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Santa Monica Daily Press
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Volume 12 Issue 23

Santa Monica Daily Press

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION

We have you covered

SAMOHI COMES BACK
SEE PAGE 3

THE BUSY WEEKEND AHEAD ISSUE

Residents worried about Downtown planning process

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CIVIC CENTER Over 160 people attended a packed meeting to determine the future look and feel of Santa Monica's Downtown, but residents left wondering if their voices were heard or if the conversation had been dominated by developers and industry professionals.

The meeting was the first since July to discuss the Downtown Specific Plan, an effort meant to fill in details about the Downtown that was left out of the 2010 Land Use and Circulation Element, or LUCE, a framework that will dictate development citywide for the next 20 years or more.

That plan, which took almost seven years to complete, gave an outline for development which would be given greater definition by the zoning code update, which is currently in the works.

The Downtown — defined by the LUCE as the area between Lincoln Boulevard to the east, Ocean Avenue to the west, Interstate 10 to the south and slightly above Wilshire Boulevard to the north — was left out entirely except for a number of guiding principles that would lead to the specific plan discussed Wednesday.

Many residents, however, felt that they had walked into a game with trick dice.

After a presentation by consultant Neal

SEE PLAN PAGE 9



File photo

STROLLING: **Visitors and locals walk down the Third Street Promenade.**

Firm promises cash for schools

Dun & Bradstreet offers help for present, future of education

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS A Malibu-based firm announced this week that it would launch a unique program to help employees save for their children's college education and help fund the local school district at the same time.

Dun & Bradstreet Credibility Corp., a firm that helps businesses build their credit, will offer employees special college savings plans called 529s and, to sweeten the deal, the firm has committed to matching their employees' contributions to the accounts, dollar for dollar.

The firm will then make a second matching donation straight to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, officials at the company pledged.

Dun & Bradstreet will replicate the model in the five other cities in which it has offices. The program is expected to cost millions, said Jeff Stibel, CEO of the company.

"We know how precarious the funding situation is, and we're proud to do our part," Stibel said.

The announcement comes at a good time for the district, which is working to get its controversial districtwide fundraising program up and running for elementary schools by 2013.

That fundraising duty is in the hands of the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation, which is expected to raise enough money to cover a "premium program" for the entire school district.

That is undefined at this point, but the foundation and district believes they'll need roughly $4 million to pull it off.

The Education Foundation got a big boost when Peggy Bergmann, a supporter of education in Santa Monica, bequeathed $4.8 million to support underprivileged kids' music programs and other uses.

The organization is still pushing for additional corporate help, like that offered by Dun & Bradstreet, said Linda Gross, executive director of the Education Foundation.

"We have been having one-on-one meetings with corporations. It takes time, but it's

SEE EDUCATION PAGE 11

Q&A

VA official visits Santa Monica to address homeless vets

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

DOWNTOWN Dr. Tommy Sowers is a former U.S. Army Special Forces officer and was the 2010 Democratic nominee for the U.S. House of Representatives in Missouri's 8th congressional district before being sworn in on Aug. 20, 2012 as assistant secretary for public and intergovernmental affairs for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

President Barack Obama tapped the Bronze Star recipient to oversee programs involving intergovernmental relations, including homeless veterans. Sowers, who has a Ph.D. in government from the London School of Economics, was in Los Angeles Wednesday to tour the West Los Angeles V.A. and to speak directly with homeless service providers. He even found time to connect with a homeless veteran on the Third Street Promenade.

Following that encounter, Sowers, 36, spoke with the Santa Monica Daily Press about his mission and the president's ambitious goal of ending veteran homelessness in the next five years.

DP: What brings you to Los Angeles?



SOWERS

SEE SOWERS PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Dec. 7, 2012

Festive walk
Montana Avenue
5 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Businesses along Montana Avenue will host their annual Holiday Walk complete with Santa, sales, streets decked out in lights and holiday treats. This year, the Off Their Jingle Bell Rockers will be on hand for a little musical cheer. For more information, visit www.montanaave.com.

Bah humbug
United Methodist Church
1008 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate the season with a musical of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," based on the 1970 Oscar-nominated film starring Albert Finney. Cost: $10 adults; $5 seniors and children. The production also takes place Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (310) 393-8258.

Colonial night
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
Colonials: An American Shakespeare Company presents Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," a tale of a world turned upside down, the last night of a 12-day party — the end of the Feast of Fools. Noble counts are debilitated by love sickness, beautiful unwed countesses have chosen to enter eternal mourning, and a young vibrant woman, having lost her beloved twin brother in a disastrous shipwreck, decides the best way to deal with the situation is to disguise herself as a boy and enter the courtly life in service of the Duke of Ilyria. For more information, call (310) 804-6745.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012

Breakfast with the man in red
Santa Monica Place
Third Street and Broadway,
9:30 a.m. — 11 a.m.
Children of all ages are invited to breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus. There will be a meet and greet, giveaways and activities. Cost: $5; children 2 and under free. For more information, visit downtownsm.com/winterlit.

On two wheels
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 10 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Everyone is invited to Santa Monica's first Family Bike Fest. Bring your child's bike over for a safety check by on-site mechanics, or if it's been outgrown, give it a new home through donation to the bike swap. Helmets will be required for children, and will be available on-site for a low fee. Parents can also test-ride a wide variety of bicycles and accessories that can carry kids. Bicycle and helmet decoration stations, plus a photo booth and local food trucks — including ice cream churned by bike — will make this a fun family outing. Other activities include route planning assistance, bicycle safety information, booths from many local groups like CicLAvia and Metro, and a family fun ride. Cost: Free.

Hop for art
Pico Boulevard
Stewart Street to Centinela Avenue,
12 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Join the Pico Improvement Organization for an afternoon of creative fun, as the up-and-coming arts neighborhood throws its Fourth Annual Art Hop. Stores will be open for the event, hosting an array of art for sale and display. For more information, visit www.picopassport.com.

Santa touches down
Museum of Flying
3100 Airport Ave., 1:30 p.m.
Santa himself will land a vintage World War II bi-plane at Santa Monica Airport to spread a little holiday cheer. His estimated time of arrival is 1:30 p.m., but that could change depending on weather. Once on the ground, Santa will head to the museum for photos. For more information, visit museumofflying.com.

Chanukah is here
Third Street Promenade
and Wilshire Boulevard
Sundown
Downtown Santa Monica will celebrate the Chanukah season with the first lighting of a menorah at sundown. There will be a daily lighting throughout Chanukah. For more information, visit downtownsm.com/winterlit.

To create your own listing,
log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed,
log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SM AIRPORT

Learn to fly without flying

The Museum of Flying at the Santa Monica Airport has added a new attraction that embraces the video-game age.

The MaxFlight simulator offers a 360-degree view with a full range of motion projected on a high-definition, 3D screen for two. The air-to-air combat feature and the carrier landings seem like the real thing, said Dan Ryan, managing director of the museum.

"We are delighted with the addition of our MaxFlight simulator and can't wait to have our first visitors ride it ... ," he said. "This will truly add a new and exciting feature to our overall visitor experience."

People can start riding in the simulator today, Friday, Dec. 7 for $5 per person during normal operating hours.

Ryan said the surround sound and visuals make the experience as close as one can get to actual flying.

The Santa Monica Museum of Flying is located at 3100 Airport Ave. For more information call (310) 398-2500.

– KEVIN HERRERA

SM AIRPORT

Santa cleared for landing

If you plan to visit the Museum of Flying, make sure to stop by this Sunday, Dec. 9 to catch a glimpse of Santa Claus.

Air traffic control at the Museum of Flying confirmed that a pilot named Kris Kringle will be landing a World War II bi-plane at the airport instead of his sleigh and eight tiny reindeer. He is expected to arrive at 1:30 p.m., weather permitting.

Those who want to see Santa are encouraged to stand along Airport Avenue across from the museum. Once he lands the Boeing Stearman with a U.S. Navy paint scheme he will enter the museum and be available for photos. His cargo is rumored to be a large volume of candy canes.

Admission to the museum is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors/students and $6 for children ages 6 to 12. Children 5 and under are free. The event is free to museum members.

– KH

MONTANA AVE

Cleaners call for clothes

Flair Cleaners on Montana Avenue is in the middle of its 10th annual holiday clothing drive in which customers are encouraged to bring in clothes for those in need.

The clothing drive goes until Dec. 31. Just look for the large, festive donation boxes in the lobby of each store.

"Everyone is very enthusiastic about this program," said Flair Cleaners owner Gary Futterman. "Since we started the clothing drive 10 years ago our customers have really gotten into the spirit of giving, and each year more and more clothing is brought in. Everyone is welcome to drop off items to share – the more the merrier."

Futterman and his employees hope to break last year's total of over 6,000 garments. Receipts will be provided to those who would like to receive a tax deduction for their items.

Charities benefiting from the clothing drive include the National Council of Jewish Women Thrift Shop, the Disabled American Veterans, St. Vincent de Paul's Thrift Store and Helping Hands for the Blind.

For more information visit www.FlairCleaners.com.

– KH



Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

ONE ON THREE: **Samohi's Jordan Mathews plows through a group of Crenshaw defenders on Wednesday on campus.**

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL

Samohi comeback sets up rematch with Loyola

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Down by 10 at halftime to Crenshaw, Santa Monica didn't look themselves.

Shoulders slumped, hands on hips, the game was getting away from them until senior guard Jordan Mathews scored 5 quick points to open the third quarter cutting Crenshaw's lead in half and giving Samohi boys' basketball the boost it needed to power to a 82-74 win on Wednesday in the Santa Monica Tournament.

The victory propels the Vikings to their first semifinals of their tournament in the three years it has been played. Awaiting Samohi is a formidable Loyola team that sent the Vikings to their lone defeat on the young season.

"I felt that during the first half I was coaching against emotions," Samohi head coach James Hecht said. "This shows that we have a difference in our mindset. We can be down by double digits and still fight back."

Crenshaw opened the game with a barrage, racing out to a 24-16 lead at the end of the first quarter. The second period was much of the same with Crenshaw matching Samohi shot for shot, setting up a 10-point lead at the half.

That's when Mathews began his 19-point second-half barrage with a three on the first possession after halftime. Crenshaw turned the ball over on the ensuing possession setting up a Mathews layup.

Mathews' effort not only sliced the lead in half, it gave the Vikings hope after a lackluster first half for the team ranked No. 14 in the state by Cal-Hi Sports.

"Our coaches talked about intensity during halftime," said Mathews, who finished with a game-high 35 points. "They said we've worked too hard to let this happen."

It wouldn't take long for Samohi to take the lead just minutes after Mathews' heroics. Senior Trevis Jackson hit a 3-pointer to tie it at 45-45 and fellow starting guard Erron Vaughn hit a jumper to put them ahead for good.

