



SAMOHI TRIES TO REBOUND
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE A LITTLE OF THIS, A LITTLE OF THAT ISSUE

ENTERTAINMENT



THE WRITING ON THE WALLS

Rising rents and book chains are prompting
independent sellers to turn the page

STORY BY MELODY HANATANI PAGE 10

Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

Council opposes LNG terminal

Local company adds city to
a growing list of opponents

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

SM BAY A Santa Monica-based energy company looking to build a liquefied natural gas terminal off the coast of the Los Angeles International Airport can add another opponent to its list.

In addition to Congresswoman Jane Harman, Los

Angeles City Councilman Bill Rosendahl and the environmental watchdog group Santa Monica Baykeeper, the City Council is now on record opposing Woodside Natural Gas' OceanWay Secure Energy project, which would be located in federal waters, 27 miles offshore.

The council voted against the project earlier this week and is making its concerns known to those in charge of reviewing Woodside's proposal — the city of Los Angeles, U.S. Coast Guard and Maritime Administration.

"Santa Monica plays a special role as steward of the Santa Monica Bay," said Councilman Kevin McKeown, who brought the issue before the council. "Thanks to vig-

ilant resident Diane Moss, who brought this to my attention, we were able to oppose yet another proposal for a massive offshore fueling complex traversing Santa Monica Bay.

"Santa Monica loves alternative fuels, but not at the risk of damage to marine life or our bay and beaches."

The Maritime Administration is primarily responsible for project financial reviews, while the Coast Guard is primarily responsible for project engineering, operations, safety and environmental reviews, including com-

SEE LNG PAGE 7



Gary Limjap

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Calendar

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A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

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Stroll down the boulevard and shop, eat and catch some live music. Tonight, Venice Trust is raffling \$10 tickets for a prize worth thousands in art. For more information, visit www.abbotkinneynow.com, www.VeniceTrust.org or call (310) 301-6976.

'Cinderella'

1211 Fourth St., 6 p.m. — 7:20 p.m.

"Cinderella" is an original Rudie-DeCarlo musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a zany fairy godmother, silly step-sisters, a zealously well-meaning stepmother and Cinderella. Tickets for children are \$10.50; adults pay \$12.50. Call (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com for more information.

A receptive audience

1426 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Bad Abbot is hosting an artist's reception for William Tunberg and his exhibit of wall sculptures — "Marquetry Master." For more information, call (310) 664-8852.

Santa Monica Critical Mass bike ride

Santa Monica Pier entrance, 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Ride through the neighborhoods of Santa Monica and Venice once a month. For more information, visit www.SantaMonicaCriticalMass.org.

Kultural Columbus

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.

"Columbus" is split between Kulturas' two locations — on Fourth Street and Ocean Park Boulevard. The Fourth Street display exhibits two large and striking panels of pastel on paper, while the Ocean Park location exhibits the smaller oil on wood panels.

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007

HomeWalk

700 Exposition Park Dr., L.A., 7 a.m. — noon

HomeWalk is a non-competitive 5K walk in support of the "A Pathway Home" initiative helping to end homelessness. United Way of Greater Los Angeles, in partnership with the Fannie Mae Foundation, has collaborated with PATH Partners to back this initiative providing resources for existing efforts to address homelessness. Adult registration is \$25; youth registration is \$15. For more information or to register, visit www.HomeWalkLA.org.

Wake Up with the Waves

Santa Monica Pier, 9 a.m. — 11 a.m.

Head on down to the pier for the last show in the "Wake Up" series. Justin Roberts will perform music for parents and their kids. For more information, call (310) 458-8900 or visit www.santamonicapier.org.

Dancing in the Margins Festival 2007

1416 Electric Ave., Venice, 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.

The third annual festival presents a weekend of world dance with choreography from West Africa, China, Indonesia, the Philippines and Spain. Tickets are available at the Electric Lodge. General admission is \$16; \$13 for seniors, students, and DRC members. For more information or to make reservations, call (310) 823-0710 or visit www.dancinginthemargins.com.

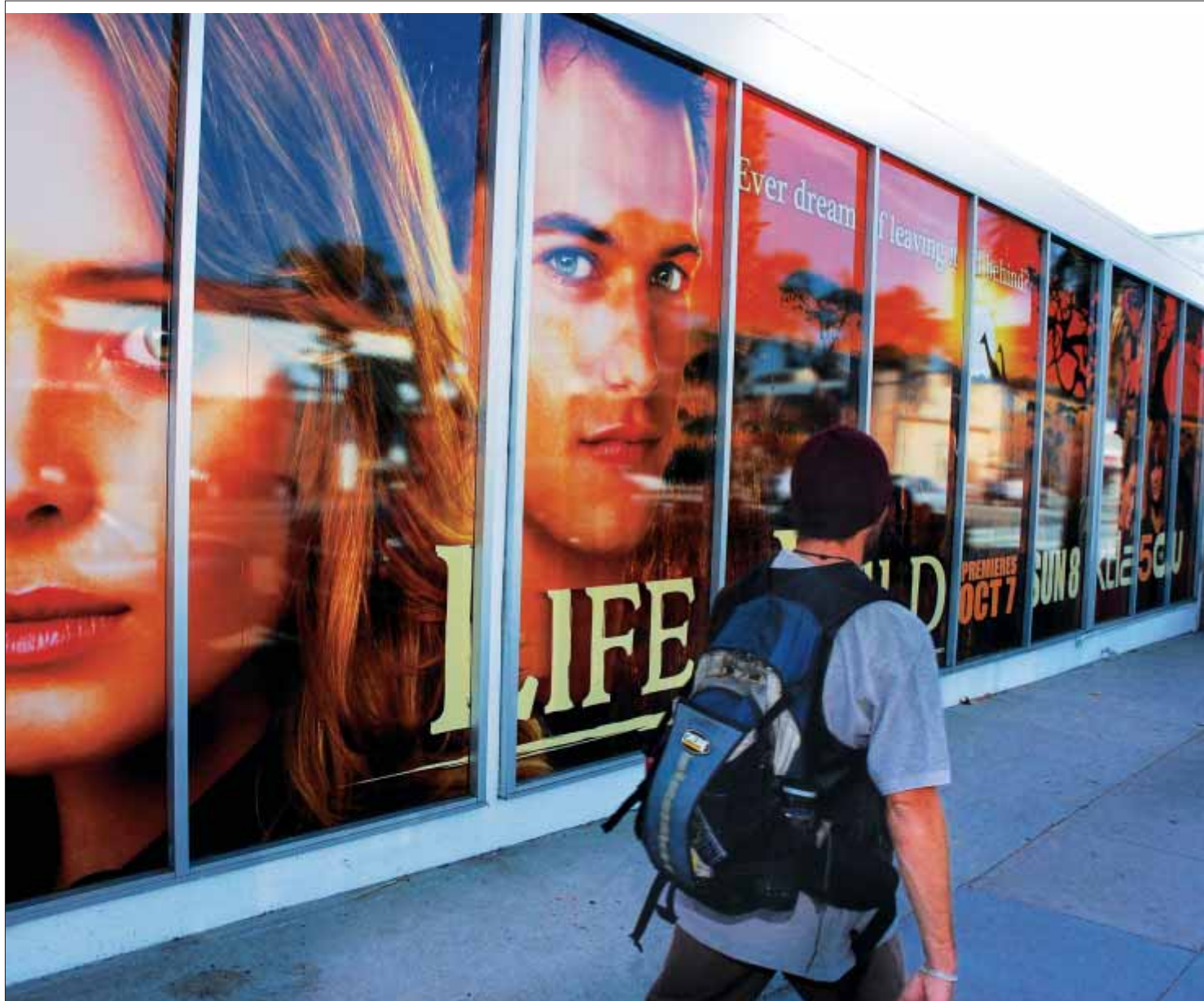
Heart disease with Dr. Hollis

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Hollis presents a seminar on heart disease at the Main Library. He will discuss how to identify and prevent it naturally. He'll also dispel several myths about how diet affects heart health and cholesterol.

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.





Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

A LITTLE TOO SHOWY A storefront advertisement promoting a new television show was plastered on a vacant Wilshire Boulevard storefront through much of October. The building's owner reportedly made thousands of dollars before the city enforced its municipal code barring such displays.

With risk comes reward

Talking billboards are profitable, but are wildly illegal

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY For nearly the entire month of October, pedestrians along a bustling stretch of Wilshire Boulevard were hearing lions roar and other sounds of the African jungle. The unexpected seaside safari came

courtesy of a large advertisement that was plastered on a vacant storefront window, drawing the attention of passersby and drivers for a new TV series called "Life is Wild," the story of a New York veterinarian and his family who try to survive on a South African game preserve.

Representatives with the CW, the offspring of a merger between Warner Bros. and the former UPN network, said they wanted to try something new, so they added an audio component to the in-window advertisement in hopes that it would cut through the marketing clutter and make some noise.

The only problem was that the advertisement along the 1100 block of Wilshire Boulevard was illegal under the city's municipal code, covering more than 20 percent of the storefront.

A spokesman for the CW, along with the owners of the building, said they had no idea the advertisement was against the law and have since removed it, but not after earning a nice chunk of change for lending out a space that still remains vacant. While the owners and CW refused to say how much the advertisement cost to

SEE ADS PAGE 9

Vikings on the rebound

Samohi hopes to get back on track against Inglewood Sentinels

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE After two consecutive heartbreaking losses that came down to the wire, Santa Monica High School looks to rebound against a conference foe they've had their way with the past three years.

The Vikings dropped another close contest against an undefeated Culver City High School team last weekend on the road, scoring a touchdown with 14 seconds left in the game to pull within three.

But the Centaurs recovered the onside kick and held on to win the game 30-27.

Samohi enters tonight's game against Inglewood High School with identical overall season records but with a slight disadvantage in league play — the Vikings are 1-2 in the Ocean League while the Sentinels are 2-1.

"I thought our kids played very well on Friday night," Samohi head coach Zach Cuda said on Thursday. "I think the score indicated a close game."

The Vikings led 20-13 early on in the third quarter after the Centaurs blocked an extra point. But quarterback Darius Banks threw a 45-yard touchdown to receiver Antwon Moutra to tie the game up.

The Centaur later kicked a 37-yard field goal and scored another touchdown with 6:15 left to go up by 10.

"Anytime it's a close game, it comes down to a couple of breaks — the way they're officiating calls or the ball bounces the right way," he added. "Unfortunately for us on Friday night, the breaks didn't go our way."

Coupled with the 28-26 loss the previous week against Beverly Hills High School when Samohi quarterback Ryan Katz was tackled at the half-yard line in an attempt to complete a two-point conversion, the Vikings are probably happy to be back home.

