



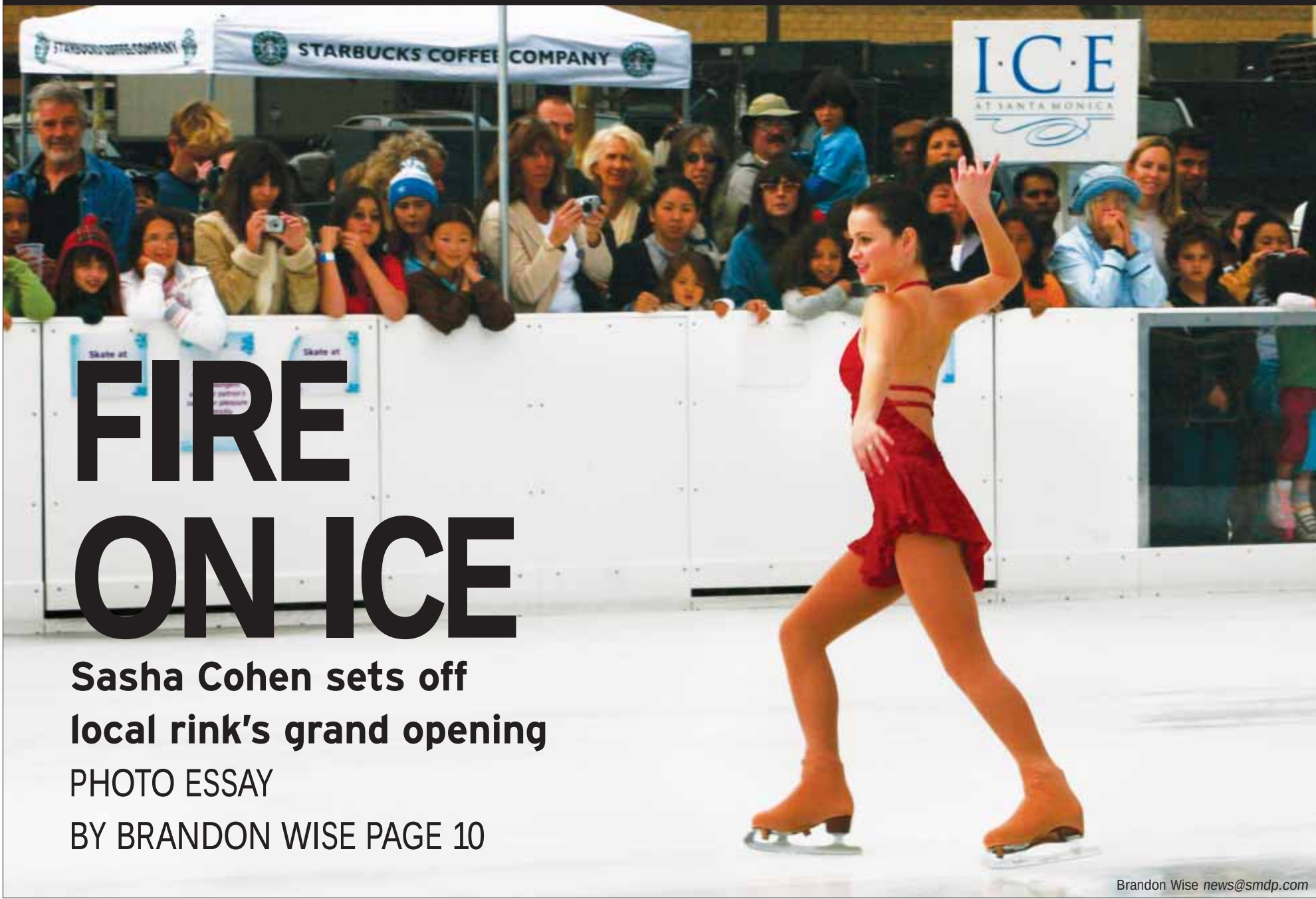
ROLLIN' WITH IT
SEE PAGE 3

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE CAN YOU SPOT HIM? ISSUE

SEASON



FIRE ON ICE

Sasha Cohen sets off
local rink's grand opening

PHOTO ESSAY

BY BRANDON WISE PAGE 10

Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

Fatal accidents on the rise

A number of factors make
navigating city traffic risky

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Police officers responsible for investigating serious traffic accidents have so far this year responded to 13 major incidents involving pedestrians and autos, six of

which resulted in the deaths of those struck.

That number is considerably higher than in years past, with the elderly representing the majority of drivers and victims, raising concerns about pedestrian safety and the ability of elderly drivers to navigate congested streets.

"Fatal accidents are way up this year and we are seeing predominantly elder victims, with many times elderly drivers striking them," said SMPD Sgt. Larry Horn, supervisor of the Major Accident Response Team.

"The number one factor tends to be failure to yield to a

pedestrian in the cross walk," Horn said. "That should serve as a reminder to people that just because you are in a cross-walk doesn't alleviate you of the responsibility to look around because sometimes, for one reason or another, drivers just don't see you ... You've got to have your head on a swivel and your eyes peeled for what's going on around you."

The latest fatal accident occurred over the weekend when a 94-year-old driver struck and killed an 80-year-old

SEE TRAFFIC PAGE 8



Gary Limjap

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Calendar

2

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2007

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A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



The Off The Jingle Bell Rockers

Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

The Rockers, a Venice-based group of professional singers, is back to their old tunes during the Abbot Kinney Holiday Extravaganza.

No Shame Theatre

3116 Second St., 11 p.m. — midnight

Fifteen new scripts jump from page to stage each week. With less than an hour to go before show time, writers are jammed together with actors and directors to create wholly original works of comedy, drama, music, movement and furry hand puppet sex slavery — none of which lasts more than five minutes. Catch tonight's show at The Powerhouse Theatre. Tickets are \$5. To make a reservation, call (310) 396-3680, ext. 10. For more information, visit www.noshamela.com.

The Canadian wave hits tonight

3101 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.

In 2006, Issa, formerly Jane Siberry, packed her Manolos, Armani suit and pearls into a knapsack, booked a studio in Brussels and began writing songs about canoes, birds, mysterious money inheritances and her concerns for teenagers. She headlines tonight at McCabe's Guitar Shop. Songstress Adrienne Pierce, also of Canada, opens the show. Tickets are \$22.50. For more information, visit www.mccabes.com.

Santa Monica Critical Mass bike ride

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

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

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007

Polar Plunge Beach Party

North of SM Pier, 11 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Jump into the ocean as part of the largest global warming action nationwide. There will be free hot chocolate and treats. Prizes will be awarded to those who bring the most friends with them.

It's a small world at the library

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 1:30 p.m. — 3 p.m.

The Main Branch will host the Los Angeles Clarinet Choir as they perform songs and dances from around the world.

St. Monica's open house

1030 Lincoln Blvd., 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.

St. Monica Catholic High School will be open to prospective students and their families during their annual Open House event. For information, contact Mrs. Rice at (310) 394-3701, ext. 405.

Holiday Family Film: "Elf"

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:45 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.

Kick off the holiday season with this Yuletide comedy starring Will Ferrell and James Caan. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium. Event is free.

McKinley Elementary Silent Auction

2401 Santa Monica Blvd., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.

McKinley Elementary School and the PTA will host the 9th Annual Silent Auction to raise funds for the school's arts programs. Food and entertainment will be included along with the live and silent auctions. For more information, call (310) 828-5011.

L.A. Derby Dolls Championship Bout

1910 Temple St., L.A., 6 p.m. — 11 p.m.

The L.A. Derby Dolls are rolling into the 2007 Championship with a battle between Fight Crew and the Sirens. Tickets start at \$15. For pre-sale tickets, visit www.derbydolls.com/la.

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



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Schooling parents

SMMUSD opens its doors to the public to tout its campuses

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILMONT Caught between the top-notch selections of Lincoln Middle School and private schools like Archer and St. Monica for her young daughter to attend next year, Leticia Vidal is facing the kind of tough choice that many parents could only dream about for their own children.

Vidal paid a visit to one of the three candidates on Wednesday, touring the campus at Lincoln during the middle school's open house, an event held as part of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's "Public Schools Week," where every campus in the district was opened for one morning this week.

The visit left Vidal seriously considering the public school as the front-runner, pleased with the diversity in the student population, impressed with the quality of instruction and excited at the variety of activities offered in the physical education program.

"I want to be able to provide my daughter with the best options," the Santa Monica resident said on Wednesday.

The district's first Community Open House week has already been deemed a success by its organizers, attracting hundreds of parents to the public schools since it kicked off on Tuesday at Olympic High School. Many of the parents visiting the campuses did so even if their child wasn't yet enrolled in the school, weighing the school as an option against several other choices.

Nine years after her middle child graduated from Lincoln Middle School, Maria Ruiz was back on campus touring the campus, this time to see if it's the right fit for her son, who is an eighth grader at Roosevelt Elementary.

"The school has changed a lot," Ruiz said. "The teachers look a lot younger, which could help them (relate better) with the students."

Vidal still has several months left before she needs to make her final deci-

SEE SCHOOL PAGE 7



Photo courtesy of Steven Barber

ON THE ROAD TO VICTORY: Team Paul Mitchell rides three wide in a scene from Steven Barber's 'Challenge Alaska,' a documentary chronicling a road race for wheelchair-bound athletes that spans 267 miles in six days. The film was produced by a local filmmaker Steven Barber.

Documentary film draws major buzz in Tinseltown

Dan Aykroyd narrates local's film on disabled

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE When Steven Barber was forced out of an advertising company two years ago after more than two decades in the field, the last place he imagined landing was on "Good Morning America."

But the media promotion circuit is exactly what the Santa Monican has been doing since his documentary film about the world's longest wheelchair race has drawn buzz in Hollywood circles, attracting support from the likes of Pamela

Anderson, Steve Forbes and Oprah Winfrey.

"The Alaskan Challenge 2007" documents the journey of a team of three local paraplegic men who participated in a 267-mile, seven-day marathon on wheelchairs and handcycles through Alaska this summer.

The film is currently in post-production and Barber is in the process of raising the approximately \$211,000 budget necessary to put the finishing touches on the documentary. The Santa Monica filmmaker recently got a boost to his fundraising efforts when funnyman Dan Aykroyd donated not only his money, but his voice to the film, signing on as narrator.

"I almost hung up on him and I was like 'yeah, who is this really?'" Barber said

of his recent phone conversation with Aykroyd.

Barber has enjoyed a short, yet successful film journey since he left the advertising world, took his severance package and purchased \$50,000 worth of camera equipment to chase his lifelong dream. In the past two years, he has directed two other documentaries — "Punchin' Pat," which depicts a boxer, and "The Eddie Albert Story," a film about the late "Green Acres" actor, filmed shortly before his death in 2005.

