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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2009
Volume 8 Issue 301

nta Monica Daily Press

RIVALS CLASH
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE REMEMBERING COACH TAYLOR ISSUE

Senior housing project upsets area residents

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A proposal to build two affordable senior group housing projects along the I-10 Freeway is stirring neighbors who believe the developments are not only out of scale but don't fit in with zoning standards for the area.

A group of those residents, calling themselves the Pico Euclid Neighborhood Coalition, appeared before the Planning Commission on Wednesday to appeal the Architectural Review Board's earlier approval of the aesthetics and design for the

SEE **PROJECT** PAGE 7

Report finds major companies discharging toxins into SM Bay

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM BEACH A state environmental advocacy group is calling on federal officials to strengthen water quality regulations following the release of a report that found more than 232 million pounds of toxic chemicals have been dumped into the nation's rivers, oceans and lakes, including large discharges into the Santa Monica Bay.

Titled "Wasting Our Waterways: Industrial Toxic Pollution and the Unfulfilled Promise of the Clean Water Act," the study by Environment California details the types of toxic chemicals that have polluted approximately 1,900 different bodies of water across the country by industrial facilities because of what advocates believe are loopholes in federal laws.

"Despite the clear intent of the Clean Water Act, polluters continue to use our waterways as dumping grounds for toxic chemicals," Gina Goodhill, oceans advocate

SEE **TOXINS** PAGE 9



COSTUMES FOR ALL

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Sean White and Floyd Bailey (right), of the Boys & Girls Club, hand out free Halloween costumes to club members on Thursday afternoon.

Long-time SMC football coach Taylor dies at 64

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SMC A Westside football icon has passed.

Robert Taylor, a man who coached football at Santa Monica College since 1984, mentoring countless young athletes along the way, died Thursday at the age of 64. Funeral arraignments have yet to be announced.

Taylor, who had been on medical leave since being relieved as head coach after an enrollment scandal became public during the summer, is survived by his brother Ed. The cause of death has yet to be announced by SMC, where he was still on staff until the time of his death.

As news spread around football circles, it became evident that Taylor meant a great deal to the men he has mentored over the years.

"He helped me this year," first-year Santa Monica High School Head Coach Travis Clark said. "He has given me so much advice.

"He's a great individual who will be dearly missed."

Taylor first came to SMC in 1984 and served as an assistant until 1994 when he was named head coach. During his tenure with the school, he coached the team to three bowl victories and was instrumental in developing a number of players who later went on to star in the National

SEE **TAYLOR** PAGE 8


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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, Oct. 23, 2009

Rolling with the Rotary
Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades
The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the diverse ethnic makeup of members. Those interested in attending their regular lunch should contact June M. Doy at (310) 917-3313.

Antique time
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.
Bustamante Enterprises will be hosting the Dorothy Emerson Antique Show & Sale featuring everything from 17th century tapestries to art nouveau and deco accessories. A wide range of dealers from all over the country will be on hand, displaying millions of dollars worth of rare items. Admission is $7 and $2 discount passes are available online at www.bustamante-shows.com.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009

Walking for charity
City Hall
1685 Main St., 9 a.m. — noon
Join the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to participate in the Out of the Darkness Community Walk. The event will help raise money for the foundation's programs and research. Call (818) 593-8110 for more information.

Pumpkin decorating
Santa Monica Pico Farmers' Market
2200 Virginia Ave., 9 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Bring the kids to decorate locally grown, bright orange pumpkins. Glitter and googly eyes will be provided to create these festive masterpieces. Visit www01.smgov.net/farmersmarket/ for more information.

A message in the sand
Santa Monica Beach
Lifeguard Station #22, 4 p.m.
Come to the beach to be part of a human circle surrounding a giant sand-sculpted "350." The formation will be photographed from above and featured in Times Square, NYC to help raise awareness about the safe limits of CO2 in the atmosphere — just 350 parts per million. RSVP for the event at www.350.org/santamonica.

Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009

Fundraising walk
Beach Park 1
2600 Bernard Way, noon
Join supporters of the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network for their annual Walk for Food Allergy: Moving Toward a Cure. Baby strollers and wagons are welcomed on this 2 mile walk. To find out more information, call Lisa Papini at (562) 708-9197.

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.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

New coaches, old rivalry

Samohi, Beverly Hills breaking in new leadership this season

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

BEVERLY HILLS The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Santa Monica High School travels to Beverly Hills tonight at 7 p.m. to resume a rivalry that some consider one of the best in the area. While the Vikings and Normans are no strangers, the men who coach each team are in their first year at the helm.

Each man is familiar to the rivalry having both played and served as assistant coaches in past contests, but the unique challenges that come with building a program are a uniting factor.

For Samohi Head Coach Travis Clark, the opportunity to make a statement against a team that the Vikings haven't defeated since the 2004-05 season is intriguing.

"We're up for the challenge," Clark said. "I'm excited about the improvement of my kids."

That improvement came last week as the Vikings opened their Ocean League schedule with a 34-21 victory over Morningside. Clark was impressed by his team's performance early in the game, but grew frustrated as his team allowed Morningside to score a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns to make the game much closer than it appeared heading into the final minutes.

Clark has stressed closing out games strong this week in practice knowing full well the consequences of tonight's key league matchup.

"Every game is a must win," he said. "We're not looking back, we're not looking ahead.

"We must play like winners and champions."

Once again, Samohi will be led by senior quarterback Garrett Safron who was 12 for 18, amassing 221 yards and three touchdowns last week against Morningside. The emergence of a running game to complement a slick passing attack will be a factor if the Vikings are to stay undefeated in league.

The running back platoon of Brandon Taylor, Kori Garcia and Donovan Citrowski will again be the driving force in the running game as a primary ball carrier has yet to emerge.