"It's been tough but the thing we keep stressing to the kids is that the loss is to a playoff caliber team," Cuda said. "We lost

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 8



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

School sends a sexist message

Editor:

So glad to see Webster (Elementary) survived the fire (“Making a comeback,” Oct. 30). My daughter had valuable experiences there when we lived in Malibu. However, I was surprised to see the sexist message on their sign.

Women are firefighters, too. The sign thanking only “firemen” sent a terrible message to all the girls attending Webster and the female firefighters. The wording “Thanks to Firefighters and Sheriffs for Saving Webster” would fit ... both the space and the times.

Susan J. Hartley

Santa Monica

There’s power in that sun above

Editor:

(Re: “The sun also sets,” Oct. 30)

Kudos go out to the city for working to solve the problems that exist. In the building department, the change is night and day – truly superb compared to what it used to be.

Dividing the department is a good idea, as there are clearly two different sorts of solar – PV and thermal – and they should be kept apart. PV (photo voltaic) is electric. An electrician should be dealing with the installation and maintenance of PV products. Thermal is heating water and should be done by someone with plumbing expertise.

Solar energy is an unlimited resource that does not produce harmful emissions, or require transportation or pipelines. Any building today can generate the majority of the energy it needs using modern well-engineered solar systems. Also, there is a considerable cost advantage to planning solar systems for new buildings.

In California, if you install solar, the value of your house goes up, plus you can stop or significantly reduce your energy bill.

The California Million Roof legislation needs to move forward. Should SB 1 become law, it, combined with the Public Utilities Commission’s California Solar Initiative, would create the largest solar program in the country, building 3,000 megawatts of solar power – the equivalent of six large power plants – on homes, businesses, farms and schools throughout the state.

In Santa Monica, if we are going to become the “net zero” city we proudly boast of becoming – generating clean energy that matches our total energy consumption – we need to get new inspectors trained. There are lots of capable solar organizations.

With PV, you will soon be able to drive home and plug your car in. Mercedes Benz is now testing a car with plugs-ins. Also, you can already buy cars in America that are electric. Check out www.pluginamerica.com. No more dependence on oil and energy, and you’re helping the environment.

The choice is yours, the technology is here today.
Daniel Beattie

EnviroPlumbing, Santa Monica

Bush can’t dupe us again, can he?

Editor:

War and Republicans go together. The “war president” – George W. Bush – in his rush to drag the U.S. into another war before his term ends, brings on the specter of WWII in a fit of insanity.

Death and destruction seem to mean nothing to the president as he plays with unsubstantiated facts and figures. Every time W. tosses out more uncorroborated information about Iran, U.S. intelligence agencies are quick to step in and contradict it.

Bush’s phony facts about Iran’s weapons of mass destruction are as non-existent as they were about Iraq’s WMD’s.

Will Americans be duped again by Bush and his cabal and its propaganda?

Ron Lowe

Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Good-bye Kobe and Coach Karl?

IT’S SAID THAT IN SPORTS THERE IS nothing more exciting than a Game 7 of the World Series. Having just watched the Boston-Colorado yawner, the reverse might be true. There is nothing more dull than a four-game sweep, especially when one team scores a total of 29 runs and the other 10. For trivia buffs, in 1960, the Pirates beat the Yankees despite being outscored 55-27. (Mickey Mantle said it was the biggest disappointment in his career.)

What’s with Boston? They go 86 years without winning a World Series and now they win every other one. That said, this series was boring with a capital B, especially for anyone west of the Rockies. Even worse were the endless promos by comedian Dane Cook, “There’s only one October.” (Is it me, or isn’t there only one of every month?) “Saturday Night Live” did a takeoff on Cook, “There’s only one October, but 300 of these promos.” Cook may be using his 15 minutes of fame, although he does have movies lined up through 2009. Fine, just no more of those promos!

The truth is, being a sports fan is a losing proposition, as the heartaches outnumber the thrills. Take my Dodgers, please. (My tribute to Henny Youngman) As of July 26, the Dodgers were in first place, and then it seemed like they didn’t win another game. And yet, they set an attendance record of almost four million fans, which is a mystery to me. It seems an awfully long way to drive just to have a Dodger Dog.

This past weekend, the UCLA and USC football teams lost. For UCLA, that’s not big news. Karl Dorrell is a great guy, just not a great football coach. But losing for USC is big news, or it used to be. If the Trojans lose a few more before meeting UCLA on Dec. 1, the winner might go to the Papa John’s Bowl. (Actually, the No. 5 PAC 10 team goes to the only slightly more prestigious Emerald Bowl.) By the way, I counted the number of bowl games for this year, it’s 32! (Almost as many as Dane Cook promos.) Papa John’s pays \$300,000 to each team for appearing, whereas the BCS Championship pays \$17 million! Slight difference.

In the NBA, the Lakers opened the season Tuesday right where they left off, with a loss. All summer, Kobe said if the Lakers didn’t improve markedly, he’d rather play somewhere else. They didn’t and he may. You don’t hear Jerry Buss anymore saying, “Kobe’s a Laker for life.” The death knell was the fans booing Kobe when he was introduced. Never a good sign.

As for the Clippers, until recently, they used to be the butt of jokes from late night comedians. Without Elton Brand, they may be again. Brand is out at least until

January, though the NBA season is so interminably long, who knows. I haven’t mentioned pro football because we haven’t had a team since before Bill Clinton met Monica Lewinsky. Being with a professional football team puts us with other major cities like Pawtucket and Sioux City. (Rumor is Pawtucket is closer to getting a franchise than we are.)

One of my readers, Mary Olivier, is so disheartened by the local sports scene that she can’t wait for UCLA basketball season. Me too. The Bruins are ranked No. 2 in the pre-season polls. (Then again, SC was ranked No. 1 in the pre-season football polls.) Mary’s wait will be over next Friday when the Bruins open against Portland. Frankly, I wish UCLA basketball had started when the Dodgers lost 13 out of 16 back on July 26.

IMAGINE THE HEARTACHE OF A FAN IN KANSAS CITY. WHEN HAVE THE CHIEFS OR ROYALS WON ANYTHING? (ON THE OTHER HAND, AT LEAST THEY HAVE A PRO FOOTBALL TEAM.)

The problem with sports isn’t just money, although the expression “the root of all evil” does come to mind. Another is the “We’re been spoiled with UCLA basketball, SC football, the Lakers and the Dodgers all winning numerous championships. Imagine the heartache of a fan in Kansas City. When have the Chiefs or Royals won anything? (On the other hand, at least they have a pro football team.)

As a kid, when my team lost, I’d take it very hard. (I’m only slightly better now.) My late father used to say, “Losing builds character.” Well, I’ve had enough losing for two lifetimes. I may quit being a sports fan altogether. Whoops. Hold everything! Joe Torre is the new Dodger manager and may be bringing A-Rod with him!

I feel like Al Pacino in Godfather III, “Just when I thought that I was out, they pull me back in!”

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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

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

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Guest Commentary

Charles Bierbauer

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Far away issue for candidates

JUST BECAUSE YOU STAGE IT — SAY, a rally for Darfur in Charleston, S.C. — doesn't mean the presidential candidates will come. Too bad. The candidates missed a chance to see diverse components of a community drawn together to make a moral statement transcending parochial interests.

"It's not a black or white issue; it's not a Republican or Democratic issue; it's a human issue," University of South Carolina President Andrew Sorensen said. The black and white and Republican (a few) and Democratic (probably a lot more) crowd sported an equally rainbow-hued variety of T-shirts, caps and buttons with the rally's "Save Darfur" slogan.

Country singer Kenny Alphin skipped the diplomacy for a note of passion. "I'm ready to see some politicians jump and scream," Big Kenny (his performing name) fairly shouted.

There were politicians in the crowd and on stage — the mayor, a congressman, a former governor, a couple of legislators — all Democrats by my count. But not presidential candidates. Barack Obama was probably closest, campaigning in Aiken.

That wasn't the plan. The Oct. 6 rally for Darfur — South Carolina Responds to Genocide — was set for a day when national and local advocates for health care solutions had planned an all-day candidates' forum in Columbia, presuming candidates would be moved or compelled to also attend the Darfur rally a couple blocks away.

The flaw was in assuming the candidates would show up for the health care forum at which each was to have a 40-minute solo opportunity to explain his or her approach to the nation's health care needs.

Presidential campaigns are complex moving targets. Campaigns are besieged with invitations for debates and appearances, have their own strategies and priorities and have not figured out how to place a candidate in four states at once. Democrat Bill Richardson, whose Hispanic heritage helped elect him governor of New Mexico, canceled an appearance at the Hispanic Heritage Month luncheon here in Columbia last week.

The four front-running Republican candidates — Giuliani, Romney, McCain and Thompson — skipped a forum led by Tavis Smiley at Morgan State University in Maryland last month. In the process, the candidates also skipped an opportunity to show they are attuned to issues that matter to African-American voters.

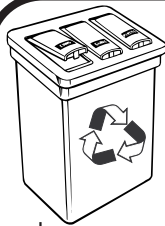
Second-tier candidates rarely pass up free media opportunities. At Morgan State, they got to talk about Darfur. Congressman Tom Tancredo suggested we "see whether the United Nations is worth its salt." Congressman Duncan Hunter called for a "humanitarian corridor." Congressman Ron Paul said the U.S., as a nation, has neither the constitutional nor moral authority to be in Darfur. Mike Huckabee said, "There are a lot of people in America that don't think the only poverty is in Darfur — understand there's poverty in the Delta."

You could search online for the Republican frontrunners' views on Darfur. But you won't find any help on their official Web sites. You could check the Democratic candidates, too, and find that only John Edwards has a detailed plan that says, in part: "We should work with NATO, one of the world's most effective security organizations, to make sure the UN process will be as rapid, tough and effective as possible."

The U.S. State Department sent Sudan programs officer Joan Mower to speak to the Darfur rally. She held out some hope for UN-sponsored peace talks later this month and UN peacekeepers on the ground. But for now, Mower said, "It's violent, chaotic and evolving."

A candidate could argue that 15 months from now, when a new president takes office, Darfur will have evolved from where it is now. The 1,500 or so who gathered at the South Carolina State House know Darfur won't be first among a new president's priorities. Their message to the candidates was, at least, think about it.

CHARLES BIERBAUER is a former ABC News foreign correspondent and CNN White House correspondent.



