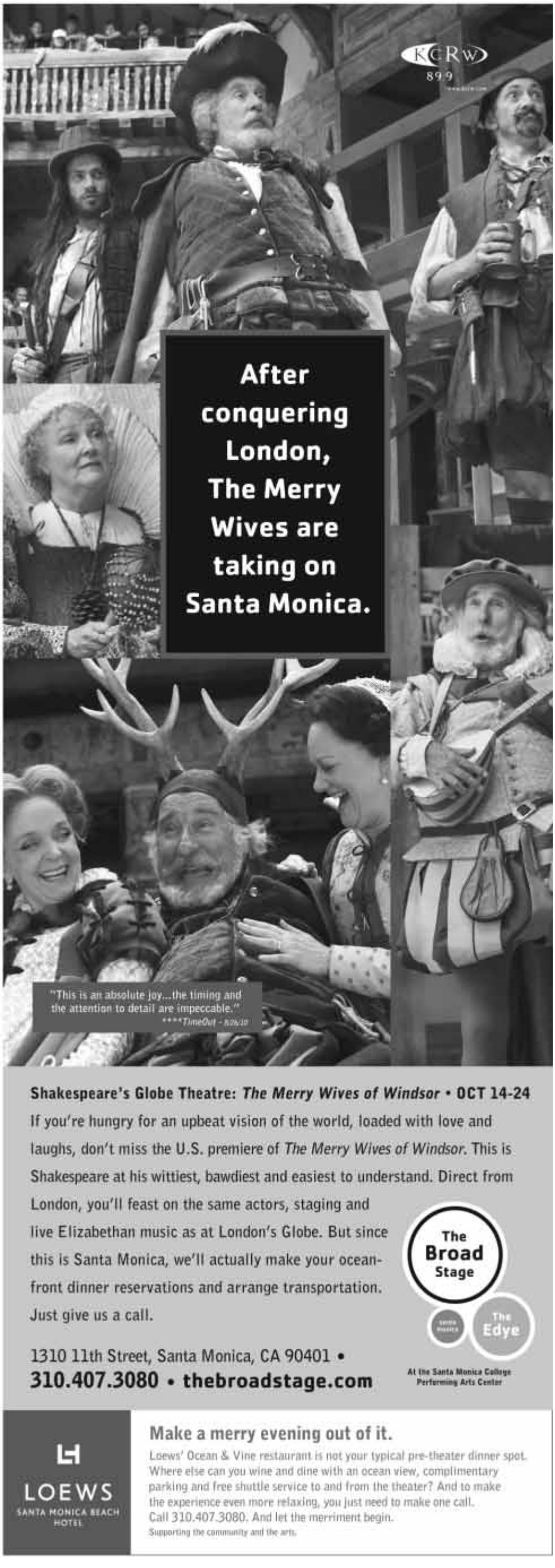
'Rich Man, Poor Man' The Complete Series

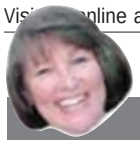
Now available for the first time on DVD comes this classic miniseries (34 episodes) that spans decades and generations to trace the epic story of the Jordache family from 1945 to the late 1960s that at its heart explores such timeless themes as the difficulty of human relationships and the disillusionment of the American dream. Based on Irwin Shaw's best-selling novel and featuring an all-star cast (including Edward Asner, Bill Bixby, Susan Blakely, and Robert Reed), the series focuses in particular on Rudy Jordache (Peter Strauss) and his troubled brother Tom (Nick Nolte) as they navigate divergent paths away from their impoverished immigrant upbringing. While ambitious Rudy seems destined for success, Tom suffers from an endless string of bad luck but in the end, finds love. Winner of four Golden Globes and four Emmys this is a compelling portrait of an ill-fated family. (A&E)

'NFL History of the Minnesota Vikings'

From their early days as a new expansion team in the early '60s under temperamental Hall of Fame quarterback-turned-coach Norm Van Brocklin and the glory days under Bud Grant led by their Purple People Eaters on defense to some of the most brilliant offense in NFL history with Fran Tarkenton, Chuck Foreman, Randy Moss and Brett Favre with Adrian Peterson, Viking fans have enjoyed an exciting half-century of pro football in the Twin Cities including several Super Bowl appearances. (Warner Bros)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at www.sportandcinema.com





Play Time

Cynthia Citron — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

‘Red Hot Lover’ winds up a little blue

BARNEY CASHMAN IS FRUMPY, LUMPY, and awkward with women. And so is John Combs, the actor who plays him in “Last of the Red Hot Lovers.” Coincidence? I think not. Because if there is one thing that director Howard Teichman prides himself on, it’s his impeccable casting. And with “Lovers” he has, once again, scored a perfect 10.

