



'EXTRAS' COMES TO AN END
SEE PAGE 11

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE OH SO COLD ISSUE

The Daily Press news team hits the streets,
going undercover for a ride
with Critical Mass

Ticket to Ride



Story on page 12

Photos by Brandon Wise; Illustration by Frances Casareno



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Calendar

2

WEEKEND EDITION DECEMBER 15-16, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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Happy Holidays



Christmas Day Open 7:30a.m. - 2p.m.
New Year's Eve Open 7:30a.m. - 6:00p.m.
New Year's Day Open 7:30a.m. - 10:00p.m.

Hours: 6:30am - 10:00pm Daily
(Corner of 20th & Santa Monica Blvd.)

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Ocean Park Boulevard Holiday Walk

Between 16th and 18th Streets, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Neighborhood holiday event on Ocean Park Blvd. There will be store specials and sales, holiday treats, and artisans selling their work. At noon, there will be a story reading for children outside of Seventh Muse Gift Shoppe.

Venice Arts group show

1809 Lincoln Blvd., Venice, noon - 2 p.m.

Venice artists, ages 6 - 18, who have taken classes with Venice Arts during the Fall 2007 session, will exhibit their work. The exhibit will include photography; film; animation; and digital art - including comics and zines representing the culmination of the Fall cycle at Venice Arts.

Soul Secret Service

4437 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, 7 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Soul Secret Service will host a night of Indie music at Synergy Cafe. The show begins with Christopher Lopez at 7 p.m. This is a free show for all ages. For more information, visit www.synergycafelounge.com.

Children's coral concert

12958 Washington Blvd., 11 a.m. - midnight

Namaste Women's Choir presents an interactive choral concert for children and their parents full of children's, holiday, and multicultural music. Tickets are \$8 per adult; \$5 for children and students. Children two and under are free. All ages welcome.

Tickets available at (310) 399-2533 or on our Web site

www.namastewomenschoir.org.

Palm tree climb

1200 block of Third Street Promenade, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Children are challenged to test their climbing abilities on a 12' palm tree. The event is free.

'Viva La Raza!'

1419 N. Topanga Cyn. Blvd., Topanga, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Will Geer's Theatrum Botanicum will collaborate with students from Freemont High School in Los Angeles in "Americana off the Page: Viva La Raza!" Drama interpretations by teens range from the ancient history of the Aztecs, to the struggles for independence during the Mexican Revolution, to the works of Cesar Chavez, El Teatro Campesino, and on into the present day. This is a free event, but RSVPs are a must. For more information call, (310)455-2322, ext. 300.

Snowy Santa Monica

Third Street Promenade, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

There will be real snow available for frolicking galore and a mini snowman-building contest. This free event is for children ages 5 - 12.

Sunday, Dec. 16, 2007

'Extraordinary Deceptions'

3116 Second St., 2:30 p.m.

The Powerhouse Theatre presents magician Michael Gutenplan, who will bring some magical Christmas cheer by catching a bullet, sawing someone in half and more.

Tickets are \$25. For further information, call (310) 396-3680, ext. 3 or visit www.powerhousetheatre.com.

Candid Claus

1300 block of Third Street Promenade, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Take a moment out of the Black Weekend massacre to visit with Santa Claus who will sit still for some candid moments with the kiddies.

Winterlit 'Best Gift Ever' Challenge for Pal

Santa Monica Place Guest Services, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Drop off an unwrapped gift for a child, ages 6 - 17, who's enrolled with the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL). Donations will be accepted at the Winterlit Gift Wrap Station on the 1300 block of the Promenade, at Santa Monica Place Guest Services (Level 2), or at a participating Starbucks. For more information, visit www.downtownsm.com.

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



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Pouring on the love

De la Torre elected board president

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS The final Board of Education meeting of 2007, held on Thursday, was a time to express gratitude, reflecting on the challenges the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District faced this year and how the school leaders navigated it through uncertain times.

For school board president Kathy Wisnicki and vice president Oscar de la Torre, it was a year in which they were at the head of a school board for a district that faced accusations of a lack of financial accountability, suspicions of questionable practices taking place within the



DE LA TORRE

district's special education program and most recently, a fallout between Malibu

parents and the Board of Education regarding the allocation of Measure BB funding money.

After fellow school board members, administrators and union leaders expressed words of gratitude to Wisnicki and de la Torre, who saw the conclusion of their presidency and vice presidency, respectively, two new leaders were selected to guide the Board of Education in 2008.

For the first time since being elected to the board in 2002, de la Torre was selected to succeed Wisnicki as the president, while Jose Escarce was chosen to assume the role as the vice president.

Escarce, a UCLA professor in the David Geffen School of Medicine, was elected to the board in 2000 and is up for reelection next year. Escarce, who is also a published author at the RAND Corporation,

SEE BOARD PAGE 17

A true pillar of the SM community

Prominent business owner, Gabriel, dies

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY Bob Gabriel, the long-time prominent insurance company owner who, along with his wife Louise, was the face of Santa Monica philanthropy for the past half-century, passed away on Thursday. He was 84 years old.

Gabriel died after a battle with cancer on Thursday afternoon in the company of his family at Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center.

The Santa Monican founded the Bob Gabriel Insurance Company, located in Mid-City, in 1954, but was perhaps best known for his service to the city, donating both his time and money to various non-profit organizations, including the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum, which his wife Louise founded and presides over.

"Santa Monica was his family and his home," said Gabriel's daughter, Susan Gabriel Potter, on Friday. "He was loving, sensitive, compassionate and really dedicated his life to his family and to his community."

"He's irreplaceable," she added.

Gabriel supported a long list of organizations and city-affiliated committees, from the City Council, which he served on from 1971-1973, to the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce to the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau of which he was the director.

"They truly loved the community and put their hearts and souls into it both professionally and personally," said former City Councilmember Denny Zane.

Zane served on the City Council from 1981-1992 and often worked with Gabriel whenever he would speak before the dais as a representative of the Chamber of Commerce. Though the two did disagree on issues over the years, Zane notes that Gabriel was always courteous and treated him with respect.

SEE GABRIEL PAGE 17



BIG WASH

Dave Hutchinson, known as 'Big Dave,' hands out some soap and shampoo to one of the many homeless individuals waiting to be picked up and taken to a shelter outside of the OPCC office on Olympic Boulevard.

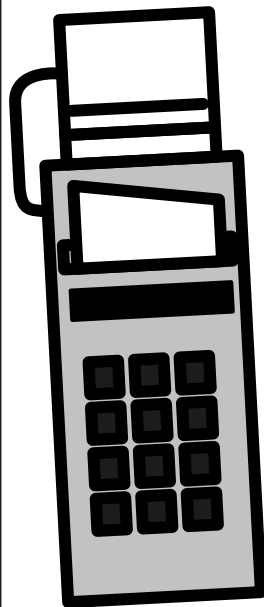
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

‘Underpants’ crack a low blow

Editor:

I appreciate Jack Neworth’s call for tolerance and respect for different religious expression during this election season (“Huck & Willard show religion gone too far,” Dec. 14). However, while I have no opinion on “Willard” Romney’s candidacy, Mr. Neworth seemed to undermine his plea for tolerance by referring to “magic underpants” in a brief reference to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

I’m fairly certain that the Daily Press would (rightly) not publish a column with an insulting reference to, say, “black beanies” of Orthodox Jews or “cannibalism” practiced by Catholics who believe in the miracle of transubstantiation during Mass. Why is it then acceptable to poke fun at the priesthood garments worn by faithful Latter-day Saints? We believe that they are sacred expressions of our faith, and are specifically mentioned, inter alia, in Exodus chapter 29 (“And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons’ after him, to be anointed therein, and to be consecrated in them.”) I think that it is reasonable to expect columnists for this newspaper to show respect for others’ deeply-held beliefs, especially when they do not share them.

Mr. Neworth’s talent as a humorist is such that he can get his message across without slighting other faiths.

Mark Paredes

Santa Monica

Retired cop can feel for the rookies

Editor:

I was a Santa Monica police officer for a little over 28 years. I have been retired for six years now. It’s amusing how things change, but remain the same.

When sworn in, I was handed a fistfull of bullets (18), a gun the police had been using for about 100 years and the training officer had to show me how to strap my Sam Browne (gun belt) on. I drove a car that had the taxi cab package because the chief felt the police package was not needed and too expensive. You were lucky if you could converse on the VHF radio with the cars in the department, forget another city. Now, you get a modern semi-auto pistol in various calibers; clips containing 30 or so bullets, plus the ones in the gun; a radio for your belt that lets you talk to just about any agency in California; and you drive a car that has so much electronic equipment in it you would swear it is the craziest video game you ever saw.

However, even with all the space age toys, some things never change.

The city has gone from one of the top-10 most dangerous cities in the state to one of the safest. But what I see in the paper – driving woes and where are the cops, when people are doing 1,2,3 etc. – I am not being critical, I am laughing. When you stop people to give them a citation, you are asked why you aren’t out arresting real criminals, like rapists and murderers. If you are out investigating one of those, people wonder where you are when they are getting cut off.

There is just never a cop around when you need them.

John Miehle SMPD Capt. retired

Cape Coral, FL



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Who endorses the endorsers?

UNLESS YOU’VE BEEN LIVING IN A cave, you know that Oprah Winfrey campaigned for Barack Obama last week. Because of her, tens of thousands of people heard the candidate speak. This whole celebrity endorsement thing got me thinking. I don’t believe many people are going to vote for somebody just because someone who is on television or in the movies says they should. But, as with Oprah, voters may come to see the celebrity, but they also end up hearing the candidate. Obviously, this can backfire if they don’t like what they hear.