The filmmaker claims that none of these documentary ideas came from him, but the subjects rather found him through chance — he ran into the boxer

SEE FILM PAGE 9



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Plan to plant ginkos just stinks

Editor:

I would like to know why this City Council (except for Kevin McKeown) have decided to target 23 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets for removal. If these trees are supposedly hazardous or damaged, why is this is not the case throughout the city? Do any one of (them) deny that the real reason is because of their proximity to the promenade?

I understand other ficus trees have been removed for similar reasons, but nowhere near the proportion of those near the cityscape project. How certain are (they) that every one of the 23 trees to be removed are damaged beyond repair, or unstable and likely to fall over? Why go to all the expense of moving trees to another location, when it takes far less effort to make them safe where they are?

Have elected officials – accountable to the residents of this city – examined any other alternatives, such as higher pavements, rubber sidewalks, pruning, etc? It seems like that would cost much less than the hundreds of thousands of dollars budgeted for removal and replacement with ginkgo trees.

Ginkgo trees will take at least 20 years to grow fully, and will never equal the shade these 40-year-old ficus trees provide. Not only that, ginkgos are dioecious, with separate sexes. The male plants produce small pollen cones. Female plants form ovules that develop into seeds after pollination that contain butanoic acid and smell like rancid butter when they drop.

Save our ficus trees! We don't need no stinko ginkos.

Jon Louis Mann

Santa Monica

Reader wrong to down Lowe

Editor:

Thanks to Ron Lowe's honest letters, we get to learn of some of the shenanigans going on in Washington that (the Daily Press) happens to miss ("Letter writers should stay on point," letters, Dec. 5). I wish he would write a regular article for the SMDP so we could get even more of the truths about what is going on in our country.

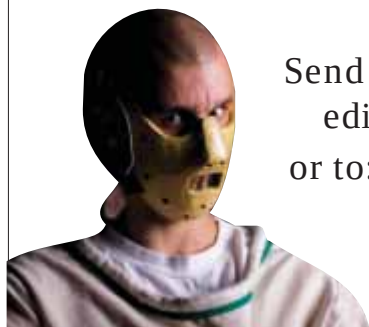
If (Eric) Cooper doesn't like it, let him confine his reading to Murdoch's empire. Then he won't read any of the truths about Bush, which he calls "Bush bashing." But please, let SMDP remain one of the few voices of the people.

Cecilia Rosenthal

Santa Monica

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Santa Monica Daily Press



That Rutherford Guy

John H. Whitehead

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Child porn isn't protected at all

IN 2004, FEDERAL AGENTS CAUGHT

Michael Williams in the act of attempting to exchange pornographic images of children online. In an Internet chat room, Williams boasted that he had "hard core" pictures of himself engaged in sex acts with his 4-year-old daughter. He also told an undercover federal agent that he was willing to trade the photos for pictures depicting other children in provocative poses.

Despite his claims, Williams did not, in fact, have pornographic photographs of his daughter. Nevertheless, Williams was prosecuted under a federal law that outlaws the pandering of child pornography.

The Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act of 2003 was passed by Congress in an effort to provide law enforcement officials and prosecutors the tools they need to combat child pornography and the industry that has grown up around it. Under this law, it is a crime to advertise, promote, distribute or solicit material that leads another to believe it contains child pornography — even if the material does not actually contain child pornography.

Convicted under this provision, Williams immediately appealed, claiming that the law was vague and overbroad in violation of the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech. And a panel of judges on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit agreed that the law could be interpreted in such a way as to criminalize speech that is completely unrelated to child pornography.

Under the law as it now stands, the appeals court reasoned, "any promoter — be they a braggart, exaggerator, or outright liar — who claims to have illegal pornography materials is a criminal punishable by up to 20 years in prison, even if what he or she actually has is a video of 'Our Gang,' a dirty handkerchief, or an empty pocket." The appeals court also voiced the concern that the law could be wrongly applied to an e-mail sent by a grandparent and entitled "Good pics of kids in bed," showing grandchildren dressed in pajamas.

Now that the case is before the U.S. Supreme Court, it has been portrayed as a battle between those who advocate unbridled free speech and those who would place limits on artistic expression. For example, opponents of the law insist that it could be applied to movies like "Traffic" or "Titanic" that depict adolescent sex. Yet all of that is merely legal doublespeak to avoid talking about what is really at stake here. Because when all is said and done, this case is about one thing only: Protecting children from those who would prey on them.

For starters, the First Amendment was never intended to protect obscenity or child pornography. And while I am one of the first to insist that offensive and unpopular speech must be protected under the umbrella of free speech, like all constitutional rights, there are limits to this freedom.

According to experts from the FBI's Crimes Against Children Unit, there is a strong connection between people who

trade or possess child pornography and those who molest children. As one FBI specialist explained to Congress, "of the total number of child pornographers investigated over the past several years, nearly 40 percent have been determined to be child molesters."

One of the U.S. Court of Appeals' reasons for declaring the PROTECT Act unconstitutional was its concern that it could be a crime under the statute to offer for sale "a copy of Disney's 'Snow White' on false claims that it contains depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct."

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THIS FREEDOM.

Frankly, I don't have a problem with someone being charged under this law for falsely peddling child porn. We have to draw the line somewhere, and pandering child porn is just as bad as actually dealing in it.

If you really want to understand what we're up against, read the facts section of the Appeals Court's decision in the Williams case. It paints a horrifying picture of exactly how young children are preyed upon. It becomes evident that as the FBI has pointed out, the children are groomed to become comfortable with the idea of experimenting with sex through exposure to kiddie porn and, once their inhibitions have been lowered and they have been desensitized to sex, manipulated to perform sex acts.

It was this evil — and it is evil — that Congress was attempting to eradicate when it passed the PROTECT Act. As for the concern that genuine artistic endeavors could be mistaken for child porn and consequently be targeted for prosecution, it's time that we started exercising a little more common sense — and call on the courts to do so, as well.

We need strong laws to shield our children from these horrors. And we should not allow ourselves to be hoodwinked into believing that the Williams case has anything to do with the First Amendment. Let's protect our children, not the child predators.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bush and Dizzy: Good ole boys

"DIZZY" DEAN WAS A HALL OF FAME pitcher during the 1930s with the famous "Gashouse Gang" St. Louis Cardinals. He became a sportscaster known for his colorful butchering of the English language, as in, "Zarilla slud into third!" English teachers all over the country wrote irate letters demanding that Dizzy not use the word "ain't." Dean responded on the air: "A lot of folks who ain't sayin' 'ain't,' ain't eatin'. So, Teach, you learn 'em English and I'll learn 'em baseball."

George Bush also fashions himself as a good ol' boy and was, in fact, a pitcher, albeit a benchwarmer at Yale. He too occasionally mangles the language, "Is our children learning?" (Not if they're listening to you, they're not.) Or, "Childrens do learn when the standards are high." (Speaking of standards, how the hell did he graduate from Yale?) For some reason, W adds an "s" to indicate the plural of children, just as he refers to the Internet as the "Internets." Go to YouTube, type, "Bush children is learning" and you won't believe your eyes. Or maybe, after seven years, you will.

Perhaps Bush's most embarrassing gaffe took place at the recent Israeli-Palestinian peace conference at Annapolis. Curiously, when Bush took office in 2001, he had no interest in Mideast peace, even criticizing Clinton for wasting his time. "They know where I am," Bush said, arrogantly suggesting that when the parties were ready to get down to business to let him know. Otherwise he had a jog or a bicycle to ride to attend to.

Of late, Bush has done a 180. (Or as he might say it, a complete 360.) He must be giving thought to the "legacy thang" and with good reason. In 1980, Ronald Reagan summed up Jimmy Carter's legacy by asking the country, "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?" After seven years of Bush, the answer is a no-brainer. (Pun intended.) I can't think of a single area of domestic or international affairs where anyone is better off. (Except for Halliburton.)

At the peace conference, with the whole world watching, Bush swaggered to the microphone and began introducing the Israeli and Palestinian leaders. The only problem is he mispronounced both of their names! (At least neither party can feel more slighted.)

Bush referred to Ehud Olmert as "Olmur" and Mahmud Abbas as "Mahumid," stum-

bling over the names as though he had never heard them before! Couldn't he have asked beforehand, "Say, what are these jokers' names, again?" Adding insult to injury, he only stayed at the conference three hours, leading columnist Maureen Dowd to call it "drive-by diplomacy."

Meanwhile, with Bush's approval ratings in the 20s (lowest sustained ever) his acolytes are busily re-writing history, i.e. "Congress rushed us to war." How dumb do they think we are? Apparently, very. They're even citing the conference as a possible stepping-stone to the Nobel Prize. (Can't you just hear Bush whine, "Gore got one, why not me?")

To me, the remarkable thing about Bush's faux pas at Annapolis is that he wasn't embarrassed. Then again, he wasn't embarrassed about missing WMDs, as witness his tasteless jokes on the subject. I wonder how funny they were to Gold Star Mothers. In his defense of Annapolis, Bush chuckled, "I've never been very good with words" That begs the question: What are you good at? Unnecessary wars? How about saber rattling?

Bush is also good at cutting brush and playing dress up. (One day, he's a cowboy, the next, a "Mission Accomplished" fighter pilot. To me, he'll always seem more "Village People" than president.)

Dizzy Dean was a charming good ol' boy. People say that about poor George, but I have yet to see it. Maybe it'd help me if he had a good ol' boy nickname? W has a nickname, "The Decider." In defense of Rumsfeld, Bush told the press, "I hear the voices, but I'm the decider, and I decide what's best." (Anybody with his or her finger on the nuclear trigger, "hearing voices" makes me nervous, especially when that finger belongs to George Bush.)

The day after the November '06 election, W apparently heard "other voices" as he canned Rummy. Personally, I don't like "The Decider" image. It sounds more like a dictator than a good ol' boy. And given Bush's track record of "deciding" for the past seven years, it's not something you want to remind folks about. I like "Dizzy" better. Besides, even at his lowest, Dizzy never had approval ratings in the 20s.

JACK NEWORTH also writes the TV review column "Channel Surfing" for the Daily Press. He can be reached at jackneworth2003@aol.com.



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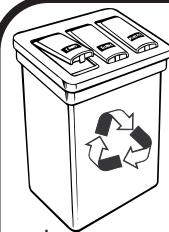
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The Q-Line

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Breakup or makeup?

