



COLBERT GETS FRAMED
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS P21

WEEKEND EDITION



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Santa Monica Daily Press

December 2-3, 2006

Since 2001: A news odyssey

Volume 6 Issue 17

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MEGA MILLIONS
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DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 2 0 9
EVENING: 3 1 7

DAILY DERBY
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

ASIA'S GAME: According to an October report in the Asian Wall Street Journal, golf camps in China, Japan, South Korea and Singapore teach kids as young as 2, in many cases merely because parents are awed by the financially successful pro golfer Michelle Wie, who started at age 4. Some adult golfers in Thailand understand the obsession, such as those who play the Kantarat course in Bangkok, whose fairways are between active runways of Don Muang airport, with the "smell of kerosene on the first tee" and the occasional need to dodge planes to play a tough lie. And China's Xiamen University recently began requiring that students majoring in management, law and software engineering take a course in golf, to round out a "socially elite" education.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 336th day of 2006.
There are 29 days left in the year.

1804 Napoleon was crowned emperor of France.

WORD UP!

debouch \dih-BOWCH; -BOOSH
1. To march out (as from a wood, defile, or other narrow or confined spot) into the open. 2. To emerge; to issue. *transitive verb:* 1. To cause to emerge or issue; to discharge.

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

SUB-WOOFER: Sammy, a 7-year-old golden retriever, waits for his owner to return from the Brentwood Country Mart earlier this week. Less attention around the holidays, according to some experts, can leave dogs in the throes of depression.

Keep your muzzle up, Buddy

For canines, it's often a blue Christmas

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

The furry canines, man's best friend, have been known to howl the holiday blues this time of year.

CITYWIDE — It's the most wonderful time of the year, unless you're a dog.

Call it depression or call it anxiety, but a dog's mood can change in the

final weeks of the year, when the home environment is altered with large Christmas trees, blinking lights and an

See DEPRESSED DOGS, page 15

SEE RELATED STORY

■ Dog park could be tainted Page 3

Sonic youth: Grammys give Samohi some soul

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOH — With wide smiles on their faces, roughly 30 music students were treated to a special live performance here on Friday by one of the industry's leading female vocalists as part of the Grammy Foundation's SoundChecks series, where youth are allowed to get up close and personal with their favorite artists.

Neo-soul chanteuse Corinne

Bailey-Rae, a native of Leeds, England, whose self-titled debut premiered at the top of the charts in February, grabbed her acoustic guitar, and with the help of a bandmate, serenaded the crowd of starstruck teens for more than an hour, playing her hits "Like A Star" and "Put Your Records On" — the two songs she performed recently on "Saturday Night Live."

But the best part, for many stu-

See SOUNDCHECKS, page 14



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

'STAR' TURN: Singer Corinne Bailey-Rae, accompanied by a bandmate, sings for Santa Monica High School students on Friday as part of the SoundChecks series.

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A newspaper with issues



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THE WESTSIDE TODAY

IT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006

Winterlit Best Gift Ever gift drive
Third Street Promenade, 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Winterlit Holiday Fashion Show
Third Street Promenade, 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Children's Book Signing, Smally's
Secret Alphabook
Shakti's Elements, 2:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Red Chief! — Children's theater in
Santa Monica
Third Street Promenade, 3 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

LF Stores Holiday Fashion
Celebration!!
Main Street Santa Monica, 6 p.m. — 9
p.m.

AUDITION! THE MUSICAL
Santa Monica Playhouse, 7 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.

Debbie Merrill's Learn To Inline
Skate Group Class
Perry's Cafe, 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2006

Mar Vista Farmers' Market
Downtown Mar Vista, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

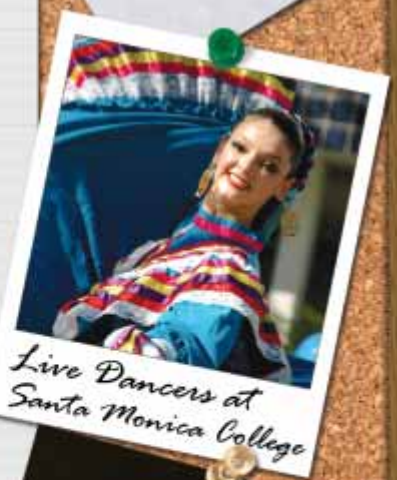
Break Point Bridge Sunday
Meeting
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club, 10:30 a.m.
— Noon.

Lawn Bowling Lessons
Douglas Park, 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

All About Santa
Santa Monica Playhouse, 12:30 p.m. — 1:45
p.m.



Mar Vista
Farmers Market
Downtown Mar Vista, 9
a.m. — 1 p.m.



Live Dancers at
Santa Monica College



Santa Monica Daily Press

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High court takes on 'Bong Hits'

BY MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court stepped into a dispute over free speech Friday involving a suspended high school student and his banner that proclaimed "Bong Hits 4 Jesus."

The justices agreed to hear the appeal by the Juneau, Alaska, school board and principal Deborah Morse of a lower court ruling that allowed the student's civil rights lawsuit to proceed. The school board hired former Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr to argue its case to the high court.

Morse suspended Joseph Frederick after he displayed the banner, with its reference to marijuana use, when the Olympic torch passed through Juneau in 2002 on its way to the Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

Frederick, then a senior, was off school property when he hoisted the banner but was suspended for violating the school's policy of promoting illegal substances at a school-sanctioned event.

The Alaska case was one of three appeals the court accepted Friday.

It will also consider a request from the Bush administration to kill a lawsuit challenging the White House's promotion of federal financing for faith-based charities.

The program has been a staple of President Bush's political agenda since 2001, when he created the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

The Freedom from Religion Foundation, based in Madison, Wis., claims that the administration is violating a constitutional ban on state-supported religions by singling out particular faith-based organizations as worthy of federal funding.

Over administration objections, a federal appeals court earlier said the foundation's members could mount a court challenge to a program funded by Congress.

The court also agreed to hear an appeal from federal Bureau of Land Management officials who are trying to stop a lawsuit by Wyoming ranch owner Harvey Frank Robbins. Robbins accuses the federal officials of persecuting him in an effort to get him to give the government access to roads that cut across his land.



Stop, or they'll whinny

SMPD Mounted Division Officers Rob Dawson (left) and his partner, Phillbo Rubish, ride south down Main Street during their Holiday Deployment Patrol on Friday.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Please curb your waste

Popular dog park to reopen today after soil tests are performed to gauge toxicity

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

BRENTWOOD — A popular dog park here is expected to reopen today following a two-day environmental assessment to detect whether the soil is dangerously contaminated from toxic waste dumped in the 1950s.

On Friday afternoon, Barrington Avenue was bustling with cars cramming the street and shoppers going in and out of the expensive boutiques. Barrington Dog Park, however, was a different story.

East Fields, the dog park and half of the parking lot were all closed on Thursday and Friday to allow Michael Noel, a certified indus-

trial hygienist from Millennium Environmental Consulting Associates, to conduct soil surface testing to determine whether any contamination exists, and if so, whether the levels are dangerous to animals and humans.

The test comes on the heels of an article written up by reporter Michael Collins in Los Angeles City Beat in May that found a ravine adjacent to the park was contaminated with biomedical research waste that both UCLA and the Veterans Administration of Greater Los Angeles dumped from 1952-1968. Collins' research found that the waste included radioactive tritium and animal carcasses.

It was an article alarming enough to prompt LA City Councilman Bill Rosendahl,

whose district includes Brentwood, to contact the VA Hospital and the central VA office to find out exactly what is going on in Barrington Park.

"The local people were miffed," Rosendahl said on Friday. "We need to find out what is really here and we need to know if it's serious enough to do mitigating things."

Officials at the Veterans Administration of Greater LA do not believe there is a serious health risk at the arroyos adjacent to the park, but felt in light of the article and concerns raised by city officials, it was necessary to conduct an independent comprehensive study on the site so that the hospital would have actual documentation showing the park is safe, said Ralph Tillman, director of asset management of VA of Greater LA.

The waste is categorized as low level radioactive medical waste. Medical waste

See DOG PARK, page 12

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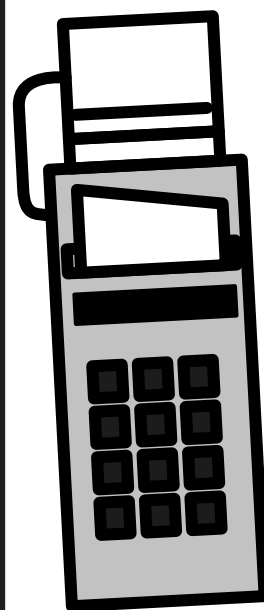
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police should take it to the streets

Editor:

So Santa Monica is going to purchase communication/video/computer gear for our police fleet at about \$12,000 per unit. It's great that we live in such a well-funded community, I guess. But residents, and City Council members for that matter, have no way to quantify whether this purchase over three years will reduce crime or make our cops better at what they're supposed to do. Crime goes up, crime goes down, and through it all our police do their best. Or do they?

What's remarkable about the \$1.4 million equipment deal is this: The police also are going to be purchasing, over the next few years, 120 new vehicles; 120 police cars in a city that's about eight square miles. That works out to 15 police vehicles per square mile, or, roughly, one cop car for every 2.5 square blocks. Which raises the question: Why is it we rarely see the police, except on their way to some call?

Don't get me wrong, our officers are great. If somebody's car-camping outside your home, for example, they'll come and make 'em leave. If you have an emergency, they respond — quickly, professionally.

But could we do better? I'd love to see at least one of those 120 police vehicles regularly drive up and down my street and alley, and maybe the officers inside their high-tech rides once in a while could roll down their windows and stop to say hello and meet my family as we work and play outside.

Even more than that, I think cops should actually walk the sidewalks — low-tech, high-value police work. Because of our council's misguided and unsustainable housing policies, I assume many, if not most, regular patrolmen and women can't afford to live in Santa Monica, especially the new ones. But that doesn't mean police can't get to know our special community and the people they're here to serve — it's harder to do that inside a car, watching a computer screen.

Mark Shepherd
Santa Monica

Going postal over jaywalking

Editor:

I have been mailing letters at the main post office since I moved here as a boy in 1957 — and 99 times out of 100 (times), I've done so by "jaywalking" in the middle of the block across Fifth Street. On Tuesday (Nov. 28), I received a \$30 citation, with the officer saying, "We've received a lot of complaints about near-misses here."

Oh, really? I've never witnessed a single one in all my almost-daily trips to the post office. Has anybody else?

Certainly, the SMPD has been vigilant about handing out moving violation tickets for making U-turns on the block — a virtual necessity unless you want to park a block away or more just to run in a letter or buy stamps. Wouldn't a warning have been sufficient? Or perhaps some public comment from the police that we are going to be citing for this, so straighten up your act, Santa Monica? How about signs posted inside the post office alerting patrons to this sudden overnight enforcement policy?

People die by the thousands each and every day from the evils of smoking, but the city's new no smoking policy, which took effect Thanksgiving Day in Santa Monica, gives all those lung-wrenching law-breakers amnesty until Jan. 1, 2007. Amnesty and all sorts of warnings, like friendly Explorers handing out flyers on the (promenade). Not so for us postal "jaywalkers." Lucky for me I was able to e-mail this Letter to the Editor.

Hey, there's an idea ... that doesn't bode well for the U.S. Postal system.

Michael Pardridge
Santa Monica



Borat make offense, make funny or both?



MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER

There is a movie out now called "Borat," whose lead character is anti-Semitic, racist and misogynistic. Oh, one more thing: I liked it.