Many people resent celebrity endorsers and have the attitude, “Just because they’re famous doesn’t mean they know anything about politics.” So, there is considerable debate about whether celebrities actually help. However, I think I have a surefire way for celebrity endorsements to help get a candidate elected.

Because of the season, the competition for celebrities reminds me of the competition among neighbors for the most ostentatious Christmas and other holiday decorations. When it was announced that Oprah was supporting Obama, Hillary Clinton’s people quickly announced that Barbra Streisand was supporting her. It’s just like that neighbor of yours puts up a hundred lights and a 10-foot Santa Claus in front of his house, and then another neighbor quickly decorates his house with 200 lights and an even bigger Santa. Now that wrestler Ric Flair (a.k.a. “The Nature Boy”) is supporting Mike Huckabee, does that mean there will be a scramble to get the endorsement of “Undertaker” or “Rey Mysterio?”

Nobody knows which celebrities will be helpful to them. So we have Rudy Giuliani endorsed by Robert Duvall, Sean Penn rooting for Dennis Kucinich, and Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling campaigning for John McCain. Martin Sheen, who played the president on television, endorses Bill Richardson, and acclaimed actor Harry Belafonte, who also gained fame singing “The Banana Boat Song,” is for John Edwards. Sometime actor Fred Thompson is being endorsed by sometime actor Fred Thompson.

In a way, candidates even try to get certain dead people to endorse them. All of the Republican candidates have evoked Ronald Reagan’s name, and of course, many of those running quote Abraham Lincoln or the Founding Fathers. I wouldn’t be surprised if digital technology were used to put a candidate in a television commercial with somebody from the past. It would be like those macabre commercials that put famous dead actors in a modern home using some new appliance. I’m sure there’s a way that we could end up seeing and hearing, “This is Alexander Hamilton for Ron Paul.”

But again, nobody seems to know how much an endorsement really helps a candidate. So I have a way to take all of the doubt out of the celebrity endorsement sweepstakes. Instead of candidates and political parties seeking endorsements of famous

people, I think they should secretly get inappropriately famous people to represent their opponents. It would work like this: Let’s say Mike Huckabee ends up being the Republican nominee. The next day, Madonna comes out for him. The day after that, people like Democrat activist/actor Tim Robbins endorses Huckabee. If they really want to play hardball, the Democrats can always try to get atheist Dr. Michael Newdow to say he’s for the former minister Huckabee. Suddenly, the nominee’s base will start asking themselves if Huckabee really represents their point of view.

Similarly, think what an endorsement from jailed polygamist Warren Jeffs would do to Mitt Romney’s campaign. I believe we could say “bye-bye to Biden” if Rush Limbaugh came out for him. And could Rudy Giuliani get elected if disgraced athlete Michael Vick endorsed him?

THINK WHAT AN ENDORSEMENT FROM JAILED POLYGAMIST WARREN JEFFS WOULD DO TO MITT ROMNEY’S CAMPAIGN. I BELIEVE WE COULD SAY ‘BYE-BYE TO BIDEN’ IF RUSH LIMBAUGH CAME OUT FOR HIM.

If Barack Obama is the Democratic nominee, the Republicans could get John C. Sigler, the president of the NRA, to say wonderful things about Obama while Trent Lott applauds the gun guy’s speech. It would be interesting to watch anti-feminist Phyllis Schlafly campaign for Hillary Clinton. And if the Republicans really want to destroy John Edwards’ campaign, the person they should get to endorse him is George W. Bush.

Maybe I shouldn’t be suggesting all this, because some political operatives might be tempted to take my suggestion seriously. Actually, considering how dirty politics always becomes, I’m surprised that they haven’t already used this technique. Wait a minute. How do we know that they haven’t? I mean, will we ever know the true political philosophy of Ric “The Nature Boy” Flair?

Lloyd Garver has read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the “Modern Times” column for CBSnews.com’s Opinion page and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarver-moderntimes.com.

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A newspaper with issues

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

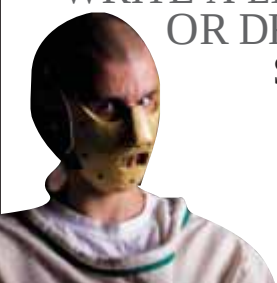
19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West L.A. Members of CNPA, AFCC, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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FEEL LIKE YOUR OPINION IS STIFLED? WRITE A LETTER, AN OP-ED OR DRAW A CARTOON.

Send Submissions to editor@smdp.com or to: 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, 90401



Santa Monica Daily Press **smdp.com**

STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

“But I thought it was brilliant. It’s a bit ironic that she would play the Virgin Mary, no?”

— French producer, Philippe Rebboah, on having to convince his partners that Britney Spears would make a good Virgin Mary in their upcoming film, which satirizes the Nativity story

“Thin-twins Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen are about to get some publicity that will have them running away faster than if they’d spotted a calorie.”

— Animal rights group PETA, announcing that they’re targeting the celebrity twins for wearing and using fur in their clothing line

“I sort of feel like the dog in that old Coppertone ad hanging on to that baby’s diaper. Yeah, I’m not letting go.”

— Sherrill Kushner, chair of Santa Monica Conservancy’s Shotgun House Committee, on the eight-year battle to save the last remaining intact “shotgun house” in Santa Monica

“A quick Red Carpet, hosted by Radioman, will be held at the parking lot of Tavern on the Green before we are all shuttled to my apartment building. ‘Round ... 5:30-ish? Sound OK?”

— Actor Alec Baldwin, offering to host the Golden Globes at his apartment if the writer’s strike doesn’t end by the awards show

“It’s like a smoking party and they are really rude to anybody that tells them there’s an ordinance that you can’t smoke. It’s been pretty rough.”

— Santa Monica resident, Willow Evans, on the lack of enforcement of the citywide smoking ban on outdoor dining areas

“Right now, I’m single, but I am looking for a nice boy. He should be funny, smart and loyal.”

— Paris Hilton, announcing her qualifications for a new boyfriend

“Ask yourself if the guy pulling the 10-hour shift in the mall without bathroom breaks is the type of guy you would normally thrust your child upon in the first place? That Christmas magic makes us do some funny things.”

— Santa Monica Daily Press editor and Christmas cynic Michael Tittinger, on the odd tradition of Santa’s lap

“I’m sick of politics as usual. We need Barack Obama.”

— Oprah Winfrey, on the campaign trail for the presidential candidate

Quotations captured and compiled with care by CYNTHIA VAZQUEZ.

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Can we talk?

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City Manager P. Lamont Ewell about
community priorities

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BOTH MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Center
2200 Virginia Avenue

Monday, January 7, 2008

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All locations are wheelchair accessible. For additional disability-related accommodations, or for more information about these meetings, please call (310) 458-8281.

The QLine

SILVER SCREEN FEATURED A FEW GEMS THIS YEAR

This past week, Q-line asked:

What was the most memorable film of the year? Be candid and just for fun throw in your pick for least memorable movie as well.

Here are your responses:

"I REALLY SHOULDN'T BE RESPONDING to this question, as I gave up on the sophomoric, pornographic junk Hollywood churns out long ago. And I won't begin to mention the so called actors and actresses on ego trips with no real talent. Rent some good old movies from the past and see some real talent."

"WELL, THERE'S SOME PRETTY GOOD movies out this year: 'Pirates of the Caribbean,' '1408,' 'Ratatouille.' Of course, Pixar is not really capable of making a lousy movie. Like that remake of the 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers,' I made it a point to not see that. And fortunately it bombed. Of course the best movie this year has to be 'The Simpsons Movie,' because it's based from the best TV show."

"THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR THAT I saw is 'Into the Wild.' It was shown at the NuWilshire which is now closed. I was fortunate to see it on the very last day the theater was open. So sad and poignant that movie, and the fact that the theater was closing made it even more heavy – the fact that we know we will no longer have the NuWilshire. Into the Wild is well acted, well directed, well executed, and leaves you with a lump in your throat. The worst movie of the year is 'Dreamgirls.' Finding a vehicle for Beyonce is a tired old routine. Some people just need to go away like Jane Seymour, Marie Osmond, and Beyonce Knowles. 'Dreamgirls' did a bad thing for the legend of Mr. Gordy, and the retelling of the story was glossed over and pumped up and faked. So, that gets my worst movie of the year. Beyonce – take your large rump and just go away."

"EXCELLENT MOTION PICTURES STIR emotion. Tears of sadness, tears of joy, also chuckles of laughter. When Brett told Scarlet that he did not give a damn, I thought it was about time. When Judy Garland danced up the yellow brick road, I was tap dancing along side her. Today's films are entertaining, but lack substance and are bi-products of trick photography. The epics are gone forever."

"RATHER THAN ONE MEMORABLE FILM this year I have two. The first one was 'Waitress,' starring Keri Russell. The second one is 'Lars and the Real Girl,' starring Ryan Gosling. Both films were funny, entertaining and enjoyable. They were well written, superbly directed and all of the actors were outstanding. The award nominations should be plentiful. All other movies I have seen this year were less memorable for me."

"LA VIE EN ROSE," WAS THE MOST memorable movie I saw this year. It's everything wrapped up in one. It'll make you sing, laugh, and cry. It's hard to believe that all of these things happened to one person (Edith Piaf, the beloved French singer), but it did. Her life was both blessed and cursed. Marion Cotillard's performance, as Piaf, was amazing and should earn her an Oscar nomination here."

"THE MOST MEMORABLE MOVIE OF the year was 'The Darjeeling Limited,' Wes Anderson's newest film. It was really funny, with great symbolism. Owen Wilson is great!"

