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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 301

Santa Monica Daily Press

STRONG FINISH FOR XRDS?
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE NEWS IMPROVED ISSUE



GOING BAG-FREE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School's Team Marine walks down Pico Boulevard on Tuesday afternoon in a 'Ban the Bag' march.

State parks initiative still unclear to city officials

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM BEACH Eco-friendly Santa Monica isn't the first place where you'd expect to find a hotbed of vocal opposition to Proposition 21, the state ballot initiative that would charge California vehicle owners an extra $18 in registration fees in order to shore up a $500 million annual

SEE PARKS PAGE 10

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Samohi seeking first league win

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

INGLEWOOD With just three games left in the Ocean League schedule, Santa Monica High School's football Vikings need to win out to make the playoffs.

The challenge is daunting, Head Coach Travis Clark said, but not impossible. But, for that to transpire, he said Samohi's upperclassmen need to take matters into their own hands starting this Friday against Morningside at Coleman Stadium.

"Our seniors haven't stepped up," Clark said of his team that is 3-4 overall and 0-2 in league. "They haven't committed completely."

He said that the Vikings have at times looked strong — especially in big wins over Palisades and Centennial — yet have appeared shaky at times during league play. He did commend senior wide receiver Kris Comas, who has 14 touchdown catches in addition to two punt returns for scores, for

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 9

Council supports same-sex benefits for contractors

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Companies that win contracts from City Hall could soon have to provide employees living in same-sex domestic partnerships with the same level of family benefits available to their married employees after the City Council gave preliminary approval to an "equal benefits ordinance" on Tuesday night.

The move, which was suggested by Councilman Richard Bloom and approved by a unanimous vote, gave City Hall attorneys the authority to begin drafting a potential new law. The rule would likely mirror similar laws already adopted by the state of California, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Berkeley and a number of other cities and counties throughout the country.

The law would not require City Hall contractors to provide benefits not previously offered, but it would mandate that health insurance, retirement and disability benefits available to the spouses of married employees would also have to be available to the partners of employees living in domestic partnerships.

"The intended effect of the law is to prohibit discrimination by city contractors based on sexual orientation and marital status,"

SEE BENEFITS PAGE 11


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Santa Monica-Malibu schools provide an excellent education, but it is in jeopardy.

This year the school board voted to eliminate 58 teachers and other specialists who work directly with students. More than 80% of the board's budget cuts were made at the student-serving level. **How can we stop this decline?**

Chris Bley has solutions:
- **Eliminate excess spending in non-classroom areas.**
- **Insist that the SMMUSD generate more revenue on its own.**

Elect Chris Bley
A high-school teacher and SMMUSD alumnus
Santa Monica-Malibu School Board

Linda Piera-Ávila



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE



OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010

You got mail
Main Branch Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
Learn the basics of e-mail in the computer classroom on the second floor. This workshop will cover how to attach files, manage contacts and other email-related questions. To register, visit the Reference Desk or call Telephone Reference at (310) 434-2608.

'Mary Poppins'
Morgan Wixson Theater
2627 Pico Blvd., Call for times
Kids on Stage Musical Theater presents the Family Classic "Mary Poppins." Mary Poppins is a mysterious and magical English nanny who is blown by the east wind to Number Seventeen Cherry Tree Lane, London and into the Banks' household to care for their children. Encounters with chimney sweeps, shopkeepers and various adventures ensue. Each class brings its own unique flavor to the stage with hi jinx, laughter, singing and dancing.
For more information, call (310) 314-0035.

'Loveland'
Santa Monica PLayhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
Actress turns grief into hilarity in "Loveland." What's so funny about death? Plenty, if you're award-winning writer/performer, Ann Randolph, renowned for transforming horror into humor. For information, call (310) 394-9779.

Fall fashion
Jeanie Madsen Gallery
1431 Ocean Ave., 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
Fashion designers Jeanie Madsen and Elizabeth Ulibarri will showcase their designs in the Rock N' Roll charity fashion show. Up-and-coming jewelry designer Amber Thayer will also make her dubut. All proceeds will go to Lifeline Charter School. Admission is $20. For more information visit, jeaniemadsengallery.com.

Friday, Oct. 29, 2010

Chill out at SunSets
Santa Monica Place 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Visit the dining deck for SunSets at Santa Monica Place every Friday in October.
Friday SunSets features DJs bringing incredible happy hour music, tasty early evening bites, drinks and of course the view.
For more information, visit santamonicaplace.com/events.

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.

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.

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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HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Xrds need strong finish

BY PATRICK HOURIHAN
Special to the Daily Press

XRDS After a string of early-season wins, it seems the Crossroads High School girls' volleyball team has hit a bit of a funk entering the final days of Alpha League play — they have failed to record a win in almost a month.

Although the team has an overall winning record of 10-8-1, there are only three games left and the Roadrunners have just one win so far in league. They enter the final stretch of the year with a league record of 1-6, with that win coming against Archer High School earlier this month.

"It has been an interesting season," Head Coach Catie Mintz admitted. "We are always wondering what's going to happen next."

The team is still one win away from equaling last year's win total as the girls went 11-11 in 2009 on their way to the second round of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section playoffs. But this year the Alpha League has shuffled its teams, making competition in the league even tougher for the Roadrunners. Ending the 2010 season with a winning record and making the playoffs were Mintz' goals for the year. Crossroads may have to settle for just one of those goals as a return to the postseason appears out of reach.

Earlier this season, the girls got off to a great start by winning the Whittier Tournament — beating St. Paul from Santa Fe Springs with a score of 25-23 in the final. Senior Kylie Deutschman

SEE **XRDS** PAGE 10

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

Pets get spooked, too

The Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) would like to remind pet owners that although Halloween may be a fun holiday for humans, it can be a potentially dangerous and frightening time for pets. Here are a few tips to keep your pets safe this Halloween:

• Keep pets indoors in a secure, comfortable area with a radio or television playing in the background. Many pets fear the noises of trick-or-treaters.

• Always keep current license and ID tags securely affixed to your pet's collar. A license tag is the only voice a pet has if he or she becomes lost.

• Do not leave pets outside unattended. Loud noises frighten pets and they may panic, become confused, and go through great lengths to escape their enclosures.

• Keep pets away from all candy. Chocolate, which contains theobromine, can be poisonous to pets, causing nerve damage and even death.

• Properly dispose of all candy wrappers. Tinfoil and cellophane candy wrappers are tempting treats for pets and can cause pets to choke or to have intestinal blocks.

• Keep pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns away from pets. Pets can easily knock them over, which could result in a burn.

• Halloween pet costumers can pose safety hazards for pets. Do not dress your pet up unless he or she is used to it. Make sure the costume does not restrict their movement, vision, hearing, or the ability to breathe or bark. Halloween pet costumes should not have small or dangling accessories that can be swallowed by your pet.

• Post the numbers of emergency clinics as well as the number of your local animal control agency on your refrigerator or another location where you can easily find them in case of an emergency.

If your pet does become lost, it is critical that you visit the animal shelters surrounding your area. Shelter staff and volunteers will also provide suggestions for finding lost pets. Be sure to bring a photograph of your missing pet to post at your local shelter.

For more information, contact your local animal shelter or visit animalcare.lacounty.gov.

DAILY PRESS



SMALL KID, BIG GRAB

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Brody Green, 8, carries two pumpkins during the annual 'All You Can Carry Pumpkin Patch' at the Santa Monica Farmers' Market on Wednesday.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bring back The Bread Man

Editor:

To Linda Avery, Santa Monica Farmers' Markets Manager

Dear Ms. Avery,

My wife and I are two of a great many patrons at the Saturday Farmers' Market on Arizona Avenue who are very unhappy, specifically, with the replacement of The Bread Man by Valerie Confections, and more generally with the process that resulted in various unasked-for, unwanted, and unsatisfying replacements.

We read your information sheet describing the "kerfuffle" about "revamping" the prepared-foods section of the four markets in Santa Monica, and were unimpressed.

As longtime shoppers at the Wednesday and Saturday markets, we were very satisfied with the selection of vendors, and noticed no other shoppers exhibiting displeasure of any kind. Now that you've made some changes that make the markets worse, we have several questions we'd like you to address, please:

First, why did you go to the trouble of replacing anyone at the Farmers' Market? If the market's selection of vendors wasn't broken, why did you want to fix it? And if it was broken, why weren't the patrons of the Farmers' Market invited to offer suggestions on what to fix and how to fix it? Who, exactly, was unhappy with the previous lineup of vendors? And why was their unhappiness more important than the obvious contentment (shown by heavy sales volume and happy customers) of The Bread Man's patrons, like myself and my wife, and all the people we know here on Second Street who shop at the market regularly, not one of whom ever complained about the presence of The Bread Man or wished for him to be replaced?