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The Q-Line

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Going to pot

City officials have been accused of dragging their feet when it comes to allowing medical marijuana dispensaries into the city. Some city bosses say it would be more trouble than it would be worth.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Should the city welcome dispensaries as they would any other state-approved business? What safeguards do you believe should be put in place if such a thing were to occur?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

Design Compatibility Permit 06-002, Development Review Permit 06-003, Vesting Tentative Tract Map 06-005 (TM No. 066145), 525 Broadway. An application for a Design Compatibility Permit, Development Review Permit, and Vesting Tentative Tract Map for the construction of 125 market-rate condominiums and 8,311 square feet of ground floor commercial space over four levels of subterranean parking. The Final Environmental Impact Report and Mitigation Monitoring Program, and Statement of Overriding Considerations will be necessary to approve the project because the EIR has concluded that there will be significant unavoidable impacts to traffic/circulation and construction effects. All other potential impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level. The proposed project was originally heard by the Planning Commission on July 18, 2007 and was continued for redesign and additional information regarding the project's access. [Planner: Jing Yeo, AICP] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: PRU/JSM Trino, LLC.**

Conditional Use Permit 07-004 and Variance 07-007, 1420 Yale Street. Approval of Conditional Use Permit 07-004 to permit the Lighthouse Christian Academy, a private high school with an enrollment of up to 100 students that was established without City permits. The school primarily occupies the second floor of an existing church annex building. Approval of Variance 07-006 would allow the approved childcare facility that is located on the ground floor and the proposed high school to operate week days with 14 parking spaces, 7 that comply with size and access requirements, in-lieu of 101 parking spaces required by City parking regulations. Action on this proposal was continued from the July 18, 2007 and September 19, 2007 Planning Commission meetings. [Planner: Bruce Leach] **APPLICANT/ PROPERTY OWNER: International Church of the Foursquare Gospel Church.**

Conditional Use Permit 07-007, 1401 Ocean Avenue. Approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow an existing restaurant to extend its hours of alcohol service from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. No additional floor area or additional seating for the restaurant is proposed as part of the application. According to SMMC 9.04.10.18.020 a Conditional Use Permit is required for an existing premise that serves alcohol when there is a substantial change in mode or character of operation. A substantial change shall include, but is not limited to, an increase in the hours alcohol is served at the establishment. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT: Sushi Concepts SM, LLC. PROPERTY OWNER: Mani Brothers Portfino Plaza, LLC .**

Discussion of Concept Plan for an Entertainment Studio Project: 2834 Colorado Avenue. A proposed concept plan to redevelop the 1.76 acre (76,795 square foot) industrial site at 2834 Colorado Avenue with a three-story, 115,200 square foot entertainment production building over a two-level subterranean parking garage. The parking garage would provide 412 parking spaces accessed from Stewart Street. The project is proposed as a Development Agreement with the City. The information gathered during this discussion will be used to evaluate the feasibility of the proposal and potential alternatives. [Planner: Bruce Leach] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Colorado Creative Studios, LLC.**

WHEN: Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California



HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Case Planner at (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.org. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TTY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.



Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
<http://www.shapethefuture2025.net> (Land Use Element)
<http://motion.santa-monica.org> (Circulation Element)



CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



A case fit for Columbo

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.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25, AT 4 P.M.

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1100 block of Princeton Avenue regarding a residential burglary that had occurred. When officers arrived, they spoke with a resident who said he had come home from a long vacation and noticed that some money he had stashed away and some rare coins had been stolen. He didn't report the theft at first because he did not see any forced entry and he thought that he may have simply misplaced the items. However, a few days later, he noticed more coins were missing. He mentioned this to a neighbor, who said that he had been approached by another neighbor wanting change for a \$100 bill. The neighbor said this was unusual. Suspicious, the victim called police, who questioned the suspect. Officers said the suspect said she knew where the victim hid a spare key and had used it to gain entrance to the apartment. She and another accomplice sold the coins for money, police said. The suspect was identified as Katherine Marie Burkell, 43, of Santa Monica. Her bail was set at \$50,000. The other suspect is still at large, police said.

MONDAY, OCT. 22, AT 8:15 P.M.

Officers responded to the 1400 block of Ocean Avenue regarding a report of elder abuse. When officers arrived, they made contact with an elderly man who appeared to be shaken. The man told police that his caretaker was verbally abusing him and had threatened to kill him if he did not give him some money. Based on that information, officers arrested the caretaker for elder abuse. The suspect was identified as James Anthony Humphrey, 47, of Santa Monica. No bail information was available for this suspect, police said.

TUESDAY, OCT. 23, AT 3:25 A.M.,

Officers on routine patrol near the corner of Fifth Street and Olympic Boulevard spotted a man riding a bicycle without a light – a violation of the municipal code. Officers drove up to the man and ordered him to stop peddling. The man refused and tried to ride away. Officers continued to follow the suspect until they got to the 1500 block of Fourth Street, at which time the suspect jumped off the bike and tried to run. Officers caught up with the suspect, who tried to fight them off. He failed. Officers detained the suspect and questioned him about his bike, which appeared to be brand new and still had a price tag attached. The suspect said he bought the bike a year ago and produced receipts that did not match the bicycle, police said. The suspect was arrested for riding a bike without a light, resisting arrest and for possession of stolen property. He was identified as Jeffrey Hill, 46, of Culver City. His bail was set at \$20,250. The suspect had outstanding warrants, police said.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30, AT 7 P.M.

Officers responded to the 600 block of Santa Monica Boulevard regarding a report of a burglary that had just occurred. When officers arrived, they spoke with the homeowners who said that they went to a movie and when they returned their car had been broken into. Stolen was their house keys and a drivers' license. When the victims returned home, they found it had been ransacked. Missing was more than \$5,000 worth of jewelry and a computer. There was no forced entry, leading officers to believe that the suspect or suspects used the victims' keys and ID to find the home and gain access. A follow up investigation led to the arrest of a suspect, identified as Gregory Boylan, 31. No bail information was available for this suspect.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27, AT 1:40 P.M.

Officers on routine patrol conducted a traffic stop after a driver was seen operating a car with something hanging from his rear view mirror, obstructing his view. During the stop, officers said they saw the suspect reach down as if he was concealing something. Officers searched the car and found some cocaine. The driver was arrested for possession of a controlled substance. He was identified as Michael Calvin Staley, 44, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at \$15,000.

FRIDAY, OCT. 26, AT 10:45 P.M.

Officers responded to the 1800 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Rite-Aid – regarding a shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived, they spoke with store security who said the suspect walked into the pharmacy to exchange some pants he purchased. He then bought some tobacco with his refund, but before leaving the store, decided he wanted to get some wine for friends to repay them for a favor. Instead of paying for the wine, the suspect put a 4-liter bottle of wine in his bag and tried to walk out without paying for the item. He was detained until police arrived. The suspect was arrested for commercial burglary. He was identified as Thomas Hubert Pick, 46, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$35,366. Pick had outstanding warrants, police said.

Staff Writer **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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City opposes LNG proposal

FROM LNG PAGE 1

pliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

The city of Los Angeles will process an application for a pipeline franchise both on and offshore, and review the OceanWay proposal for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Woodside, an affiliate of the largest independent energy company in Australia, is disappointed the council took a position on OceanWay before an environmental impact report has been drafted, said Michael Hinrichs, public affairs manager for the energy company.

"We are also disappointed that we were not able to brief the Councilmembers or receive notice that the issue was on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting," Hinrichs said. "We believe that natural gas will act as a backbone for the economy, especially in the Los Angeles basin, as renewable energy sources are developed and California transitions away from dirty coal-fired electric generation."

HEARD IT THROUGH THE PIPELINE

Woodside is seeking approval to place two delivery buoys more than 20 miles offshore in 3,000-foot-deep waters. Tankers carrying LNG would link up to specially equipped Woodside ships at least 35 miles from shore, where the liquid would be vaporized using an air regassification system. The company ships would then connect to the buoys, and the gas would be funneled to the coast via underwater pipelines.

The company would run a pair of 24-inch-diameter pipes along the ocean floor, eventually crossing the northern end of Dockweiler Beach.

Buried onshore pipelines would then snake through a section of vacant airport sand dunes and link up to a transfer facility before tying into existing Southern California Gas lines.

Woodside touts LNG as a clean-burning fuel and the terminal as a project that can help the state meet growing energy demands.

Natural gas production in California satisfies only 13 percent of statewide demand, with the remaining 87 percent coming from other states and Canada via interstate pipelines, according to a 2005 California Energy Commission report cited in the application. Because of growing demand, competition is expected to drive prices higher.

Although several LNG terminals have been pitched along the Southern California coastline — including proposals at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and, most recently, Malibu — none have been approved, and each has generated plenty of opposition.

Woodside believes its project is considerably different than the others proposed and will be virtually invisible from shore. The ships will use a forced-air vaporization system to convert the liquid to gas with minimal emissions.

"OceanWay is designed to meet California's environmental policies as well as address many concerns coastal residents expressed during the public reviews of other projects," Hinrichs said. "Woodside representatives have met with thousands of residents, knocking on over 18,000 doors as part of our education outreach to the local communities. Of those we spoke to — almost 5,000 people — we found that over 1,700 residents supported the OceanWay project and only 375 expressed opposition, with the remaining being undecided on the issue."

Time for public comment ended on Oct. 31, Hinrichs said. The environmental impacts will be studied and a report released in the coming months.

WE BELIEVE THAT NATURAL GAS WILL ACT AS A BACKBONE FOR THE ECONOMY, ESPECIALLY IN THE LOS ANGELES BASIN, AS RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES ARE DEVELOPED AND CALIFORNIA TRANSITIONS AWAY FROM DIRTY COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATION."

Michael Hinrichs
Public affairs manager for Woodside

The license review process, including a decision on the license application, must be completed within 356 days of the deemed complete application.

Harman has come out against the project because of concerns about terrorism. She said LAX has already been a target of terrorist plots before and the LNG pipeline could make it an even more attractive target.

Tom Ford, with Santa Monica Baykeepers, said the group is opposed to the project because of concerns about it disrupting the ocean floor.

"We also have concerns about impacts to environmental justice," Ford said. "Pipelines would run through communities that are already taking quite a hit because of LAX and the industrial corridor. They've done their share shouldering this infrastructure."

"There are better places for this kind of a facility."

kevinh@smdp.com

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Saturday, November 3
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Santa Monica Main Public Library Multipurpose Room

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For more project information, please visit 415pch.smgov.net
Or email 415pch@smgov.net

This project is funded by a generous gift from the Annenberg Foundation, at the recommendation of Wallis Annenberg, and in cooperation with the California State Parks and the City of Santa Monica. The Main Library is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10. To request a disability-related accommodation, please call 310-458-8310.

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- Clean sinks, counters; change towels
- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- Hand wash, disinfect floors

ALL ROOMS

- Pick up & straighten
- Dust sills, ledges, wall hangings
- Remove cobwebs
- Dust/vacuum furniture
- Vacuum floors, carpets
- Vacuum stairs
- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

WINDOWS

- Clean entry windows & one set of patio door windows
- Clean window over kitchen sink

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

2617 3rd Street, LC-07CA-004, Zoning: OP2 (Ocean Park Low Multiple Family) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a continued public hearing to consider Certificate of appropriateness 07CA-004 for design approval of an addition to a non-contributing structure within the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District. The proposed project includes a maximum 1440 square foot addition to a non-contributing accessory building located in the rear of the subject property. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the subject property and the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District. **(Continued from the July 9, 2007 meeting.)** Applicant: Mark Woollen. Owner: Mark Woollen.

