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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 312



BIG GULP OF WINE?
SEE PAGE 6

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE SAD, SAD DAY ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

TOUCHING MOMENT: **Friends and family mourn the loss of Richard Juarez in front of the Thelma Terry Center at Virginia Avenue Park on Wednesday. Juarez was shot and killed Tuesday night after leaving the park's Teen Center with friends. Police apprehended four suspects.**

‘Brazen’ attack leaves man dead

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD A 20-year-old Santa Monica man was fatally shot Tuesday night at Virginia Avenue Park in what police called a “brazen” attack that could be gang related.

Richard Juarez, a graduate of Olympic High School whose family has lived in Santa Monica for four generations, was attacked by two Hispanic males as he and three friends left the Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center around 9 p.m. after participating in an art class, said Frank Juarez, the victim’s uncle.

Santa Monica Fire Department paramedics were called to the scene, but Juarez was dead on arrival, police said. No other injuries were reported.

“He was a loving son … who was at the wrong place at the wrong time, which is kind of hard for us to understand how Virginia Park at nine o’clock can be the wrong place at the wrong time,” Frank Juarez said. “He loved life. … he liked people and people liked him as soon as they met him.”

A police officer who was in a marked police car just a block from the shooting heard the shots and responded to the scene. He saw the two suspects running from the park toward a vehicle occupied by two other Hispanic males. The officer drove behind the vehicle and arrested the two occupants. The alleged shooters continued running on foot south onto 22nd Street.

One of the suspects was found shortly after, hiding under a van during a K9 search. The other suspect was found hiding in the rear yard of a vacant home.

Detectives would not release the names of the suspects as the investigation is still ongoing. Anyone with information is urged to contact the SMPD’s Criminal Investigations Division at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8427 (24 hours). Those wishing to remain anonymous may call the We-Tip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27463).

Detectives on Wednesday were not prepared to label the shooting gang related, however, officers were on heightened alert Tuesday night and notified park employees about the possibility of violence following a murder in Venice in which an African-American male was shot and killed while walking in an alley off Westminster Avenue,

SEE SHOOTING PAGE 12

School supe pulls in the big bucks

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS When it comes to the total earning levels of superintendents in Los Angeles County, the local school district is only second to one.

That one is not the Los Angeles Unified School District — the second largest in the nation — but Glendale Unified where the chief there earned approximately $273,188 in the 2008-09 academic year, according to a recent report compiling superintendent salaries by the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Tim Cuneo, who was hired in February after a half-year stint in an interim capacity, came in second in the county, earning $270,400, which includes a $220,000 base salary, a $38,000 housing allowance and $12,000 automobile and cell phone stipend. He is one of three superintendents who receive a housing allowance, the others being Redondo Beach and San Gabriel Unified School District with $12,000 a piece.

Cuneo’s contract has been criticized by some parents and the local teachers union who question the relatively high salary given the current financial status of the district, which is anticipating a $8 million to $12 million funding shortfall over the next three years.

“It shouldn’t come as a surprise to anyone that the teachers association was critical and disappointed when the Board of Education approved such a lucrative contract for our superintendent at a time when so many of our teachers are dealing with increased class sizes and so many average Americans are struggling during this severe economic recession,” Harry Keiley, the president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association, said.

Keiley said that many teachers cannot afford to rent an apartment in the city.

“We’re struggling just to maintain the sta-

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009

Pole dancing for fun and fitness
Isabelle's Dance Academy
1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Get the best work-out of your life learning how to pole dance. Pole dancing will make you stronger at every level, from your body to your sense of self-esteem. Get in touch with your sensual side. Lessons are $39.
Call (310) 392-3493 for more information.

Sustainable eating
Santa Monica Main Library
MLK Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Learn about the "nose to tail" movement. "Eating the Whole Farm" will cover how farmers, customers and chefs are working together to revitalize traditional farming and cooking methods by growing and eating everything on the farm. Panelists will include chefs and farmers alike, as well as Evan Kleiman from KCRW's "Good Food." Call (310) 458-8600 for more information.

Literary lecture
Santa Monica College
HSS 165, 1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Percival Everett, distinguished professor of English at the University of Southern California, will be lecturing on his book, "When It's Torture." Everett is an award-winning novelist and author of fiction. The event is free.
Call (310) 434-4003 for details.

Friday, Nov. 6, 2009

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"
Malibu Stage Company
29243 Pacific Coast Hwy., 8 p.m.
The Malibu Stage Company presents the musical "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" by Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts. The musical is put on every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Admission is $35.
Call (310) 429-2665 for more information.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009

Headliners only
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 10 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.
Enjoy a comedy extravaganza for only $10 on the promenade. Six comedians will perform. Minors are prohibited from attending the event, which is located in the alley behind Barney's Beanery. Call (310) 451-0850 or (818) 216-4215 for more information.

Mothers circle
motheringminds
Marine Street, 2:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Many women want a place where they can talk about both the positive and negative experiences of motherhood. This group offers a forum where women can speak honestly and openly about the challenges and joys of being a parent. This group provides a relaxed and nurturing environment where all experiences are welcome, and where mothers can feel supported and understood.
Call (310) 922-6969 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi baseball plays its cards

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Looks like the Vikings baseball team is calling in favors from friends in high places.

To raise money for the upcoming season, Santa Monica High School's new head baseball coach Sheldon Phillip-Guide and a newly formed booster club calling itself the Santa Monica Diamond Club have organized a celebrity charity poker tournament featuring Samohi alum Charlie Sheen among others.

Scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 11 at The Parlor on Wilshire Boulevard, the fundraiser, it is hoped, will raise money to rehabilitate the baseball field at Samohi.

Phillip-Guide said that the money raised from the poker tournament and a silent auction will go to repair the playing surface at the field as well as renovate the school's aging batting cages. If all goes well, he would like to build a snack bar and a public restroom to bring the facility up to date.

"We're trying to feed off the energy from last year," he said of the original impetus for forming a booster club, something the school hasn't had in some time. "We know there are lots of parents ... who want to get involved with making a better program for the community."

The list of celebrities playing in the tournament features a diverse group from both sports, the media and film. Among those scheduled to appear are sportswriter JA Adande, a Crossroads alum, and legendary baseball slugger Jose Canseco.

Those who sign up early will get a discounted buy-in for the poker tournament.

Helping organize the event is actor and Samohi alum Tony Todd. The actor, known for playing baseball innovator Jackie Robinson in an episode of "Cold Case," helped Phillip-Guide and Diamond Club organizers attract the star-studded lineup of poker players.

"Tony has been a great help," he said. "He's a real asset to have."

Aside from helping with fundraising efforts, Todd, who played major college baseball, has been helping the team get in shape for the upcoming season.

For more information on this fundraiser, visit www.santamonicadiamondclub.org.

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 11



Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

WELCOME WAGON: **American Film Market (AFM) welcoming ambassadors greet guests at Ocean Avenue on Wednesday.**

No AFM public screenings for second year

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN A favorite feature of the American Film Market will be absent for a second straight year as public screenings are cut again from one of the world's largest business conferences for the movie industry.

The advanced general audience showings were long considered a community perk for an annual week-long event that draws thousands of producers and distributors who attend hundreds of screenings in theaters across the city, taking over about two dozen screens. The conferences started on Wednesday and will go through Nov. 11.

AFM, which was founded 28 years ago, has been hosted almost continuously in Santa Monica since 1991. The public screenings were added in 2003.

"Throughout most of this decade, our distributors have opened hundreds of their screenings to the community for free," Jonathan Wolf, the managing director for AFM, said. "However, due to a lack of films that distributors were able to expose to the public in advance of their commercial release, we did not have public screenings in 2008 or 2009.

Wolf added that the public previews will return if there are sufficient films available for future AFMs.

Misti Kerns, the president and CEO of the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau, said there are not as many films produced these days and as a result fewer available for the public to view in advance.

"This is another tentacle of the economic crisis going on," Kerns said.

Kerns said that her office has not received calls of concern from the community about the elimination of the public screenings the past two years .

"There is a small number of really interested die hard [viewers] that might be affected by this, which is unfortunate," Kerns said. "But if they really understand the film industry they would understand that there is nothing we can do."

Bill Davids is among the members of the community who attended some of the public screenings in the past, which he said ranged from made for DVD movies to foreign and independent films that would be good enough for regular runs in specialty theaters.

> **"THIS IS ANOTHER TENTACLE OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS GOING ON,"**
>
> **Misti Kerns**
> CEO/President Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau

Davids said he has contacted city officials, the CVB and the Bayside District Corp. about lobbying to bring back the public screenings.

"It's just a major disappointment that the public has been excluded from the event," Davids said.

AFM is expected to bring out about 7,500 people to Santa Monica this year, boosting tourism locally during an otherwise slow time of year.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Calling for a change

Editor:

The new parking structure signs on Second and Fourth streets present a serious danger to vehicles and pedestrians because their height obscures the view of drivers, both in the parking structure and in the street. A driver exiting one of these structures cannot see oncoming traffic, because the signs have been placed at exactly the right height to obstruct a view of the street in the direction from which traffic arrives.

To verify this yourself, just drive down Fourth Street heading south (to the freeway) and look to your right, at the parking structures. You will see automobiles waiting to exit, but their drivers are blocked from view by the signs. If you can't see them, they certainly cannot see you.

This forces drivers to inch forward slowly, a bit at a time, until they have passed the sign and can see the street. At that point, their vehicle is often already off the curb and in the street, obstructing oncoming traffic and forcing pedestrians off the sidewalks and into the street itself.

The placement of these signs is a phenomenally-poor piece of design in our Downtown. With all the work on the parking structures, now is the time to raise or move these signs, and eliminate a lethal hazard. Better to do it now than to wait for the inevitable accident with the accompanying huge settlement.

City Hall: Please change these signs right away, before something terrible happens!

Dan Jansenson
Santa Monica

Time to wake up

Editor:

Come on Phyllis Elliott ("How others see us," Letters to the Editor, Oct. 28), they've awarded a "peace" prize to a man who is escalating a war (much to the applause of "rival" John McCain). In today's jumbled political jargon, I guess peace means war and war means peace. Perhaps it was Bill Clinton who started us on that reverse track, when he remarked that it all depended on what one's definition of "is" is.

If it were Bush getting that prize, I assume you would be protesting from here to kingdom come. And why not, since there is relatively little difference between Obama and Bush. Both men are "One Worlders" who, like so many before them, talk and flaunt peace while waging continual war for globalist government. The hypocrisy is that, on "the other side," very few Republicans protested what their man in the White House was doing either.

Why, despite all the hype to the contrary, is there still such a great partisan divide in our country? Where are the Americans? When will they stop being conned by "Republicans vs. Democrats" and start protesting what these imperialistic internationalists are doing on behalf of the billionaire bankers who control them?

Aric Z. Leavitt
Los Angeles



Life Matters



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

Don't get strapped to your work desk

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

Some might consider me a workaholic. While I have always been dedicated to my job I am continuing to find it harder to find time for my friends and, most importantly, my new husband. I know that many people struggle with work/life balance issues but it's really tough when it's you who is dealing with the constant struggle to find enough time for the requirements of life and to succeed at work. How can I find a better balance and create time for my friends and family?

