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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010
Volume 10 Issue 29

Santa Monica Daily Press

GROUP NOT HAPPY WITH TOYS
SEE PAGE 11

We have you covered

THE CROWDED BUSINESS ISSUE



WALL OF MUSIC

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Parents and students listen to the annual Santa Monica High School orchestra's winter concert at Barnum Hall on Tuesday night.

City Council favors locals in taxi cab compromise

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL In a contentious coda to what had already been a process fraught with controversy, the City Council on Tuesday agreed to allow each of the five taxi companies that were awarded franchises to operate additional cabs, with the two Santa Monica-based companies getting a bonus of five cabs each.

The decision came after the council earlier agreed to allow a total of 300 taxis, instead of 250, to pick up fares in the city under its new franchise system, which is set to take effect in the new year and will replace the long-standing open-entry system.

Increasing the cap by 50 cars meant council members were subjected to some intense lobbying in recent days from companies eager to maximize their share of the newly regulated marketplace.

Armed with attorneys and backed by colleagues in the Chamber of Commerce, the two locally-owned companies, Taxi Taxi and Metro Cab, sought preference over their Los Angeles-based competitors, asking the council to give them 25 additional cabs each, citing the City Hall's "Buy Local" initiative as justification.

Staff members involved in the taxi cab

SEE TAXI PAGE 8

SMC retains top spot for transfers to UC system

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SMC For the first time, Santa Monica College helped more than 1,000 students transfer to the University of California system, the college retaining its top spot in transfers by a wide margin.

SMC transferred a total of 1,053 students to UCs, up 14.58 percent from the 919 sent in 2008-09. This is the 20th consecutive year that SMC has been the number one transfer institution to UC campuses, officials with SMC said.

SMC increased its transfer number by close to 15 percent for UCs. And the number was far higher than the second-ranked institution, De Anza College in Northern California, which had 666.

"Santa Monica College shows year after

SEE SMC PAGE 9

City officials lift beekeeping ban

BY NICK TABOREK
Special to the Daily Press

CITY HALL Beekeepers are all abuzz about the City Council's decision Tuesday to lift its ban on beekeeping, joining the long list of cities that in recent years have authorized the activity in urban settings as concern has spread about "colony collapse disorder" — the mysterious decline in the worldwide bee population.

The move came after the Task Force on the Environment earlier this year urged the council to reconsider its ban in light of California's bee situation. The American Beekeeping Federation estimates the state's honey bee count is about half what it was 50 years ago.

Bees are essential to maintaining the country's food supply, helping to pollinate orchards and fields. Experts said one-third of people's diets rely on honey bee pollination. Almonds, apples, sweet cherries, plums and prunes are examples of crops that require cross-pollination to produce a crop.

SEE BEES PAGE 7

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010

Riding with Santa
Pacific Park
Santa Monica Pier, daily
Here comes Santa Claus, here comes Santa Claus, riding Pacific Park's coaster at Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier. The roller coaster ridin' Santa likeness will celebrate the holidays while riding in the last car of the West Coaster roller coaster. Guests have the opportunity to take photos with Santa while the train is in the station or ride-along as the coaster races 55-feet above the Santa Monica Bay.

Skate in the sunshine
1324 Fifth St.
12 p.m. — 10 p.m.
It's that time of year again. ICE at Santa Monica is back. Skate to your hearts desire — or at least until the rink closes for the night — everyday until Feb. 25. Admission and skate rental is $10. For more information, call (310) 393-8355.

Holiday art sale
SMC Performing Arts Center
1310 11th St., 11 a.m. — 9 p.m.
This is a once-a-year chance to buy unique works of art including prints, ceramics, jewelry and more. This event takes place at the Art Gallery.

Friday, Dec. 17, 2010

Dickens with no script
SMC Performing Arts Center
1310 11th St., times vary
Who needs a script when you're as talented as the actors of Impro Theatre? This ensemble gives Dickens the same in-the-know ribbing already doled out to Austen, Shakespeare and Sondheim. The performance is hysterically different every time you see it. For more information, call (310) 434-3200.

Christmas Improvable
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade
This renowned touring improv show comes home to the theater that bears it's name with a special Christmas-themed comedy improv show! The Mission IMPROVable Show is fast and funny. For information, call (310) 451-0850.

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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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WILSHIRE BLVD

City Hall restores Big Wave



After some 20 years, Santa Monica's beloved "Big Wave" sculpture is shining bright following a $75,000 restoration project that involved the installation of energy-efficient LED lighting.

Artist Tony DeLap completed the sculpture in 1989 as one of the city's first public art projects. It spans Wilshire Boulevard at Franklin Avenue on the east end of town.

"The 'Big Wave' has finally come to life again ... ," DeLap said. "I am delighted with the recent restoration and the wonderful new LED lighting, which was not available technically when the piece was installed.

"It is extremely rewarding to see the 'Big Wave' light up Wilshire Boulevard."

The artwork deteriorated substantially over the last two decades, city officials said, suffering from rust and corrosion, and the lighting system was no longer functional. Last year, City Hall retained a team to help with the restoration. The team, which began early last month, cleaned and painted the surface of the sculpture and removed the non-functioning fiber optics and Plexiglas cover.

The sculpture will be illuminated in the evening hours and is on a astronomically-synched timer which will turn the lights on a half hour before sunset and off a half hour after sunrise year-round.

DP

LINCOLN BLVD

LeBron James helps local Boys & Girls Club

Say what you will about NBA superstar LeBron James' press conference earlier this year in which he held basketball fans hostage before announcing he was "taking his talents to South Beach."

While some have called it self-serving, the press conference generated $3 million in cash and in-kind donations, with that money supporting youth programs and the building and refurbishment of vital facilities at Boys & Girls Clubs across the country.

The Santa Monica branch is one of those clubs.

Today, Thursday, Dec. 16, representatives from the Boys & Girls Club, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Deb Carson, co-host and anchor of Fox Sports Radio, will host a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of new basketball courts at the Santa Monica branch. The courts represent the first project completed using funds raised by the LeBron James Family Foundation, according to Jen Kim of the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club.

The courts will be used for other sports, fitness and recreation programs including tennis, baseball, soccer and roller hockey, Kim said.

The ribbon cutting will take place at 4:30 p.m. and a basketball clinic for local youth will follow.

Founded in 1944, the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica currently serves approximately 7,000 youth through memberships and community outreach. They come from all over Los Angeles County, largely from Santa Monica, Venice, West Los Angeles and Inglewood. Members pay a $20 annual fee for access to all club amenities and programs that span across education, leadership, recreation and more.

DAILY PRESS



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

MAKING ROOM FOR OFFENSE: **Crossroads' Luke Shmuger (left) attempts to launch a shot while being defended by Sierra Canyon's James Geri on Tuesday on campus. Crossroads lost, 70-46.**

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL

Top-ranked Sierra Canyon too much for Crossroads

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

XRDS For at least one quarter, Crossroads' boys' basketball team was able to hang with Sierra Canyon on Tuesday.

Problem was, Sierra Canyon sophomore Jahmel Taylor wasn't in the mood to keep things close. The sophomore sharpshooter led Sierra Canyon with 25 points en route to defeating Crossroads, 70-46, on Tuesday on campus. His steady shooting from long range gave Crossroads defenders fits all night as they struggled to keep up during a second quarter that saw them score just 4 points.

From there, it was all Sierra Canyon, which benefited from strong play from another pair under-

SEE **XRDS** PAGE 7



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Political misstep

Editor:

Last week, newly-elected Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom shot himself in the foot – not a wise move for someone who wants to run for State Assembly. Bloom made it clear he would not share the two-year mayor's term with anyone, and he knew three other councilmembers would back him up.

It's understandable that Bloom wants the Santa Monica mayor ballot designation. But that doesn't happen until 2012. He doesn't have to hog both years. Besides showing no respect (as you said in your Dec. 10 editorial "McKeown the Dangerfield of the dais") for the 16,000-plus votes Councilmember Kevin McKeown received last month, Bloom also ignored the record number of votes Councilmember Bobby Shriver received: In 2004 and 2008 he beat Bloom by an average of more than 5,000 votes.

Bloom has shown himself to be a self-serving politician who flouts the will of the electorate. I don't know who is opposing him in the June 2012 primary, but that person has my vote.

Lea Plotkin
Santa Monica

The good ol' days

Editor:

Was I just dreaming?

The Santa Monica streets had the most wonderful holiday decorations strung across the streets with red bells, stars and green garland all lit up. On Fourth Street and Santa Monica Boulevard I was standing at Henshey's Department Store holiday window display with Santa and toys and snow on display, just like what Ralphie saw in that holiday movie "The Christmas Story." Then I was watching a Christmas parade going down the street with bands, and floats and Santa waving at me. After that I went to the holiday movie matinee at the Wilshire Theater with 10 cartoons and a Gene Autry movie and prizes to give away. Later that evening we checked the Evening Outlook for the list of the holiday home decoration winners and we drove around the city to see each display.

And then I woke up with wonderful memories of the 1950s in my head.