There is currently a movement to split up the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District along municipal lines. Some feel it would give Malibu the power and respect that it needs to run successful schools. An ad-hoc committee is currently exploring the issue to determine its feasibility.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you think dividing the district in two is a good idea?

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



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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR 749 17TH STREET CONDOMINIUMS
AND ADULT DAYCARE FACILITY**

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given on the completion and availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Adult daycare, senior group housing and condominium project located at 749 17th Street.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: New construction of 3,942 square foot adult daycare center, three condominiums and seven senior group residences on an R2 zoned 17,880 square foot lot. Driveway access to nineteen parking spaces below grade and a semicircular driveway are proposed along Montana Avenue. The application is for a Conditional Use Permit for an adult daycare center, Vesting Tentative Tract Map for a four lot subdivision, and a General Plan Amendment to correct an inconsistency in land use designations.

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS: The Draft EIR determined that implementation of the project will result in the following significant or potentially significant impacts:
Significant Unavoidable Impacts: Traffic
Potentially Significant Impacts: Construction, Neighborhood, and Noise

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A 45-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR. **The comment period will start on December 10th and end at 5:30 p.m. on January 22, 2008.** Written comments should be sent to:

Gina Szilak, Assistant Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Fax: (310) 458-3518 E-Mail: regina.szilak@santa-monica.org

PUBLIC MEETING: A public meeting for the Planning Commission to receive comments on the Draft EIR will be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. If you wish to challenge the Draft Environmental Impact Report in court, you may be limited to raising those issues that you or someone else raised at any public hearing or meetings where this document was considered.

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: The Draft EIR and background materials may be viewed at the following locations:

- ☐ City Planning Division Public Counter, Room 111, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica
- ☐ Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica
- ☐ Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica
- ☐ Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Venti-size trouble for serial robber

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30, AT 8:45 P.M.

Acting on a tip, Santa Monica police officers stationed themselves outside a Starbucks located in the 2500 block of Wilshire Boulevard in an attempt to capture a suspect wanted in connection with several robberies of coffee houses in Santa Monica and West Los Angeles. Officers said someone phoned them, saying they saw a man matching the suspect's description driving around the Starbucks in a car that looked like one used in the previous robberies. Officers waited outside the coffee shop and observed the suspect, who was riding in the front passenger's seat, get out of the parked car, walk into the shop and approach an employee behind the register. The suspect appeared to order something, but left in a hurry without any coffee. Officers detained the suspect and discovered that he had roughly \$200 dollars in his possession. Officers interviewed the employee, who said the suspect told her to give him the money or he would shoot her and anyone else who did not comply. Based on that information, officers arrested the suspect for armed robbery. It turned out, the suspect did not have a gun, but a screwdriver. He was taken to the Santa Monica Jail and booked. The suspect, who had outstanding warrants for robbery totaling \$1 million and was on parole for burglary, was identified as Joseph Michael Hamburg, 46, from Los Angeles, police said. No bail was set. The driver of the alleged get-away vehicle drove off before police could apprehend them. The investigation is still ongoing.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25, AT 11:35 P.M.

Officers responded to the intersection of Broadway and Third Street regarding a grand theft investigation. When officers arrived, they spoke with the alleged victim, an employee charged with moving and securing kiosks used by merchants on the promenade. The employee said he was towing the kiosks with an electric cart when three men ran up alongside him, jumped in the cart and drove away. The employee notified police, who saw the cart a few minutes later being driven into the 1550 Lot just north of the Santa Monica Pier. Officers questioned the driver of the cart, who said that he had just bought it from a man for \$12. The value of the missing carts was estimated at \$78,000. The driver of the cart was placed under arrest for receiving stolen property. He was identified as Eric Daniel Rodriguez, 20, a transient. His bail was set at \$25,000. At the time the police report was written, the kiosks had not been recovered.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2, AT 1:15 P.M.

Police responded to the 1400 block of Fourth Street – Active clothing store – regarding a commercial burglary that had just occurred. When officers arrived, they spoke with an employee at the store, who said a man walked in and took a pair of blue jeans and wrapped them around his neck like a scarf before walking out without paying for the item. The employee called police and officers detained him a short time later. It turns out that the suspect had committed a similar theft at another store in the Santa Monica Place mall, but the owner did not want to press charges, police said. The suspect was charged with the burglary because he had no money to pay for the jeans. He was identified as Erik James Richardson, 26, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, AT 9:45 P.M.

Police received a phone call about loud noise coming from a nearby residence. The caller said the noise sounded like someone trying to break into the house. Officers responded and found an abandoned home that was under construction. Officers said suspects had broken into the home in order to steal tools or to find a place to sleep. The two suspects were arrested. One was a female juvenile. The other was an adult male. He was identified as Edgar Rodriguez, 20, from Los Angeles. Bail information was not available.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, AT 8:10 A.M.

A woman driving along Ocean Avenue at Colorado told police that as she was stopped at a traffic light when a man in the car behind her started honking and yelling at her. The suspect then jumped out of his car and started banging on the woman's car, she said. The victim said she rolled up her windows, leading the man to get back into his car, drive up alongside her and continue shouting. She said the man pulled out a gun, pointed it at her and threatened her. Officers conducted a follow-up investigation at the car owner's home. There, they arrested Paul Claud Yonet, 37, from the Pacific Palisades. He was booked for assault with a deadly weapon. His bail was set at \$50,000. No weapon was found and officers did not have any indication as to what caused the alleged attack.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28, AT 11:50 A.M.

A suspect walked into the Vons at 710 Broadway and grabbed a \$22 bottle of Jim Beam whiskey, hid it underneath a shirt and walked out without paying for it, police said. He was detained by store employees and arrested by police for burglary. The suspect was identified as Ervin Bernard Scott, 46, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25, AT 8:30 A.M.

Police responded to the 1100 block of Second Street – The Huntley Hotel – regarding a report of two suspects staying there illegally. When officers arrived, they spoke with hotel employees who said the two suspects had checked into the hotel a day earlier using a credit card. When the employees checked the card the next day, they discovered that the two suspects were not authorized to use it. Officers went to the suspects' room and placed the two under arrest. Officers searched the suspects and found a small amount of what appeared to be methamphetamine. The two were booked for possession and for grand theft. They were identified as Mathew David Conrad, 34, and Cassandra Conway, 24, of Beverly Hills. Both were on probation so no bail was set, police said.

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

District opens up to residents

FROM SCHOOL PAGE 3

sion as to which school her daughter, who is a fifth grader at Roosevelt Elementary, will attend next year. Until last year, Vidal's daughter attended St. Monica and the Santa Monica resident is considering whether her daughter should return to the Catholic school next year.

"So far, I'm impressed," Vidal said of Lincoln.

Each of the 16 campuses in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District opened its doors to the community for one day this week. The point of the week-long event was to showcase a school district nationally recognized for the quality of education it provides to its students.

"The community is a big part of the schools and the schools are a big part of the community," said district PTA President Rebecca Kennerly. "We felt we owed it to the community to show what we're doing and accomplishing school-to-school."

Sponsored by the PTA, the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association and the SEIU Local 99, the Community Open House is held as part of Public School Week.

A different set of schools was opened

for observation during school hours, showing parents a working classroom. Wednesday was dedicated to the elementary schools, while Thursday was for the middle school and Malibu High School. The open house concludes at Santa Monica High School today.

About 50 parents visited Lincoln Middle School, touring the campus in groups led by administrators and volunteer docents. The tours took parents to history, Spanish and English classes in session, to the school's athletic facilities, which includes a rock climbing room, and to a string ensemble rehearsal. Many of the school parents seemed surprised at the programs offered at Lincoln, which includes a swimming class and rock-climbing class as part of the physical education curriculum.

Patricia Payró-Freeman, who volunteered as a docent, said she wishes the Community Open House existed when her child started at Lincoln Middle School three years ago.

"It's reassuring," Payró-Freeman said. "You get a better sense of how the school works, you feel welcome."

melodyh@smdp.com



BIG MOMENT

Photo courtesy of William Foster
Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger joins 8-year-old Itzamaya Nunez in lighting the Christmas tree on Tuesday during the 76th Annual State Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Santa Monica City Council at the Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2008 for patrons of the Big Blue Bus. The hearing will be held as an agenda item of the City Council meeting, which starts at 6:45 p.m.

The City Council will consider cancellation of the Downtown Market Ride and Pico Market Ride services as of February 2008.

Anyone may comment in person at the hearing, or prior to the meeting by:

- ☐ attending the community meeting hosted by the Big Blue Bus on Thursday, January 3, 2008 at the Santa Monica Fairview Library, located at 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.
- ☐ submitting written comments to: Big Blue Bus, 1660 7th St., Santa Monica, CA 90401, Attn: Dan Dawson
- ☐ emailing comments to Bus-Info@BigBlueBus.com

For additional information, contact Dan Dawson, Customer Relations Manager, at (310) 458-1975 ext. 5831.

City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Disability-related accommodation requests should be made at least 3 days prior to the hearing by calling (310) 458-1975 ext. 5831 or TTY (310) 395-6024, or email: Bus-Info@BigBlueBus.

City streets becoming increasingly dangerous

FROM TRAFFIC PAGE 1

female who was walking across Colorado Avenue at 16th Street in a marked crosswalk.

The accident occurred around 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1. The victim was walking across Colorado when she was hit by a 1957 Ford Thunderbird being driven west on Colorado. The driver was not injured in the crash and voluntarily submitted to a blood test, the results of which haven't been released.

The accident is still under investigation. Horn said the setting sun may have been a factor.

AND THE LIST GOES ON

Another fatal accident occurred in October at the corner of Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards. It involved a 91-year-old woman who was struck by a 78-year-old driver while she crossed the street.

In May, officers responded to the intersection of Fourth Street and Idaho Avenue after a 37-year-old female driver traveling southbound on Fourth struck a 90-year-old man walking in an unmarked crosswalk.

In March, officers responded to the corner of Second Street and Colorado when a 40-year-old female pedestrian was hit by an MTA bus while walking in a marked crosswalk.

And in January, police responded to the corner of Euclid Street and Santa Monica Boulevard where an elderly man in his 70s was struck by a driver around the same age as he walked through a marked crosswalk. The pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene.

The accident that most people remember took place at the Farmers' Market on Arizona Avenue in July of 2003. In that incident, 86-year-old George Russell Weller plowed through a crowded market, killed 10 and injuring scores more.

During Weller's criminal trial late last year, his defense attorneys argued that Weller suffered from "pedal error," meaning he became confused and disoriented while at the wheel, pushing the brake instead of the gas. Weller was convicted of gross negligence and is serving five years probation.