Signed,
Needs Balance

DEAR NEEDS BALANCE,

You are right, many people do struggle with work/life balance; there always seems to be more things to do than time in a day. However, what I would suggest to you is something I remember learning awhile back — balance isn't a matter of time but of choice. You have the power to choose where you spend your time, how you will utilize your passion, and where you will dedicate your energy. Balancing life's requirements comes down to making clear choices about what's important to you. In other words, it's about you defining your values and making commitments to those values. Our values often shift throughout life. Your recent marriage may represent a time when your life values are shifting and changing to accommodate for your new partnership. Often times our decisions (i.e. where we allocate our time) will also need to adjust as a result of the shift in our value system. It may be time for you to ask yourself a few questions.

Do you know where you are spending your time? You may find it helpful to keep a journal tracking where you spend your time and energy. Start by making a list of things that are most important to you. For instance: your career, your husband, religion, friends, down time, family, hobbies, etc. Then keep a log of what you are doing over the week and how much time you are spending on each activity. Since each week may have its ups and downs it may be helpful to track for an entire month to get a true assessment. Is everything necessary? Are the things at the top of your values list getting enough attention? How much of your week is dedicated to those things that are truly most important for you?

Do you know your limits and are you being honest with yourself about them? It's natural to push yourself harder and harder to reach your goals, especially when you are looking to secure or advance your career. However, do you allot time that is just for you? And if so, do you keep your personal time sacred? In order to be successful at home or at the office it is crucial that you make time for yourself. Does your spouse feel as though your private time is really just for the two of you? Are you able to shut-off from work when it's family time? If your values overlap, perhaps it is possible to combine time with your husband or friends along with your hobbies or other things that are important to you. Protecting your private time will likely make you more successful in the office. You'll find that you may come in to work more refreshed, with greater creativity and excitement for your work.

Finally, what do others think about your work habits? You note that others might consider you a workaholic. It may be helpful to get feedback from others. Are you maximizing your time at work to complete your tasks? Is the amount of time you are spending at the office necessary to get the work done? It is not always true that more time in the office means better work. Does your company have any policies to help support employees work-life balance? Your company may be judging your performance based on the quality of your work not the time you spend behind the desk. Sometimes gaining feedback from your colleagues may help you determine whether your hours are in line with company expectations. It may also be helpful to get a buddy so you can keep each other in check.

Knowing your values and your priorities will help you live a more balanced life. I firmly believe that you will make time for the things you want to make time for. Remember, you are the only one able to determine what's most important for you and it's up to you to make the changes that are suitable for you.

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

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Your column here

Kevin McKeown

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Councilman stands firm on Expo

FOR OVER A DECADE, SANTA MONICA has enthusiastically supported bringing regional light rail all the way to our Downtown, providing new mass transit options to reduce our unacceptable traffic problems.

Now, suddenly, it seems, we find ourselves in conflict with some parts of the evolving proposal for the Exposition Light Rail line. What happened?

After many years of championing light rail, and after working hard in the 2008 election to make sure Los Angeles County's Proposition R passed to fund accelerated construction of Expo, Santa Monica was blind-sided.

When the Expo Authority released its draft environmental impact report last February, a modified aerial photo showed a proposed rail maintenance yard in Santa Monica. Carefully edited out was an immediately adjacent residential neighborhood, directly across Exposition Boulevard.

Despite our representation on both the Expo Authority and its parent Metro board, such a location had never been discussed with Santa Monica, nor was a courtesy warning given before the draft was published. Only when we came upon the cropped diagram, buried deep in an appendix, did Santa Monica begin to realize what was to be imposed upon us.

Earning the benefits of light rail mass transit means providing room for needed infrastructure, and we fully accept that. However, a rail maintenance yard should never go next to existing, occupied housing — here or in any city.

Would you want a train yard, with mandatory early-morning horn testing, next to your house? The City Council should show some backbone, deny the placement of the maintenance yard as incompatible with our zoning, protect the quality of life of the Pico Neighborhood, and force the Expo Authority to find a more suitable, less impactful location, right?

Controlling land use is one of a City Council's most significant powers. Unfortunately, that power isn't absolute. California law dictates a hierarchy of jurisdictions, whereby a regional or county body can overrule a city, and the state can overrule us all.

As regional bodies, the Expo Authority and the Metropolitan Transit Authority trump us on land use, and do not have to comply with Santa Monica zoning laws. We cannot "just say no" to their maintenance yard.

What we tried to do instead was help find other locations, farther from residents. No matter how badly it's needed, a rail maintenance yard should never be right across the street from homes and apartments. Quasi-industrial uses are not good neighbors for families with children.

The Expo Authority told us Bergamot Station was too small, and other locations didn't meet their needs. One site, also in Santa Monica but in a commercial area, proved too expensive for them. A concrete plant property in industrial West L.A. was already coveted by a well-connected developer, who has promised to pay for the Expo Line's grade separation at Sepulveda Boulevard.

With respectful advance notification, Santa Monica might still have had time to find a better location for Expo's maintenance yard than our Pico Neighborhood. Instead, at this late date, we confront a "done deal," putting yet more burden on families in a part of town that needs support, not abandonment.

If the maintenance yard is forced upon us, is there a way to lessen its impacts? Can it be built so that neighbors don't see it, hear it, or have to fear for their children's health and safety?

With the generous cooperation of Santa Monica College, we began to consider a land swap that would let Santa Monica create a protective buffer strip along Exposition Boulevard, separating the trains and facilities from the neighbors. Our city will have to invest considerable resources into making that buffer effective, and a benefit to our community — but that's better than leaving a neighborhood unprotected.

When the Expo Authority came back to us to consider that offer, they brought expanded plans. They wanted to use the additional space to insert a new paint facility as well as metal and repair shops, and to increase the planned train storage on site from 30-odd rail cars to 50-odd rail cars.

The council protested, of course. Any such intensifications of use should require further environmental review. We had tried to solve a problem not of our making, only to be presented with new problems. Negotiating with a more powerful agency is like wrestling with a gorilla — you're not done until the gorilla says so.

Our invocation of environmental law may have convinced the Expo Authority to drop the paint facility. They haven't backed down on the metal and repair shop, or the additional train storage.

We want light rail. Increased mass transit options are the right thing for Santa Monica and for the region. We can't, however, let it be at the expense of a particularly vulnerable residential neighborhood. We have to be firm in our resolve, because the prime responsibility of local government is protecting the people who live here.

KEVIN MCKEOWN is a Santa Monica City Council member.

The Q Line

Parking perks

City officials are considering a proposal that would introduce parking validation to the city's many garages.

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

Do you think that parking validation is a good idea, and why?

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


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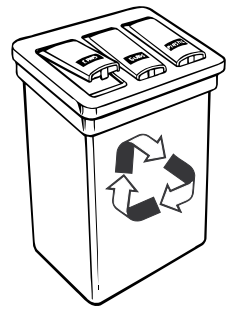
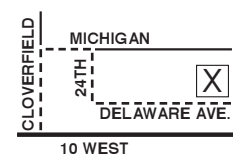
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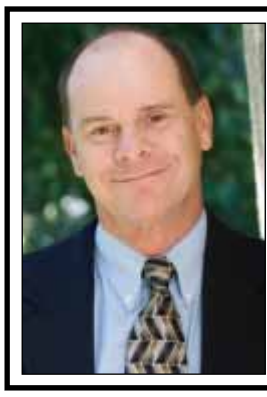
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7-Eleven stores take a Big Gulp ... of wine

MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

What goes well with Slim Jims and Slurpees? 7-Eleven wine, naturally.

The convenience store chain announced Tuesday it is getting into the value wine business, releasing two low-priced proprietary wines in the United States and Japan.

Sold under the Yosemite Road label, the California wines, a chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon, will retail for about $3.99, a price-point that has been doing well despite — or perhaps because of — the economic doldrums.

"The consumer is really pinched as far as discretionary income. We're seeing a lot of success in products that really resonate on a value basis," said Kevin Elliott, senior vice president of merchandising and logistics of Dallas-based 7-Eleven, Inc.

Private label products were strong sellers for many food retailers even before the economic crisis hit. Last year, 7-Eleven launched the 7-Select line of staples including cookies, candies, chips and beef jerky.

Adding wine ties into two economy driven trends — a demand for affordability coupled with more people eating at home, said Thom Blischok, president, global innovation and shopper marketing, at Chicago-based IRI, a market research company.

"They're changing the game at convenience store retailing. They're really trying to take this back to neighborhood stores. They fulfill your most basic needs," he said.

Bargain wines have been booming as budgets shrank. Some brands, such as Two Buck Chuck (formally Charles Shaw but renamed in honor of the $1.99 price in California), have even attracted near cult following.

Yosemite Road is 7-Eleven's first value-priced wines — the company earlier introduced Sonoma Crest and Thousand Oaks, which retail for about $10 — and it's the company's first global product launch.

The wines will be released in 15,000 outlets, including 7-Eleven stores in the U.S. and Japan, as well as other subsidiaries of parent company Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd., an $87.9 billion Tokyo-based corporation.

The wines are being made by The Wine Group in California, which is the world's third-largest wine producer and has a number of inexpensive brands including Corbett Canyon and Glen Ellen. The chardonnay is described as zesty with notes of apricot, peach and honey, and the cab as full-bodied with "juicy plum overtones."

Sour grapes invade plates

SHAYA TAYEFE MOHAJER
Associated Press Writer

FULTON A tart tonic of sour grape juice may be making its way into your glass — not to mention your salad dressing, pan sauces and stews.

Long revered by European chefs for its earthy tartness — and known as the zing in Dijon mustard — verjus is the non-alcoholic, unfermented juice of sour grapes. It can be used instead of any acid and provide a base for cocktails as a stand-in for sour mix.

"A lot of the older European guys knew about it but didn't have a source for it in the United States," says Jim Neal, who owns the Napa Valley grape-growing operation Fusion Foods and worked at Spago during the 1980s.

Neal has produced verjus (pronounced VER-joo) as a pantry staple for the culinary pantheon in America for 15 years. Though some specialty markets carry his verjus, it can be found most often in the kitchens of The French Laundry, Per Se, Spago, Gary Danko and Daniel Boulud, among other fine restaurants.

"Wolfgang Puck told me that as a kid in Austria he had verjus, but he told me they used red verjus, so I've been making that," Neal says of the Spago chef.

Neal believes he was the first producer to grow grapes for the sole purpose of making the tart tonic in the U.S. — his Chariot Wines line came two years after his verjus was first produced. But soon, he'll be joined by the Kendall-Jackson winery based in Fulton.

In August, unripened chardonnay and pinot noir grapes were harvested from a Kendall-Jackson vineyard in Monterey to produce about 4,000 bottles of verjus to be sold in the spring at major retailers and supermarkets nationwide.

Justin Wangler, executive chef at Kendall-Jackson, started making his own verjus in the winery's tasting kitchen four years ago, before consulting with the winemaster and developing a version that is a little bit sweeter than most.

White House to host episode of 'Iron Chef America' show

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Michelle Obama's vegetable garden is about to become a culinary battlefield.

The Food Network announced Wednesday that an episode of "Iron Chef America" will be taped at the White House featuring Mario Batali, Bobby Flay and Emeril Lagasse.

The three chefs, joined by White House chef Cristeta Comerford, will be welcomed by the first lady and allowed to use anything found in the garden to help create their meals.

The competition will then move back to the network's Kitchen Stadium in New York, where Flay and Comerford will face-off against Batali and Lagasse to produce five dishes showcasing the ingredients.

The judges will include chef Nigella Lawson, Olympic gold medalist Natalie Coughlin, and actress Jane Seymour.

The episode airs Jan. 3.

Raw never tasted so good

BY MICHAEL SARIPKIN
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN For weeks, prior to my trip to Santa Monica, I had been hearing about Planet Raw and how much everyone enjoys it. Well, having been raw for a while, I expected "just another raw restaurant." Therefore, I arrived prepared to order a nice salad, maybe a vegetable pâté, a possible smoothie on the side, and maybe even an appetizer or two.