Crenshaw didn't roll over, though. They would scratch back to within a basket at 74-72 with just a minute and a half left in the game. Consecutive scores by Samohi's Troy Maloney and William Perez on the next two possessions ultimately sunk Crenshaw's hope of a comeback of their own.

"They are a really tough team," Mathews said of Crenshaw. "They'll do big things in their league this year."

With touted Oaks Christian and Crenshaw behind Samohi in the first two rounds of the tournament, an even more potent Loyola awaits in the semifinals. The game will be a rematch of the final of the South Bay Classic last week

SEE **HOOPS** PAGE 11

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get a grip

Editor:

To the Emeritus College student who finds it "dire" that she won't have her free exercise class for five weeks: Get a grip on yourself, woman, and do your exercises at home ("SMC betrays seniors," Letters to the Editor, Nov. 30).

A happy and grateful Emeritus College student.

Shirl Grayson
Santa Monica

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch

Editor:

For years, many more than I want to account for, I have gone Downtown to the Third Street Promenade to photograph the holiday decorations there. They were celebratory, without being particularly "religious" in nature! They were uplifting, and raised the spirits.

One can then imagine how disappointed I was when going on my annual Downtown Santa Monica trip to the promenade this season to find nary a decoration in sight. What a shame!

On the other hand, there is merry and bright in Santa Monica Place, and, consequently, I do not understand the disparity between Santa Monica Place and the Third Street Promenade. I can only assume that Santa Monica Place is not "publicly-owned property" and they can do what they want decoration-wise.

Santa Monica is surely the Grinch who stole Christmas!

Julia Reeves
Los Angeles

The crusade against Christianity

Editor:

I was amused by Kathryn Kosmeya-Dodge's recent letter ("Be thankful," Letters to the Editor, Nov. 27). Christians are not "whining." They simply want to preserve a longtime Santa Monica tradition of telling the story of Christmas.

Remember, Kathryn, that Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ and is a federal holiday. By the way, virtually every federal building in Washington D.C. contains a religious inscription. Those like Kathryn have been attacking Christians for years, but they will never succeed in their crusade against Christianity.

So to you, Kathryn, and all those of your ilk, from all us evil Christians, merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Don Wagner
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

New meaning to a 'senior moment'

THERE'S A CRASS EXPRESSION IN TV news, "If it bleeds, it leads," which means bad news gets ratings. I suppose it's a puzzling truism of human nature that we have a compelling curiosity in tragedy, as long as it's not happening to us.

The latest bad news, to me at least, occurred Tuesday when the U.S. Senate failed to ratify a U.N. treaty to improve conditions for disabled people around the world. Sen. John McCain was in favor of passage, as was former Sen. (and GOP presidential candidate) Bob Dole, who came to the Senate floor in his wheel chair.

But the right wing of the GOP (the wing that calls the shots) doomed the measure to failure. It's ironic because first they paid their respects to Dole and then basically spit on him with their vote.

While I harangue about "bad" things, in the past few decades there have been considerable advancements in American social justice. (Prompting me to say, "Why did it take so long?") For example, since the passage of the Americans with Disability Act in 1990, there's been a huge improvement in accommodations for disabled people.

That we have an African-American president signals progress, despite all the indignities hurled his way. (And a record number of death threats investigated by the Secret Service.) And with 20 female U.S. senators taking office in 2013, women's rights will improve in spite of the misogynistic Rush Limbaughs of the world. Personally, I can't wait until Hillary Clinton is president in 2016 to watch Rush blow a gasket.

So, if the disabled, minorities and women are breaking barriers, so are senior citizens, especially here in Santa Monica. Many are well into their 90s and have an energy and vitality that put me to shame. (Then again, my being chronically lazy, I suppose that isn't that hard to do.)

Take Jerry Rosenblum, who will be 91 in January. In fact take the picture, which is what Jerry had to do for me to use it in this column. First, he brought the photo to the Daily Press office or rather, tried. He didn't know the office had moved, but good-natured Jerry didn't complain.

Jerry finally got the right address, but guess what, it turns out we don't have a scanner. Thoroughly nonplused, Jerry merely went to Printland on Wilshire Boulevard, got the photo scanned and put on a disc, and zipped back to the Daily Press. (While all this was going on I think I was taking a nap.)

This Tuesday evening, Dec. 11, Jerry and five other talented seniors, ranging in ages from 70-something to 95, will participate in Defining Moments: Stories from our Elders at the Edgemar Center for the Arts on Main Street.

Defining Moments is a community outreach vision come to pass because of Michelle Danner, Edgemar's director. Thus, with the hard work of producer Jacinta Marasco, the center will stage an evening of music, humor and story telling from seniors whose poignant life experiences will no doubt touch and inspire.



Photo courtesy Jackie Cox

LIVE ACT: **Jerry Rosenblum will perform with other talented seniors at the Edgemar Center for the Arts for 'Defining Moments.**

Jerry, who spent his working life in the men's clothing business (as did my late father as it happens) had the uncanny ability of crossing paths with prominent celebrities, a walking TMZ if you will. Throughout his life Jerry has interacted with the rich and famous including Jesse Owens, Cesar Romero, John Glenn, Bing Crosby and Hubert Humphrey, among others he featured in his endearing memoir, "Guess Who I Met Today."

Long retired, Jerry now spends his time traveling the world on cruise ships and winning singing talent contests onboard. (Not a bad job if you can get it.)

Joining Jerry in crooning on Tuesday will be Nat Kramer, also 90, a retired space engineer from the Bronx, N.Y. who will perform an original composition of his. Sheila Kantor will also perform as she and Nat have taken advanced singing lessons for years.

As for the story tellers, the most senior will be Saul Salka, 95, who ran a prosperous real estate business on the Westside. Others include Marika Roth, an artist and author of a powerful story of survival, "All the Pretty Horses"; and Alan Ross, who will share a heartfelt story about his father from his biographical novel, "The Lasso Man." David Lockwood, an accomplished young pianist, will provide the program's musical support.

Unfortunately, "bad news" will probably always get ratings. That said, I can guarantee the music, humor and heart-warming stories of Defining Moments will make you feel infinitely better. Besides, you don't want to miss Jerry's show closing and, given the nature of the evening, the rather aptly-titled "I'm Glad I'm Not Young Anymore."

Defining Moments: Stories from our Elders runs on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Edgemar Center for the Arts at 2437 Main St. Admission is free and tickets can be reserved at (310) 399-3666 or www.edgemarcenter.org. If he isn't too busy napping, **JACK** can be reached at jns-mdp@aol.com.

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Port strike could be prelude for dockworker talks as well

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The end of one labor crisis at the nation's busiest port complex could be a prelude to another.

The resolution of an eight-day walk-off by clerical workers at the Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors that stalled billions of dollars of cargo and left container ships stranded off the California coast points to the stakes for upcoming contract talks with dockworkers at western U.S. shipping terminals.

The clerical workers represent a sliver of the membership of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, whose 24,000 dockworkers handle everything from car parts to computers at ports in Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii. The strikers numbered only about 450, but thousands of dockworkers refused to cross the picket lines and halted work at the sister ports that handle 44 percent of all container traffic that arrives in the U.S. by sea.

"There is a linkage between the two," said Gary Chaison, professor of labor relations at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. The walkout in Southern California "increased the possibility, the probability, of a strike" when the dockworker contract is negotiated in 2014.

Clerical workers walked out Nov. 27 after working without a contract for 30 months.

The strike at the Los Angeles area ports came at a time of widespread labor strife around the nation, with public- and private-sector workers facing pressure on wages, benefits and job security as employers look to curb costs. Earlier this year in Oregon, a federal judge ordered longshoremen to end an illegal slowdown that disrupted shipping at the Port of Portland, and dockworkers on the East Coast have fought this year over-time rules and royalty payments to longshoremen.

But take-home pay was not a central issue with the well-paid clerical workers; the union was worried about jobs literally vanishing — outsourced to China, Arizona or elsewhere.

"It's not so much about the money, it's not so much about the hours, it's about watching out for efforts by employers to undermine the future viability of the union," said international trade economist Jock O'Connell.

"For the unions, this was an existential crisis. For the employers, it was business," O'Connell said.

Similar issues are likely to color the dockworkers' talks, as workers see their jobs potentially threatened by automation and competition for shippers after the Panama Canal expansion is completed.

"The union knows this: The industry is ready to go to Mexico or Canada," said Port of Long Beach spokesman Art Wong. In 2014, "hopefully they won't repeat what we've seen here" with the clerical workers.

After the eight-day strike — which stranded $760 million worth of cargo a day and sent some 20 ships to other ports in California and Mexico — "both sides will see how much damage there can be if one side walked out or one side locks out," Wong said.

California has a long history involving dock labor — a strike in the 1930s led to the unionization of ports across the West. The western dockworkers reached their last deal with shipping companies and terminal operators in 2008, when both sides were worried that a strike or lockout could further damage the U.S. economy. A 10-day lockout in 2002 caused an estimated $15 billion in economic losses.

With anxiety over a dwindling middle class, and with unions emboldened by the re-election of President Barack Obama, "there is an increasing amount of pushback now," O'Connell said.

The clerks returned to work Wednesday, jubilant that the strike that shut down 10 of the 14 terminals at the ports earned them guarantees, at least for now, that their jobs won't be shipped somewhere else where labor costs are cheaper. They extracted promises from management that, as workers retire or leave the ports during the next four years, no more than 14 jobs will be outsourced, union officials said.

"The key issue in this whole strike was the outsourcing of good jobs, and they won protections against outsourcing abuses," said union spokesman Craig Merrilees.

Shippers denied outsourcing jobs, but strikers insisted they had proof. Trinnie Thompson, a union shop steward, said workers have seen invoices and emails showing some of their responsibilities being usurped by workers in Costa Rica, Shanghai, Colorado and Arizona.

The clerks handle such tasks as filing invoices and billing notices, arranging dock visits by customs inspectors, and ensuring that cargo moves off the dock quickly and gets where it's supposed to go. The increasing computerization of such tasks, which allows them to be performed in cities far from the ocean, makes the clerks especially vulnerable, labor experts say.