Second, on what basis did you decide that those best qualified to vend prepared foods at the markets would also be best qualified to respond to your RFP? Those are two separate skill sets and are generally not strongly related to one another. The ability to make great bread has little in common with the ability to prepare a great proposal.

Third, on what basis did you devise your matrix of selection criteria, particularly that business location was worth 15 percent, sustainability 30 percent, preferred sourcing 30 percent, food service experience 10 percent, and value at 15 percent? (For example, in what way exactly does "food service experience" correlate with the ability to sell bread over the counter?)

Although you state that "taste" is a very subjective factor, your use of "value" as a factor is no better, because it is just as subjective as taste, as demonstrated by your valuing quality and original products more highly than you do the reliable, plentiful, and nourishing supply of a long-standing staple food product in the human diet: bread.

In particular, how does Valerie's selling cookies for $2 and small pastries for $4, items that provide a one-time taste treat, provide more value than The Bread Man selling a 1.5 pound loaf of bread that could form an important part of most meals during a whole week for $4.50?

Practically, and metaphorically, you have taken active steps not only to block people from eating bread but to ask them to eat cake, instead. And in your published comment to the press, you suggested that people who are unhappy with the absence of The Bread Man should leave Santa Monica and take their dollars to Culver City to purchase their bread.

Are these really the messages you want Santa Monica Farmers' Markets to be purveying?

Thanks for your attention to these concerns. We and a great many other Santa Monica residents await your responses.

Rayni Joan and Robert Moskowitz
Santa Monica

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Your column here



Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Measure RR is an example of what's right with Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA IS A DIVERSE COMMUNITY with a commitment to caring for the environment, providing excellent public schools, and ensuring renters' rights. It's true that Santa Monica is a leader amongst cities when it comes to protecting the rights of its residents and to creating a livable space that is welcoming of all. We are a city that understands the importance of economic diversity to a thriving democratic community. And, we have worked together to make sure that people from the most affluent to those with far more modest means can call Santa Monica home. Simply, we Santa Monicans are always striving to improve our lives together.

Measure RR on Tuesday's ballot represents our never-ending commitment to "get it right"; that is, Measure RR is another step at improving our lives together. The measure provides for enhanced protections for renters; specifically, Measure RR strengthens eviction protections for apartment renters, prohibiting landlords from evicting without cause. This is especially important for our senior neighbors and our fellow citizens among us who are disabled and/or terminally ill.

Measure RR improves eviction protection for rent controlled and non-rent controlled tenants. It adds protections for many low- and moderate-income renters. And let's be clear, regardless what opponents might say — regardless what the Santa Monica Daily Press Editorial Board espouses — single-family homes and condos are exempt. Measure RR will not restrict or limit property rights; rather, the measure will establish a level of fairness where tenants will be afforded reasonable time to remedy situations that are deemed problematic by the landlord.

With the passage of Measure RR, landlords will be able to evict only for specific causes, including nonpayment of rent, significant violations of the rental agreement, serious nuisance behavior, conviction of a crime involving the premises, unlawful subletting, damaging the unit or refusing to allow entry for repairs. Landlords will not be able to evict for frivolous reasons and where there are minor concerns the tenant will be afforded reasonable time to remedy the situation. Enhanced eviction protection benefits Santa Monica families, the disabled and/or terminally ill, and seniors. Measure RR protects our community.

Measure RR "gets it right" because it protects some of the most vulnerable in our community. Under Measure RR, eviction abuse will be stopped by requiring landlords to give an advance written warning to tenants telling them to stop the objectionable activity and to fix the problem. This applies to violations of the rental agreement, nuisance behavior, damage to property and refusing the landlord lawful entry. However, no warning would be required for evictions for criminal activity or nonpayment of rent.

Our mayor and City Council members "got it right" when they voted to unanimously place Measure RR before us on next week's ballot. It is not often that our City Council unanimously agrees on matters of the civic politic. But here, these democratic representatives recognized a need for improvement and for enhanced tenant protections.

MEASURE RR 'GETS IT RIGHT' BECAUSE IT PROTECTS SOME OF THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Now in the spirit of full disclosure, I out myself as a "renter." But to be sure, I am more than just a long-term Santa Monica tenant. I am an active and participant father in my kids' schools, a soccer coach, a tenured professor at Santa Monica College, a member of my neighborhood organization, and a parishioner at a local Santa Monica church. And certainly, I am not alone. I am one of thousands of renters in Santa Monica, young and old, who doesn't see him or herself as a "renter" per se; but rather, a citizen, an active and participant citizen, of Santa Monica. Because so many citizens before me "got it right" in protecting renters' rights, people like me can call Santa Monica home.

As Santa Monica voters it is now our turn to "get it right" and cast a vote for enhanced eviction protections — to cast a yes vote for Measure RR this Tuesday.

In an election year where we citizens are being bombarded with negative campaign ads and ideological vitriol, it seems that paying attention to our own backyard, to our own neighborhood, is the right thing to do. We live in a city that cares about people, a city that walks the talk. Whether it is our exemplary leadership as one of America's greenest cities, our proud narrative as life-long learners who stand for excellence in education or our admirable leadership as a community that stands up for the rights of renters, we strive to "get it right."

Measure RR is certainly what is right with Santa Monica.

RICHARD TAHVILDARAN-JESSWEIN is a professor of politics at Santa Monica College and he serves as the co-chair of Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights. He has lived in Santa Monica since 1999 and is raising two children with his wife, Jennifer.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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Meredith Pro Tem

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

It's hip to be square, apparently

I LIKE TO THINK THAT I STAY AHEAD OF the trends. (Of course sometimes I also like to think if I eat an entire chocolate cake that, against all odds, it's still possible I could wake up the next day with a body like Gisele Bündchen.)

The way I see it, I'm actually so far behind the times that if there's one trend in particular that I've clung to long after it becomes passé, then there's a chance it'll eventually rise from the dead like Mel Gibson's career (oh, wait, didn't he just get fired from his cameo in "The Hangover" sequel? That's a shame) and come back in vogue, in which case I'll accidentally look like an innovator. I'm a trendsetter kind of in the same way that Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher are Jews.

That could be why the clock radio I still use is the very same Sony Dream Machine white cube my dad gave me in 1991 as a gentle reminder that he wouldn't be there to wake me up at college (although he did offer to call every morning if necessary). Besides the fact that it still works like, well, clockwork, I'm subconsciously holding onto it, waiting for the day an editor from Architectural Digest happens to come knocking, asks to use my bathroom, spots it next to my bed and comments how retro chic I am to be in possession of such an evocative artifact, what with its terrestrial radio (FM and AM) and Dream Bar Snooze/Sleep Off Button.

Along the same lines, who knew a little over a year ago when I was invited to join a small group of women for a regular game of mah-jongg that we'd be considered "young and hip," according to an article last week in The Wall Street Journal on the resurgent popularity of the game of our grandmothers. Apparently I did (except, naturally, I didn't).

We gather at night around twice a month to eat, drink and play. The Wall Street Journal reports, however, that the quantity of alcohol we consume isn't adequate, and our beverage selection (wine, beer and herbal tea) isn't nearly stylish enough compared to the cocktails of our mah-jongg counterparts across the country (martinis, highballs and Manhattans). And while we either order Chinese food or take turns preparing dinners like macaroni and cheese (sometimes laced with bacon), happening players nosh on more sophisticated fare like sushi. Still, we always enjoy homemade chocolate chip cookies sprinkled with sea salt, which is timeless, and there's no doubt our bubbies would have approved.

The conversations range from such water cooler topics and hot button issues as raspberry bushes or groundhogs. We also talk about our children (except for the lone 20-something in the group, who rolls her eyes and starts texting on her Blackberry whenever the words "potty" and "training" make an appearance). We give each other mah-jongg-specific nicknames that could probably only be appreciated by people like Farmer Ted and his nerd friends who wear night and back braces in "Sixteen Candles" (but keeping in mind that Anthony Michael Hall did, in fact, land the prom queen at the end).

THE WAY I SEE IT, I'M ACTUALLY SO FAR BEHIND THE TIMES THAT IF THERE'S ONE TREND IN PARTICULAR THAT I'VE CLUNG TO LONG AFTER IT BECOMES PASSÉ, THEN THERE'S A CHANCE IT'LL EVENTUALLY RISE FROM THE DEAD LIKE MEL GIBSON'S CAREER ...

When the 2010 mah-jongg playing cards were released, we waited feverishly until ours arrived in the mail, eager to take a crack at the new hands in the Winds and Dragons section. But while we're apparently at the height of fashion, like donning 6-inch heels or whatever Björk wears to an awards show, there is often pain — sometimes literal — associated with being cool.