Then came the surprise.

Upon entering Planet Raw, located on an innocuous corner of Sixth Street and Broadway, it looked like any other café. There were a couple of outside tables, a front counter for the hostess/cashier, a few scattered tables, a sit-down bar, and a few coolers and shelves with products, which the public may buy. That was where "any other café" and Planet Raw parted ways.

I was seated at a corner table overlooking the street. Chloe, my server, recited the daily specials. Chipotle plate, samosas with Tahini sauce, ranch bacon chicken wrap with side salad, jerk chicken warp or peach and pumpkin smoothies were all on the carte du jour. I asked her what a first-time visitor should order. She thought for a minute and then decided that I should order one of two dishes. She highly recommended the lasagna with zucchini pasta, ricotta cheese made from nuts and a sauce made with heirloom tomatoes. She said this was a signature dish of Chef Juliano. The second dish she recommended was the cheesy kelp pasta and also recommended a side of assorted appetizers. I was sold. When I asked for water to drink with my meal, she inquired as to whether I preferred room temperature or chilled. With the exception of fine dining in restaurants where you can expect a $200 check for a single diner, this was the first time I had ever been asked this question in over 40 years. That was very impressive!

While I was waiting for my meal, I spoke with patron Terry Brown. Terry said her favorite meal is the basil soup, and the cheesy kelp pasta. She said she eats there very often.

When I asked if she considered herself raw, she said that she "goes by how she feels" and lately she has been 100 percent raw. She is a firm believer in measuring her pH at least twice a day. She said that when she eats at Planet Raw, her pH is "always perfect."

While waiting for my meal, I watched the servers. This is one of my methods of judging the efficiency of the operation, and the service that the customers are receiving. I was very pleased that all of the employees were busily attending to the needs of their patrons. I noticed one employee, probably serving as a kitchen helper, pick up a single dirty napkin that was lying on the edge of an occupied table. This attention to detail is most admirable.

My pasta and appetizers arrived together, and now was my chance to taste for myself what these people were saying about Juliano's Planet Raw. The pasta was in the middle of a bed of greens, red peppers, cabbage, tomatoes, "meatballs" and small decorative/edible flowers. The entire dish was covered with a white sauce. My first bite was euphoric. The kelp pasta was a perfect al dente for a cheesy dish. Most amazing was that I could not tell the cheesy sauce apart from cheeses I used to consume in my pre-raw days. Most interesting were the "meatballs." My server explained that they were a combination of dehydrated mushrooms, almonds, pine nuts and spices. If, for a moment, I forgot that I was dining in a "raw" restaurant, I would have testified that I was eating "real" beef meatballs. The flavor was one to savor, and I found myself wishing there were more than four on the plate.

I have to acknowledge that all of the vegetables served with my meal were extremely fresh. Frequently, after vegetables have been transported to market, then stored in a restaurant cooler, they lose some, if not most of their freshness. Planet Raw's vegetables were so fresh that one would be lead to believe that they had been picked "out back" just for your meal. The greens were crisp, the tomatoes sparkled with redness, and the small edible flowers were probably the same shade of pink that could be found while they grew in the wild.

Although the menu may be considered a little pricey for a lunchtime meal, I had to consider two factors. First, the quality and service were equal to most four and five star restaurants. Second, this is a restaurant in Santa Monica. Located just seven blocks from the Santa Monica Pier, Planet Raw caters to a slightly upscale crowd. Still, a meal can be planned with a budget in mind. The appetizers range in price from $3.50 to $9.95, a smoothie is approximately $9 with an extra $1 each for super boosts such as maca, and other superfoods. Entrées were a reasonable $7.95 to $15.95 with large salads from $10 to $15. A smaller side salad is only $3.50 with extra olives, sundried tomato, truffle oil, black seaweed, spirulina, avocado, bee pollen, maca, kimchee, pumpkin or greens for $2.50.

Overall, I would rate Juliano's Planet Raw as an exceptional raw food restaurant, and would recommend it to anyone who is raw, vegan, vegetarian or just likes to eat good food. I would give it two thumbs up, but I have my thumbs wrapped around my fork and spoon as I eat a recipe I prepared from the uncook book.

Dr. Michael Saripkin is the Raw Gourmand. You can find more of his reviews at

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Can we talk?
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All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, November 9
SMASH/John Muir School Auditorium, 2526 6th Street
Presentation on Ocean Park Blvd starting at 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 12
Grant Elementary School Auditorium, 2368 Pearl Street

Monday, November 16
Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street

Tuesday, December 1
Montana Library, 1704 Montana Avenue

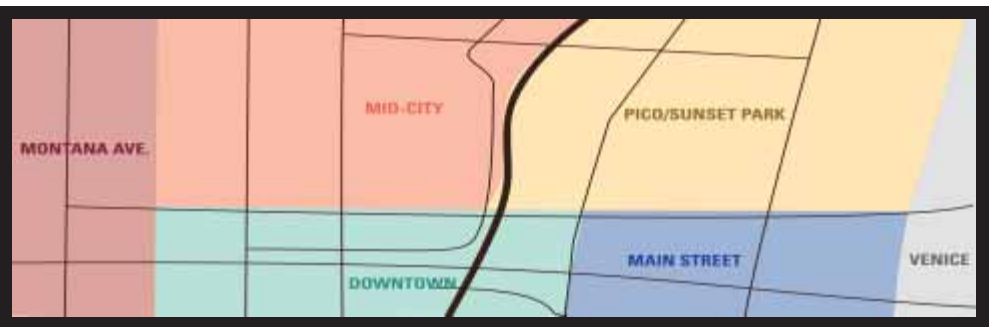
Wednesday, December 2
Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Building
2200 Virginia Avenue

All locations are wheelchair accessible. For additional disability-related accommodations or for more information about these meetings, please call (310) 458-8281. Presented by the City of Santa Monica in partnership with Friends of Sunset Park, North of Montana Association, Ocean Park Association, Pico Neighborhood Association and Wilshire-Montana Neighborhood Coalition.

City of Santa Monica
If you are unable to attend, you may also give your opinion on priorities for the FY10-11 budget by writing to City Council, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401; post your feedback at www.smgov.net/budget or email your comments to budget@smgov.net

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Riva Restaurant 312 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 451-7482
Rustic Canyon 1119 Wilshire Blvd	(310) 560-7787

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256 Santa Monica Pier (310)393-PIERS

Scarboni 312 Wilshire Bl	(310) 704-8079
SONNY MCLEAN'S 2615 Wilshire Blvd.	(310) 449-1811
Stefano's 1310 Third Street Promenade	(310) 216-7716
Sunset Bar & Grill 1240 Third Street	(310) 393-3959
Sushi Mon 401 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 576-7011
Sushi Roku Santa Monica 1401 Ocean Av	(310) 655-3372
Sushi Shogun 1315 Third Street	(213) 500-4989
Sushi Teri Express 1551 Ocean Ave. #130 B	(310) 394-2189
Swingers 802 Broadway	(323) 656-6136
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Victoria Pizzeria 1607 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 394-6863
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Whist 1819 Ocean Av	(310) 260-7509
Yangtze 1333 Third Street Promenade	(310)260-1994
Yankee Doodles 1410 Third Street	(310)394-4632
Ye Olde Kings Head 116 Santa Monica Blvd	(310)451-1402
	(310)451-1402

PICO/SUNSET PARK

310 Lounge & Bistro 3321 Pico Blvd.	(310) 453-1331
Abbots Pizza Company 1811 Pico Blvd	(310) 314-2777
Acapulco Restaurant 3360 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-8665
Air Conditioned 2819 Pico Blvd	(310) 829-3700
Ameci Pizza Pasta 2218 Lincoln Bl	(310) 314-0090
B B Q Garden 1707 Pico Blvd.	(310) 450-6494
The Bread Factory Inc 1900 Pico Bl	(310) 434-4653
Buddha Boba 1701 Pico Bl	(626) 674-8882
Bud's Famous Deli & Desserts 2727 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-6860
Cafe Bolivar 1741 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 581-2344
Campos Mexican Food Inc 2008 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-4477
Classic Pizza 2624 Pico Blvd	(310) 399-0452
The Counter 2901 Ocean Park Bl #102	(310) 399-8383
The Daily Pint 2310 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-7631
El Indio 2526 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-8057
El Pollo Loco Restaurant 1906 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 392-9800
El Torito 3360 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-8665
El Texate 316 Pico Blvd.	(310) 399-1115
Fresh & Natural Cafe 1900 Pico Blvd	(310) 392-0516
Ocean Park Pizza 2819 1/2 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-9949
Georges Burgers 3101 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 452-0445
Gilbert's El Indio Mexican Food 2526 Pico Blvd.	(310) 450-8057
Hotel Casa Del Mar Restaurant 1910 Ocean Way	(310) 581-5533
The Hump 3221 Donald Douglas Loop South	(310) 390-3177
The Hungry Pocket 1715 Pico Blvd	(310) 458-5335
Il Forno Caffe & Pizzeria 2901 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-1241
Josie Restaurant 2424 Pico Blvd	(310) 581-4201
La Playita 3306 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 452-0090
Lazy Daisy Inc 2300 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-9011
Le Pain Du Jour 828 Pico Blvd #2	(310) 399-4870
Mandarin Food Service 2618 Pico Bl	(310) 396-9559
Michael D'S Cafe 234 Pico Blvd	(310) 452-8737
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Panchos Tacos 2920 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 452-2970
Pedals Cafe One Pico Blvd.	(310) 587-1707
Raes Restaurant 2901 Pico Blvd	(310) 820-1416
Santa Monica Bar and Grill 3321Pico Blvd	(310) 453-5001
Santinos 3021 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 779-1210
Sheraton Delfina 530 Pico Blvd	(310) 399-9344
The Slice 1622 Ocean Park	(310) 453-2367
Spitfire Grill 3300 Airport Ave.	(310) 397-3455
Star Of Siam 3133 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 396-9511
Subway 2901 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 396-3004
Sunset Grill 1701 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-7546
Tandoor India 2622 Pico Bl	(310) 581-9964
Tom's No 1 Pico 2350 Pico Blvd.	(310) 396-4481
Typhoon 3221 Donald Douglas Loop	(310) 390-6565
UnUrban Coffeehouse 3301 Pico Blvd.	(310) 315-0056
Valentino Restaurant 3115 Pico Blvd	(310) 829-4313
Richie Palmer's Pizzeria1355 Ocean Ave	(310) 255-1111
Vitos 2807 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-4999
Windows Restaurant 530 Pico Blvd.	(310) 399-9344
Yongs Cafe 3020 Nebraska Ave.	(310) 828-4775
Yuni Sushi 1928 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 396-4039
Zabies 3003 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 392-9036