Obviously, I'm not alone. So far, the movie has taken in more than \$100 million in America and another \$50 million in foreign box office. What does this say about us? Are our countries filled with bigots who enjoy cheering on another bigot? Or are people watching the movie because it exposes bigotry and ignorance? Or should it be viewed as "just a movie?"

The full name of the movie is "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan." It's the brainchild of British performer Sasha Baron Cohen. The movie is a fake documentary in which the character of Borat poses as a Kazakh journalist who is making a film about America. He involves real, non-acting, non-suspecting Americans in his supposed quest for understanding the culture of our country. Borat portrays his own country as ridiculously backward and immoral, and Cohen portrays Borat as ridiculously backward and immoral.

At first blush, it seems like "Borat" is making fun of Kazakhstan and foreigners, but as you sit there watching the absurd depiction of this country and its residents, you realize that the movie is making fun of people who are ignorant about foreign places and people. And to one degree or another, most of us fall into that category. Admit it. Do you know exactly where Kazakhstan is?

As Cohen put it, "The joke is on people who can believe that the Kazakhstan that I describe can exist — who believe that there's a country where homosexuals wear blue hats ... and the age of consent has been raised to 9 years old."

But there is still a legitimate question of whether portraying a bigot as lovable and comical is ever OK. The same question arose when "All in The Family" first came on the air in the 1970s. Was lovable, bumbling Archie Bunker promoting bigotry, or was he exposing it and its ignorance? It's a tough question and one that has no easy answer. So, if you're someone who believes that certain subjects should never be joked about, I

can respect that. Of course, you'll be missing out on some big laughs.

Some people are suing the moviemakers, claiming they were tricked into participating in the film — even though they signed releases. I can sympathize with some of them. They opened their homes to someone they thought wanted to learn about America, and he turned around and made fun of them. On the other hand, for those who rail against gays or women in the movie, it's hard for me to feel sorry for the fact that they may have been tricked. The Mel Gibson defense of "I was drunk" and Michael Richards' defense of "that wasn't the real me" don't work here either.

But once one lawsuit was filed, others quickly followed. Don't be surprised if we soon see lawsuits from people who claim things like, "I have an uncle named Borat, and he'd never bring a live chicken on the subway."

Here's what I thought about the movie: It's offensive, it's silly, it's juvenile, and it's really, really funny.

So, I don't think it's such a big hit because millions of people share a fictional Borat's offensive view of the world. And it's not because millions of people who hate bigotry are thrilled to see it exposed in such an exaggerated manner on the screen. I think it's a hit because, to millions of people, it's simply funny.

I'm sure part of its success has to do with its making fun of political correctness. We are so serious about everything these days that people seem to enjoy laughing about things that aren't supposed to be funny.

All of this reminds me of the advertising slogan for the old movie "That's Entertainment!" The movie came out in 1974, and it was a compilation of clips from MGM musicals. The year was not a particularly happy time — tensions between blacks and whites, and rich and poor seemed to be mounting each day. The number of countries with the nuclear bomb had increased. And that was the year that Nixon resigned. It was the perfect time for a movie that could make people smile and laugh.

These are pretty serious times, too. So to me, it's not surprising that a big, broad, laughing-out-loud comedy would be a hit today. Oh, that old advertising slogan I referred to? It was, "Boy, do we need it now."

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The Q-Line

RACIAL EPITHETS NONE TOO ENTERTAINING

This past week, Q-Line asked:
Are the Mel Gibson and Michael Richards rants the isolated feelings of two Hollywood racists, or is racism still rampant in Los Angeles County?
Here are your responses:

“The stresses of our current society — overcrowding, gridlock traffic, rising crime rates, the chaotic mess in Washington D.C. and local politics — all contribute to the polarization among peoples. People begin to strike out and strike back. It shows itself in many ways, including racism.”

“There is probably still a lot of racism in Hollywood and other places. Most people have sense enough to keep their big mouth shut, unlike Mel Gibson and Michael Richards. Look at the results — Gibson insulted the Jews and Richards insulted black people, and people will boycott their movies and TV shows, and write letters to the editor and all that. They want apologies. Just think if they insulted Muslims, they'd probably be dead by now.”

“Whenever a multitude of people of various races and religions are congested together in a geographical area there will often be negative comments and flare-ups regarding race and religion. Racist comments come to the surface when a person of any given race is misbehaving — often by the recipient and the donor of the racist slur. Perhaps Michael Richards, being a minority Jewish person, was upset by being heckled by two minority black men in a time when racial cohesion is important. I do not recall if the two black men referred to Richards as being a honky. Still, this flare-up does not make Richards or the two black men racists. When a wife comments to her husband in a negative manner about his personality, it does not mean she hates her husband. Or if a person comments about a rotten apple in a barrel, it does not mean that person hates apples, nor does it mean that they will stop eating apples. We all have our prejudices. I hope and trust that each person put their prejudices to rest and let their smile be their umbrella.”

“The Constitution gives us the right to free speech. Gibson is a racist. Richards was angry. He's a comic and he was performing and the two men were very rude by interfering with his performance. There is no reason for them to receive any money, an apology should suffice. He is not a racist.”

“I think that it's indicative of the society that we live in today. There is nothing worse than poor white trash. And sometimes, white trash is way worse than being a black or Jew or whatever.”

“Gibson's and Richards' rants are isolated feelings of two Hollywood racists. But racism is still institutionally rampant in LA County and the good ol' USA. It's sad, but true.”

“Racism is still rampant in LA County and it works both ways. If you are the only white in a working environment and you are working with Hispanics, blacks, Asians and those from other

countries, if you are the only white, they can be as nasty to you as you can imagine. They can hate you because you are white. So please, forget about racism towards the blacks, it applies to anyone who finds themselves as a minority.”

“I do believe that hate crimes are still rapid, not only in LA County, but in the whole country. And these hate crimes are active towards blacks, Asians, whites, Hispanics, women and gays. This is an everyday occurrence. And as far as Gibson and Richards, when you're angry, you're drunk ... it doesn't really excuse that behavior. It just makes it easier to spread your hate. When you're drinking, it takes away the inhibitions that would usually keep that language back. But if you squeeze an orange, you get orange juice. If you squeeze a bigot, you get hate out — alcohol and anger just make it easier.”

“I don't believe it is a racist thing. I just believe it is someone who can't control the amount of alcohol he puts in his system and the electrolytes that go to his brain tell him things to say. Just like a Mexican would call me a “honky” or a “gringo.” Same thing, I don't feel offended. I am a honky. I am a gringo. But it seems black people have been so oppressed over the years that they still feel less than what they are, but they are not. It's just in their heads.”

“People say all kinds of things. That's what is great about free speech. If you don't like vulgar or racist speech, don't support their movies, records or stand-up comedy. Put forward Darwin's theory of survival of the fittest in comedic terms. Jay Leno and David Letterman prevail because they are funny without being vulgar or racist. Those who are not either change or fall by the wayside. Don't let millionaire professional racial agitators like Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and Maxine Walters use race as a means to limit free speech.”

“As long as there are people of color, racism will never go away.”



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NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS CITY OF SANTA MONICA COMMISSION FOR THE SENIOR COMMUNITY

One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2010.
Must be a registered voter in the City.
May not hold paid office/employment in the City government.
Applications due by noon, Tuesday, January 2, 2007.
Appointment to be made by City Council, January 9, 2007.



The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's Office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at <http://www.santa-monica.org>. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Young models take to the runway

By Daily Press staff

See the latest fall and holiday fashions — modeled by “newly minted” kid and teen models — at the Winterlit Holiday Fashion Show.

Area kids and teens chosen at a community audition the week prior will showcase fashions from Santa Monica Place, Downtown Santa Monica and Third Street Promenade merchants. The high-energy fashion show, complete with runway, music and lights, will be staged on the Third Street Promenade. One of Los Angeles fashion show producers, James Campbell Productions, is staging the full-scale production.

The show will be on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on the Third Street Promenade near Broadway.

For more information, call Rocco Pavone at (310) 394-5451.

An 8-track mind: Red Cross recycles obsolete electronics

By Daily Press staff

Youth volunteers from the American Red Cross of Santa Monica will be collecting old electronics — stereos, television sets, telephones, computers and more at the Wild Oats Natural Marketplace, 1425 Montana Ave., on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The consumer electronic recyclables will be collected free of charge in association with California Recycles, a private electronic waste management company. A portion of the proceeds obtained from recycling the old electronics will benefit Santa Monica Red Cross youth programs.

Recent changes in state law prohibits the disposal of old and used electronics, including batteries, in the trash. Consumer electronic items including electronic office equipment must be disposed of properly, and that includes recycling.

Items that can be recycled include CRT monitors and television sets, regular and cellular telephones, phone answering machines, cell phones and accessories.

Stereo equipment including loudspeakers, tape and cassette players and recorders, DVD and VCR players, computers and computer peripherals, scanners and fax machines, batteries, printer cartridges, audio and videotapes and floppy discs are all recyclable.

The Santa Monica Red Cross and California Recycles suggest that files and personal data be erased from hard drives of computers and cell phone or home telephone memories turned in for recycling.

For additional information or to inquire about other programs or assistance, call (310) 394-3773 or go online at www.redcrossofsantamonica.org.

British ex-pats get a second chance

By Daily Press staff

British ITV (Independent Television) is producing a new series that will feature ex-pat British families who are contemplating a permanent return to the United Kingdom.

The entire family will be flown to London for an all-expense-paid visit. They will have a chance to research housing, schools and living conditions in the area of Britain they may wish to settle.

After their trip, if they do decide to re-emigrate, the TV show will follow their re-settlement.

Interested families can apply in person to Brian or Mike at the Continental Shop at 1619 Wilshire Blvd.

A voice for peace

By Daily Press staff

Listen in for the first speaking tour of B'nai B'rith's (incoming) international president, Moishe Smith, a long-time leader of both BBI and B'nai B'rith Canada. He will share his experiences and provide insight into BBI's work toward peace in the Middle East.

The event will be on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Sinai Temple, 10400 Wilshire Blvd..

To RSVP, call Lyndia Lowy, program coordinator, at (888) 274-8418 or e-mail llowy@bnaibrith.org.



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Resident artist finds inspiration discarded

BY LISA LEFF

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Other artists might take offense if someone described their work as derivative junk and their studio as a real dump. Not Nome Edonna, the newest artist-in-residence at the place where San Francisco's garbage goes.

Edonna, a painter and fan of vintage collectibles, couldn't be more inspired as he picks through a pile of rubbish that a pickup truck just added to the heap in a salvage sorting warehouse.

Wearing gloves and work boots, he inspects what appear to be the vestiges of an old woman's estate — letters written in Spanish, crystal sherbet dishes wrapped in newspaper, used jars of cold cream — and adds a tattered pink lampshade to his metal shopping cart.

"If you like digging through stuff, it's like a dream come true," said Edonna, 33, who is thinking about making a hand-built phonograph and a skull sculpture out of forsaken computer monitors during his four-month stint turning trash to treasure. "I can't think of another residency I'd rather have."

Although the idea of turning discarded objects into "found" art is not new, San Francisco may be the only city where artists are paid to create masterpieces from the raw material of people's lives. For 16 years, the private company that runs the city's recycling program has provided Bay Area artists with a \$1,900 monthly stipend, fully equipped work space and an end-of-term public art exhibit, along with access to a first-class assortment of castoffs.