The Q Line

Cutting classes

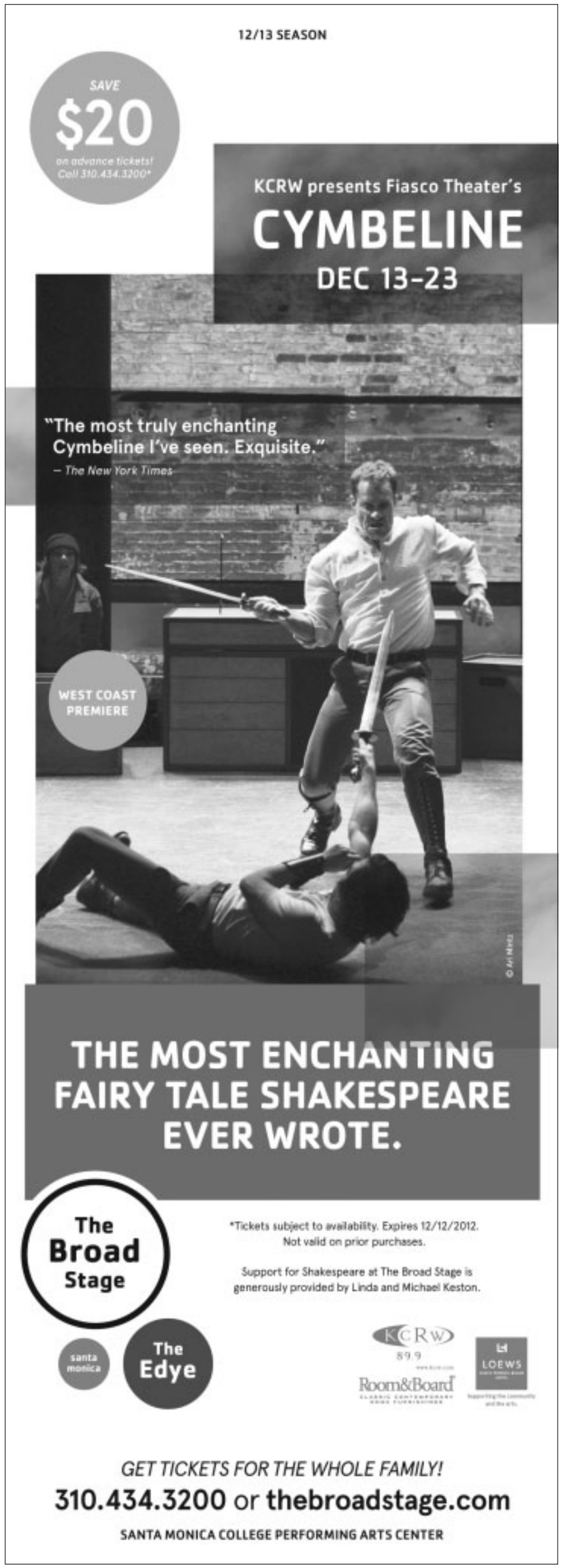
In an effort to save money, Santa Monica College officials last week decided to cancel the winter session for the Emeritus College, meaning seniors will have to go without their exercise, performing arts and other classes for several weeks. The thing is though SMC will still pay to keep buildings open and staff employed, amounting to a savings that some say is only around $160,000.

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

Is the savings worth cutting classes for seniors to help cover costs associated with the college at large? Should seniors have to start paying to help bring more classes online?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.





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Solving the Malibu beached whale dilemma not easy

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After a dead whale washed up on a beach in Malibu near Bob Dylan's home it wasn't long before a foul smell was blowin' in the wind and residents were demanding answers. Although dead whales don't often arrive in wealthy neighborhoods, they do come ashore on beaches across the country fairly frequently. Getting rid of them is often not easy.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING RID OF A DEAD WHALE?

In this case there is disagreement, because the 41-foot mammal ended up on a private beach. Malibu officials say they aren't sure who should haul it away. The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors says it isn't responsible because the whale is on private property, meaning it's up to the owners to get rid of it.

CAN LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIFEGUARDS HAUL IT AWAY?

Maybe, but that agency says it may be too big for one of its Baywatch boats to handle. They say it could require a tugboat like those used to guide giant ships in and out of ocean harbors. The lifeguards have indicated they'll try when the tide is right.

WHY DO WHALES WASH UP ON BEACHES?

Experts say some simply die of natural causes. Others become ill. Some seem to have gotten confused and lost their way. This one, a young fin whale, appears to have been hit by a ship because its spine was damaged and its back contained a large gash. A 47-foot whale found dead on a beach at the Point Reyes National Seashore suffered a similar fate in June.

HOW DO AUTHORITIES DISPOSE OF A DEAD WHALE?

Experts recommend either using a boat big enough to haul it away at high tide or burying it in the sand. The first option requires dragging it far enough so that it won't float back. The second requires large, expensive digging equipment. Sometimes, if the whale ends up on a deserted beach and not anywhere near a wealthy neighborhood, authorities can just leave it there for nature to take its course. That's what they did with a 30-foot gray whale that washed up on a beach near San Simeon last April.

HOW AUTHORITIES SHOULDN'T DISPOSE OF A DEAD WHALE

Don't blow it up. They tried that on a 41-foot sperm whale that washed up on a beach in Florence, Ore., in 1970. The blast rained blubber down on spectators a quarter mile away, including one chunk so large it crushed a car. The effort did result in a dramatic video that can be found on Youtube, however.

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Pasadena church hosting Muslim convention getting hate mail

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA, Calif. An Episcopal church in Southern California has received hate mail since a conservative Christian group publicized the church's plans to host a Muslim organization's annual convention next weekend, the church's leadership said Thursday.

All Saint's Church in Pasadena held a news conference to publicize what it called the "hateful" emails it has received since the Washington, D.C.-based Institute on Religion & Democracy published an article on its website last week criticizing the church's plans to host the event for the Muslim Public Affairs Council.

The liberal-leaning church has received about 50 emails since Friday, many of them including a "hateful, vitriolic, demonization of Islam," the Rev. Susan Russell, church spokeswoman, told the AP. One email compared Muslims with Nazis and called them "body snatchers," while others accused church leaders of being naive pawns in MPAC's bid to spread radical Islam.

MPAC asked All Saint's to host its 12th annual convention on Dec. 15 to foster interfaith understanding, and the church will stand by its decision to do so, said Russell.

"This is very telling of the underbelly of Islamaphobia in this country," she said. "It gives us an amazing teachable moment to demonstrate what it looks like when people of faith refuse to be polarized by our differences."

The church and MPAC have shown the FBI and the LAPD the emails, but none has risen to the level of a threat, said Edina Lekovic, MPAC's director of policy and programming. MPAC expects between 500 and 700 people at the convention.

The article that appears to have prompted the emails was posted Friday on the website for The Institute on Religion & Democracy, which describes itself as a faith-based alliance of Christians who monitor and report on issues affecting the faith and provide a voice for Christian orthodoxy.

The group did not ask readers to write the church or organize any sort of response, said Mark Tooley, the group's president.

The church's stance that the emails were directed at all Muslims isn't accurate, he said, because they were written in response to an article that raised questions about MPAC's history specifically and the wisdom of associating with the organization.

"They're implying that criticism of them is a criticism of all Muslims and that's not the case. It's unfair generally," he said.

All Saints has a long history of social activism that has drawn national attention.

In 2004, the church's former rector, the Rev. George F. Regas, delivered an anti-war sermon just days before the presidential election that led to an investigation of its tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. Leaders of the stone church north of Los Angeles also spoke out against the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II, opposed the Vietnam War and most recently supported gay marriage and championed female clergy.

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Individuality takes center stage for Grammy Awards

MESFIN FEKADU
AP Music Writer

Fun. helped break up the sound of dance and electronic music on Top 40 radio with its edgy pop-rock grooves. Frank Ocean made a bold statement in R&B — with an announcement about his sexuality and with his critically revered, multi-genre album, "channel ORANGE." And Mumford & Sons continued to bring its folk-rock swag and style to the Billboard charts with its sophomore album.

They all were rewarded Wednesday when The Recording Academy announced the nominees for the 2013 Grammy Awards.

Those acts, who scored the most nominations with six each, were joined by typical Grammy contenders like Jay-Z and Kanye West, who also got six nominations. The Black Keys' singer and guitarist, Dan Auerbach, is also up for six awards, thanks to his nomination for producer of the year. His band earned five nods, along with R&B singer Miguel and jazz pianist Chick Corea.

"It feels like alternative music is back," said fun. guitarist Jack Antonoff. His band's gold-selling "Some Nights" is up for album of the year, competing with Black Keys' "El Camino," Mumford & Sons' "Babel," Jack White's "Blunderbuss" and "channel ORANGE," the major label debut from Ocean.

Fun. is nominated in all of the major categories, including best new artist, and record and song of the year for its breakthrough anthem "We Are Young."

Ocean, whose mother attended the nominations special, scored nods in three of the top four categories. His song "Thinkin Bout You" — which he originally wrote for another singer — will compete for record of the year with Black Keys' "Lonely Boy" and four No. 1 hits: Taylor Swift's "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," "Somebody I Used to Know" by Gotye and Kimbra, Kelly Clarkson's "Stronger (What Doesn't Kill You)" and "We Are Young" by fun.

Song of the year, too, features some No. 1 hits, including fun. and Clarkson's jams, as well as Carly Rae Jepsen's viral smash "Call Me Maybe." But then there's Ed Sheeran's "The A Team," a slow groove about a homeless prostitute, and Miguel's "Adorn," the R&B singer-songwriter's crossover hit.

"It's like one of those songs that wrote itself and I was the vessel," the 26-year-old said in an phone interview from New York City late Wednesday, where he performed with Trey Songz and Elle Varner.

While Miguel's excited to compete for song of the year, he's more thrilled about his sophomore album's nomination for best urban contemporary album, a new category that recognizes R&B albums with edge and multiple sounds.

"That's a huge complement to say that your entire body of work was the best of the year," he said of "Kaleidoscope Dream." "That's the one that means the most to me. I'm really hoping maybe, just maybe."

Miguel, along with Gotye, Alabama Shakes and the Lumineers, is part of the pack of nominees who have showcased individuality and have marched to the beat of their own drum in today's music industry.

Though nominated albums by The Black Keys and Mumford & Sons are platinum-sellers, their songs are not regularly heard on Top 40 radio. Electronic and dance music, which has dominated radio airplay for a few years, were left out of the top awards this year. Also, One Direction — the boy band that released two top-selling albums this years and sold-out many arenas — was snubbed for best new artist.

Lionel Richie has one of the year's top-selling albums with his country collaboration collection, "Tuskegee," but he didn't earn any nominations. And Nicki Minaj, who released a gold-selling album this year and had a hit with "Starships," wasn't nominated for a single award.

Jay-Z and West dominated the rap categories, a familiar refrain at the Grammys. Nas scored four nominations, including best rap album for "Life Is Good." Jeff Bhasker, the producer behind fun.'s breakthrough album, also scored four nods.

Swift, who released her latest album, "Red," after the Grammy eligibility date, still scored three nominations, including two for "Safe & Sound" with The Civil Wars. Country acts were mainly left out of the major categories this year, though the genre usually has success at the Grammys. Aside from Swift's pop song competing for record of the year, there is 21-year-old Hunter Hayes, who is up for best new artist against fun., Ocean, Alabama Shakes and the Lumineers.

"I'm so proud to be, as you say, representing country music in the new artist category," said Hayes, who is also nominated for best country album and country solo performance. "I don't even feel worthy of saying that, but it's so cool for me to be able to say that."

Swift hosted the CBS special with LL Cool J and it featured performances by The Who and Maroon 5, who received multiple nominations.