MAIN STREET

Amelia's 2645 Main St.	(310) 396-9095
Bravo Pizzaria & Deli 2400 Main St.	(310) 392-7466
Chinois On Main 2709 Main St.	(310) 392-3038
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 396-6706
Creative Sushi 2518 Main St.	(310) 396-2711
Dhaba Cuisine Of India 2104 Main St.	(310) 399-9452
Elvira's Cha Cha Chicken 1906 Ocean Ave.	(310) 581-1684
The Enterprise Fish Co 174 Kinney St.	(310) 392-8366
Euphoria Loves RAWvolution 2301 Main St.	(310) 392-9501
Finn McCools Irish Pub & Restaurant 2700 Main St.	(310) 452-1734
Goudas & Vines 2000 Main Street	(310) 450-6739
Groundwork Coffee Co. 2908 Main St.	(310) 930-3910
The Galley 2442 Main St.	(310) 452-1934
Holy Guacamole 2906 Main St.	(310) 314-4850
It's All Good Bakery 2629 Main St.	(310) 260-0233
Joes Main Street Diner 2917 Main St.	(310) 392-5804
La Vecchia Cucina 2654 Main St	(310) 399-7979
Library Alehouse 2911 Main St.	(310) 314-4855
Lula Cocina Mexicana 2720 Main St.	(310) 392-5711
Main Street Bagels 2905 Main St.	(310) 392-6373
Malia 2424 Main St.	(310) 396-4122
Manchego 2510 Main Street	(310) 450-3900
Mani's Bakery & Cafe 2507 Main St.	(310) 396-7700
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Schatzi On Main 3110 Main St	(310) 399-4800
Shoop's Delicatessen 2400 Main St	(310) 452-1019
Sparky's Fine Frozen Yogurt 3110 Main St. #12	(310) 399-4513
Urth Caffe 2327 Main St.	(310) 749-8879
Via Veneto 3009 Main St.	(310) 399-1843
The Victorian Baker Cafe 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-4956
Wildflour 2807 Main St.	(310) 452-7739
World Café 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-1661
Yose Restaurant 2435 Main St.	(310) 255-0680

VENICE

26 Beach Restaurant 3100 Washington Blvd.	(310) 823-7526
Abbot's Habit 1401 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 399-1171
Abbot's Pizza Co 1407 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 396-7334
Agra Indian Kitchen 2553 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-8749
Axe 1009 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 664-9787
Azteca Restaurant 835 Sunset Ave.	(310) 396-6576
Baby Blues BBQ 444 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-7675
Beechwood 822 W. Washington Blvd.	(310) 448-8884
Benice 1715 Pacific Ave.	(310) 396-9938
Big Daddy and Sons 1425 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 508-2793
The Brig 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-7537
The Brick House Cafe 826 Hampton Dr.	(310) 581-1639
Cafe 50's 838 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 399-1955
Casablanca Restaurant 220 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 392-5751
Chaya 110 Navy St.	(310) 396-1179
China Beach Bistro 2024 Pacific Ave.	(310) 823-4646
Danny's Deli 23 Windward Ave.	(310) 566-5610
French Market Cafe 2321 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 577-9775
Great Western Steak & Hoagie Company 1720 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 450-4545
Hal's Bar & Grill 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-3105
Hama 213 Windward Ave.	(310) 396-8783
James Beach 60 N. Venice Blvd.	(310) 823-5396
Joe's Restaurant 1023 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-5811
La Cabana Restaurant 738 Rose Ave.	(310) 392-6161
La Meditrina 1029 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-5000
Lands End Restaurant 323 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 392-3997
Lilly's French Cafe & Bar 1031 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-0004
Lincoln Fine Wines 727 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 392-7816
Maos Kitchen 1512 Pacific Ave.	(310) 581-8305
Piccolo Ristorante 5 Dudley Ave.	(310) 314-3222
Primitivo Wine Bistro 1025 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-5353
Rose Cafe 220 Rose Ave.	(310) 399-0711
Shima 1432 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-0882
Siam Best Restaurant 2533 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 827-8977
Stroh's Gourmet 1239 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 450-5119
Szechwan Restaurant 2905 Washington Blvd.	(310) 821-6256
Uncle Darrow's 2560 S Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 306-4862
Wabi-Sabi 1635 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-2229
Wacky Wok 2805 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 822-7373

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Beachside Cafe 4175 Admiralty Way	(310) 821-5313
C & O Cucina 3016 Washington Blvd.	(310) 301-7278
Cafe Del Rey 4451 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-6395
California Pizza Kitchen 3345 Fiji Way	(310) 301-1563
Casa Escobar 14160 Palawan Way	(310) 822-2199
Chart House 13950 Panay Way	(310) 822-4144
The Cheesecake Factor 4142 Via Marina	(310) 306-3344
Chin Chin 13455 Maxella Ave Ste 266	(310) 823-9999
Chipotle Mexican Grill 4718 Admiralty Way	(310) 821-0059
Harbor House Restaurant 4211 Admiralty Way	(310) 577-4555
Islands 404 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-3939
Jer-ne at The Ritz-Carlton 4375 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-1700
Kaya Sushi 13400 Washington Blvd.	(310) 577-1143
Kifune Restaurant 405 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-1595
Le Marmiton 4724 Admiralty Way	(310) 773-3560
Mercedes Grille 14 Washington Blvd	(310) 827-6209
Mermaids-Juice Java & More 14045 Panay Way	(310) 306-3883
Rainbow Acres Natural Foods 4756 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-5373
Sapori Ristorante 13723 Fiji Way	(310) 821-1740
Tony P's 4445 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-4534
Tsuji No Hana 4714 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 827-1433
The Warehouse Restaurant 4499 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-5451









LONG WAIT

Ray Solano *news@smdp.com*

Scores of people wait in line to receive the H1N1 flu vaccine at Santa Monica College on Wednesday morning. People lined up as early as 7 a.m. for the vaccine.

Board members defend salary

FROM **PAY** PAGE 1

tus quo and to try to weather this recession and at the same time not compromise the quality of the instruction we provide for our students," he said.

The union, which is currently going through contract negotiations over health benefits, has asked that the board make cuts closer to the central administration and farther away from the classroom.

Board members defended the contract as fair considering the amount of progress and changes made in the district by Cuneo during his short time as the interim superintendent. Cuneo replaced Dianne Talarico who came to the district in 2006 after signing a three-year contract that paid her a base salary of $182,000 a year with a $650 monthly automobile allowance and $1,000 a month in the first year to pay for a mentor.

School board President Ralph Mechur said the housing allowance was included understanding that Cuneo would not sell his house and relocate his family to Santa Monica, covering the living expenses of a two-bedroom condo in the city.

He noted that executives in both the public and private sectors are typically given a housing allowance.

"With the work he had done it was important for us to continue to work with him because he had quickly brought stability to the district and tackled important issues such as special education and felt it was in the best interest of the community to not have him focus on finding a replacement who would have taken another six months to come up to speed," Mechur said.

Barry Snell, the school board vice president, also noted that the housing allowance is roughly the same sum of money that the district would have spent on a head hunter if the board had decided to find a new superintendent, estimating it would have cost about $30,000 to $50,000 for a search firm.

He added that the district's financial issues did not come to light until after the contract was approved.

"We felt he had done such a great job handling special education and pretty much showing a lot of leadership in our community that … we felt it was justifiable," Snell said.

According to the report, many superintendents receive an auto and cell phone allowance and expense stipend. The superintendent in the Wilsona Elementary School District in Palmdale has the lowest salary in the county, earning $116,800 in 2008-09.

> **"WE'RE STRUGGLING JUST TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO AND TO TRY TO WEATHER THIS RECESSION AND AT THE SAME TIME NOT COMPROMISE THE QUALITY OF THE INSTRUCTION WE PROVIDE FOR OUR STUDENTS,"**
>
> **Harry Keiley**
> Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association

School board members said that the superintendent and senior cabinet salaries will be a part of any discussions concerning employee pay cuts. Cuneo said that he has already told the board that he will not seek his 10 percent bonus for this year.

"If the economy is good and things are in good shape, then I should be compensated for performances if I meet the targets," Cuneo said. "I plan on meeting targets but I do not plan on asking for a bonus because it's a difficult time financially."

He added that the senior staff is in discussions with the board about making adjustments with compensation.

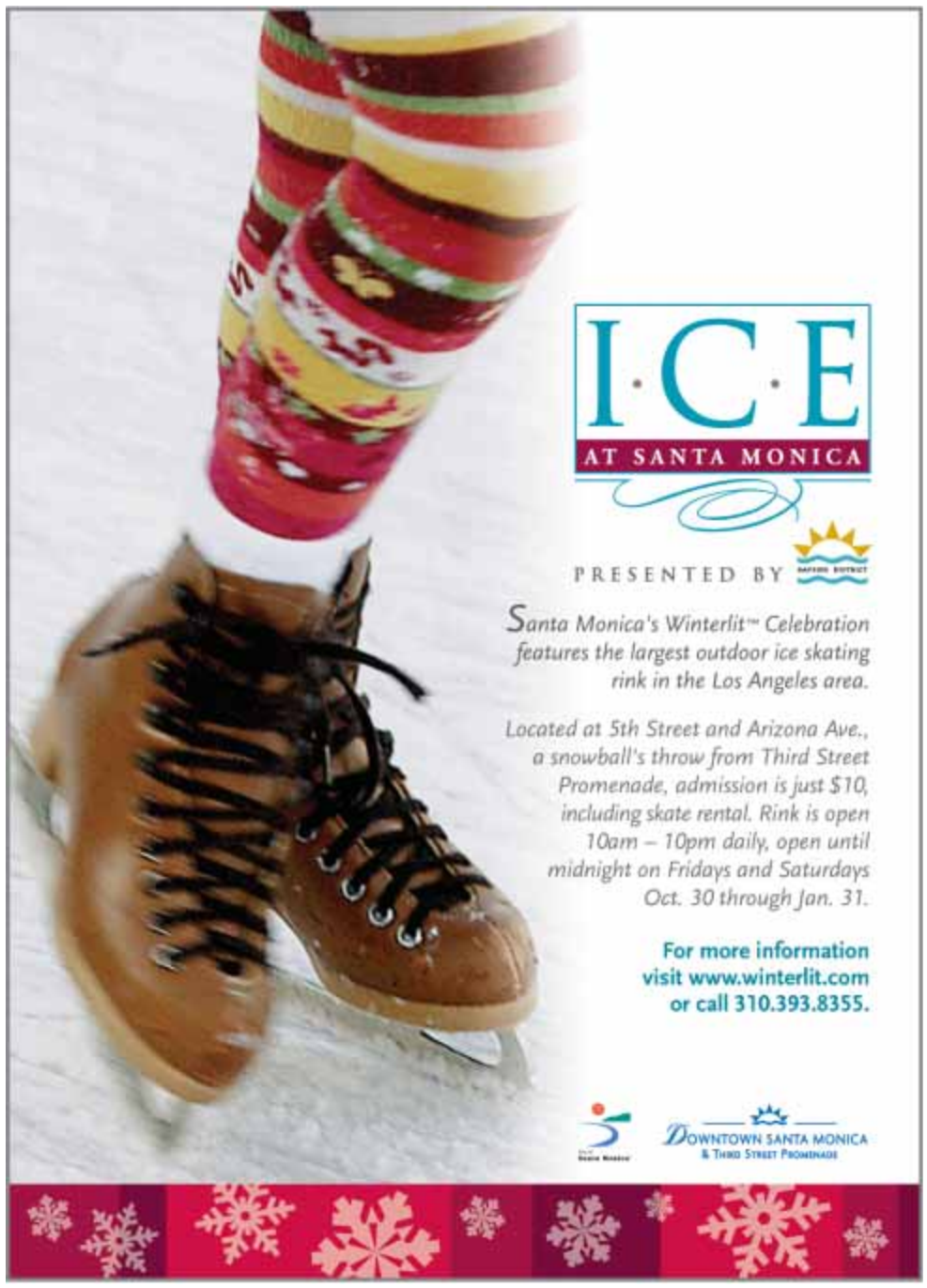
"We have gone through it with the board but the board wished to hold [on taking action] until all units have completed all bargaining," Cuneo said.