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 8

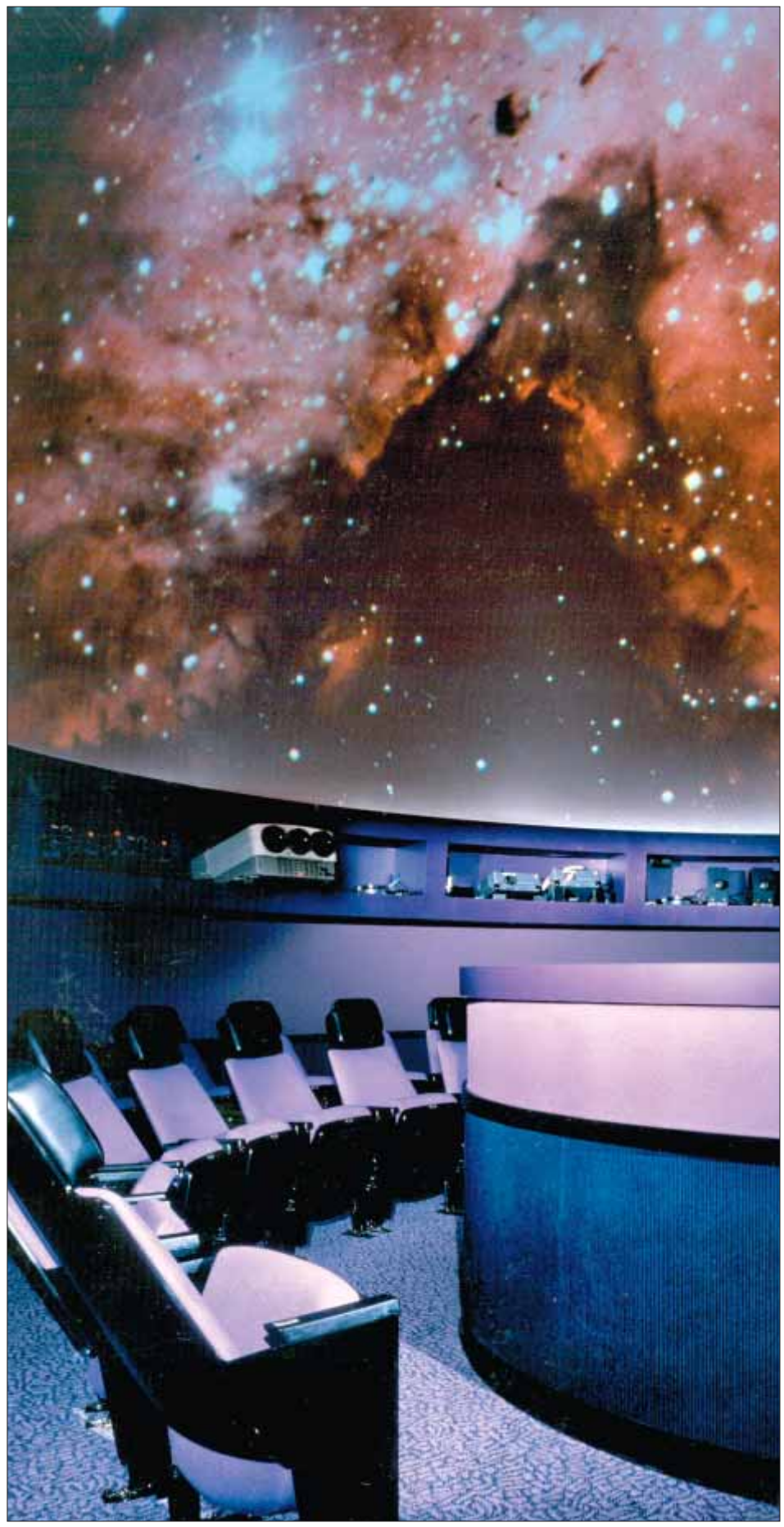


Photo courtesy SMC

WHAT A SHOW: **The John Drescher Planetarium at Santa Monica College hosts a number of shows each year. The shows are open to both students and the public alike.**

Experience the galaxy without leaving your seat

BY DERRICK OLIVER
Special to the Daily Press

SMC "I have two questions. One, how fast is Jupiter's orbit? And two, have you heard anything about the L-Cross," asked the bright-eyed, brown-haired astronomy enthusiast.

Jim Mahon, who gives lectures on the cosmos at the John Drescher Planetarium at Santa Monica College, answered the questions slowly and clearly so that even an 8-year-old could understand because, in fact, this particular inquirer was an 8-year-old boy.

Those questions were just a sample of many during the two-hour planetarium presentations that Mahon puts on at the planetarium each Friday.

The weekly themed-presentations begin with a simulation of the evening sky during the "Night Sky Show," and are followed by a lecture about current space exploration with topics that include human space flight, the moon, the gas giant known as Jupiter and amateur telescopes. The shows last from 7 p.m. — 9 p.m. each Friday evening through Oct. 30, with two special shows on Nov. 6 and Nov. 20.

After traversing the dark corridors of the second floor of Drescher Hall on the evening of Oct. 16, one stepped into a new realm when entering the planetarium. On a platform bordered by purple panels within a dimly-lit room, Mahon stood with his arms outstretched, addressing the audience of approximately 40 people like the commander on the deck of the starship Enterprise in an episode of "Star Trek."

With the theme of "NASA's Human Spaceflight Future" on this particular night, Mahon emphasized that, because of funding deficiencies and technological obstacles, NASA's space station program would come to an end between 2010 and 2016.

He, then, projected several images of the

SEE PLANETARIUM PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Signage needed for non-smokers

Editor:

This morning, I read an article on the Internet regarding the new report on the effects of secondhand smoke and the new study finds that it's all true. More than 126 million non-smoking people are exposed to someone else's tobacco smoke, with now proven dire results.

One of the quotes from Dr. Thomas Frieden, head of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which requested the study said, "The evidence is clear. Smoke-free laws don't hurt business ... but they prevent heart attacks in non-smokers."

The article and the new study offer compelling evidence that people who are not addicted themselves still suffer dire consequences by being involved in smokers' addiction.

So with all the new and compelling evidence, as a bus rider, I would like the answer to why, oh why the city of Santa Monica and the Big Blue Bus make a mockery of non-smokers' rights by informing smokers at the bus stop that it is against the law to smoke within 20 feet of any bus stop (or business) in the manner they do.

Get this. They post a 1 1/2-inch, square white sign with a pale pink logo of a cigarette with a line through it way, way, way at the very tip top of the bus stop sign. You would have to be a seagull to read it or notice it, but the seagulls and the pigeons (who haven't been killed by the City Council) are coughing at the smoke. And the pink has now faded so it's totally white at the bus stops where the signs are posted – some stops don't even have the laughable tiny signs.

I, and other non-smokers, have put up with smokers at the bus stops long enough. And I have seen smokers take their last drag, toss the cigarette into the storm drain, board the bus and blow the smoke right in the bus driver's face! Bus drivers who are non-smokers would like better signage at the bus stops also, and I understand have brought up the ineffectiveness of the ridiculous present signs to their superiors at work.

Now people, this won't do – too bad the non-smokers among the City Council members and the executives at the Big Blue Bus don't ride the buses, or they'd put up signs that are large enough and clear enough to actually be read. The next step would be to actually enforce the non-smoking laws. Also, you could cancel the "Bonus for Bright Ideas" and revoke it for whoever thought up the teeny, tiny pale pink logo signs.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

The 14 users currently in the teen chat room.

good2hug:	14, female, Daytona, FL
joey16:	16, male, Hackensack, NJ
robbieW:	38, male, Daytona, FL
b-ball_tommy:	15, male, Pocatello, ID
tu_tu:	16, female, Burlington, VT
duffme:	44, male, Minneapolis, MN
QTpie:	30, male, Chicago, IL
ty1989:	15, female, Naperville, IL
harrys_grl:	12, female, Appleton, MN
slugger20:	17, male, Jackson, MS
qtrback21:	26, male, Brooklyn, NY
suzie14:	14, female, Portland, OR
hiphopper:	13, female, Plano, TX
paperboy:	41, male, Beaverton, OR

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council
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National Center for Missing & Exploited Children



Write Rachel

Rachel Iverson

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Boyfriend's head on a swivel

DEAR RACHEL,

My boyfriend checks out other women in front of me and I think it's wrong, not to mention rude. I've talked to him about it, but he says it's normal guy behavior. What can I do to make him change?

Signed, Disrespected

DEAR DISRESPECTED,

While some couples feel that some level of extracurricular ogling and flirting is acceptable, others, like you, prefer a policy of no-ogling/no flirting. It's up to every couple to decide mutually what works best for their relationship. That being said, your boyfriend's behavior upsets you, so you must communicate this point to him clearly. You can't make your boyfriend change, but you can share your feelings about his behavior and give him the opportunity to work with you on a compromise that's mutually agreeable.

For instance, maybe he can practice being subtle about looking at other women and you can be tolerant while he makes this transition. When you speak to him, be sure to express not only how you feel, but also let him know that the health of your relationship is dependent on working out this issue. His choices are then either to rise to the occasion and to work with you, or, to continue to ogle the opposite sex in an obvious manner.

If he refuses to work on this issue at all, then you have choices, too. You need to decide if his behavior is a deal-breaker for your relationship or tolerably annoying behavior. If it's tolerably annoying behavior, this means that you and your guy may be able to come up with a solution, but in the end you may have to accept that he's not going to change. If, on the other hand, you decide this behavior is a deal-breaker, this means that you cannot live with this behavior in any form and it must stop altogether or the relationship will end. He will then show you whether his ogling is just a bad habit that he's willing to abandon in order to save your relationship or it's something that he can't or won't modify. In that case, you may need to move on.

The key to clear communication with a man is to be direct, especially when it comes to expressing feelings. We women sometimes don't communicate with men as efficiently as they would like. While unspoken cues may be sufficient indicators when communicating with other women, most men prefer problems to be spelled out in a straightforward manner. Through direct communication with your boyfriend, you'll determine whether the two of you are able to reach some common ground on this issue or not.

DEAR RACHEL,

I've always heard that a strong relationship is built on common interests. I love to shop. Is it necessary for me and my guy to enjoy all the same activities?