The five-year-old nominations show spent its first year outside Los Angeles, making its debut in Nashville, Tenn., at the Bridgestone Arena. It marked the largest venue the show has been held in.

The 55th annual Grammy Awards take place Feb. 10 in Los Angeles.

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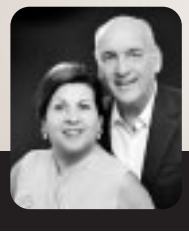


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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Detectives arrest woman for allegedly stealing checks

TUESDAY, OCT. 16, AT 3:05 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to a business located in the 2400 block of Santa Monica Boulevard on the report of several checks being stolen. When officers arrived they made contact with a man who said he had written several checks and placed them in separate envelopes, which he then placed in a mailbox within his office building. Several days later the man said he was contacted by Wells Fargo regarding several checks written out to someone he did not know. He later learned that someone had "washed" the checks and wrote a woman's name on them. The case was assigned to investigators who were able to track down a suspected mailing address in Inglewood. While conducting a surveillance on the location on Nov. 30, at 2 p.m. officers saw a white Nissan Altima pull up to the location with the suspect in the passenger seat. Once the suspect entered a business, she was placed under arrest. The driver of the vehicle was detained and officers searched the car and allegedly found methamphetamine. Fraudulent credit cards and a "fishing" device used to pull mail from mailboxes were located inside the car, police said. Both were transported to the Santa Monica Jail and booked. Virna Marquez, 30, of Los Angeles was booked for obtaining credit using another's identity, burglary, forgery, making bogus checks and a probation violation. No bail was set. David Partida, 40, of Glendale, Calif. was booked for possession of meth. Bail was set at $10,000.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2, AT 12:52 A.M.,
Officers were on patrol along the 1500 block of Alley 5 when they saw a man lying down in the alley. Officers stopped to check on the man. Officers woke the man up and during a brief conversation officers learned the man was on felony probation for robbery and he was also required to register as a sex offender. Officers determined that he was out of compliance with his requirement to register and placed him under arrest. The suspect was booked for failing to register and for a probation violation. No bail was set. He was identified as Cody Lester Swain, 49, of Santa Monica.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, AT 10:19 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 500 block of Olympic Boulevard – OPCC Access Center – regarding a transient who was allegedly acting out. When officers arrived, they made contact with a case manager who told them that her client was trying to get information on a drug abuse program but was acting out as if he was currently on drugs. Officers made contact with the suspect and after learning his identity they placed him under arrest for an outstanding warrant issued by the Department of Corrections. Officers also learned that the man failed to register as a sex offender. He was placed under arrest and booked for the aforementioned charges. The suspect was identified as Daniel Lynn, 42, a transient. No bail was set.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, AT 1:15 P.M.,
Officers assigned to Downtown responded to the GAP store at 1355 Third St. regarding a suspected shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived they spoke with store employees who wanted the woman arrested. She was booked for petty theft and released with a citation. She was identified as Dionne Peebles, 46, of Los Angeles.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28, AT 4:40 P.M.,
Officers were on patrol on the 400 block of Colorado Avenue when they were flagged down by a man who was acting as if he was running from someone and attempting to hide. Officers stopped and spoke with the man, who said that his sister was coming from Georgia with a gun to shoot him. Based on all the objective symptoms the man was presenting, officers determined he was under the influence of drugs and placed him under arrest. He was booked for being under the influence and his bail was set at $2,500. He was identified as Laphair Buchanan, 19, a transient.

TUESDAY, NOV. 27, AT 7:53 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 2200 block of 26th Street regarding a report of a residential burglary. When officers arrived they made contact with a man who said that his neighbor was away from home for a few days and he noticed that the neighbor's front door was open. Officers searched the residence and determined that it had been ransacked, and there were signs of forced entry. At about 9 p.m. investigators received a call from Los Angeles County Sheriff deputies who had four suspects in custody for an unrelated incident. The deputies said they found a stolen check and jewelry belonging to the Santa Monica victim. Officers took them into custody and then served search warrants at their homes and allegedly recovered evidence linking them to the Santa Monica burglary. All four were booked for burglary, possession of stolen property and conspiracy. They were identified as Darnell Clark, 20, of Los Angeles; Jerome Grissette, 18, of South Gate, Calif.; Leonard Clark, 18, of Los Angeles; and Peter Johnson, 19, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. Bail was set at $50,000 for each.

TUESDAY, NOV. 27, AT 3:07 P.M.,
Officers responded to an office located in the 1500 block of Seventh Street regarding a report of a man who was yelling inside the office, saying that the building belonged to him. When officers arrived they made contact with the man who called police and he told them that the suspect, who was now standing outside the office, had disrupted a meeting taking place and took a metal chair and threw it against a wall, causing damage. The suspect refused to leave when asked. He was detained and placed under arrest for vandalism and trespassing. He was identified as Salvador Lopez, Jr. of Lake View Terrace, Calif. His bail was set at $5,000.

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news@smdp.com

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

PLAN
FROM PAGE 1

Payton espousing the goals of making the Downtown walkable, with wider sidewalks, iconic architecture and a unique feel to the streets, the assembled crowd broke into groups to give their input on how to make that happen.

They were presented with a map of the Downtown and green dots to place in various locations to indicate where additional development, public art or amenities should go.

Kevin Glick, a Santa Monica resident, had an immediate problem.

"There was no red stamp," Glick said.

There was also no obvious way to tell what each dot meant unless an industrious person scrawled a symbol onto the sticker, as one gentleman did to indicate the need for bicycle amenities near the existing bike center on Colorado Avenue.

Much of the conversation focused on what residents would have to be willing to give up in terms of height in order to get open space and beautiful buildings from developers seeking to build in the Downtown.

That felt ambiguous to Glick, who, along with several other residents, wanted to get down to the brass tacks.

"What are we trading?" he asked. "Why are we talking about trading?"

Bill Tucker, a board member of Downtown Santa Monica Inc., the public-private group that manages the Downtown for City Hall, saw that conflict in his group.

"Some felt that they should not have to trade off for height," Tucker said.

For his part, Tucker is looking for a "reasonable" amount of growth that enhances what's in the Downtown already.

"We have to be evolving," he said.

Although some were willing to accept that concept, hackles were raised by the number of industry professionals that flocked to the meeting.

A review of the sign-in sheet showed roughly 40 of the 160 people who put their name to paper either owned property in the Downtown, were architects, land-use attorneys, real estate professionals or representatives of companies known to be looking to develop Downtown, like NMS Properties, AMC Theatres and the owners of the Holiday Inn.

Eight others put down no identifying information beyond their names.

Alan Epstein, an executive with MSD Capital, which is trying to renovate the Fairmont Miramar Hotel, said that representatives of the Miramar came because the 85-year-old hotel has a stake in the future of Downtown.

"We worked with the city and the community for six years for the LUCE amendments," Epstein said. "We've been a stakeholder in the city for a long time."

Although he could not speak for other industry folks that came to the meeting, the Miramar representatives were there to see that the elements identified for the Downtown in the LUCE made it through to the specific plan, Epstein said.

"The LUCE was carefully crafted," Epstein said. "It was important to me that the specific plan reflect that."

The heavy concentration of industry professionals concerned Steve Duron, an attorney and former City Council candidate, who felt the deck was stacked.

Was the community voice heard?

"I'm not sure," Duron said. "The vote is still out."

ashley@smdp.com









SOWERS
FROM PAGE 1

TS: L.A. is ground zero for veteran homelessness so I'm here meeting with the VA and community partners and leaders because we've got to solve this. We went to the Westside Veterans Community Center, which is an innovative program that uses a number of federal programs out there like the grant per diem and housing vouchers program, to get a chance to see that and talk with folks there.

DP: What did you learn?

TS: Talking with the (Assertive Community Treatment) team, which is a special forces team of psychiatrists, social workers, veteran peer counselors and nurse practitioners who go out into the field and talk to homeless vets, about 90 percent of homeless vets have some sort of substance abuse and highly correlated to that is some type of mental illness needing treatment. That seemed to be the case of those vets we spoke with. A huge part of this is just getting their trust. We have incredible services at the West L.A. VA, but you can't force somebody to go in there.

DP: How can we make sure that this new generation of veterans like yourself do not become homeless once they return from the battlefield?

TS: I'll speak personally. The VA, if someone has served honorably, the VA is here to make them stronger in all phases of life. I benefited from the post 9/11 GI Bill. It's Dr. Sowers because of that. You can use it to get a Ph.D. or a trade certificate, providing people the skills and the education they need so they don't fall into homelessness. The VA has jobs programs, programs for financial health and a lot of training on specific skills needed in the work force. The VA home loan program has been a huge asset for a lot of veterans, helping to lower the number of defaults. It allows us to intervene early to make sure veterans stay in their homes rather than being thrown out. So I think my clear take-away from today … is you need a lot of tools in the tool box to tackle this issue.

DP: One of those tools is transitional, supportive housing for those with mental health or drug and alcohol issues. The VA is being sued by the ACLU for allegedly failing to provide the housing and services vets need. What's the progress on rehabbing Building 209 on the VA campus to house and treat homeless vets? It has been several years and it seems like nothing is happening.

TS: A construction contract was awarded (Tuesday) and they are planning to have (Building 209) completed in early spring. This is a facility that is going to be beautiful and have very integrated therapy and support services and serve as a transitional residence. But it's 55 beds. … This is only part of a broad campaign to ending veteran homelessness.

DP: You said it's just 55 beds. By that do you mean there needs to be more?

TS: At the Westside Community Center there are 500 beds. There are thousands of vouchers through HUD so people can live in communities and not be sequestered in a specific VA facility. There's a lot to be proud of and a lot of various approaches out there to look at.

DP: Should the VA be building more housing?

TS: I think what I can say on that is the VA has been after this very hard for the last couple of years, but in order to get to zero in 2015 we'll need a multi-faceted approach, and that includes our community partners. There is a lot of goodwill in L.A. to end veteran homelessness. There might be a disagreement on tactics and timing. I want to figure out how we can all work together and accomplish this major goal.

DP: What's it like to go from being a foot soldier to being nominated to a post by the president?

TS: It's an incredible honor that the president nominated me and the Senate confirmed me. I'm the youngest assistant secretary in the VA and in the nation. I think what that means is it's an opportunity for me to truly represent the concerns of, in particular, my generation of vets and I think it gives a lot of credit to [Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki] and the president that they wanted that voice on the highest levels of counsel.

DP: So what needs to happen when this generation of vets comes home?

TS: A ton of it is just education, frankly. I am responsible for that. There are bout 22.4 million vets and about 8.9 million use one of our services. We have to do better. A lot of veterans don't know they are vets or they feel they don't deserve the benefits. There are a lot of reasons out there for it. I want to make sure that as they transition they know what they are eligible for. The secretaries of defense of the VA [have] committed to creating a closer partnership. Secretary Shinseki says that no veteran who fought for their country should have to fight for a roof over their head."