Cuneo said that the contract he negotiated included some requirements put in by the board, including that he live in the community.

Among the biggest critics of the superintendent's contract is Santa Monica resident Jim Jaffe who said that Cuneo earns substantially more than Talarico did in her contract.

"It just amazes me that they would make this decision in light of the crisis that we're in now," Jaffe said.

melodyh@smdp.com





Samohi raising funds for field work

FROM **ROUNDUP** PAGE 3

PICTURE-PERFECT FUNDRAISING

Santa Monica Daily Press Staff Photographer Morgan Genser has joined in the ongoing efforts to raise funds for injured Samohi football player Cody Williams.

Genser is offering photos from a number of games this season and will be covering all of the homecoming activities during this Friday's game against Inglewood. He has posted galleries on his Web site (www.morgangenser.com) where visitors can select which items they would like to purchase. He is offering each photo for a minimum donation of $10 each, but larger donations are encouraged.

"I was a high school athlete who was injured so I can relate to not being able to be on the field with your teammates," Genser said. "It is really heart breaking what happened to him."

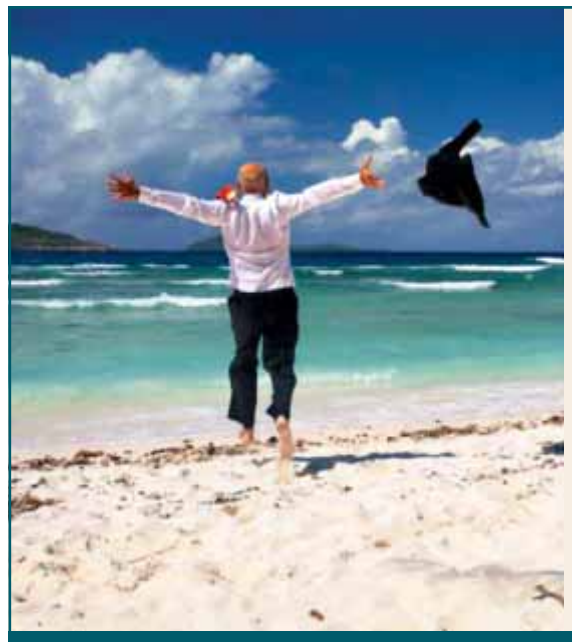
The funds raised will go to help with the ongoing cost of rehabilitation for Wiliams, who injured himself during the first game of the season.

The junior injured his cervical spine and has been receiving care since. His prognosis has yet to be determined because injuries to the spine are hard to evaluate.

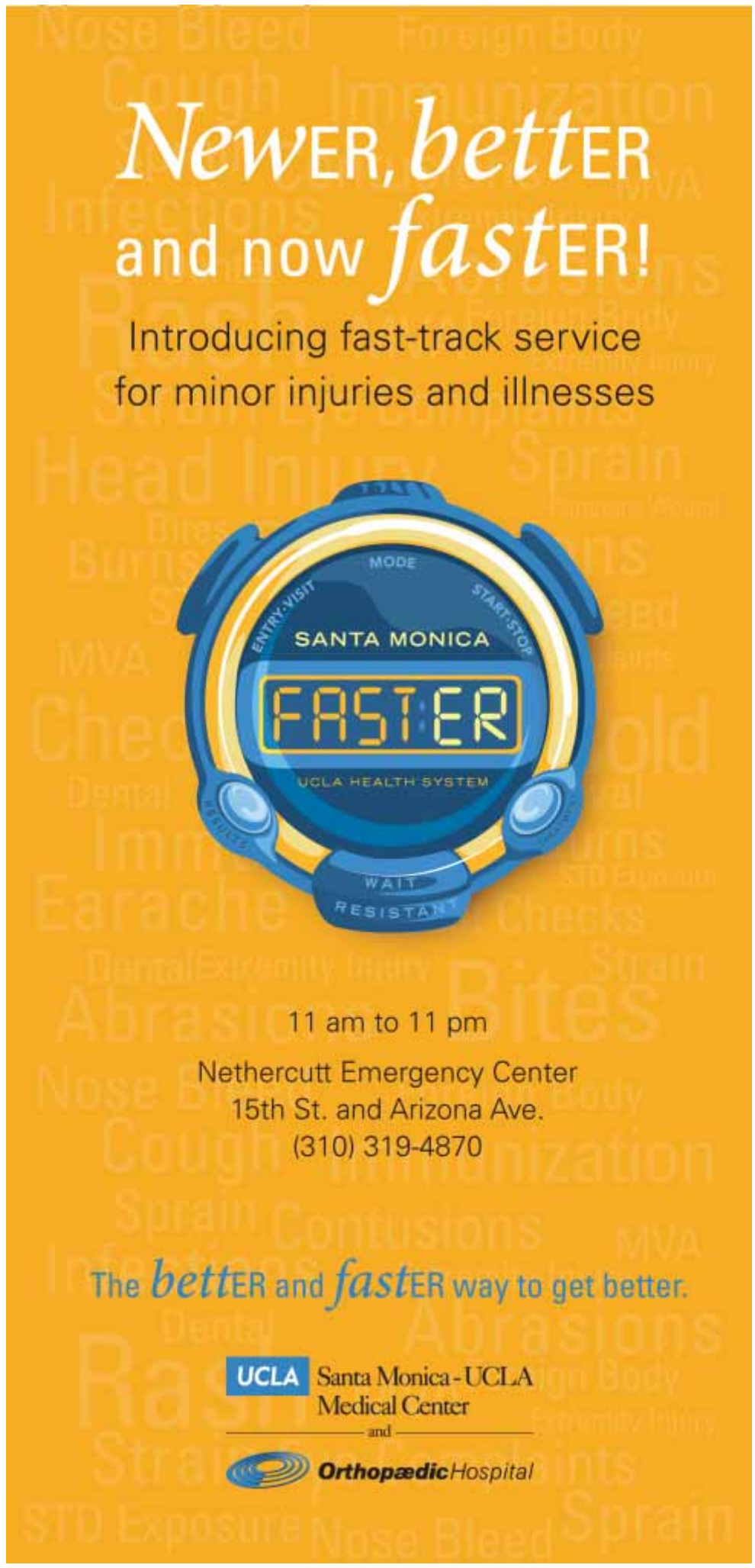
Those who want to contribute directly to the effort can send checks to the Cody Williams Recovery Fund, 2554 Lincoln Blvd., PMB 693, Venice, Calif., 90291.

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6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Presentation, Q&A
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Park has history of violence

FROM SHOOTING PAGE 1

said Santa Monica Police Department Sgt. Dave Hunscke.

SMPD Chief Timothy Jackman placed additional officers in the Pico Neighborhood as a precaution, which is why the officer in the marked car was stationed at 21st Street and Pico. His patrol car's camera captured the two suspects running from the scene.

"This was about the most brazen attack as I have ever seen," Jackman said. "Those suspects had to have walked by that [officer]. They ran right in front of him [after the shooting]."

Those who knew Richard Juarez said he was not a gang member but may have had friends who were. Oscar de la Torre, a school board member and executive director of the Pico Youth & Family Center, which provides after school programs, counseling and job training for at risk youth, said his staff had a meeting with Richard Juarez roughly two weeks ago to express their concerns about some of the people he was hanging out with. de la Torre said Richard Juarez, a fan of classic cars who enjoyed drawing, was looking to make positive changes in his life.

"We had this young man within our reach, but unfortunately it was too little too late," de la Torre said.

It is believed that Richard Juarez may have been targeted along with his friends simply because of the clothes they were wearing.

"There is an important message to get out to the youth ... if you look like you are gang involved, even if you are not, your life is at risk," de la Torre said. "He was a polite young man with a good heart … . His exterior did not reflect his interior.

"People will say that he was in the wrong place at the wrong time, but unfortunately in L.A. if you are a young man of color you are in the wrong place all the time."

de la Torre said he is trying to convene a meeting with Venice activists to address gang violence and make sure no more violence ensues.

"We just hope this doesn't escalate," he said.

Several friends and family members of Richard Juarez gathered at the Pico Youth & Family Center Wednesday to talk about the shy, but friendly young man who served as a teacher's assistant at Olympic.

"He loved to laugh," said Laura Alexander, a teacher at Olympic who spent considerable time with Richard Juarez. "He loved to draw. He was very loyal. He had a lot of friends and would often spend time after school helping out. He was really just one of the nicest kids. He always had a huge smile."

Frank Juarez said he can't understand how his nephew could have been killed right in front of a SMPD Substation at the park. He also questioned City Hall's response to calls from Pico residents for more youth programs to keep kids away from gangs.

Frank Juarez is related to Michael and Anthony Juarez, two brothers who were shot and killed in a violent attack at a clothing store on Lincoln Boulevard in 1998.

"We question how this murder could happen right under their noses," he said. "Instead of addressing it, it seems the city shrinks from it and uses more police to get to it instead of working with the community closer. It is very disheartening."

Another Santa Monica resident, Miguel Martin, 22, was shot and killed near the substation in December 2006.

Because of budget cuts, Jackman said he had to pull officers from the substation and put them on the streets where they could be more proactive and have a greater impact on crime. Officers on occasion open the substation to file reports and will assist residents if they approach them there.

"I don't know how I was supposed to stop that," Jackman said of the shooting, given that he placed additional officers in the Pico Neighborhood the night of the attack. "I think the city reacted as well as we could. The brazenness of this attack was something we don't see very often … . It had nothing to do with the substation being closed."

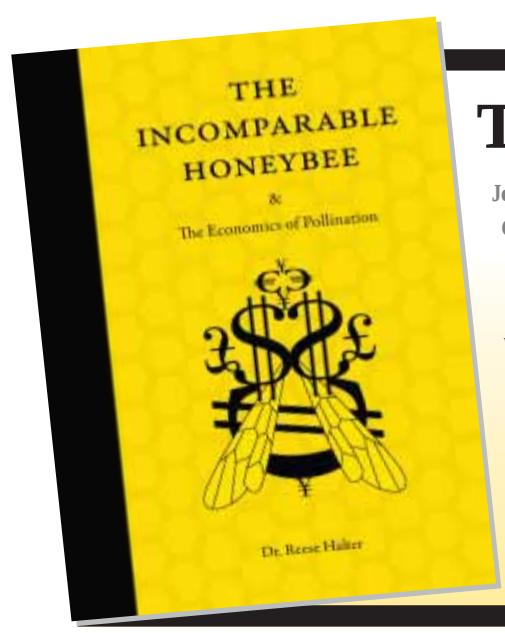
Jackman will continue to deploy more officers in the Pico Neighborhood for the time being and his detectives are working closely with Santa Monica College police and the Los Angeles Police Department. There will also be more police on hand at the Santa Monica High School football game this Friday against Inglewood. There was a non-fatal stabbing at SMC's Corsair Field earlier this season after a Samohi football game.

"We are working with the school district and the park to make sure all kids are as safe as possible," the chief said.

Human Resources Manager Julie Rusk said City Hall dedicates roughly $25 million a year to youth programs that include job training, the arts, sports and gang intervention through the Night Bridges program. Rusk, who lives near where the shooting occurred and has a son attending a local school, said she is concerned on a personal level.

"We are doing a lot of good things, but when something tragic like this happens it feels like it's never enough," Rusk said. "Our focus now is on trying to support the family and the kids and help them make sense of this."

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Voters get say on water

SAMANTHA YOUNG
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders say their $11.1 billion water bond is an essential investment for California's future, but it may be a hard sell to voters.