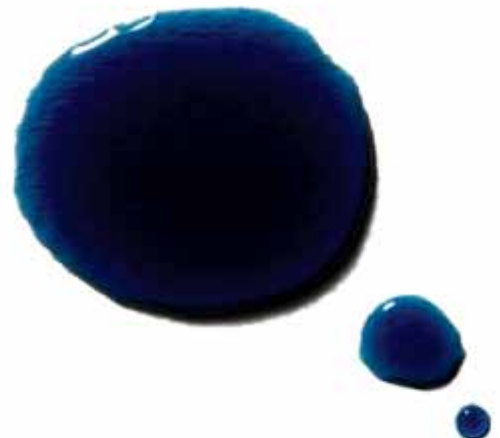
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Notes from the film scoundrel

Kenn Tarr

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

'Sopranos' flick is sure to come

AS THE FILM **MAESTRO I HAVE** projections and predictions, and as the new year comes around, I promise to have more.

Here's an early taste of what's to come: Within the next five years there will be a "Sopranos" movie. Reasons: David Chase, though he feigns his desire for bigger and better things, is doing nothing but relaxing and waiting for the anticipation to build. He is not in production on anything currently except a nice Monaco suntan. James Gandolfini will forever go the route of Lloyd Bridges ("Sea Hunt") — audiences will only respond to him in one role. The same role. Tony Soprano. Who wants to see an all-powerful mob boss play a neutered domestic male schnook as he is in the forever upcoming "Romance and Cigarettes."

"Lonely Hearts" tanked and May 2008's "Sex and the City" should be a hit just based on the costume design alone. That defiant cash-grab looks completely forced and lifeless except of course their clothing is very nice. Their hardball game for the highest salaries will pale in comparison to the hold-outs "Sopranos" cast members will soon stage. In this time, in this environment, it is important to always put an astronomical premium on the word "never."

GET WITH IT, HANUKKAH

As a joke the other day, I joked "Why don't Jews all over the world adopt Dec. 23 as the start of Hanukkah?" It could get its own traditional bowl game, get the requisite time off from work, get plenty of publicity and hype, and most importantly, not be in the beginning of December. As a Jew, I have dealt with the fluctuating whims of Hanukkah's annual occurrence. Of the eight days, at least half of them should be a national holiday. Sometimes it is in late November and occasionally in early January, which is better than in the dol-drum of early December. Who cares if Jews are religious or there are ethereal and actual reasons for adhering to the Jewish calendar for the actual Hanukkah date every year?

Everything is so assimilated anyway, what difference would it really make? The weekend Hanukkah started this year, "Awake" was the newest release, served like a cold, lifeless latka and plated in a manner not fit for a pauper. For Christmas, celebrating moviegoers will be rejoicing in the aisles at the prospect of "Sweeney Todd," "There Will Be Blood" and "The Great Debaters" all on the same weekend. Hanukkah needs a good PR team, a high-profile, secular Hanukkah parade, a bowl game (hosted in Crown Heights, Brooklyn), a movie tie-in deal or two, a more diverse greeting card selection and an identity. Because now,

all most non-Jews know about it is that it happens and that when a news anchor talks about it, there is a funny-looking candle holder above his or her head.

Perhaps a re-make of "It's A Wonderful Life" starring Adam Sandler and Natalie Portman. In the final scene, the family can be lighting the menorah and the child talking about how every time the candles burn bright a mensch is born. Religion is a battle of PR and politics, and it seems to have been determined that Hanukkah and most Jewish holidays are off-limits, even though many filmmakers and producers are Jewish. Waste the money — the novelty of it all would be well worth it. A "Jew Wave" of filmmaking begins.

Jason Reitman's family comedy romp "Sephardic Sabbath" and Chris Weitz's epic romance "Under the Sukkah" and of course, the Coen Brothers' macabre, darkly funny, honest and thrilling historical epic "O Canaanite Where Are You?". Rather, Jewish actors, writers, directors and producers would much rather do Christmas schlock. Hanukkah movies released on Hanukkah. It makes sense for the future. More sense than Hillary Clinton for President.

HANDICAPPING THE RACES

Get ready for a battle for the Best Actor Oscar this year. It is a two person race right now between previous winners George Clooney ("Michael Clayton") and Daniel Day-Lewis "There Will Be Blood". The precursor awards are rolling in day by day, and these two stalwarts have emerged. If this were college basketball, Clooney would be a number 10 seed that gets hot at the right time and is poised to pull off an upset. However, "Michael Clayton" never really caught fire, and his performance is surrounded by other strong acting performances by Tom Wilkinson and Tilda Swinton.

The film really is one of the best of the year and it will be interesting to see where this race ends and who, if anyone can step in and excise some of the recent momentum. Day-Lewis has won the New York Film Critics award, split the Los Angeles Film Critics award with Frank Langella for "Starting Out in The Evening". Langella is a certified dark-horse, but I don't think his momentum will continue. Clooney won the San Francisco Film Critics award and the DC Film Critic's award, for what that's worth (very little).

So far, this has been a very exciting and unpredictable Oscar season ... as the sun sets on another day in Santa Monica, the scoundrel permeates into the dark light of the cinema.

KEN TARR is a student at Santa Monica College, an actor and writer and is also taller than 99 percent of the population. He can be reached telepathically or at trutoulouse@yahoo.com.

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NEW RELEASES

IN THEATERS THIS WEEK

'I'm Not There'

One of the more abstract works of modern times, this semi-autobiographic Bob Dylan bio-pic is a tangient-filled batch of melancholy and mythology. Director Todd Haynes uses Heath Ledger, Christian Bale, Ben Whishaw, Richard Gere and others including Cate Blanchett most notably, to portray "essences" of Dylan himself. Dylan as portrayed by so many people and with such vivid realization builds up the mythology of this man who is a cultural icon. Blanchett stars in the "Don't Look Back" chapter. Her body shape, hair and facial expressions completely evoke the famous documentary footage of Dylan, yet add even more emotion than perhaps Dylan or reality intended. She is portraying Dylan in '65, chilling with Joan Baez, mouthing off on the BBC, arriving in London followed by all sorts of merry folk travelers and loyalists. Dylan was big news in this era and he would be now. It seems Haynes is making a general statement about not only Dylan, but about being true to one's opinions, especially when you alienate fans and critics. Haynes's "I'm Not There" is an impressionistic painting whereas "Ray" and "Walk the Line" were detailed black and white photographs. Awards and possible recognition may not occur with this film but it really doesn't need to receive any of that, because it is quite timeless and will take years to fully be appreciated.

'Fred Claus'

It may seem appealing and even necessary to see a Christmas film this winter. That is apparently what studios enjoy banking on every holiday season. This year's dredge stars motor-mouth Vince Vaughn and the selling-out Paul Giamatti as Fred and Nick Claus. The movie sucks, I just wanted to point out additionally that Oscar winners Kathy Bates, Rachel Weisz and Kevin Spacey all lower themselves in this film.

'Juno'

The hype and awards-show buzz for this film started long ago for this quirky flick. Thought to be this year's "Little Miss Sunshine," I and many others have touted this low-budget comedy about teen pregnancy. And finally, the results do not disappoint. It's a hit. I enjoy it thoroughly. The ensemble of actors create a very real environment in which Juno (Ellen Page) lives her life. Director Jason Reitman treats high-school with originality that has rarely reached the screen. "Napoleon Dynamite" was close, but this film doesn't want to concentrate as much on the peripheral. The characters seem real, at least at most times, and the situations are very true to life. Co-star Michael Cera again steals some laughs. Previously in "Superbad," he has had quite a year. Page may be playing herself, or a version of herself, but that takes a lot away from her performance to think of it that way. This is a very personal story and is a film that is worth waiting for. Diablo Cody, the hot former stripper/screenwriter of this film will have to wait until the writers' strike is settled until she can cash in on her likely Best Screenplay Oscar win.



Photo courtesy Fox Searchlight

WITH BABY: Ellen Page (left) plays an expectant teen mother in 'Juno.'

'The Golden Compass'

Part "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" (the bad) and part "Chronicles of Narnia" (the good), this fantasy film utterly fails in most ways. The minor successes it pulls off makes it worthwhile intermittently, however Daniel Craig is particularly joyless and looks like he stopped over from the set of "Casino Royale." Interestingly, the story is the best part of this film. It is the poor execution by director Chris Weitz ("About A Boy," "In Good Company"). He is completely over-matched in this attempt to make a modern children's fantasy with dark under-tones. This would be a challenge for any director, although the story starts simply and innocent enough. A young girl can read a special golden compass and is coming around to the fact that ethereal "dust" controls the universe, a fact the establishment hides unsuccessfully. The connotations of the story impugn the highly moralistic and doctrinal worlds of science and religion and any endorsement

the film receives from these groups must be by way of bribery by New Line execs. This film lampoons high-falutin religion and politics and actually has some funny sight gags and subversive humor, before going pretty much according to Hoyle. Sam Elliott stinks up this film as himself, he is always playing himself and in this film the characters sucks and he brings the whole film down. Dakota Blue Richards leads the film strongly as the little girl. Nicole Kidman plays her part like a sultry blonde Barbara Stanwyck. Kidman exudes a high level of energy in her intro scene but it tapers off severely by the third act, her character relegated to one-note Tilda Swinton's Ice Queen in "Narnia." Still, "The Never Ending Story" this is not, but an interesting story and some clever side characters save this film slightly.

KEN TARR is a student at Santa Monica College, an actor and writer and is also taller than 99 percent of the population. He can be reached telepathically or at trutoulouse@yahoo.com.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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CHANNELSURFING

BY JACK NEWORTH

Art imitates life in 'Extras' series finale on HBO

FANS OF RICKY GERVAIS AND THE HBO SERIES

"Extras" might be disappointed with the feature-length finale debuting this Sunday at 9 p.m. While it has plenty of wonderful laughs, it's darker and more cynical than previous episodes. Set in London, Andy Millman (Gervais) is a lowly TV and film "extra." (He pompously calls himself a "background artist.")