STEPS TAKEN

City Hall has tried over the years to make streets more pedestrian friendly by installing lighted crosswalks to attract drivers' attention, creating medians along wide, busy streets to give pedestrians a place to stand if they can't make it across the roadway before the light changes, forming bumpouts at corners to force drivers to slow down and take wider right turns, and increasing signage, said Lucy Dyke, City Hall's transportation planning manager.

City Hall also requires developers to place driveways in locations that will not severely impact walkability and will ask some to widen sidewalks or make other improvements.

Residents have complained that the lighted crosswalks are often broken, something City Hall has worked to address, said Dyke. The company that developed the lighted crosswalks will be replacing all of the lights in the roadway with new ones starting Dec. 17 because they believe there may have been a manufacturing error causing them to malfunction.

City Hall has also installed a wireless crosswalk at Ninth Street and Santa Monica with hopes that the new technology will work better and not break down as often as those using wired connections.

Getting the elderly to give up their licenses can be challenging as many see driving as a form of independence and do not want to become a burden on their families, asking them for rides to the grocery store or to the doctor's office, Horn said.

"They love to tell us that they've been driving for 50 years and they've never had an accident," Horn said. "The reality is, if they continue to drive in the same way and nothing out of the ordinary happens, then they probably won't have an accident. But that isn't the case."

Horn said elderly drivers can do fine during normal driving conditions, but if something happens unexpectedly, such as a bicyclist swerving into the roadway or a pedestrian running across the street, an elderly driver cannot react as quickly as they used to and can end up in an accident.

SMPD officers routinely meet with groups of elderly

drivers to talk with them about the dangers of the road and have them go through a simulator to test their skills.

"When something unusual happens, their reflexes aren't what they used to be and they are not able to make the right decision quick enough," Horn said. "The end result is a terrible tragedy."

With the nation's aging population, society doesn't have a choice but to face what can be a sensitive topic, which is taking someone's driving privilege away.

The AARP issued a list of 10 tips that family members should use to determine if a loved one is getting too old to drive. They include frequent "close calls," finding dents or scrapes on the family car, fences, mailboxes and garage doors, difficulty seeing the sides of the road when looking straight ahead, trouble moving the foot from gas to brake or confusing the two, difficulty turning the head to check over the shoulder while backing up and changing lanes, and an increase in traffic tickets.

**THAT SHOULD SERVE AS
A REMINDER TO PEOPLE
THAT JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE IN A
CROSSWALK DOESN'T ALLEVIATE
YOU OF THE RESPONSIBILITY TO
LOOK AROUND."**

SMPD Sgt. Larry Horn,

Supervisor of the Major Accident Response Team

Seniors are encouraged to take alternative forms of transportation such as the Big Blue Bus or Dial-a-Ride, a program sponsored by City Hall and provided by WISE Senior Services.

Dial-a-Ride is a shared-ride, curb-to-curb transportation service for seniors, age 60 or older, and adults and teens, age 13 or older, with a disability. The para-transit service covers all of Santa Monica, as well as providing limited fixed route service to UCLA Medical Center, Kaiser West Los Angeles, Westside Center for Independent Living in Mar Vista, Venice Family Clinic and the Brentwood Veteran's Administration Medical Center. The one-way fare is 50 cents.

While elderly drivers seem to be involved in most of the serious accidents so far this year, Horn said other drivers shouldn't feel as if they are off the hook. Everyone needs to be more aware of what they are doing when they are behind the wheel, Horn said.

Younger drivers can be just as easily distract while driving as the elderly. A survey by University of California researchers found that a third of teenage drivers admitted that they have been distracted by young passengers while driving, with the most common distraction being talking, yelling, arguing or being loud.

Twenty-two percent of the drivers said they were distracted by passengers doing things like "fooling around," "messaging around," or "being stupid."

Even wrestling and dancing in the car were distractions teen drivers reported.

"Teenagers may find risky behavior exciting or funny, but it is clear from research that adolescent drivers with teenage passengers have a higher risk of crashes," said Katherine Heck, the 4-H Youth Development specialist at UC Davis who co-chaired the study. "The distractions that young drivers told us about may be a reason for their higher risk."

In California, new drivers under the age of 18 may not carry teenage passengers for the first year after receiving a driver's license. They also may not drive between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m., a period shown to be particularly dangerous for teenage drivers.

As for elderly drives, the Department of Motor Vehicles allows family members or concerned friends to ask that a loved one be reexamined to see if they are still capable of driving.

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Local filmmaker gets notice

FROM FILM PAGE 3

in “Punchin’ Pat” at the “Tonight Show” a few years ago and met Albert on a bike ride a decade ago.

The subject of “The Alaskan Challenge 2007” came to him at his rent-controlled apartment in Santa Monica.

For years, the filmmaker would see a man on his wheelchair repairing cars at Barber’s apartment. The two men knew each other only by face, and not by name. It wasn’t until about a year ago that Barber learned that the mechanic, Geoffrey Erickson, had been trying to raise money to participate in the Alaskan wheelchair marathon.

Seeing the opportunity for a documentary, Barber asked his good friend, J.P. Dejoria, one of the founders of John Paul Mitchell Systems, to kick in the \$12,000 necessary to sign up Erickson and fellow paraplegic men, Chris Kohler and Edwin Figuerora, for the marathon. The three formed the John Paul Mitchell team.

“I was blown away nobody had ever done (a documentary on the race),” Barber said. “I like the biggest, baddest, the ‘ever’ kind of stuff.”

The crew began filming the team’s

preparation for the event and this summer, traveled to Alaska where they spent a week capturing the challenges the team faced throughout the course and its achievements at race’s end.

“This gives them an opportunity to be whole again for a week,” Barber said. “It turns them back.”

The film also includes interviews with some of the other competitors, including a man who became paralyzed after a forklift at a big box store struck him in the back. Another competitor has been in a wheelchair since he fell out of a tree while bear-hunting.

The duration of the course is the same as a trip from Santa Monica to Las Vegas, equivalent to doing more than one marathon a day for an entire week.

Cameraman Robert Farrell, who introduced Barber to Erickson, recalls realizing how rigorous the course was after the crew jumped ahead to the end of the course for filming purposes, driving up and down hills, through mountains out in the middle of nowhere.

“You realize how far these guys have to go every day,” Farrell said. “It looks terrible to go through this race.”

Barber hopes to complete the film by May in order to make the submission



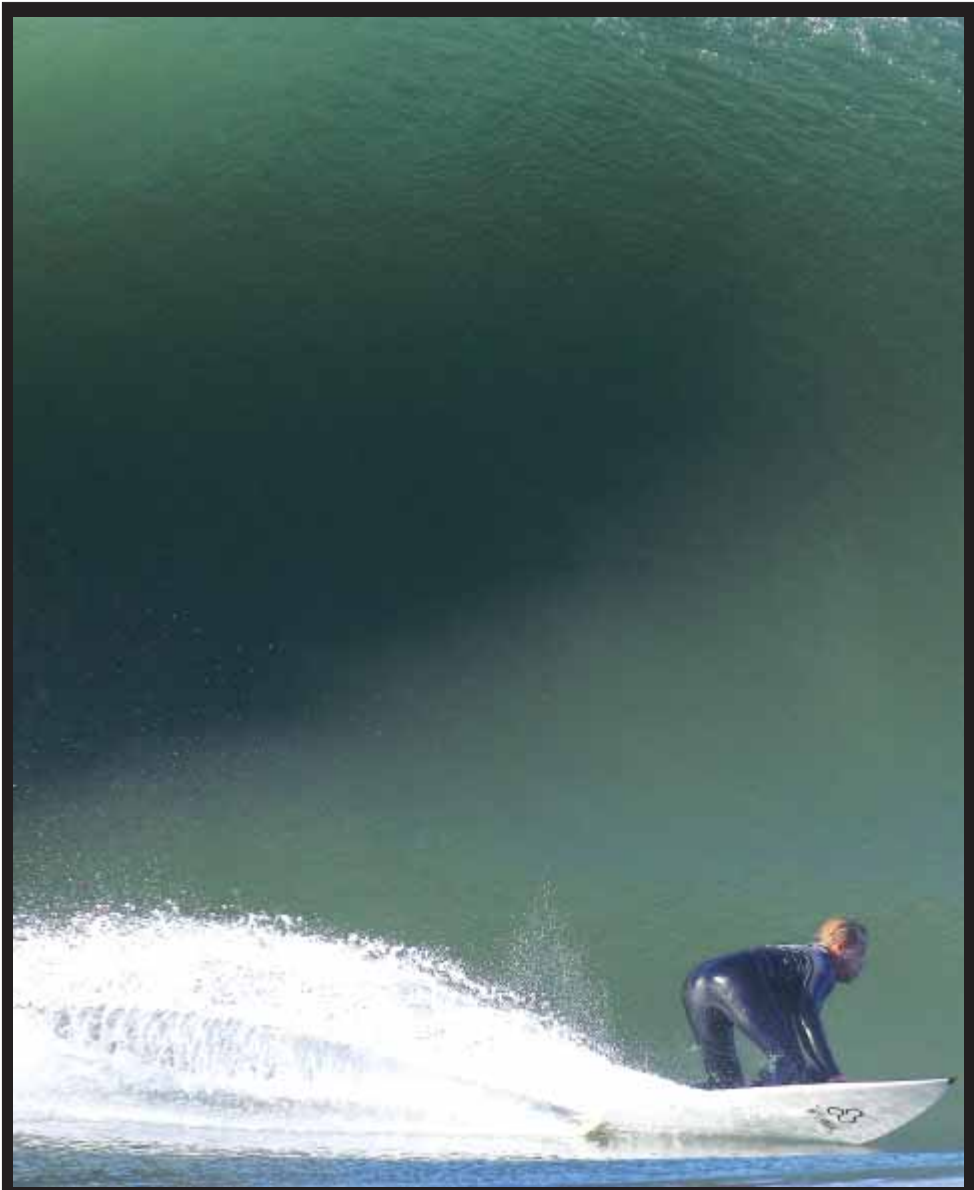
Photo courtesy of Steven Barber

JUST TAKING A SECOND TO REST UP: Racers pause for a photo during the New York City Marathon. Santa Monica resident Steven Barber chronicled a grueling race for wheelchair-bound athletes in his new documentary ‘Challenge Alaska.’ His film is garnering critical acclaim.

deadline for the Sundance Film Festival. Though documentaries are known not to make much money, Barber is confident he’ll land a distribution deal.

“Everybody is moved by this story,” he said.

melodyh@smdp.com



WALL OF WATER

Randy Wright/Lasurfpix.com

Scott Johnson turns into a wave approaching 20 feet off the coast of Redondo Beach on Wednesday. Surfers took advantage of unusually large swells this week that resulted from an offshore storm to the northwest.