California already is saddled with debt, and the bond measure that will appear on the November 2010 ballot is filled with special-interest earmarks added in the late hours through backroom dealmaking.

The bond ballooned by $1.7 billion over two days while legislative leaders sought to win the votes they needed to pass the measure.

"It is a little bit of a Catch-22," said Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento. "We did go into this thinking it would do better if we kept the financing piece smaller and yet, as we moved toward the finish line, I think we recognized there's a whole lot of unmet need."

Schwarzenegger is expected to sign the bond and four companion bills that would change how the state uses water and manages the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the estuary that funnels fresh water from Northern to Southern California, where most people live.

The Republican governor described the bond as a wise investment to upgrade California's antiquated water system and meet the needs of a growing population. Schwarzenegger noted the bond had fluctuated between $8 billion and $12 billion during the past few months of negotiations.

"What is of interest to me is the result," Schwarzenegger said at a news conference Wednesday. "The result is a great package of approximately $11 billion."

The bond was initially presented to senators at a total cost of $9.4 billion. The biggest increase of $1 billion was inserted by the Assembly late Tuesday to satisfy Southern California area Democrats who complained the bond favored rural areas.

Funding to boost water recycling and groundwater supplies was added at the request of the mayors of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose, Fresno and Santa Ana, according to a copy of an Oct. 23 letter sent to the governor and legislative leaders.

Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, D-Los Angeles, said it was necessary to include resources that represent the entire state.

"The bond that came over from the Senate was not complete," Bass said. "We absolutely had to add the resources to the major population centers would be eligible for funding."

Lawmakers wrote the bond so only half could be sold before July 1, 2015, aiming to minimize initial costs to the state's strapped general fund. Assemblywoman Anna Caballero, D-Salinas, said the cost of the bond would be negligible and there would be no disastrous impact on the general fund.

Department of Water Resources director Lester Snow said the bond would stimulate the economy by encouraging local spending and jobs. Previous water bond dollars have led to an additional $2 to $3 in local construction spending, he said.

STATE BRIEFS

SAN FRANCISCO

Report details area housing, transportation costs

A new study says the average San Francisco Bay Area household spends so much of its income on housing and transportation, that here's not much money left for other basic needs.

A report by the Urban Land Institute found area households spend on average $41,420 per year, or about 59 percent of the area's median household income, on housing costs and getting around.

The study released Wednesday says the region's high transportation and housing costs leave many residents with insufficient resources for health care, education and food.

The report says costs in the nine-county area vary from 54 percent in Santa Clara County to 66 percent in Sonoma County.

The study was released to coincide with The Urban Land Institute's annual fall meeting this week in San Francisco.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE

Success, frustration in Space Elevator Games

A laser-powered machine has zipped thousands of feet up a cable dangling from a helicopter in a competition to develop space elevator technology.

LaserMotive of Seattle qualified for at least $900,000 in the $2 million NASA-backed Space Elevator Games, which began Wednesday at the Dryden Flight Research Center on Edwards Air Force Base.

LaserMotive's vehicle climbed 2,953 feet (nearly 1 kilometer) in just over four minutes and then repeated the feat.

The Kansas City, Mo., Space Pirates went first. Their vehicle was too slow to qualify for a prize but apparently was only about 160 feet short of the top when it had to stop.

Electric space elevators powered by laser beams are theorized as a way to reach space without using rockets.

AP

MENDOTA

Affidavit: Teen says he killed boy found in dryer

Authorities say in court documents that a teenager charged with murder confessed to killing a 4-year-old boy because the child was going to reveal the teen molested him.

Fresno County prosecutors have charged 14-year-old Raul Castro as an adult. His arraignment hearing was postponed Wednesday.

The affidavit was filed by sheriff's Detective Sergio Toscano to get an arrest warrant.

It says Castro lured Alex Mercado into a bathroom and molested him. When Alex threatened to tell his mother, Castro said he held him under water in a bathtub until he died then hid the body in a clothes dryer, the affidavit states.

Castro is scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday on charges including murder and sodomy.

AP

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY'S ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA MONICA AND ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CITY'S PLAN FOR HOMELESS SERVICES

The City Council of the City of Santa Monica will hold a public hearing pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.69.030 to receive public comment on the Annual Review of the City's Plan for Homeless Services for FY 2008-09, receive a progress update on implementation the City's Action Plan to Address Homelessness and consider a strategy for future updates to the Plan. In FY2008-09, work on the six project areas of the Action Plan was advanced through the coordinated efforts of City staff, public agency partners and service providers. The FY 2008-09 Annual Review reports on the performance of the homeless service system. Copies of the Annual Review of the City's Plan for Homeless Services for FY 2008-09 and Action Plan accomplishments are now available to the public on the web at smgov.net, or you may contact the Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, telephone (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2009
at 5:45 p.m. in the City Council Chambers
located at 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

The Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible. If you have any special disability-related needs/accommodations, please contact the Human Services Division at (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696.

2009 Mt. Olive Rummage Sale



Saturday, November 7TH
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Contact Kris with any questions
(310) 452-2342

Italian judge convicts 23 in CIA kidnap case

COLLEEN BARRY &
VICTOR L. SIMPSON
Associated Press Writers

MILAN An Italian judge found 23 Americans and two Italians guilty Wednesday in the kidnapping of an Egyptian terror suspect, delivering the first legal convictions anywhere in the world against people involved in the CIA's extraordinary renditions program.

Human rights groups hailed the decision and pressed President Barack Obama to repudiate the Bush administration's practice of abducting terror suspects and transferring them to third countries where torture was permitted. The American Civil Liberties Union said the verdicts were the first convictions stemming from the rendition program.

The Obama administration ended the CIA's interrogation program and shuttered its secret overseas jails in January but has opted to continue the practice of extraordinary renditions.

The Americans, who were tried in absentia, now cannot travel to Europe without risking arrest as long as the verdicts remains in place.

One of those convicted, former Milan consular official Sabrina De Sousa, accused Congress of turning a blind eye to the entire matter.

"No one has investigated the fact that the U.S. government allegedly conducted a rendition of an individual who now walks free and the operation of which was so bungled," she said, speaking through her lawyer Mark Zaid.

Despite the convictions capping the nearly three-year Italian trial, several Italian and American defendants — including the two alleged masterminds of the abduction — were acquitted due to either diplomatic immunity or because classified information was stricken by Italy's highest court.

The case has been politically charged from the beginning, with attempts to mislead investigators looking into the cleric's disappearance and derail the judicial proceedings once the trial was under way. But the Italian-American relationship, conditioned on such issues as participation in the Afghan campaign, is unlikely to be hurt by the convictions.

Three Americans were acquitted, including the then-Rome CIA station chief Jeffrey Castelli and two other diplomats formerly assigned to the Rome Embassy, as well as the former head of Italian military intelligence Nicolo Pollari and four other Italian secret service agents.

Only two Italians were in the courtroom to hear the verdict, including Marco Mancini, the former No. 2 at Italian military intelligence, who embraced his lawyer outside the courtroom after he was acquitted.

Former Milan CIA station chief Robert Seldon Lady received the top sentence of eight years in prison. The other 22 convicted American defendants, including De Sousa and Air Force Lt. Col. Joseph Romano, each received a five-year sentence. Two Italians got three years each as accessories.

U.S. State Department spokesman Ian Kelly said the Obama administration was "disappointed about the verdicts."

The State Department is being sued by De Sousa, a former State Department employee who denies she was a CIA agent and who believes she should have been granted diplomatic immunity by U.S. officials. The judge's verdict, however, did not extend diplomatic immunity to consular officials charged.

Zaid, De Sousa's American lawyer, told The Associated Press in Washington: "The Italian conviction merely confirms the U.S. government's betrayal of our diplomatic and military representatives overseas."

Romano, who was one of only two Americans who received permission to hire his own lawyer, had tried to have the jurisdiction moved to a U.S. military court in the last weeks of the trial.

"We are clearly disappointed by the court's ruling," Defense Department press secretary Geoff Morrell told a Pentagon press conference Wednesday.

The Americans, all but one identified by prosecutors as CIA agents, were tried in absentia as subsequent Italian governments refused or ignored prosecutors' extradition request — a position that casts doubts on the Italian government's political will to enforce the sentences.

Prosecutor Armando Spataro said he was considering asking Rome to issue international arrest warrants for the fugitive Americans on the strength of the convictions. The government of Silvio Berlusconi, a close ally of President George W. Bush, has previously refused.

The Americans and Italian agents were accused of kidnapping Osama Moustafa Hassan Nasr, also known as Abu Omar, on Feb. 17, 2003, in Milan, then transferring him to U.S. bases in Italy and Germany. He was then moved to Egypt, where he says he was tortured. He has since been released, but has not been permitted to leave Egypt to attend the trial.

Spataro had sought stiffer sentences ranging from 10 to 13 years in jail, citing a conspiracy between U.S. and Italian secret services to abduct Nasr, who was under surveillance by Italian investigators building their own terror case against him. Nasr was suspected of organizing the movement of would-be suicide bombers to the Middle East, and Spataro noted in his closing arguments that the timing of his CIA-led abduction, as the United States was preparing to invade Iraq, indicated his potential importance.

CIA Director Leon Panetta said at his confirmation hearing in February that the administration would continue the practice of rendition for prisoners captured in the war on terrorism, but promised to get assurances first that prisoners would not be tortured or have their human rights violated once transferred.

The CIA declined to comment on the convictions.

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Clunker pickup trades didn't gain much in fuel savings

TED BRIDIS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON The most common deals under the government's $3 billion Cash for Clunkers program, aimed at putting more fuel-efficient cars on the road, replaced old Ford or Chevrolet pickups with new ones that got only marginally better gas mileage, according to an analysis of new federal data by The Associated Press.

The single most common swap — which occurred more than 8,200 times — involved Ford F150 pickup owners who took advantage of a government rebate to trade their old trucks for new Ford F150s. They were 17 times more likely to buy a new F150 than, say, a Toyota Prius. The fuel economy for the new trucks ranged from 15 mpg to 17 mpg based on engine size and other factors, an improvement of just 1 mpg to 3 mpg over the clunkers.

Owners of thousands more large old Chevrolet and Dodge pickups bought new Silverado and Ram trucks, also with only barely improved mileage in the middle teens, according to AP's analysis of sales of $15.2 billion worth of vehicles at nearly 19,000 car dealerships in every state. Those deals helped the Ford F150 and Chevy Silverado — along with Ford's Escape midsize SUV — climb into the Top 10 most-popular vehicles purchased with the government rebates. The most common truck-for-truck and truck-for-SUV deals totaled at least $911 million.

In scores of deals, the government reported spending a total of $562,500 in rebates for new cars and trucks that got worse or the same mileage as the trade-ins — in apparent violation of the program's requirements. The government said it is investigating those reports and said in some cases they were probably entered incorrectly by dealers or based on outdated fuel economy figures.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is still reviewing the reports, and any dealers that submitted invalid trade-ins will be directed to return the government rebate, spokesman Eric Bolton said Wednesday.

The new data, obtained by the AP under the Freedom of Information Act, include details of 677,081 clunker trade-ins processed by the government through Oct. 16. More than 95,000 of the new vehicles purchased under the program — or about one in seven — got less than 20 mpg, according to the data.

The new figures, requested four months ago by the AP, represent the first substantial outside accounting of the clunkers program, lauded by the White House and the Transportation Department for improving fuel economy, stimulating sales and taking the dirtiest vehicles off the road. The data show the average fuel economy was 15.8 mpg for the old vehicles and 24.9 for the new ones. But plenty of consumers bought relatively low-mileage trucks and SUVs with the help of government checks.