DP: What are you going to report back to your boss when you fly home tonight?

TS: I'm going to report back that there are some great models out here. It's a very complicated problem and that there's a great opportunity to partner with the community, civic and nonprofit leaders to collectively solve it.

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Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

TAKING AIM: **Samohi's Chris Smith shoots a 3-pointer against Crenshaw on Wednesday night.**

HOOPS
FROM PAGE 3

that saw Loyola overcome a sizable deficit to send Samohi (5-1) to its only loss of the year.

The teams also scrimmaged before the season with Loyola winning that one, too. To say it's a grudge match is an understatement.

Mathews said that it helps and it hinders to see the same team so many times. Samohi may have got the drop on what Loyola is all about, but so did Loyola.

"It goes both ways," he said. "But I think it does help to know their personnel and what to expect."

Hecht feels that both meetings could have swung the other way and is pleased to get another shot at the Cubs and their unblemished 6-0 record and No. 12 ranking in the state.

"We were hoping to get this opportunity when we made the schedule," Hecht said. "We just need to be more sound offensively."

The game is scheduled for Friday at 8 p.m. at Samohi.

daniela@smdp.com

EDUCATION
FROM PAGE 1

part of the process of educating the community of the direction that the district is going in," Gross said.

Dun & Bradstreet have not yet announced how or where it will donate the money, just that they hope it will "directly impact the kids."

If the program proceeds as planned, it will help kids in the district today and as they transition into higher education.

It's a boon to parents because it allows them to start saving for their children's higher education early and offers special tax incentives unavailable in regular savings accounts.

The money in the College Savings Plan, called ScholarShare in California, is taxed before it ever goes into the account but is not taxed again when it comes out, even if the family chooses an investment option that accrues interest over the life of the plan.

Then, when the child in question is ready to go to college, the family can dip into that pot of cash to pay for education-related expenses like tuition, books, food and housing.

It keeps parents from being hit by the cost of college all at once, said Bill Ainsworth, press secretary for California State Treasurer Bill Lockyear.

"A college education helps create a brighter future for a child. ScholarShare provides parents, grandparents, relatives and friends with a great way to invest in that child's future," Ainsworth said.

There's no direct benefit to Dun & Bradstreet for putting out that much cash for their employees, but Stibel hopes it will pay dividends in the long run.

"When we look at the next 20 and 30 years, our biggest concern is that we can't find talent in the United States," Stibel said. "We could complain about it and ask the government to do something, or we can take a stand."

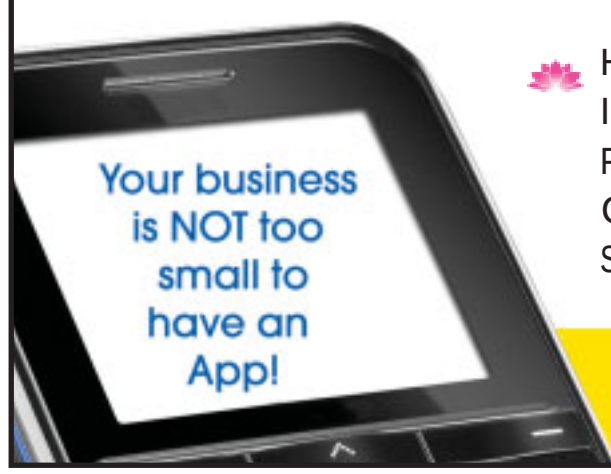
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Gay Washington state couples line up for marriage licenses

MANUEL VALDES &
RACHEL LA CORTE
Associated Press

SEATTLE Hundreds of same-sex couples across Washington state started picking up marriage licenses Thursday as a voter-approved law legalizing gay marriage took effect.

King County, the state's largest, opened the doors to its auditor's office in Seattle just after midnight to start distributing licenses. But hundreds of people had lined up hours earlier, snaking around the building on a chilly December night. By Thursday afternoon, more than 450 licenses had been issued in Seattle, where the mood was festive overnight.

"We waited a long time. We've been together 35 years, never thinking we'd get a legal marriage. Now I feel so joyous I can't hardly stand it," said 85-year-old Pete-e Petersen, who with her partner, 77-year-old Jane Abbott Lighty, were the first to get a license.

After meeting 35 years ago on a blind date in Sacramento, Lighty and Petersen plan to get married Sunday. The couple has been out buying shoes and clothes for the wedding.

Washington state now joins several other states that allow gay and lesbian couples to wed. Gov. Chris Gregoire and Secretary of State Sam Reed certified the election results of Referendum 74 on Wednesday afternoon, and the law took effect at 12:01 a.m. Thursday.

R-74 had asked voters to either approve or reject the state law legalizing same-sex marriage that legislators passed earlier this year. That law was signed by Gregoire in February but was put on hold pending the outcome of the election. Nearly 54 percent of voters approved the measure.

The law doesn't require religious organizations or churches to marry gay or lesbian couples.

Because the state has a three-day waiting period, the earliest that weddings can take place is Sunday. Same-sex couples who previously were married in another state that allows gay marriage, like Massachusetts, will not have to get remarried in Washington state. Their marriages became valid here Thursday, when the law took effect.

Vicky Dalton, the Spokane County auditor, was designated as a point person for all of the counties preparing for same-sex marriage licenses. She said that as of 4 p.m. Thursday, more than 760 marriage licenses had been issued statewide to same-sex couples, with more than half of them being issued in King County.

At the Thurston County courthouse Thursday morning, Deb Dulaney, 54, and Diane McGee, 64, both of Olympia, arrived just before 9 a.m. The couple have been together for 16 years and moved to Washington state in 2005 from California, where they were registered as domestic partners.

McGee said they wanted to get married there but were unable to before voters passed 2008's Proposition 8, the amendment that outlawed gay marriage after it had been approved by court ruling. A federal court has since struck down Prop. 8, but an appeal on that case is still pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dulaney and McGee registered as domestic partners in Seattle in 2005, and then through the state when the state's domestic partnership law passed in 2007. Now they wanted to take that final step of marriage. They haven't set a wedding date but said a simple service is planned within the 60 days that their license is valid.

"I feel much more moved by it than I thought I would," Dulaney said. "I thought we were just going to come here, get the paperwork and go home. But now, it's like, 'whoa.'"

"It's for real now," McGee told her.

Last month, Washington, Maine and Maryland became the first states to pass same-sex marriage by popular vote. They joined six other states — New York, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont — and the District of Columbia, which had already enacted laws or issued court rulings permitting same-sex marriage.

Couples in Maryland also started picking up marriage licenses Thursday, though their licenses won't take effect until Jan. 1.

"I really imagined my life as being just with a partner and never having a wife, so to have this day come about and to be a part of it, it means everything to me," said Kim Hinken, who was the first person to get a marriage license in Anne Arundel County, Md.'s Circuit Court. The 52-year-old Edgewater resident said she has waited nearly 10 years to become legally married to Adrianne Eathorne.

Maine's law takes effect Dec. 29. There's no waiting period in Maine, and people can start marrying just after midnight.

In addition to private ceremonies that will start taking place across Washington state this weekend, Seattle City Hall will open for several hours Sunday, and several local judges are donating their time to marry more than 140 couples starting at 10 a.m. In Olympia, a group of local judges has offered to perform wedding ceremonies just after midnight on Sunday at the Thurston County courthouse.

Washington state has had a domestic partnership law in place since 2007. The initial law granted couples about two dozen rights, including hospital visitation and inheritance rights when there is no will. It was expanded a year later, and then again in 2009, when lawmakers completed the package with the so-called "everything but marriage" law that was ultimately upheld by voters later that year.

This year, lawmakers passed the law allowing gay marriage, and Gregoire signed it in February. Opponents gathered enough signatures for a referendum, putting the law on hold before it could take effect.



Michigan GOP pushes right to work amid protests

JEFF KAROUB & JOHN FLESHER
Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. Republicans rushed right-to-work legislation Thursday in the Michigan Legislature, drawing raucous protests from hundreds of union supporters, some of whom were pepper-sprayed by police when they tried to storm the Senate chamber.

The House voted 58-52 to approve a measure prohibiting private unions from requiring that nonunion employees pay fees. The Senate was debating a similar bill, with Democrats denouncing it as an attack on worker rights and the GOP sponsor insisting it would boost the economy and jobs. Separate legislation dealing with public-sector unions was expected to come later.

Because of rules requiring a five-day delay between votes in the two chambers on the same legislation, final enactment appears unlikely until next week. Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who previously had said repeatedly that right-to-work was "not on my agenda," told reporters Thursday he would sign the measures.

A victory in Michigan would give the right-to-work movement its strongest foothold yet in the Rust Belt region, where organized labor already has suffered several body blows. Republicans in Indiana and Wisconsin recently pushed through legislation curbing union rights, sparking massive protests.

Even before the Michigan bills surfaced, protesters streamed inside the Capitol preparing for what appeared inevitable after Snyder, House Speaker Jase Bolger and Senate Minority Leader Randy Richardville announced at a news conference they were putting the issue on a fast track.

"This is all about taking care of the hard-working workers in Michigan, being pro-worker and giving them freedom to make choices," Snyder said.

"The goal isn't to divide Michigan, it is to bring Michigan together," Snyder said.

But Democrats said the legislation — and Republicans' tactics — would poison the state's political atmosphere.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley repeatedly gaveled for order during the Senate debate as Democrats attacked the legislation to applause from protesters in the galley. At one point, a man shouted, "Heil Hitler! Heil Hitler! That's what you people are." He was quickly escorted out. Another later yelled, "We will remember in November."

Eight people were arrested for resisting and obstructing when they tried to push past two troopers guarding the Senate door, state police Inspector Gene Adamczyk said.

Protesters waved placards and chanted slogans such as "Union buster" and "Right-to-work has got to go." Adamczyk said the troopers used pepper spray after the people refused to obey orders to stop.

The Capitol, which was temporarily closed because of safety concerns, reopened Thursday afternoon, sending hundreds of protesters streaming back inside with chants of, "Whose house? Our house!" Adamczyk said a judge ordered the building reopened.

The decision to push forward in the waning days of the Legislature's lame-duck session infuriated outnumbered Democrats, who resorted to parliamentary maneuvers to slow action but were powerless to block the bills.

House Democrats did walk out briefly Thursday in protest of the Capitol being closed.

Adamczyk estimated that about 2,500 visitors were inside the Capitol, where their shouts reverberated off stone halls and frequently could be heard inside the ornate chambers.

After repeatedly insisting during his first two years in office that right-to-work was not on his agenda, Snyder reversed course Thursday, a month after voters defeated a ballot initiative that would have barred such measures under the state constitution.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Snyder said he had kept the issue at arm's length while pursuing other programs to bolster the state economy. But he said circumstances had pushed the matter to the forefront.

"It is a divisive issue," he acknowledged. "But it was already being divisive over the past few weeks, so let's get this resolved. Let's reach a conclusion that's in the best interests of all."