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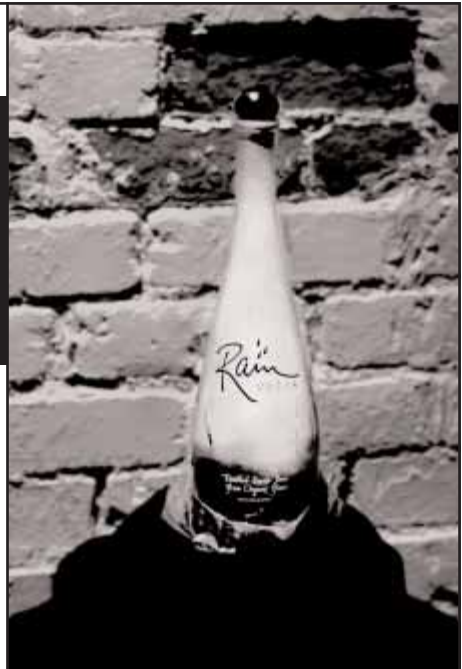


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COOL LADY

U.S. figure skating champion Sasha Cohen (left) skates for the crowd on hand Thursday for the grand opening of the Ice at Santa Monica public rink in downtown. Councilmember Herb Katz, (below) who was appointed as mayor earlier this week, speaks to the crowd Thursday. (Bottom) Refreshments were handed out to the crowd.

Photos by Brandon Wise news@smdp.com



New Miss California crowned after mix-up

BY RYAN PEARSON

AP Entertainment Writer

BEVERLY HILLS In the business of crowning beauty queens, there's one thing you'd think they'd get right: crowning the right beauty queen. Miss California USA organizers say they got that wrong, but corrected themselves Thursday by crowning Miss Barstow, Raquel Beezley, a 21-year-old waitress they said rightfully earned the title.

And they tried to put an end to a kerfuffle that began last month when they crowned Miss Los Angeles, Christina Silva, only to backtrack days later, blaming a vote tabulation error.

Silva hired a lawyer, booked an appearance on "Ellen," and won support from a Los Angeles Times columnist who murmured in print of hanging chads. Silva, 24, lives in L.A.'s Koreatown and is of Ecuadoran and Mexican descent. Was she too ethnic? Too

urban? Did judges find some dirty secret in her past at the last minute?

California pageant executive director Keith Lewis stared out at cameras in a Beverly Hilton conference room hoping to tamp down speculation.

"This was a human error. We have apologized for it," he said. "I believe in the integrity by which we must stand. I'm here today to right that wrong of crowning the incorrect person."

To that end, last year's winner Meagan Tandy emerged wearing a black dress, and placed a tiara on Beezley's head to the sound of cheers from her parents and brothers.

"It is bittersweet," Beezley said of her win. "I just want her to know that it was not my fault nor her fault. This has been very hard for the both of us."

At any rate, it's another hit for Donald Trump's Miss USA pageant, which in the past year has seen state-level winners lose

their titles for appearing in risqué pictures and getting pregnant. Trump personally gave the overall winner, Tara Conner, a second chance after she was seen boozing at New York clubs and agreed to enter rehab.

Judges approached Lewis immediately after the Nov. 25 pageant finals in Los Angeles, concerned that their votes hadn't been correctly tallied. He asked for a recount, and it turned out the points assigned to finalists had been reversed. He said he broke the news to Silva in a "lengthy, heartfelt, truthful" conversation, then the two of them called Beezley.

Beezley interrupted her waitress shift at DiNapoli's Firehouse Pizza restaurant in Barstow to take the call from the two of them on speakerphone. Beezley said Silva told her about the error and congratulated her, saying, "I do not want this crown and sash if I didn't rightfully win it."



Reed Saxon/Associated Press

GETTING IT RIGHT: Miss California USA, Raquel Beezley, front, is crowned by reigning Miss California USA Meagan Tandy at a news conference in Beverly Hills on Thursday.



Kate Brangfield



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South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,062,250	\$ 686,293
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,358,545	\$ 720,429
Ocean Park	=	\$ 2,097,611	\$ 953,736

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A rockin' good cause

By Daily Press Staff

HOLLYWOOD Mandy Moore, Pete Yorn and Phantom Planet are just some of the artists performing this Tuesday at The Roxy for the 16th Annual Gimme Shelter benefit concert for Santa Monica's New Roads School.

The private school is teaming up with KCRW and Gimme Shelter to help fund its Spectrum Program for autistic children. Developed in concert with Yale University and UCLA, the Spectrum Program is dedicated to giving autistic children a rich and satisfying education, said David Bryan, head of New Roads, which serves students in grades K-12 at its four campuses in Santa Monica, Malibu and West Los Angeles.

This is the second year that Gimme Shelter has teamed up with New Roads.

"We are excited to be involved with Gimme Shelter and KCRW again this year," Bryan said. "It is a great opportunity to engage with music lovers and spread the word about New Roads college preparatory school and the success of Spectrum."

Gimme Shelter event producer Gary Spivack said "New Roads is at the forefront of education in Southern California. Not only is it one of the most diverse and respected independent K-12 programs, it also fosters outstanding alternative education and curriculum.

"These kids are exceptionally bright, but do not have the social skills to do many of the things we take for granted," Bryan said. "These kids can do calculus, but they can't figure out change when they buy something at the supermarket. It's not because they can't do math, but because they don't understand the relationship between them and the clerk."

Tickets for the Gimme Shelter event are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at ticketmaster.com.

Others slated to perform include Matthew Sweet, Suzanna Hoffs and Jesca Hoop.



Photo courtesy Sony BMG Music

STAR POWER: Pete Yorn will play the 16th Annual Gimme Shelter benefit concert for Santa Monica's New Roads School on Tuesday.

Braving the 'Ugg-ly' days of winter

I'm freezing. My fingers are like Otter Pops. I don't understand people who take Alaskan pleasure cruises or dream of one day setting foot on Antarctica. Why? I don't even have the urge to walk over to Vidiots and finally rent "March of the Penguins" or "Happy Feet," regardless of how cute/sweet/amazing they are.

I realize that daytime temperatures are in the 60s, and my cousins in Chicago would think the weather warm enough to run barefoot in the surf, but they would be wrong. It's cold.

I want to cocoon myself in my duvet and emerge when the lows reach 80.

Last weekend, I finally bought my first pair of Uggs. I had to. My toes were so cold, I thought they would break off.

My mother has had Uggs for more than a decade. When she got them, I couldn't help but thinking how Ugg-ly they were. Yes, they were warm, and great to wear around the house, but she wasn't actually going to wear them where people would see her ... was she?

And then the Australian sheepskin boots became all the rage, prompting



West Dressed

Mariel Howsepien
Send comments to
editor@smdp.com

National Public Radio to call the 2003 phenomena "Ugg mania."

They come in more than 100 styles, and if I was at all patient (and if I could find them in an American size 8), I would have ordered the Wahine, a brown boot embroidered with flowers. But I am not patient. I am a popsicle.

I walked into the shoe store, pointed to the mid-calf black boots, and asked for my size. I tried one on, first tucking the leg of my jeans into the boot, and then deciding that my jeans were too bulky and that my feet looked disproportionately Sasquatchian to my body. I pulled the leg of my jeans on over the ankle of the boot and looked at my foot in the mirror. It was the look potential love interests give each other in a movie. That salesman had it too easy. I even bought the water and

TIPS FOR GOING WINTER

- **DON'T** looking like an ad for a \$9.99 gift set: Mismatch your scarf, hat, and gloves.
- **DO** follow Coco Chanel's rule and take off the last thing you put on.
- **DON'T** do as one woman did last weekend and pair an ankle-length parka with kitten-heeled sandals.

stain repellent. (Maybe I'll even remember to use it.)

If my Uggs last as long as my mother's, I figure the cost works out to \$12 per year. That's not counting inflation. Really, if you think about it, these boots are paying me to wear them.

I took off my Converse, put them in the refrigerator-box-sized box, and wore my new boots out of the store. Halfway down the street, my socks had slipped most of the way off and become crumpled underneath the arches of my feet. It was not comfortable. I sat down, took my socks off, and stuffed them in with my Converse.

When I got home and took my Converse out of the box, I saw that my Uggs came with instructions: "Ugg Footwear should be worn barefoot to maximize the benefits of sheepskin." Ah, now you tell me.

The instructions also warn, "As with any deep, rich shade, some dye transfer may occur onto light clothing or furniture, etc." "Etc." is Aussie for "feet."

Black feet are a small price to pay for regulating one's body temperature. As I licked the whipped cream off my Peppermint Mocha Trio latte – nonfat milk please – and inspected the scarf selection at Anthropologie, I found myself wanting to try out the new outdoor ice skating rink. Not enough to actually go ice skating, leaving the warmth of the store and putting down my hot coffee, but enough to think that on a freakishly warm winter day, I might be willing to trade my Uggs for a pair of skates.

MARIEL HOWSEPIAN digs black coffee, fairy tales and a man in coveralls. She lives in Santa Monica and can be reached at Mariel.Rodriguez@antiochla.edu.



THIS WEEK AT HOLLYWOOD PARK

2007 AUTUMN MEET | NOVEMBER 7 — DECEMBER 22, 2007



PEPSI SNOW DAY

Saturday, December 8th — 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Free for Adults when accompanied by Children 12 and under.

Enter the Parking Lot at Gate 3 off of Prairie Boulevard and follow the signs.



LAVA MAN DVD GIVEAWAY

Saturday, December 8th

Take home your own DVD copy of the Cinderella Story of local hero Lava Man

*One per paid admission while supplies last.

WEEKEND STAKES SCHEDULE

Sat. **HOLLYWOOD TURF CUP (G. I), \$250,000**

Dec. 8 **3YO & Up, 1 1/2 Miles (Turf)**

NATIVE DIVER HCP. (G. III), \$100,000 Added

3YO & Up, 1 1/8 Miles

SUNDAYS ARE FOR SPORTS FANS

First Post 12:30 p.m.

Get the best of both worlds – spend a day outdoors, watching and wagering on live thoroughbred racing while catching all the football action on TVs throughout Hollywood Park.

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Pretty fly for a white guy

John Mayer and his magic guitar will be rocking the Nokia Theatre stage this Saturday in Downtown Los Angeles. This bluesy dude will be ripping through a litany of his classics and covering some of the most soulful tunes in existence.

Tickets are still available to check out Mayer and should be considered a must-see for fans of skillful guitar work and pop ballads. For more information visit www.nokiatheaterla.com.