The purpose of the competitive program is to reduce waste that would otherwise end up in a landfill by showing how it can be creatively reused, said Paul Fresina, who runs the artist-in-residence program for NorCal Waste Systems.

"I want the message to be, 'Go try this at home,'" Fresina said.

About 60 artists apply for the program each year and between four and eight are selected. Most who have participated work in the visual arts, although a handful of writers and musicians have been chosen.

Besides pledging to work at the dump for a certain number of hours per week, artists in the program are required to donate three finished pieces to the dump.

The work ends up decorating NorCal Waste System's offices, in a gallery that school groups visit during tours of the garbage facility, or in a sculpture garden designed by Susan Steinman, one of the program's first residents and the sister of photographer Annie Leibovitz.

tographer Annie Leibovitz.

"We have a better art collection than most companies," Fresina said.

The salvage warehouse, where the artists prowl, is off-limits to the public and contains refuse people pay to dump instead of the garbage hauled from curbs and trash bins throughout the city. As trucks unload construction debris, mattresses, electronics, record albums and books, plant workers salvage the best of the lot for thrift stores, homeless shelters and themselves.

It's a sweet gig, if you don't mind the smell or depressing sense of waste that comes with the territory, according to several artists. Cameras, sewing machines and televisions that still work, unopened kitchen gadgets and barely used office furniture join unpublished manuscripts, bottles of perfume and sports trophies in an inconspicuous display of consumption and longing.

Touched by the stacks of carefully assembled photo albums that surely would have been wanted by someone, somewhere, artist Noah Wilson created an exhibit earlier this year of black-and-white landscapes from the 1920s and '30s using transparencies and negatives he culled from the reject pile.

"A lot of people are instantly baffled by the idea of digging through trash, but once I tell them the things I found, they think it's pretty cool," said Sudhu Tewari, another artist picked for this term's residency.

Tewari, 29, makes kinetic sculptures and musical instruments, so he needs a lot of scrap metal and moving parts for his projects. While combing the mound one recent morning, though, he bypasses a rusty stationary bicycle with all its parts in hopes of finding a newer model. He sees two or three other such remnants of failed New Year's resolutions get dropped off every day.

Deborah Munk, who helps coordinate the art program, said some artists get so entranced by the possibilities that she has to pull them out of the warehouse two months into their residencies and say, "OK, stop digging around and start making something."

While much of the art that gets made at the dump has an industrial feel to it, such as the ethereal sculpture crafted from empty vodka bottles, artist Kim Weller decided to take her work to another level earlier this year. Weller scavenged thin sheets of wood from abandoned doors and shipping crates, sanded, repaired and painted them in Day-Glo colors that mirrored the safety vests dump workers wear.

The result was a 3-D recreation of a summer's day at the beach scene from the cover of an Archie comic book.

Kate Bransfield



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STATE BRIEFS

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LOS ANGELES

The straight and narrow can prove costly

Eighteen cars were towed and 113 tickets issued Wednesday as a new ordinance went into effect to keep narrow canyon streets clear for fire trucks.

When city officials declare a red flag alert, parking is banned in designated areas that are marked with "Red Flag/No Parking" signs. The City Council approved the ordinance earlier this year.

Firefighters and others distributed fliers overnight on cars parked in affected areas. Most streets designated with the signs are narrow or have turns that fire engines may be unable to make with cars parked on the shoulders.

"There has been general compliance, and people are moving their cars into their driveways or onto other streets," Capt. Carlos Calvillo said. "The people understand the importance of it, and they know how dangerous it would be if fire trucks can't get through."

Red flag warnings signify a high risk of fire due to combinations of low humidity and high winds.

Residents can find out when red flag alerts are in effect by checking the Fire Department's Web site at lafd.org, calling the city 311 operator or monitoring news broadcasts.

LONG BEACH

Method actors: City has the patent on filtration

The city's desalination process received a patent number that protects the technology from unlicensed users.

Developed by engineers at the Water Department, the patent came more than four years after the department filed for it.

The patent will become effective Dec. 5.

The federal government, which gave more than \$5 million to the effort, is a partner with

the city, which contributed \$2 million, and the state, which offered \$3 million, officials said.

The idea for the "Long Beach Method," a two-step filtration process, emerged in 1999, when a manager at the Water Department sought to lower the amount of energy needed to make seawater potable.

In the second phase of testing, the method produces 300,000 gallons of desalinated water each day. If the testing and research are successful, the city plans to build a 10 million-gallon-a-day plant that could supply 10 percent to 15 percent of the city's water supply.

LOS ANGELES

Sisters escape when killer runs out of bullets

Two sisters escaped harm when a gang member who had just killed a rival turned the gun on them but had no more bullets.

Juan Manuel Alonzo, 23, was killed about 5 p.m. Tuesday near Kittridge Street Elementary School in Van Nuys. No arrests were made, but police said they know who the gunman is. The shooting appeared to be gang-related.

The sisters, ages 14 and 9, said the man tried to shoot them apparently because they witnessed the crime, police said.

"After murdering the other guy, he gets in his car, turns around and turns the weapon on the two witnesses," police Detective James Nuttall said. "He squeezed the trigger three times, and fortunately unaware of his weapon's limitations, each bullet had already been fired."

The killing occurred as gang-related shootings have increased in the San Fernando Valley this year. Almost half of the 81 homicides committed there this year have been gang-related, police said.

"It is a phenomenon we're dealing with," Nuttall said. "There's definitely a rise. ... For us, this is the third (homicide) in three weeks."

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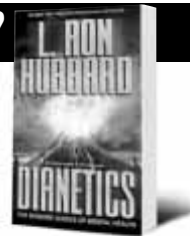
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First Wiccan plaque dedicated for veteran

BY SCOTT SONNER

Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. — Friends and family of a Nevada soldier killed in Afghanistan more than a year ago plan to gather at a veterans cemetery Saturday to dedicate what they say is the first government-issued memorial plaque in the country to include a symbol of the Wiccan faith.

The multicultural, interfaith service for Sgt. Patrick Stewart of Fernley will include blessings by American Indians, Jews, Christians and Wiccans, said the Rev. Selena Fox, one of the Wiccan organizers of the memorial.

"There's quite a diversity of people who are going to be there," Fox said Friday before leaving her home in Wisconsin for the trip to northern Nevada.

"People are flying in from across the country to attend the

dedication," she said.

Stewart's plaque was installed last week on the Veterans Memorial Wall at the Northern Nevada Veterans Cemetery in Fernley, about 30 miles east of Reno.

The Nevada Army National Guardsmen and four other soldiers died Sept. 25, 2005, when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan.

Since then, Stewart's widow, Roberta, has been fighting to make the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs recognize the Wiccan pentacle — a five-pointed star enclosed in a circle — for plaques and headstones at veterans' cemeteries.

Citing its jurisdiction over maintenance of the state cemetery, the Nevada Office of Veteran Services issued the plaque in September while Stewart's family and others continue a legal battle with the VA.

VA rules recognize more than 30 symbols, including the Star

of David, more than a dozen variations of the Christian cross and even the atomic whirl used by atheists, but not the pentacle.

VA officials have said they are rewriting rules and procedures for approving emblems, a process which also requires a public comment period.

Last month, Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed a lawsuit on the Wiccans' behalf claiming the VA's actions amount to constitutional violations of free speech, freedom of religion and due process.

The Rev. Barry Lynn, the group's executive director, said Stewart is fortunate to have lived in a state in which the governor is so "accommodating of religious freedom."

Wiccans, who worship the earth, say the pentacle represents earth, air, fire, water and spirit. Most believe they must contribute to the community, and some consider themselves good witches, pagans or neo-pagans.

Fox said she's pleased that the ceremony will include a blessing from an American Indian from the Reno area, Mato Witko, who is part Commanche and part Irish.



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Winter storm snows on towns' parades

BY DAVE SKRETTA

Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The first major snowstorm of the season brought deadly road conditions and hundreds of flight cancellations to the Plains and Midwest, where residents said goodbye to last week's balmy air and two towns called off tree lightings and a Christmas parade.

The wintry weather struck from Texas and Oklahoma to Michigan, and a blizzard warning was posted in parts of Oklahoma. Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius declared a disaster emergency for 27 counties, freeing up resources to help them.

At least three died in weather-related accidents.

An Oklahoma man was killed Thursday when his vehicle skidded out of control on an icy road and hit an oncoming tractor-trailer. Also Thursday, on Interstate 44 near Rolla, Mo., a motorist involved in an accident earlier in the day was standing near his vehicle when a semitrailer jackknifed and slid into the car, killing him.

"The biggest thing is I-44 is such a mess right now. We're having a bunch of drive-offs where they're just leaving the roadway," said Taylor Hunt of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. "It's just too darn slick. It's going to be a mess out there for a day or two."

On Wednesday, a woman was killed on the Kansas Turnpike just east of Topeka when a car in which she was a passenger lost control and slid into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

At the Nevada Fuel Mart in southwest Missouri, Rose Dozier said most truck drivers heading south on Highway 71 stopped early Thursday night. They reported near-zero visibility before the snow began to subside.

"The drivers are all professionals and they're used to it," Dozier said. "They said a lot of cars are not."

In the Texas Panhandle, roads were covered with ice and up to 7 inches of snow.

Clay Ender, who works for a heating service company, struggled to get around in the 3 inches of snow that fell overnight in Lubbock, Texas. A trip across the city that usually takes 20 minutes stretched to an hour, he said.

"There were so many cars spinning out of control," he said. "They couldn't get any traction."

Flight wasn't much of an option, either.

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Airport, more than 400 flights were canceled for Friday, allowing customers more time to change their travel plans. Sleet, snow and freezing rain forced the cancellation of 200 flights out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and closed some schools. Most Thursday night flights out of Lambert-St. Louis International Airport were canceled.

Joe McBride, a spokesman for Kansas City International Airport, said maintenance crews had put down 110 tons of sand, 30,000 gallons of liquid de-icer and 4 metric tons of granular de-icer by Thursday night.

A few flights had been canceled to cities like Chicago and St. Louis, but the majority remained on time, he said.

"Hopefully we'll dodge the bullet," McBride said. "Looks like we are so far."

Jennifer Stark with the National Weather Service in Topeka said the storm seemed especially impressive because it had been preceded by unseasonably mild weather. Temperatures approached, and in some places eclipsed, record highs earlier in the week.

Northern Oklahoma expected to receive 8 to 12 inches of snow, while parts of Illinois prepared for 6 to 12 inches. Varying amounts were also forecast for Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas.

The system roared through the Northwest and Rockies earlier in the week. Coming on the heels of near-record high temperatures, it rolled through Kansas on Wednesday, coating tree limbs and power lines with half an inch of ice. By Thursday, the storm was moving northeast from Oklahoma on the way to Illinois.

In Springfield, Mo., freezing rain and sleet knocked out power to 15,000 customers, and the forecast called for snow and high winds. In Chicago, 270 salt spreaders stood ready to hit the roads.

"It looks like it's going to get messy," said Tim Halbach, a meteorologist in the Chicago suburb of Romeoville. "There could be times where some areas see 2 inches of snow per hour."



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Hanford contracts could steer cleanup for decade

BY SHANNON DININNY

Associated Press Writer

YAKIMA, Wash. — The U.S. Department of Energy is getting ready to bid out three contracts at south-central Washington's Hanford nuclear reservation — nothing new in terms of the federal government's long-running environmental cleanup at the former weapons facility.

But these contracts — worth potentially billions of dollars — would be among the largest at Hanford and could steer cleanup at the highly contaminated site for the next 10 years.