Signed, Shopaholic

DEAR SHOPAHOLIC,

Although it's convenient to share hobbies with a partner, it's not necessary to enjoy all the same interests with a mate to achieve romantic harmony. In fact, as long as the two of you have mutual respect for your differences, a mate whose personality strengths and weaknesses complement your own is usually more fulfilling than dating someone who shares identical interests. Many people think that finding your ideal mate is about finding a twin in actuality your best partner is often your complement. For instance, if you're a highly analytical thinker, you may thrive when dealing with complex situations, but tend to be too serious. This is when a mate who has a less-analytical and more light-hearted approach to life can serve as a valuable counterbalance.

THE KEY TO CLEAR COMMUNICATION WITH A MAN IS TO BE DIRECT, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO EXPRESSING FEELINGS. WE WOMEN SOMETIMES DON'T COMMUNICATE WITH MEN AS EFFICIENTLY AS THEY WOULD LIKE.

The point is you don't have to see eye-to-eye on every subject, do everything together, or get every need satisfied by your mate — just the most important ones. Interests and hobbies that you don't have in common with your partner can be shared with family members or friends. To ensure the most fulfilling relationship, build a relationship on a foundation of compatible (but not necessarily identical) personality traits, values and life goals rather than more superficial qualities, such as hobbies, height, weight, age, social status and material possessions.

RACHEL IVERSON is a freelance writer, dating coach and author, who lives with her husband in Venice. Her book, "Don't Help A Man Be A Man: How To Avoid 12 Dating Time Bombs," has been endorsed by Dr. John Gray, author of "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus." For more information on Rachel or her book, visit: www.rebelgirlpublishing.com. For dating advice, contact: rachel@rebelgirlpublishing.com.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Road to the Freeway Series closed because of sinkhole

ON THE ROAD TO THE FREEWAY WORLD Series, the Dodgers exited one off-ramp too soon. For the second straight year, they lost the National League Championship to the Phillies, four games to one. Déjà vu all over again.

Because my deadline was before yesterday's game, I'm guessing the Angels will have done the same. It's technically possible that they could win three straight over the powerhouse Yankees. It's also technically possible that I could win a Pulitzer Prize for this column.

Many of us who were at the first Dodger game at the Coliseum (including my mailman friend, Richard) have waited 47 long years for a Freeway Series. And this was the closest we'd ever gotten. We may have to wait another 47 years, in which case, and I hate to break it to Rich, we're going to be really, really old.

But we're still better off than the Cubs, who haven't won a World Series in 101 years. The last time they did Teddy Roosevelt was president! Who knows, in the 1908 World Series the Rough Riders might have thrown out the first ball?

Much like life, but for a tiny break here or there, and the outcomes could have been totally different. In the extra inning game they lost, the Angels could have easily won. Of course, as the expression goes, if my aunt had a certain something then she'd be my uncle. (This being a family paper, I avoided exact wording.)

The Dodger loss in game four against the Phillies was among the most painful ever. L.A. was up one run in the ninth with closer, Jonathon Broxton, on the mound. We were one out from leveling the series at two games. Hope abounded. Until Jimmy Rollins hit a bases emptying double and my dream of a Freeway Series went up in the smoke from my ears. I was so depressed that I couldn't finish dinner. (A foodie, I could be dying and I think I'd finish dinner.)

This year was almost as bad as 1985. (Who me, hold on to bitter memories?) It was game five of the Dodgers-Cardinals NLCS. The score was 2-2 with reliever Tom Niedenfeur pitching. (I never liked his last name, especially the "feur" part.)

Ozzie Smith had only 13 home runs in eight seasons. But somehow Niedenfeur turned him into Babe Ruth as Ozzie hit a home run to right to end the game. Two days later, Niedenfeur served one up to Jack Clark. Game, set, match. I couldn't eat dinner that night, either. You'd think being a die-hard Dodger fan all these years I'd at least be thin.

But, in the Division Series this year against the Cardinals, lady luck was on our side. Forget the last out, the Dodgers were down to their last strike. But Cardinal left fielder, mega-millionaire Matt Holliday, dropped a routine fly ball, something he wouldn't do once in a hundred times.

The entire city of St. Louis probably got sick to their collective stomachs, a la the Balloon Boy. I celebrated the win like it was July 4th and New Year's Eve rolled into one. But now, under "misery loves company," I can empathize with the sad citizens of St. Louis. Actually they have it much worse. They've also got the Rams. At least we have the Lakers.

I am trying to be philosophic about the Dodger disaster but it's not easy. I remind myself of all the thrills this season, and the heart it took to have gotten this far. And then a voice in my head pipes up, yeah, but they were so close to the whole enchilada. (Suddenly giving the World Series a Mexican flavor.) But they really weren't.

Even before spring training I was uneasy. They let 200-inning-a-season Derek Lowe go and signed journeyman Randy Wolf. (Meanwhile, Wolf had a spectacular year.) Then Manny was caught juicing, (I don't mean orange) missed 50 games and never seemed the same.

Speaking of "never seemed the same," what happened to Billingsley? (And whatever it is, somebody please fix it before next season.) Only 25, Billingsley started out the year as the ace of the staff and finished it just a notch above the bat boy.

But, as my late father used to say, "There's always next year." Ethier, Kemp, Martin, Loney, Kershaw and Billingsley may not be Garvey, Cey, Russell, Lopes, Fernando and Orel, but they're the closest we've had in ages (back to back Division Championships for the first time since '77 and '78).

In my father's tradition, I'm hoping next year we'll have a lot to look forward to. (And I'm not referring to the McCourt's already nasty divorce.) But, in my current, gloomy mood from the Dodger defeat, all I can say is TGFK (Thank God For Kobe).

In between whining about the Dodgers, **JACK** can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Bright ideas

City Hall has installed an elaborate lighting system on Second and Fourth streets that is designed to both illuminate and beautify the shopping areas. The project has its backers and its critics.

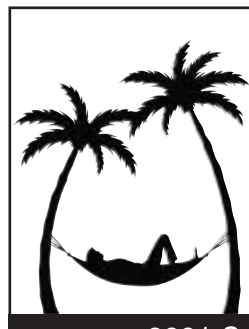
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

What do you think about the colorful lights, and why?

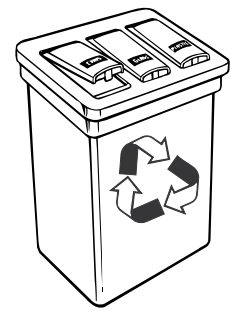
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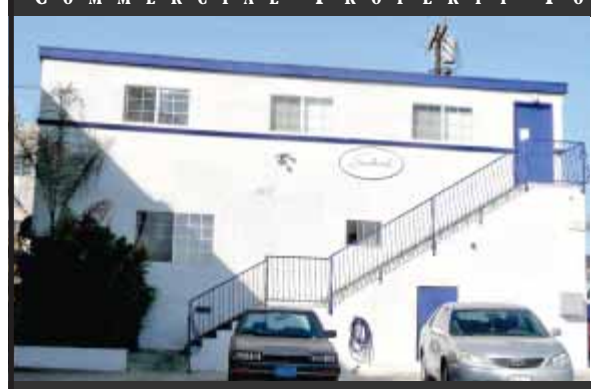
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Congress should begin debate on civilian alternatives to a failed military-based approach to bringing peace and security to the region, starting with Congressional hearings.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Uninvited guest relieves himself in yard

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.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14, AT 6:08 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 2900 block of Delaware Avenue regarding a suspicious person. While responding to the call, the reporting party told dispatch that the suspect had defecated in their backyard and was washing it off the patio, nude from the waste down. After cleaning off the patio, the suspect entered a detached garage. Upon arrival, officers observed the suspect exiting the garage carrying some holiday ornaments. Further investigation revealed that he rummaged through the garage and consumed some beverages from the refrigerator. The suspect, Terry Simms, 50, a transient, was taken into custody and arrested for burglary. His bail was set at $50,000.