DA



Thumpin' in The Bu

Aside from being a founding member of the influential L.A.-based Freestyle Fellowship, Aceyalone is a funky dude in his own right. Since his solo debut "All Balls Don't Bounce," this crafty emcee has been pushing the boundaries of hip hop to limits unknown.

He'll be rockin' the Malibu Inn tonight. Tickets are still available to this must-see show for Westside hip hop heads and can be snatched up at www.malibu-inn.com. This show is open to all ages. The Malibu Inn is located at 22969 Pacific Coast Hwy. Call (310) 456.6060 for more information.

DANIEL ARCHULETA

Put a tropical spin on the weekend

Hungry sophisti-cats can slip into Ma'Kai on Friday and Sunday nights to take a break from the ordinary weekend scene, where DJ DTaCH spins his eclectic mix of deep house, left field grooves and upfront party beats at this hip, upscale restaurant/lounge in downtown Santa Monica. Ma'Kai features two outdoor (weatherproof!) heated patios, a tropical lounge with waterfall and teakwood furnishings, and intimate indoor and patio dining rooms. The menu includes such fare as Pacific Rim tapas, sushi rolls, steaks, seafood and more, all served up in a decidedly tropical environment.

Ma'Kai is located at the corner of Broadway and Ocean Avenue.

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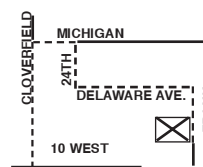
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Photo courtesy John Powers

HEART OF THE MATTER: Jessica McClendon (as Jennifer) and Mikey Myers (as Harris) in the world premiere production of '@Heart' at Ruskin Group Theatre in Santa Monica.

Of passion and heart

BY CYNTHIA CITRON

Special to the Daily Press

J-Powers' new play "@Heart" is "Love Letters" for a new generation.

If you remember the earlier play, it consisted of a couple sitting on-stage and reading a lifetime of letters they had written to each other over the years. In "@Heart" a young married couple reveal their current activities and anxieties through e-mails and instant messages. She is at home, tending to their baby. He is in the Army, deployed in Afghanistan and moving among front-line sites in the Iraqi war.

He has enlisted, in a patriotic fervor following 9/11, and she is cheerleader supportive. He is hoping to join the unit in which his father, whom he never knew, had fought in and died with during the Vietnam War. But because he is a banker in civilian life, the Army sends him to finance school.

Meanwhile, she is having a series of "bad days." She gets a flat tire and can't afford to buy a new one. Then the car is stolen altogether. Then she gets fired from her job at a restaurant, followed by an eviction notice from her landlord. She is having a hard time coping, and his e-mails are devoted to reassuring her.

As time goes on she becomes more frazzled and his assignments become more hazardous. She doesn't hear from him for days, and sometimes weeks, at a time. As she becomes more desperate, her appeals to him to come home become more and more frantic. The fact that he is unable to, as well as the fact that she learns that he has had an affair, leads to a shredding of their relationship and dire consequences. "@Heart" is a meaty, well-written play. And by well written I don't mean particu-

larly intellectual. These two are solid, middle-class Americans, initially naïve, sentimental, and well intentioned. They speak in simple clichés; their favorite word (which is used far too often) is "awesome!" But they speak in a language that the audience can identify with, and it is impossible not to sympathize with them and empathize with their growing indecisiveness and faltering energies.

On opening night the actors, both excellent, were Jessica McClendon and Mikey Myers. On subsequent nights the roles will be taken over by J. Teddy Garees and Rachel Jackson and Patrick Scott Lewis and Amanda Martindale.

Paul Linke, who adapted the story and directs the play, has done an excellent job of making what might otherwise be a static production (two actors sitting at tables on a starkly empty stage, not moving for some 70 minutes) into a lively and engaging evening of theater.

The production is also enhanced by Kathi O'Donohue's lighting design, which indicates who is online for each e-mail exchange. The simplicity of the setting is also emphasized by Eddie Jauregui and J-Powers' graphic design: Major initiatives of the war are flashed on a screen, using white type in a simple font on a blackened background.

"@Heart" may not be a terribly profound look at the war, but it is certainly a realistic look at its effect on a family that is involved in it.

The play will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Jan. 20, 2008. It can be seen at the Ruskin Group Theatre, 3000 Airport Ave., in Santa Monica. For tickets call, (310) 397-3244.

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



'Wearing the Spider'

By Susan Schaab • Galavant Press

What would you do if you discovered someone has access to your e-mail address and your electronic signature?

Little did Evie Sullivan, a New York attorney handling intellectual property rights, dream she would return on a plane trip from Los Angeles to New York to find her name linked to a shady situation concerning drug dealing. But when her name starts showing up on billing and documents from places she has never involved herself with she starts investigating, which causes her to find out some things that have been hidden.

As is necessary in these plots there must be a damsel in distress and a hero and a villain. Our hero appears at the beginning of the book. On that plane trip back, Evie meets a software project developer, Joseph Barton. He will help bring the culprit to justice eventually.

The characters are believable and the tension mounts as Evie and a coworker are pitted against one another.

"I want the partnership, but for the right reason," she says. He will deny it to her by insinuating that she is doing sloppy work.

"You know how many natural barriers there are to female partnerships and your performance has been substandard," he responds.

There is sexual harassment, which comes from Alan, a coworker, who is one step above her in the chain of command.

"Even though she'd been aware of his propensity toward roguery, she'd been shocked when he followed her back to her Chicago room, kissed her and tried to force his way into her room." She agrees not to report this.

The next step is to make lewd remarks about her appearance, remarks that no one hears. When she reports it, nobody on the senior staff believes her story. But Evie hangs in there. She is a strong personality, not a helpless wreck.

There is also a little matter of a document that includes her name but that she didn't produce.

"I think someone is setting me up as a scapegoat on a deal that could have an illegal element to it and that someone is undermining my reputation with the firm to make me vulnerable," she shares with a friend.

When asked for examples she responds,

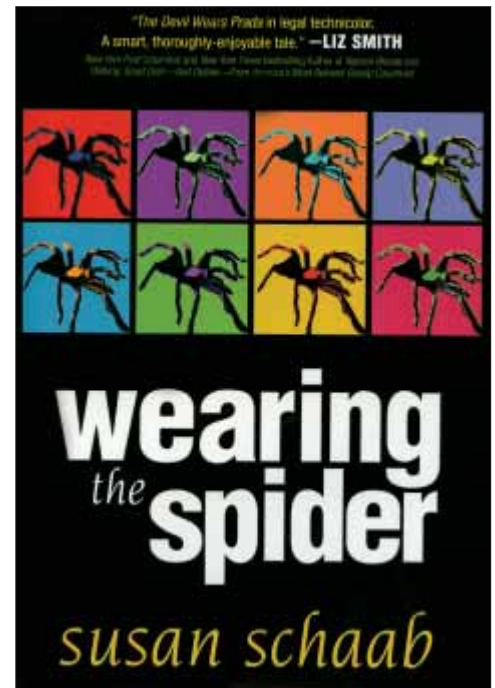


Photo courtesy Galavant Press

"My name was added to an access list for this client's electronic files." She goes on to clarify, "It's highly unusual for someone to be included on an access list who has nothing to do with a deal."

This suspense novel is set in Manhattan, New York in a law firm. The title of the book refers to a person who leads the team in a jungle journey, the one who brushes away the spider webs that are in front of the group, the one who wears the spider when it suddenly appears. In this book Alan can be seen as the spider Evie wears.

The story is handled well. I enjoyed all the foreshadowing. The characters are believable and the building conflict is logical. Schaab handles the suspense and rising tension like a pro. This is an area she is very conversant with as she has dealt in the area of technology and intellectual property law for eight years in New York, Texas and California.

This book will be enjoyed by all who like high tension suspense tales.

DANE ROBERT SWANSON lives and does book reviews in Santa Monica. He can be reached at smdp_review@yahoo.com.



RIP CURL

SURF CENTER

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1451 Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica CA
310-656-curl
RIPCURL.COM

SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 58°

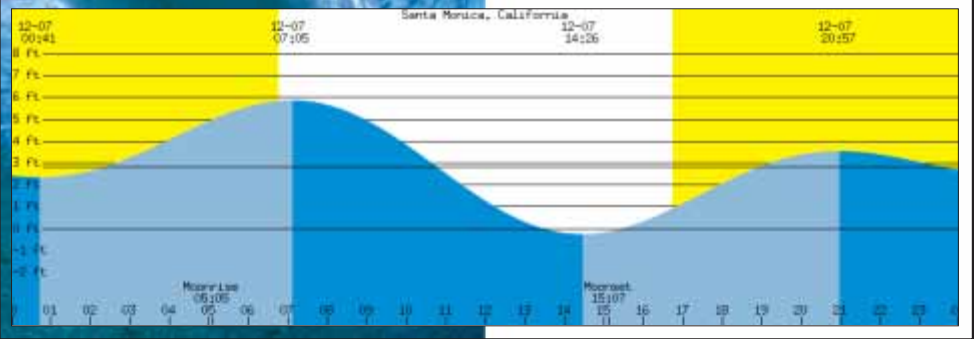
SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)

Today is looking trashed with head high westerly wind swell around west facing breaks, but with washing-machine, victory-at-sea kind of conditions. Heavy rain is likely and south winds could howl to 20+

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

NW FOR 10TH OR 11TH FIZZLING
TRACKING SW AND POTENTIAL NW FOR 13TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA





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 28, 2007**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)	Number of sewage spills --	1
	Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill --	0
	Number of wet days --	0
	Number of A grades for dry/wet weather --	36 / ns
	Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather --	9 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (leocarrillo)	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	B	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	B	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	D	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	C	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	C	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	F	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A	ns

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



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

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card® is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Columbia Pictures

TOGETHER FOREVER: Jonah Hill and Michael Cera play a couple of misfits in 'Superbad.'