"Very significant," Todd Martin, chairman of the Hanford Advisory Board, said when asked to describe the importance of the new contracts. "These will be very important in determining whether cleanup ultimately is successful over the next few years."

For 40 years, the Hanford reservation made plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons arsenal, beginning with the top-secret Manhattan Project to build an atomic bomb. Today, it is the nation's most contaminated nuclear site. Cleanup costs are expected to total as much as \$60 billion, with the work to continue until 2035.

The contracts to go out to bid are substantial as well.

Fluor Hanford currently holds the contract to retrieve and dispose of waste from Hanford's central plateau. Among other things, the contract requires monitoring and remediation of contaminated groundwater and cleanup of the Plutonium Finishing Plant, which was the last stop in converting plutonium nitrate solutions into pure plutonium "buttons" for atomic bombs.

Through September 2006, the five-year contract with a five-year extension was valued at \$7.87 billion. The Energy Department further extended the contract by as long as 24 months for \$1.3 billion while it accepts bids for a new contract to start in 2008.

Meanwhile, CH2M Hill Hanford Group since 2000 has managed Hanford's 177 underground tanks, which hold a stew of toxic and radioactive waste. Many of the tanks have leaked into the aquifer, threatening the groundwater and the nearby Columbia River. The contract was valued at \$2.7 billion through September 2006, with a \$500 million extension of up to 24 months.

The Energy Department has now added a third contract to the mix, reassigning some of the duties currently covered under Fluor's contract.

Nuts in a row: Louisiana avoids pecans' plummet

BY JANET MCCONNAUGHEY

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Roy Pecan Co. is open 20 hours a day lately, as buyers bring truckloads of pecans to the Cottonport wholesaler, and tractor-trailers lumber out, each hauling 22 tons of nuts.

It's a surprisingly good year for Louisiana pecans — not a record year, but well above average, while production in the big pecan states is off.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita cost pickers and growers and buyers more than two-thirds of what had looked like a grand crop until August of last year. As a rule, it takes pecan trees two years to recover from hurricanes, said John Pyzner, a Louisiana State University AgCenter horticulturist at the pecan research station in Shreveport.

"Last year, we had a bumper crop. It was

the best crop we ever had until Hurricane Rita hit," said Jill Anderson, owner of Louisiana Pecan Co., which puts together high-end pecan gift baskets at the Little Eva Plantation in Cloutierville. "It probably took half our crop, or probably more. But we still had a decent crop because there were so many."

The storms hit after the nuts had grown, but before they could be harvested. Winds tore nuts from branches, branches from trees, and trees from the ground. Only about 5 million pounds could be harvested, Pyzner said.

This year, he said, the harvest is likely to hit 19 million pounds, almost 36 percent above the state's 14 million-pound average.

Louisiana, one of the states where the trees are native, generally runs fifth to seventh among the 15 pecan-producing states. And growers and pickers are getting good prices because the national harvest is below average.



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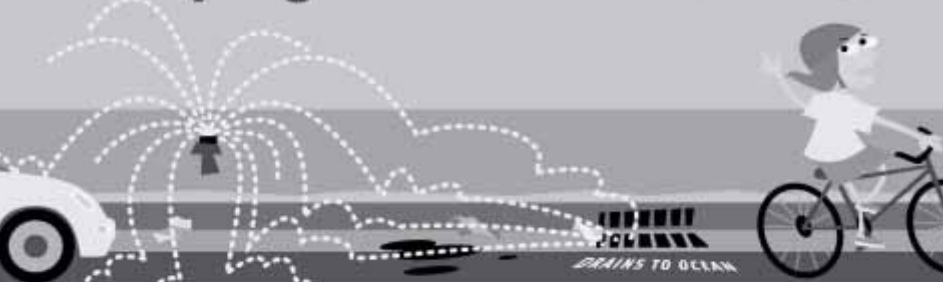
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City of Santa Monica Environmental Programs Division

Second phase of testing to begin in the spring

DOG PARK, from page 3

dumpings in ravines were common and legal practice during the 1950s, according to Tillman.

"We are confident there is no risk to the public in utilization of the park," he said on Friday.

The federally funded first phase of testing, which is estimated to cost \$70,000, involves checking for surface radiation. Millennium Environmental Consulting Associates closed off approximately 7-10 acres for the assessment and tested about five of those acres.

"Right now, I don't see any reason not to open it up," Noel said on Friday, regarding the park. He added that it was unclear exactly what kind of waste was dumped at the site.

"We do know there was some medical isotope waste from the VA," he said. "We know UCLA burned some materials and buried the ash on the site. As far as we know, VA is the only one who has put any medical waste there."

A report on the assessment will be presented to the public in January. In the spring, the consultants expect to be back to drill holes in the soil between 30 and 80 feet deep to examine traces of radiation.

The local Brentwood community has been well aware of the medical dumping for the past 20 years, said frequent dog walker Sue Black. The founder of the Friends of Barrington Park, a group that raises money and plans events for the dog park, Black walks her collie mix dog, Russell, at the dog park several times a week.

"We are confident there is no risk to the public in utilization of the park."

RALPH TILLMAN
DIRECTOR OF ASSET MANAGEMENT, VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

"It's a jovial place to be," Black said on Friday. "People think of dog parks as a place for dogs, and that's true, but it's also a place for people and their dogs."

Black was concerned about whether the soil in the dog park was contaminated, but did not feel the issue was pressing enough to

change dog parks.

"We're very, very happy with what's happening so far and very glad that all these big entities, bureaucracy and politicians, have been able to come together and do something great," Black said.

The move to push the environmental test forward was a collaboration of officials, including the VA, Rosendahl, Congressman Henry Waxman's office — whose 30th district of California includes the VA land and West LA — along with other local authorities.

The city of Los Angeles has leased the park from the VA since the 1980s.

"Everyone feels we're on the right track to resolving this issue," Rosendahl said.

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Crackdown on signs remains low priority

SANDWICH SIGNS, from page 1

“ugly” and “intense.”

The code, which was first passed in 1992, also cites public health and safety as reasons for banning the signs, found to be “a visual blight on the appearance of the city by detracting from views of structures and open space. This visual blight adversely affects the aesthetic quality of life and traffic safety in Santa Monica for residents, businesses, pedestrians and persons in vehicles,” the code reads.

Businesses that place sandwich board signs on the sidewalks use them in efforts to attract customers. The signs are typically found on less commercial stretches, not major shopping destinations with a run of retail stores, such as the Third Street Promenade. Smaller stores and cafes may not receive as much attention from shoppers, especially if there are not many commercial operations in its immediate vicinity, and tend to rely more on passersby.

Still, the signs are illegal in Santa Monica.

“All businesses think they need more to catch [people’s] eyes,” said City Councilman Herb Katz on Friday. “Nobody has gone broke because of a lack of a sign. It’s baloney.

“They’re dangerous,” Katz said. “Having been a father who raised two blind kids, I can tell you they don’t like them. Their canes hit [the signs] and then they just crumple all over them.”

Some exceptions to the municipal code banning the signs exist, such as a sandwich board advertising a going-out-of-business sale outside Tower Records on Santa Monica Boulevard, according to that store’s manager.

Stores can typically get away with using sandwich boards because there are more pressing matters that occupy code enforcers’ time.

“At the top of our list are things that endanger life,” said Tim McCormick, a building officer with the city’s Building and Safety Department, who explained that ensuring that people have heat and hot water, particularly in the winter, and making sure buildings are properly upgraded through a seismic retrofitting program are more of a priority than the signs.

McCormick also said that enforcing the city’s noise ordinance comes first.

“We have staff that are working with all commercial businesses located within 100 feet of residences, particularly those for entertainment and recreation use,” said McCormick. “We want to make sure [patrons and businesses are] respectful of their neighbors.”

According to McCormick, code enforcers routinely patrol the city to make sure the public has access to the sidewalk, but that it’s impossible to keep every business in check.

“We’re not standing on every corner of the business district,” he said.

Katz admitted the sign crackdown is low on the priority list, but that doesn’t mean the

Maya Meinert news@smdp.com

TO GO?: Sandwich board signs like these in front of the restaurant Buca di Peppo on Second Street are in violation of the municipal code, but remain prevalent throughout the city.

city is turning a blind eye.

“If someone complains, we’ll take care of it,” Katz said. “It takes time ... we’re getting there.”

A year ago, code enforcement was understaffed. Those vacancies have since been filled, and staff has been fully trained, according to McCormick. But that doesn’t fix everything.

“We’re a part of the organization that has to compete for the city’s budget,” he said. “This city has made a substantial dedication for code enforcement, and we’re doing everything in our power with those 10 people.”

SANDWICH BOARD SHOWDOWN

Wild About Music, a store on the 1400 block of Second Street, had a sandwich board sign sitting on the sidewalk just outside its door on Thursday afternoon. Next door, the restaurant Buca di Peppo had three signs out front. Ironically, a Santa Monica Police station is located directly across the street.

Wild About Music co-owner Fred Schmidt said he has never had anyone tell him that he can’t have his sign on the sidewalk.

“Nobody has ever complained about it,” he said. “This is a 12-foot sidewalk — it’s not in anybody’s way. This ordinance doesn’t benefit anybody.

“The boards are very, very important to try to help attract business to dead parts of the street, to attract the eye,” Schmidt said. “The city has greater priorities, like sleeping, urinating and defecating in doorways. Transiency is the single biggest issue that keeps Santa Monica from being a really welcoming place, and this is coming from a homeless advocate.”

McCormick said that when code enforcers do catch a sandwich board on the sidewalk, they will give a warning before they give a citation. But if the offender continues to put the board out, the business will be fined.

Schmidt at Wild About Music is undaunted, saying on Thursday that he would not be deterred from using his sign.

“I’ll continue to put it out,” he said. “If they start citing and fining me, then I’ll look for another city to take my business to.”

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Pop singer gives students something to think about

SOUNDCHECKS, from page 1

dents, was the time Bailey-Rae took to field questions about everything from her inspirations as a child and the challenges of being a female vocalist in a male-dominated industry, to how she spends her downtime and how the recent shift in America's political power has been perceived overseas.

"I was really excited to learn more about the music industry from someone who really knows what it's like as a female artist

"I learned from her that as long as you love what you're doing, stick with it."

NICOLE JELLEN

17-YEAR-OLD MEMBER OF SAMOHI CHOIR

because I am contemplating becoming a singer," said Erin Corrigan, an 18-year-old member of the Samohi choir. "It was so amazing to see her up close, to have her perform right here in our classroom. She showed so much control and was very at ease with everyone.

"That confidence is something I can take with me no matter what I end up doing."

The SoundChecks program, presented by Verizon, is one of a host of programs sponsored by the Grammy Foundation and the Recording Academy that encourage youth to pursue their dreams, whether they be performing before large crowds or working behind the scenes as a producer or publicist.

"Not everyone can be like Corinne," said Christina Cassidy, communications manager for the foundation. "We want (students) to know that there are an array of careers in music."

Throughout the year, Verizon is sponsoring a series of SoundChecks with a wide range of artists on tour across the country. Past SoundChecks have included the likes of Mariah Carey, Coldplay, Destiny's Child, No Doubt and the Dave Matthews Band.

The Grammy Foundation was established in 1989 by the Recording Academy to cultivate the understanding, appreciation and advancement of the contribution of recorded music to American culture, according to the foundation's Web site (www.grammyintheschools.com).

While school is an ideal place to foster a love of music, Bailey-Rae said she found herself learning more about the art outside of the classroom, as she and her indie-rock band entered "just about every competition" being held in England so that she could get experience, gather feedback and win studio

time to record.