In the story, Andy tries desperately (including sneaking his face into the camera shot of the star) to land a real acting job. After so much futility, Andy realizes his life is on a hopeless path. Ever determined, he sets out to write his own show and, miraculously, it's picked up by the BBC. Soon, Andy becomes the star of a series that gets watched by seven million Brits!

But even with fame and fortune, Andy is still miserable.

The show, "When the Whistle Blows," caters to the lowest common denominator. (Think "Benny Hill" and drop down a notch.) After all the years of struggling, Andy temporarily basks in the limelight. However, he ignores his best friend Maggie Jacobs, (Ashley Jensen) who was also an extra and whose endearing portrayal in the finale almost steals the show. (All the minor parts are deliciously funny including Barry, played by Shaun Williamson.) But Andy's angst is greater than ever. He longs to be an actor who does serious work,



Photo courtesy HBO

FUNNY DUDE: Ricky Gervais stars as an extra-turned-superstar on HBO's 'Extras.' The series finale airs this Sunday.

not a clown. In that sense the finale is thematically reminiscent of Woody Allen's "Stardust Memories."

Whether the finale is art imitating life is debatable. In fact, comic actors wanting to do drama is not at all uncommon. Few are given the chance, though. But there are those who often deliver powerful work. The cliché behind the mask of humor is a soul beset with demons and emotions that, when channeled into a dramatic role, can create magic. (They can also create disasters if the projects are not written and directed well.)

Current comic actors with this type of range include Jim Carrey, Robin Williams and Adam

Sandler, to name only a few. In the past, Jackie Gleason, Red Buttons, Jerry Lewis ("The King of Comedy") and even Don Rickles, all have delivered compelling performances in serious roles, often playing "heavies" very convincingly. Gervais absolutely has that kind of talent, which he displays in the season finale.

Among the most entertaining aspects of "Extras" is how Gervais and co-creator Stephen Merchant (who plays Darren Lamb, Andy's dim-witted agent) weave real-life film stars into the plot with Andy

SEE SURFING PAGE 20

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Three views from the bicycle seat

Pride spells Dogtown's doom

BY MICHAEL J. TITTINGER
Daily Press Editor

CIVIC CENTER Dogtown is dead.

The spirit that made Santa Monica famous is silenced a little more every first Friday of the month out on these streets. A populace that once celebrated righteous indignation sits disturbingly still while a band of bicyclists gets run out of town for stirring the pot.

This isn't the Santa Monica that drew me some 3,000 miles from the East Coast, and it sure isn't the "tolerant" beach town that served as a haven to extreme pioneers. All that 1970s nostalgia might as well be stuffed into a banker's box and stashed in a museum storage bin, because those days are long gone. To posit this as a city intent on letting the people determine our future course is not only disingenuous, but a fraud.

The city of Santa Monica has jumped the shark, and I point to an encounter last Friday (Dec. 7) — smack in front of City Hall — as the moment a leather-clad Fonzie cleared the water-ski jump and ushered in a present from which none of us will return back.

I didn't always feel this way, in fact, it was a tale of two cities just last week during my ride with Critical Mass — the best of times and the worst ... well, you know how it goes.

For the uninitiated, Critical Mass is a loose band of bicyclists who gather at the Santa Monica Pier once a month to exercise their rights to the roads. Their tactics of not preselecting a route and "corking" intersections to keep the group from getting separated have put on notice the Santa Monica Police Department, who in turn, have taken to issuing tickets by the handful, for everything from corking to inadequate lighting to you name it.

The rides have been taking place for roughly two years, but strictly enforced by the police for just a few months. The onslaught of recent tickets — 32 were issued alone during November's ride — has riders crying foul, accusing the police of selective enforcement. By taking a hard stance, the police have now seemingly backed themselves into a corner — either break up the ride completely or swallow some pride by working out a compromise.



LET'S ROCK: Daily Press Staff Writer Kevin Herrera gets into the spirit of things before the ride.

It seems to be about power and pride, and in the end, we all stand to lose.

Riding west on Broadway around 6:30 p.m., the excitement (and tension) was palpable as Critical Mass gathered in Palisades Park. Clusters of cyclists made

Thanks, but no thanks

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

ON MY BIKE SEAT As the Queen song goes, "I want to ride my bicycle."

Almost a year after my cycling-loving boyfriend handed me a shiny new Trek two-wheeler in hopes of encouraging his girlfriend to get out of her car in favor of exercise, I had only registered about 15 miles on

Santa Monica Critical Mass last Friday, cruising the streets of Santa Monica with a horde of cycling enthusiasts, observing their mannerisms, the way they interacted with motorists and noting some of the challenges they faced on the road and how they reacted to them.

The following Monday, I rode my bike to work with no incidents.

So, would I ride with Critical Mass again? Probably not.

In the beginning, Critical Mass was like a huge party, from the gathering in front of the Santa Monica Pier, everyone smiling and chatting, catching up with the regular CM'ers or "massholes" — depending on who you ask — whom they hadn't seen since the ride the previous month. On a cold December evening, a day in which I had to take a break from work to buy a scarf at Urban Outfitters, the atmosphere was warmed by the riders themselves, fostering camaraderie and goodwill, cheerful despite the sickening feeling at the bottom of their stomachs that many of them would be ticked by police officers later that night.

Like many big parties, this one was doomed to be broken-up by the end of the night, but not for illegal underage drinking or excessive noise — though the whistles were certainly annoying. The plug was pulled on this big bash by eight traffic citations, with infractions ranging from running a red light to inadequate lighting.

The celebration of bike riding, a monthly event in which riders assert their right to the road en masse, ended with a group of cyclists jumping onto the bike path off Barnard Way, headed to Venice and yelling to a cop car that had followed closely behind, "see you later, Santa Monica," add in an expletive or two.

the bicycle.

In three words: I was afraid.

Afraid of looking stupid wearing a bike helmet, afraid that an inattentive driver would open their door into my path, or even worse, afraid that a truck would smash my body flat on PCH.

But that all changed after riding with the



Brandon Wise news@smdp.com

WE'RE OFF: Riders head down Colorado Avenue during Critical Mass last Friday.

Breaking the chain

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

ON THE SIDEWALK My hands and wrists were already sore and I hadn't even spent a minute riding my rusty blue mountain bike, a gift from my editor after he upgraded to a cool, green cruiser.

I was too busy screwing and unscrewing lights and a bike-lock mount on the old Schwinn, making sure it was street legal for my moonlight ride with Critical Mass, a monthly ride through the streets of Santa Monica with other like-minded cyclists.

I heard that the Santa Monica Police Department would be on patrol, ready to enforce the vehicle code, which meant I had to make sure I had the proper lighting and reflectors or risk getting a ticket, which quite a few riders received along the route.

So there I was, screwdriver in hand as I tried to remove bolts that were stripped or stained brown with rust. It was no easy task, but luckily, my associate editor was there to lend a hand, and a utility knife.

Once my inspection was complete, I left my office on Fourth Street and Broadway and headed to Palisades Park, the Critical Mass gathering point.

As I peddled past Santa Monica Place, all I could think about was how I was riding. Was I on the right side of the road? No. Was I riding on the sidewalk, which is illegal? Yes. Oh boy, I thought. I'm definitely going to get

busted.

Before I could get myself really worked up, I reached the mob of riders. My fears started to subside as the crowd grew larger. Fairly quickly, all apprehension was replaced by a youthful enthusiasm. I was kind of giddy. This was going to be fun.

Everyone around me seemed to be in good spirits, and there was a couple of news crews nearby watching us, so I felt some comfort knowing that if something went down, at least it would be caught on camera.

The news crews came out because the L.A. Times published a story regarding the tension brewing between Critical Mass riders and the police department, a story which the Daily Press has covered numerous times, but I guess, it isn't a story until the Times writes about it.

Organizers from the event laid down the

rules and passed out cards with a section of the vehicle code printed on them so that beginners (like myself) could familiarize themselves with the law. Another card contained a small map with two rally points, just in case bikers got separated from the group.

After a few announcements and some cheers, we all lined up on the Santa Monica Pier's ramp and took off on Colorado Avenue heading east.



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SEE HERRERA PAGE 16



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Prejudice spoils Critical Mass ride

FROM TITTINGER PAGE 12

their way to the meeting point, bicycle cops rode on sidewalks with wary eyes. The story has progressed to the point that television news cameras were on hand, waiting for something. Surprisingly, few cops positioned themselves in and around the pier. Had they decided to coalesce in light of the November fiasco?

Something struck me as I sat on my bicycle in Palisades Park, waiting for the group to hit the road. I recalled the images the Daily Press had run in these very pages of the monthly rides before this whole crackdown began; pictures of families, kids with their pedal-pushing parents, bicycles decorated in Rose Parade fashion. It was a celebration, smiles abounded, neighbors mingled and the future of bike riding in the city seemed limitless.

Last week, I saw just one father who braved the night with his young son, keeping him close the whole time. The rest were the hard-core cyclists, the adamant ones willing to risk traffic tickets to assert their right to the road. The air was thick with nervousness, people watching their backs, the laughs were few and far between. Critical Mass organizers talked on walkie-talkies, relaying messages of where the men in blue awaited them — around the corners, away from the TV lights, at intersections where the throngs would certainly be separated into smaller groups. We set out with a sense of impending doom, awaiting the inevitable flashing lights of law enforcement.