Also influencing his decision, he said, were reports that some 90 companies had decided to locate in Indiana since that state adopted right-to-work legislation. "That's thousands of jobs, and we want to have that kind of success in Michigan," he said.

Snyder and the GOP leaders insisted the legislation was not meant to weaken unions or collective bargaining, saying it would make unions more responsive to their members.

Senate Democratic leader Gretchen Whitmer said she was "livid."

"These guys have lied to us all along the way," she said. "They are pushing through the most divisive legislation they could come up with in the dark of night, at the end of a lame-duck session and then they're going to hightail it out of town. It's cowardly."

Republicans have commanding majorities in both chambers — 64-46 in the House and 26-12 in the Senate. Under their rules, only a simple majority of members elected and serving must be present to have a quorum and conduct business. For that reason, Democrats acknowledged that boycotting sessions and going into hiding, as some lawmakers in neighboring Indiana and Wisconsin have done in recent years to stall legislation unpopular with unions, would be futile in Michigan.

Throngs of protesters spent weeks outside capitol buildings in those states, clashing over union rights.

"We will not have another Wisconsin in Michigan," Adamczyk said. "People are allowed to protest, but they need to do in a peaceful manner."

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

BID #4046 PROVIDE DRYWALL CONTRACTOR SERVICES, AS REQUIRED BY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE.
- **Submission Deadline Is January 3, 2013 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The bid packets can be downloaded at:
- **http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15167**

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

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

WHEN: **Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

SUBJECT: A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission for the following:

Bergamot Area Plan: Review information provided in the report on the core components of the Bergamot Area Plan framework; and provide comments and direction to staff regarding refinement of the approach to urban form, open space and the street network; land use; circulation and mobility; arts and culture; economic sustainability and utilities and infrastructure.

WHEN: **Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

SUBJECT: A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission for the following:

Appeal 12-003 of Height Modification 11-0001, 3114 Fourth Street. Consider the following modifications to height standards for fences, walls, and hedges:
Fence: A 4-foot-8-inch wood fence in the front setback along the south side property line. Wall: A 9-foot-2-inch wall system along the front property line with a stucco wall and a wood beam-column-corbel structure painted white. Hedges: A 26-foot-6-inch bamboo hedge on the rear half of the lot along the south side property line. An 11-foot-4-inch fenn pine tree hedge along the front and side property lines on the east side of the lot. A 12-foot-9-inch bottle-brush tree hedge along the side property line in the front setback on the north side of the lot. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.02.080(a), fences, walls and hedges cannot exceed 42 inches in height in the front setback. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(b), fences and walls cannot exceed eight feet and hedges cannot exceed 12 feet within the required side yard and rear setbacks. SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(e) permits a modification to the height limitations in the front, rear, and side setback areas, subject to approval by the Zoning Administrator. [Planner: Russell Bunim] **APPLICANT: Andy Zeff / Michelle M. Cardiel. PROPERTY OWNER: Peter & Kristen Diamandis.**

The Planning Commission will also hold a study session on the Zoning Ordinance update to discuss use regulations and classifications.

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

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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Stocks edge up as investors keep eye on Washington

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Apple and other technology companies led the stock market up for the second day in a row Thursday.

The gains came a day after Apple took its worst fall in four years. In separate interviews, CEO Tim Cook said Apple will produce one of its Mac computers in the United States next year and will spend $100 million in 2013 to shift production of the line from China.

The tech giant's stock gained $8.45 to $547.24

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 39.55 points to close at 13,074.04. Intel led the Dow, rising 31 cents to $20.16.

Investors' biggest concern remains the automatic tax increases and federal spending cuts scheduled to start Jan. 1. "Everybody is paying close attention to the soap opera in Washington," said John Canally, investment strategist and economist at LPL Financial.

President Barack Obama said Wednesday that the White House and Republicans could reach an agreement "in about a week" if the Republicans drop their opposition to raising taxes on making more than $250,000 a year.

Most investors believe President Obama and Congressional Republicans will strike a budget deal to avoid this "fiscal cliff" before the year is out. Until they reach an agreement, however, the stock market will likely be hostage to news out of Washington.

In other trading, the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.66 points to 1,413.94, while the Nasdaq composite climbed 15.57 points to 2,989.27. In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note ended the day at 1.59 percent, the same as late Wednesday.

The U.S. Labor Department said unemployment benefits applications dropped 25,000 last week to 370,000, a level consistent with modest hiring. The decline was also a sign that the spike in applications caused by Superstorm Sandy has faded.

The government will release its closely watched monthly jobs report Friday. Private economists forecast that hiring in November sank from the previous month. They expect the unemployment rate to remain unchanged at 7.9 percent.

More companies announced plans to reward investors with dividends this month in case taxes rise next year.

Sirius XM Radio said it will issue a one-time dividend of 5 cents per share at the end of the month and spend up to $2 billion buying back its stock. Safeway shifted a payment scheduled for January to Dec. 31. And Landstar Systems, a transportation company, will pay shareholders 50 cents a share this month instead of paying dividends for the next two years.

Dividends, now taxed at 15 percent, will be treated like ordinary income next year unless Congress and the White House extend current tax breaks as part of a budget deal.

Among other stocks making moves:

• Akamai Technologies jumped 10 percent, the best gain in the S&P 500 index. Akamai, which helps websites work faster, forged a partnership with AT&T to deliver online content. Its stock gained $3.56 to $39.06.

• H&R Block surged 5 percent after posting revenue and earnings that beat analysts' estimates. The country's largest tax preparation company reported a smaller loss, helped by cost-cutting efforts. It typically turns in a loss in the August-to-October period because it takes in most of its revenue during the U.S. tax season. H&R Block gained 89 cents to $18.26.

• The Men's Wearhouse dropped 84 cents to $30.51. The clothing company posted third-quarter results missed Wall Street's estimates and cut its profit estimates for the fourth quarter and full year.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Wisconsin turns to former coach for the Rose Bowl

NANCY ARMOUR
AP National Writer

MADISON, Wis. Wisconsin is going retro for the Rose Bowl.

Left without a coach when Bret Bielema bolted for Arkansas, the Badgers asked former coach and current athletic director Barry Alvarez to lead them when they face No. 8 Stanford on New Year's Day.

"We wouldn't want anyone else but coach Alvarez to coach us in this game," linebacker Mike Taylor said Thursday. "Kids like me, growing up in Wisconsin, you watched him on the sidelines and you always dreamed of playing for him."

The return is for one game only, Alvarez said. He's already started the search for a new coach, and plans to begin interviewing candidates next week.

"I don't want this to be about me," Alvarez said. "I want it to be about the players. I want to give them as good an opportunity to win the Rose Bowl as we possibly can."

Bielema's departure was a shock, coming just three days after Wisconsin earned a school-record third straight trip to the Rose Bowl with a 70-31 rout of then-No. 14 Nebraska in the Big Ten championship. Alvarez, in fact, had no idea Bielema was even talking to the Razorbacks until Bielema told him Tuesday morning he was leaving.

As the news filtered down to the Badgers, they immediately knew who they wanted as their interim coach.

"Originally, it didn't really cross my mind as far as the option of him stepping in," quarterback Curt Phillips said. "But as we got together and talked as a group, once it was brought up, it was something everyone was extremely excited about. ... For us, there couldn't be a better opportunity than to have coach Alvarez step in here, someone who's had success at this stage. Guys are extremely excited to play for him. He's someone guys can definitely rally around."

Alvarez said his phone was "blowing up" after Bielema's departure was announced, including two calls from a Green Bay number that he didn't recognize. Turns out that was Taylor, saying the Badgers wanted him to be their coach.

"I told him I would be honored to coach them," Alvarez said. "I wanted them to understand, if I was going to coach them, we weren't going to screw around, We were going to go out there to win."

Alvarez's 118-73-4 record in 16 seasons coaching the Badgers includes a 3-0 mark in the Rose Bowls — Wisconsin's only victories in eight trips to Pasadena. He was inducted into the Rose Bowl Hall of Fame in 2009.

"He's never lost a Rose Bowl, so were kind of hoping he can shed some light on that for us. Because we've had some struggles the last couple of years," Phillips said.

Having Alvarez as their coach means little disruption for the Badgers, and even fewer distractions. Though he stepped down as head coach following the 2005 season, he's remained an integral part of the football program as Wisconsin's athletic director and players are familiar and comfortable with him.

"He's at every practice watching and observing," Taylor said.

The Badgers won't have to adapt to a new coaching style — Alvarez hand-picked Bielema as his successor — and the assistants won't have the pressure of a one-game audition.

The chance to see Alvarez on the sidelines one more time is sure to entice some alums and boosters into making trips to the Rose Bowl, too. Wisconsin supporters will always appreciate Alvarez, who took a program that was little more than a laughingstock for three decades and turned it into one of the Big Ten's top teams. Wisconsin had five straight losing seasons before Alvarez arrived in 1990, and posted a winning record in just six of the previous 26 seasons. After losing to USC in the 1963 Rose Bowl, Wisconsin went 19 years without a bowl appearance.

The Badgers were in such sorry shape that the Wisconsin band's postgame show was the main attraction at Camp Randall, with students rarely bothering to show up until halftime or later.

But under Alvarez, Wisconsin became known for stingy defenses, a power running game and a massive offense line — "those big palookas up front," Alvarez said Thursday — that would soon be imitated throughout college and the pros. The Badgers had a Big Ten-record 10 straight seasons with a 1,000-yard rusher under Alvarez, and Ron Dayne became the school's second Heisman Trophy winner in 1999.

Four years after taking over, Alvarez led

SEE **ROSE BOWL** PAGE 16

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **61.9°**

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small short to mid period WNW-NW swell mix; Minimal SSW swell; Light AM wind

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small short to mid period WNW-NW swell mix; Minimal SSW swell; Light AM wind

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal WNW-NW swell mix; Very small SW-SSW swell; Light AM wind

MONDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3 ft
Primary/small SW-SSW swell; Minimal WNW-NW swell

Tides

Are very manageable to start the week, becoming more of an issue as the tide swings are a bit more extreme towards the end of this week. Deep morning high tides of 5'+ just before sunrise will slow the more tide sensitive breaks down Thursday and into the weekend. Keep it in mind when planning a surf.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 28, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 28 / 30
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation (Discodisk Family Foundation)

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Lodge Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24672 Malibu Rd..	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (broach location)- daily.	A	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of ONW jetty).	A	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	B	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

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

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

Heal the Bay

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 towns 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.

ROSE BOWL

FROM PAGE 15

the Badgers to a 10-1-1 record, a No. 4 ranking and the 1994 Rose Bowl. Wisconsin has had only two losing seasons since then.

Alvarez's return also gives the Badgers something to talk about besides their less-than-impressive record. Wisconsin is headed for the Rose Bowl at 8-5, and more than a few people have said the Badgers aren't worthy of a spot in a BCS bowl.