The 27 year-old Brit, who cited influences such as Led Zeppelin, Billy Holiday and Nirvana, told Samohi students to "play, play, play," and to never give up on their dreams. She warned them that hard work and perseverance are required to be an artist and said success is measured not by how lucrative a record contract one signs, but whether or not they are able to continue creating and performing for others.

"The most important thing is to have ideas," said Bailey-Rae, revealing a thick English accent. "You don't necessarily have to even execute them. It's like the whole punk idea that you don't have to be brilliant on an instrument, but you have to be creative enough to think of something new.

"Have you ever seen Paul McCartney play the piano?" Bailey-Rae posed, using her index fingers to strike imaginary keys reminiscent of a child playing with an old typewriter.

"Another thing that is important is to keep working at it," the bubbly singer/songwriter said. "Until recently, I really didn't know what my voice could do. You all prob-



Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

TAKING NAMES: Corinne Bailey-Rae speaks with Samohi music students on Friday.

ably know more about singing than I do. I'm still working at it and I'm learning loads, improving every day."

Following the informal session, each student received an autograph and free copy of Bailey-Rae's CD, as well the chance to take a picture with the songstress.

Even those who had no idea who Bailey-Rae was said they came away with something useful, and that didn't include the CD.

"She was just so inspiring," said Nicole Jellen, a 17-year-old alto/soprano in the choir. "She started off in a band and she worked hard to realize her dream. I learned from her that as long as you love what you're doing, stick with it."

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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

LONE WOOF: A canine watches the Christmas decorations along Main Street alone, indicative of the feelings of being forgotten that some experts suggest dogs experience around the holidays.

Depressed dogs have tell signs

DEPRESSED DOGS, from page 1

influx of relatives coming into the house, and conversely, attention on the dog going out, according to animal behaviorists.

"Certainly, with the holidays, people are concerned with family and friends, and the attention is focused on them rather than on the dog," said Dr. Richard Polsky, a certified applied animal behaviorist at Animal Behavior Counseling Services in Los Angeles. "The lack of attention may make them feel withdrawn and may cause the dog to be left out and feel neglected."

It's hard to confirm if a dog is feeling depressed because animals cannot verbalize their feelings, but an owner can gauge if their hound is down from their behavior. The symptoms that depressed dogs exhibit are similar to humans feeling less than happy, Polsky said on Friday. Examples include a lack of spontaneity, lethargy and a nonchalance for activities in which the dog was previously interested.

One of the main causes behind holiday depression for dogs could be due to the extreme change in scenery, with Christmas trees and presents and other decorations appearing, and with the commotion from holiday guests, which could trigger fear and anxiety in dogs, according to Dr. Karen Sueda, a veterinarian specializing in behavior at VCA West Los Angeles Animal Hospital.

"We can't really know if a dog is depressed," Sueda said on Friday. "If you look at [human] behavioral sciences — withdrawal, decreased activity level, not eating — you can see a lot of dogs showing those types of signs, whether it's depression ... or fear."

It hasn't been scientifically proven that animals do get depressed, according to Dr. Melissa Bain, a professor in Clinical Animal Behavior Services at the University of California, Davis.

Certain symptoms around the holidays, however, might not be good indicators that a dog is depressed. For example, excessive sleep — a common sign that a human is depressed — around the holidays may not necessarily mean a dog is feeling sad, especially considering winter days are shorter.

"We all sleep more in the wintertime," Bain said on Friday.

There is nothing special about Christmas, dogs can be depressed all year round, said Candance Labane-Godfrey, the incoming president of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters, a non-profit organization that promotes in-home professional pet care.

Labane-Godfrey, the owner of a Precious Pets In-Home Services in Sacramento, said the feelings of sadness are usually aroused from a change in routine, when families go out of town and leave their pets home alone. When pets are left on their own, they notice the 24 hours of quiet and lack of activity.

"It's the non-activity when they are used to the activity [that causes depression]," said Labane-Godfrey.

BUCKING UP BEST FRIENDS

There are preventive steps pet owners can take to make sure their beloved dogs don't hit rock bottom around the holidays. The most important tip is to pay attention to the dog, said Polsky.

For dogs, the experience of visiting relatives is similar to when a new baby come homes. If the dog is attended to for years, and one day all that attention is gone because of the addition of a new family member, the dog can grow to be resentful and jealous.

"Over the holidays, try to keep the dog as integrated in the family structure as much as possible and try to do normal things to give the dog attention," Polsky said. "You cannot neglect the social needs of dogs."

Sueda suggests preoccupying dogs with other activities when guests are over and maybe even giving the pet a present.

If the owner knows that a dog is prone to so-called depression and anxiety, board the animal until the holidays are over, Sueda added.

"When certain people come over, the best thing is avoidance," she said. "We all enjoy having people around the holidays. For some people, as well as dogs, having too many people around can be overwhelming. Give them a winter break."

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John Blanchette Special to the Daily Press

The call of South Beach has attracted some of the world's greatest chefs, in addition to beach-goers.

Miami spice: A culinary tour

By John Blanchette
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY PRESS

The day I flew into Miami, Fidel Castro had ceded power to his brother and all of Little Havana was dancing in the streets, celebrating news they had waited to hear for 47 years. About 900,000 Cubans have left their native land since Castro took over in 1959, most settling in Miami, and they still wait for the old country to welcome them home.

But the younger generations raised in Florida have no memory of Cuba. They are enjoying the prosperity, tropical bounty and multicultural landscape that have made Miami an international destination for many from the Caribbean and Central and South America.

A walk on the beach may open your eyes to the vast number of Europeans who have also discovered the warm sun, white sands and aqua-marine waters of Miami Beach. Be ready for the clothing optional lifestyle preferred by the Mediterranean libertines.

Many European restaurateurs have also discovered the plenty of Southern Florida. Three of France's greatest chefs — Joel Robuchon, Paul Bocuse and Alain Ducasse — will be opening restaurants in South Beach over the next year, joining many of their contemporaries. Noted American chef Emeril Lagasse recently opened his restaurant next to the Four Seasons Hotel, and another 10,000 restaurants dot the city, serving every cuisine imaginable. Food is a continual topic of conversation, and many chefs remarked that Miami is now the third greatest culinary city in the world, next to Paris and New York.

Johnson & Wales University has opened a campus in Miami, which streams newly educated chefs into the growing restaurant population that is creating this culinary revolution. Called New World Cuisine by chef Norman Van Aken and "Floribbean" by others, it is a cuisine that brings a full range of tropical products and international cooking styles to the creative mix of chefs practicing in Miami.

In the mid 1920s, South Beach was devastated by a series of tropical storms that leveled most of the colonial architecture and turn-of-the-century buildings. Over the next 20 years, the town rebuilt, adopting the popular Art Deco style of the day.

But South Beach fell into disrepair in the '50s and '60s, becoming a geriatric slum of nursing homes, low rent condominiums for retirees and snow birds escaping the winter chill, and flop house hotels for students celebrating spring break.

Finally, in the early 1980s, after Gianni Versace raised the lovely Art Deco Revere Hotel to add a swimming pool to his Casa Casuarina estate (where he was later gunned down by a spurned lover on the front steps), a huge protest by preservationists led to a landmark decision. South Beach was the first 20th Century district added to the National Register of Historic Places and more than 800 buildings have been officially saved from redevelopment. Most of South Beach's unparalleled Art Deco hotels and buildings have been restored to their former glory, creating the elegant ambiance of a bygone era. Take the self-guided Art Deco Walking Tour that begins at 10th Street and Ocean Drive (\$15) and see the square-mile Historic District at your leisure.

South Beach throbs with music, dancing and revelry into the deep hours of the evening, where clubs generally reach a crescendo around 4 a.m.

For a pleasant diversion from Ocean Drive, try Lincoln Mall, with its bargain shopping and wide variety of restaurant options. There are great expanses of chairs and tables for open-air dining and crowd watching, somewhat reminiscent of San Tropez.

DINING AND LODGING:

When you are in Miami, you must take advantage of the wonderfully creative and diverse food options available. Little Havana is a must and Versailles Cuban Bakery is ground zero for the community. It is where more than 20 news crews had set up their

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Crawling on South Beach

MIAMI, from page 16

operations during the Castro death watch and where some of the best and most authentic Cuban food and coffee is dispensed. Be sure and try the meat pastries.

Down the block, you can get fresh tropical fruit drinks pressed in front of your eyes at el Palacio de Los Jugos, hand-rolled Cuban cigars at Cuban Tobacco Trading, handmade Cuban linen clothing at Casa e las Guayaberas, and even pick up a game of bones at the famous Domino Park. Dragonfly Expeditions (www.dragonflyexpeditions.com) offers informative tours of the area.

A fun way to dine and see a bunch of different restaurants is to "café crawl." Order drinks at one place, appetizers at another, entrees somewhere else, then desserts. After dinner, get drinks at various establishments. This way, you can go to five restaurants a night and start making a dent into this culinary paradise.

We did it on Lincoln Mall one night, with cocktails and appetizers at Chef Jose Mendin's Sushisamba, a Japanese/Brazilian restaurant (Brazil's second largest population is Japanese); an exceptional dinner at Pacific Time, voted by Zagat as the best restaurant in Miami; desserts across the street, at Touch; and drinks at The Fifth nightclub, where Paris Hilton and Mickey Rourke were spotted.

By the way, August through September is Miami Spice Restaurant Month and many of the city's top places have a fixed-price (\$20.06 to match the year) lunch menu.

My favorite restaurant of all was Restaurant Brana. Chef Jeffrey Brana was Norman Van Aken's sou chef. When he closed the Miami restaurant to move to Key West, Brana convinced the kitchen staff and the front house to join him in his Coral Gables establishment, where they are creating culinary history every day (www.restaurantbrana.com). Also in Coral Gables is Belkis Lopez' Gables Juice Bar, 230 Almeria St., which features refreshing tropical fruit drinks and Ola Steak & Tapas features neuavo Latino cuisine.

At La Cuisine Gourmet culinary store in Coral Gables, we tasted Florida fruit wines (lychee and Passion Fruit) pro-

IF YOU GO:

For lists of housing options, restaurants, special events, guidebooks and brochures, contact the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau, (800) 955-3646, www.miamiandbeaches.com.

duced by Schnebly Redlan's winery near Miami, demonstrating that wine can now be produced nearly everywhere.

Nevecento in downtown Miami features tropical cocktails and upscale Latin fusion cuisine. Across the street, at the top of the Conrad Hotel, is English Chef Michael Gilligan's beautiful Atrio restaurant, with a panoramic view of Miami.

Tamara Restaurant is run by young French chef Frederick Delaire. It is located in the beautiful art deco hotel National, which boasts the longest pool in South Beach (www.nationalhotel.com).

Next door is the Delano, which has the area's most impressive lobby and also makes the best mojitos in town. French chef Stephane Becht of the Blue Door at Delano is a veteran of several three-star Michelin restaurants in Paris, New York and Los Angeles, and a real rising star. He also did a special dinner I attended at the Biltmore in Coral Gables — the grand lady of Miami's hotels. Opened in the 1920s, its enormous pool was made famous by Esther Williams and Busby Berkley, with their choreographed water shows (www.biltmorehotel.com).

Trendy restaurants Afterglo and Tantra's head chef Sandee Birdsong is a Food Network alum who guided us through Culinary Specialty Foods store, where produce from around the world is brought in daily for Miami's chefs.