I went shopping that day and only found a few colored bulbs now and then. There was a translucent tree in the middle of Santa Monica Place with music filling the air. Somehow it was not the same as my childhood dreams. I was happy to see a green, colorful Christmas tree and a Hanukkah menorah next to where JC Penny used to be, way over at the north end of the promenade. I still cherish those nativity scenes along Ocean Avenue. Thank God my church, St. Anne's, always has that welcomed Christmas feeling.

I guess I was just dreaming with wonderful memories in my head. I wish my children had those memories, too. How about you? Do some of you have those good memories too and wished your children had those memories, too?

Mike De Mendoza
Santa Monica



Life Matters



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

Brother from a different mother?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I have two children and I love them both. But they are as different as different can be. One is in the business world — financial banking — and the other is a therapist, like you, but her credentials are somewhat different. In any event, both are smart, accomplished and have always been thoughtful.

Since my husband died, I have found myself slowing down and while I am still in good health and relatively active, I no longer have the social life I once had and I am not as quick to get around. I can't drive anymore so I rely on others. My son comes by on a regular basis to help with my banking and to check up on me. He occasionally takes me to dinner. He is always a big help but he is so impatient with me, it makes me anxious and uncomfortable.

My daughter, the therapist, calls on a regular basis, and takes time to come and spend a day taking me to get groceries, a hair cut, medicines and sometimes we take a drive somewhere nice and we always have dinner. She is incredibly patient with me.

They also are very different in how they live their lives. My son is much more structured and organized than my daughter. She is more emotional.

I guess my question is why are they so different when they were raised in the same home by the same parents? Also, why is my son so impatient with me?

Signed,
Confused Mom

DEAR CONFUSED MOM,

First off, you sound like you might be a little bit more than just confused. Are your feelings hurt a bit by your son's impatience? If so, it is completely understandable but before you get too hurt, read the rest of my answer.

Children may be born into the same family and raised by the same parents but that doesn't mean they will be exactly alike. They can have a very different genetic makeup and their social and emotional experiences can be very different.

We are not born with a personality. We are, however, born with temperaments and based upon how our parents respond to these, our personalities begin to form. Any parent with more than one child can attest to the fact that we have what has been referred to as difficult babies, easy babies, some that are more social, some kind of shy, some are easy to soothe while others are next to impossible to calm down. How a parent or caretaker responds to this helps shape personality. If you are thinking that this sounds like personality to you, it is not. Personality is "an enduring set of traits and behaviors that set one person apart from another." Temperaments are just basic inborn traits.

While parents may agree on certain parenting techniques and create a similar family environment for all their children, the chances are that if your children are different, you will be somewhat different with them as well.

There is a famous saying in psychology that "to be the same with everyone, is to be with no one."

Also, our children have different experiences outside of the home. We cannot control what happens with peers or at school.

Your son sounds like his socialization process made him a lot more controlled if not a bit uptight. What was he like as a baby or as a child?

Your daughter sounds more sensitive but perhaps she was a sensitive baby or her childhood years exposed her to things that made her more sensitive and emotional as an adult.

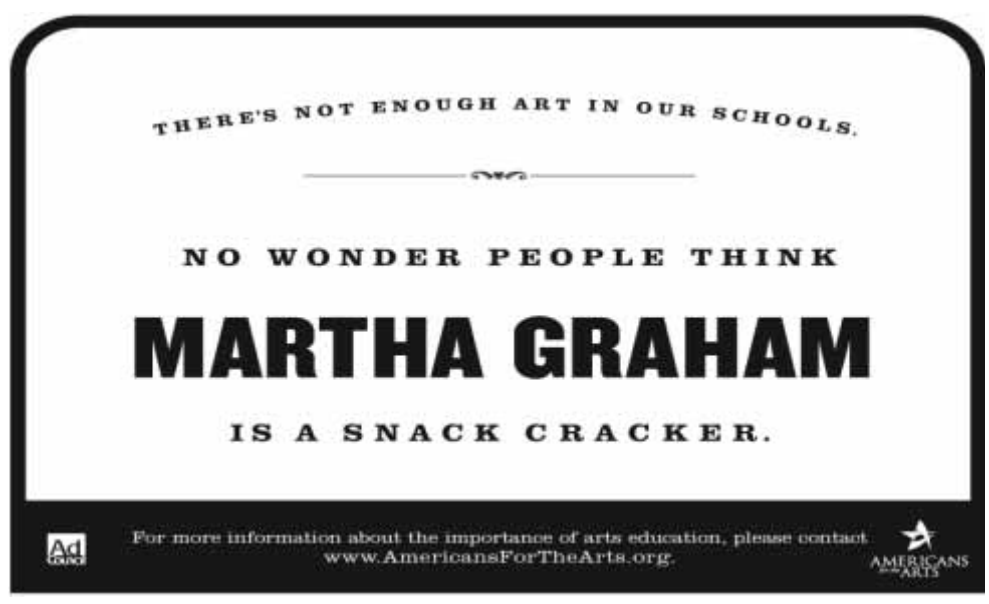
It also occurs to me that your son is used to being in control and may be having a very difficult time dealing with the slowing down you describe. He probably does not like feeling helpless especially when there are certain things he can do nothing about when it comes to his own mother.

Being a therapist myself, I can tell you that we (hopefully) learn early on, that there is much about life and others that we cannot control. We also have to learn to deal with our own feelings. Your daughter probably feels all the same sadness and helplessness but processes her feelings and just does the best that she can to be loving and helpful.

In sounds like your son does his best too but is really not dealing well with his feelings. He probably needs some help with his feelings but he is not likely to get help unless he thinks he needs it or unless you tell him that you love him, appreciate all of his help but also feel hurt by his impatience with you.

Hope this helps. Sounds like they both love you very much.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Thank you for sending your anonymous confidential questions to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.



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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Meaningless gifts: It's the thought that really counts

THAT TIME OF YEAR HAS ARRIVED WHEN you're inevitably trying to recall the origins of the relationship between eggnog and the birth of Jesus, and also beating your head against the wall while moaning, "Why does my Christmas list seem to get longer every year, and who are these people that keep creeping onto it?"

This December, trust that your supermarket's milk case manager is privy to the correlation between dairy-based beverages spiked with rum and the gifts of the magi, and skip the actual mall, where you'll inevitably be dragged into a wrestling match over the last Rubik's Cube or Tickle Me Elmo doll (if it were still 1980 and 1996, respectively, that is).

Instead, visit the Sky Mall, the ubiquitous airline catalog that could conceivably allow you to finish shopping before the captain turns off the fasten seat belt sign. If you don't splurge for the extra 2 centimeters of legroom, you'll even have that much more money to spend (although a little less room to think as the reclined seat in front of you grazes the temporal lobe of your brain).

Never have people with a need for orthotic shoes cleverly disguised as loafers had such an ample collection from which to choose. The Sky Mall catalog could also quite possibly be the world's greatest resource for people with a passion for engaging in espionage (pages 39, 56, 57, 61, 70, 116C, 116E), a keen interest in conducting spot checks for cardiac arrhythmias on the golf course (page 68), and a zeal for gadgets that have 11 patent-pending functions wrapped into one, especially if those 11 functions are necessarily related to baking, arthritis, gardening, Thomas Kinkade, interactive alarm clocks, sports memorabilia, hair loss, remote controlled tarantulas, life-size arcade games, canine genealogy kits and the "Star Wars" film series (pages 1-231).

Placental mammal-philes hit the jackpot on page 178 of the Holiday 2010 issue with the "Tex the Armadillo" beverage holder. For just $19.95 (or $29.95 for a set of two) you can tell family and friends you respect their fondness for leathery armor shells, roadkill and drinking beer out of a can simultaneously.

If someone in your life is constantly struggling to fit everything into the meager 8,760 hours available in each year, there's the LiteLocker (page 51), which is an all-in-one, stow-and-display unit for Christmas lights that opens to show them for two weeks and closes to hide them for the other 50. Lights, light strings and an explanation for everyone else who simply takes down their lights after the holidays not included.

Know someone with a burning desire to tune that guitar they don't know how to play, and never even try? You're in luck! Turn to page 55 for the TunerMatic Automatic Guitar Tuner, which works with any pickup-equipped six-string and wannabe hippie stoner who just wants to look cool without actually making any kind of effort.

A 15-point head spa massager, massage boots, foot and calf massager, neck and shoulder relaxer, portable leg massager, back and neck vitalizer, temple and eye massager, and handheld massager are all available to soothe the aches and pains in your life that can't be relieved by a hot bath, glass of wine or a bong hit provided by the aforementioned stoner.

Do you know a special someone with zero inclination to go outside, or who believes that vitamin D and fresh air are a scam? Pair the Tranquil Sounds Oxygen Bar (that allows you to breathe 30 percent enriched oxygen from a headset while also listening to soothing music) and the Sunlight 365 (which replicates the benefits of sunlight indoors) and you're giving the gift that lets them be a shut-in with some flair (if not dignity).