As we rode together west on Colorado Avenue, north on 14th Street and west on Washington Avenue, there were feelings of euphoria as residents cheered our band of merry riders from the pavement and their streetside balconies. More than one parent stood with a young child in their arms, pointing us out as if we were a Christmas Day float parading through their very own backyard. It

was then I felt tremendous pride to be a resident of Santa Monica, a place where the unusual is welcomed, where the winds of change are harnessed.

For a little while there, the police omnipresence faded away and there was sheer joy. This was what the cyclists were talking about, and how these rides were staged pretty much unfettered only months ago.

As we streamed through the downtown district, tourists watched curiously, bus riders waved and gave thumbs-up signs and cars honked their horns. Those put off by the procession seemed to be a decided minority. About one hour into the ride, Critical Mass converged on City Hall, stopping to regroup and allow splintered riders to catch up. This might just be where Dogtown met its demise. Never would such an outlaw lot be tolerated in today's overdeveloped, money-talks, veritable police state that is Santa Monica 2007.

The cyclists, feeling emboldened, began to mock the pair of bicycle cops positioned across the street, pointing out their lack of lights, their riding on sidewalks. They were being more ironical than mean-spirited, understandably frustrated with recent attempts by the city to chase them outside of its borders, which to me, tells me they are right where they're needed.

Within a half hour's time, I went from extreme pride for the city in which I live — making a statement, looking to change people's behaviors, attitudes and habits — to extreme embarrassment of those we've placed in charge. By this point, the TV cameras were long gone, as many of the participants had already headed off into the weekend night. It was down to the diehards, and as the riders headed south along Main Street, it seemed evident that it was time to ticket. One of the most vocal Critical Mass participants, Alex Cantarero, got picked off from the back of the procession by the bike cops, who seemed to hedge quite a bit on the rea-

soning for the ticket — his lights weren't on, his lights weren't bright enough, his lights weren't forward facing. Each seemed lamer than the last. About 10 fellow Critical Mass riders who stopped to see what happened could plainly see a pair of lights on Cantarero's bike, shooting forward.

We set out again and got about 20 yards before the law came crashing down again. This time, they flagged a rider dressed as Santa Claus (the symbolism is thick) for passing another bike and swerving outside of the non-existent bicycle lane. There were about 10 of us left in the group by this point, counting the two SMPD peddlers. It was senseless to continue. All the while, bike riders occasionally rolled past on the east side of Main Street sans lights and sans police attention.

The police were lying in wait. I would be walking my bike home. The selective tickets represented the worst of the SMPD. In all, there were less than 10 tickets issued on this night's ride, but the presence was felt by everyone, including those participants who choose no longer to ride, for the hassle has become too great. The tickets I witnessed were petty and vindictive. Who were they protecting? The street was desolate.

"Are you his lawyer?" the police responded to repeated calls by the riders for an explanation of the tickets. Since when do we need an attorney for an officer to explain what we did wrong? Is that where this city is headed, this city that likes to tout itself as this forward-thinking, tolerant, cutting edge, green lifestyle oasis?

I'll be sitting home the first Friday of January. Dogtown has had its day.

miket@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com

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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 56°

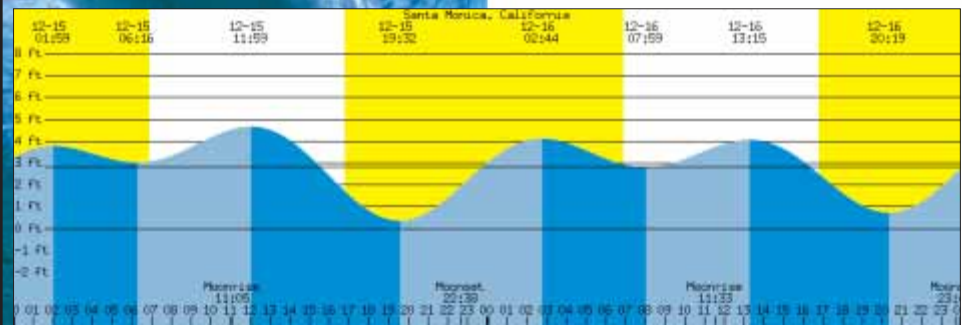
Swell Forecast (2-3 FT)

Saturday the 15th both swells are expected to back down, leaving size knee high most everywhere, perhaps still some waist high waves when the tide is right. An onshore flow is expected with air temps struggling to hit 60 along the coast. Winds should be calm early, but pick up onshore by noon to 10 mph or so. Tide though will be at moderate levels throughout the morning.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

MODEST NW SUNDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



A wild ride

FROM HERRERA PAGE 13

It's hard to explain, but there is something cool and somewhat intoxicating about riding in such a large group. The camaraderie was amazing and so was the attention we received by pedestrians and drivers alike. People were waving and cheering, thinking it was some kind of parade. Drivers were honking, some showing their support. Other motorists were obviously frustrated by having to drive slowly behind the pack. They vented their frustration by abruptly changing lanes and speeding by the group of riders.

It wasn't as scary as I thought it was going to be. I had ridden alone at night in the past, and that was more of a challenge considering that it's harder to see one lone rider than it is to spot a ton of them.

Everything went smoothly for about the first five or six blocks. We stopped at red lights, rode slowly and chatted with one another as riders behind shouted on bull horns.

Then the poop hit the fan.

All of a sudden from behind someone yelled, "Turn left here." Without much warning the group shifted to the left and went north on 14th Street.

That's when the cops started moving into position, pulling into the middle of the group as some riders got left behind because of a red light. Those of us in front had to stop and wait. The flashing lights of the cop cars added to my apprehension, as did the fact that people were being cited. I didn't want to get a ticket, even if my editor said I could expense it.

I was no longer having fun. The random route — turning on a dime — plus the police presence made me nervous, and the whistling and the hooting and hollering was getting a little annoying. Then there were the screams to "get off your bike," and "get on the sidewalk," or "get back on your bike," by Critical Mass veterans.

At that point I thought to myself that it would be more relaxing to just ride by myself. That way I could go as fast as I wanted and not have to worry about running into someone in front of me or about the cops cracking down. I'm sure the ride was more enjoyable before the police started following the riders. On this night it had the feeling of a protest more than a fun ride through town and I'm not one to "fight the man."

Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse, the chain on my bike broke. So there I was, standing on the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and 14th with a busted bike, watching my fellow riders head west on Wilshire followed by a few squad cars. I was kind of relieved. I'm out of shape and I didn't feel like riding for another two hours or so, and I really didn't want to get a ticket, either.

Luckily I was riding with a friend who had a bike rack strapped to his car parked just a few minutes away. He rode off, came back and swooped me up, my heart no longer racing.

As I sat in the passenger seat I thought to myself, "So this is Critical Mass. I think I'll pass." On the left, of course.

kevinh@smdp.com

Bike party didn't end with a bang this time

FROM HANATANI PAGE 12

It was an enjoyable ride in the beginning as I was caught in the middle of a stream of bicyclists flying down Colorado Avenue. It was the first time that I had truly felt safe as a bicyclist out on a street. I figured a car would have to hit a few cyclists before it would reach me.

But then the ride took an erratic course, starting right after 13th Street when a Santa Monica Police Department squad car pulled up with its red and blue lights on. CM'ers decided it was time to turn left onto 14th Street, giving the cyclists short notice. It was a little nerve-racking to not only have a police officer observing my every move, perhaps watching for a mistake, but to be in the dark about the route, standing on my toes for every abrupt left and right turn. I'm not big on surprises and I like knowing where I'm going.

By the time we got to a liquor store on Wilshire Boulevard to allow the lagging group to catch up, I was tired, exasperated and ready to call it a night.

The ride was fun while it lasted, but I didn't want to risk getting a costly ticket.

The conversation among cyclists, chipper

in the beginning, talks of whether one saw the latest episode of "Grey's Anatomy", turned sour as the ride progressed and the tickets added up.

"They do whatever the f-ck they want whenever the f-ck they want," one cyclist noted as he eyed a passing police car.

Another compared the police to a sheep-dog.

"They're neither escorting us nor patrolling us, they're herding us," a female cyclist said.

The fact that I'm not the free-spirited, parading and hollering type will keep me from jumping on my bike with Critical Mass in the future, though it was an interesting experience to be out of my element. I'm still regaining my hearing after I was deafened by the hoots and hollers and constant whistling and "clever" commentary via the bull horn.

Thanks for teaching me that it's OK to ride my bike, Critical Mass, but no thanks to any future "Mass" rides.

melodyh@smdp.com

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to editor@smdp.com



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

December 11, 2007

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills — 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 0

Number of wet days — 8

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 36 / 18

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 11 / 15

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cienegas Beach, at Arroyo Siquit Creek mouth (encantilla)	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Del Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Palms Canyon storm drain	C	no
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachase and Las Alitas creeks	A+	no	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A	A+
Enchanted Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	no	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqui)	F	F
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	F	D
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	C
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	no	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	F	F
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante State Beach	A+	no	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant)	A+	F
Ladigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	B	F
Selkirk Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	no	Venice City Beach, at the Base Ave. storm drain	A	no
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	A	no	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	F	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	no	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A	no
Sarhider Beach at Malibu Calvary fence	A+	A+	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A	C
Sarhider Beach (beach location) - daily	F	F	Venice Beach - projection of Tappan St.	A+	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	A	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower	A	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	no	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballena Creek mouth	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	no	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	no
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	F	A+	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	no
Pena Creek at Las Flores County Beach	A+	no	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A	no
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	C	Dockweiler Beach - opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A+
Carderock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	F	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	C			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset 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

no — no sample taken



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Board gets new boss

FROM BOARD PAGE 3

received his medical degree and doctorate degree in health economics from the University of Pennsylvania while finishing up his residency at Stanford University.