Barney Cashman is the 53-year-old proprietor of a fish restaurant who spends his mornings shucking oysters and his afternoons trying to get the smell off his hands. He has been married to his high school sweetheart for 28 years and is reasonably content. But he has begun to suffer from the “Is this all there is?” syndrome. And nobody deals with that problem better than playwright Neil Simon!

And so we find Barney sneaking into his mother’s apartment on New York’s Middle East Side to prepare for a rendezvous with a woman he has picked up at his restaurant. His mother’s apartment, designed by the unerring Jeff Rack, is typical “old lady dowdy,” and so is Barney. He is wearing an inch-wide tie that ends abruptly just south of his nipples. And he is compulsively smelling his fingers and dowsing them with what looks like after-shave lotion.

Enter Elaine Navazio (Maria Spassoff), a horny housewife married to someone who, to hear her tell it, sounds like a Mafia goon. Suddenly panicked, Barney makes small talk, delivering some of Neil Simon’s hilarious dialogue in an effort to “get to know her.” She, of course, is impatient, cynical, and hilarious in her own right.

Barney’s second encounter is with Bobbi (Ashley Platz), a ditzy blonde hippie who regales (and alarms) him with all her previous sexual exploits, and absolutely stops the show. She is marvelous!

And finally, there is Jeannette (Tracy Winters), the neurotic and melancholy wife of one of his friends, who comes in clutching her purse to her chest and proceeds to fill the apartment with gloom and despair. Barney, sucked into her depression, winds up commiserating with her as she cries her way through what he had anticipated as a romantic interlude.

This play, which opened on Broadway in 1969, was one of the first in which Neil Simon inserted a more serious mood into his works. “Lovers,” though funny, is also poignant and filled with mid-life angst. Barney, trapped on the outside of the Sexual Revolution, stands with his nose pressed to the window, envying those who’ve made the transition to the New Morality.

Director Teichman steers his players deftly, engaging us sympathetically with the tribulations of poor beleaguered Barney. And John Combs, who is onstage through the entire play, is the consummate Barney, progressing from panicked nebbish to semi-sophisticated seducer in two and a half hours.

If I can add one minor quibble: the third sequence, with Jeannette, is too long and too unvarying in mood. It ends the play on a downer, which is not what one would expect from Neil Simon. But other than that, Mrs. Lincoln, the production is terrific.

“Last of the Red Hot Lovers” is a production of the West Coast Jewish Theatre. It will run Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Nov. 21 at Pico Playhouse, 10508 West Pico Blvd., in Los Angeles. Call (323) 860-6620 for tickets.

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

Revival of ‘La Bete’ is the opposite of beastly

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK When the play “La Bete” debuted almost 20 years ago, it exposed a trans-Atlantic fault-line: It bombed on Broadway but then won the best new comedy award in London. Now a revival is back in New York after receiving a warm reception in the West End.

Will history repeat itself here? Hopefully not.

On paper, David Hirson’s play doesn’t exactly sound like it should be a hit. For one, it’s set in a French chateau in the 17th century. For another, it’s completely written in rhyming couplets. Lastly, it explores opposing visions of art — highbrow and lowbrow. All three elements should combine to create the theatrical equivalent of Ambien.

But early in the work comes a jolt of Adrenalin: Mark Rylance ("Boeing-Boeing") appears wearing a pair of terrible false teeth and delivers an astonishing, 20-minute soliloquy that leaves audiences in hysterics, stunned and cheering.

He almost steals the show, but there’s more: David Hyde Pierce ("Spamalot," TV’s “Frasier") is also onboard, at his subtle, arch best, and Joanna Lumley (TV’s “Absolutely Fabulous") gives a spiky, haughty performance as the princess.

Pierce plays the snooty playwright Elomire (an anagram for the playwright Moliere), whose work has lately grown too intellectual and dry (he likes to explore such things as “the bloated state of language and its ethical dimension") under the patronage of the feisty princess.

Hoping to inject a little life into the group, the princess champions Valere, a buffoonish street performer who uses puppets to perform ghastly one-man shows with titles such as “Death by Cheese” and “The Dying Clown.”