Have you long suspected those shysters at the banks are secretly stealing from your account, and think under the mattress or in the wallet is a more appropriate place to stash your cash? Fleece gloves with a pocket wallet, a belt buckle with a hidden wallet, double-sided money clip (in stainless steel or leather), razor wallet, aluminum wallet equipped with effective radio frequency protection in an elegant Euro design, front pocket wallet, women's stainless steel wallet, and a money clip with a patented design clamp that holds cash and credit cards in place are all available to show the bank you have no interest in their interest-bearing accounts.

There are also indoor and outdoor barking dog deterrents, a hide 'n' seek monkey, motion mimicking robotic pugilists, digital barbecue tongs, digital spoon scale and an electronic feng shui compass for your consideration as you shop for the people in your life for whom you so clearly care not a whit.

Whatever you decide, this season give the gifts that let them know they're paranoid, lazy and quite possibly eligible for the TV show "Hoarders," and that's just fine with you because you were able to cross them off your list while taxiing to the gate.

More at meredithcarroll.com.

The Q Line

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The right pick?

The City Council last week selected Richard Bloom as Santa Monica's next mayor.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Did they get it right? If not, who should have been selected?

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) 458-7737 ext. 102.**


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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

SoCal November home prices up 1 percent

Southern California's median home price increased 0.7 percent last month to $287,000 from November 2009, as the weak economic recovery, dormant new-home sales and tight credit conditions kept sales in the doldrums, a tracking firm said Wednesday.

San Diego-based MDA DataQuick said the rise from last year's $285,000 was the smallest year-over-year increase since prices began to grow from their recession-era depths.

The median in the six-county region rose just 1.4 percent from $283,000 in October, as weak demand among prospective home buyers kept prices depressed.

"Fundamentally home sales remain weak because the job market has been slow to mend and credit policies remain unusually tight," DataQuick President John Walsh said. "This is the year when the economy sputtered and a lot of potential home buyers opted to sit tight, especially once the government incentives dried up."

Home sales fell 15.5 percent from 19,181 in November 2009 to 16,208 last month, their second-lowest level for a November in 18 years, DataQuick said. Sales declined 3.2 percent from 16,744 in October.

Foreclosures accounted for 35.1 percent of resales last month, up from 34.7 percent in October but down from 39 percent a year ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Band members plead not guilty in traffic stunt

Members of a rock band that performed on a Los Angeles freeway and blocked traffic for hours have pleaded not guilty to various charges.

Christopher Wright, David Hale and Keith Yackey entered pleas Wednesday to conspiracy, creating a public nuisance and other crimes. They face up to three years in prison if convicted.

The judge doubled their bail to $20,000 each.

Prosecutors say the members of the Orange County band Imperial Stars climbed atop a truck that deliberately stopped on U.S. 101 near Sunset Boulevard in October. The trio performed a song called "Traffic Jam 101."

Outside court, band members told City News Service that the stunt raised awareness for their charitable goal of helping homeless children.

AP

LOS ANGELES

County deputies relieve of duty after brawl

Seven Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies have been placed on paid leave after a brawl at a Christmas party.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore tells City News Service that a fight broke out around 11:30 p.m. Friday outside a restaurant banquet hall in suburban Montebello.

Whitmore says the party was being held for deputies who work at the Men's Central Jail in downtown Los Angeles and only deputies were involved in the brawl.

Group: Medicare needs more Spanish-language materials

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Many Medicare plans have sophisticated Spanish-language marketing, but consumers don't always know what they're signing up for because many plans don't provide translated benefits statements and other materials, according to an advocacy group for the elderly.

A National Senior Citizens Law Center survey of insurer websites for Medicare found that in heavily Spanish-speaking areas of Los Angeles and Miami, most plans didn't post translations of key materials.

"There is a real potential here for marketing abuses when things are being marketed in Spanish, but details of what plans actually offer aren't being translated into Spanish," center spokesman Kevin Prindiville said about the survey released Dec. 3.

The group complained to federal Medicare administrators earlier this month with the hope that the problem will be addressed before the enrollment period closes at the end of this calendar year.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The survey looked at all Medicare Part C and D plans serving zip codes in areas of Los Angeles and Miami with large Spanish-speaking populations.

The advocacy group found that in most instances, insurers weren't providing a summary of benefits, evidence of coverage or other materials in Spanish, despite a federal guideline to provide translated materials in service areas where more than 10 percent of the population speaks Spanish as their primary language.

In California, Medicare plans fall into a loophole of state language access laws that mandate Medi-Cal and private insurance plans provide Spanish-language materials.

The survey was conducted by the group after hearing complaints.

One San Diego resident told lawyers at her local legal aid office that an insurance broker posed as a federal employee and visited her home. The broker signed her up for a new Medicare plan, but she couldn't understand subsequent mailings because they were in English and she soon learned she'd agreed to a reduced benefit.

The woman was able to cancel enrollment and sign up for an appropriate plan because the enrollment period hasn't ended, Prindiville said.

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Hollywood


BEES
FROM PAGE 1

"Backyard urban beekeeping has been shown to increase, diversify and strengthen bee populations and supplement the pollination services by feral and commercial bee colonies," according to a report from Dean Kubani, who directs Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and the Environment.

San Francisco, New York, Chicago and many other cities have already approved urban beekeeping, according to Kubani.

The new ordinance, which won the council's unanimous approval, allows backyard beekeeping on single-family residential properties, with residents permitted to keep at most two hives per property. The hives are required to be registered with City Hall's animal control office.

The push for legalized beekeeping in Santa Monica began this spring, when Daniel Salisbury, an amateur beekeeper who had run up against City Hall's prohibition, began lobbying for a policy change.

Salisbury spoke at Tuesday's council meeting, calling the lifting of the ban a "big positive step."

To deal with feral bee swarms and natural hives found on public property, City Hall is maintaining its contract with a company, Bee Professionals, for removal services. The company will relocate hives to the San Fernando Valley or Ventura County, according to a City Hall report. It will exterminate hives only as a last resort when relocation isn't practical.

> **BACKYARD URBAN BEEKEEPING HAS BEEN SHOWN TO INCREASE, DIVERSIFY AND STRENGTHEN BEE POPULATIONS AND SUPPLEMENT THE POLLINATION SERVICES BY FERAL AND COMMERCIAL BEE COLONIES,"**
>
> **Dean Kubani,**
> Director of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and the Environment

nickt@smdp.com

XRDS
FROM PAGE 3

classmen — freshmen Bryan Alberts and Marsalis Johnson.

"They're definitely good," Crossroads head coach Kevin Jackson said. "We got things we wanted, we just couldn't knock down shots."

Sierra Canyon, ranked No. 1 in California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 5, made life even more difficult for Crossroads by aggressively defending the Roadrunners' primary scoring threat, Luke Shmuger.

Despite leading Crossroads with 25 points, Shmuger was harassed by double teams or tight man-to-man coverage all night, forcing him to force a number of shots. Aside from him, not many Crossroads players appeared comfortable in the face of Sierra Canyon's stiff defense. Alec Roth chipped in 8 points for Crossroads, but was the only other Roadrunner to come close to scoring in double digits.

Sierra Canyon's head coach, Ryan Silver, said that he was surprised his team was able to dominate despite dressing just seven players. A pair of his starters were on the bench nursing injuries, and another couple of key contributors have yet to join the team following football season.

"We're a young team," Silver said, "I was curious to see how these guys would perform."

Next for Crossroads, which is ranked No. 3 in the current CIF-SS Divisoin 5AA poll, is a cross-town game against Santa Monica-based New Roads tonight on campus. The game is scheduled for 7 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com

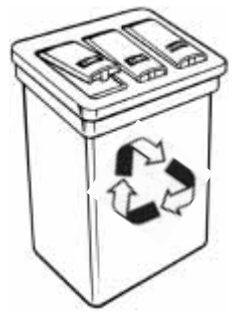
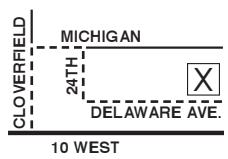
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LET IT SNOW

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Shoppers walk by the giant snow globe showcasing the new Mini all-wheel drive Countryman wagon on the Third Street Promenade on Tuesday afternoon.

TAXI

FROM PAGE 1

overhaul, though, chose to stay above the fray and recommended an even distribution of 10 additional cabs for each of the five selected companies — a group that also included Bell Cab Co., Independent Taxi Owners Association and Yellow Cab Co.

In a compromise that won a 6-1 vote from the council, with Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis casting the dissenting vote, members decided to give the L.A.-based companies eight additional cabs and the two Santa Monica companies an additional 13 cars each.

Part of the reason for the lobbying effort on the part of the Santa Monica companies was that Taxi Taxi, the biggest local cab company, currently operates 65 cabs and was the only company that was required to scale back under the franchise system.

"I just think that this all comes down to fairness and equality," said Wendy Radwan, general manager of Taxi Taxi. She urged the council to give here company the right to operate more cabs than the non-Santa Monica companies so that Taxi Taxi wouldn't have to reduce its fleet.