“My goal is to be a good leader and help Oscar lead the board and make sure we get through the launching of Measure BB construction projects and the Measure R renewal and, really, continuing to work together more as a board and with the superintendent, and continuing moving forward with the district,” said Escarce.

Escarce notes that one of the key issues that will come up in the next year is the budgetary situa-

tion in the state capital, something he expects will impact the school district.

A product of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, de la Torre was a former counselor at Santa Monica High School. He received his bachelor’s degree from the California State University, Chico and his master’s in public administration from the University of Texas. An advocate for leveling the playing field for minority and economically disadvantaged youth in the district, de la Torre is the founder and executive director of the Pico Youth & Family Center.

“I think our number one goal is to work toward creating a world class public education system, and that requires considerable local

support, which includes the passage of Measure R in February,” de la Torre said on Friday, alluding to the parcel tax renewal measure. “Personally, my goal is to build partnership for the benefit of youth in school and after school, and that is my commitment to the children and the young people of Santa Monica and Malibu.”

Before the two Santa Monicans were elected as board officers, school board members went around the dais thanking Wisnicki and de la Torre for their dedication during the year as president and vice president.

Superintendent Dianne Talarico started the love fest by talking of how Wisnicki welcomed the new superintendent when she came to the district last year,

securing housing and driving Talarico to pick up her rental car.

“I very much admire and respect you for your leadership,” Talarico said. “I feel very close to you even though we have had to have some very difficult conversations.

“You provided me with the critical feedback that helped me further develop my leadership skills.”

Board members praised de la Torre’s dedication to serving the historically underserved population in Santa Monica and Malibu.

“You’re always focused on the child and what’s best for them,” said board member Kelly Pye. “I think that always comes out very clearly.”

melodyh@smdp.com

Long-time business owner passes away

FROM GABRIEL PAGE 3

“We had a positive dialogue about the issues that we’ve each thought faced the community,” Zane said. “There’s no question in my mind he always gave me a good ear and a good discussion.”

Santa Monica Mayor Herb Katz met Gabriel in the early 1970s when the two were on opposite ends of a proposal to build an island and hotel off the Santa Monica Pier.

“Bob was for it and I was against it and

we’ve been friends ever since,” Katz said on Friday. “(Gabriel) got himself involved in all kinds of issues and whatever it was, whether you agreed or disagreed, he was a total gentleman at all times.”

Gabriel was widely seen as a mentor to the business community. In 1954, the successful business owner took over the insurance company, which has been independently owned and operated since 1936.

Eddie Guerboian, the president of Readers Fine Jewelers, met Gabriel in 1967. The two

became good friends over the years and Gabriel served as a father figure to Guerboian, helping the jewelry store owner with advice on running the business.

“He was a pillar of the community,” Guerboian said on Friday. “He was a pillar for me in my personal life.”

Gabriel is survived by his wife Louise, children Gabriel Potter, Robert A. Gabriel and Sharyl Gabriel Sydlik, and three grandchildren.

melodyh@smdp.com

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 260.1528

Ashes and Diamonds (1957)
(NR)
7:30

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

Atonement (R)
11:00am, 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20
Lars and the Real Girl (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
The Perfect Holiday (PG)
11:45am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10
Revolver (NR)
11:30am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50

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

American Gangster (R)
12:00, 3:25, 6:50, 10:15
Beowulf: Digital 3D (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
Enchanted (PG)
11:15am, 12:50, 1:50, 3:40, 4:40, 6:30, 7:25, 9:10, 10:05
The Golden Compass (PG-13)
11:00am, 11:40am, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45
Hitman (R)
11:05am, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:15, 10:40

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

Hollywood Dreams (R)
11:00am
Juno (PG-13)
12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00, 11:00
No Country for Old Men (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Operation Homecoming (NR)
11:00am
The Savages (R)
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55
Yiddish Theater: A Love Story (NR)
11:00am

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

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG)
11:10am, 12:10, 1:50, 2:50, 4:10, 5:10, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:10
August Rush (PG)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
Fred Claus (PG)
12:20, 3:10
I Am Legend (PG-13)
11:00am, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:40, 10:40, 11:30, 12:05am

More information email news@smdp.com

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

Easy and relaxing work, Leo

Happy Birthday!

You might want to be more open and forthright this year. Deal with others directly and with a smile. Your ability to touch many people on a very deep level adds to the power of your relationships. If you are single, you meet people with ease. A problem could occur and break up a relationship, should you decide you made a mistake. If you are attached, you could redefine your bond this year. PISCES can push your buttons.



Born Today
Comedian Tim Conway (1933)
Oilman J. Paul Getty (1892)
Actor Don Johnson (1949)

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

★★★★★ You move in strange ways and act in a different manner. How you respond to a trusted associate will radically change soon. Zero in on a friendship, which could be key in your next step. Tonight: Be spontaneous and be a people person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Walk down a different path. Take a stand and do what is necessary. If you are open to positive change, you'll take a step in a new direction. Your abilities come through for everyone involved. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Circumstances around you could vary. Pull back as a result of spending. Evaluate what might be going on. A conversation gives you meager information. Pouring more money into an investment needs evaluating. Tonight: Take an overview.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Focus on accomplishment and getting the job done. By making that extra effort, you'll pull yourself into the inner circle. Know when you have had enough, and you'll head in a new direction. Tonight: Honor the fact that you are tired.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Be honest if you have had enough. Somehow you make headway where few can. You know much more about a situation than you realize, as a discussion reveals. A partnership stars as a primary focus. Tonight: Easy and relaxing work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might need more information than you currently have. If you listen to someone more carefully, you'll discover the lay of the land. Your determination sometimes comes off as cold, perhaps causing a weird reaction. Tonight: Just as you like.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your creativity bubbles forth. You add magic to a romance and sparkle to other situations. You are a welcome figure wherever you go. Do step back and take a good look at a professional matter. Tonight: Know when you are tired.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Your ability to take action and get someone energized comes through. Your words stir up others far more than you'd anticipated. You know what to say and when. Tonight: Move with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your personal life is up for grabs. You might be checking out an investment, being as realistic as possible. A partner has strong feelings. Listen as he or she airs out his or her concerns. Relax and don't judge. Tonight: Stay close to home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ What you say will echo in your universe, if you let it. Honor someone's concerns and address them directly. You might be having difficulty walking in his or her footsteps. Reach high to create more. Tonight: New visions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might be more involved in a problem than you would like to be. Finances need sturdy guiding and direction. You achieve what you want. In fact, what you do changes dramatically. Allow greater give-and-take. Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You have the rare opportunity to knock on someone's door and have a wide-open interchange. You have waited for something like this for a very long time. Finally, you have reason to smile and rejoice. Tonight: Skip to a new tune.

Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Don't be a statistic . . .
be Emergency Prepared Now !



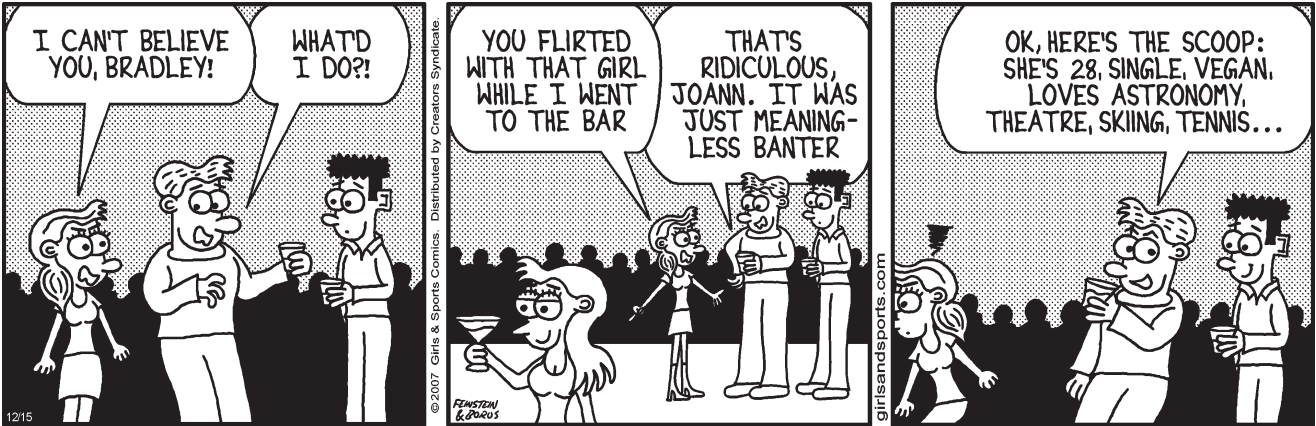
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We all know we should be prepared, but is your family or business really ready if an earthquake hit today?