‘Superbad’ — 2 Disc Un-rated Extended Edition

From the creators of “The 40-Year-Old Virgin,” and “Knocked Up,” comes this story of two co-dependent high school seniors (Jonah Hill and Michael Cera) who are forced to deal with separation anxiety after their plan to stage a booze-soaked party goes awry. Extras include cast and creator commentaries; deleted and extended scenes; gag reel; Line-O-Rama running tally of obscenities; “Cop Car Confessions” ride along with Clark County’s finest; “Making-of Superbad”; original table read 2002: cast audition footage; press junket meltdown; music of “Superbad”; “Everybody Hates Michael Cera: The Unfortunate True Story” and on-set diaries. (Sony)

‘Northern Exposure’ – The Complete Series

Now for the first time this multi-Emmy and Golden Globe-winning series is completely exposed on DVD. All 110 episodes of the adventures of the quirky residents in the small arctic town of Cicely, Alaska featuring a recent medical school graduate from New York (Rob Morrow as Dr. Joel Fleischman) are warmly packaged and tucked inside a neat ultra-suede and lambs wool pouch that is stenciled with the iconic Moose and Northern Exposure logo. Each season has a set of special features, with extended footage from various episodes, out-takes from selected episodes, deleted scenes and “unexposed footage.” The disc cases contain episode guides, running time and listings of special features. For one of the better television series with its scenic settings, original characters and compelling stories, this is an excellent but not perfect package. (Universal)

‘24’ – Season 6

Storylines for the acclaimed concept drama centering around Jack Bauer (Kiefer Sutherland) and his team of elite U.S. government agents, include his release from a brutal Chinese prison, creating an alliance with a reformed terrorist, family issues with his brother and father, trouble at the Russian consulate, and more White House intrigue. There are 24 episodes on seven discs including bonus materials like cast/crew episode commentaries; exclusive season seven preview, deleted scenes, more than 20 behind-the-scenes Webcast diaries, “Day Six Debrief” mobisodes, and several on-the-set featurettes. (Fox)

‘America’s Game: The Super Bowl Champions’

Produced by NFL Films, one of the premier documentary producers, this 40-disc collector’s set, is by far the most comprehensive coverage of the winners of the world’s single biggest sports event. Combining news clips, radio and TV highlights, revealing sideline audio, rare access inside team meetings, and behind the scenes accounts from some of the game’s greatest players, each Super Bowl winning team, from Vince Lombardi’s Green Bay Packers to Peyton Manning leading the Colts to last year’s title, is profiled. Insider’s perspectives from over 100 NFL stars who won and lost in sport’s most anticipated annual game include new interviews with Joe Namath, Lawrence Taylor, Roger Staubach, “Mean” Joe Greene and many others. Stirring narration is provided by A-list actors like Gene Hackman, Alec Baldwin, and Bruce Willis. A collector’s booklet with rare photographs are also part of this top-notch documentary series. (Warner Bros.)

‘Benny Hill’ – The Complete Megaset

One of the pioneers of bawdy sketch comedy, Benny Hill and his talented ensemble blazed new trails unafraid to satirize society’s taboos. Over 20 years of material consisting of 58 uncut episodes of “The Benny Hill Show” includes over 48 hours on 18 discs of digitally-remastered mirth through the use of double entendres, naughty bal-lads, pantomimes, and slapstick that capture Benny’s trademark buffoonery. (A&E)

‘The Wild, Wild West’ – The Third Season

The popular and imaginative quasi-sci-fi, western adventure series finds the two agents of President Grant, James West (Robert Conrad) and Artemus Gordon (Ross Martin), traveling about in their fine private train constantly in the thick of the action against revolutionaries, subversives, and evil geniuses. All 24 episodes from the penultimate 1967-68 season come on three discs listing titles, original airdates, and a show-by-show synopsis. Guest appearances include Robert Duvall, Harry Dean Stanton, Ray Walston, and venerable western bad man Jack Elam. (Paramount)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at writtenbyrw@yahoo.com.

GAMEREVIEW

NEW IN STORES



Sometimes, you just have to rock

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Daily Press Staff Writer

XBOX 360 Activision's "Guitar Hero III" does the trick for that longing to thrash out and be all around goofy while you're doing it. This head-banging release takes interactivity to the next level.

While the game can be played with a standard controller, you'd be foolish not to splurge and purchase the entire bundle, which includes a pretty realistic mini-Gibson guitar, a strap, wicked decals and the game itself. There are even replaceable faceplates available to customize your ax.

Sure, you could go the cheap route and buy just the game, but it loses most if not all of the excitement that comes along with slinging a bitchin' guitar over your shoulder and ripping into some of the coolest game music ever assembled. Songs span five decades of rock history and includes everything from "Black Magic Woman" by Santana to "When You Were Young" by The Killers.

Unless you've played previous installments of this popular game franchise, it's best to start off in easy mode. It utilizes just three of the five fret buttons and gives novice players a chance to come up to speed.

Even on easy, it takes some time to get used to the rapid-fire chord changes that increasingly grow more difficult as the game progresses.

On career mode, the game begins with just three songs to begin with, which need to be completed before you can advance to the next set. Once you've successfully navigated through them, a bonus song is unlocked. After a few rounds of this, a true challenge materializes. Tom Morello of Rage Against the Machine and Audioslave fame is the first in a series of guitar greats you are forced to take on. He tears through some familiar chords daring you to match him. Every few notes, a battle star appears that – when struck correctly – disrupts his solo. Score enough of these devastating blows and he bows out. As a reward, he accompanies you on the classic "Bulls On Parade."

In all (at least in easy mode) the game includes three level bosses, which includes Slash from Guns & Roses and Velvet Revolver. I won't spoil the finale by revealing the final boss you have to go toe-to-toe with. Let's just say that the matchup is burning hot and eternal damnation is at stake. Oops, Did I say too much?

The title's graphics are purposely cartoon-



Photo courtesy Activision

GETTING BUSY: 'Guitar Hero III' offers the best in high-definition graphics and cutting-edge music.

ish, but are intricately detailed and really add to this powerhouse of a game. It's a little difficult to truly enjoy the depth of the game's backgrounds because – as a player –you're completely focused on the next note streaming toward you.

The only time you get a chance to really appreciate the true texture of the graphics is when you're watching somebody else rip through a jam or when there's a break in the action.

"Guitar Hero III" is available on most platforms and is available in stores now.

daniela@smdp.com

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 260.1528

The Simpsons Movie (PG-13)
7:30

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

Dan in Real Life (PG-13)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

Fred Claus (PG)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

Lars and the Real Girl (PG-13)
2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00

Revolver (NR)
1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:20

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

American Gangster (R)
12:05, 3:35, 7:10, 10:40

Beowulf: Digital 3D (PG-13)
11:15am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

Enchanted (PG)
11:30am, 12:50, 2:10, 3:40, 4:50, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:15

The Golden Compass (PG-13)
10:45am, 11:35am, 1:30, 2:20, 4:15, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45

Hitman (R)
10:50am, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35

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

Before the Devil Knows You're Dead (R)
1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

I'm Not There (R)
1:10, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15

No Country for Old Men (R)
1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:55

The Savages (R)
1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:10

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

August Rush (PG)
11:30am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

Awake (PG)
12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:10

Bee Movie (PG)
11:50am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30

Lions for Lambs (R)
12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium (G)
12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

This Christmas (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

More information email news@smdp.com

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

Fun times are here, Cancer

Happy Birthday!

Your style and direction characterize your actions and being this year. You are able to accomplish a lot quite easily. Your ability to move through problems without making enemies or ending relationships needs to be admired. If you are single, check out a new interest with care. If you are attached, you might need more space, but also make special time for the two of you. SCORPIO understands you very well.



Born Today
Writer Noam Chomsky (1928)
Basketball player Larry Bird (1956)
Singer Aaron Carter (1987)

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

★★★★ Bow to others and let them have their way. Sooner than you think, they will be heading in your direction and saying, "We messed up" or "You were right." By being passive, you'll gain. Tonight: Togetherness is your theme.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Read Aries for direction, and assume just that attitude. Knowing when you can make a difference is important. Your popularity will soar if you are a lazy Bull in the pasture; otherwise, you might wind up seeing red. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Accomplishment is your middle name, until disruption heads your away. Absorb the shocks with knowledge and direction. You know when you have had enough, but resist making a public announcement. Tonight: Chill with associates.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your creativity plays a substantial role in your choices. Let your mind wander and greet the off-beat. A child or loved one adores your extra attention. Think positively, and you'll get positive results. Tonight: Fun times are here!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ The best of intentions could backfire in today's atmosphere. You could be backpedaling fast and furiously. Rather than put yourself in this position, avoid controversy of any sort. You will be happier, and so will others. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind, and others might respond! You might not change anyone's mind; you are doing well if you simply draw a response. Don't go off on a crusade, because it won't sink in right now. Tonight: Favorite haunt, favorite place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might want to curb your spending, as the ramifications might not be what you desire. Know when to say you have had enough, and in a manner in which others will listen. You won't change anyone. Tonight: Fun doesn't need to cost.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You are all smiles, and others note your mood. You will change directions unexpectedly. Others will have a strong response. Your creativity emerges. You know what needs to happen; follow through. Tonight: Others count on your ideas!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Know that once more you have little control, no matter who you deal with and why. If you kick back and don't try, you might be a lot happier and less pushed. On the other hand, think and evaluate, but don't act. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might think you are about to get what you want, only to discover it isn't exactly what you thought or there is a hassle. Let go and relax with the company of others. Tonight: Be where the crowds are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might wonder just what's the best way to handle a problematic boss or person. What you decide could work, but unfortunately, now isn't the time. Lie back and wait. Continue to observe. Tonight: You get a lot done.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ How far you go or what path you take could change dramatically because of what occurs. You don't want to cement any agreements or even give your word in the present atmosphere. Tonight: Try for a more avant-garde solution.

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

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

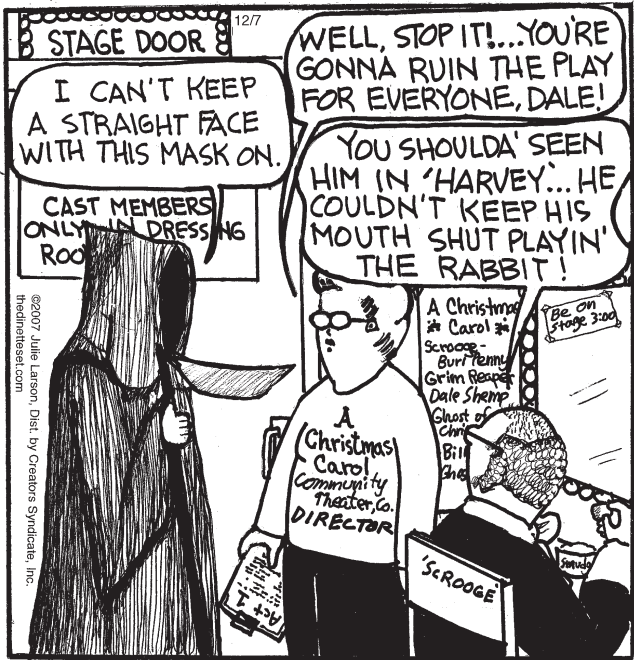
Garfield

By Jim Davis

Dog eat Doug

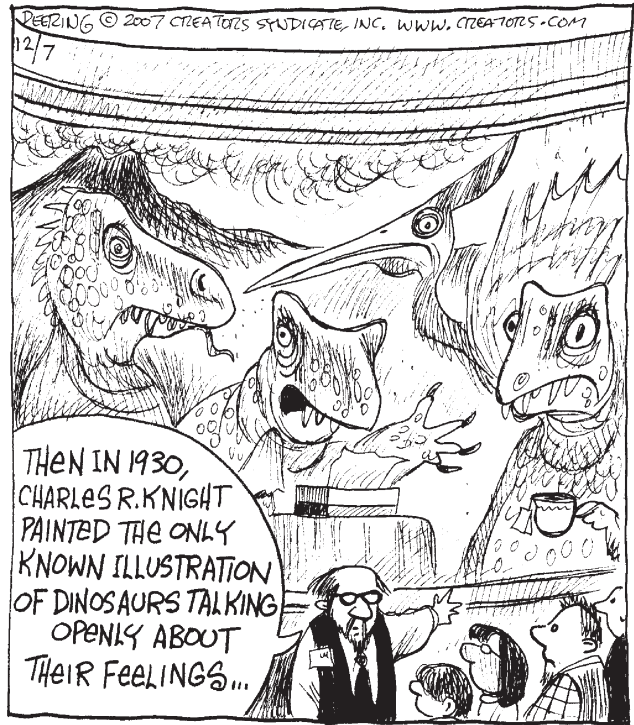
By Brian Anderson

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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SAMOH I AM