We argue bitterly over whether a joker can ever be used in a pair (which, as everyone knows, it can't — ever — but somehow it's an issue that just refuses to die). Someone (who shall remain nameless) is often accused of being emotionally cruel to the less-winning players, while another woman has an actual scar from the time someone else beat her a little too forcefully to grab-bing a tile in the middle.

Once we planned to take a group photo for fun with all players wearing their ugliest earrings so we could submit it to a national mah-jongg newsletter. Everyone forgot about it except for one woman, and then the subject was dropped entirely when it was revealed she, too, had forgotten, and didn't actually think her earrings were ugly. Our game is like "Survivor" meets "Freaks and Geeks," except with the occasional make-your-own-pasta bar.

Still, it's nice to be legitimately (if not coincidentally) ahead of the curve on an actual trend. Clearly it's now just a matter of time before InStyle magazine calls to verify reverentially if it's true that I'm still in possession of my Chia Pet.

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

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Upset at the ballot box

With Election Day nearly upon us, we couldn't help but wonder if there was an upset in the making in the Santa Monica City Council races.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Which incumbent council member do you think is most vulnerable to being upset by a challenger? And if so, which challenger do you think has the goods to pull off a victory?

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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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A dangerous view from atop 'K2'

IMAGINE BEING STRANDED WITH A broken leg on the narrow ledge of a 600-foot ice wall, in minus 50-degree weather, just 1,000 feet from the summit of the second highest mountain in the world.

That's the terrifying premise of Patrick Meyers' play, "K2," that opened recently at the Underground Theatre in Hollywood. And though it doesn't purport to be a true story, it encapsulates the experiences of some of the climbers of K2, the "savage mountain" in the Karakoram range that borders Pakistan and China. Of some 1,400 climbers who have attempted this 28,000-foot mountain, only 300 have made it to the top. And 77 have died on the journey.

Meyers' protagonists are a cynical lawyer named Taylor (Jake Suffian) and his idealistic physicist climbing partner Harold (Sean Galuszka). Harold is the one with the broken leg.

While Taylor obsessively inventories what equipment they haven't lost along the way, Harold keeps falling over into a sleep that threatens to become fatal. As Taylor tries to keep his friend upright and awake, he discovers that he has lost one of their climbing ropes, a vital necessity if they are going to try to get down off the mountain. And so there is nothing for it but to climb back up to the spot from which they had fallen, to retrieve the second rope.

As Taylor inches his way up the elaborate scaffolding that set designer Laura Fine Hawkes has used to simulate the mountain, he is accompanied by Harold's rambling ruminations about his wife and son, about the mysteries of life, and about his search for God.

Having once given up on God, Harold had his faith restored when, as a physicist, he was involved in the discovery of the quark — an elementary particle thought to be the fundamental constituent of matter. "We found God's house," he acknowledges ruefully, "and we called it 'quark.'"

Harold, in intense pain, becomes a bit hallucinatory occasionally, but he is still not as intense as Taylor, who is driven to the brink of madness with the agonizing responsibility of trying to save both their lives. His anguished shouting rattles the mountainside and exhausts both himself and the audience. It is an acting tour de force and a credit to director Damen Scranton, who has called this play "a director's nightmare." It is also a credit to Tony Yeary, the climbing consultant who taught the actors high altitude climbing techniques and the use of the mountaineering equipment.

"K2" is not an easy play, either for the actors or the audience, but it is a beautifully written, highly intelligent, and moving piece of work. Both actors do a strong, convincing job, and their suffering, as well as the overwhelming roar of the ferocious winds on the mountain leaves the viewer surprised, as he exits the theater, that he doesn't, in fact, have frostbite.

"K2" will continue at the Underground Theatre, 1314 North Wilton Place, in Hollywood, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. through Nov. 14. Call (800) 838-3006 for tickets.

Cynthia Citron can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

James Cameron preparing a pair of 'Avatar' sequels

DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES James Cameron will start writing the scripts for two "Avatar" sequels early next year, aiming to land the first one in theaters four years from now.

Executives at 20th Century Fox announced Wednesday that Cameron has settled on two sequels to the blockbuster hit as his next film projects, with plans to begin production in late 2011.

The studio hopes to have the first of the as-yet-untitled sequels in theaters in December 2014, with the third movie in the franchise following in December 2015. Like the first film, the sequels will be shot in 3-D.

Cameron will decide whether to shoot the films back-to-back after he completes the scripts for the sequels to his sci-fi sensation. Set on the distant Pandora, "Avatar" is the biggest modern blockbuster, with $2.8 billion at the box office worldwide.

"In the second and third films, which will be self-contained stories that also fulfill a greater story arc, we will not back off the throttle of 'Avatar's' visual and emotional horsepower, and will continue to explore its themes and characters, which touched the hearts of audiences in all cultures around the world," Cameron said in a news release.

"I'm looking forward to returning to Pandora, a world where our imaginations can run wild."

Cameron had been up in the air on what he would do next, telling reporters as recently as last week that he had not decided whether to shoot another film before returning to his "Avatar" saga.

At an event a week ago to show off the technology used to make "Avatar," Cameron speculated about how long it might be until the next installment would hit theaters.

"I made two very effective sequels in my career. One was 'Aliens,' and one was 'Terminator 2.' 'Aliens' came out seven years after the first film. 'Terminator 2,' seven years after the first film. I'm not saying that we're planning on seven years," Cameron said of "Avatar."

If Cameron meets the 2014 deadline, it will be just five years after "Avatar" arrived last December.

"Avatar" follows the adventures of a man in alien form (Sam Worthington) who falls for a 10-foot, blue-skinned native (Zoe Saldana) of the distant moon Pandora, where greedy humans wage war over the land's natural resources.

While "Avatar" was set in the exotic jungles of Pandora, "Titanic" director Cameron plans to bring his love for deep-sea exploration into the next chapter, setting some of the action in the moon's oceans. He would not reveal plot details.

"That's classified," Cameron said.

"Avatar" blended live action with performance-capture, scenes shot on a soundstage with actors in skintight suits covered in sensors that allow digital cameras to record their movements. Visual-effects artists later transformed them into the alien creatures and filled in landscapes and other details.

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Warner Bros

'The Exorcist'
Extended Director's Cut

In time for Halloween comes one of the classic scary movies of all-time. The story of a girl's demonic possession features Linda Blair, Ellen Burstyn, Jason Miller and Max Von Sydow. Winner of two Academy Awards, when this picture came out in 1973 reports of audience members scrambling for the exits out of terror or getting physically ill were rampant across the country. This cinematic landmark is now out on a Blu-ray high-definition two disc set which includes both the original theatrical version and the director's extended cut. Also part of the package is a 38-page collector's book, documentaries, writer and director commentaries, spooky trailers, multiple interviews with sketches and storyboards. (Blu-ray, Warner Bros)

'Predators'

"This planet is a game preserve, and we're the game." Adrien Brody steps into this latest "Who'll be the first to go?"version of the sci fi-horror franchise. Joining him on the firing line are Laurence Fishburne, Alice Braga and Danny Trejo among others. As might be expected, the picture relies less on dialogue than some solid cinematography (Gyula Pados) and music (John Debney) that helps draw you in. Producer Robert Rodriguez ("Sin City") provides commentary along with director Nimrod Antal. There is also a motion comics presentation of the Predator experience.(Fox)

'The Karate Kid'

This version of the popular underdog story that originally featured Ralph Macchio in 1984, finds KK (Jaden Smith) in China with a mentor that is truly versed in the martial arts (Jackie Chan). The package packs plenty of special features including a behind-the-scenes segment, a music video with Jaden and Justin Bieber, an alternative ending, fight training sessions, explorations of the country which even offers Chinese lessons. (Blu-ray, Sony)

'All in the Family: Complete Seventh Season'

This groundbreaking television series from the 1970s excelled in its ability to mix comedy with serious issues. The 25 episodes from the 1976 season continues in that direction with Archie (Carroll O'Connor) still as irascible and highly opinionated as ever, arguing with his daughter Gloria (Sally Struthers) and her liberal husband Mike "Meathead" Stivic (Rob Reiner) and taking refuge in his long-suffering wife, Edith (Jean Staplenton). Storylines center around flirtations, operations, unemployment, new roommates, and a local celebrity among others. (Shout Factory)

'Baseball: The Tenth Inning'

Acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ken Burns and co-director Lynn Novick go deep with an extra inning chapter to their earlier work about the sport. This installment brings the national pastime's recent history up-to-date, covering the years 1994-2009. In their noted style of presenting archival photographs with compelling interviews, the filmmakers look at a range of topics during this period where the tumultuous 20th century is drawing to a close, and a new millennium begins conveying just how baseball continues to reflect the complicated country that developed it. Everything from the Latin and Asian players impacting our "national pastime" to the suspicions and revelations about performance enhancing drugs, the Red Sox comeback, Cal Ripken as the game's new Iron Man, strained owner/player relations is covered, but their message is that through it all, baseball endures, a game of infinite possibility and surpassing beauty despite whatever may be threatening the integrity of the game itself. The two-disc, four hour presentation includes an extensive interview with the co-directors and scores of "outtakes" and "additional scenes." (PBS)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at www.sportandcinema.com

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Sheila Kuehl
State Senator (For.)