MONDAY, OCT. 12, AT 1:25 A.M.,
Officers on routine patrol in the 2600 block of Main Street saw a driver allegedly make a turn from an improper position, a violation of the vehicle code. Officers conducted a traffic stop in the 2700 block of Third Street. While speaking with the driver, officers said they believed he was showing signs of being under the influence of alcohol. Officers conducted a series of balance and coordination tests. The driver, Steve Scales, 37, of Culver City, was arrested for DUI. His bail was set at $5,000.

MONDAY, OCT. 12, AT 7:25 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of the Third Street Promenade (Sephora) regarding an assault. When officers arrived, they made contact with a store employee who said he had asked a customer that was becoming aggressive toward staff to leave the store. The customer, who police said is a chronic problem for the store, became agitated and sprayed perfume in the victim's eyes, police said. The suspect then allegedly grabbed a bottle of water and began waving his arm, getting the employee and other customers wet. Officers located the suspect, who was positively identified by the employee. The suspect was placed under arrest for assault and battery. The suspect was identified as Lecia Shorter, 49, of Beverly Hills. Her bail was set at $20,000.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16, AT 4:40 P.M.,
Officers on routine patrol in the 1000 block of Pico Boulevard saw a driver whose music was blasting from the vehicle, a violation. When officers approached the driver, they could allegedly smell the strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Officers searched the driver and found marijuana hidden in his socks. The driver, Hector Alvarez, 27, of Los Angeles, was arrested for possession of concentrated cannabis, committing a crime while on bail, possession of marijuana while driving and driving on a suspended license and a probation violation. His bail was set at $30,000.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16, AT 1:05 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 800 block of 14th Street regarding a suspicious circumstance. While en route, they were advised that two possible suspects were attempting to remove the catalytic converter from a Toyota 4Runner. The suspects drove off before officers arrived, but witnesses were able to provide a description of the vehicle. Officers located the vehicle in the 1400 block of Marguerita Avenue. Further investigation revealed that the vehicle contained burglary tools to remove catalytic converters. Officers also found property in the vehicle that was believed to have been stolen. The suspects, Manuel Barbosa, 27, and Gilberto Zazueta, 25, both from Los Angeles, were arrested for attempted grand theft, possession of burglary tools, possession of stolen property and probation violation. No bail information was provided.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17, AT 7:19 P.M.,
Officers received a call about an assault in progress in the 1400 block of the Third Street Promenade. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who said he was filming a street performer when the suspect approached him and demanded he stop videotaping. The victim continued to tape the performance. At that time the suspect allegedly tried to grab the camera and a tug-of-war ensued. A bystander stepped in and separated the two. The suspect walked away without the camera. The victim told police he sustained an injury to his left pinky. Officers located the suspect a short distance away and placed him under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Mark Perkins, 40, from Virginia. His bail was set at $50,000.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17, AT 12 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard (Ralphs) regarding a burglary suspect in custody. When officers arrived, store security told them they observed the suspect enter the grocery store and grab several bottles of Jack Daniel's whiskey and then leave the store, failing to pay for the items. Store security made contact with the suspect, who returned the items. He was placed under arrest for burglary. He was identified as Lennie Jenkins, 39, a transient. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17, AT 9:15 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 2900 block of Second Street regarding a person sleeping on the sidewalk. Upon arrival, officers located the man sleeping on the sidewalk. Officers learned that he had a no-bail warrant for his arrest. During a search, officers located a crack pipe as well as marijuana and a prescription drug. The suspect, Robert Richardson, 41, a transient, was booked for a parole violation, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. He was not eligible for bail.

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



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

EXPECTING CHANGES: **A senior housing project is slated for 1924 Euclid St.**

Planning Commission denies appeal to senior housing project

FROM **PROJECT** PAGE 1

pair of projects at 1924-30 Euclid St., and 1753 18th St., complaining that the two proposals are inappropriately dense and should have required review by the commission rather than being "fast-tracked" through the city administrative process.

The commission denied both appeals, ruling that the projects were appropriately scaled and confident that some of the operational issues raised by neighbors would be addressed during the staff plan check process.

The developer, Squier Properties and FAME Santa Monica Senior Apartments LP, are proposing to build a three-story, 100 percent affordable senior group housing home at 1924-30 Euclid that will have a common kitchen, recreational facilities, courtyard and 24 living quarters that will come with full bathrooms and small efficiency kitchens. The proposal on 18th Street is similar but with 18 individual rooms.

The main issue for neighbors concerns the central kitchen, which they believe is inadequate and ill-equipped to service the dining needs of residents and therefore would technically not categorize it as senior group housing. The zoning code defines senior group housing as a building that has a central kitchen and dining facilities with separate bedrooms or private living quarters. Such projects also have no maximum number of dwelling units.

Linas Baskauskas, one of the appellants, said that the project should instead be defined as senior apartments, which he believes would limit the density in the R2 Zone in which it's located to just seven units, substantially lowering the scale of the building.

"The biggest problem I think is the scale and size of this structure just totally overpowers the neighborhood," he said. "Every neighborhood has a tipping point. This project will contribute to the tipping point of this neighborhood."

He also contended that the project should not have been allowed to go through the expedited review process in which it would require only approval from the Architectural Review Board for design purposes. During expedited review, projects still go through the plan check process with city staff.

Barry Rosenbaum, the deputy city attorney, said the city code states that affordable housing projects are not subject to developmental review. Since senior group housing is a permitted use in the zone, the combination of the two factors allowed the project to be reviewed ministerially.

He said the project will have to be deed restricted as affordable housing and meet the description of senior group housing.

"If it turns out upon that review the common kitchen and dining area are inadequate and modification is required and will result in a change in design such that the project design you approved is no longer … then it will be required to come back to this body," Rosenbaum said.

Gary Squier, of Squier Properties, said the communal dining areas will be for group activities, individual uses and structured uses in which meals will be available on a regular basis. He said it will be managed by a third party or in-house.

He added that the small kitchenettes will be functional.

"The concept we had here is one of flexibility and choice and that's what we're providing," he said.

Because the Planning Commission was hearing an appeal to a decision by the Architectural Review Board, its scope was limited to matters concerning the design of the building and not operational issues.

"There are a number of fliers distributed in the neighborhood," Ken Kutcher, the attorney representing the developer, said. "The fliers are about density, they were not about a void and ugly building.

"My role tonight is to talk to you about the limits on your discretion."

He added that the project is allowed by-right.

Opponents to the project stressed that they are not against senior housing but are rather concerned with the size proposed. They also expressed concerns of how the central kitchen as proposed would impact senior citizens.

"It is a fortress," Nancy Dougluss, who lives across from the proposed project on Euclid Street, said. "All of the papers I saw said it has to fit in with the neighborhood … this does not fit in with my neighborhood."

Commissioners said they felt comfortable with the design of the projects, saying they don't believe they look box-like.

Commissioner Gerda Paumgarten Newbold responded to questions from neighbors about whether they would want to live in such a project, noting that many people would like to live in Santa Monica and pay a relatively nominal $400 a month for rent.

"This place is going to fill up," she said. "There is a need for this kind of housing and I'm glad we're seeing some of it."

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Coach Taylor left mark on local football community

FROM **TAYLOR** PAGE 1



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

TAYLOR

Football League.

Before coaching at SMC, Taylor spent time on the sidelines for L.A. Southwest College, L.A. City College, John Muir High School in Pasadena and North Carolina A&T.

The Cincinnati Bengals' Chad Ochocinco (formerly Johnson) immediately posted a number of tweets on his Twitter page about his former coach on Thursday.

"Robert Taylor is part of the reason why I'm here today, he gave me and Steve Smith (panthers) a (sic) oppurtunity (sic), I love you, you'll b [sic] missed," Ochocinco wrote on his page.

Across town, USC Head Coach Pete Carroll also let the Twittering world know how he felt about the passing.

"Sending our regards out to the family of coach Robert Taylor of Santa Monica College … just passed today, very sorry to hear this sad news," Carroll posted.