When you're in Miami, a must see is the Sea Aquarium, where you can make reservations to swim with the dolphins and feed Lolita, the largest killer whale in captivity. She's a finicky eater however, probably influenced by all the fine dining available in town, and will only eat certain cuts of salmon and other sushi grade fish.



John Blanchette Special to the Daily Press

On the heels of such internationally regarded culinary destinations like New York and Paris is Miami, which offers a flavor all its own.

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Request for Proposals (RFP)

Shoeshine Stand on
Third Street Promenade

The City of Santa Monica requests proposals from businesses or individuals seeking a 5 year license agreement for the purpose of operating an existing shoeshine stand on the Third Street Promenade.

The stand is approximately 48 square feet, and has all equipment and furnishings attached. The stand is located at 1300 Third Street Promenade, at the intersection of Third Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. The license agreement will be issued in early 2007.

The RFP package contains the key questions and informational requirements for respondents to address. For more information or to request an RFP package, please call 310-458-8906 or send your request via e-mail to Gretchen.kubacki@smgov.net.

Proposals are due no later than 2pm on Monday, December 18, 2006.

The City of Santa Monica reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive all minor irregularities.

Death toll rises to 198 in Philippine typhoon

BY OLIVER TEVES

Associated Press Writer

MANILA, Philippines — The fourth major typhoon to hit the Philippines in four months killed 198 people and left 260 others missing, officials said Friday.

Typhoon Durian caused flash floods and sent walls of muddy volcanic ash and red-hot boulders crashing down on several villages, the officials said.

The national Office of Civil Defense reported 198 people were killed and 260 were missing. Fernando Gonzalez, governor of worst-hit Albay province, said the figures included 109 people who died in mudslides on the slopes of the Mayon volcano that also injured 130.

"The disaster covered almost every corner of this province — rampaging floods, falling trees, damaged houses," Gonzalez said.

With power and phone lines downed by powerful winds, helicopters were carrying out aerial surveillance of cutoff areas. Officials estimated that the storm affected some 22,000 people.

The magnitude of the destruction hampered relief operations.

"Our rescue teams are overstretched rescuing people on

rooftops," said Glen Rabonza, head of the national Office of Civil Defense.

Gonzalez said seven or eight villages had been hit by the wet lava flows that rumbled down Mayon's slopes for three hours Thursday.

"It happened very rapidly and many people did not expect this because they haven't experienced mud flows in those areas before," Gonzalez said. "By the time they wanted to move, the rampaging mud flows were upon them."

On Friday, people were digging foundations for new homes, hammering tin sheets onto leaking roofs and drying pillows, mattresses and clothes in the sun.

"The wind was extremely strong," said Domingo Billares, sitting beside his wife in the town of Ragay, in Camarines Sur province, where the wooden frame was the only thing left of their home. "We thought we would not survive through the day."

Undersecretary Dr. Graciano Yumul of the Department of Science and Technology said the storm was particularly damaging because it came ashore Thursday in Catanduanes, an island province with no mountains to break the storm's momentum.

"So it really destroyed the island that it hit," Yumul said.

"That is the reason you are seeing the kind of destruction

you are seeing right now.

Noel Rosal, mayor of Legazpi city, the capital of Albay province, visited Padang and said three of the five communities comprising the village of 1,400 people had been "wiped out" with only the roofs of several houses jutting out of the debris.

Rosal said Padang can only be reached by foot or motorcycle because a bridge linking it to Legazpi, about six miles away, was damaged.

He said the mudslide occurred Thursday afternoon as the city was lashed by Durian. His own residence was under water that was "higher than a person" from a flash flood.

"I was almost a goner. I had to swim," Rosal said.

Jukes Nunez of the Albay Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council said many communities were still flooded Friday morning.

"The request for rescue is overwhelming. The disaster managers are victims themselves," he said.

Durian was packing sustained winds of 121 mph and gusts of up to 139 mph, the weather bureau said. By Friday, the typhoon weakened as it moved north of Mindoro island south of Manila with sustained winds of 94 mph and gusts of up to 116 mph as it headed toward the South China Sea.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Army in familiar position heading into Navy clash

BY DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Army coach Bobby Ross is tired of ending his season against Navy. Like the Midshipmen, he wants to keep playing and go to a bowl.

A surging Navy program still has postseason play left after the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is presented and the hoopla has settled down from this annual patriotic rivalry.

After Saturday, the Black Knights (3-8) will be finished with another losing record. And maybe beating the Midshipmen (8-3) in the 107th game of the series will ease Army's sting of another terrible season.

"If we were to lose every game in the season and beat Navy, it would be a great season," Army co-captain Cameron Craig said. "We know if we beat Navy, we can end it on a positive note."

Ross has found winning a national championship or coaching in a Super Bowl easier than beating Navy. He's 0-2 against the Mids since coming out of retirement to restore some pride to the fallen program, and the Black Knights haven't even been competitive in those two games.

With a win at Lincoln Financial Field, the Midshipmen can equal their longest winning streak in the series, matching a pair of five-game series winning streaks, most recently from 1959 through 1963. Navy has outscored the Black Knights by a 176-54 margin the last four years and has the overall series lead (50-49-7) for the first time since 1991.

Perhaps the series title should be flopped to Navy-Army since the Mids are coming

out on top.

"I'd like to see our rivalry get back to what it once was," Ross said. "To me, that is our responsibility. We have to play better. I think it's a great rivalry."

It hasn't been that long since Army dominated the rivalry. The Black Knights won six of seven from 1992-98 and led the overall record by four games. But since Paul Johnson was named Navy's coach in 2002, the Midshipmen have controlled the series and returned to the national spotlight for more than one game a season.

Navy has won at least eight games each of the last four seasons, and will play in the Meineke Bowl against an opponent from the Atlantic Coast Conference on Dec. 30 for its fourth straight bowl game.

"We've probably just been fortunate and lucky," Johnson said. "We've gotten some breaks. We've just made plays. The kids have made some plays."

Army, meanwhile, became the first Division I-A team to finish 0-13 in 2003 and hasn't had a winning season since 1996.

"I think Navy is back and that's what I wanted to do from day one," Ross said. "I think it's going to take a little longer for some reasons that you may not be aware of. But if you have an ounce of patriotism to you, you've got to feel very, very good about participating in this game."

Ross has found it harder than expected to recruit a competitive roster. The war has certainly hamstrung his efforts, and a Military Academy-required summer training program for underclassman makes it tough for players to build strength and gain weight.

HORSE RACING

Baze becomes thoroughbred racing's winningest jockey

BY BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Write

SAN MATEO, Calif. — Russell Baze became racing's winningest jockey Friday when he broke Laffit Pincay Jr.'s record with a victory aboard Butterfly Belle at Bay Meadows.

Win No. 9,531 came in the fourth race, when the 48-year-old Baze found a hole along the rail and drove through it. He whipped the filly down the stretch to win on the Longden turf course, named for Johnny Longden, who once held the record Baze broke.

The inquiry sign was posted after the race, but it didn't involve Baze's filly. The infield display board flashed "Congratulations Russell Baze" as he steered Butterfly Belle into the winner's circle.

Baze doffed his riding helmet to the cheering crowd.

Pincay had owned the mark since Dec. 10, 1999, when he took it from Bill Shoemaker. Pincay, 59, was on hand for his fifth day of watching Baze, who had won one race each of the previous two days. Baze tied the record of 9,530 Thursday.

Shoemaker had held the mark for 29 years after surpassing Longden.

Baze's mounts were heavily bet down from their morning-line odds by fans seeking souvenir \$2 win tickets.

"Who would've thought 32 years ago a skinny little kid with no experience would be standing here today," Baze told the sparse

crowd as he stood in the winner's circle. "I could hardly believe this would happen."

The record is the crowning achievement of a career that began with Baze's first winner in 1974 at Yakima Meadows, Wash., riding a horse trained by his father.

Baze has spent the majority of his career in the Bay Area, having tried the ultra-competitive Southern California circuit for three years in the late 1980s with little success.

He has ridden in just two Kentucky Derbies 10 years apart, and is 0-for-3 in the Breeders' Cup.

Baze is not the legendary rider that Shoemaker, Pincay and Longden were, but he's respected for his dedication and competitive desire.

"Russell is a great rider and he works very hard," Pincay told the fans. "It takes a lot of ability and dedication to win that many races."

Baze is the dominant rider in the Bay Area, leaving other jockeys scrambling to get mounts that routinely fall to him simply because of reputation. He has won 36 riding titles at Bay Meadows, the track where Seabiscuit ran.

"Just keep doing what you're doing, but not too much longer because we need to make a living, too," said Joey Castro, speaking on behalf of the Bay Meadows jockey colony.

The track presented Baze and his wife, Tami, with a European vacation.

Baze's only son, Gable, missed three days' of school waiting for his father to make history.



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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 61°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)

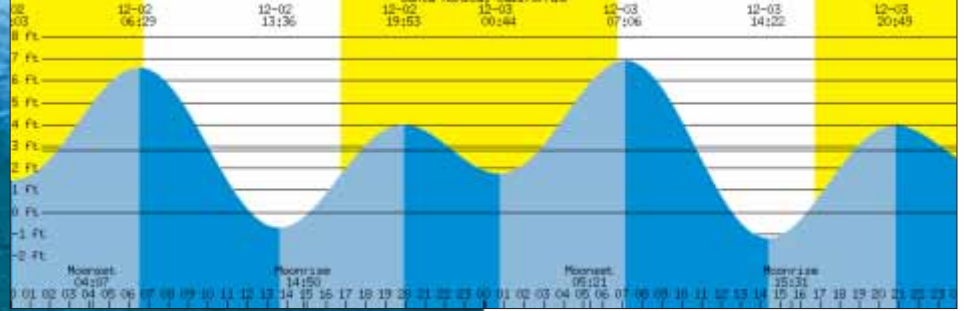
This weekend the SW'er is expected to back off to around knee to waist as NW energy remains about the same. The tide will likely shut things down for early AM sessions, and offshore winds could be quite problematic as well for many regions.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

TRACKING MODERATE NW FOR THE 6TH-7TH...

TRACKING POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT NW FOR 9TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



Santa Monica, California

Tide	Time	Height
Low	06:12	0.2
High	12:02	7.2
Low	18:02	0.2
High	00:44	7.2
Low	06:12	0.2
High	12:02	7.2
Low	18:02	0.2
High	00:44	7.2



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

November 14, 2006

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QUICK STATS

for the last 28 days

Number of sewage spills -- 0

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

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33/35

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 12/35

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Canillo Beach, at Arroyo Saguit Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Del Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lockrose and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Teneas Canyon drain	A+	ns
Escorial Canyon at El Morado State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chauvinqui)	F	ns
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	D	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kanter storm drain	A	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A+	ns
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at San Blas County Beach	A	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Powers State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Powers Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A	ns
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Surfside Beach (jowach location)- daily	B	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topwell St.	D	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns	Marino del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	D	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19448 PCH stairs	D	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A	ns
Pose Creek at Las Tamas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of B&W jetty)	D	ns
Tuna Canyon	ns	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A	ns
Yapanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile west of Sunset drain)	A+	ns			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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

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You're ever playful, Cap

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★★ Positive
★★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You might want to rethink an important purchase or expenditure. At times, you might be awestruck by others who seem bent on bucking tradition or the status quo. Know when you need to say "enough." Tonight: Your treat.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Though you might have thought you were on cruise control, a friend's unpredictable actions or ideas could easily wreak havoc on your reality. Listen to a partner or dear friend who has advice for you. Tonight: Decide to do what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★ Know when to duck or hop in the car for a day trip. You absolutely need some downtime. You might wonder what is going on with someone you look up to. He or she might be tossing the status quo in the air. Tonight: Stay muzzled.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ The playing field levels out as new information comes forward. You might be better off seeing events unfurl. Your perspective could transform. You don't need to do something all the time. Tonight: You make the party.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You are on top of what is going on. Others look to you for leadership. You might be surprised at what comes down your path. Listen to what someone is sharing, though you don't need to go along with this person's opinion. Tonight: Say yes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Reach out for others at a distance. Allow your mind to wander. If you can take a day off or refresh your mind, you will feel all the better. Allow greater creativity and energy to flow through your life. Sometimes you might be uncomfortable with that which is different. Tonight: Where there is music.