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Kevin McKeown
Councilmember

Democrats and Republicans, renters and homeowners, business people and environmentalists, teachers, police and firefighters say YES on Y + YY

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

City Council may consider annexing Vernon

A small industrial city under investigation for paying its officials huge salaries could be taken over by the city of Los Angeles under a proposal being floated by a Los Angeles City Council member.

Councilwoman Janice Hahn introduced a motion Wednesday calling on Los Angeles' chief legislative analyst to look into the feasibility of annexing Vernon. Her motion was forwarded to the city's land use and planning committee.

Vernon, a city of only about 100 residents, is the target of corruption investigations by the state attorney general and county district attorney.

Hahn questions whether Vernon's City Council and administrators are operating as a legitimate government agency.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRWINDALE

City's leaders charged with fund misuse

Four current and former officials of this small Southern California city were charged Wednesday with spending $14,000 of taxpayers' money on baseball games and Broadway shows when they were supposed to be working to improve Irwindale's bond rating.

The charges are the latest in a string of corruption allegations directed at leaders of several nondescript suburbs ringing Los Angeles. Other small cities whose officials have been charged with corruption include Bell, Vernon and Temple City.

AP

SAN BERNARDINO

SoCal councilman guilty of corruption

A city councilman in Rancho Cucamonga has been convicted of corruption and ordered to immediately resign his position.

A San Bernardino County jury on Wednesday convicted Rex Gutierrez of four counts of grand theft, conspiracy and filing a fraudulent claim.

Prosecutors say Gutierrez submitted $147,000 worth of phony pay and expense reports while he was employed by the county assessor's office from 2007 to 2009. He's one of five former assessor's employees facing criminal charges.

AP

WEST HOLLYWOOD

Boxer makes pitch to gay voters

Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer is reaching out to gay and lesbian voters by emphasizing her support for marriage equality and her record opposing the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

She told about 60 supporters Wednesday at a West Hollywood community center that she had the courage of her convictions to oppose "don't ask, don't tell from the start."

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Hollywood


SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

his breakout season, but said that upperclassmen running/defensive backs Kori Garcia and Brandon Taylor will have to step up this week with starting safeties Chris Ransom and Deon Bishop out with injuries. Both have been strong this season, but Clark stressed that they, along with sophomore quarterback Rhys Gervais, will have to come up big these last few games.

As for Gervais, who has started the last four games, Clark said that he's willing to take his lumps with the youngster because he sees great potential in the quarterback.

"He's getting it done," Clark said. "He hasn't done anything to lose games. He's put us in a situation to win.

"What else can I ask of a sophomore?"

With three games left and a chance to make the playoffs in play, Clark said the time for players to play has come.

"Their time is running out," he said. "I hope it's not too late to turn it around."

This week's game at Morningside is a perfect opportunity for his Vikings to get their first league win.

Morningside has struggled this season, starting the year 1-6 overall and 0-2 in league. The Monarchs have scored just 49 points this season while giving up 218.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

CLARK

"I just want these guys to go out knowing they left everything on the field," Clark said. "You don't want to look back and say I wish we would have worked harder."

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Cast Your Vote for Four Year Term Candidates



Bob Holbrook

As an incumbent council member and former mayor, Bob Holbrook is driven by residents' priorities and concerns. He is committed to keeping the community safe by having the strongest police and fire department. He has a proven track record in making sure public safety has the tools to provide a high level of quality service.



Pam O'Connor

As current Mayor Pro-Tem, Pam O'Connor has proven leadership skills and has worked hard to protect and conserve Santa Monica neighborhoods. Pam O'Connor demands strong fiscal management from government - ensuring that through these tough times Santa Monica maintains high quality services - especially public safety.



Kevin McKeown

Kevin McKeown has strongly supported the Santa Monica Police and Fire Departments. Kevin was instrumental in the restoration of local fire dispatch for faster responses. He was also an advocate in maintaining police officer staffing to keep the public safe.

Cast Your Vote for Two Year Term Candidates



Terry O'Day

Terry O'Day believes that local government's first responsibility is to protect the safety of its residents. While the city faces new challenges to balance its budget during these tough economic times, Terry is not willing to sacrifice the city's excellent police, fire or paramedic services.



Gleam Davis

In Councilmember Gleam Davis' term she has been supportive in keeping the public safe. She has shown true leadership in the defense of maintaining police staffing, steering kids away from gangs, promoting pedestrian safety and overall public safety.

Vote

Vote for Julia Brownley for State Assembly, 41st District

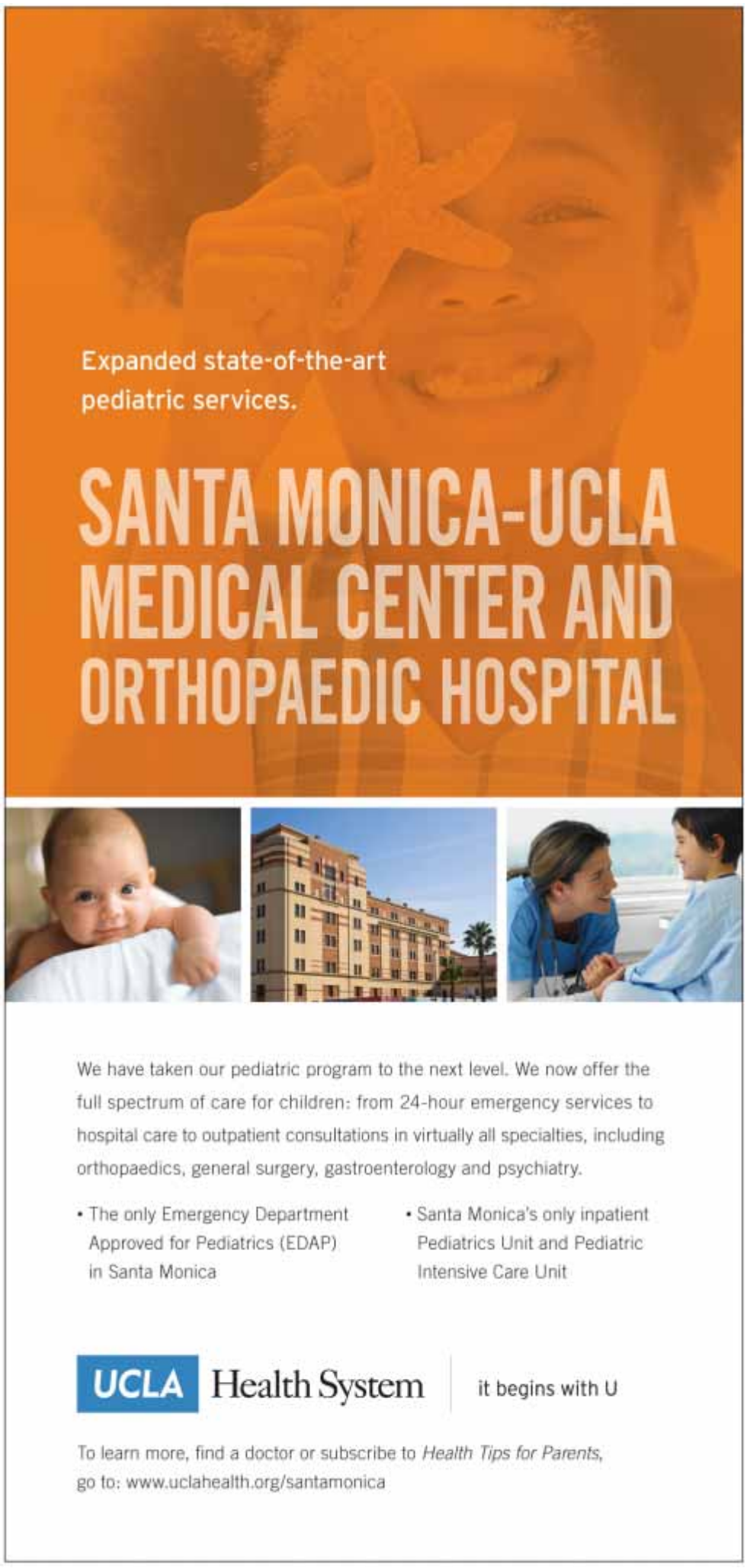
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Santa Monica Firefighters





PARKS
FROM PAGE 1

revenue stream for park upkeep and maintenance.