Gabrielle Harradine news@smdp.com

Terry Kamibayashi is the winner of the most recent Mystery Photo contest, identifying this picture as being captured on the west-facing wall of the gym at Santa Monica High School. Kamibayashi has won a prize from the Daily Press.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Gets in
- 6 Sitting duck?
- 11 Met work
- 12 Eat up
- 13 Actor Quinn
- 14 Ties
- 15 — chi (martial art)
- 16 Like Sherpas
- 18 List abbr.
- 19 Totality
- 20 Mardi Gras city
- 21 Bargain
- 23 Seafood garnish
- 25 Kauai souvenir
- 27 Part of RSVP
- 28 Reads over
- 30 Good cards
- 33 Bind
- 34 Folder part
- 36 Yale supporter
- 37 Writer Ruth
- 39 Carp
- 40 Famed fur tycoon
- 41 Sean of "The Lord of the Rings"

DOWN

- 43 Boat back
- 44 Act part
- 45 Impairs
- 46 Worn out
- 1 Like some aspirin
- 2 Morphine, e.g.
- 3 Hospital
- 4 Pitcher's number
- 5 Pole leader
- 6 Casually takes part
- 7 Falco of "The Sopranos"
- 8 Operations setting
- 9 Decree
- 10 Like some questions
- 17 Unlucky
- 22 Pasture
- 24 Soccer's Hamm
- 26 Rounds makers

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
15					16	17				
18					19				20	
21				22		23		24		
			25		26		27			
		28				29		30		31
33				34		35		36		
37				38					39	
40						41	42			
43						44				
45						46				

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLION 16 27 30 45 53
Meganumber: 43
Jackpot: \$96M

Super LOTTO 2 9 16 25 36
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: \$13M

Fantasy 5 11 16 24 25 29

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 3 2 6
EVENING: 8 2 7

DAILY DERRY 1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:40.14

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Tajuan Bullock, 33, was allegedly caught in the act of burglarizing a home in Montgomery, Ala., in October, and, while the resident held him at gunpoint for police, he made Bullock clean up the big mess he had made when he was rummaging for valuables.

■ Police in Bakersfield, Calif., came to the aid of a man and a woman at the bottom of the Panorama Bluffs near town and told reporters later that the man had attempted to toss his girlfriend over the cliff but that she grabbed him, and the pair tumbled down 300 feet together (and that he was hurt worse than she).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1787 Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

1796 electors chose John Adams to be the second president of the United States.

1836 Martin Van Buren was elected the eighth president of the U.S.

1907 The first Christmas Seals to help the fight against tuberculosis were sold, in Wilmington, Del. (Some sources say Dec. 9.)

1941 Japanese forces attacked American and British territories and possessions in the Pacific, including the home base of the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

1946 Fire broke out at the Wincoff Hotel in Atlanta; the blaze killed 119 people, including hotel founder W. Frank Wincoff.

1972 America's last moon mission to date was launched as Apollo 17 blasted off from Cape Canaveral.

1982 Convicted murderer Charlie Brooks Jr. became the first U.S. prisoner to be executed by injection, at a prison in Huntsville, Texas.

1983 In Madrid, Spain, an Aviac DC-9 collided on a runway with an Iberia Air Lines Boeing 727 that was accelerating for takeoff, killing all 42 people aboard the DC-9 and 51 aboard the Iberia jet.

1987 43 people were killed after a gunman aboard a Pacific Southwest Airlines jetliner in California apparently opened fire on a fellow passenger, the two pilots and himself, causing the plane to crash.

1987 Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev set foot on American soil for the first time, arriving for a Washington summit with President Reagan.

WORD UP!

deracinate \dee-RAS-uh-nayt\, transitive verb: 1. To pluck up by the roots; to uproot. 2. To displace from one's native or accustomed environment.

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Announcements

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN

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Notices

SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (SMCCD) ENVIRONMENTAL NOTICE.
Notice is hereby given to the general public of the availability for public review and comment on the following environmental document for SMCCD. This publication is intended to serve as our Notice of Intent to Adopt the following Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Student Services Replacement, Bookstore Modernization and Pico Promenade Improvements Project, which is located on the Santa Monica College Campus in the City of Santa Monica. The Proposed Project involves the replacement of existing uses to improve functional efficiency on the Main Campus. The Proposed Project would not generate any increases to student, faculty, or administrative personnel. The Proposed Project would result in a net decrease of 5,119 assignable square feet (asf) on the campus through the demolition and inactivation of approximately 67,124 asf of campus related uses and the development of approximately 62,005 asf of campus related uses. The Proposed Project would result in a net reduction of 178 classroom seats. The Proposed Project would also involve removing 177 surface parking spaces and constructing a 500-space subterranean parking garage, resulting in a net increase of 323 on-site parking spaces. The SMCCD will be holding a community presentation of the Proposed Project at 7:00 p.m. on January 3, 2008 at the SMC Bundy Campus, Room 123, 3171 S. Bundy Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90066. The IS/MND will be made available for review and comment during a public review period commencing on December 7, 2007 and ending on January 9, 2008. The proposed IS/MND will be submitted to the SMCCD Board of Trustees at a later date for approval. Copies of the IS/MND will

Notices

be available for public review at SMCCD's Administrative Offices during normal business hours at 2714 Pico Boulevard, Suite 320, Santa Monica, and on the internet at <http://www.smc.edu>. Please address all comments to Mr. Randy Lawson, Executive Vice President, Business & Administration at 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. Written comments are due no later than January 9, 2008.

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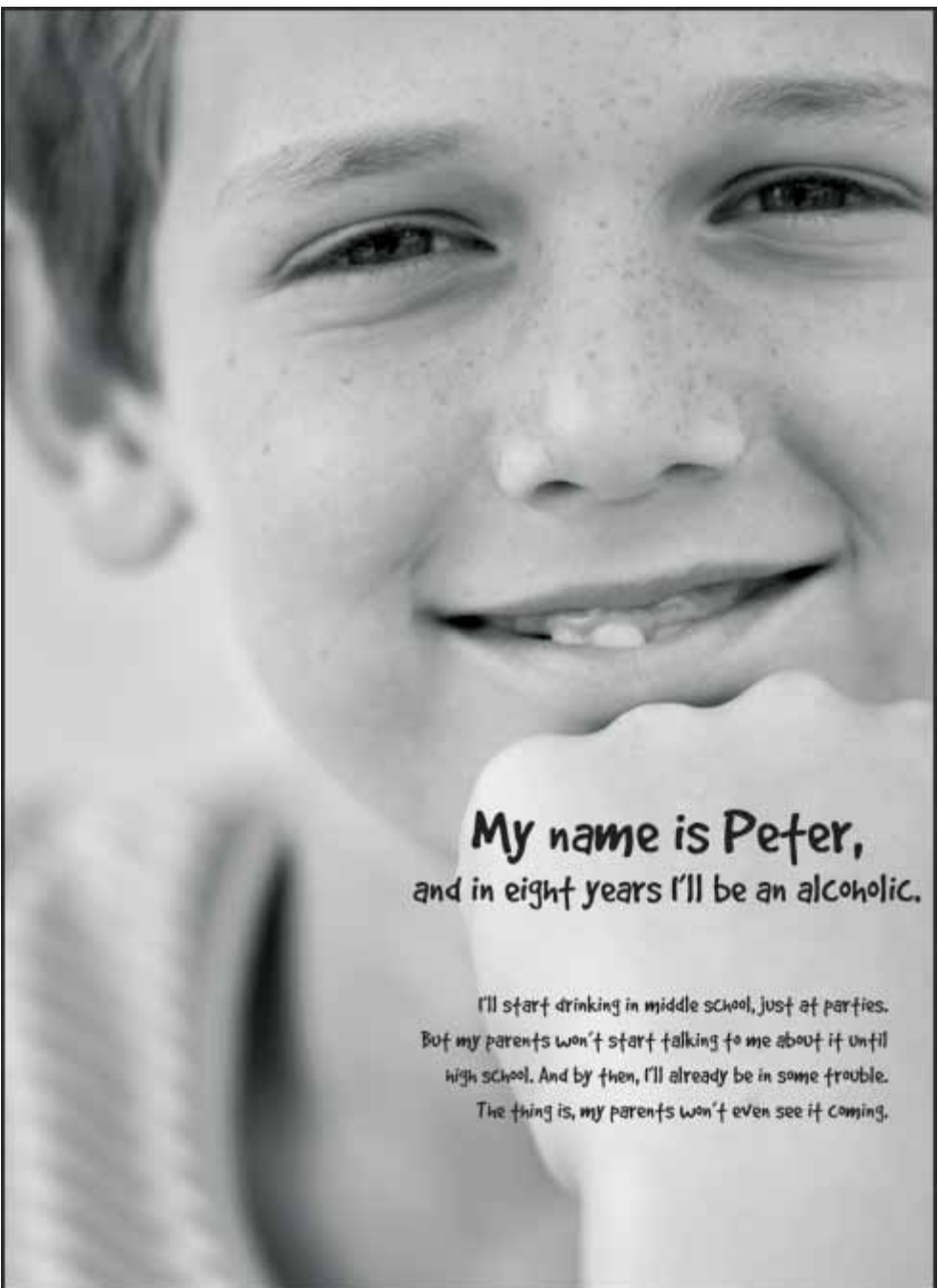
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