2642 2nd Street, LC-07CA-009, Zoning: OP2 (Ocean Park Low Multiple Family) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness 07CA-009 for demolition of a Non-Contributing structure to the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District at 2642 2nd Street and for design approval of a new single-family residence to be constructed on the site. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the property and the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District. **(Continued from the October 8, 2007 meeting)** Applicant: Mark R. Gorman and Beth Burns. Owner: Mark R. Gorman and Beth Burns.

1314-1316 Wilshire Boulevard, LC-07LM-005, Zoning: C-6 (Boulevard Commercial – Neighborhood Commercial Overlay) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 07LM-005 for 1314-1316 Wilshire Boulevard to determine whether the property, commonly known as the Nu-Wilshire Theatre, should, in whole or part, be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the property meets one or more of the required criteria for landmark designation. Applicant: Erich Paraso. Owner: La Brea Washington Co., LLC.

Mature Ficus Trees Located on the east and west sides of Second Street between Colorado Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, LC-07LM-008, Zoning: BSC-4 (Bayside Commercial) and C-3 (Downtown Commercial) Districts. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 07LM-009 to determine whether the mature Ficus trees on the east and west sides of Second Street between Colorado Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, should, in whole or part, be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the property meets one or more of the required criteria for landmark designation. Applicant: Jerry Rubin and Treesavers. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

Mature Ficus Trees Located on the east and west sides of Fourth Street between Colorado Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, LC-07LM-009, Zoning: BSC-3 (Bayside Commercial) and C3-C (Downtown Overlay) Districts. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 07LM-010 to determine whether the mature Ficus trees on the east and west sides of Fourth Street between Colorado Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, should, in whole or part, be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the property meets one or more of the required criteria for landmark designation. Applicant: Jerry Rubin and Treesavers. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

When: Monday, November 12, 2007 at 7:00 pm

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica



Questions/Comments

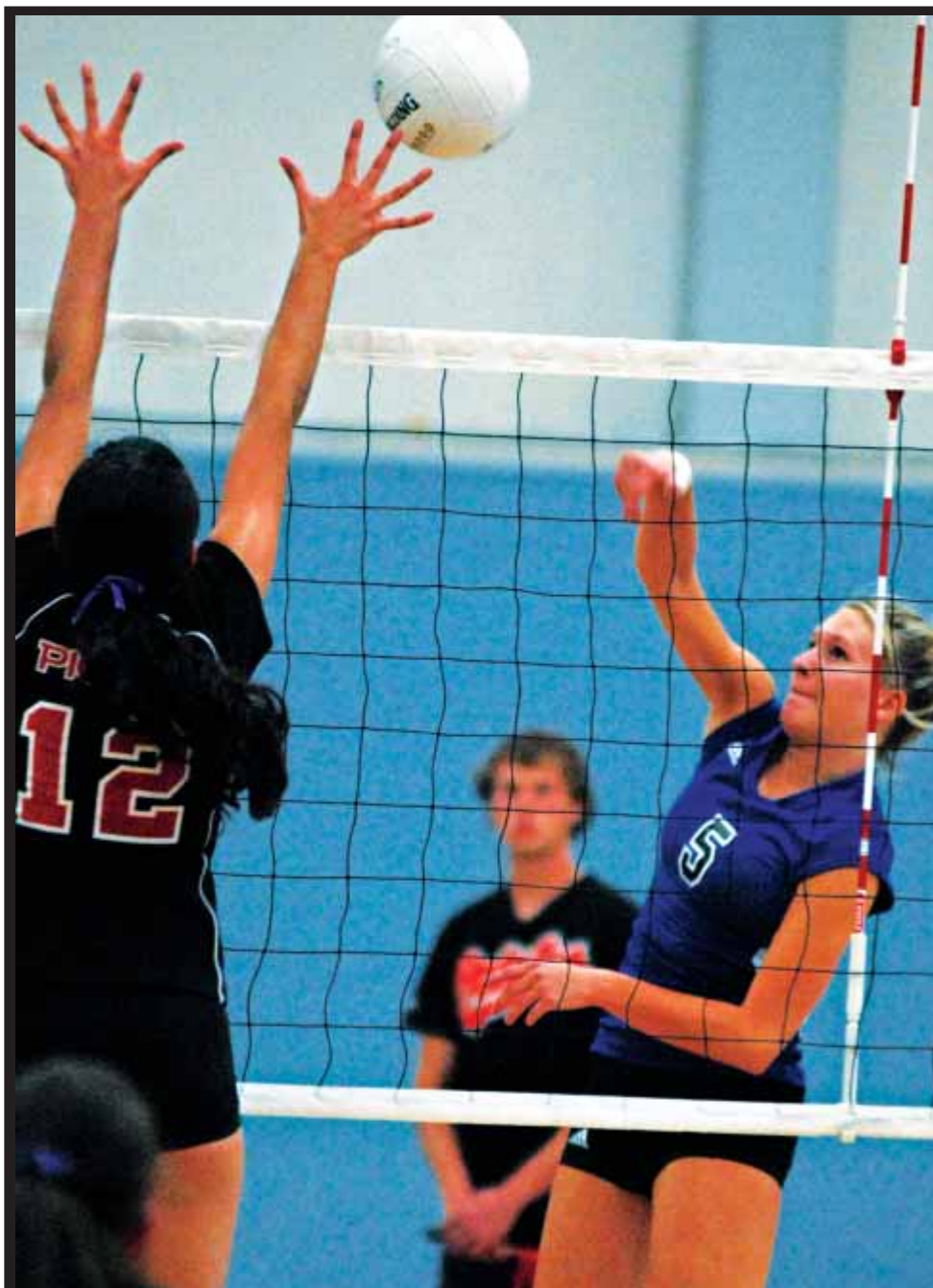
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Roxanne Tanemori, Associate Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Ms. Tanemori by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at roxanne.tanemori@smgov.net.

More Information

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol

Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



OVER THE TOP

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

Santa Monica College's Katie Glomb spikes the ball in front of Terry Soltant, of Los Angeles Pierce College, on Tuesday at the Pavilion. Visiting Pierce College upended the Corsairs in three straight games to take the western state conference match.

Vikings set to honor seniors at next game

FROM SAMOHI PAGE 3

by an average of 4.5 points over the last three (losses)."

In a twist of circumstances, Inglewood is coming off a two-game winning streak, most recently with a 25-7 victory against Beverly Hills.

**I THINK THE
SCORE INDICATED
A CLOSE GAME."**

Zach Cuda, Samohi head coach

But recent history shows that the Vikings have been able to hold its own against the Sentinels, winning decisively the past three years.

Third-year head coach Charles Mincy has been unable to get his team to finish in the top three of the league since the beginning of his tenure.

The team has already beaten 2006

league co-champion Beverly Hills and topping Santa Monica could lead Inglewood to a successful season, Mincy said.

"They're a team that we haven't beaten," Mincy said on Thursday. "We would like to add them to the beaten list."

The Sentinels exhibit a similar offense to what the Vikings saw two weeks earlier, something that definitely caught the coaching staff's attention, Cuda said.

Inglewood will be led by senior quarterback Marlon Johnson, who has reportedly been recruited by several Pac-10 and other Division 1A schools. Running back David Freeman and wide receiver Shaquell Evans round out the scoring trifecta for the Sentinels.

The way Mincy sees it, the key to the game will be containing Katz.

"He makes plays and we have to keep him from doing it," Mincy said.

melodyh@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com



Artists being invited to get their 'Glow' on

Grunions inspire art event that will rage all night long

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Wanted: Artists who can light up the night like grunion coming ashore to spawn.

Inspired by the sardine-sized fish found off the coast of Southern California, City Hall is planning to host a new art event that will run from dusk to dawn and feature "compelling, enchanting and effervescent" works one Saturday night in July 2008, said Jessica Cusick, director of the cultural affairs department.

Artists from the performing and visual arts are being recruited for "Glow," which is intended to entice people to abandon their usual patterns and stay awake all night to explore public spaces in new ways.

WE ARE HOPING TO MAKE THIS AN ANNUAL EVENT AND EXPAND IT TO OTHER AREAS OF THE CITY."

Jessica Cusick,
Cultural affairs manager

"It is modeled after successful events sweeping across Europe and into Canada," Cusick said. "The idea is to allow people to rediscover their city at a time when, normally, they wouldn't be out and about, through the eyes of artists. All events will be free and we are going to be commissioning artists from both local and international circles to create special installations and unique performances that respond to the site."

The event will be staged at the Santa Monica Pier and along Ocean Avenue.

Glow is the product of a lengthy, cultural master plan-

ning process that took place earlier this year in which community members, including local artists, outlined what they'd like to see in Santa Monica in regards to culture and the arts. In addition to having more public art and venues for performances, residents called for more community-wide events that captured the spirit of the city.

"(Glow) will be an opportunity to showcase Santa Monica as a cutting edge arts destination," Cusick said. "We are hoping to make this an annual event and expand it to other areas of the city."

The budget for Glow is roughly \$100,000, but there is hope of luring corporate sponsors to help grow the budget to \$450,000.

Cusick said the business community is behind the effort, as are the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corp.

Art will span the breadth of media, from music and dramatic arts, to visual arts, spoken word and "other impossible-to-define artistic hybrids of assorted tones and hues," Cusick said.

One artist has already been hired — C.J. Huang, a Santa Monica native now in Brooklyn, who is known for his installations that use objects discovered in the garbage and LED lighting. Huang, who will be one of the first artistic fellows at the Smithsonian Institute, plans to create a grotto beneath the pier.

As part of his work at the Smithsonian, Huang will be studying marine creatures that glow.

While artists and residents are being encouraged to participate, so are local businesses. Cusick said she will be working with downtown merchants to see if some will be able to stay open late and help make the event more enjoyable.

"I'd bet that coffee houses will do pretty well," Cusick said.

Residents are encouraged to be creative with their dress by incorporating glow-in-the-dark elements.

"What we've heard from people so far is that they really want this to be a 'glow-bal' event," Cusick said. "People really resonated with this idea of participation. They want to be more than spectators."

kevinh@smdp.com

With risk comes reward

FROM ADS PAGE 3

run, industry experts said a storefront on a busy street like Wilshire could easily command thousands of dollars per week.

A fine for violating the sign ordinance is only \$75 for the first offense. If a property owner or business fails to remove the sign or advertisement, the fine is increased, but only slightly. A third offense can lead to prosecution.