While Taylor's recent past with SMC was mired in controversy, his overall impact is what is remembered most by those who knew him.

That tutelage was detailed in the book, "Chad: I can't Be Stopped." Author Paul Daugherty wrote that Ochocinco, who was a work in progress during his time at SMC, looked to Taylor as an authority figure. Having not grown up with his own father, a trait both he and Taylor shared, Ochocinco immediately gravitated to him as he made his way to the NFL.

Samohi Athletic Director Norm Lacy, who knew Taylor well from their years of coaching in Santa Monica, said that he will be sorely missed as a mentor. Lacy singled out the work he has done with African American players as one of Taylor's greatest accomplishments on the field.

"His defining moment was not what he did this year," Lacy said. "It was the fact that he helped a lot of players."

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Vikings take on rival

FROM **SAMOHI** PAGE 3

"We have a four-headed monster," Clark said. "That is working the best lately.

"We'll continue that formula until something falters."

On defense, Clark was happy to report that leading defensive lineman Jose Perez will return to action following a knee injury. Clark said he expects Perez' duty to be minimal, yet should help bolster a defensive line that was weakened by his absence.

A strong defensive performance will be crucial if Samohi is to finally end Beverly Hills' dominance in recent years, Clark said.

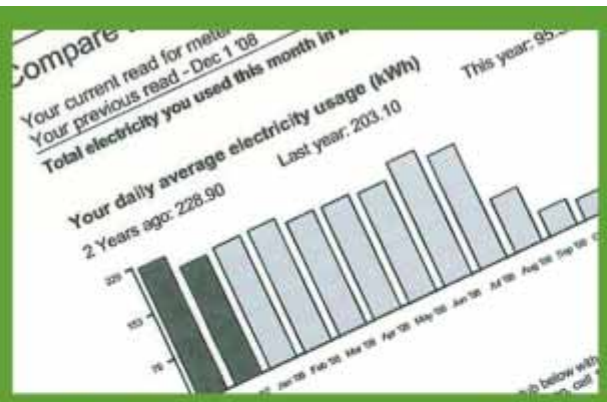
Despite the fact that Beverly Hills is led by a new coach in Donald Paysinger, Clark said that Paysinger's experience as one of the team's assistant coaches under his brother Carter will serve him well in continuing the continuity of that program. Before coaching for Beverly Hills (3-3), Donald Paysinger coached at Samohi earlier this decade. That fact should give him a little added motivation, Clark quipped.

"[The coaching change] is more of a change for us than for them," Clark said.

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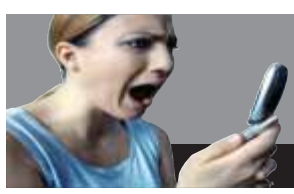
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Environmental group calls for stricter federal regulations on water quality

FROM **TOXINS** PAGE 1

for Environment California, said during a press conference next to the Santa Monica Pier on Thursday.

Using data from the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Toxics Release Inventory, the citizen-based advocacy organization found that more than 2.2 million pounds of toxic chemicals were dumped into the Pacific Ocean by Evergreen Pulp Enterprises, which is located on the northern coast of California. Locally, the Chevron plant in El Segundo let 386,773 pounds of toxins flow into the Santa Monica Bay, ranking it third in the country for such discharges, according to the report.

The pollutants include lead, mercury and dioxin, contaminating the drinking water and infusing the fish that people eat, Goodhill said.

Exposure to the chemicals has been known to cause cancer, developmental and reproductive disorders.

"No one should be surprised but they should be outraged," Goodhill said.

The organization suggests that industrial facilities reduce their toxic discharges by switching from hazardous chemicals to more eco-friendly alternatives, noting that everything from huge corporations to small local dry cleaners have made the switch.

Federal and state agencies need to issue stringent numeric limits for each type of toxic pollution that is discharged, reducing those limits over time and enforcing violations with penalties, not warning letters, Goodhill said.

> **"DESPITE THE CLEAR INTENT OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT, POLLUTERS CONTINUE TO USE OUR WATERWAYS AS DUMPING GROUNDS FOR TOXIC CHEMICALS,"**
>
> **Gina Goodhill**
> Oceans advocate, Environment California

She adds that federal authorities should clarify that the Clean Water Act applies to all waterways, including the thousands of smaller streams whose jurisdiction under the law have recently been called into question.

"We need to start implementing the Clean Water Act the way it was meant to be implemented," she said. "That means making all of our waters fishable and swimmable to ensure that no toxic discharges are in our waterways."

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Planetarium a community resource

FROM **PLANETARIUM** PAGE 3

current space missions, breezing over pictures of the Lunar Crater Observing and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS) mission, which aimed to explore whether water, in the form of hydrogen, was present on the moon.

Mahon had a unique way of describing many of the astronomical bodies in space in order to activate the listeners' imaginations. For example, he likened the rings of Saturn to "old phonograph records" and the Milky Way to "white powder on black velvet."

One of the most topical subjects discussed was Apophis, an asteroid the size of about two football stadiums. This asteroid was believed to have a slight chance of striking the earth in 2036. However, Mahon eased fears by revealing that recent studies have greatly decreased the possibility of a collision. Reports from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena have decreased the chances to about four-in-a-million.

After this brief 20-minute introduction, the lights turned off, and a clear, starry sky was projected on the 28-foot diameter-sized, cathedral-like dome using a Digistar II projector.

While pointing out the different constellations, Mahon discussed how different cultures affected the way people saw the night sky.

"Ooos" and "ahs" were heard from the audience when the sky suddenly began to rotate to simulate real-time. The movement of the stars was then fast-forwarded to demonstrate the instability of location in space. The stars no longer seemed like stars, but looked like frantic fireflies on a summer night.

The most exciting part came when Mahon simulated going the speed of light and moving through a black hole. Feeling like the "Simpson's" virtual roller coaster ride at Universal Studios, many of the children began to yell out in unison, "Faster!"

The night show received rave reviews from several of the audience members.

"I loved it. It's educational and entertaining," said Jessica Schrobilgen, a mother from Santa Monica who brought her 4-year-old son.

Following the excitement of the night sky, the lights were turned on with a short intermission. Most of the younger attendants and their families began shuffling out, with only about a dozen people staying for the lecture that ended the night.

The college-style, informative talk about the Augustine Commission, a NASA sponsored review dealing with the future of the space program, was aimed mostly toward the über astronomy lover.

"It's nice because Jim gives us insight into a lot of the backroom political things," said Anton Sipos, a computer programmer from West L.A. and an astronomy buff.

Overall, the event was well attended, with about 40 young school children, parents, middle-school kids on assignment and curious adults.

"The SMC Planetarium is a unique resource, not only for students in college, but the whole community," said Bruce Smith, public information officer at SMC. "(The planetarium) clearly fulfills the education mission, but it also fulfills the community service mission."

The planetarium is a nice place for parents to bond with their children, for people using a telescope for the first time and for the locals to have this type of experience without having to travel all the way to the Griffith Observatory, Smith added.