Wisconsin was just third in the Big Ten's Leaders Division. But neither Ohio State nor Penn State was eligible for the postseason because of NCAA sanctions, sending the Badgers to the Big Ten title game by default.

"I'm not apologizing for us to go to the Rose Bowl with five losses," Alvarez said. "We all knew the rules. ... Whoever wins the Big Ten championship goes to the Rose Bowl. We didn't have anything to do with two teams being ineligible in our division. That allowed us to be in the championship game, and we soundly beat the champion from the other division.

"I've been through that before when we were the worst team ever to represent (the Big Ten) in the Rose Bowl," Alvarez said, referring to Wisconsin's 1999 Rose Bowl appearances, when the Badgers went over Michigan and Ohio State because they'd gone the longest between appearances. "My response to that was, 'I know there's at least one team worse than us.'"

Wisconsin beat UCLA 38-31 that year.

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Robert McKimson's Looney Tunes (NR) 1hr 31min
Discussion following the screening with Robert McKimson Jr., John Kricfalusi and Darrell Van Citters, hosted by animation historian Jerry Beck.
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Life of Pi (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:55am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

End of Watch (R) 1hr 49min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:55pm, 10:30pm

Anna Karenina (R) 2hrs 10min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:05pm, 8:15pm, 11:15pm

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:00am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:55pm, 10:45pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:55pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 2:15pm, 5:10pm, 8:05pm, 11:00pm

Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:20am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Grey (R) 1hr 57min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Waiting For Lightning (PG-13) 1hr 36min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 10:15pm

Hitchcock (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Flying Lessons (R) 1hr 43min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

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

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:15am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:45pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:20pm, 7:55pm, 10:30pm

Playing for Keeps (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:10am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
11:20am, 2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:10pm, 10:45pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:10am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Killing Them Softly (R) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

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

Do your thing tonight, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Defer to others, as the power lies with them. Your bright demeanor and high energy set the tone despite some unpredictable elements. There is more confusion around you than there has been in the recent past. At least you are clear and direct. Tonight: Say "yes."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot of work to get done. You want to make a difference, no matter what. Just when you feel everything is A-OK, an unexpected misfortune occurs. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your creativity is marked by many changes. A loved one adds his or her two cents. You could be overwhelmed by everything that comes up in a meeting. Besides being surprised, you also might have even more to think about. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Express your feelings more directly. Schedule some time to make a dentist's or a doctor's appointment. Respond to suggestions from a parent, boss or older friend. You'll feel better if you keep yourself in good shape. Tonight: Sip some hot apple cider, and enjoy a lazy evening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep communication flowing. You have a lot to say, and you want to share more of what you're thinking with a friend. You might be wondering which way to go on a certain issue. No matter what, you know that you are cared for. Tonight: Share with a special friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Listen to your sixth sense when dealing with funds, as you easily could make a mistake that you'll later regret. A friend maintains nearly the opposite perspective from you on a money issue. Tonight: Togetherness works.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Beam in more of what you want. A partner could be rebellious and disruptive. Know when you have had enough, and claim your power. Once your boundaries are set, you will be much happier. Tonight: Do your thing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You need time away from others. You could be incredibly tired, and this fatigue might come across in your reactions. If you can take the day off, do. You'll be able to catch up on your rest and get everything done that you need to. Tonight: Not to be found.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ A meeting could be instrumental. You might have a jolting realization when listening to others that allows your creative juices to flow. Be open with those who care about you. Their sharing will guide you down the right path. Tonight: Where the action is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision far more carefully. You could draw quite a reaction from a family member or roommate. Be aware of what you are asking from this person. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance. You will get through to this person if you remain persistent. A conversation could remind you of how important a certain friend is to your life. An element of the unexpected runs through your day. Tonight: Try a new spot.

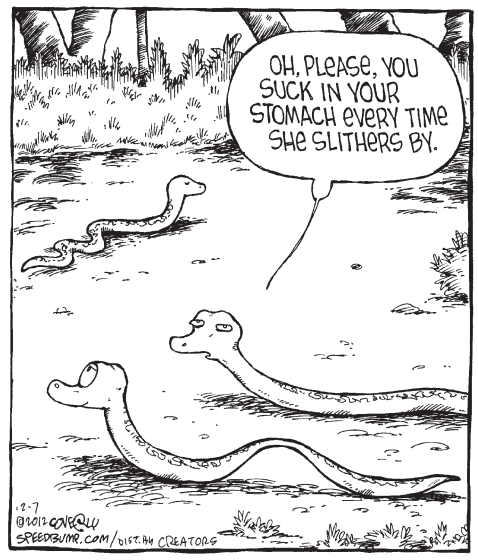
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You could be questioning a partner's actions and what he or she really means. You might want to pull back some and relax. You'll bring someone out of his or her shell without any effort at all. Be observant and try to look at the big picture. Tonight: Enjoy a favorite person.

Happy birthday

You could enjoy immense popularity the first half of the year. At times, you could be very intense and sometimes stressed out. What an excuse for a vacation! Exciting news comes in that involves those at a distance and/or travel plans. A sudden insight could impact your life positively. A friendship will evolve, which creates more caring and acceptance. If you are single, you could become involved in a deeply emotional relationship the second half of the year. If you are attached, you see your bond become much closer this year. LIBRA demonstrates his or her caring in very special ways.

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

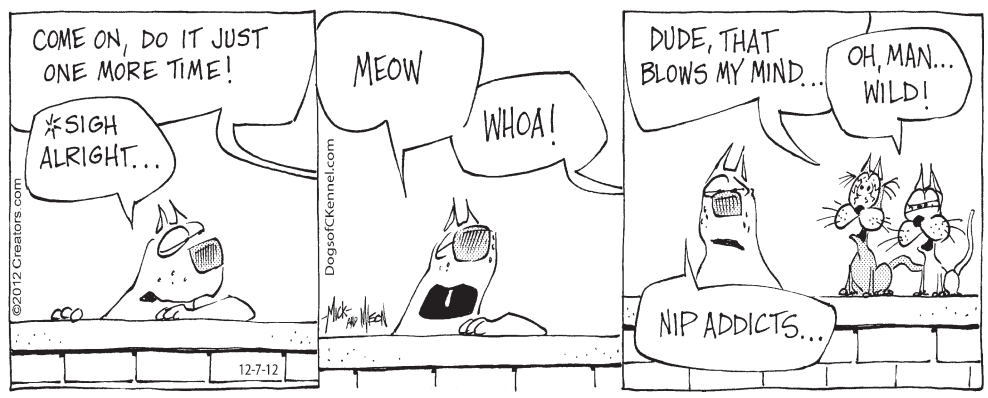
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



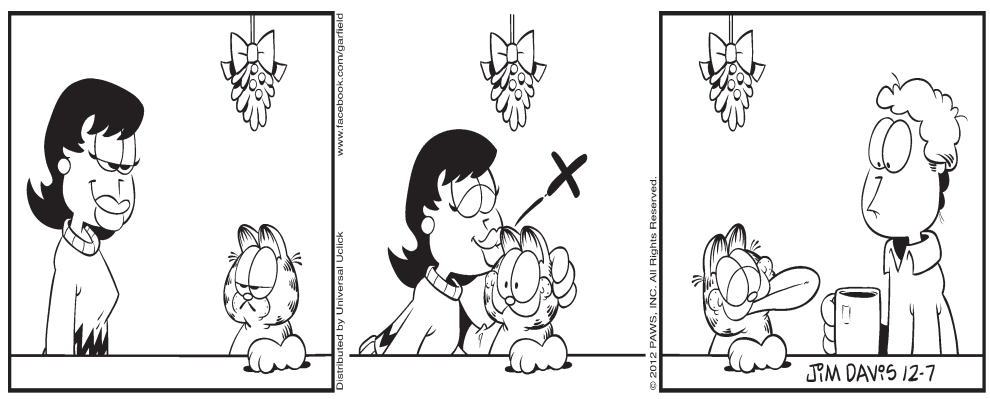
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

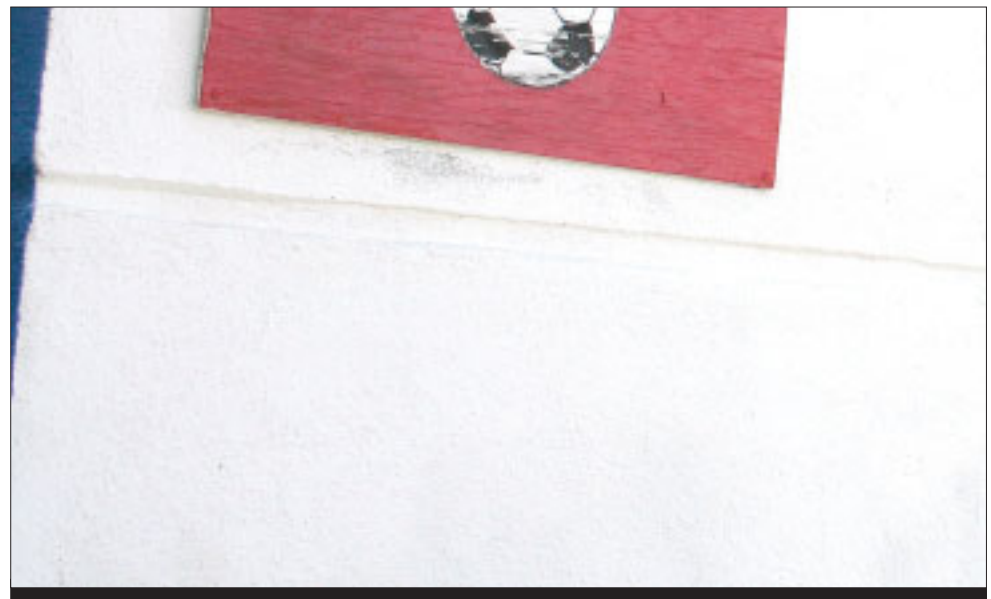
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