Elomire, naturally, is horrified by the idea of having to accommodate such a lowbrow hack into his comfortable court troupe. With the princess acting as referee, the two men battle for her endorsement.

The arena is set designer Mark Thompson’s impossibly huge, three-sided library whose towering shelves are packed with books, the appropriate venue for a contest over wisdom. Thompson is also responsible for the facetious costumes — over-the-top tunics, pantaloons, pirate boots and feathered hats that look like he swiped them from “The Three Musketeers” or “Pirates of the Caribbean.”

Much will be made of Rylance’s initial monologue, an exhausting piece of acrobatic wordplay that threatens to destabilize the rest of the play. He emerges spitting melon, burps, scratches himself and even defecates in a chamber pot — all while delivering a torrent of words in a slightly crazed, California surfer-dude accent.

He is boastful and pompous, falsely modest and offensive. He rudely complains about the lavish dinner that was served in his honor (especially the “acidic vinaigrette"), he lectures without knowing what he’s talking about.



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: October 18, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:
ARB 10-453, 621 Broadway: Office
ARB 10-467, 801 Ocean Avenue: Residential
ARB 10-498, 2107 Ocean Avenue: Residential
ARB 10-510, 1223 Sixteenth Street: Medical

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planning-comm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 and the Tide Ride serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.



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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

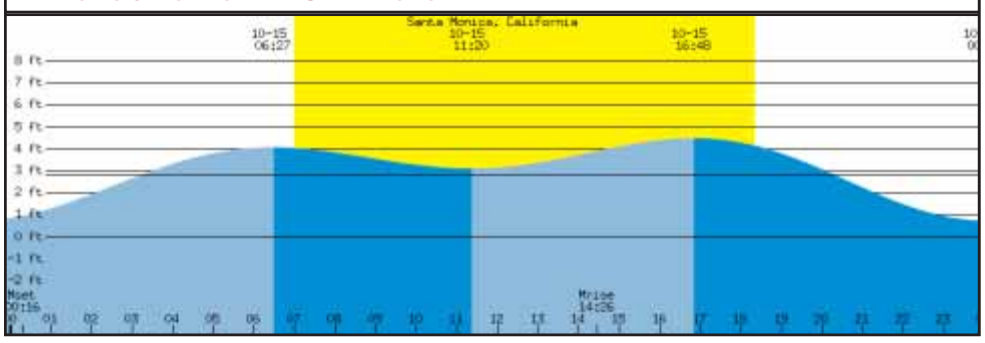
Swell Forecast

SW is expected to temporarily back off. Most south facing breaks are looking at waist to chest high sets. West facing breaks are looking at knee to waist high surf.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see a sizable swath of SW swell come ashore, pushing south facing breaks into chest to head high surf. NW energy is looking nil.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **October 5, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 4
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 14 / as
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8 / as

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NFL

Win over Chargers gives Raiders needed confidence

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA When Tyvon Branch picked up a loose ball and sprinted toward the end zone for the clinching score, seven years of frustration for the Oakland Raiders against the San Diego Chargers came to an end.

Having snapped their 13-game losing streak against the AFC West rivals, the Raiders face an even taller task: reversing a run of seven straight losing seasons.

Ever since taking over the head coaching job from Lane Kiffin early in the 2008 season, coach Tom Cable has talked about the need to change the mentality around a team that had grown too used to losing during a record-setting run of ineptitude.

The Raiders (2-3) are showing signs of accomplishing that with a lack of off-field turmoil and improved play on the field as evidenced by the win over the Chargers. But even the ever-optimistic Cable said he believes the team has much more to do to reach its goal of returning to the playoffs.

"We still have too many things to work on to just jump up and down and think everything is great," he said. "We still have a lot of work to do. But that's a good problem because you want to always keep getting better and better and we have plenty to work on."

Among the problems to be fixed is an offensive line that has struggled in pass protection, leading to injuries to the top two quarterbacks already this season.

The young wide receivers led by second-year players Darrius Heyward-Bey and Louis Murphy are still far too inconsistent with drops and long periods of time when they seem unable to get open.

The defense is coming off one of its worst two-game stretches in years, allowing 249 yards on the ground in a loss to Houston two weeks ago and 415 in the air last week to San Diego. The 947 yards allowed are the most in a two-game span in six years.

But the Raiders scored nine points off a pair of blocked punts, got a late go-ahead touchdown from Michael Bush and won the game when Branch returned Philip Rivers' fumble just when it looked like the Chargers were in position for the winning score.