> **I JUST THINK THAT THIS ALL COMES DOWN TO FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY",**
>
> **Wendy Radwan**
> General Manager of Taxi Taxi

Her argument resonated with several members of the council, especially Davis and Kevin McKeown, who proposed giving Taxi Taxi permission to operate a total of 75 and 70 cars, respectively.

Those suggestions failed to garner a majority vote and the council eventually coalesced around the compromise position that will give Taxi Taxi and Metro Cab the right to operate 63 cars each.

After the vote, Davis said her decision not to join her colleagues in approving the allocation reflected her "disappointment that we weren't able to award an actual increase in taxis to a local company."

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SMC
FROM PAGE 1

year its commitment to transfer but is always striving to get even more students into four-year universities," said SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang.

Other figures:

• Once again, SMC was number one in transfers to the UC and California State University systems combined, with 1,833.

• SMC maintained its hold on first place in transfers to USC, from 173 students in fall 2009 to 195 in fall 2010. (USC reports transfers only for the fall.) That was more than double the number of the next highest-ranking institution, Pasadena City College, with 87.

• SMC transferred the most students to Loyola Marymount University in fall 2010 (35) and, though not ranked, sent 11 students to the Ivy League Columbia University in New York.

• SMC increased its transfers of Latino students to UC campuses from 106 in 2008-09 to 114 in 2009-10. UC-bound African-American transfer student numbers stayed the same at 32.

However, with Cal State campuses drastically reducing their admissions for 2009-10, SMC experienced a decline in transfers to that system, from 1,011 in 2008-09 to 780, SMC officials said. Even with the decline, SMC's rank in transfers to Cal State campuses rose from 10th place in 2008-09 to seventh place in 2009-10.

Transfer Center Faculty Leader Dan Nannini said there are several reasons for SMC's strong transfer record: keeping SMC's transfer reputation in the spotlight, recruiting good students, giving strong academic counseling to students that helps make them attractive to admissions offices, and outstanding professors.

> **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE SHOWS YEAR AFTER YEAR ITS COMMITMENT TO TRANSFER BUT IS ALWAYS STRIVING TO GET EVEN MORE STUDENTS INTO FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITIES,"**
>
> **Dr. Chui L. Tsang**
> SMC President

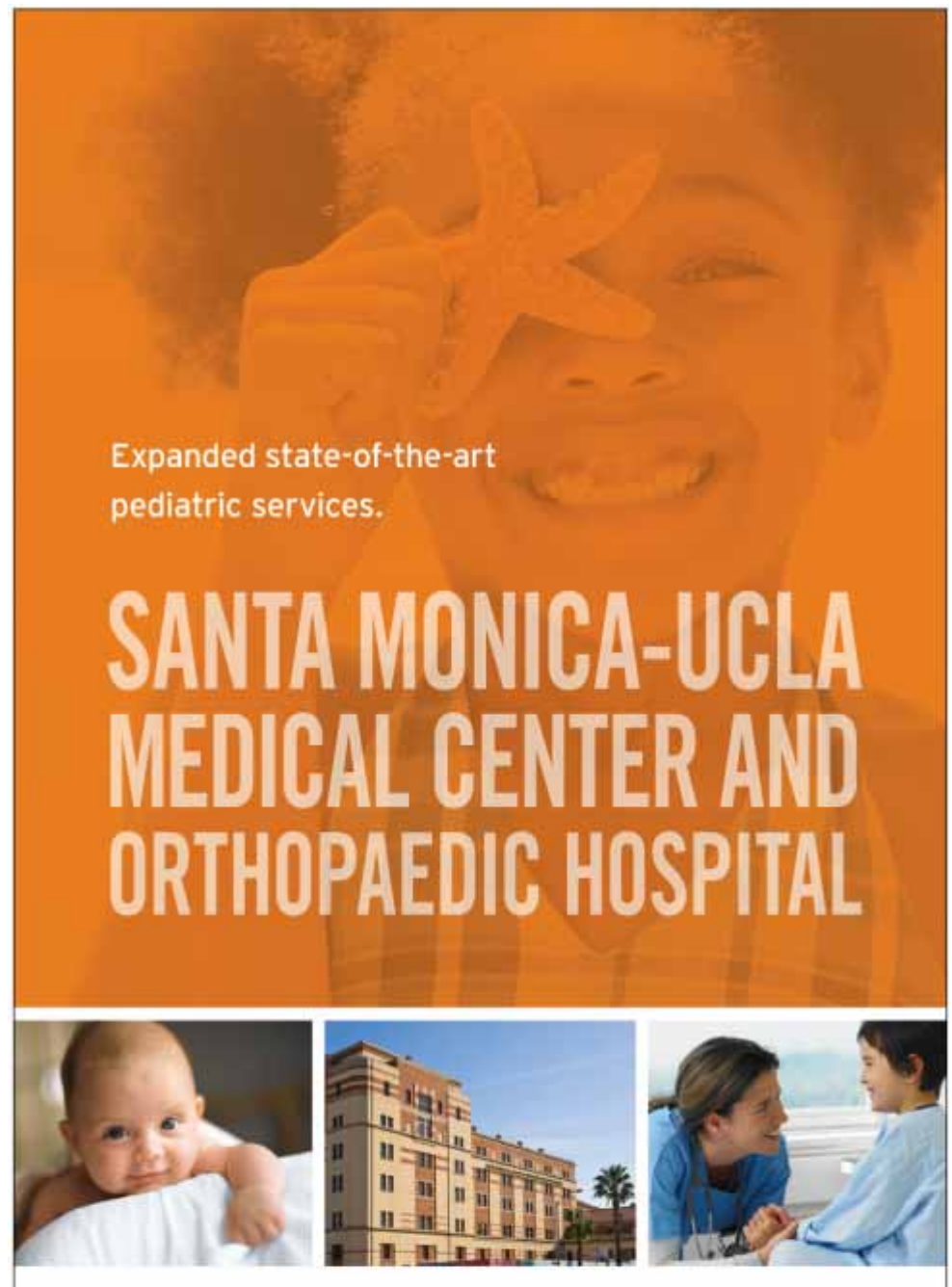
In addition, Nannini pointed out that the college's Transfer Center hosts the largest college fair in the state. This fall, representatives from 130 colleges and universities throughout the world came to the SMC Transfer Fair to recruit students.

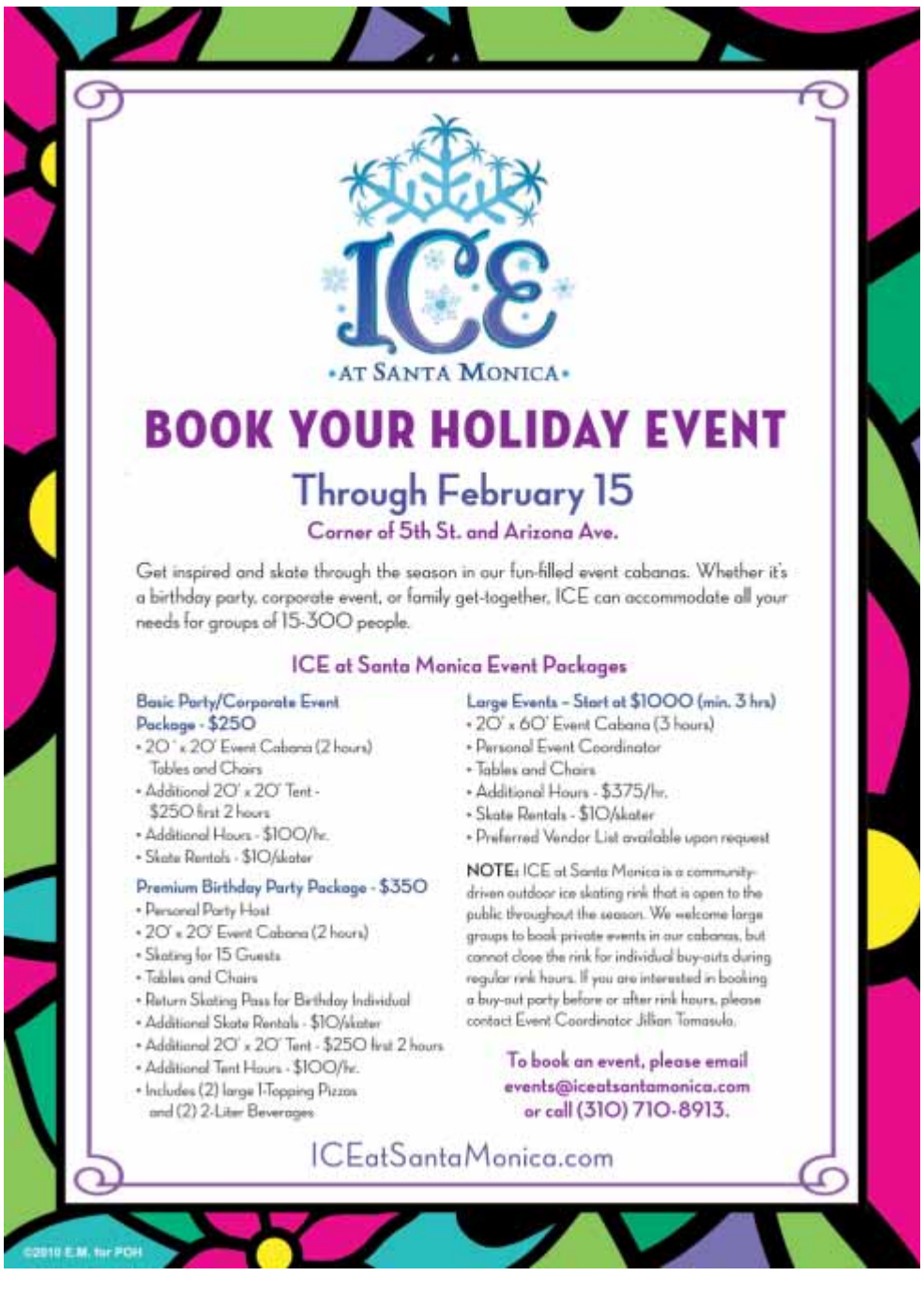
SMC's Transfer Center also conducts workshops, holds weekly visits from four-year institutions, and has a close working relationship with UC and CSU to make sure SMC students get credit for their classes.