Yet some voters here are raising concerns about the initiative, which, if passed on Tuesday, would pose significant operational challenges at Santa Monica's state-owned beaches, City Hall officials say.

That's because in exchange for the higher registration fee, the initiative would give all state vehicle owners free parking at state parks, including Santa Monica Beach, where City Hall would become responsible for managing 5,000 newly-free parking spaces.

Santa Monica currently manages the beach parking lots and charges drivers a daily entry fee, raising roughly $7 million per year for the beach fund.

After discussing the potential passage of Prop. 21 with representatives of the State Department of Parks and Recreation in recent days, Barbara Stinchfield, Santa Monica's director of Community and Cultural Services, said City Hall still believes the initiative could make things difficult for Santa Monica.

There's still, she said, uncertainty about when and how Prop. 21 would be implemented should it pass.

While the initiative would take effect Jan. 1, she said it's not clear exactly when Santa Monica would be required to shift to free beach parking. It's also unclear how much money the city would receive to operate the beaches, though Stinchfield said parks like Santa Monica Beach that charge for parking would get priority for reimbursement from the state.

"There's really no more clarity than there was a couple of months ago," she said, though she noted "real openness on the part of the state parks staff to work with us."

> **THE PARKING DYNAMICS ARE GOING TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT."**
>
> **Don Patterson,**
> Business and revenue operations manager

The biggest concern about Prop. 21, which is backed by a number of environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, she said, is how to keep people from using the free spaces during non-beach visits and how the sudden availability of 5,000 free parking spaces near Downtown would impact parking revenue in City Hall-owned structures.

Don Patterson, who oversees Santa Monica parking operations, said the passage of the initiative would require significant revision to City Hall's parking strategy.

"The parking dynamics are going to be significantly different" should Prop. 21 pass, he said. "And people are going to make choices based on price and convenience."

There's no official estimate of how many people who come to Santa Monica to work, shop or see a movie would choose to park at beach lots in an attempt to avoid the $9 maximum fee charged at most Downtown structures.

But, according to Patterson, it's clear that if Prop. 21 wins voters' approval, "It's going to be harder to manage the parking resources as a complete system."

nickt@smdp.com

XRDS
FROM PAGE 3

was named tournament MVP while fellow senior Madi Fair and junior Sarah Baradaran were named to the All-Tournament team.

"Kylie Deutschman is a key for us, she passes well and she is a large part of the reason why we are able to stay in so many rallies — she digs a ton of balls," Mintz said. "Also Madi Fair has been playing well for us the entire season, she does a good job getting the ball to her hitters. Sara Glusker and Zoe Prince both just played amazing against Campbell Hall last Friday."

Of the three games left (all league games: against Archer, Windward and Brentwood) the Roadrunners have beaten one of those teams. They lost most recently, on Oct. 19, to Brentwood with scores of 10-25, 16-25, and 11-25. In the most recent CIF-SS poll, Brentwood was ranked No. 1 in Division 3-A. Other Alpha League teams making the list were No. 4 Campbell Hall and No. 5 Windward.

"Against Brentwood, we had two girls home sick and two injuries during the match," Mintz said.

Hopefully for Mintz and a fully-healthy team and a home crowd, the Roadrunners can claim redemption against the Eagles of Brentwood next week.

Crossroads' next game is tonight at home against league rival Archer, starting at 5 p.m. The Roadrunners will play their last two games of the season next week, first away at Windward on Nov. 2 then at home against Brentwood on Thursday, Nov. 4. Both games are also scheduled to start at 5 p.m.

news@smdp.com

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3015: FURNISH AND DELIVER LOOSE EQUIPMENT FOR FIRE ENGINE

• Submission deadline is November 12, 2010 at 3:00 PM PT.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-8281 or by e-mailing your request to Monica.diaz@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
• **http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm**

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/



WINNING WAYS

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Olivia Patterson (left) from Santa Monica College is grabbed from behind by Kelsey Andrew from Bakersfield College on Tuesday as Patterson dribbles toward the Bakersfield goal. SMC headed to Bakersfield College for a conference match and won 2-0 for their fifth win in a row and they improved their conference record to 7-1-1 and their overall record to 8-2-5

BENEFITS
FROM PAGE 1

Bloom told his colleagues before the vote.

He said allowing same-sex marriage in California would render the proposed new law moot. But it's necessary, he said, since gay marriage in the state is currently barred and the right of same-sex couples to marry here remains in doubt.

California voters in 2008 approved Prop. 8, which amended the state constitution to prohibit same-sex couples from marrying. A federal judge in August ruled Prop. 8 was illegal under the U.S. Constitution, but that decision hasn't taken effect pending an appeal.

In the meantime, Marc Solomon, marriage director with the group Equality California, said ordinances like the one proposed in Santa Monica are having an impact.

"I can tell you that thousands of businesses now offer equal benefits as a direct result of these laws," he told the council on Tuesday.

nick@smdp.com

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3014 – FURNISH AND DELIVER ONE (1) NEW AND UNUSED MINI REAR LOAD REFUSE PACKER UNIT.

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is November 11, 2010 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-2211, or by e-mailing your request to kimberlie.nimori@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

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twitter

Are texting and Facebook worse for teens than TV?

BETH J. HARPAZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK Let's face it: Teenagers spend hours texting, socializing on Facebook and playing video games. And it's driving their parents nuts.

Sure, there are real dangers associated with all this screen time — everything from cyberbullying to couch-potato obesity. Not to mention driving while texting, shortened attention spans and Internet porn.

But many of today's parents spent hours as kids sitting in front of screens too — only they were TV screens.

Which raises an interesting question: Is Facebook really worse for teenagers' brains than the mindless reruns of "Gilligan's Island" and "The Brady Bunch" that their parents consumed growing up?

Douglas Gentile, a child psychologist and associate professor at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, who studies the effects of media on children, says texting, Facebook and video games are not inherently bad. Nor are they inherently better or worse than watching TV, although they do pose different risks, such as cyberbullying.

But research has shown that the more time kids spend in front of screens — whether it's TV or instant-messaging — the worse their school performance. "That doesn't mean it's true for every kid, but it makes sense, that for every hour a kid is playing video games, it's an hour that they're not doing homework or reading or exploring or creating," he said.

Gentile calls this the "displacement hypothesis. If screen time is displacing doing their homework, that's bad. But if their homework is done, well, so what?"

Gentile, who admits that his own teenager crossed the "9,000 texts in one month barrier" last summer, acknowledged that parents are struggling to adjust to a world in which kids would rather look at words on a cell phone screen than have a conversation.

"The older generation, it's not their culture," he said. "There is a resistance to it."

Watching TV as a family, as mindless as that experience can be, is now regarded with nostalgia by parents. If your kid is sitting in the living room watching "American Idol," you can plop on the sofa with them, and "it's a shared experience," Gentile said. But if they're texting or video-chatting with a friend from school, "it's a private experience. It's like they're whispering secrets. And we find it rude."

Patti Rowlson, a mother of two in Everson, Wash., says this "has been a topic of discussion in our house for years now." She and her husband started out limiting TV time when their kids were little, but "then technology crept in. Cell phones, laptop computers, iPods with Wi-Fi. We, as parents, were no longer in control of screen time because we could not even tell when they were using it."

Recounting a struggle that will sound familiar to many parents, Rowlson said that at first, she and her husband imposed limits on tech use.

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> Before crossing near a bus, be sure the driver sees you.
> Watch for turning buses when crossing.
> Never run after or next to a bus.
> Always wait for your bus on the sidewalk, never in the street.

Stocks fall amid questions about Fed plan

STEPHEN BERNARD
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Stock prices fell Wednesday as concerns grew over whether the Federal Reserve's plans to buy Treasury bonds might be smaller and slower than anticipated.

Stocks had been rising in recent weeks due to a number of strong earnings reports and mounting expectations that the Fed would embark on another round of bond-buying to stimulate the economy.

Traders have been anticipating the Fed would buy between $500 billion and $1 trillion in Treasurys to drive interest rates lower and encourage lending and spending. A report in The Wall Street Journal said the Fed's bond purchases might amount to a few hundred billion dollars over several months, which would fall short of those predictions.

"The higher the number, the better for the market," said Michael Gault, a senior portfolio strategist at Weiser Capital Management. "Every measured step from that, the market will pull back."

The Fed meets next week and details of any stimulus are expected to be announced when the meeting wraps up Nov. 3.

The Dow fell 43.18, or 0.4 percent, to 11,126.28, despite trading as much as 150 points lower.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3.19, or 0.3 percent, to 1,182.45. The technology-focused Nasdaq composite index was the only broad market index to rise, gaining 5.97, or 0.2 percent, to 2,503.26.