Born Today

Singer Britney Spears (1981)

Musician Rick Savage (1960)

Actress Cathy Lee Crosby (1944)



Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
(c) 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Work with someone directly. Your fun nature opens doors. A partner might choose to be more dominant than in the past. As a result, what comes down your path might be different. Tonight: Allow someone special to express him- or herself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Others want it their way. Don't squabble. In fact, a new experience could make you very happy and content. You might see life quite differently from many. Now isn't the time for judgments or announcements. Tonight: Say "yes."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Everyone needs a day for R and R; you are no different. Be clear in your dealings as to how much you are willing to do and what is enough. You might want to reverse gears and head in another direction. Tonight: Feel free to change your plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Your creativity cannot be denied. Whether it is a quick turn of a phrase or a new experience, you like originality. Excitement surrounds any Goat who will allow his or her imagination to run with the moment. Tonight: Ever playful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Basics do count, as does your approach. Consider what is going on with you when dealing with a family member. Make it OK to say, "This is enough." You might want to dance to another tune. Why not? Tonight: Entertain at home — at least stay close to your pad.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You might want to attempt a different type of adventure. Try a new movie theater or restaurant. Get to know a neighbor better. Much that happens puts a smile on your face. Be willing to walk another path. Tonight: Chat up a storm.

Happy Birthday

This year your abilities, energy and charisma are enhanced. As a result, you will be empowered. You might not need to say "no" any longer, as you will find situations easier to deal with. Diplomacy and understanding take you on a new path. Your daily life might be the focus of a lot of attention. You might want to use your energy and high-power abilities to improve your work and your life.

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Inside slant

Jazz icon Marsalis takes on American culture in new effort

On WYNTON MARSALIS' upcoming CD, he criticizes political leadership in America, cultural corruption, and sex and violence in rap — and that's just on one song. "I don't speak from outside, I'm not finger-pointing," the 45-year-old jazz great told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "I'm a part of it, I'm speaking from inside of our culture," Marsalis said. "We're not taking a moralistic view. It's not, 'Let me tell y'all how I'm different

from you.' It's a comment on our way of life and our culture." "From the Plantation to the Penitentiary" is due out March 6. Marsalis calls it his most political album in years. "It's been in my mind for a while. Every decade I like to do one piece that has that kind of social involvement with American culture," he said. But a look at some of the lyrics shows Marsalis is disenchanting with that culture. "The

Return of Romance" appears to take rappers to task, accusing them of being modern-day minstrels with "song-less tunes"; "Super Capitalism" chastises those obsessed with materialistic goals; and "Where Y'all At," among other things, criticizes '60s radicals and idealists who have lost their revolutionary slant. "Where Y'all At" is notable because it features Marsalis as the vocalist, delivering a sort of rap chant.

"I always try and do something different. I don't try to make any of my records the same," he said. "I'm always singing and chanting all over my house. I grew up doing it in New Orleans, chanting and singing and making up rhymes; long before there was rap music we were doing that. That's the New Orleans' way." Though the album has its pointed moments, Marsalis isn't completely pessimistic about American culture. He noted the

outpouring of support from citizens nationwide after Hurricane Katrina as an example of what people can do when they are aware of a problem. "That's the one thing the Katrina episode taught us about America. Americans can be moved to do things when they have good information, honest information. People are more serious, people do want to participate in things," he said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Burstyn looks to inspire with 'Myself'

Oscar winner ELLEN BURSTYN says she struggled through decades of abuse and hopes her story will inspire other women. Burstyn, who has written a memoir, "Lessons in Becoming Myself," told Oprah Winfrey on Thursday's show that her mother was violent and her husband stalked her for a decade before his death in the 1970s.

"It's so humiliating to put all this stuff out there," the 73-year-old actress said. "Finally, you have to say, 'It's all right. I can be powerful and be a woman and be loved all at once.'" Burstyn won an Oscar for 1974's "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore." She has received Oscar nominations for "Requiem for a Dream," "Resurrection,"

"Same Time, Next Year," "The Exorcist" and "The Last Picture Show." When she was young, Burstyn said, she learned to use her sexuality as a means for survival. "When I was 18 or 19, I wasn't earning very much money, so I ate when I had a date," she said on "The Oprah Winfrey Show." "But that was all the

food I got. So I felt the least I could was say 'thank you.'" It took nearly 25 years of study, therapy and meditation to feel ready for an emotionally healthy relationship, she said. "This is quite a book," Winfrey said. "It's easily one of the most candid and most thought-provoking memoirs."

AP

Leno not happy the joke was on him

It's no laughing matter to JAY LENO. The "Tonight Show" host and NBC Studios have sued humor editor Judy Brown and her publishers in U.S. District Court, claiming that her collection of joke books has profited from material filched from his standup routines. Leno and other comics, including Rita Rudner, are seeking unspecified damages and a permanent injunction against Brown's 19 books — mainly compilations of jokes by comedians including Ellen DeGeneres, Joan Rivers and Jerry Seinfeld, according to the

lawsuit. "Her books credit the comedians who wrote the jokes, which only serves to make the copyright violations more egregious: The books sell precisely because they include jokes by famous comedians," the lawsuit claims. "Ms. Brown has even sent representatives to comedy clubs to record comedians' routines, so she can then copy the jokes into her books and profit from the original comedic works of others," according to the lawsuit. Brown's books include "The Funny Pages," "Funny You

Should Know That" and "Joke Stew." Spokeswoman Kathy Hilliard of Andrews McMeel Publishing, one of the publishers named in the lawsuit, declined to comment Thursday. She also declined to comment when asked how Brown could be contacted. Messages left at the offices of two other defendants, Sterling Publishing Co. Inc. and Rowman & Littlefield Inc., were not immediately returned. The lawsuit, filed Wednesday, says the plaintiffs contacted Brown and Andrews McMeel Publishing during the

summer to request that they stop publication of any past and future "infringing works." "We never heard back from her," said Theodore Boutrous Jr., attorney for the plaintiffs. "We think there's a very important principle at stake: protecting intellectual property of the comedians," Boutrous said. "These jokes are products of a very careful choice of words." The other plaintiffs are comics Jimmy Brogan and Diane Nichols, and Sue Pascoe, wife of the late comedian Ronnie Shakes.

AP

'Studio' a study of schisms

BY LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES — Pop culture, society's meeting ground, has the privilege of playing a starring role in its conflicts. As concerned people search for ways to unravel such complexities as the dense and tangled ball of American attitudes on race, a strand will pop up — in the form of Michael Richards or Sen. George Allen's YouTubed "macaca" moment — and it gets tugged on, hard. The result is often fruitless, a three-ring circus that feeds the TV talk machine and allows for endless, grainy replays of a misbegotten moment complete with thrilling "bleeps" to drown out the bad language. But there's another cultural tool at hand that can be more powerful

than fact: fiction. Consider "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip," the freshman NBC series (10 p.m. EDT Monday). It's both a behind-the-scenes look at a comedy show akin to "Saturday Night Live" and, in the early going, a vehicle for creator Aaron Sorkin to pound away at America's social schisms. Sorkin earned his place in TV history with the White House drama "The West Wing." His new effort takes on the split between red-staters and blue, the Christian right and those who either hate or fear them, and supporters and opponents of gay marriage. Whether the show-biz drama can bear such weight and survive creatively — or at all, given its pallid ratings — is up in the air. But Sorkin is relentless in his effort to make "Studio 60" meaningful, and that includes playing the race card.

In one episode, "Studio 60" performer Simon (D.L. Hughley), irked by the show's lack of black writers, forces his boss to scout for talent in a nightclub. What they found on stage was Richards' black counterpart, spewing racist stereotypes, as well as a promising newcomer. It was an unvarnished take on those who debase black culture and women by trafficking in cheap, tawdry humor. A recent two-part story, however, showed that even a gifted writer like Sorkin can go awry in navigating the difficult terrain of race and politics. In "Nevada Day," Tom (Nathan Corddry) faces legal trouble after defending his "Studio 60" co-star Harriet (Sarah Paulson) from three men angered by her public remarks on the Bible and homosexuality. One man gets shoved and Tom is arrested.

With a studio executive and producer lending support, Tom lands in front of a small-town Nevada judge (guest star John Goodman). The judge makes it clear he doesn't like the "condescending" Hollywood types who put on sketches such as "Crazy Christians." "You make fun of people like my family, people like my friends and people like me," he says. He's already extracted revenge of sorts, calling a Chinese businessman and his daughter "Japs" and threatening to inflict damage on a network lawyer he's dubbed "Matlock." "I had these guys going," the judge smirks to a sheriff's deputy before turning back to his adversaries: "You're idiots. ... I'm a judge. You really think I go around calling people Japs and ordering deputies to shoot lawyers?"

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE

1328 Montana Avenue

(310) 395-4990

Friday

The Three Stooges 72nd Anniversary

7:30

Saturday

The Queen, Dangerous Liaisons

7:30

My Beautiful Laundrette, Prick Up Your Ears

7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4

1441 3rd Street

(310) 458-6232

Babel (R)

1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35

For Your Consideration (PG-13)

1:00, 3:10, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50

The Fountain (PG-13)

12:30, 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20

The Nativity Story (PG)

12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA

1310 3rd Street

(310) 289-4262

Deck the Halls (PG)

11:45am, 2:35, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

Deja Vu (PG-13)

11:30am, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 9:55, 11:30

The Departed (R)

11:00am, 2:05, 5:10, 8:20, 11:25

Flushed Away (PG)

11:10am, 1:20, 3:25, 5:40, 7:45, 10:05

Stranger Than Fiction (PG-13)

11:55am, 2:45, 5:20, 8:05, 10:40

Tenacious D in the Pick of Destiny (R)

11:20am, 1:50, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30, 11:40

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd

(310) 281-8228

Bobby (R)

11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55

The Last King of Scotland (R)

12:45, 3:40, 7:00, 10:00

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX

1332 2nd Street

(310) 394-9741

Captive (Cautiva) (NR)

1:40, 7:30

Fast Food Nation (R)

4:40, 10:00

The History Boys (R)

1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Little Children (R)

1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

The Queen (PG-13)

1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40

More information email [news@smdp.com](#)