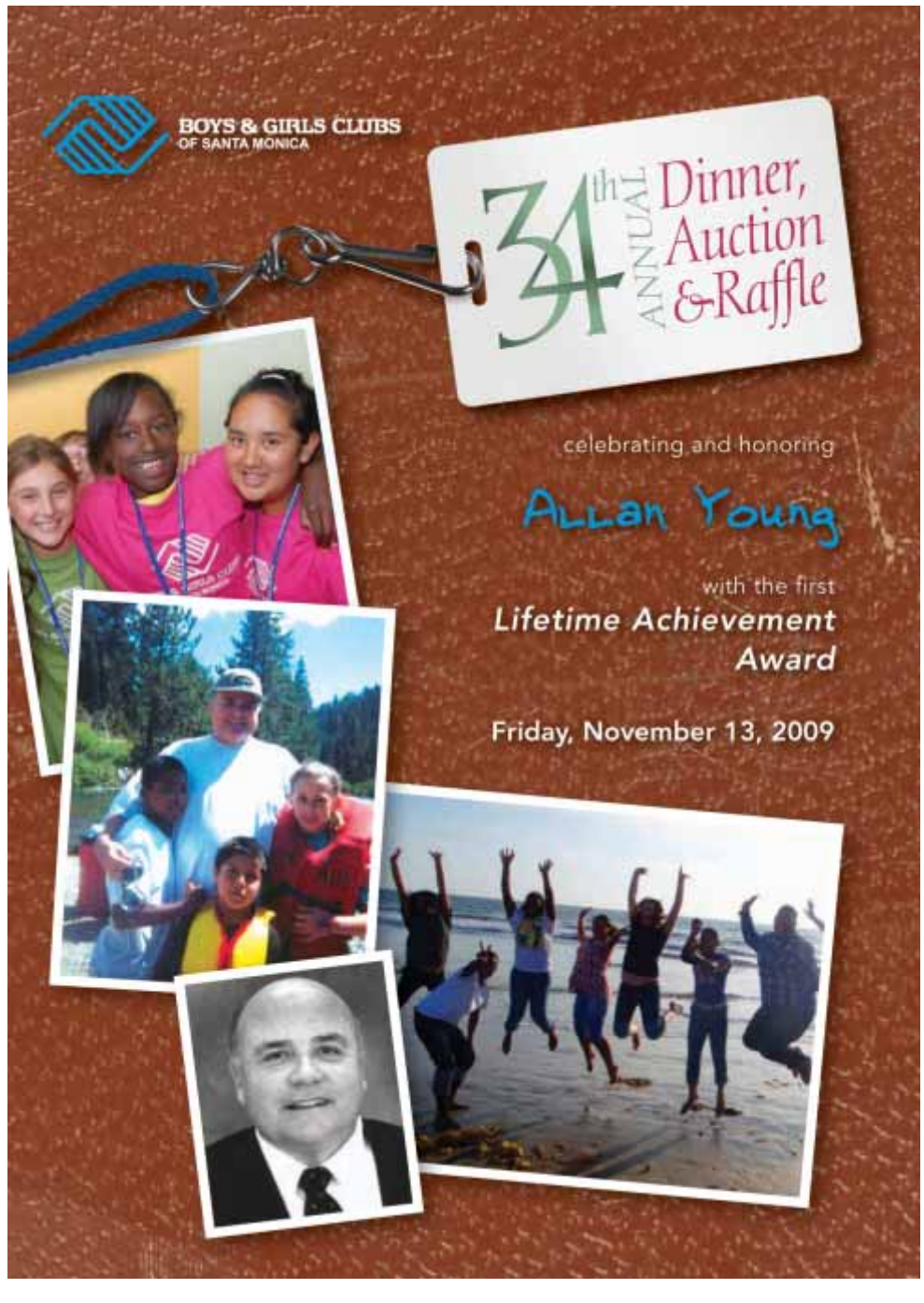
Mahon agrees that the planetarium is a great benefit to the local community because he believes that it fulfills the natural human emotion of experiencing a connection with the mysteries of space.

So, whether in the confines of a planetarium or out in the openness of nature, Mahon stresses the importance of always being aware of the wonders of the unknown.

"It's a beautiful universe up there … so please, please, please, keep looking up," he said.

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Adventures in Central Asia

BY JUDITH STIEHM
Special to the Daily Press

Editor's note: This is the first installment in a series on Central Asia.

TTKKU stands for Central Asia's Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. To locate the five "Stans" think of a rectangle bounded by China on the east, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran on the south, the Caspian Sea on the west, and Russia on the north. Once part of tsarist Russia and then of the Soviet Union, these five countries have been independent for less than 20 years. Before the Soviets created five separate republics in Central Asia, much of the population was nomadic and people generally thought of themselves as either Turkish or Persian. Lacking a proletariat to install in power, Soviet theorists first empowered what they called a surrogate proletariat — women. That experiment didn't last long, but today Central Asian women are educated and have a public life. They are also mostly Muslim.

The predominant form of Islam in Central Asia is neither Shia nor Sunni but Sufi. When one thinks of Sufis one may think of whirling dervishes; that is because dance is one way the Sufi seek a personal religious experience. There are Sufi saints, but there is no requirement for a mediator or religious authority. Religion was suppressed under the Soviets and the new governments are secular. Nevertheless, new mosques are appearing throughout the region. Still, one does not hear a muezzin's call to prayer, rarely sees a turbaned mullah, and Islamic activism seems to be concentrated in the Fergana Valley which is principally in southern Uzbekistan.

Each of the new nations is proudly nationalistic, differentiates itself from, and is not necessarily friendly with its neighbors. In May, I visited each of the five and will give a brief account of my experience. Molly, a young woman who works for a consulting firm in Saudi Arabia, traveled with me. We knew each other for 10 minutes before deciding to make the trip together, but we were perfectly matched for energy, curiosity, risk-taking and harboring our money.

Lufthansa deposited us in Kazakhstan, which is the size of Western Europe. Much of it, though, is desert, steppe and empty. The Soviets put labor camps and atomic and nuclear test sites there. During World War II whole populations — Germans, Poles, Chechens, and more — were deported to Kazakhstan and many of its professionals were willing or unwilling Russian immigrants. Many Russians became emigrants after independence, but Kazakhstan remains multi-ethnic. Just over half its population of about 16 million is Kazak. It has a substantial middle class, and has made a relatively smooth transition to nationhood and a market economy.

A former Communist leader, Nursultan A. Nazarbayev, quickly became the first, and thus far, only, elected president. In 2005 he won more than 90 percent of the vote. Natural resources, especially oil and natural gas, underpin the country's current and future prosperity. Indeed, its economy is the size of the other four Stans combined. The government is active in a variety of international organizations; it belongs to the United Nations, and in 2010 will chair the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

The capital, Astana, located in the far north, is in the process of rapid expansion, and is becoming an architectural wonder. New buildings include a Pyramid of Peace, an Islamic Center which accommodates 5,000 worshippers paid for by the Emir of Qatar and the Museum of the First (and only) President of the Republic.

The major city, Almaty, formerly Alma-Ata, is located at the foot of snow capped mountains, and has the air of a provincial European capital. Its principal sights include a restored Russian orthodox cathedral, yellow with onion shaped domes, a handsome new mosque, a World War II heroes monument, the Central State and Kazakhstan Art museums, an Olympic sized skating rink where my friend's son, Eric Heiden, set a world record, and a hilltop park reached by cable car. The city values its 125 fountains and its numerous parks although the parks are not particularly groomed. Trees line the streets. Coming from the airport the trees actually abut the road — a swerve would be fatal.

Tourists are uncommon but welcomed. If one is speaking English on a bus someone is certain to begin a conversation. One woman was sure I must be a missionary — what other English speaker would come to Almaty? The women guarding a museum's paintings wanted to know my age and to see my teeth — sadly, no gold there. Accommodations can easily be arranged through the Internet; also, Internet cafes can keep one in contact with those at home. Russian is widely spoken by those over 35. English is less understood, but memorizing the Cyrillic alphabet pays surprising dividends.

JUDITH STIEHM is a resident of Santa Monica who toured through Central Asia earlier this year.

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Special sessions define governor

SAMANTHA YOUNG
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO A day after Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was sworn into office in 2003, he capitalized on his popularity by calling state lawmakers into three special legislative sessions, each of which succeeded.

He persuaded lawmakers to float a $15 billion bond to close a budget deficit, reform workers' compensation and repeal a law giving driver's licenses to illegal immigrants.

Since then, special sessions have become a hallmark of Schwarzenegger's tenure. But his results have fallen far short of that initial success.

During six years in office, Schwarzenegger has called lawmakers into special session 16 times, including three this fall — the most of any California governor in history. Yet his success rate — measured by legislation produced from those special session — is the lowest of any governor in the modern era, according to an Associated Press review of legislative records dating back nearly a half-century.

Schwarzenegger has signed bills from nine of the 13 special sessions that have been completed, although two of the sessions produced only minor bills that failed to address the matters Schwarzenegger sought to resolve.