A report on durable goods orders gave a mixed picture of the health of the economy. The Commerce Department said durable goods rose faster than economists had forecast in September. However, excluding the volatile transportation sector, orders fell. Economists polled by Thomson Reuters had forecast a rise in orders excluding transportation.

The report indicates the pace of growth in manufacturing is slowing. Manufacturing had been one of the brightest spots in the economy during the first half of the year.

Sales of new homes rose slightly faster than economists had expected last month, but still remain near their lowest levels on record.

Joe Murin, chairman of the Collingwood Group, said lower interest rates on mortgages that could occur if the Fed buys more bonds won't spark more demand for the loans and help lift sales. Only renewed consumer confidence will do the trick, Murin said.

"Interest rates are (already) at an all-time low" and there's no demand, Murin added. Driving rates even lower would also make investors who buy mortgages from banks even less interested in them because returns would be so small, he said.

Earnings reports announced Wednesday were mixed. Procter & Gamble said its profit slipped during the most recent quarter, but still beat forecasts. Its shares rose 22 cents to $63.08.

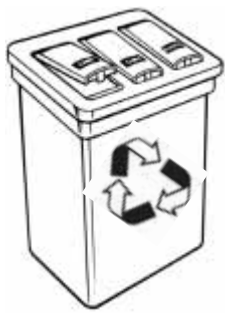
Sprint Nextel reported a wider loss. It shares fell 47 cents, or 9.9 percent, to $4.30.

Financial companies and technology companies were the only groups amid the Standard and Poor's 500 index to see their shares end the day with gains. Bank of America Corp. gained 24 cents, or 2.1 percent, to finish as the top stock among the 30 companies in the Dow. Shares in the company have fallen 11.9 percent this month.

Merck & Co. Inc. fell 61 cents, or 1.6 percent, as the index's laggard.

Bond prices fell slightly. The yield on the 10-year Treasury is 2.72 percent, up from 2.64 percent in late Tuesday's trading. Bond prices and yields move in opposite directions.

Two shares fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated trading volume came to 4.3 billion shares.

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Feds want seniors to get whooping cough shot

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA A federal advisory panel is recommending that people 65 and older who are around infants get vaccinated against whooping cough.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices gave the advice Wednesday because of an outbreak of whooping cough this year in California, where more than 6,200 cases have been reported.

Nine of the 10 infants who have died were too young to be fully vaccinated against the disease.

Children get whopping cough vaccine in a series of shots beginning at 2 months.

Health officials believe elderly caregivers play a small role in spreading the contagious infection to infants. But a whooping cough vaccine is not currently recommended for the elderly.

Whooping cough cases tend to run in cycles. The last peak was in 2005.











Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

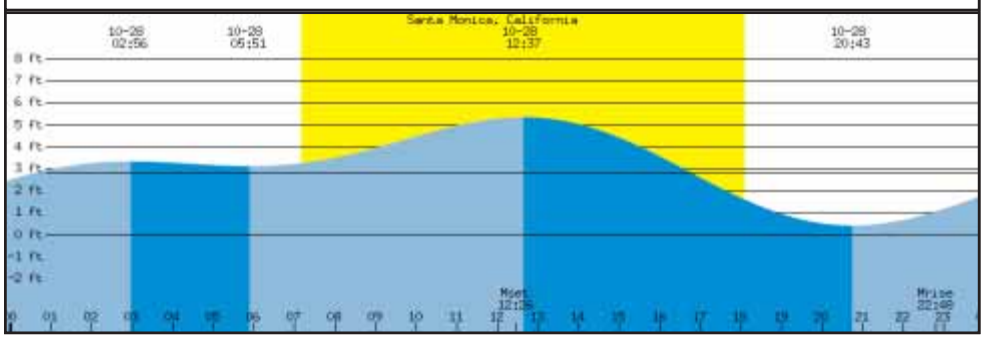
Swell Forecast

NW should back off further to waist to chest high. Southerly energy looks smaller, around waist high.

Long Range Synopsis

Is looking to start off around waist high most everywhere, but swell should build later in the day.

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 19, 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 -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 10
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 13

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Groetzbeck 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.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alina 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.	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	C	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	B	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	B
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	C	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	D	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	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.	F	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	B	F
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.	B	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	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.

NCAA FOOTBALL

USC's Woods sparks offense

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Just seven games into his freshman season at Southern California, Robert Woods already knows the thrill of hearing a packed Coliseum cheering his exploits.

There's one missing voice in that crowd for the Trojans' freshman receiver: his sister, Olivia, who died of cancer 3 years ago.

"Sometimes she would be the only voice I would hear," Woods said, smiling at the memory of his high school games in Carson, south of Downtown Los Angeles. "'Let's go, Robert!' Real loud. Sometimes when I have a great play, I just look up at her and smile. I know she's looking down on me."

Woods plays in her memory, writing her name on his wrist before each game, but he's also focused on the future at USC. The fastest player in the Trojans' recruiting class never considered abandoning the school after the NCAA's heavy sanctions came down this summer.

"I just wanted to be a Trojan my whole life," Woods said. "One of my biggest goals was to be here when the bowl ban ends my junior year. No second thoughts, not at all."

Woods already has won a starting job, and he leads the Trojans in yards receiving after back-to-back phenomenal games featuring 19 catches for 340 yards and five touchdowns. His world-class speed could be a key in No. 24 USC's visit from top-ranked Oregon on Saturday.

The Trojans have fielded an enormous number of game-breaking offensive talents during the past decade, and Woods already seems to deserve a spot. His combination of speed, size and technique already have earned repeated comparisons.

"I like the comparison to Steve Smith," Woods said with a freshman grin. "He's one of the guys I watched growing up here."

Coach Lane Kiffin, who nurtured most of those talents as a Trojans assistant, sees it this way: "He's Stevie Smith, but he's faster."

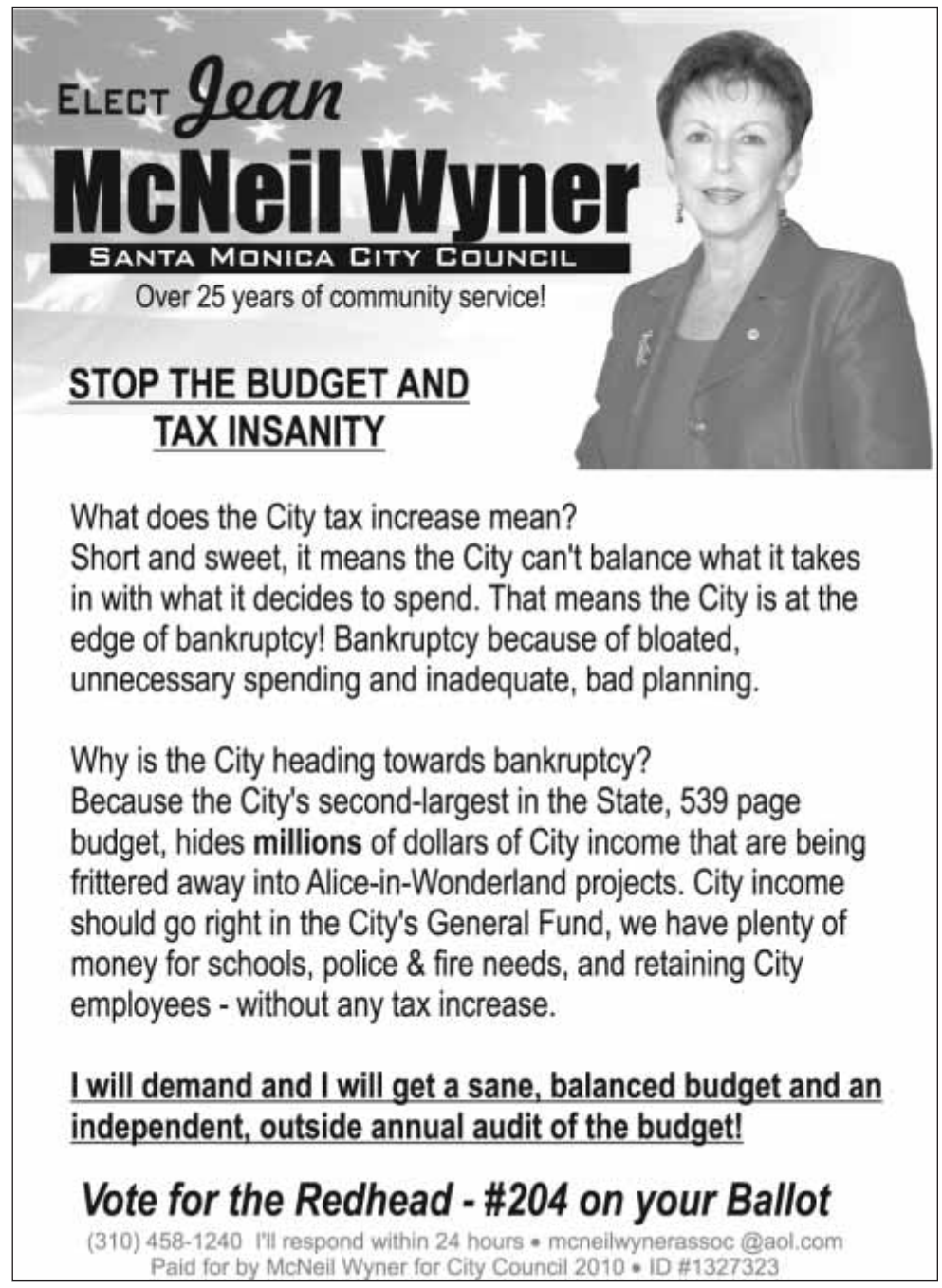
"What he's been able to do the last two weeks is amazing, but it does take time," Kiffin added. "We just haven't given him the ball enough. When we've gotten him the ball, he's done a great job. He has played great whenever we've given him a chance."