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

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

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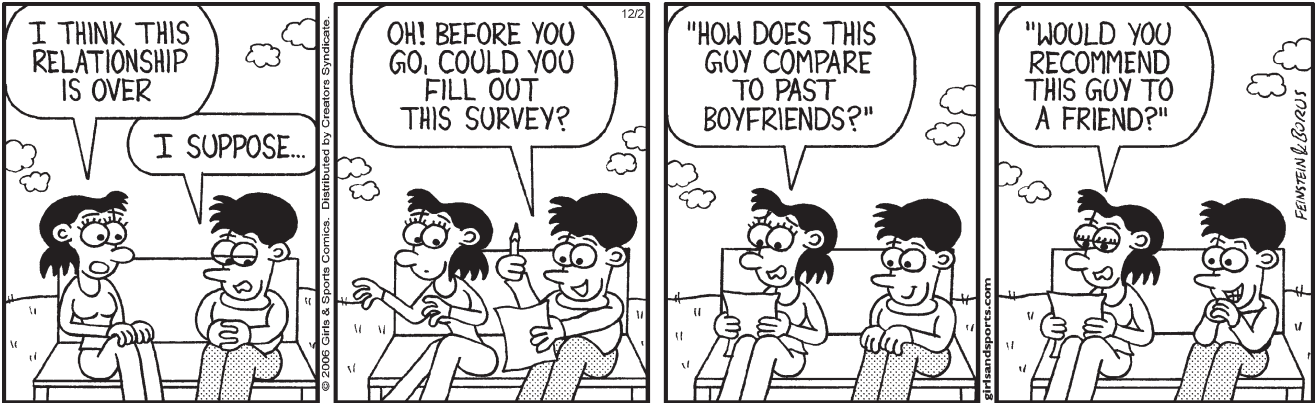
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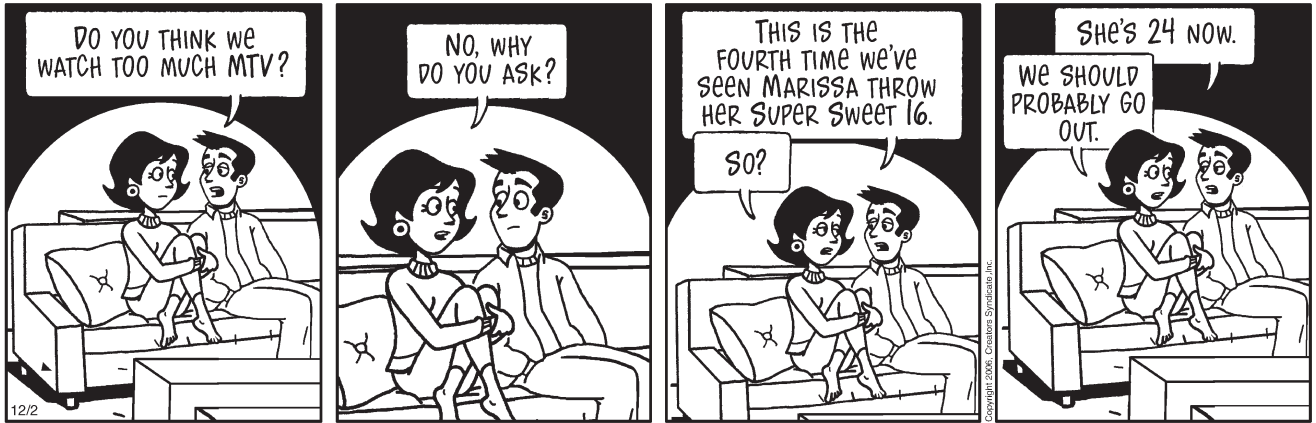
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Opening Lines, Pinky Probes and L-Bombs: The Girls & Sports Dating Playbook is available at: www.girlsandsports.com/book. Mention this newspaper for a free gift!

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



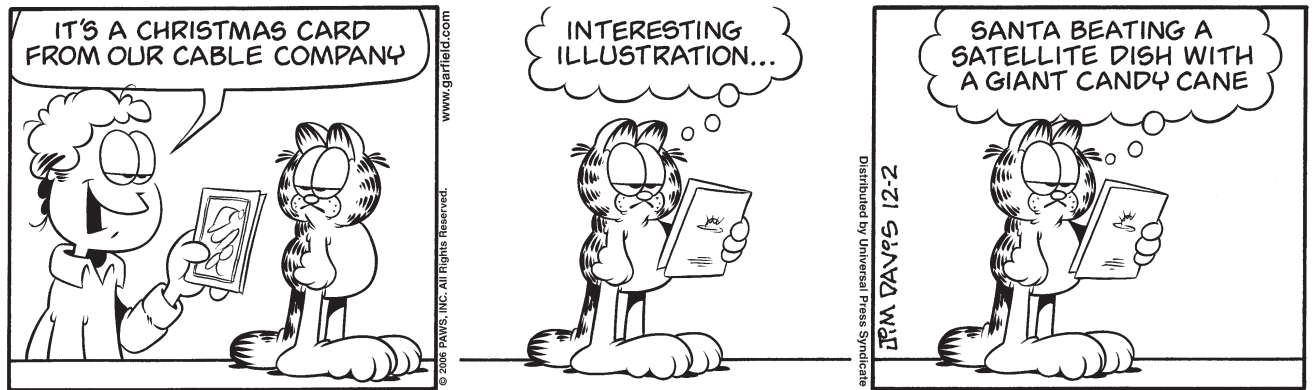
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



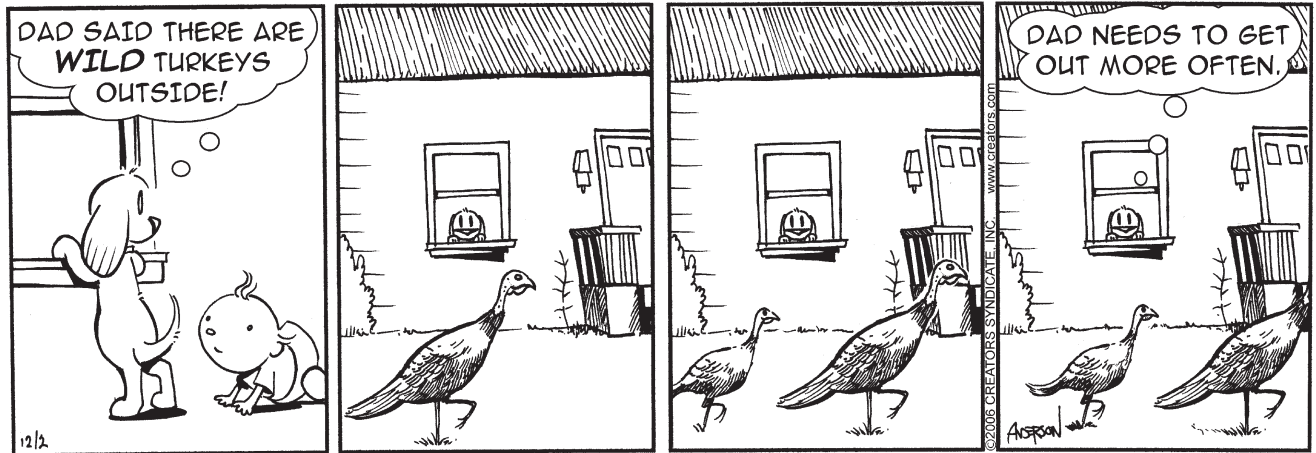
Garfield

By Jim Davis

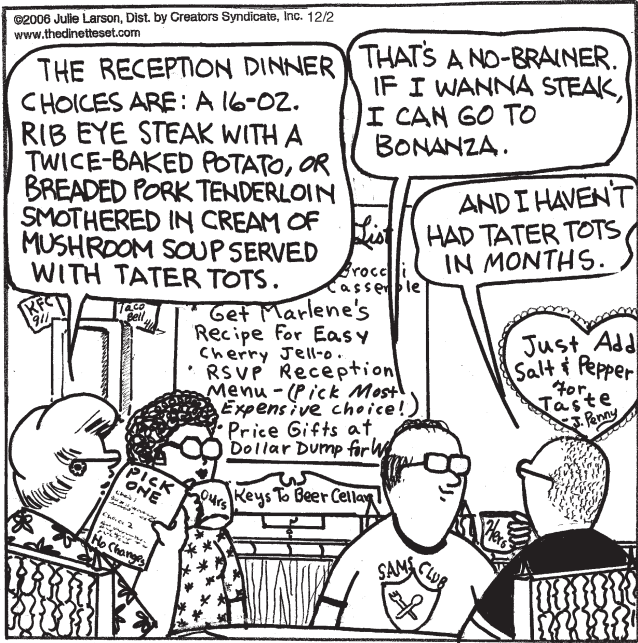


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ACROSS

- 1 Gert of "Gold-finger"
- 6 Paces
- 11 Take it easy
- 12 Concur
- 13 Sung story
- 14 Wilder-ness Road blazer
- 15 Spooky gathering
- 17 Garden area
- 18 Pitch's kin
- 19 Some ads
- 22 Crafty
- 23 Some steaks
- 24 "Olympia" painter
- 25 Infrequent
- 27 Glacier makeup
- 30 Peter Benchley book
- 31 Curly-haired cat
- 32 Galley need
- 33 Moolah
- 35 Cager Shaquille
- 38 Windmill parts
- 39 Pageant prize

- 40 Happen-ing
- 41 Oregon city
- 42 Takes a breather

DOWN

- 1 Tops tortes
- 2 Undo, as a law
- 3 Famed cow owner
- 4 Loft setting
- 5 Bus rider's need
- 6 Loquacity
- 7 Before now
- 8 Asimov book
- 9 Principles
- 10 Core feature
- 16 Demon-strated
- 20 Pajama party, e.g.
- 21 Favorite
- 24 Fuming
- 25 Singer Twain
- 26 Breakfast choice
- 27 Dunne and Cara
- 28 Sidewalk stuff
- 29 Is real
- 30 Hits the horn
- 34 Dance party
- 36 Have life
- 37 Flight

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
15						16			17	
18				19		20	21			
22				23						
			24							
	25	26						27	28	29
30								31		
32					33		34			
35			36	37		38				
39						40				
41						42				

12-2



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PRODUCTION MANAGER: Responsible for receiving all underwriting copy and public service announcements, ensuring that on-air content is organized and supervising recording of underwriting and public service announcements.

DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC: Responsible for overseeing station logs, entering data regarding underwriting and public service announcements, and coordinating underwriting and public service announcements with the on-air staff.

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PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR: Responsible for all promotional activities conducted on behalf of KKJZ; coordinate with CSULB, including the College of the Arts, the Jazz Studies Program, and the California Institute for the Preservation of Jazz, in order to ensure that KKJZ promotes CSULB events. Will also be expected to coordinate promotional efforts with the account executives, the Director of Underwriting, the Marketing Director and the Director of Development.

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ON-AIR ANNOUNCERS (3): Send resume and CD sample.

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Notices

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Morgan Higby, please contact Andrew H.. Wiebelt, atty at (504)821 8481

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JONAS CLAES GERVIND aka CLAES JONAS GERVIND
Case No. BP101722
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JONAS CLAES GERVIND aka CLAES JONAS GERVIND
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Mark J. Saladino, Public Administrator in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PRO-BATE requests that Mark J. Saladino, Public Administrator be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on Dec. 22, 2006 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should ap-pear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a per-son interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and ap-praisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
RAYMOND G FORTNER JR
COUNTY COUNSEL
DAVID F SKJEIE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY
350 S FIGUEROA ST STE 602
LOS ANGELES CA 90071
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN765443 GERVIND Dec 1,2,8, 2006

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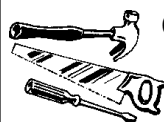
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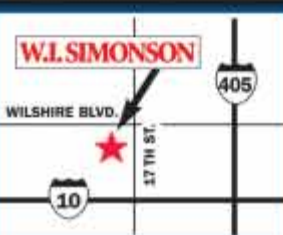
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