Before Schwarzenegger, Democratic Gov. Pat Brown had been the most prolific caller of special sessions. Brown, the father of Attorney General Jerry Brown, signed legislation from 11 of his 12 special sessions in the 1960s.

His successor, Republican Gov. Ronald Reagan, signed bills produced from four out of five special sessions he called during his two terms, according to archives compiled by the Assembly's Office of the Chief Clerk.

The governors who followed were equally successful. Then-Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat, signed legislation from each of his five special sessions, Republican George Deukmejian signed bills from four of five special sessions, Republican Pete Wilson signed bills from seven of eight special sessions, and Democrat Gray Davis signed legislation from all six of his special sessions.

Schwarzenegger acknowledged that his special sessions don't always work out.

"You're not always going to be successful on what you set out to do," Schwarzenegger said Wednesday of his special-session history. "This is like in sports. Many times you try to break a record and you're not going to be successful. That doesn't mean you shouldn't continue trying."

The Republican governor has called three special sessions this fall — on water policy, tax reform and education. The success of any of those is uncertain, since each issue plays into a deep partisan divide between Democratic and Republican constituencies.

Special sessions are one of the few tools California governors have to force the Legislature to consider their priorities. They can't introduce bills on their own, so their ideas must be carried by a lawmaker, a tough road for a governor in the minority party. That is even more difficult for Schwarzenegger, who is more often at odds with members of his own party than with majority Democrats.

Larry Gerston, a political science professor at San Jose State University, said Schwarzenegger's bargaining power has been weakened because he has alienated both Republicans and Democrats.

Still, he acknowledged that it appears more difficult to reach compromise today, in part because partisanship has escalated.

"In the old days, the legislative leaders would get together with the governor and they would map out what had to be done," Gerston said.

Under Schwarzenegger, the Assembly has met in special session 367 days, with all but nine days being held concurrently with regular legislative sessions. The additional nine days cost California taxpayers $74,434 in per diem payments to Assembly members, according to the chamber's rules committee. The Senate has met in special session 397 days, with 27 of those held outside of regular legislative sessions. That has cost taxpayers an additional $136,224 in per diem payments, according to the Secretary of the Senate.

Feeding off the success of his first full year in office, Schwarzenegger called a special session in 2005 to tackle an ambitious agenda that included reforming the budget process, state pensions, education and redistricting. He was unable to persuade lawmakers or special interest groups, however, leading to an unproductive session. He then went to the ballot box and was routed at the polls.

Less than a year later, Schwarzenegger called another special session that asked lawmakers to place a $6 billion bond on the ballot to deal with prison overcrowding. The Senate approved a scaled-down version, but opposition from the prison guards union doomed it in the Assembly.

A year later, lawmakers approved a $7.8 billion prison construction bill to add more prison and county jail beds, although just $235 million of that has been allocated so far.

Special sessions to reform health care and overhaul California water policy followed in 2007, without success. In 2008, Schwarzenegger called five special sessions on budget and economic issues as state revenue began a steep decline.

While lawmakers patched together budget deals then and earlier this year, each has unraveled within months because of faulty or overly optimistic assumptions and tax revenue that declined faster than anticipated.

Dick Ackerman, a former Republican leader in the Senate, said Schwarzenegger has called too many special sessions. He said the governor should have focused on the immediate emergencies facing the state — budget shortfalls, water supply and prison overcrowding.

"Sometimes when you call too many, it dilutes the importance of a special session," said Ackerman, now an attorney in Irvine. "I think you have to choose them carefully."

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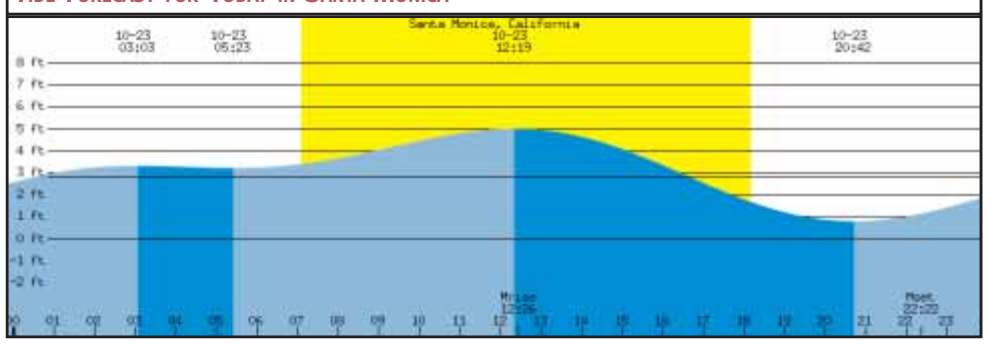
Swell Forecast

The NW swell should increase, putting most west facing breaks in sets running head high. Standout west facing breaks are looking at sets running a foot or two overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

The NW is expected to back off, but size around west facing breaks should still run chest to head high. Direct south facing breaks are looking at waist to chest high waves.

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 **October 14, 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 -- 2
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 9

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
Las Cornilla Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	C	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
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.

NBA

Thomas says he's 'hurt' over Johnson's book comments

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI Hall of Fame players Isiah Thomas and Magic Johnson famously kissed moments before tip-off of Game 1 of the 1988 NBA finals.

Today, the relationship clearly isn't anywhere near as close.

Thomas told SI.com earlier this week that he is "really hurt" over criticisms levied by Johnson in a new book chronicling the careers of Johnson and Larry Bird. According to Thursday's SI.com report, Johnson said Thomas questioned his sexuality after the Los Angeles Lakers star retired in 1991 after being diagnosed with HIV.

Johnson also tells the Web site that he helped play a role in keeping Thomas off the 1992 U.S. Olympic team.

"Isiah killed his own chances when it came to the Olympics," Johnson said in the book. "Nobody on that team wanted to play with him. ... Michael didn't want to play with him. Scottie (Pippen) wanted no part of him. Bird wasn't pushing for him. Karl Malone didn't want him. Who was saying, 'We need this guy?' Nobody.'"

Thomas, now coaching at FIU in Miami, said he declined a chance to be interviewed for the book. According to its index, he appears on at least 26 pages of the book, which Johnson and Bird wrote with author Jackie MacMullan.

"I'm really hurt, and I really feel taken advantage of for all these years," Thomas told SI.com. "I'm totally blindsided by this. Every time that I've seen Magic, he has been friendly with me."

FIU had no immediate comment. Thomas' spokesman said the remarks were accurate. Thomas was scheduled to be available to reporters later Thursday night at an alumni event in Miami.

In the book, an advance copy of which was also obtained by The Associated Press, Johnson said the failed relationship with Thomas is "the biggest personal disappointment of my life ... nothing else is even close."

The book comments by Johnson are the latest salvo in a strained relationship, once made famous by the pre-finals kiss and a pair of crowdpleasing 1-on-1 battles in the final moments of the 1992 NBA All-Star game. But even during those 1988 finals, Johnson and Thomas let their competitive sides boil over, jostling with each other after physical play later in the series.

In Johnson's words, he and Thomas are now "cordial. That's about it."

Last fall, Johnson said he would not recommend Thomas for any other NBA jobs, after Thomas' stints with both the Indiana Pacers and New York Knicks were rocky at times — particularly so in New York. Johnson said he "separated the personal from the professional" when telling Knicks officials that they should consider Thomas to coach their team.

"I wish he would have had the courage to say this stuff to me face to face, as opposed to writing it in some damn book to sell and he can make money off it," Thomas said.

Thomas also told SI.com that he did not question Johnson's sexuality, adding that Johnson "acted and responded off some really bad information that he got."