310 993 2727 CALL NOW
www.ePrepNow.com

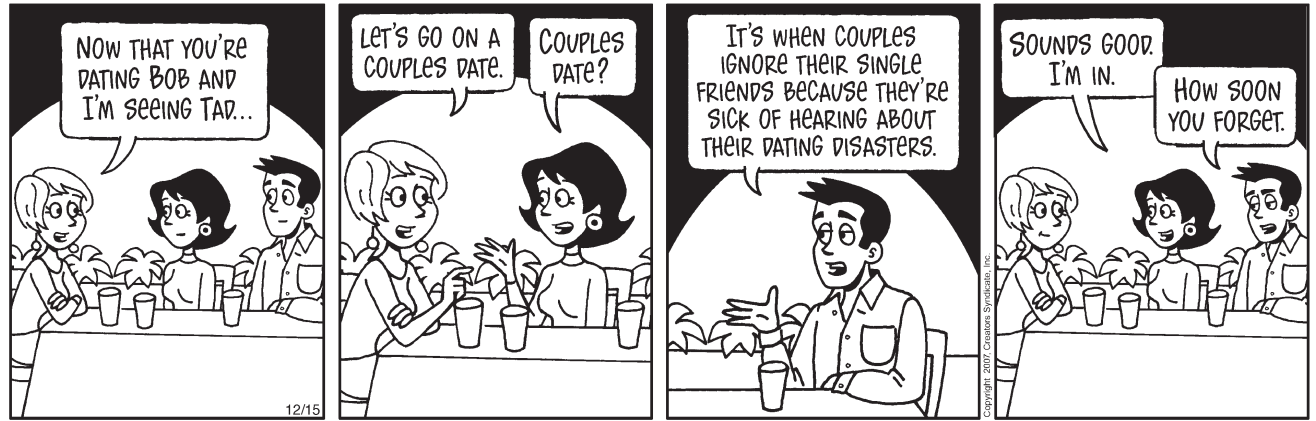
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



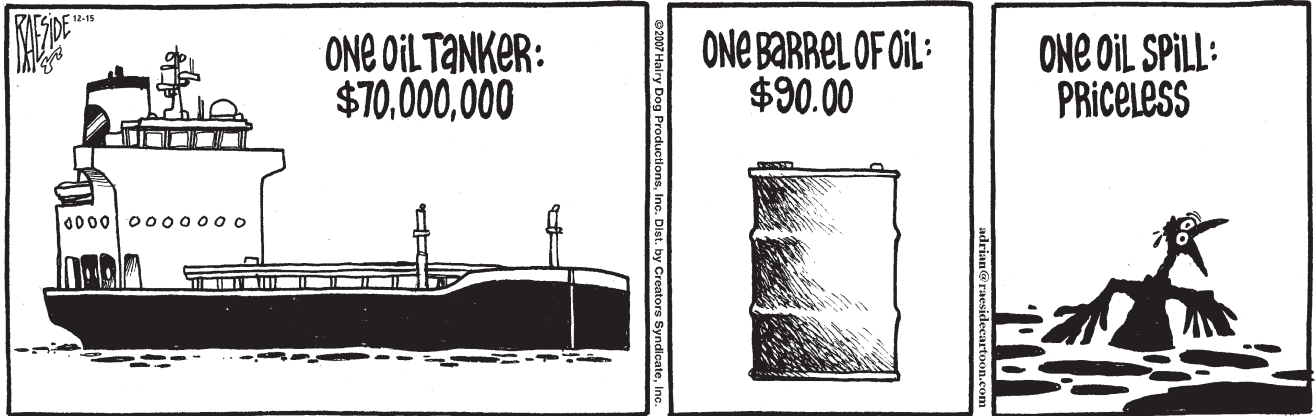
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



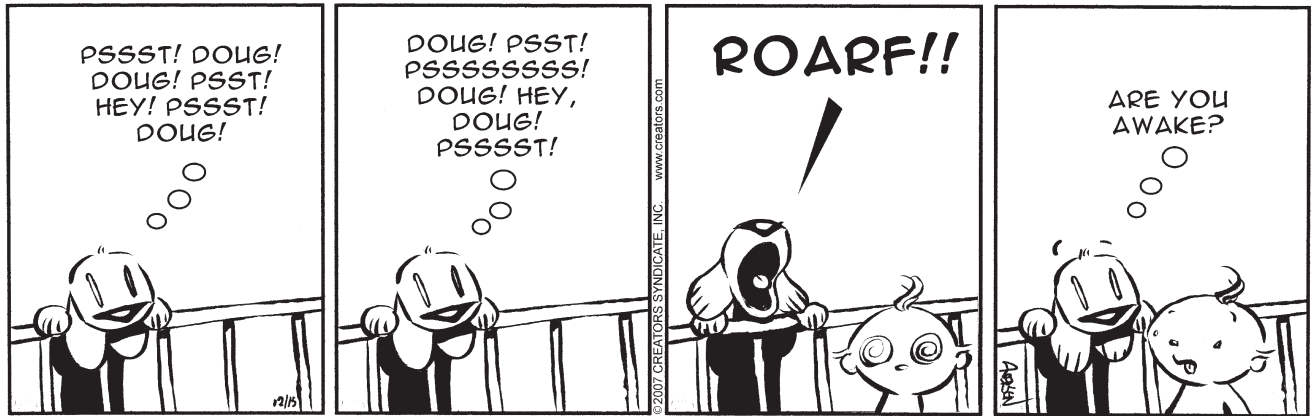
Garfield

By Jim Davis

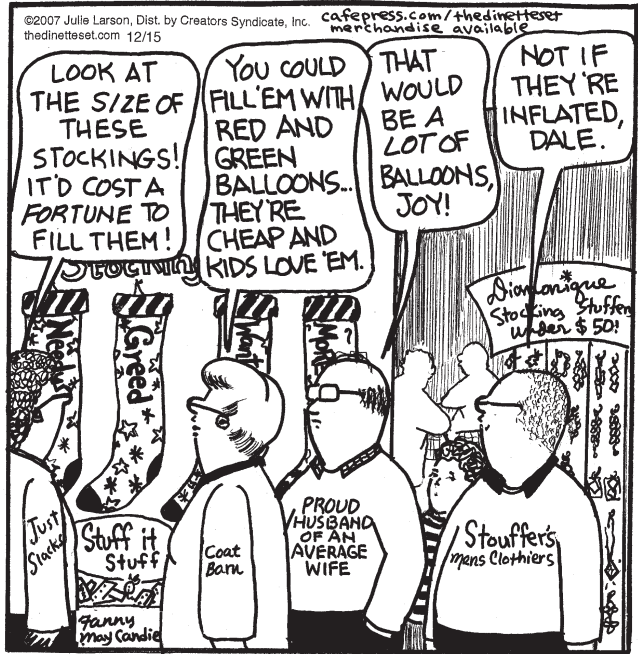


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Michael Tittinger miket@smdp.com

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Impudence
5 Peruse
9 Cherbourg cap
10 "Hound Dog" singer
12 Bar choice
13 Distress signal
14 Insulting
16 Shelter
17 Alphabet end
18 "Bawit-daba" singer
20 Whirlpools
22 Hill builders
23 Sketched
25 Milky stone
28 ER readings
32 Boarded in great numbers
34 Dove's cry
35 VCR button abbr.
36 Lot choice
38 "Get — on!" ("Hurry!")
40 Shoe material
41 Czech leader
- 42 Llama's place
43 Jersey team
44 Equal

DOWN

- 1 Anchor place
2 Debated
3 Beholds
4 Walkout participant
5 Gave more nourishment to
6 Pipe bend
7 Arthurian isle
8 Straight
9 Fire
11 Tries to find

- 15 Regarding
19 Crazy talk
21 Doing nothing
24 Red apple
25 Big name in TV talk
26 Nursery-rhyme merchant

- 27 Niche
29 Give in
30 Dock worker
31 Tender spots
33 Formal fights
37 Sahara sight
39 Dachs-hund doc

A	C	H	E			L	I	F	T	
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Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLION	4 7 12 17 30 Meganumber: 44 Jackpot: \$137M
Super LOTTO	17 18 26 31 38 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: \$17M
Fantasy 5	15 17 18 21 28
DAILY 3	MIDDAY: 6 3 9 EVENING: 4 0 7
DAILY DERRY	1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 08 Gorgeous George 3rd: 09 Winning Spirit RACE TIME: 1:46.86

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

■ A price war broke out in November among chain stores in Britain, with Tesco, Sainsbury's and Asda vying for the cheap-drunk customers, and at press time, Asda was leading by offering a low-end lager in multi-packs for the equivalent of 46 cents a pint, which is less than colas or bottled water.

■ Bahadur Chand Gupta bought an old Airbus 300 and now offers weekly sessions in Delhi in which any of the 1 billion Indians who have never flown before can sit on a genuine (though disabled) airliner, listen to pilot announcements ("We are about to begin our descent into Delhi"), and be served by flight attendants. Said one customer (who paid the equivalent of about \$4), "I see planes passing all day long over my roof. I had to try out the experience."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1791 The Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

1890 Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, S.D., during a confrontation with Indian police.

1938 Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Jefferson Memorial took place in Washington, D.C.

1939 The motion picture "Gone With the Wind" had its world premiere in Atlanta.

1944 A single-engine plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller, who was a major in the U.S. Army Air Forces, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

1944 During World War II, American forces invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines.

1961 Former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death by an Israeli court.

1964 Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design.

1965 Two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini 6A and Gemini 7, maneuvered to within 10 feet of each other while in orbit.

1966 Movie producer Walt Disney died in Los Angeles at age 65.

1979 The deposed Shah of Iran left the United States for Panama, the same day the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled that Iran should release all its American hostages.

WORD UP!

frangible \FRAN-juh-buhl\, adjective: Capable of being broken; brittle; fragile; easily broken.



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Specializing in total body sculpting through fun, varied workouts.
Certified: NASM, UCLA, ISSA



BURN FITNESS
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Santa Monica, CA 90401 310-394-1300

Art imitates life in 'Extras' series finale

FROM SURFING PAGE 11

being an "extra" on their various films. In past episodes we've seen Kate Winslet, Ben Stiller, Samuel Jackson and David Bowie, among others, generally making asses of themselves. It's great fun (and a bit courageous) as they are portrayed as self-centered, pampered stars that, in a perverse way, Andy wants to be like. (Careful what you wish for?)

In the finale on Sunday we see George Michael and Clive Owen playing themselves. Michael is picking up litter in a public park frequented by gays as part of his "community service" court sentence. Pondering his miserable life, Andy unknowingly sits on the bench, which happens to be a major pick-up spot. He gets blackmailed for Michael's whereabouts by paparazzi. Given the alternative, Andy gives Michael up in a heartbeat.