"This is the first time I've witnessed something like this. Usually, it's on roving trucks," said code compliance officer Rochelle Brooks, who received an anonymous complaint about the "Life is Wild" ad on Oct. 22 and issued an order to remove it the following day. "The city does not allow these types of advertisements because of concerns about aesthetics. They just don't want it. That's not the type of image the City Council wants to portray."

Expensive rents are causing more businesses around the city to move out, leaving storefronts vacant for longer periods of time than in the past. As in-window advertising becomes more lucrative, there may be a need to increase fines to deter people from reaping large profits in exchange for little risk.

There have been no recent discussions about changing the law — either raising the fines or allowing more window space to be used for advertising. However, some have expressed their desires to either see greater enforcement of the ordinance or change it altogether to allow more opportunities for property owners to make money.

Supporters of window advertising say it is a great way

to eliminate blight. An empty storefront can be a magnet for graffiti and other illegal activity.

In-window advertisers are using digital projectors and interactive technology to make the ads more vibrant. Some have the ability to transmit video to the cell phones of those walking by. Many of the ads are protected by a vinyl covering so the property is protected against vandalism.

NEIGHBORHOODS GET SOME VITALITY AND SOMETHING THAT IS ARGUABLY AN ESTHETIC IMPROVEMENT."

Steve Birnhak,
President chief executive officer of Inwindow Outdoor LLC

"Neighborhoods get some vitality and something that is arguably an aesthetic improvement," said Steve Birnhak, president chief executive officer of Inwindow Outdoor LLC, a New York firm that worked on the CW advertisement. "Of course, not everyone likes advertising and when all is said and done, we're here to make money, but I'd like to think that to some extent what we're doing helps prevent urban decay."

kevinh@smdp.com

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL
REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: November 5, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ☐ ARB 07-340, 132 Fraser Avenue: Single-Family
- ☐ ARB 07-442, 395 Santa Monica Place: Commercial

More information is available on-line at <http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagenda.htm> or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). Call 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 for disability accommodation requests. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 serve City Hall.

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Not a very happy ending

Ever-rising rents
and chains forcing
bookstores to close

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY Richard Dolen squats in the corner of a small bookstore, perusing old copies as he seeks comfort from the cold weather outside.

"This bookstore has an interesting selection," the Santa Monican said as he purchased a tome on dinosaurs and a Polish-English dictionary Thursday afternoon. Dolen then turned to clerk Sean Hathwell and began chatting, looking to say good-bye to store owner Leigh Pepper.

The 39-year-old fixture in Mid-City will soon turn the page, expected to close its doors at the end of the month – the most recent independent bookseller on the Westside to bid its loyal customers adieu.

For Wilshire Books, the culprit is a notice to vacate.

The scene inside Wilshire Books was calm and quiet on Thursday afternoon. Besides Dolen, the only other customer is Venice resident Matt Martin, who set himself up at the spiritual books section, boning up on Zen Buddhism while his dog, Duke, hung on his left shoulder, curiously surveying the scene.



Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

DIGGING FOR LITERARY GEMS: A customer peruses the used books for sale at KULTURAs on Ocean Park Boulevard, near John Adams Middle School. Rising rents and bookstore chains have taken a heavy toll on the independent stores.

SEE PAGES PAGE 16

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



'The Woman Pope'

By Nelson Clark • White Moon Publishing

Legend has it that the Roman Catholic Church had a female pope during the 9th Century for a period of two years, five month and two days. Some legends have some truth to them. Is it possible that this is one of them?

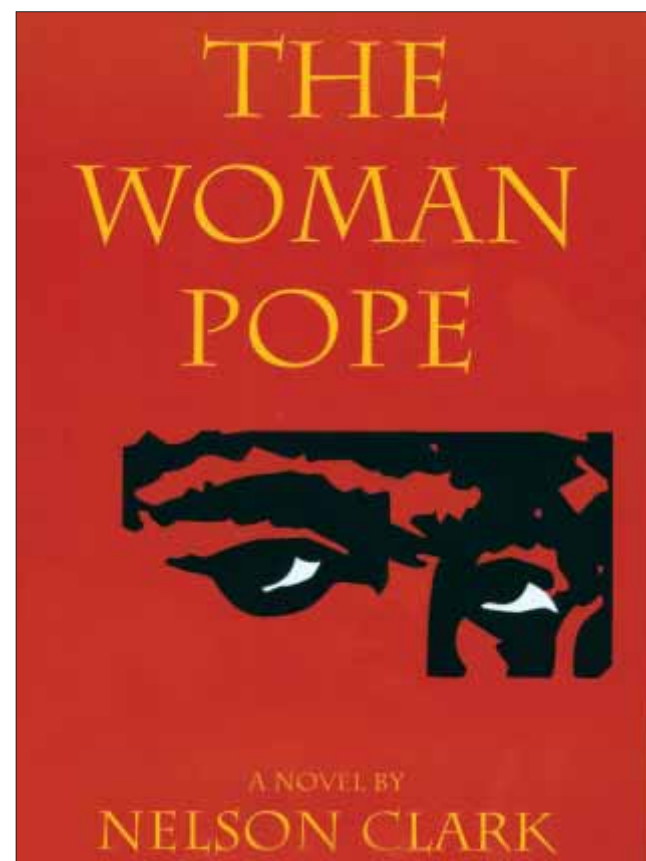
The Roman Catholic concept of authority in the church being vested in the supreme pontiff, the bishop of Rome, the pope, the father to the entire church, can be traced back to Peter, the apostle, who was given the keys to the kingdom by Jesus. These keys, it is believed, gave him the office of pope. Tradition has it that only males can be popes. So to admit that somehow a female got in the line of Peter deals a blow to the male apostolic succession teaching.

The Roman Church has even gone so far as to postulate the theory that this legend popped up during the time of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th Century.

This theory can be disproved.

A female pope was mentioned in the writings of the early Roman Church Fathers as pointed out in a book by Peter Stanford, "The Legend of Pope Joan." Stanford has found that the mention of a female pope is recorded by a Martin Palonus in A.D.1265. Georgina Masson in "The Companion Guide to Rome" mentions the Romans told for centuries before A.D. 1550 that an English woman called Joan was successful at being elected pope after the death of Leo IV in A.D. 855.

The story is this: A female named Johanna took to dressing in men's garb and was able to pass as a member of the male gender. She was able to get training – girls at this point of history were not considered able to learn and therefore were not taught



SEE BOOK REVIEW PAGE 16

White Moon Publishing

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

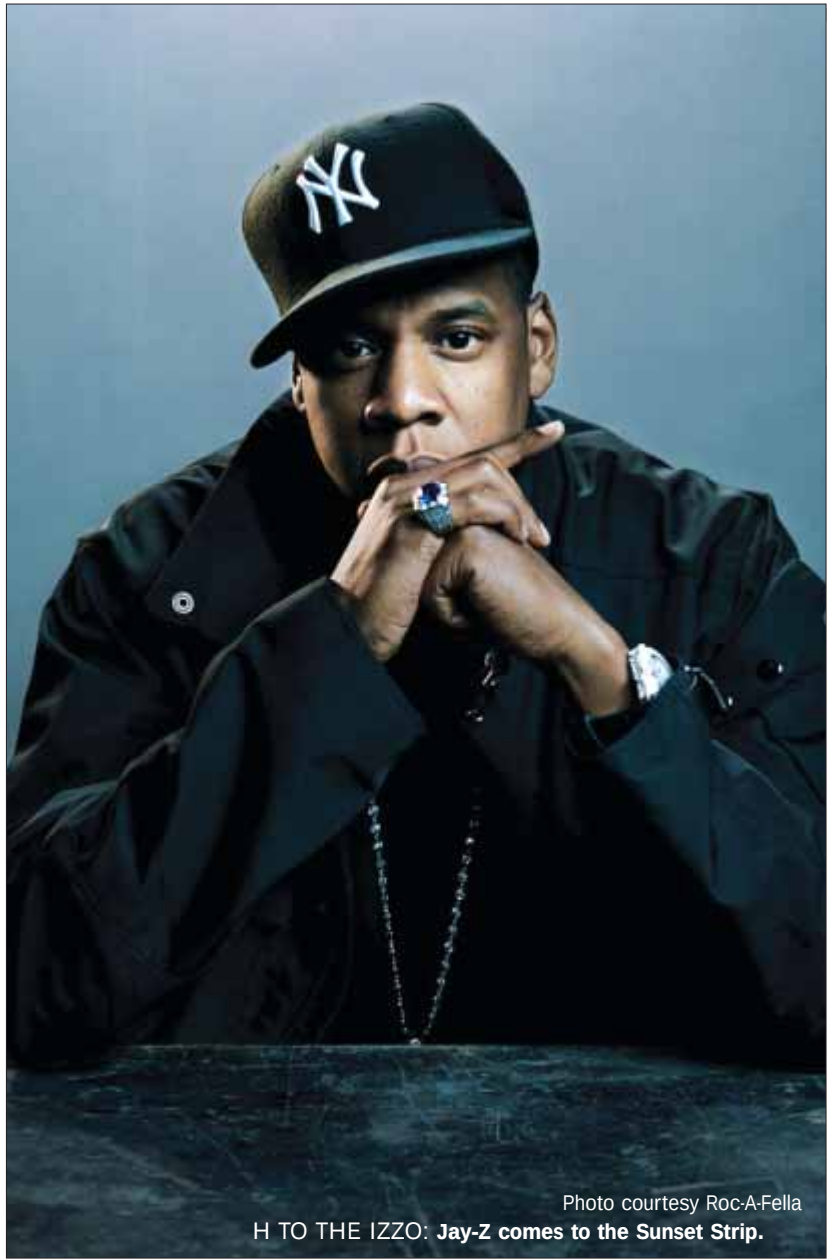


Photo courtesy Roc-A-Fella
H TO THE IZZO: Jay-Z comes to the Sunset Strip.

Jigga rocks The House

Jay-Z plays it "American Gangster" style at the Sunset House of Blues on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Even with a \$150 ticket price the house is sold out. No it's not "A Dream," if you want tickets you better have a sweet rap. Doors open at 8 p.m. for serious beggars.

GABRIELLE HARRADINE

Worth a 1,000 words

A reception for artist Lisbeth Zwerger will be held on Sunday, Nov. 4 to kick-off her "Every Picture Tells a Story" gallery that will run through Dec. 28 at 1311 Montana Ave.

JARED MORGAN

Forever Young

Neil Young is set to play the Nokia Theater in downtown Los Angeles at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 2. His wife, Pegi Young, just released an album in July and will be joining her hubby on stage for that night's performance. She co-founded the Bridge School, an organization located in Hillsborough, California that is geared toward children with disabilities.

JM

Lost in The Haze

The Haze Fest blows into Santa Monica on Thursday, Nov. 8 at Nocturnal Bar on Lincoln Boulevard. The groove flavors will include X-Kid, Bens' Jazz Kit, Jade Melody, Talana and Snow White tha Product, along with some special guests. Doors open at 10 with a \$5 cover charge.