Now they head into their showdown against the winless San Francisco 49ers as the more stable Bay Area franchise for a change.

"Confidence comes from winning games," Pro Bowl cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha said. "You can have a little bit more of that after beating the Chargers. I think it will help us a lot in this game."

Asomugha is one of a handful of players who has been around for the entirety of a run during which the Raiders became the first team in NFL history to lose at least 11 games in seven straight seasons. He was a rookie when that streak started so he never has experienced the success that was much more commonplace during owner Al Davis' first four decades with the franchise.

The only players left from a run of three straight division titles are kicker Sebastian Janikowski and punter Shane Lechler. After going 33-15 from 2000-02, playing in two AFC title games and reaching the Super Bowl following the 2002 season, the Raiders have a record of 31-86 since the start of the 2003 season.

"It's just a whole different time right now," Lechler said. "At that point in time in 2001, 2002, we were at where we're trying to get to that right now, where, no matter what, every Sunday, we went out expecting to win. It was kind of a given then. That's what we're trying to get to now."

A win at San Francisco would be a big step, considering Oakland hasn't won back-to-back games since the end of 2008.

There have been early season victories in recent years that were supposed to portend better times ahead, like one last October against Philadelphia, that instead were followed with debacles.

"We just lived on that high and then didn't come out the next week and play to the intensity that we're supposed to," Murphy said of the team's lack of back-to-back wins.

The Raiders believe they have settled that problem now, even though they followed up the win in the home opener against St. Louis with a 24-23 loss at Arizona when Janikowski missed a 32-yard field goal on the final play.

After getting down big to Houston the following week, the Raiders rallied and were in position to tie the game late before Bruce Gradkowski threw an interception. Then last week, Oakland lost Gradkowski to a shoulder injury and then had former starter Jason Campbell rally the team to a victory.

Those two games showed that instead of wallowing after mistakes, the Raiders are responding.

"The accountability has gotten where it needs to be now," Cable said. "It's not a matter of how we did this or what we called. It's on all of us and we recognize that. We take responsibility for it now. That's really, really huge for us, because it's the first time in the four years I've been here where guys man up and say, 'Hey, that's on me.' So that's a good thing. The next step is you can't let it happen."

The Raiders' fans are still skeptical if the lackluster attendance at the Coliseum is any indication. Oakland has had 10 straight home games blacked out since last year's season opener and drew only 32,218 two weeks ago against Houston — the smallest non-replacement player crowd for the Raiders since 1967 and the smallest in the league in six seasons.

With a run-down stadium they are hoping to renovate, a long stretch of losing and a struggling economy that has hit parts of the Bay Area hard, attendance is a problem in Oakland.

"I was down there with fans and there's no shortage for passion here, that's for sure," Commissioner Roger Goodell said at halftime of the Chargers game. "We just need to get more fans and get more fans in the stadium. That's something we're being challenged with throughout the country but clearly it's an issue here."

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature
Fog (PG-13) 1hr 40min
Halloween (R) 1hr 49min
7:30pm

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Secretariat (PG)
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

It's Kind of a Funny Story (PG-13)
2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Catfish (PG-13) 1hr 34min
12:35pm, 2:50pm, 5:15pm, 7:40pm, 9:55pm

Easy A (PG-13)
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

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

Legend of the Guardians 3D: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
12:50pm, 4:00pm, 7:05pm, 10:15pm

Life As We Know It (PG-13)
11:05am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

Social Network (PG-13)
10:40am, 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Jackass 3D (R)
11:40am, 12:40pm, 2:10pm, 3:10pm, 4:40pm, 5:40pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 9:50pm, 10:50pm

Red (PG-13) 1hr 38min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

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

Never Let Me Go (R)
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Nowhere Boy (R) 1hr 37min
1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Waiting for Superman (PG) 1hr 42min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Tamara Drewe (R) 1hr 49min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

Town (R)
12:50pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:05pm

Secretariat (PG)
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Social Network (PG-13)
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Red (PG-13) 1hr 38min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Stone (R) 1hr 45min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:35pm

My Soul to Take 3D (R)
11:35am, 2:25pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