"If we're looking for the environmental story here, we're going to be disappointed," said Jeremy Anwyl, chief executive at Edmunds.com, an analyst firm. "It might have started out from the perspective of improving the environment, but it got detoured as a way to stimulate the economy."

Popular high-mileage commuter cars including the Toyota Corolla, Honda Civic, Toyota Camry and Ford Focus also were among the Top 10 most popular new vehicles bought under the four-week program, with 105,280 of those models sold for a total of about $2 billion.

Bolton, the NHTSA spokesman, said Wednesday the program "proved to be a win for the economy and the environment" because it helped financially struggling dealerships and auto manufacturers and because, under the program's rules, clunkers necessarily were replaced with vehicles that got better mileage.

Chris Moss of Smithtown, N.Y., traded in his 1992 white Ford F150 pickup — "it had 5 million miles on it and needed $50,000 in repairs, if you know what I mean" — for a new Chevrolet Malibu hybrid for his wife. When he drove his old truck to the dealership's back lot with the rest of the clunkers, "90 percent of what you saw were old 150s and Explorers," he said. Moss posted a video on YouTube of his old truck's final day, called "Rust In Peace."

The $3 billion program, known officially as the Car Allowance Rebate System, ran from July 27 to Aug. 25 and generally required that new vehicles get better mileage — at least 22 mpg for cars and either 15 mpg or 18 mpg for trucks depending on class — and that trade-ins get no more than 18 mpg. The trade-ins were required to be destroyed in exchange for either $3,500 or $4,500 rebates.

"The value that the customer got for a lot of these vehicles was just a gift, no question," said Scott Pundt, sales vice president for the Dorschel Group of Rochester, N.Y., the No. 4 dealership in the U.S. with 592 vehicles sold under the program. "We were appraising 220,000-mile vehicles that were really rough, and they were getting $3,500 or $4,500 for them." Four out of five old cars turned in there exceeded 100,000 miles.

Some deals raise eyebrows:

• In at least 145 cases, mostly involving trucks, the government reported consumers traded old vehicles that got better than or the same mileage as the new vehicle they purchased. The government said it was continuing to investigate. A driver in Negaunee, Mich., traded a 1987 Suburban that got 18 mpg for $3,500 toward a new Silverado pickup that got only 15 mpg. An Indianapolis driver traded a 1985 Mercedes 190 that got 27 mpg for $3,500 toward a new Volkswagen Rabbit that got only 24 mpg. "It's possible some quirky deal slipped through the cracks," Anwyl said.

121: one to one AAM: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location** B4: before B4N: bye for now B4N: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWL: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin CD: crying in disgrace CMF: confirmed (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSE: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DQMOTD: don't quote me on this EE: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FMTEWTK: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth G2G: got to go G-grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GBAB: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMBO: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GNL: giggling and loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you HAG: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night **HDOP: help delete online predators** HHO: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC-I see IDK: I don't know IHA: I hate acronyms IMC: if I remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my not so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IRL: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALI: I will always love you ITSWIM: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KFY: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? LAB: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let's meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out loud LOMFAO: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LULAS: love you like a sister** LUWAMH: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOOS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you so much NADT: not a darn thing NFBOD: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of affection PEBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJI: pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: put on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT: cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now SAL: span for life SEEK: smiling ear to ear SMOOM: shoot hot coffee out of nose SWAK: sloppy kisses SYL: surfer friendly SMEWI: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STR: search the net SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter TCS: see you soon TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TGIF: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TLA: tell it like it is TMI: too much information TTFN: thinking of you TTYL: talk to you later UR: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn't it be nice if **WITSI: want to go private?** WTG: way to go WU: what's up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you'll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

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Metro Briefs

WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

Eight New Metro Rail Stations Open November 15

Come celebrate the return of rail to East LA with community festivities and free rides on the Edward R. Roybal Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension on Sunday, November 15. The six-mile extension serves the Little Tokyo/Arts District, Boyle Heights, East LA and links to the existing Gold Line to Pasadena. Find out more at *metro.net*.

Breaking Metro News Online At "The Source"

Now you can get instant updates on the issues and actions that keep LA County moving. Just go to "The Source," a real-time online news and feature service that is updated throughout the day on developments that affect Metro's projects and services. Look for it today at *metro.net*.

Westside Residents To Plan Subway Extension

Public meetings are being held to plan various station locations along the proposed routes of the Westside Subway Extension. Metro is currently studying two alternatives for the proposed extension of the Metro Red or Purple lines. Visit *metro.net* or call 213.922.6934 for times and locations.

'Tis The Season To Go Metro

Celebrate the start of the holidays with more than 80 years of tradition. The Hollywood Christmas Parade once again marches down Hollywood Boulevard on Sunday, November 29. Metro Rail's Hollywood/Highland and Hollywood/Vine stations are located on the parade route. Make Santa's "Nice List" by making your trip on Metro.

Downtown Connector Meetings Begin November 5

Update meetings are being held on the proposed Regional Connector Transit Corridor through downtown LA. The project would create a seamless light rail transit link between the Metro Gold and Blue Lines. Visit *metro.net* for times, dates and locations.

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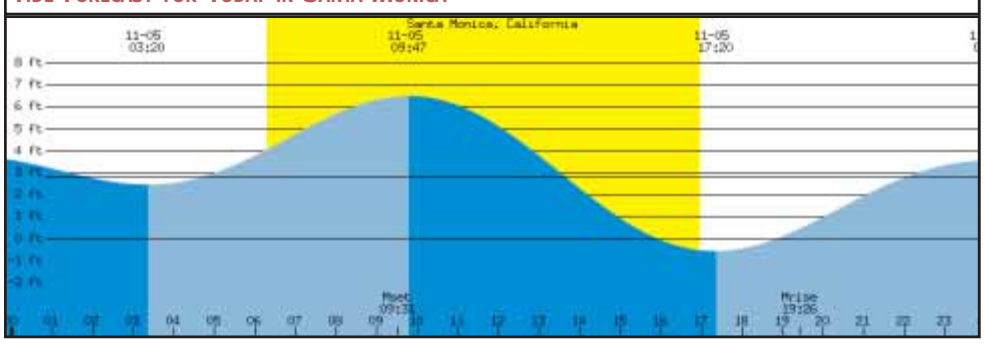
Swell Forecast

Looks smaller, perhaps knee to waist high. Winds are expected to have more of an onshore effect, being light and variable in the AM, picking up onshore throughout the morning.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see the bulk of the NW swell fill in from the north to the south.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **October 14, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 2
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 9

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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.

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

Heal the Bay

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NFL

49ers offense looks to get back on track

JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

SANTA CLARA Frank Gore has a straightforward offensive strategy: make positive yards every time.

That's what the running back regularly reminds his San Francisco 49ers teammates about — small gains are better than no gains or negatives.

"We're getting better," Gore said Wednesday. "Like I keep telling my guys, 'We've got to get positive yards every time we run the ball.'"

Sounds simple enough, yet the 49ers have been inconsistent on offense all season and are still trying to find that identity repeatedly mentioned by coach Mike Singletary since the start of training camp. He is standing by coordinator Jimmy Raye, strong running game or not, spread offense or not, criticism or not.

The Niners (3-4) know they need to get the offense back on track in this Sunday's home game against the Tennessee Titans (1-6), who snapped an eight-game losing streak by beating Jacksonville last week.

"We will," Gore said. "As long as we do our job and everybody's on the same page, we're going to be a good offense."

It hasn't helped San Francisco's cause that the offensive line has changed so much. Right tackle Tony Pashos went on injured reserve last week with a broken left shoulder blade, and left tackle Joe Staley is sidelined for six weeks with a sprained right knee that he hurt in last Sunday's loss at Indianapolis. Staley will miss the first game of his career.

"We're not down at all," said tight end Vernon Davis, who has been a big bright spot with 32 receptions and an NFL-leading seven touchdown catches. "We're just looking forward, trying to keep our confidence. We know we have a championship team."

While San Francisco has had success in the spread offense the past two weeks, Singletary isn't ready to make it his primary attack and put that kind of pressure on quarterback Alex Smith considering the former No. 1 draft pick has been back as the starter for only one game. He took over for the demoted Shaun Hill after halftime at Houston on Oct. 25.

San Francisco has lost three straight and is taking some heat about its offensive plan. Singletary is still focused on running the ball, but also wants more balance — and Smith has shown he can effectively throw the ball. The 49ers produced only 297 yards in a 24-21 loss to the Texans, then just 295 in an 18-14 defeat by the Colts.

Raye is the team's seventh offensive coordinator in as many years, and Singletary insists it will still take time for him to get accustomed to just what he can expect from his players in various situations over the course of a game.

"I 150 percent back what he's doing, absolutely," Singletary said. "There's not one iota that I'm wavering here or there, whatever. Jimmy knows there are some things going forward that he has to learn about our players, what they can and cannot do."

NCAA FOOTBALL

'LaMike' keeps No. 7 Ducks grounded

ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. Oregon quarterback Jeremiah Masoli has shortened LaMichael James' name to "LaMike."

A nickname seems a necessity for the redshirt freshman who has become a key component of the No. 7 Ducks' potent offense. He's called on a lot, and LaMichael is a mouthful.

Oregon's fans are even catching on, suggesting maybe LaMike should be called LaBarry — after NFL Hall of Famer Barry Sanders.

James was named the Pac-10's offensive player of the week after he had 24 carries for 183 yards and a touchdown in Oregon's 47-20 victory over USC on Halloween.

James' rushing yards were the most ever by a freshman at Oregon. He broke his own record set earlier in the season.

"You can't say enough about how that man plays. His long runs give us a spark, but besides that, just him grinding out and getting those tough five yards is one thing we really need on this team," Masoli said.

The performance was the latest in what has been a quick learning curve for James, who came to the Ducks from Texarkana Liberty-Eylau High School in Texas.

James is averaging 114.8 yards rushing a game, ranking him third in the Pac-10 behind Stanford's Toby Gerhart and Oregon State's Jacquizz Rodgers, and 15th in the nation.

He has five games with 100 or more rushing yards. And in the six games he's been a starter, he's averaged 140 yards.

James' 918 total yards so far this season put him at second among freshman running backs at Oregon. Sean Burwell rushed for 969 yards as a freshman in 1990.

Asked to explain his success, James is modest.

"It's determination. I just want to play hard," he said.

At 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, James is small like Rodgers, who made a splash last season as a freshman. Rodgers, who is 5-foot-7, ran for 186 yards against USC and went on to be the first freshman to be named the league's offensive player of the year.

James was given extra responsibility in Oregon's offense after the Ducks dropped their opener at Boise State.

In the aftermath of the nationally televised loss on the Broncos' trademark blue turf, Oregon running back LeGarrette Blount punched Boise State defensive end Byron Hout.

Blount, who rushed for 1,002 yards last season, was suspended for the season the very next day. James, redshirt freshman Kenjon Barner and senior Andre Crenshaw were charged with pulling together Oregon's splintered running game.