The Haze party will continue on Friday when it moves to the Tribal Cafe.

GH

Pussy Galore, anyone?

Get it while it's hot and fresh this Saturday at Club Good Hurt. The sexy burlesque show, put on by Pussy Galore, promises scantily clad dancing women.

Before you indulge in the frenzy of stretching and swinging thighs you can warm up your glands with a wide selection of lead up bands, including Veiled.

Doors open at 8 p.m. Pussy Galore goes on at 11:15 p.m. Club Good Hurt is located at 12249 Venice Blvd. in West L.A. For more information call (310) 390-1076 or check out their website at www.goodhurt.net.

GH



Sony Pictures Classics

GOOD FIT: Phillip Seymour Hoffman in 'Capote.'

Hoffman comes to town

He tried to make out with Marky Mark in "Boogie Nights," played an assistant in "The Big Lebowski" and was a bad guy in "Mission Impossible." Now that's skills. Now Phillip Seymour Hoffman is being honored by American Cinematheque at the Aero Theater on Nov. 5 and 6. The program will feature a series of Hoffman's films like "Magnolia," "Boogie Nights" and "Mission Impossible."

JM

What's got into Linda Blair?

Synergy Cafe & Lounge will be host to a concert benefiting the Linda Blair Foundation, an organization that raises awareness of animal cruelty issues like overpopulation and dog fighting. Look out Michael Vick. Blair is best known for her role as Regan Teresa MacNeil, the possessed girl who spewed pea soup in "The Exorcist."

Grassroots Acoustica Number 5 is putting on the event free of charge. The group operates on a donation only basis and has raised over \$2,500 since its formation in July.

JM

Wrestling and Carnegie Hall

Dress in tights and sing along to your heart's content. Andy Kaufman won't mind. Or just show up for the ride. American Cinematheque presents the double feature including "I'm From Hollywood" and "Andy Kaufman Plays Carnegie Hall" on Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy APA

AKA: Andy Kaufman as Tony Clifton.

GH

John Muir School PTA
ART + ANTIQUE FAIR

Saturday, November 3, 8am-3pm
2510 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica
(corner of Ocean Park Blvd.)

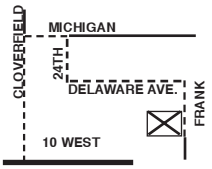
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SURF REPORT



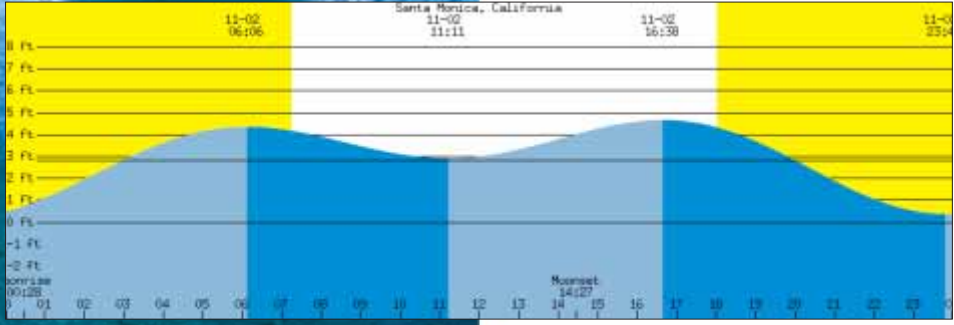
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 60°

SWELL FORECAST (2-4 FT)
Today the SW should remain for the AM with waist to chest high waves for south facing breaks. We should also see a bit more NW from the Aleutians, but once again, anything above waist high for west facing breaks would be rare. An offshore event is expected Friday, but easterly winds should only hover around 7-11 mph max in most spots.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
LIGHT SW AND NW THIS WEEKEND...
SIGNIFICANTLY SIZED SW BUILDS TUESDAY, PEAKS WEDNESDAY...

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 23, 2007

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 -- 4

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 8

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 30

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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 (leocarrillo)	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A+	A
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	D	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	C	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	B
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	B	F
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	D	A+

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.

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The 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.

NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Apple Corps

EARLY DAYS: (From left) George, John and Paul play an early gig in Germany.

‘The Unseen Beatles’

By 1966, the Beatles had played over 1,400 gigs, released 15 number one singles, made seven albums, toured the world four times and sold the equivalent of 200 million records. At the height of their popularity, without warning, they pulled the plug. They would never tour again. Previously unseen archive footage, photographs, personal home movies and interviews with those who accompanied the Beatles on tour tell the inside story of Beatlemania, its rise and fall. It is a story of chaos and comedy, of death threats, plane crashes, diplomatic wrangles, and ultimately disillusionment. In a brief (under an hour) yet insightful manner, the single disc offering helps us understand why the Beatles altered their priorities mid-career and freed themselves to make trend-setting albums such as “Revolver” and “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band.” (BBC Warner)

‘Chinatown’ and ‘The Two Jakes’

A cinema classic, “Chinatown,” based on Robert Towne’s Oscar-winning script and directed by Roman Polanski, stars Jack Nicholson as private eye Jake Gittes. Set in Los Angeles, what Gittes thinks is a routine case of adultery quickly deteriorates into a tangle of deceit, corruption, and treachery. In the follow up (where Nicholson directs himself), the scene has changed as WWII has come and gone and the City of Angels in 1948 is a vibrant town growing rapidly. What hasn’t changed is the corrupting power of money and another seemingly routine case hits home for Jake. Sold separately both titles include new special features. (Paramount)

‘The Hoax’

Based on a true story, this picture centers on the selling of a bogus biography of recluse Howard Hughes who had not been heard from publicly in over a decade. Richard Gere stars as Clifford Irving, an unsuccessful writer who nevertheless had friends in high places in the literary world selling the fake book to a leading publishing house in the 1970s. Sly and entertaining, “The Hoax” also includes extras like a making-of feature, extended scenes, and comments by Mike Wallace. The real Irving would later write a biography of notorious art forger Elmyr de Hory who would be featured in a documentary by Orson Welles. (Miramax)

‘Talk to Me’

Based on a true story, Don Cheadle portrays charismatic and provocative ex-con, Ralph Waldo “Petey” Greene, who overcomes the odds and becomes a beloved Washington D.C. radio personality. Cast members include Cedric the Entertainer and Martin Sheen. Part of the bonus materials are deleted scenes, and two features: “Who is Petey Greene?” – which presents cast and crew discussing the racial politics of the ‘60s and ‘70s and “Recreating P-Town” – highlighting the music, fashion and production design of the film. (Universal)

‘Flywheel’ (Director’s Cut)

Weary of the chronic lying, manipulative mask he has worn to deceive others on his way to success, used car salesman Jay Austin (Alex Kendrick) takes stock of himself and ventures on a comical path to redemption. An inspirational low-budget gem, “Flywheel” includes extensive bonus features such as deleted scenes, bloopers, and director’s commentary. (Sony)

‘The Wendell Baker Story’

Luke Wilson directs himself in the title role as an amiable dreamer and con man whose latest scam lands him in the pokey and in another type of jail house with his girlfriend (Eva Mendes). Once released he gets a job at a retirement hotel where the elderly residents advise him on winning back his lady while he helps them fight the evil head nurse (brother Owen). The film also stars Eddie Griffin and includes many special features. (Lionsgate)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at writtenbyrw@yahoo.com

Looking for love at the S-EXPO

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE
Special to the Daily Press

The “S” in S-EXPO stands for “Screenwriting,” folks. Get your minds out of the gutter. Now get them right back in because this event, held at the LAX Marriot and Renaissance Hotels – geared to help 5,000 plus screenwriters reach their dreams (a four-day marathon of pitching, lectures, production panels and networking parties) is also known as the meat-market for aspiring writers to hook up.

As a second year guest lecturer I’m familiar with the terrain, having been through the mill last year trolling for “data-ble” men, like Ojai Guy, a longhaired “writer” who, at the vaguest hint of interest in his story, attached himself to my ear and wouldn’t let go. Taken by his heroin chic look (what is it with me and dirtbags?) I made the poor choice of joining him for dinner while he pitched a story he had yet to write. Some three hours later, still in the first act, I waited for him to acknowledge the check sitting on the table. It turned out Ojai Guy was sleeping in his van (instead of the hotel), and didn’t have a dime to his name, let alone a sheet of paper.

And, same as last year, there’s a coalition of “New Agers” inevitably pitching the same sad premise – a government conspiracy covers up the awesome powers of healing crystals. I’ve heard 10 of these precious ditties since my arrival.

This year, I’m determined to give my lectures, and remain unscathed by the dating drama, but at a networking event I meet Flyboy – thusly dubbed because he says he’s a pilot. I don’t believe him. I don’t believe anything anyone tells me. This is L.A., people, the Land of Lies.

If he is being truthful, we have a lot in common. He’s from my hometown. Okay, he’s from Long Island, close enough. He’s divorced. I’m ... single. He leans into me when he talks; I play with my hair, the usual simian pre-mating rituals take place. And though he’s balding with a slight lisp and crooked teeth, he’s the best looking non-married specimen here.

THIS YEAR, I’M DETERMINED
TO GIVE MY LECTURES,
AND REMAIN UNSCATHED BY
THE DATING DRAMA, BUT AT A
NETWORKING EVENT I MEET
FLYBOY – THUSLY DUBBED
BECAUSE HE SAYS HE’S A
PILOT. I DON’T BELIEVE HIM.

Flyboy’s deep blue eyes sparkle as we chat and laugh, and I find myself thinking “I can live with baldness, I can live with the “lithp,” just then a short blonde with a butt that (as impossible as it is to fathom) is bigger than mine, sidles up to him, and links her arm around his waist. I can’t live with that. He whispers something in her ear and she trots off. I ask him if he’s “with her.” He changes the subject, offering me “buddy passes” (free seats on his airline) so I can see my sister at Christmas. I try to figure out if he’s interested in me or just wants some free script doctor-

ing. Everyone here has an agenda. I make a hasty retreat to the bar, where I meet up with Hot Chick: A big-breasted blonde. She tells me she loved my lecture; learned a lot. I thank her and ask her if she’s getting what she needs out of the EXPO. She says she hooked up with Chris Bender’s assistant at the pitch fest and went to his Halloween party last night. Good for her. There’s no easy way to the top. Take advantage of your God given hooters while they’re still defying gravity.

Later, I run into a guy from Orlando, Florida I recall meeting last year. I inquire as to his progress with his writing. “Ah, hell,” he says, sucking back a drink. “Been coming here for years, not a script to show for it.” Orlando came here five years ago with a script in hand, met some guys and since then, the EXPO’s become the equivalent of a guys-only “hunting trip.” He tells his wife it’s to quell his creative juices, the reality – he and the “boys” have a bawdy weekend in L.A.; then go their separate ways till next year. “What happens at the EXPO stays at the EXPO,” he says, begging me not to use his real name.