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

Alone time, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Whether it is the knowledge that the weekend is heading in or a change in the planets, you don't care. You feel empowered. Dot your i's and cross your t's before you leave work. Gather with others and christen this weekend. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You certainly will need to focus on the here and now. Others want your remedies and solutions. Please share them, as they do make a difference. Tonight: Not feeling as carefree as you might like.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Pull back in order to gain a complete perspective. Not everyone thinks in terms like you. The broader your outlook and the more empathy you express the more likely you will find an agreement. Tonight: Opt for the unusual.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You might want to relate to a key associate directly but can't. Work on the basic issues. Be a better listener, and absorb new information with care. Listen to what is being shared. Tonight: One-on-one time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Be an efficiency expert and get as much done as possible early on. You will want to be more innovative and dynamic in your choices. Positively greet a partner's sometimes odd ideas. Clear out as much work as possible. Tonight: Let your hair down. It has been a very wild week.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Others challenge you but might not intend to upset you. Use their input more positively than in the past. You'll see a matter very differently if you do, and allow for an unusual resolution. Tonight: Relax in your favorite manner.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could feel swamped by an overwhelming amount of requests. You might not want to handle a personal matter as you have in the past. Let go and flow. Lose your judgments for a day. Tonight: Finally, time to be yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Accomplishment demands unusual creativity and answers. You come up with many ideas, which head in from out of left field. Be willing to test them out on others. A new love interest or child could be overwhelming. Tonight: Head on home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You know what others need. The choice is just how much you want or need to help them. Be aware of what is going on here. A family member can be quite alluring, but do you want to get involved? Tonight: Others are happy to find you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You smile and come out ahead of the game. You know what is needed. Though you can be quite assertive and direct, you also are capable of a mini-revolution if need be. In your head, you justify this behavior with "you gotta do what you gotta do." Tonight: On top of your game.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Rest assured that there are many different approaches to a money matter. The smart move is to weigh the pros and cons. Could you be too optimistic about one set of options? Tonight: You will know exactly what to do. Have fun!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could be slightly overwhelmed by an opportunity. You could try to push someone to do something your way. Know what you want before creating a lot of uproar. You are all smiles during the day. Tonight: Do only what you want.

Happy birthday

This year, many opportunities evolve, pointing to a new direction. This transformation could involve your daily life. You have many interests; you might decide to make one of them a business. You have a tendency to overeat and go to extremes. Take good care of yourself. If you are single, several people could light up your life. Get to know each person better before deciding that anyone is right! If you are attached, the two of you could share a new pastime or interest, drawing you closer. AQUARIUS always whips up the fun.

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



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

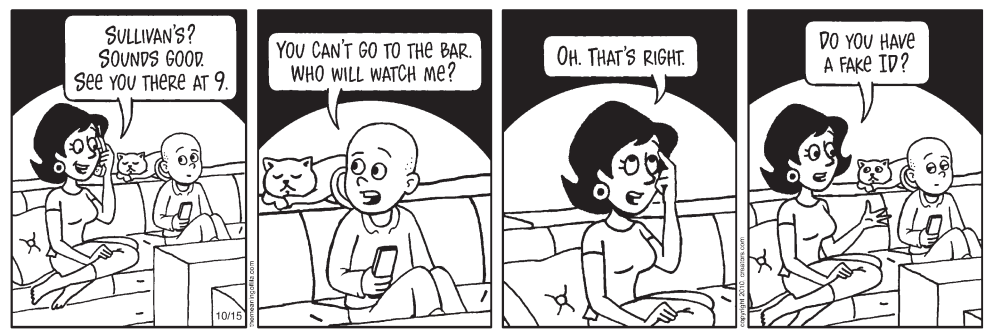
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



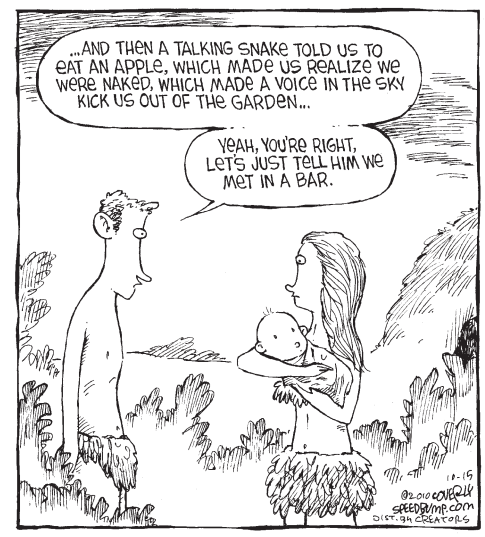
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Petty argument
5 Frost
9 Eye hole
11 Plant, in a way
13 Dancer Castle
14 Surgical tool
15 Go astray
16 Sanction
18 Takes the tension out of
20 Guitar pioneer Paul
21 Put off
22 Smooch
23 Atlantic catch
24 Obtain
25 Makes a choice
27 Putting site
29 Squabble
30 Crock's cousin
32 Warned, watch-dog-style
34 Have debts
35 "... lovely as —"
36 Camera creator Land
38 Frasier's brother
39 Singer Della
40 Appends
41 Writer Harte