The Ducks didn't miss a beat, re-establishing themselves as one of the country's top rushing offenses. Oregon is ranked eighth nationally with an average of 233.25 yards on the ground.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (R) 1hr 27min
7:45, 10:25

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
9:45

The Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 39min
7:10

A Serious Man (R) 1hr 45min
7:30, 10:05

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
7:20, 10:00

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

Paranormal Activity (R) 1hr 39min
7:40, 10:30

Astro Boy (PG) 1hr 34min
8:00, 10:15

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
7:15, 7:45, 10:10

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
7:30, 9:40

Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant (PG-13) 1hr 48min
7:20

Saw VI- Digital Presentation (R) 1hr 31min
7:50, 10:00

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

Amelia (PG) 2hr 5min
7:40, 10:15

The Maid (NR) 1hr 49min
7:45, 10:10

Bronson (R) 1hr 47min
7:30

New York, I Love You (R) 1hr 58min
7:50, 10:15

The Fall (NR) 2hr 13min
4:00, 9:25

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

Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1hr 47min
7:40, 10:20

Law Abiding Citizen (R) 1hr 48min
7:50, 10:30

Michael Jackson's This Is It (PG) 2hrs 1min
7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 10:10, 10:40

The Stepfather (PG-13) 1hr min41
8:10

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

Add music to the mix, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Keep watching what is going on around you. The scene changes so quickly, it's like you are viewing a movie. Surprise heads your way, adding suspense into the mix. A meeting provides a cohesive plan. Tonight: Hang out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Curb a need to be possessive, and just listen to what is being offered. Don't act as if you are in a negotiation but rather are just hanging out. You might be quite delighted by what is offered. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for others. You will find that some people are highly responsive, while others drag their heels. Be aware of your limits with a difficult parent or boss. You don't want to cause yourself a problem. Tonight: Whatever puts a smile on your face.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ At this point, you might want to lie back and gain information. News could cause many to regroup and think. You are able to get past someone who doesn't intend deception but does create confusion. Tonight: Do for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Listen to what is being shared in a meeting. You might need to break away from an associate a little in order to maximize a business opportunity or personal option. Many people have unusual creativity and get-up-and-go. Tonight: Where the action is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others look to you for leadership and direction. You are on top of your game, and others respond. The one exception could be a partner who feels he or she has the right to create uproar. Let this person do what he or she needs to do. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for another person. You have an opportunity to jump on a risk that just might work. The unexpected occurs at work and could have your nerves fried. Use your imagination. Tonight: Think about adding music into the mix.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ One-on-one relating emphasizes an anchored point of view. Still, you have an idea that keeps coming to the forefront of your mind. Perhaps you need to delay a decision until you can check out this thought. Tonight: Say yes to a dinner invitation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Defer to others and understand what is going on behind the scenes. You realize someone is withholding key information from you, making you uncomfortable. Listen to news, understanding you have the choice of making a change. Tonight: Sort through your options.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Take it easy and stay centered. You might not want to handle a person as you have. Clearly, he or she has an enormous impact on your daily life. Deal with people directly, but also remain secure. You hold the cards. Tonight: Try to make it an early night.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your ingenuity and spirit come through for you more times than not. You could be dealing with someone who is a problem or who limits you. If you want to escape this situation, know that you can. Tonight: Let stress go and let fun in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Your unpredictability works against you. Understand that many people need more stability, especially if they're insecure about the times or their budget. Is there another way of expressing yourself? Tonight: Head home.

Happy birthday

This year, you greet change more openly than in the past. You recognize what you can and cannot hold on to. Be aware of others and their influence on your life. A child or grandchild might be rebellious, upsetting your daily life and a relationship. Prioritize. Be firm with your boundaries. You will learn information about those in your immediate circle or family that might be hard to believe. If you are single, you could meet several exciting people. Stability goes hand in hand with relationships this year. So does excitement. If you are attached, the status quo might change, but you can make the adjustment as partners. Be more understanding and receptive than you have in the past. GEMINI reads you cold.

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

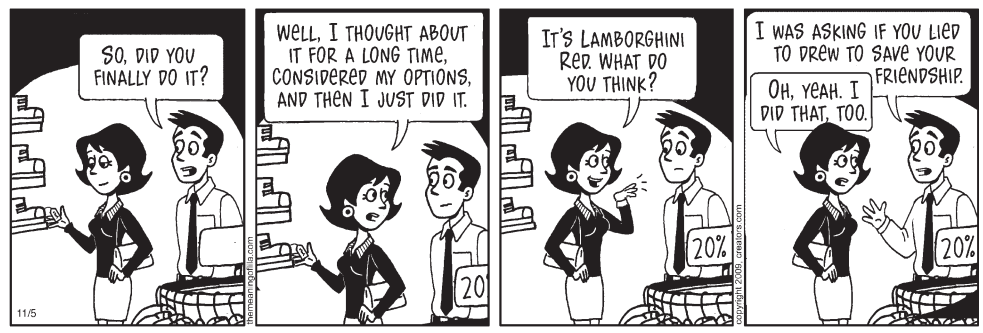
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



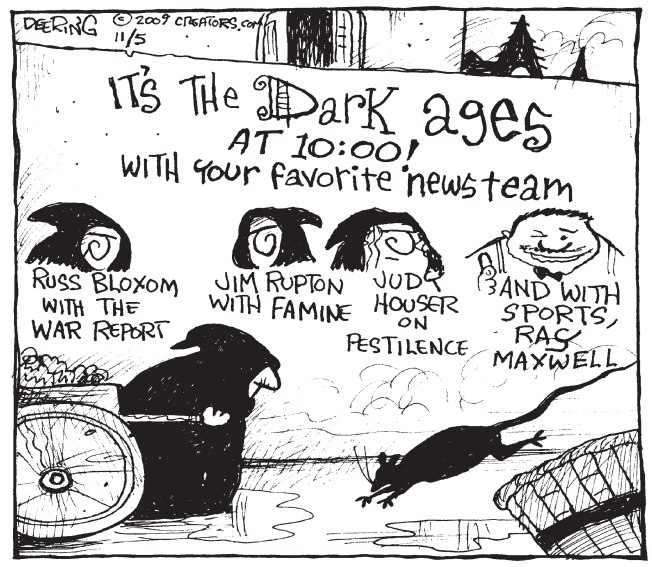
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Leslie Thomas *news@smdp.com*

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

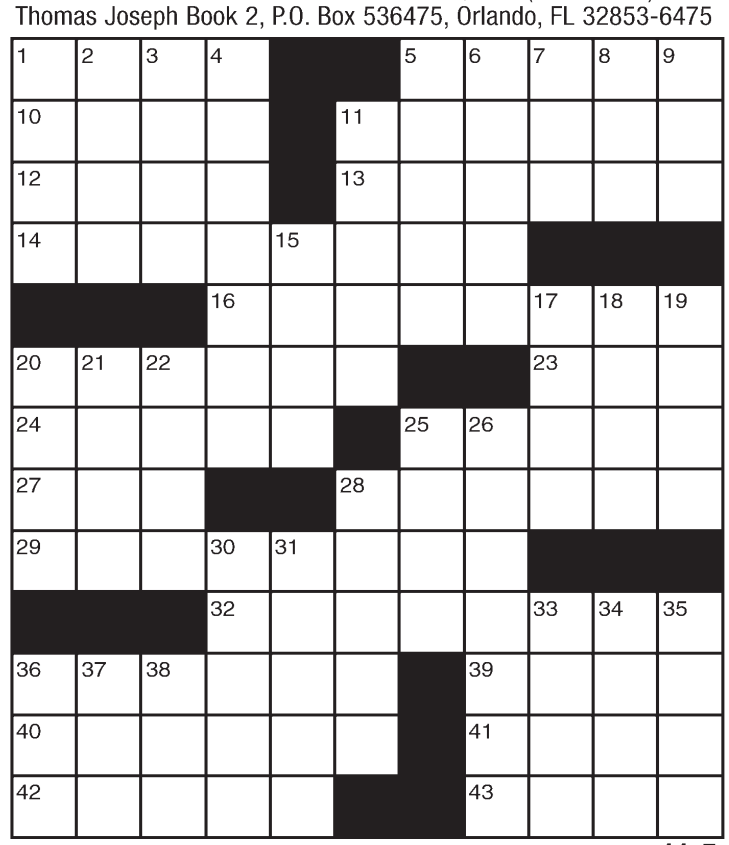
ACROSS

1 Vats
5 Avoids
10 On the peak of
11 Platter player
12 Road division
13 Sullies
14 Pro-testers, at times
16 Constitu-tions
20 In unison
23 Puppy cry
24 River of France
25 Segment
27 Super-lative ending
28 Warded (off)
29 Yaks
32 Book parts
36 Building workers
39 Met song
40 Charm
41 Serengeti sight
42 Roof feature
43 "Why not!"
3 — fide
4 Kath-arine's frequent co-star
5 Fab drummer
6 Bank job
7 Fancy vase
8 Court divider
9 Distress call
11 Place
15 Quaker's pronoun
17 Took in
18 Aqueduct event
19 Went 80
20 Baldwin of "30 Rock"
21 "Gee whiz!"
22 Meter maid of song
25 Crime doer, in slang
26 Load
28 Banquet
30 Immune system compo-nent
31 Crowd count
33 Niagara's source
34 Mob action
35 Lacking
36 Decline
37 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
38 Soho saloon

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

Yesterday's answer

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11-5

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DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 1 7 EVENING: 7 6 3

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Britain's Clumsiest Art Patron:** On the opening day of a Tate Modern gallery exhibit in London on Oct. 14, 12,500 visitors examined Polish artist Miroslaw Balka's installation of a 100-by-42-by-32-foot box that is pitch black inside, lined with light-absorbing material. However, only one of the patrons managed to bump hard enough into a wall of the container to draw blood.

■ **Sensitive!** (1) St. Paul, Minn., police were called to the 1300 block of Desoto Street in July by a 43-year-old man, who demanded that a report be filed because he had found a slice of half-eaten pizza near his fence and thought it represented someone's intent to "harass" him. (2) A 56-year-old man was cited by police in Carlisle, Pa., in September after a complaint from neighbor Brian Taylor, 43, who swore that the man had flicked a toothpick onto the sidewalk in front of Taylor's home just to "annoy" him.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1862 American Civil War: Abraham Lincoln removes George B. McClellan as commander of the Union Army for the second and final time.

1862 Indian Wars: In Minnesota, 303 Dakota warriors are found guilty of rape and murder of whites and are sentenced to hang. 38 are ultimately executed; the others are reprieved.

1872 Women's suffrage: In defiance of the law, suffragist Susan B. Anthony votes for the first time, and is later fined $100.

1895 George B. Selden is granted the first U.S. patent for an automobile.

1911 After declaring war on the Ottoman Empire on September 29, 1911, Italy annexes Tripoli and Cyrenaica.

1913 King Otto of Bavaria is deposed by his cousin, Prince Regent Ludwig, who assumes the title Ludwig III.

1916 The Kingdom of Poland is proclaimed by the Act of November 5th of the emperors of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

WORD UP!

skulduggery \skul-DUG-uh-ree\ , noun; also skullduggery 1. Devious, dishonest, or unscrupulous behavior or activity; also: an instance thereof.

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409 16th Street
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and Charm!

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3 Bed, 4.5 Bath
$3,395,000
Gorgeous Remodeled
Single Family
Open Sunday
November 8th 1-4 pm

Open Sunday
1-4 pm



Open
Sunday
1-4 pm

2004 Marine Street
3 Bed, 4.5 Bath
$1,699,000
Sunset Prk Hm w 1,400 sq ft Basement
Open Sunday, November 8th 1-4 pm



Open
Sunday
1-4 pm

2254 21st Street
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Santa Monica Canyon	$2,599,500	$4,802,500
North of Montana	$2,800,000	$1,372,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,750,000	$898,000
South of Wilshire	$869,000	$607,500
Sunset Park	$1,274,000	$589,000
Ocean Park	$1,398,000	$995,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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