UCLA continues to be by far the most popular destination for SMC students, with nearly half of the UC transfers — 519 — going to the Westwood campus. San Diego, Berkeley and Irvine, in that order, were the next most popular destinations in 2009-10.

news@smdp.com







Florida school board shooter had troubled past

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PANAMA CITY, Fla. The burly, bipolar man who held a Florida school board at gunpoint was frustrated and broke. He was a troubled ex-con with an interest in anarchy, and when his wife was fired from her teaching job and their benefits ran out, he went to the board meeting and said he was prepared to die.

Clay Duke killed himself Tuesday after firing at the board members, missing them by mere inches, and exchanging a volley of gunfire with a security guard. A day later, his wife tearfully talked about the man she loved, calling the 56-year-old father a "gentle giant."

"The economy and the world just got the better of him," Rebecca Duke said in a rambling press conference.

In the moments prior to the shooting, Duke spray painted a circle and a large, red V inside of it on the meeting room wall and muttered about rising taxes and how his wife was fired from the school district. The school superintendent begged Duke not to shoot, but he did. A school board member crept up from behind and hit Duke with her purse — and Duke only called her a name, but didn't shoot.

Rebecca Duke said her husband was an excellent marksman who probably intentionally missed the five board members who were sitting just steps away.

"He didn't want any one to get hurt but himself," she said.

No one but Duke was injured; a school security guard fired several shots and hit Duke three times in the back. In the end, Duke took his own life by shooting himself in the head.

Police said the attack wasn't some spur of the moment idea. At his mobile home in the woods, they found Dec. 14 circled on a calendar. And police said he had at least 25 more rounds of ammunition in his pocket.

The entire shooting was captured by local television stations, and the video was posted on the Internet and broadcast on TV throughout the day. His Facebook page, which was public until late Wednesday afternoon, revealed a man who was fascinated with the movie "V for Vendetta" — which depicts the same symbol that Duke spray painted onto the wall just before he took out his gun.

As board members gave television interviews about the harrowing experience, a sad and troubling portrait of Duke emerged.

Born in Ocala, Fla., Duke graduated from high school in Tampa. Little is known about his early adult years — family members claimed he was in the Air Force for eight years, but that could not be confirmed.

In the mid-1990s, Duke had drifted to the Florida Panhandle — not the spring break-filled sugar sand beaches, but the remote and wooded inland.

The '90s were a blur of court hearings and personal conflicts.

He divorced a woman named Anita in 1995 and at some point, had a daughter. He was sued by a property management company in 1999. In 2000, he was convicted for waiting in the woods for his ex-wife with a rifle, wearing a mask and a bullet-proof vest. She confronted him and then tried to leave in a vehicle, and Duke shot the tires. His second wife, Rebecca, said the incident was a misunderstanding and that he went to his ex-wife's house because the ex-wife "wouldn't leave them alone."

Duke's attorney on the case, Ben Bollinger, remembered Duke as especially paranoid about the new millennium.

"He was one of these Y2k people," he said, referring to a computer bug that some people thought was going to cause massive problems and economic chaos Jan. 1, 2000. "He was one of those believers that the world was going to turn for worst and he was stockpiling weapons, assault weapons."

Bollinger said Duke took a plea agreement: Five years in prison followed by 10-years probation. He sought psychiatric help and took his medications as ordered and completed his probation, his lawyer said.

"He was competent but he was one of those people had a mood disorder where they could be depressed one day and all excited another day. I just remember the doctor saying he had a personality disorder," Bollinger recalled.

While in prison, Duke filed for bankruptcy.

He was released in January 2004. About a year later, he sued the Social Security Administration, which had denied his application for disability benefits and health insurance.

"He couldn't work. He just mentally couldn't make the connection for eight hours a day," said David Evans, the attorney who represented Duke.

Stocks fall as euro worries overshadow U.S. growth

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Early gains in the stock market evaporated Wednesday after worries about Europe's debt crisis overshadowed signs of growth in the U.S. Bond prices fell, sending long-term interest rates higher again.

The euro fell 1.2 percent against the dollar after Moody's said that it may lower Spain's credit rating. The stronger dollar hurts U.S. companies that do a lot of business overseas. The Standard & Poor's 500 index, the broadest measure of large U.S. companies, fell 0.5 percent.

Stock prices started the day higher after reports showed that U.S. manufacturing industry is growing and inflation remains under control. The Federal Reserve said U.S. factory output rose for the fifth straight month in November. A separate report showed that consumer prices stayed flat last month.

In the late afternoon, the Senate overwhelmingly passed a $858 billion package that will extend tax cuts passed during the Bush administration for another two years. The measure now goes to the House, where it is expected to pass despite complaints by Democrats over what they see as overly generous estate tax rates for the rich.

The unfinished tax bill made some investors pause. "No one is going to make any major planning decisions until this bill gets passed," said Tim Speiss, a partner at EisnerAmper LLP, a financial planning firm. "I'm working with a lot of companies who are postponing deals until they know what the tax rates will be."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 19.07 or 0.2 percent, to 11,457.47.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.36, or 0.5 percent, to 1,235.23.

The Nasdaq composite index fell 10.5, or 0.4 percent, to 2,617.22.

Coca Cola Co. rose 1.3 percent to lead the 30 stocks that make up the Dow index. Alcoa Inc., which fell 1.7 percent, was the worst performing stock in the index.

Consumer staples companies were the only one of the 10 groups that make up the S&P 500 index to rise.

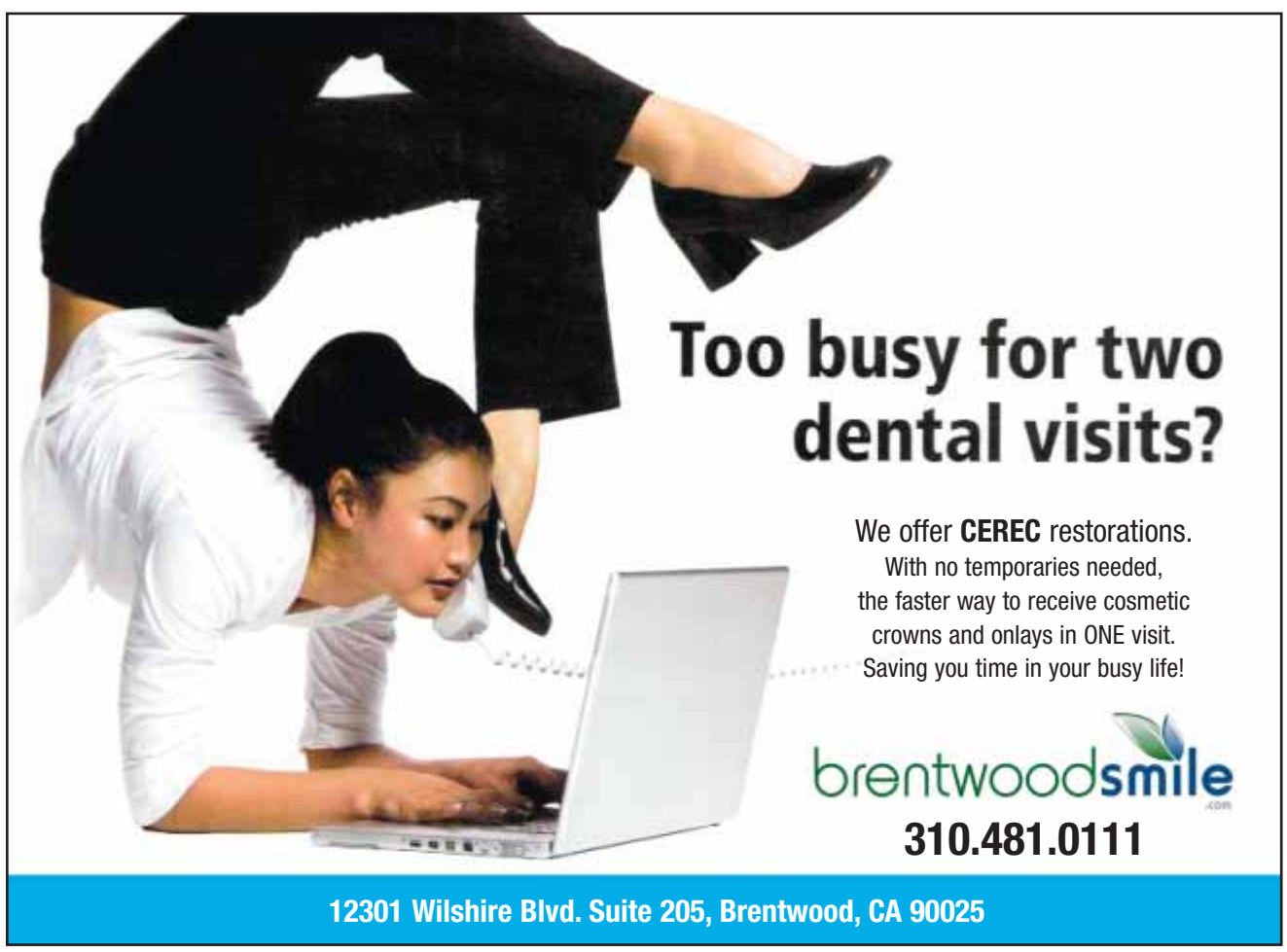
Boston Beer Co.,the maker of Sam Adams beer, rose 12.1 percent to $94.97 after it raised its 2010 earnings forecast. The company said it is shipping 12 percent more products than last year.