DOWN

1 Beheld
2 Sounded content
3 Clint Eastwood movie
4 Badge metal
5 Lends a hand
6 Poet Khayyám
7 Clint Eastwood movie
8 "The Matrix" star
10 Rented
12 Attire
17 For every
19 X-file topics
22 "It's — real"
24 Test checker
25 Heart, for one
26 Shylock's outwitter
27 "Golly!"
28 Absolutely not, informally
30 Consecrate
31 Conviction
33 Hoe target
37 Cotillion girl

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

Yesterday's answer

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

10-15

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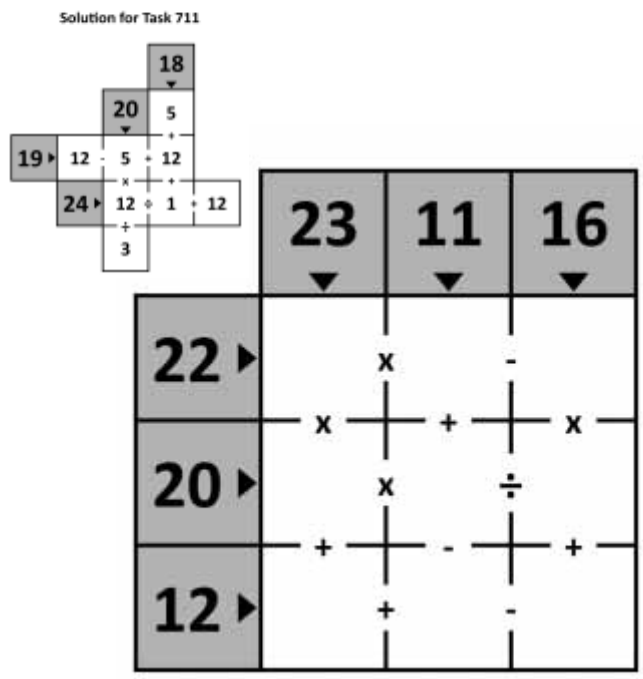
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

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

1, 3, 3, 5, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10

Solution for Task 711



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 10 31 36 37 43 Meganumber: 15 Jackpot: $72M

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Fantasy 5: 2 10 28 38 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 9 3 EVENING: 5 1 7

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 07 Eureka 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1:47.23

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

■ Playboy magazine has long published an audio edition, and the Library of Congress produces a text edition in Braille. However, as a Houston Chronicle reporter learned in August, a Texas organization (Taping for the Blind) goes one step further, with volunteer reader Suzi Hanks actually describing the photographs -- even the Playmates and other nudes. "I'd say if she has large breasts or small breasts, piercings or tattoos," said Hanks. "I'll describe her genitalia. ... I take my time describing the girls. ... Hey, blind guys like pretty, naked girls, too!"

■ America's most prolific litigant (and News of the Weird mainstay) may finally have met his match. In September, federal prosecutors asked a judge in Kentucky to supervise Jonathan Lee Riches' future filings to eliminate the frivolous ones (which likely means all of them). Riches is serving 10 years in prison for stealing credit card numbers and has filed an estimated 3,800 lawsuits from behind bars (more than one for every day of incarceration), alleging wrongs done to him by such people as George W. Bush, Britney Spears, the philosopher Plato, the Dave Matthews Band, Tiger Woods (luggage theft), baseball player Barry Bonds (illegal moonshine), and football player Michael Vick (who allegedly stole Riches' pit bulls, sold them on eBay, and used the proceeds to buy missiles from Iran).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1970 The domestic Soviet Aeroflot Flight 244 is hijacked and diverted to Turkey.

1971 The start of the 2500-year celebration of Iran, celebrating the birth of Persia.

1973 The diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Gabon are established.

1979 Black Monday in Malta. The Building of the Times of Malta, the residence of the opposition leader Eddie Fenech Adami and several Nationalist Party clubs are ransacked and destroyed by supporters of the Malta Labour Party.

WORD UP!

hopscotch
\ HOP-skoch \ , verb;
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