Woods is no ordinary freshman, even in a class of extraordinary talent. While freshman tailback Dillon Baxter has shown only flashes of his gifts while dealing with sprained toes and his self-confessed lack of focus, Woods has been on top of his game from nearly his first practice. He locked up a starting job in training camp, beating out David Ausberry and Brice Butler.

"Robert is amazing for a freshman," quarterback Matt Barkley said. "He's got all the talent in the world, but he's also a hard worker. He wants to get the most out of what he's got, and it's great to be teammates with a guy like that."

Woods had 13 receptions for one touchdown in the Trojans' first four games, and he even didn't have a catch in a loss to Washington four weeks ago — but he's been almost unstoppable since.

The freshman had a jaw-dropping 12 catches for 224 yards and three touchdowns when the Trojans seriously tested Stanford before losing on a last-second field goal.



MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature
Idiots and Angels (NR) 1hr 18min
Cow Who Wanted to be A Hamburger (NR) 6min
7:30pm
Discussion following the film with Bill Plympton.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Legend of the Guardians 3D: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG) 1hr 30min
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:25pm

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Catfish (PG-13) 1hr 34min
12:10pm, 2:35pm, 4:55pm, 7:15pm, 9:30pm

Easy A (PG-13)
12:00pm, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7:05pm, 9:20pm

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

Life As We Know It (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Social Network (PG-13) 2HR
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Jackass 3D (R) 1hr 34min
11:40am, 12:40pm, 2:10pm, 3:10pm, 4:40pm, 5:40pm, 8:10pm, 10:30pm

Red (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:20pm

Paranormal Activity 2 (NR)
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:15pm, 6:45pm, 9:15pm

Hereafter (PG-13) 2hr 9min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Saw 3D: The Final Chapter (R) 1hr 31min
8:00pm

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

Never Let Me Go (R)
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 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

You Will Meet A Tall Dark Stranger (R) 1hr 38min
1:40pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

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

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

Social Network (PG-13)
12:10pm, 3:15pm, 6:10pm, 9:15pm

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

Paranormal Activity 2 (R)
12:15pm, 2:45pm, 5:15pm, 7:45pm, 10:15pm

Stone (R) 1hr 45min
11:35am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

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

Take your time, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Handle a person directly. Soft words go far. You will note that a contentious quality from a partner or associate seems to fall away. A key associate seems to be more willing to make peace. New beginnings become possible. Tonight: Head on home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Keep asking questions and try to bottom-out an issue. A partner is more willing to discuss his or her feelings. Your instincts are right on target about an emotional issue. Let this person talk as much as he or she needs to. Tonight: Meet friends at a favorite place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Curb a need to be possessive and have others agree with you. New beginnings become possible concerning your work. A child or new friend could be on your case. Be careful with financial agreements. Tonight: Invite a friend to join you for dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You bloom like you haven't in a long time. You have unusual energy and direction. Know what you need to do in order to allow greater creativity and flow. Your ingenuity melts into your intellect, creating unusual solutions. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Keep your own counsel. Right now, moods and feelings run together. Nevertheless, your creativity flourishes. You will actively seek out solutions. A child or new friend suddenly could become demanding. Tonight: Take your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want while others seem disposed to go along with your requests. You have a nice way of expressing yourself. Your ideas are well received. Remember, your assets aren't just your finances but also your innate talents. Tonight: Where the action is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Stay on top of your work, and understand what is necessary to make your life work. What is critical is not to put too much pressure on others. You could be an overly serious taskmaster. Take time to buy a small token of affection. Tonight: Could be late.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You have a way of detaching and looking past the immediate issue. The less emotional you become, the more likely you are to get what you want. Be willing to drop the word "no" from your vocabulary. Tonight: Let your imagination rock and roll.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ With the planet of energy and animal magnetism, Mars, moving into your sign, you easily could be described as a pistol, with way too much energy. Zero in on what you need and feel works for you. Others will naturally defer to you. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others let you know who is in control (or at least who they think is in control). The smart Goat will defer to the prevailing forces, not choosing to correct them. Take charge of a professional matter that could slide to the wayside. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Stay level and direct when dealing with those in your work environment. Your caring ways make a big difference to an older relative or friend. You have a fiery spirit that is difficult to deny. Tonight: Chill and relax in a preferred manner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Your creativity mounts, and others respond to your ideas. Although, someone might think that you need to detach to really gain a total perspective. Someone you respect or have to answer to could be unusually demanding. Tonight: Let your hair down.

Happy birthday

This year, reach into your imagination to find answers and solutions. A new perspective might be necessary and will come through detachment. Often you are your own worst critic. New beginnings become possible if you accept yourself. As a result, you will become a lot nicer to others. If you are single, you meet others with ease. Understand what you want from a relationship first, then decide if you have met the right person. If you are attached, be more sensitive to your sweetie. Try to understand more often where he or she is coming from. Detach and walk in his or her shoes. CANCER opens your mind to different ideas.

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



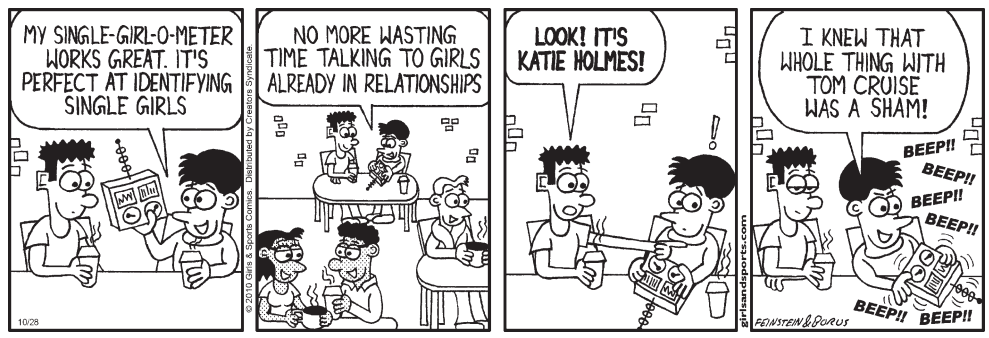
MYSTERY PHOTO

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

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



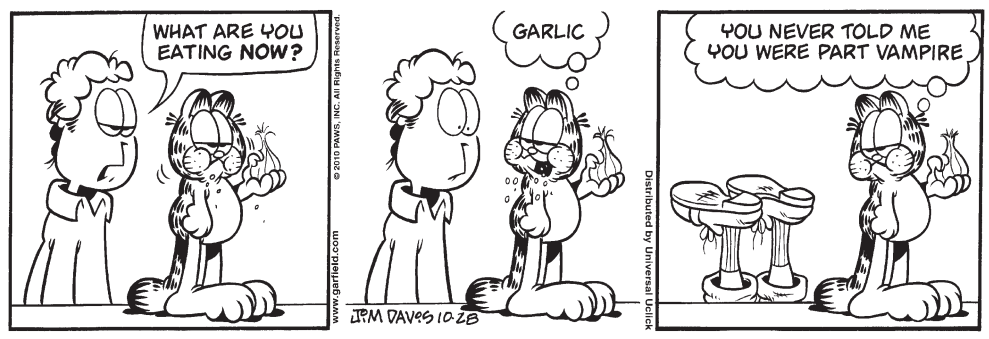
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