It’s a comical cast of characters to be sure, but at its heart, the EXPO is a great way for writers of all levels to meet, connect, and as the CEO of Creative Screenwriting Magazine and host extraordinaire, Bill Donovan says, “Breathe air filled with the magic of moviemaking”.

Two days later I’m home, trying to play catch up when “buddy passes” arrive in my mailbox. I still don’t know if Flyboy has an agenda ... or a girlfriend, but I know one thing, I’m going home for the holidays.

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Check theater for movie times

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Elizabeth: The Golden Age (PG-13)
7:10, 9:50
Lars and the Real Girl (PG-13)
5:40, 8:05, 10:35
Martial Child, The (PG)
5:35, 8:10, 10:40
Saw IV (R)
5:45, 7:55, 10:15

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

30 Days of Night (R)
5:45, 8:20, 11:00
American Gangster (R)
5:10, 7:30, 8:40, 11:00
Dan in Real Life (PG-13)
5:25, 7:55, 10:20
Gone Baby Gone (R)
5:30, 8:15, 10:50
Saw IV (R)
5:50, 8:15, 10:40
We Own the Night (R)
5:20, 8:10, 10:55

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Eastern Promises (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 9:45
Into the Wild (R)
1:15, 4:45, 8:15

LAEMMLE'S MONICA
FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Before the Devil Knows You're Dead (R)
7:20, 10:10
Bella (PG-13)
7:40, 10:00
Darjeeling Limited, The (R)
7:30, 10:00
Lust, Caution (Se jie) (NC-17)
9:55

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Across the Universe (PG-13)
7:20, 10:20
Bee Movie (PG)
6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00
Michael Clayton (R)
7:40, 10:30
Rendition (R)
7:10, 10:10
Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Disney Digital 3D (PG)
7:00, 9:20

More information email news@smdp.com

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

Where you want to be, Libra

Happy Birthday!

You have a strong sense of direction regarding your career and long-term goals. You might feel as if you have pushed a lot, but this year responsibilities will be even heavier. You will gain if you step up to the plate. Many people will be there as supporters. Allow your creativity to emerge. You are likely to spend a lot of money but also make a lot. If you are single, you will meet people easily. Choosing the right person will take talent. LEO can push you hard.



Born Today Rapper Nelly (1974)

Frontiersman Daniel Boone (1734)

Actor Burt Lancaster (1913)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Though confusion could punctuate your relationships, it doesn't mean that you don't have solutions. Flow with what is happening, even if you think what someone shares is impossible. Imagine. Tonight: Have fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ There might be an element of vagueness around you. Let it be. You will see that although someone is unrealistic, this person still has a point. Let good feelings emerge. Let someone know how much you care. Tonight: Out there.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Be willing to take a risk and move in a new direction. What comes up for you could be a touch of a surprise. Good feelings flow naturally. You will be close to unstoppable if you remain centered. Tonight: Make plans with that special person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Be more aware of how much you have to offer. Sometimes you are easily overwhelmed. Right now, there is so much happening – and good events at that – you could feel overburdened by all the activity. Tonight: Your treat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You are in the peak of activity. Though someone might negate you, you'll get around the problem with ease. You might be surprised by what you see when you take a hard look at a key person. Tonight: As you wish.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Knowing when to step back can and will make a big difference, as you will see. Others have to make that extra effort. What has been vague just might be clarified, allowing you to smile for quite a while. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Be willing to allow others to take the lead, and you'll get results. You will have many reasons to smile. Don't question what is happening quite so much. Go with the flow. Feelings seem to just flourish. Tonight: Where you want to be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Others really want you to take a stand. You will, perhaps somewhat reluctantly. You discover the power in being as direct as possible. Someone shares strong feelings. You might not be willing to open up just yet. Tonight: A must show.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Your upbeat spirit takes you in a new direction. Think positively about an opportunity that might make a difference in your perspective, hence your choices. Investigate an offer carefully. Yes, you might have your rose-colored glasses on. Tonight: Try something different.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might want to try something very different. What is stopping you? A partner is certainly encouraging you. You might discover a new level of caring if you let go some. News is important. Tonight: Be a duo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Take off your rose-colored glasses, and suddenly you'll gain a new perspective, which could be very exciting. How you view a friendship could change in the future. Tonight: Say yes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Dive into work and get the job done. You accomplish a lot quite suddenly. Know that you can and will make a difference if you focus. Handle one issue at a time. Goodwill prevails. Follow through on a suggestion. Tonight: A must show.

Janric Classic 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 Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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PH0803 11/08

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

NBA

OPENING WEEK!

I REALLY LIKE THE NBA'S EXPANDED USE OF INSTANT REPLAY TO MONITOR THE REFEREES THIS YEAR



11/2

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FEINSTEIN & BORUS

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

Hi, Tad, or should I say "007"?

IS THAT BOYD AS OPRAH WINFREY? WHAT A RIOT!

BUT, BOYD, ISN'T DRESSING UP LIKE A WOMAN SORTA GAY?

LOTS OF MEN HAVE DRESSED UP LIKE WOMEN-- JACK LEMMON, DUSTIN HOFFMAN, ROBIN WILLIAMS.

OKAY, I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

BESIDES, I'M DIAHAN CARROLL.

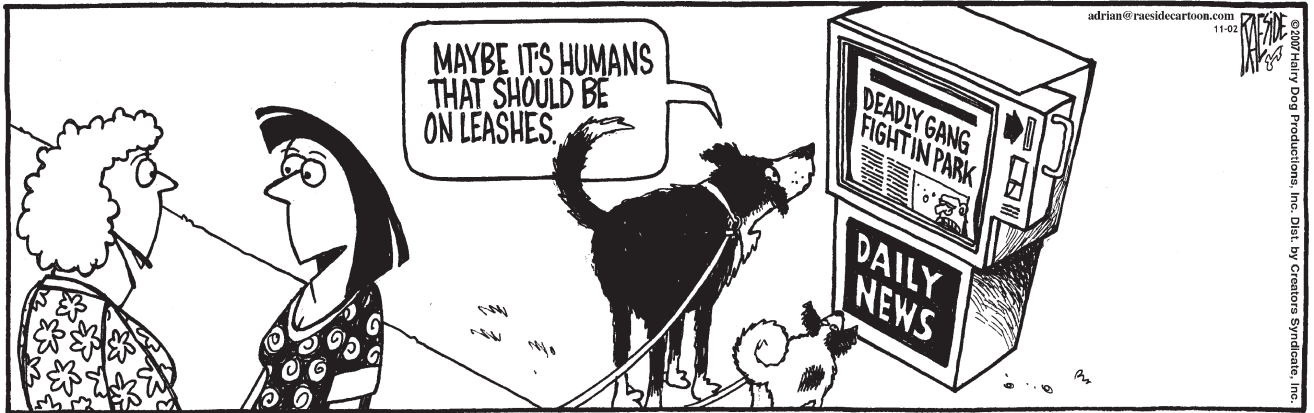
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11/2

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

MAYBE IT'S HUMANS THAT SHOULD BE ON LEASHES.



11-02

adrian@raesidecartoon.com

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Garfield

By Jim Davis

WELL, GARFIELD, THE LAUNDRY IS DONE!

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2-11 Saved with

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

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I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT MOM AND DAD WERE THINKING.

ZZZ

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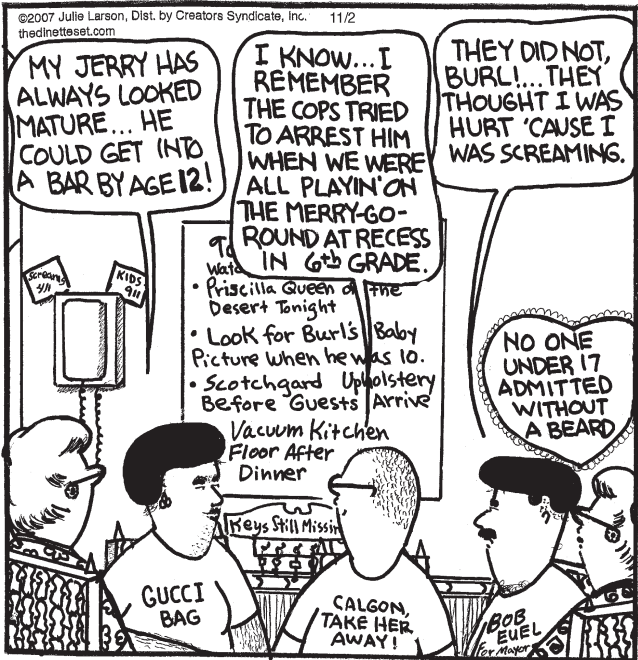
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11/2

Anderson

PH0803 11/08

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@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 Took steps
 - 6 Recital highlights
 - 11 Chili con —
 - 12 Goofy
 - 13 Wipe clear
 - 14 Wild card, often
 - 15 Recipe units
 - 17 A long time
 - 18 Tour de France vehicle
 - 20 Make printing plates
 - 22 Yale backer
 - 23 Autocratic
 - 26 Beethoven's last
 - 28 Slow tempo
 - 29 Wear down
 - 31 Attained
 - 32 Post
 - 33 Nile serpents
 - 34 Plops down
 - 36 Acerbic
 - 38 Canine, e.g.
 - 40 Spoils
 - 43 Surrendering cry
 - 44 Game leader
- DOWN**
- 1 Court feat
 - 2 Compact, e.g.
 - 3 Security tied to a subsidiary
 - 4 Follow
 - 5 Profound
 - 6 "Ice Age" sloth
 - 7 It's equal to 43,560 square feet
 - 8 Butt of jokes
 - 9 In the past
 - 10 Spots
 - 16 "— you!"

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Yesterday's answer

- 18 Crook
- 19 Tennis star Nastase
- 21 Yarn
- 23 "Rush Hour" costar
- 24 DVR button
- 25 Young ones
- 27 Bridge support
- 30 Banned pesticide
- 33 Bouquet
- 34 Ticket half
- 35 Scottish isle
- 37 Incite illegally
- 39 That lady
- 41 Player's peg
- 42 "You bet!"

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
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45						46				

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EVENING: 1 0 3

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2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:49.09

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **LEAD STORY:** In the northern Albanian countryside, about 40 women still practice an ancient tradition as "sworn virgins," who are young females who renounce sex forever in exchange for being treated as men, according to an August Washington Post interview of Elvira Dones, an Albanian native who recently completed a documentary on the subject. The oath is usually taken in front of a town's elders, and the likeliest candidates come from homes in need of a male head of household (because of death or abandonment). Even in such a male-dominated society, according to Dones, men seem to accept the "sworn virgins" as equals.