Ryder System Inc. gained 4.8 percent after an RBC analyst raised his investment rating on the trucking company, saying he expects demand for its services to rise.

Treasury prices fell, pushing their yields higher. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.53 percent from 3.45 percent the day before. That's the highest the yield has been since May 13. The yield helps set interest rates on mortgages and other kinds of loans.

Bond yields have been rising since early October because investors expect the economy to improve. They also anticipate higher budget deficits because of the tax cut package.

Two stocks fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated volume was 4.6 billion shares.





Feds sue BP, other companies for oil spill damages

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS The Justice Department sued BP and several other companies involved in the Gulf oil spill Wednesday, an opening salvo in the government's effort to get billions of dollars for untold economic and environmental damage.

The government accuses the companies of disregarding federal safety regulations in drilling the well that blew out April 20 and triggered a deadly explosion on the Deepwater Horizon rig. The lawsuit is separate from a Justice Department criminal probe that has not resulted in any charges.

"The department's focus on investigating this disaster and preventing future (spills) is not over," Attorney General Eric Holder said during a news conference in Washington. "Both our civil and criminal investigations are ongoing."

The federal lawsuit filed in New Orleans names BP, rig owner Transocean and some other companies involved in the ill-fated drilling project, but not Halliburton — the project's cement contractor — or the maker of a key cutoff valve that failed. Both could be added later.

BP said it would respond to the claims at a later date but noted that it stands "alone among the parties" in having already stepped up to pay for the cleanup. It said in a statement that it will continue to fulfill its commitments to the Gulf and to cooperate with ongoing investigations.

"The filing is solely a statement of the government's allegations and does not in any manner constitute any finding of liability or any judicial finding that the allegations have merit," BP said.

The lawsuit makes it possible for the federal government to seek billions of dollars in penalties for polluting the Gulf of Mexico, beaches and wetlands, and reimbursement for its cleanup costs. More than 300 lawsuits filed previously by individuals and businesses, and now consolidated in the New Orleans federal court, include claims for financial losses and compensation for the families of 11 workers killed in the blast.

The judge overseeing those lawsuits had set Wednesday as the deadline to file certain types of complaints, though it was unclear whether the government was bound by that time frame.

"The Justice Department has left its options open to argue that there was gross negligence and therefore should be higher penalties," said David Uhlmann, a law professor at the University of Michigan who headed up the Justice Department's environmental crimes section for seven years. "The government has not limited itself in any way with the filing of its civil lawsuit."

The suit asks that the companies be held liable without limitation under the Oil Pollution Act for all removal costs and damages caused by the spill, including damages to natural resources. The lawsuit also seeks civil penalties under the Clean Water Act.

The government did not set a dollar figure in the lawsuit, saying the amount of damages and the extent of injuries sustained by the United States are not yet fully known.

Under the Clean Water Act alone, BP faces fines of up to $1,100 for each barrel of oil spilled. If BP were found to have committed gross negligence or willful misconduct, the fine could be up to $4,300 per barrel.

That means that based on the government's estimate of 206 million gallons released by the well, BP could face civil fines of between $5.4 billion and $21.1 billion. BP disputes the government's spill estimate.

The government did not specify in its lawsuit whether it believes there was gross negligence, but it left open the possibility for such a finding later.

Besides BP Exploration & Production Inc., the other defendants in the case are Anadarko Exploration & Production LP; Anadarko Petroleum Corp.; MOEX Offshore 2007 LLC; Triton Asset Leasing GMBH; Transocean Holdings LLC; Transocean Offshore Deepwater Drilling Inc.; Transocean Deepwater Inc.; and Transocean's insurer, QBE Underwriting Ltd./Lloyd's Syndicate 1036. Anadarko and MOEX are minority owners of the well that blew out.

Transocean disputed the allegations and insisted it should not be held liable.

"No drilling contractor has ever been held liable for discharges from a well under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990," Transocean said in a statement. "The responsibility for hydrocarbons discharged from a well lies solely with its owner and operator."

Anadarko said ultimate responsibility may rest solely with the operator of the well — BP.

"As a non-operating minority interest holder in the well, we were not involved in the operations or decisions that occurred on the drilling rig," Anadarko said in a statement. "We recognize that we may have obligations under federal law, and we will continue to look to the operator to pay all legitimate claims as it has committed to do."

The staff of a presidentially appointed commission looking into the spill has said the disaster resulted from questionable decisions and management failures by BP, Transocean and Halliburton Energy Services Inc. The panel found 11 decisions made by these companies increased risk. Most saved time, and all but one had a safer alternative.

Halliburton and Cameron International, which made the rig's failed blowout preventer, weren't named as defendants in the suit. Halliburton did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Eric Schaeffer, who led the Environmental Protection Agency's civil enforcement office from 1997 to 2002, cited three possible explanations for omitting Halliburton.

Health group sues McDonald's over Happy Meal toys

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Ore. A California mother of two and The Center for Science in the Public Interest are suing McDonald's Corp. to get the fast-food chain to stop using toys to market meals to young children.

They say McDonald's is violating several consumer protection laws by marketing its Happy Meals directly to young children because it exploits children's vulnerability.

"What kids see as a fun toy, I now realize is a sophisticated, high-tech marketing scheme that's designed to put McDonald's between me and my daughters," said Monet Parham, of Sacramento, Calif. "For the sake of other parents and their children, I want McDonald's to stop interfering with my family."

Parham's lawyers, who filed the lawsuit in state court in San Francisco on Wednesday, have asked that it be certified as a class action. The lawsuit doesn't seek damages; it asks the court to bar McDonald's from advertising any meals that feature toys to California children.

McDonald's said it is proud of its Happy Meals and intends to vigorously defend its brand, reputation and food.

"We stand on our 30-year track record of providing a fun experience for kids and families at McDonald's," the company said in a statement.

McDonald's, the world's largest burger chain, is facing scrutiny for including toys with meals. San Francisco recently prohibited them in meals with more than 600 calories or more than 35 percent of their calories from fat.

Santa Clara County, home of Silicon Valley, has a similar ban. But city leaders in Superior, Wis., this month decided against regulating toys in fast-food meals.

The consumer group said it is focusing on McDonald's because it is the largest fast-food company and spends more money marketing to children than its peers and could serve as a leader if it makes reforms.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest has a track record of getting the food industry to change its practices. Snack and cereal maker Kellogg Co. agreed to a settlement with the center that set nutrition standards for the foods Kellogg could advertise to children. KFC agreed to phase out oils high in trans fats after the center dropped a lawsuit over KFC's use of partially hydrogenated oils.

Fast-food companies spent over $520 million in 2006 on marketing children's meals, and toys made up almost three-quarters of those expenses, the group said.

In this case, the center claims McDonald's is engaged in a "highly sophisticated scheme to use the bait of toys to exploit children's developmental immaturity and subvert parental authority."

The toys encourage children to eat nutritionally unbalanced Happy Meals, which in turn promotes obesity, according to the center's complaint.

"McDonald's advertising of Happy Meals with toys is deceptive and unfair to children, unfair to parents, and in violation of California law," the complaint states.

It's possible to order Happy Meals with healthier elements, such as apples instead of fries or milk instead of soda. But the center found McDonald's employees usually include the less-healthy options unless a customer specifically requests the healthier foods.

Shares of McDonald's rose 2 cents to $77.13 in early afternoon trading.







SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

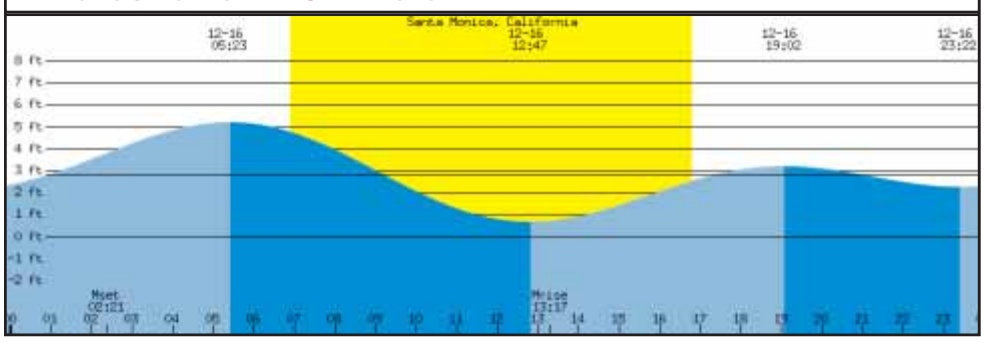
Swell Forecast

Should see another burst of wind swell, increasing west facing breaks into chest high surf, with periods running 11 seconds.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see more wind swell, but it looks like this will have a SW'erly element, making this especially sloppy and storm driven.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **December 8, 2010**

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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 -- 11
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 17

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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.	A+	F
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	B
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	C
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+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	A
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	D
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	B
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	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.	F	D
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MLB

Dodgers close to signing reliever Matt Guerrier

BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles Dodgers are close to signing reliever Matt Guerrier.

A person with knowledge of the deal confirmed Wednesday to The Associated Press that Guerrier will sign a three-year contract. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because Guerrier must still take a physical on Thursday, when the Dodgers could announce the deal.

The 32-year-old right-hander has spent his entire career with the Minnesota Twins. He had a 3.17 ERA in 74 games last season. Guerrier was even better in 2009, with a 2.36 ERA in 79 games, which led the American League.

Guerrier has a 3.38 ERA during seven seasons in the majors. He's appeared in at least 73 games in each of the last four years.

The Twins declined to offer arbitration to Guerrier.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #3017: FURNISH AND DELIVER 95 & 68 GALLON RECYCLABLE PLASTIC REFUSE CONTAINERS AS REQUIRED BY RESOURCE RECOVERY & RECYCLING.

Submission deadline is January 10, 2011 at 3:00 PM PT.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-8281 or by e-mailing your request to kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm

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

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #3020 – FURNISH AND DELIVER ONE (1) NEW AND UNUSED HYDROSTATIC DRIVE-HIGH PRESSURE JETTER VACUUM UNIT FOR THE WATER RESOURCES DIVISION.

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is January 11, 2011 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-2211, or by e-mailing your request to kimberlie.nimori@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/

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Morning Glory (PG-13) 1hr 42min
2:20pm, 7:15pm

Unstoppable (PG-13) 1hr 38min
12:30pm, 2:55pm, 5:15pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

Due Date (R) 1hr 35min
12:00pm, 4:55pm, 9:45pm

Social Network (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
3:45pm, 6:45pm

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Warrior's Way (NR) 1hr 40min
12:15pm, 10:00pm

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1 (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:40am, 3:10pm, 6:30pm, 9:50pm

Tangled in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Burlesque (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Yogi Bear 3D (PG) 1hr 22min
12:01am

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (NR) 2hrs 07min
12:01am

How Do You Know (R) 1hr 56min
12:01am

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
11:30am, 12:30pm, 2:20pm, 3:20pm, 5:10pm, 6:15pm, 7:55pm, 9:00pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
10:45am, 11:30am, 1:15pm, 2:05pm, 3:50pm, 4:45pm, 6:45pm, 7:45pm, 9:30pm, 10:30pm

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

Night Catches Us (R) 1hr 30min
5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

All That I Love (Wszystko co kocham) (NR) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 7:40pm, 9:55pm

Inside Job (PG-13) 1hr 48min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

127 Hours (R) 1hr 33min
12:50pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:55pm, 10:15pm

Beats of Freedom (Zew wolnosci) (NR) 1hr 13min
3:10pm, 5:20pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1 (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
12:40pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Love and Other Drugs (R) 1hr 53min
1:25pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Megamind 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
12:30pm, 3:05pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm

Next Three Days (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
noon, 10:20pm

Tangled (PG) 1hr 40min
1:10pm, 3:40pm, 6:10pm, 8:40pm

Tourist (PG-13) 1hr 43min
1:15pm, 2:45pm, 4:15pm, 5:15pm, 6:45pm, 7:45pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm

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

Hang with pals, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Be sensitive to a change early in the day. No longer are you the centerpiece, but one of the players. Knowing how to gracefully let down your defenses could be very important. Curb a tendency to go to extremes. Tonight: Treat yourself on the way home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You feel empowered and know that you can manage what otherwise might be a difficult situation. Understand when you have had enough of an indulgent friend or associate. Politely walk away. Tonight: As you like it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Take a stab at doing something differently. Others might push you in a certain direction. Stop and use your instincts, and you will be happy with the end results. If you can do some quiet work or get some time to yourself, do. Tonight: Vanish.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Screen out a matter that is distracting you. This issue could revolve around someone at a distance or someone who simply seems to understand life differently from you. A partner or friend supports your efforts. Tonight: Where the action is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Others pressure you to achieve the goals they desire. You could be inordinately tired and drawn, yet at the last minute you get a second wind. Alternate physical activity with mental thought. The rotation will add energy. Tonight: A force to be dealt with -- think "weekend."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for someone at a distance. You also might be seeking out an expert or two to help you break through an issue. Your creativity surges once a brainstorming session starts. Others go overboard. Tonight: Let your imagination lead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Others will pitch in if you ask for help. You could be quite tired and drained just from your daily routine and a domestic issue. Know when to let go and allow events to play out. You cannot always be in control. Tonight: Visit over dinner with a pal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others knock on your door, allowing greater flow. You are anxious to clear up a misunderstanding that might not be too comfortable. Your creativity surges, especially when eyeing a money matter. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Focus on completion, as you might have been somewhat distracted the past few days. You wonder what is going on with a family member, who at best is emotional and at worst is disruptive. Tonight: At home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You change your tune as you are more relaxed and see a new path. Your willingness to risk also is increased. Someone you care about could be overwhelming with his or her emotional display. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Consider adding a more personal touch to your home or place of work. You need that sense of "yours." Many of you will opt to add fountains or plants. Your instincts guide you with a family member and/or a domestic issue. Tonight: Close to home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You could be more emotional than you realize. What you say does make a big difference to others. If you overwhelm people with an ongoing emotional monologue, they will run. Center yourself before starting up talks. Tonight: Hang out with your pals.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you make advances because of your ability to mix practicality with your creativity. This blend manifests itself in many different realms of your daily life. Others look to you as a problem solver. Many of you will opt to revamp your finances in a manner that reflects who you are at this juncture. You also might sell or get rid of what had been vital to your household, freeing yourself from worldly possessions. If you are single, spring 2011 presents some very lively options. In fact, you could be overwhelmed by many suitors. If you are attached, the two of you enter a phase in which you feel more connected than you have in years. TAURUS keeps you grounded, like it or not!



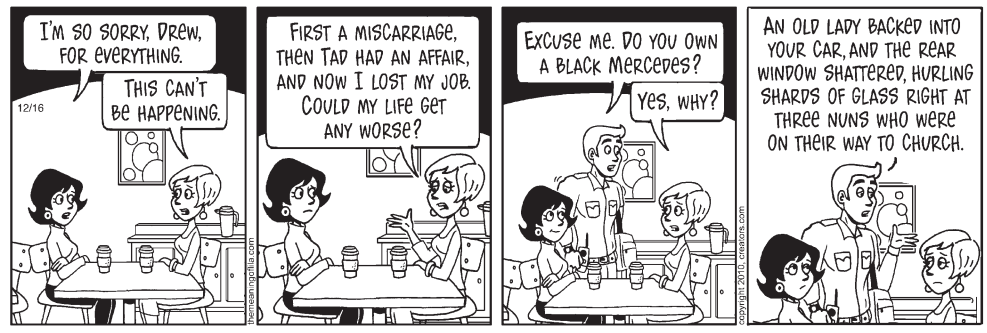
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