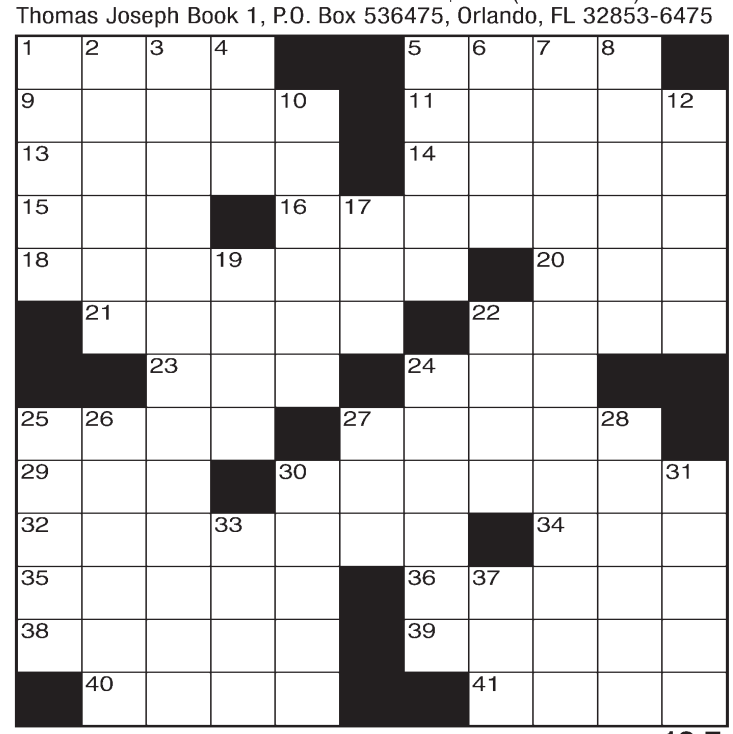
ACROSS
1 Caesar and others
5 Snowman prop
9 Corn-husker city
11 Make — in (show progress)
13 In the raw
14 Rolls' partner
15 In the past
16 Convenient, as a store
18 Stops working
20 Mine find
21 Was frugal
22 Patella's place
23 Mania
24 Whale group
25 Checkout act
27 Software test versions
29 Great weight
30 Edison's collection
32 New York hockey team
34 Once called
35 Send away
36 Blazing
38 Corral
39 Got into shape
40 Pvt.'s superiors
41 They may clash

DOWN
1 Ping producer
2 Mirror sights
3 "Twilight Saga" co-star
4 Yonder yacht
5 Reduces
6 Altar exchange
7 2005 Pro Bowl MVP
8 Audience cry
10 Doted on
12 Conical home
17 Homer's neighbor
19 Notorious czar
22 Writer Chopin
24 Alludes to
25 Throat ailment
26 Sweet-talks
27 Gold unit
28 Platter player
30 Slightest sounds
31 Canary chow
33 Over-supply
37 Rival

R	A	T	S	■	■	A	L	I	C	E
A	L	O	H	A	■	C	O	C	O	A
D	I	N	E	R	■	A	R	E	A	S
A	B	E	■	T	W	I	D	D	L	E
R	I	D	D	L	E	■	■	T	E	L
■	■	■	R	E	E	D	■	E	R	S
■	S	A	Y	S	■	A	L	A	S	■
H	O	T	■	S	A	N	E	■	■	■
A	P	T	■	■	F	I	D	D	L	E
G	R	I	D	D	L	E	■	R	E	V
M	A	M	I	E	■	L	L	A	M	A
A	N	E	R	A	■	S	I	M	O	N
N	O	S	E	D	■	■	P	A	N	S

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



12-7

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/4
3 19 24 32 43
Meganumber: 44
Jackpot: $20M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/5
11 15 17 30 37
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: $18M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/6
14 18 24 29 31

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/6
MIDDAY: 9 9 8
EVENING: 6 8 4

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 12/6
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:42.60

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ An articulate, functional "cave man" of El Paso, Texas, continues to roam his neighborhood, often naked, and to resist efforts to bring him back onto the grid, according to October coverage by El Paso's KVIA-TV. His mountainside subterranean structure, described as "intricate," might be on land owned by the local water utility, which, pending an investigation, could evict him. Some neighbors say they fear the man, who has allegedly swum in their pools and even swiped items from their laundry rooms, but nonetheless, he swears that he is harmless. "I'm a plasma donor ... drug free" and "sin-free ... baptized and saved." Other neighbors have supported him, he said, and the complainers need to "help the community more."

■ Cunning Plans: (1) William Keltner, 52, was arrested in Abilene, Texas, in November, after he underestimated the security at a Wal-mart self-checkout line. He had taken the barcode off of a $1.17 item, placed it on a $228 TV set, and checked himself out, assuming no one would notice. (2) Kerri Heffernan, 31, was charged in October in Massachusetts with robbing banks in Brockton and Whitman. Heffernan perhaps acquired a feeling of doom when, in the midst of one robbery, a teller-friend appeared and asked, "Do you want to make a deposit, Kerri?"

TODAY IN HISTORY

2003 – The Conservative Party of Canada is officially recognized after the merger of the Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservative Party of Canada.

2005 – Rigoberto Alpizar, a passenger on American Airlines Flight 924 who allegedly claimed to have a bomb, is shot and killed by a team of U.S. federal air marshals at Miami International Airport.

WORD UP!

nobby
\NAH-bee\ adjective

1. cleverly stylish : chic, smart

Santa Monica Daily Press

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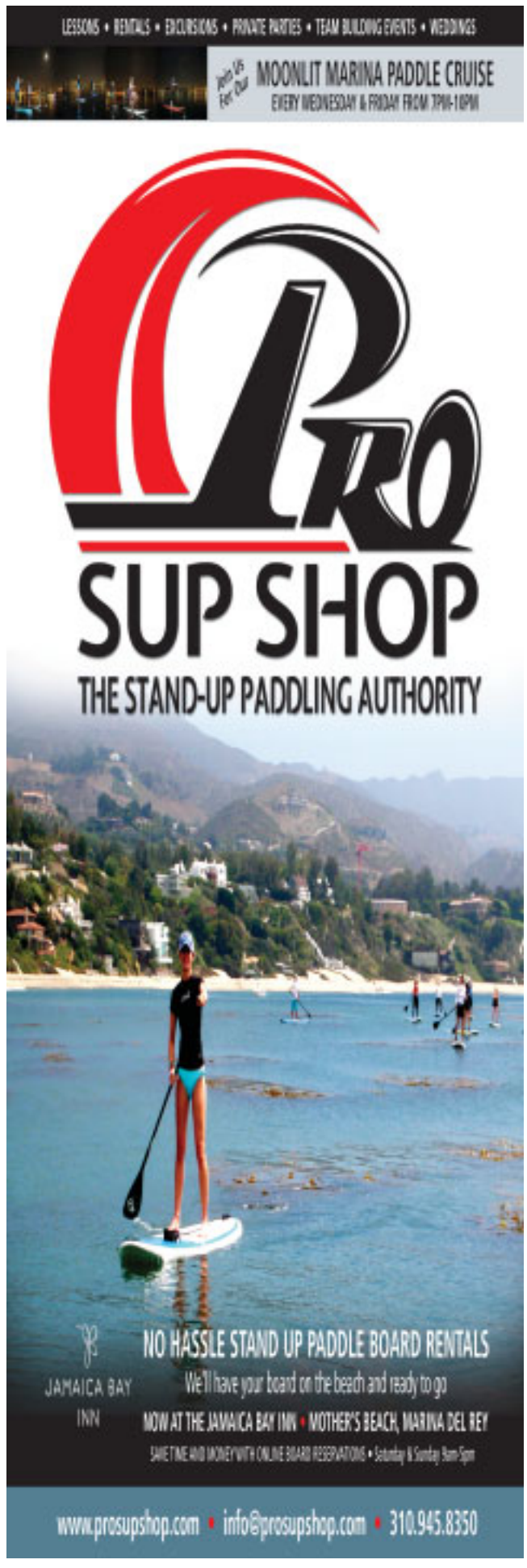
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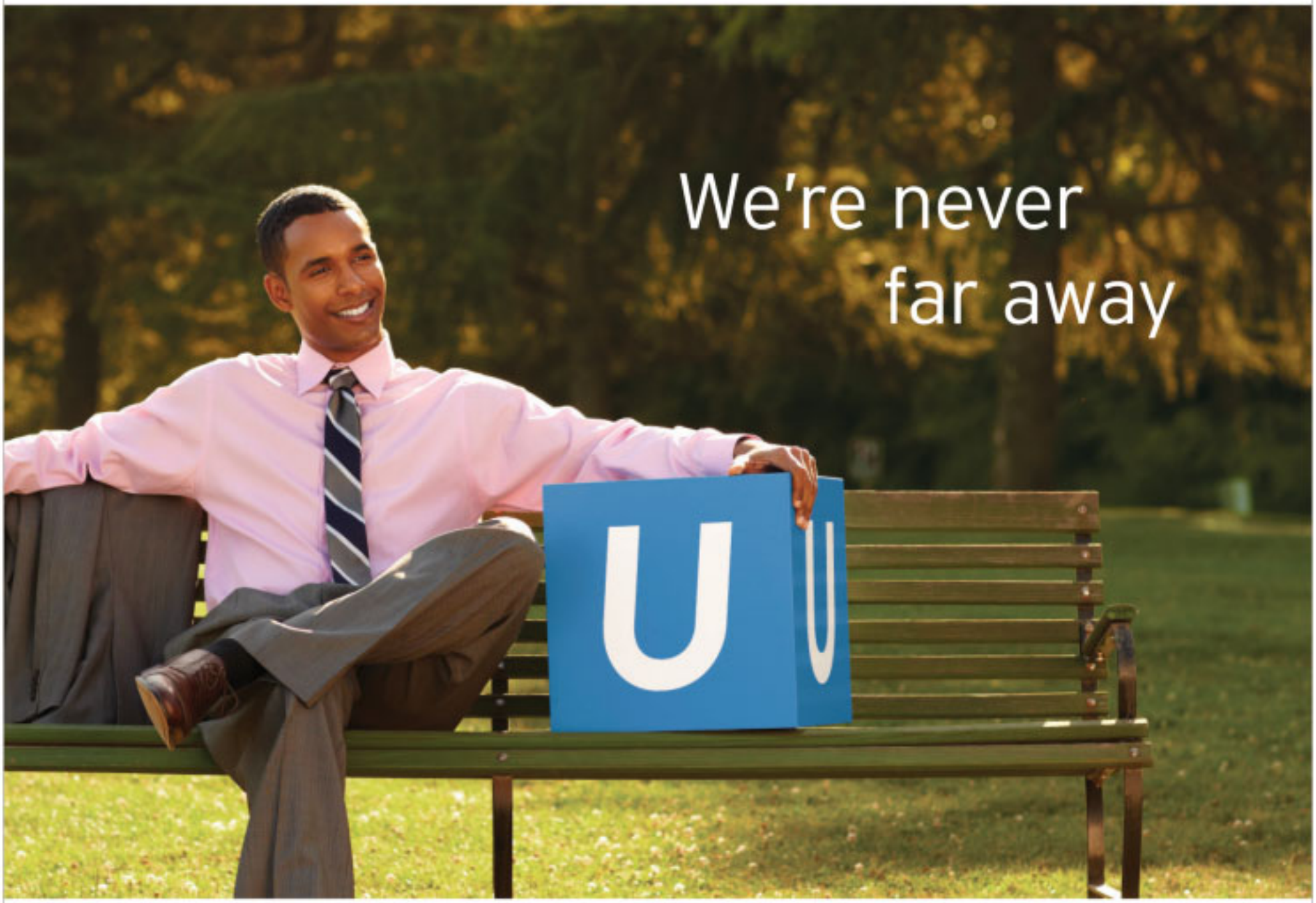
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