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MOVIE TIMES

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

Tom Jones (NR) 2hr 9min
Bedazzled (NR) 1hr 47min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:25, 4:25, 7:30, 10:20

The Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 39min
2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45

A Serious Man (R) 1hr 45min
2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:10

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

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

Paranormal Activity (R) 1hr 39min
1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:15, 10:45, 11:45

Astro Boy (PG) 1hr 34min
11:30, 1:50, 4:20, 6:45, 9;10

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
11:15, 12:10, 1:45, 2:45, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00. 7:45, 9:30, 10:20

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
11:45, 2:30, 4:45, 7;15, 9:40

Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant (PG-13) 1hr 48min
11:50, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40

Saw VI- Digital Presentation (R) 1hr 31min
12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00, 12:15

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

Amelia (PG) 2hr 5min
1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

The Maid (NR) 1hr 49min
1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35

Motherhood (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

New York I Love You (R) 1hr 58min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

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

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 3D- Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 21min
11:40, 2:00, 4:40, 7:00, 9:10

Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1hr 47min
3:50, 9:00

Couples Retreat- Digital Projection (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:30, 2:10, 4:5, 7:30, 10:10

The Informant! (R) 1hr 48min
1:10, 6:30

Law Abiding Citizen (R) 1hr 48min
12:20, 1:30, 2:50, 4:20, 5:20, 6:50, 7:50, 9:20, 10:20

The Stepfather (PG-13) 1hr min41
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:30

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

The world is your oyster, Capricorn

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ In the next few weeks, expect to be more in demand in order to handle this issue or that problem for someone else. At the same time, you attempt to draw a relationship closer and/or you will find that a relationship is budding. Tonight: Expect to be out and about.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Others could prove to be challenging if you insist on not being flexible. Take an overview of what is going on. The less involved you are, the better off you will be. Also, you will be more likely to find a solution. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Though you might not be sure of the best way to go, decide to head in some direction. A partner might give you many good reasons why you should do what he or she wants, but of course it is your decision. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ If you let others call the shots, you won't be unhappy. You might need a break from always being the responsible one. Often, you take on too much. Now you can use another's desire to be top dog to your advantage. Why not? Tonight: Say yes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Leaving work could take a lot of effort, like it or not. How you deal with others could change substantially because of the pressure you are under. Why not invite the office to go out for a late TGIF? A little fun would be most appreciated. Tonight: Feel free, even if it's just for now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You cannot and will not be held back. You could meet interference, but through conversations and debate you can turn the corner to make agreement possible. Your libido energy runs high. Time to split work. Tonight: Fun and games.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You might want to stay closer to home and not even head into work. Taking a break will work for you in many ways. Your personal/domestic life demands time. In a quieter space, you'll recharge and become more dynamic. Tonight: At home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to finish up a project or have a meeting to discuss what is happening. Your role is to let others know where you are coming from and also connecting with them on the same level. Tonight: Talking up a storm.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Move off your intellectual pedestal and take a good look at some hard facts. Your budget could take a higher priority in the next few days. Perhaps you have been taking unnecessary risks. Look at the facts. Tonight: Mosey on home, though you might want to meet up with a friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your personality and upbeat style mix well with your cautious acumen. Right now, you feel as if you are unstoppable. What an excellent time to reach out to others and create more of what you desire. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★ If you are dragging, make it OK. You simply might want to call it an early day. Don't hesitate to cancel plans as well. If you don't feel up to snuff, you won't have fun. A caring gesture from a friend or loved one touches you. Tonight: Zzzz.

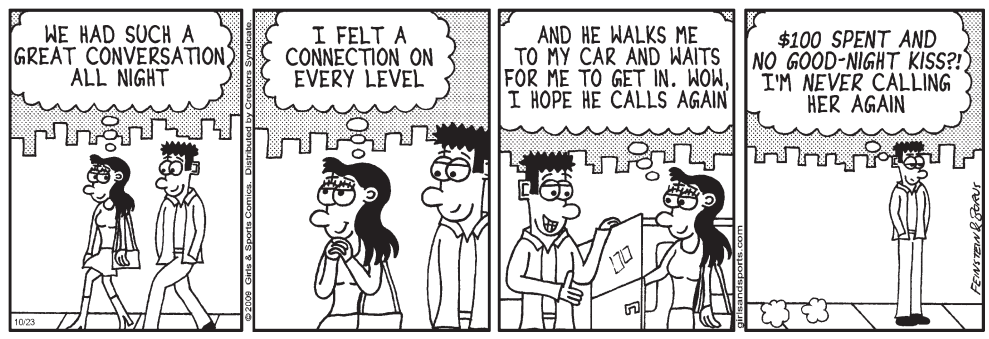
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ At present, stay on top of your to-do list and move through projects. You'll clear out faster than you thought and can visit with an associate or co-worker. You enjoy yourself no matter where you are. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.

Happy birthday

This year, others find that you are unusually anchored. You want to prioritize, and you will. Remember, many people need you to come through for them. In order to achieve this result, you need to be organized. Excellent communication evolves naturally as you solidify your entourage. If you are single, meeting people just happens. You don't need to hunt or look for someone. Just do your thing. If you are attached, the two of you really enjoy each other much more than in recent years. CAPRICORN can be a fascinating person to chat with.

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

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



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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 ★★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lace loop
6 Elephant of story
11 Battery end
12 Acrobatic
13 Messy places
14 Bakery offerings
15 Load unit
16 Almond
18 Old card game
19 List-ending abbr.
20 Conditions
21 Nasty dog
22 Oklahoma native
24 Politico Trent
25 Like a rondeau
27 Bull or boar
29 Suspension bridge sights
32 It's picked in Hawaii
33 Porch sight
34 "Evil Woman" group
35 Quirk
36 Ones with power
37 "East of Eden" son
38 Before
40 Cookout site
42 Be penitent
43 Forsaken
44 Parliament members
45 Feverishly excited

DOWN

1 Sticks
2 Completely
3 Change expert
4 Dedicated work
5 More irritable
6 Rural sights
7 Before now
8 Deadbeat pursuer
9 Full-blown
10 Vacation spot
17 Somali or Sudanese
23 TV's "Science Guy" Bill
24 Research site
26 Dupe
27 Reciprocal
28 Like
30 Galahad's mother
31 Went it alone
33 Odometer units
39 Not Rep. or Dem.
41 Ring great

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, 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				
44					■	45				

10-23

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 13 17 25 45 55
Meganumber: 8
Jackpot: $18M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 22 30 33 43 47
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $10M

FANTASY 5: 4 7 14 16 21

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 7 2 4
EVENING: 8 2 1

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:44.63

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals operates an assistance-dog program under a $500,000 grant and not only provides the trained dog but also yearly "refresher" sessions to keep the dog sharp. However, client Patricia Frieze told SF Weekly in September that the organization had asked her whether it could do the refresher course this year by telephone instead of a home visit by a trainer.

■ Landlords Prevail: (1) In July, Chuck Bartlett was finally granted legal possession of his house in Kenai, Alaska, overcoming a squatter's delaying tactics aided by local laws that frustrated eviction despite clear evidence of Bartlett's ownership. (Bartlett waited out the two-month standoff by pitching a tent in his own yard.) The squatter's final, futile challenge involved scribbling an obviously bogus "lease" that, even though Bartlett never signed it (or even saw it), the sheriff had to honor because only a judge, following a formal hearing, can rule it invalid. (2) In Raleigh, N.C., in July, Leslie Smith, 62, had no such problem. He was arrested after calling the police to report that he had shot a woman who had been living in his house. "She won't get out (of the house). So I shot her."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1989 Phillips Disaster in Pasadena, Texas killed 23 and injured 314.

1992 Emperor Akihito becomes the first Emperor of Japan to stand on Chinese soil.

1993 Shankill Road bombing: A Provisional IRA bomb prematurely detonates in the Shankill area of Belfast, killing the bomber and nine civilians.

1998 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat reach a "land for peace" agreement.

2002 Moscow Theatre Siege begins: Chechen terrorists seize the House of Culture theater in Moscow and take approximately 700 theater-goers hostage.

WORD UP!

aesthete \ES-theet\ , noun: 1. One having or affecting great sensitivity to beauty, as in art or nature.

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DBAS

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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 9/17/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/16/2009, 10/23/2009, 10/30/2009, 11/6/2009

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