Owen plays the lead in a period piece in which Ashley is an extra playing the part of a whore. Owen is exceedingly handsome but repulsively self-absorbed. Before the scene is shot he looks at Ashley disapprovingly and says to the director his "character would never sleep with her," adding, "I could do better." Humiliated for the last time, Ashley quits the film and gives up being an extra. Broke, she moves into a tiny apartment and wor-

ries about her bleak future while Andy is wallowing in his troubles. He hardly notices her hardships thanks to his self-centered ways.

Teetering on a breakdown Andy impulsively quits "Whistle" and is cocky about his future prospects. Unfortunately the phone stops ringing, he doesn't get the best tables at posh restaurants and the paparazzi don't even bother taking his picture anymore. (A fate worse than death?)

Any last episode of a successful show is intriguing. "Sopranos" viewers are still talking about whether David Chase will reprise the story in a film. With "Extras" one wonders, as with Andy Millman, are Gervais and Stephen Merchant through with television? I hope not as they have created two brilliant series in a business where one is a rarity. ("The Office" for BBC and "Extras" for HBO.)

According to IMDB Gervais is scheduled to write, direct and co-star with Jennifer Garner in a comedy movie due out in 2009. Whatever the future, "Extras the Special," which has a satisfying ending, airs on HBO Sunday at 9 p.m. (and other times throughout the month) and is well worth watching.

JACK also writes the "Laughing Matters" column, which appears every Friday. He can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

To My Beloved Wife Melody

Words can not express what you are going through nor will they comfort for the pain I have caused you and our family.

In my darkest hour I have put our family in danger and our trust has disappeared.

In a moment of desperation I have punished us all.

I have said things that make it to where I do not deserve your love or trust.

As I was desperate then, I am desperate now for your forgiveness.

I wish that what was done could be taken back.

I want our future to become what we once had dreamed of.

For your forgiveness I beg, and for the love we once had I will wait.

831

Love,

Nemesio Cervantes

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

Obituaries

MARGARET C. BONACHEA
Bonachea, Margaret C. Passed away on December 5, 2007 at the age of 92. Beloved mother, grandmother, and aunt. Services will be held on Tuesday December 11, 2007 at 10 A.M. Spalding Mortuary (323) 934-1181 may be contacted for further info.

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Miscellaneous

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by day, honest reliable, own transportation, references, L.I./L.O. nanny housekeepers. Low fees, been in business since 1988, open 7 days. Call, ask for Adeline (818)705-0295 or fax (818)705-0297

LOSE WEIGHT in 2008
Weight Loss Challenge; Starts Jan 3rd
8-Week program w/cash prizes!
Call 310-394-1051 to register

Employment

CASHIER
F/T position available. Experience in hardware preferred. Good communication skills a must. Benefits. (310)395-0956

SECURITY GUARDS
Immediate openings in beautiful Malibu gated communities, Guard Card apply at www.lantzsecurity.com or call (818) 871-0193

CO-OPPORTUNITY NOW HIRING!
Produce, Grocery, Community Deli and Cashiers
Go to www.coopportunity.com for more info or stop by the store at 1525 Broadway for an application.

COMPANION/CAREGIVER
LOOKING for a Career not just a job? Live-in / Live-out - Full/Part-time. Must drive. We offer benefits
Complete online application at www.sheridancare.com or call 310 204-1187

COOK
OCEAN HOUSE, an elegant senior living residence in Santa Monica, is looking for an ideal candidate for it's line cook position. Duties include participating in the daily menu production, preparing and coordinates daily breakfast, lunch and dinners from standardized recipes. Working line shifts daily to ensure speedy service. Ensuring kitchen equipment is clean, operable, and properly maintained on a daily basis. This is a full time position with benefits after 3 months, medical, dental, vision. 401(k) plan and meal plan as well. If you have a great attitude and enjoy working on a great team, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

COUNTER HELP needed. Cafe near 3rd St. Promenade 215 Broadway. Must be experienced. Immediate openings. Apply afternoons in person. (310) 396-9898.

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737

Employment

CUSTOMER SERVICE FULL TIME- \$30K per year, starting \$25K. Telephone services company in WLA with free secure parking. Experience preferred but will train quality applicant. Good language skills and reliability a must. Call 310-281-8888 for recorded details.

DANIEL'S PLUMBING Santa Monica is a local business that prides itself on great service and reliability. We are looking for like minded individuals to join our team. We offer good pay and benefits. Please call (310)954 7709



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Modern, low-stress, SM office. No HMO or Medi-Cal. Chairside experience and x-ray license required. 3-4 days per week. 60% back office/40% front office. Flexible hours. (310)451-1446

GIVE OF YOURSELF volunteers wanted at the discovery shop. Help us contribute to the American cancer society by spending 4 hours per week assisting in our resale shop in Santa Monica. Contact Terry or Shaunna at (310)458-4490

\$5.50 A DAY LINER ADS! CALL TODAY

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available in the Environmental Services Department. Looking for part time housekeepers/ floor techs. Hospital Experience preferred. Call (310)829-8431 for interview.

LOCAL CAFE has immediate opening for P/T and F/T customer service position and cleaner position.
Call for detail call 310 597-4395 ask for JC

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SALESPERSON. (310)998-8305 XT 88

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(In Commissions)

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www.Goldline.com
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(Prestigious Water Garden Complex)

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COME INTO OUR STORE NOW TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION!!! email or call
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SM 8:30AM-3:30PM. Mon-Fri. General Office/Personal Assistant. Must have car, some telemarketing. Run errands. (310)450-4699 \$11 cash/hr.+bonuses.

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HOLIDAY HAND blown glass sale:
12/15/07 11am-7pm
705 Hampton, Venice, 90291
All sorts of items from light fixtures to wine glasses!
Glass fish, glass candle bowls.
Colorful, Beautiful, Inspiring!

SPA/HOT TUB 2007 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5950, sell for \$1950 (310) 479-3054

For Sale

ONE DAY only Sat. 12/15 10am-4pm. Special collectibles from all over the world for your holiday gift giving. Angels, Quan Yins, Serving pieces, stemware, antique lamps, vases, candle holders, costume jewelry, art, china, linens, vintage hats, house décor. Must go! By LAX and PDR, Lincoln, West on Manchester, left on Falmouth, right to 8180 Manitoba, Pacific Club bldg. C, #324. Gate code 096. Phone (310)633-0300 for appt.

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MOVING SALE!!
1813 9th Street #3
Sat 9-2 and Sun 9-12
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BRENTWOOD \$900+
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1BD/BA Lower, blinds, PKG, balcony, carpets, parking \$1095/MO
1bd/Ba; pool Laundry balcony, ref stove, PKG \$1295/Mo
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: \$5.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPES: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.

Classifieds

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words,
20 cents each additional word.

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Studio/1Ba, no pets, ref pool, quiet, , balcony, carpets, parking \$1300/MO
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APR 6.116%	
10 YEAR/1 ARM	6.25%
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APR 6.905%	
5 YEAR/1 ARM	6%**
APR 7.25%	
3 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%**
APR 7.275%	
1 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%
APR 7.35%	
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	5.25%
APR 7.49%	
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1.25%**
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*Rates subject to change
* As of August 29, 2007
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Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is given that on December 26, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. or as soon after that time as the matter may be heard, petitioner will move for an order adjudicating the Santa Monica Daily Press as a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles. The hearing will be held in Department 20 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

The Petition sets forth the following:

- Petitioner, Ross Furukawa, is publisher of the newspaper known as Santa Monica Daily Press, which is seeking adjudicated under Government Code §6008 as a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Santa Monica.
- Santa Monica Daily Press is published for the dissemination of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the City of Santa Monica, California. The business address is 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, CA 90401.
- Santa Monica Daily Press has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and substantial paid distribution.
- For more than three years preceding the filing of the petition, the petitioning newspaper has been established under the name of Santa Monica Daily Press, and has been so established and published, that is, issued and sold or distributed regularly each weekday in the City of Santa Monica.
- During each of the three-year period preceding the filing of this petition, the newspaper has maintained a minimum coverage of local news and intelligence of a general character of not less than twenty-five percent of its total inches; it has a principal office of publication located in the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles.

DATED: December 13, 2007
Lisa Grace-Kellogg
Attorney for Petitioner
Santa Monica Daily Press
14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 Dec 2007

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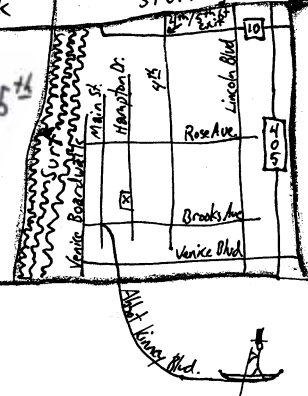
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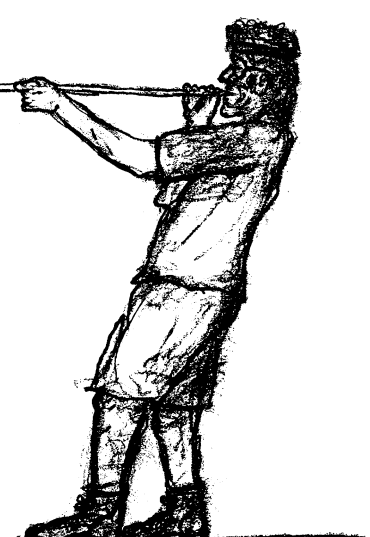
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North of Montana	=	\$ 3,988,880	\$ 1,855,556
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 2,017,800	\$ 1,045,856
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,062,250	\$ 691,958
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