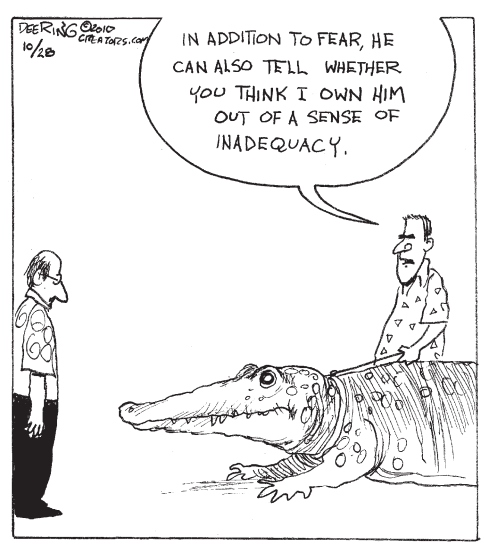
Garfield

By Jim Davis



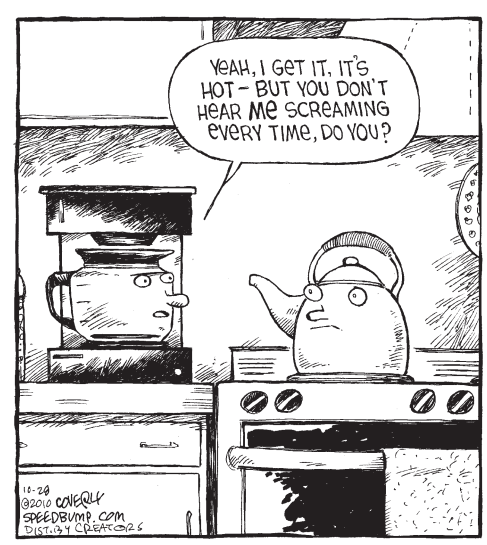
Strange Brew

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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Angel's topper
5 "Doctor Zhivago" star
11 McGregor of "Moulin Rouge!"
12 Convict's hope
13 Yard tool
14 In a dry manner
15 Blights
17 Poseidon's realm
18 Rock genre
22 Magic illusion
24 Catch
25 Wine choice
26 Family
27 Like radon
30 Pick up the tab
32 Tough puzzle
33 Used to be
34 White-maned horse
38 La Scala setting
41 Lyric poems
42 Beethoven opus
43 Patricia of "Hud"
44 Designer Ralph
45 Regarding

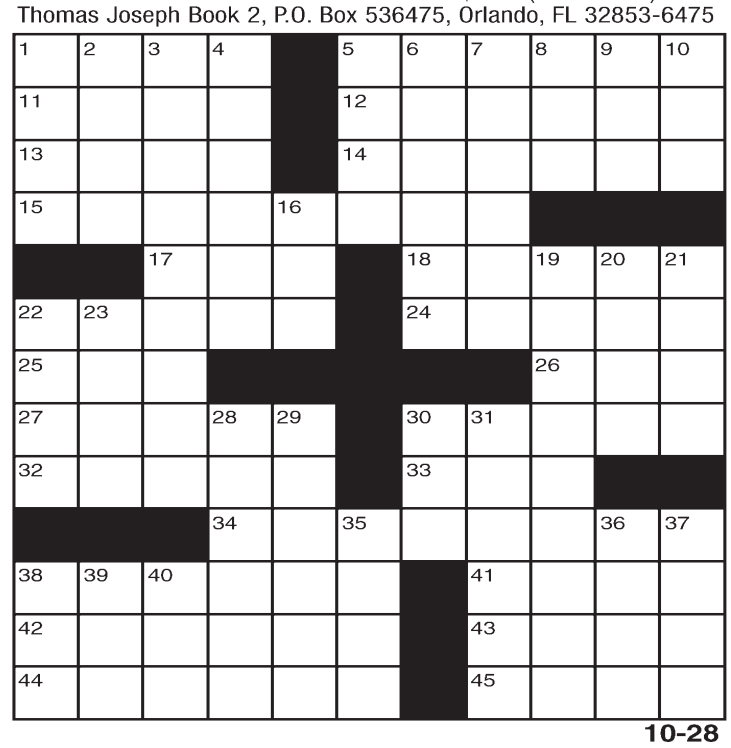
DOWN

1 On this spot
2 Not at home
3 Cabin settings
4 "Be right with you"
5 Rigging support
6 Female followings
7 Gotten up
8 Reactor part
9 Suffering
10 "30 Rock" star
16 Solid wood
19 Be partisan
20 Opera feature
21 Spring period
22 Journey
23 Gambling mecca
28 Patch
29 Stupor
30 Binary base
31 Beezus' sister
35 Bank offering
36 Dapper
37 Ibsen's home
38 Singer Tillis
39 Writer Levin
40 Mary's boss

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

Yesterday's answer

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10-28

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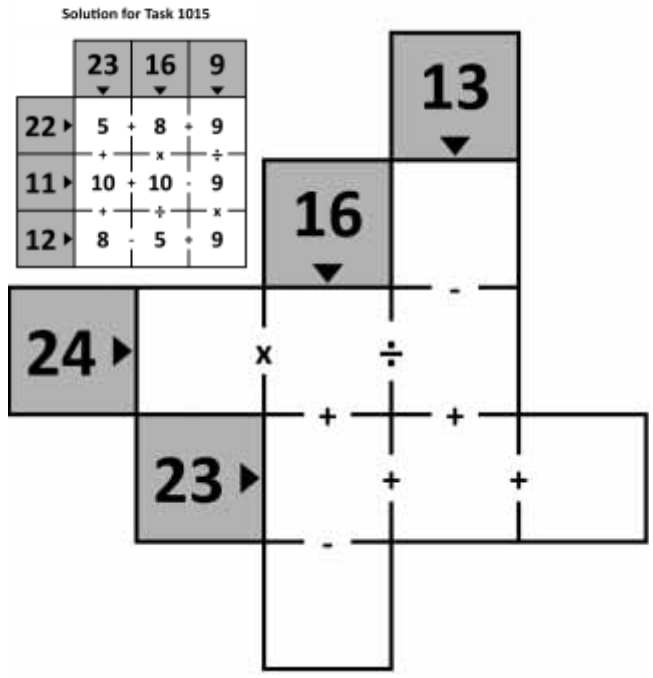
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand 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:

3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1015



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MEGA MILLIONS: 15 21 30 31 32 Meganumber: 26 Jackpot: $140M

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Fantasy 5: 2 3 6 31 32

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

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 02 Lucky Star 2nd: 12 Lucky Charms 3rd: 04 Big Ben RACE TIME: 1:48.33

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

■ A September one-woman "dance" recital of performer-writer Ann Liv Young as a naked "Cinderella" at a theater in Brooklyn, N.Y., ran overtime because Young could not answer a scripted call of nature, which was to have been performed live on stage. According to an incredulous New York Times reviewer, Young sought tips from the audience to get her bowels moving but finally gave up and ended the performance. The reviewer cited the show's "many layers of failure."

■ (1) People with tough times ahead: Donald N. Duck, 51 (arrested for DUI, Massillon, Ohio, June). Lord Jesus Christ, 50 (pedestrian injury, Northampton, Mass., May). Tara Wang (marrying Austin DeCock in Moorhead, Minn., in October). (2) Police saw them coming: Jerry Dick, 46 (pleaded guilty to indecent exposure, Greensboro, N.C., August). Kermit Butts, 26 (arrested in the slaying of Samuel Boob, Madisonburg, Pa., August). Cum Starkweather, 56 (arrested for prostitution, Springfield, Ohio, August). (3) Keeping the name but making all municipal signs theft-proof: Shitterton village in Dorset County, England.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1885 First porcelain toilet is built

1886 In New York Harbor, President Grover Cleveland dedicates the Statue of Liberty.

1891 The Mino-Owari Earthquake, the largest earthquake in Japan's history, strikes Gifu Prefecture.

1893 Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 in B Minor, Pathétique, receives its première performance in St. Petersburg, only nine days before the composer's death.

1918 World War I: Czechoslovakia is granted independence from Austria-Hungary marking the beginning of independent Czechoslovak state, after 300 years.

1918 New Polish government in Western Galicia is established.

WORD UP!

inchoate \ in-KOH-it \ , adjective; 1. In an initial or early stage; just begun. 2. Imperfectly formed or formulated.

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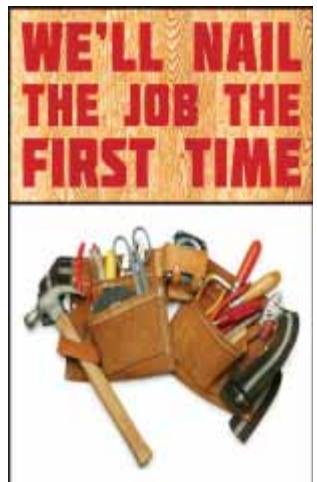
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