■ **CORRECTION:** A News of the Weird story three weeks ago (based on a report in London's Daily Telegraph) declared that a top-of-the-line Oral-B toothbrush employed "navigation technology" to allow the user to guide the brush usefully through the mouth. Contrary to the Daily Telegraph story, no such technology is in use, and the standard digital readout on the toothbrush merely coaxes the user to move from one part of the mouth to another at suggested intervals.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1889 North Dakota and South Dakota became the 39th and 40th states, respectively.

1947 Howard Hughes flew the Spruce Goose on its first and only flight.

1948 Harry S. Truman defeated Thomas E. Dewey to the surprise of pollsters and newspapers, in the greatest presidential upset in history.

1959 Twenty-One game show contestant Charles Van Doren admitted that he had been given questions and answers in advance.

1976 Jimmy Carter defeated Gerald Ford, becoming the first U.S. president from the deep South since the Civil War.

1984 Velma Barfield, a convicted murderer became the first woman to be executed since capital punishment was reinstated in 1976.

2003 V. Gene Robinson was consecrated as bishop by the U.S. Episcopal Church, becoming the first openly gay bishop in the church.

WORD UP!

forcible \FOR-suh-buhl/, *adjective*: 1. Using force against opposition or resistance; effected or accomplished by force; as, "forcible entry or abduction." 2. Characterized by force, efficiency, or energy; powerful.

Bookstores victims of high rent

FROM PAGES PAGE 10

Some light jazz played softly in the background, its sounds occasionally disrupted by the roar of a Big Blue Bus storming past on Wilshire Boulevard.

"They have a great collection and the prices are better," Martin said.

Martin, who has visited the store three times since moving back to the Westside from the South Bay two months ago, comes to the bookstore to take his time and browse. When he wants to find something specific, he'll head elsewhere. As someone who has only been able to visit the store a few times, Martin said he was disappointed to hear it was closing.

For now, Wilshire Books is one of the few old independent booksellers remaining on the Westside, once home to businesses such as Midnight Special in Downtown Santa Monica and Change of Hobbit at Lincoln and Pico boulevards.

But over the years, the number of such sellers has fallen, victims of the area's notoriously high rent, competition from industry powerhouses like Barnes & Noble, Borders and Amazon.com, and even a perceived decline in readership among the young generation.

Every bookseller has their own story as to why their business is struggling.

MORE 'IDEAS' NEEDED

Husband and wife duo Andrew MacDonald and Irene Coray chose the city by the sea as the perfect place to relocate their used bookstore business that had flourished in Washington D.C. for 17 years before, located in a tiny space in the Adams Morgan neighborhood.

KULTURAs opened on the 1700 block of Ocean Park Boulevard in January and, about eight months later, the couple opened its second shop on Fourth Street.

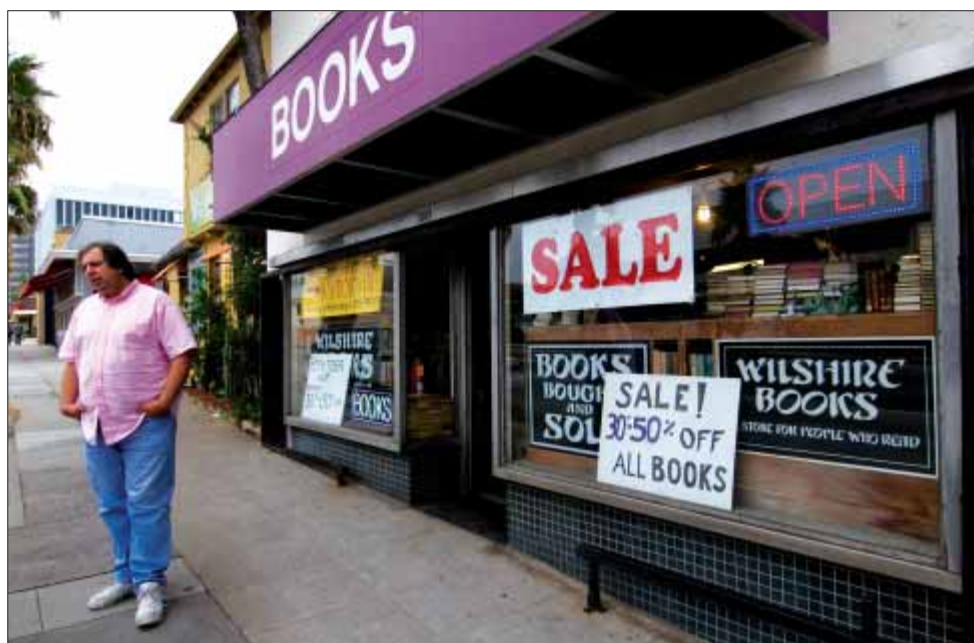
Less than two months later, the owners are seeking a tenant to take over their space in an attempt to consolidate the two stores. Rent has turned out to be a killer.

"(Santa Monica) appeared to be one of the more cosmopolitan and busy districts," MacDonald said on Wednesday.

The Fourth Street location, according to MacDonald, is barely supporting itself, relying on a constant flow of foreigners from Britain, Italy and France.

"I thought with this kind of traffic, it would be replicating the traffic in Washington D.C.," MacDonald said, pointing to the cars and pedestrians outside his door.

But unfortunately, on the Westside, with the beautiful weather and access to natural resources, there's too much to do aside from sitting inside and snuggling up with a book, MacDonald



Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

NOT HERE FOR LONG: Wilshire Books owner Leigh Pfeffer stands Thursday before his store on Wilshire Boulevard, just past 26th Street. Pfeffer and righthand man Sean Hathwell are making plans to move the private bookstore to another location closer to home.

believes. Whereas in Washington D.C., where the season changes are noticeable and the fall and winter months are actually cold, east coasters like to stay inside and read, he said.

"Los Angeles is a city of entertainment, whereas D.C. is a city of ideas," he said.

The Sunset Park store is "surviving," MacDonald said, receiving a good flow of customers. He attributes the volume of customers to the demographic – mostly families.

Because KULTURAs is a second-hand bookstore, MacDonald doesn't believe he's in direct competition with the big-time retailers. If a customer is looking for the new Harry Potter book, they'll refer to their local Barnes & Noble. If they're looking for an early edition novel, they'll turn to a used bookstore.

Though independent bookstores suffered a setback during the early 1990s with the proliferation of the chain bookstores, there has actually been a resurgence, said Meg Smith, the chief marketing officer for the American Booksellers Association, a non-profit trade organization promoting the profitability and survivability of independent bookstores.

Over the last three years, approximately 250 independent bookstores have opened and joined the ABA, Smith said. The organization is open to all bookstores, but caters mostly to the taste of members that sell both used and new books. With about 2,000 members, the organization represents about 80 percent of independent booksellers in the country.

Smith believes that the sudden interest in opening a bookstore can be attributed to the so-called "shop local issues" and backlash against the big boxes.

"We're just on that part of the wave," she said. "If people are exploring opening a bookstore, it's not as discouraging as it might of been even five years ago."

Independent booksellers face the same threats that any retailer faces, including real estate factors, Smith said. The bookstore might also be family-owned with no descendent to continue the operations.

Real estate was a factor that once threatened the livelihood of Dutton's Brentwood Books, located in the Barry Building, which was recently landmarked by the Los Angeles City Council. The owner of the building originally intended to redevelop it into condominiums, but following public outcry, modified the plans to be a retail destination designed around the bookstore.

Manager Ed Conklin, who has worked at the store for more than 20 years, believes the primary reason why it has survived is the loyal and well-read customers.

But it's getting harder to survive, he said, especially with competition from the Internet and the increased number of places where books are available, including the big box retailers like Costco and WalMart.

"You don't have that instant gratification and you also don't have that serendipitous find where you stumble on something and think 'this looks good,'" Conklin said of shopping at a independent bookstore.

Despite all obstacles, the independent

bookseller continues to live in the Westside, with stores like the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library Used bookstore, Angel City Bookstore in Ocean Park and Beyond Baroque in Venice.

Located in the old City Hall, Beyond Baroque opened in 1968 and focuses primarily on poetry and chap books, which are hand-made limited edition copies. Half of the non-profit organization is a bookstore while the other half is an archive containing the books by authors that have spoken at the Beyond Baroque.

Fred Dewey, the executive director, agrees that the Internet has been devastating to the industry and adds that some used bookstores have managed to stay alive by keeping a catalogue on the Internet.

"There is no replacement for the experience of visiting a good bookstore," Dewey said. "It's totally different from the experience of shopping on the Internet."

SAYING GOOD-BYE

Pfeffer put his blood, sweat and tears into the independent bookstore, building the shelves that hang on the walls and selecting the collection along with Hathwell, who got to know the owner in the 1980s when he came by as a customer selling books.

Pfeffer, who lives in Ventura, will most likely reopen at a location near his home.

Hathwell believes a combination of factors led to the bookstore's ouster from the Westside, traffic being the biggest culprit. Many of the old customers that have moved out of town don't want to make the drive to Santa Monica because of the traffic, he said.

"Once the regulars move out of the area, we don't see them as much," he said.

But even if Wilshire Books wasn't asked to leave, Hathwell said the business wouldn't be able to sustain itself for too much longer since it's been operating in the red for quite some time.

To Pfeffer, the business isn't even about making money. As long as he's able to balance his accounting records, he would've been willing to continue operating in Santa Monica, Hathwell added.

At its peak, the business would make about 10 transactions an hour. Today, on a typical weekday, the business has slowed to only four or five.

Hathwell, who splits time with Pfeffer managing the store, said he'll miss the daily interactions with customers the most, the discussions of politics and life in general.

"I've formed attachments to the customers over time," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Book review: A woman pope is a possibility

FROM BOOK REVIEW PAGE 10

the subjects that males were – and was able to work her way into the Catholic system to such a level that she was next in line to be pope after Leo IV.

Since this all occurred during the dark ages, it is not unlikely. There is a lot we don't have verification for concerning this time period. This book offers a plausible story and a solution to the legend.

The story goes on. She, as Pope John Anglicus

VIII, was Pope for two years, five months, two days. She would have carried it off if she didn't get pregnant and give birth in front of a crowd as she journeyed to St. Peter's Basilica. She was promptly killed by the crowd.

The story presented here of how Johanna came to wear male garb, travel to Rome, and be able to fool the Vatican is presented in a believable manner. The author takes the view that Pope John was a pawn used by the army of that day to rubber stamp each

decision. It was the dark ages and the army was very strong at this point. They made kings and removed kings.

The author does a great job reconstructing the scant facts available. He spins his imagination in such a way that you feel you are reading history. At certain points I thought I was reading a book by Irving Stone, it was that well told.

It is a good read and even if you think the tale is a tall tale it offers escape.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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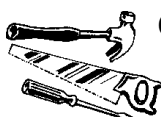
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