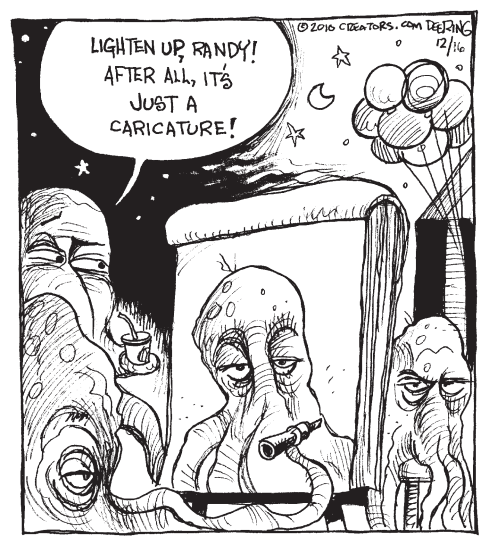
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Grill waste
6 Winter weather
11 Plow pioneer
12 Crichton novel
13 Cast's place
14 Hazardous gas
15 Honcho
17 Diet no-no
19 Objective
20 Masseur's place
23 Like this answer
25 Graceful bird
26 Students' cribs
28 Eye drop
29 Choose on the radio
30 Fast jet
31 Golfer Hogan
32 Breath mint holder
33 Nose part
35 Argentine legend
38 Oddball
41 Steer clear of
42 Sioux language
43 Cloth fold
44 Inform against

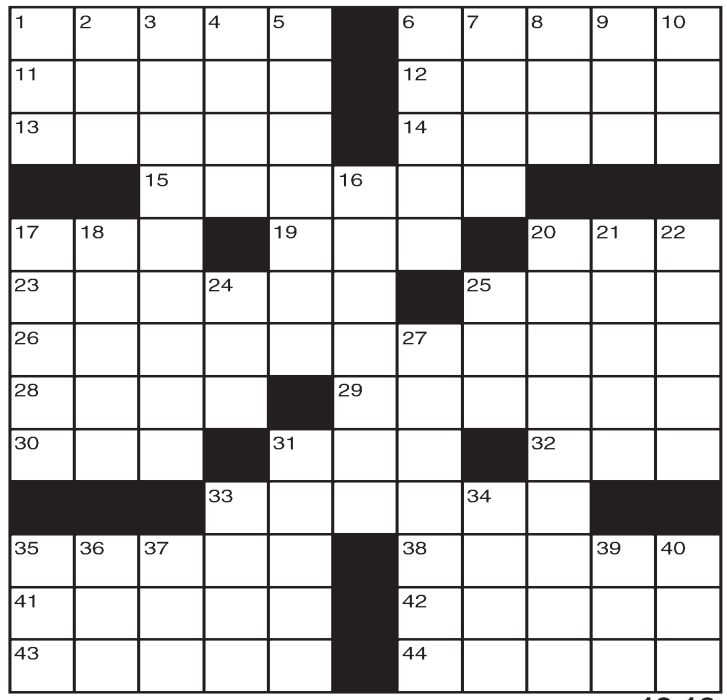
DOWN

1 TV plugs
2 Filming site
3 Temper, as metal
4 Therefore
5 Overlook, as a fault
6 "Beat it!"
7 Bank offering
8 Terminate
9 Big head
10 Big weight
16 Blunder
17 Almanac info
18 Masseur's targets
20 Confection
21 Page of music
22 Williams of "Happy Days"
24 Galley item
25 Capitol Bldg. worker
27 Seek
31 "The Devil and Daniel Webster" writer
33 Fizzy quaff
34 Stellar bear
35 Vigor
36 Annex
37 Deplore
39 Before today
40 Writer Follett

S	P	O	K	E	■	■	T	E	M	P
P	A	R	E	N	■	B	O	X	E	R
I	N	B	E	D	■	A	S	T	R	O
G	A	I	L	■	O	N	H	O	L	D
O	C	T	■	A	U	G	■	L	E	S
T	H	E	P	R	I	Z	E	■	■	■
■	E	R	I	C	■	O	R	C	A	■
■	■	■	T	H	E	O	R	I	Z	E
E	M	S	■	D	A	M	■	T	A	D
M	A	P	O	U	T	■	T	I	L	E
B	L	A	N	K	■	D	O	Z	E	R
E	L	I	T	E	■	O	N	E	A	L
R	E	N	O	■	■	T	E	N	S	E

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



12-16

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

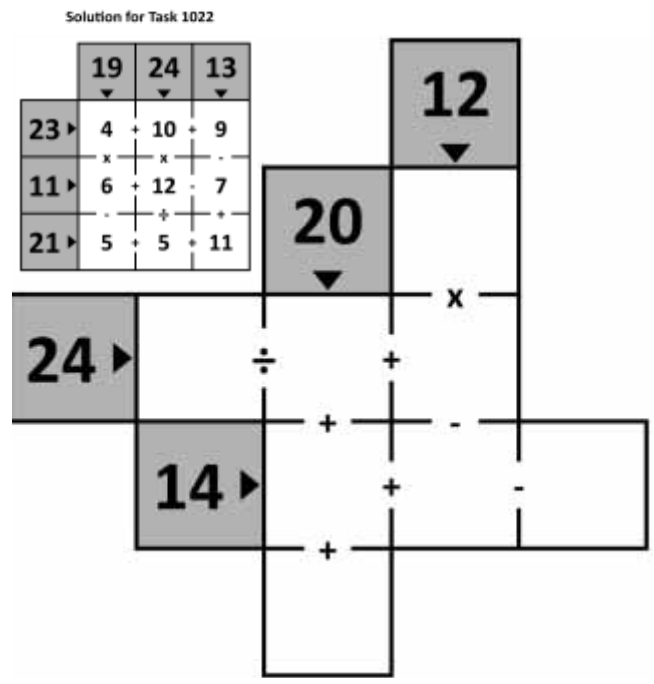
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 12, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1022



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 18 22 25 31 38 Meganumber: 29 Jackpot: $123M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 3 4 22 32 44 Meganumber: 8 Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5: 8 9 23 25 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 3 9 EVENING: 1 3 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 09 Winning Spirit 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 03 Hot Shot RACE TIME: 1:47.62

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

■ (1) Joe Druce, serving life in prison in Massachusetts for one murder (and who subsequently murdered fellow inmate and former pedophile priest John Geoghan), popped the question recently to Christian minister Shirl Borden, who agreed to marry him in October after five years of being pen pals. Borden said the pair's relationship turned romantic over their mutual love of NASCAR. (2) Harvey Westmoreland of Lawrenceburg, Ky., maintains that the $250 price he was asking for his tractor was reasonable, but the potential buyer felt cheated and, with a friend, attacked Westmoreland. Said Westmoreland, "(T)hey cut my beard and forced me to eat it." In November, the two men pleaded guilty to assault.

■ A Website for Everything: When a female New York City subway rider recorded video (on her cell phone) of a male exhibitionist flaunting himself at her recently, and posted it to the Internet, the regulars at one specialized website largely defended the man. Some visitors at DickFlash.com (evidently a favorite hangout for flashers) tore into the woman for being too sensitive. (Wrote one, "If she doesn't want to see it, she can just look away." And another: "She should be thankful he flashed his dick at her.") Others merely offered advice for the flasher on technique. (Wrote another, "OK, lets (sic) point out his mistakes: Subways or local buses must be done with sweats or some form of elastic band so that when u did (sic) get busted it's easy to slip back up.")

TODAY IN HISTORY

1991 United Nations General Assembly: UN General Assembly Resolution 4686 revokes UN General Assembly Resolution 3379 after Israel makes revocation of resolution 3379 a condition of its participation in the Madrid Peace Conference of 1991.

1991 Independence of The Republic of Kazakhstan.

1997 An episode of Pokémon, "Dennÿ Senshi Porygon", aired in Japan induces seizures in hundreds of Japanese children.

WORD UP!

boondocks
\ BOON-doks \ , noun;
1. A remote rural area (usually preceded by "the.")

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Announcements

American Cancer Society's Discovery Shops Semi Annual 50% Off storewide Sale...Friday, December 17th & Saturday, December 18th920 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica and at 844 South Robertson Blvd. L.A.

Employment

Front Desk Receptionist. We are looking to hire a Receptionist and would love to hear from you if you are 18 years of age and above, have a High School Diploma or GED, have good communication and people skills and can handle various responsibilities. We are looking for characteristics more so than experience, so if you are upbeat, friendly and like to help people, please apply today! Contact us: (dagarner@live.com)

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101560059 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 10/29/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ALL DIALECTS TRANSLATIONS; ALL INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING; CAR TECH. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: ROBERTO ARIAS 2242 KELTON LOS ANGELES, CA, 90064. This Business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:ROBERTO ARIAS; OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/29/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/25/2010, 12/02/2010, 12/09/2010, 12/16/2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101578729 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/03/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LIVE LANGUAGE LOS ANGELES; LIVE LANGUAGE L.A.. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: DEIRDRE CLARIDGE 2216 6TH ST, UNIT B S.M., CA 90405. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)05/27/2005. /s/: DEIRDRE CLARIDGE; OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/03/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/16/2010, 12/23/2010, 12/30/2010, 01/06/2011.

DBAS

11/03/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/02/2010, 12/09/2010, 12/16/2010, 12/23/2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 10-1593652
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PRIME PARKING SERVICE CO., 13904 CARFAX AVE., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JOSE VINTIMILLA, 13904 CARFAX AVE., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE VINTIMILLA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/05/10. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Pub. Nov. 15, 22, 29 Dec. 06, 2010
Publish: Santa Monica Daily Press

ICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 10-1670925
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GUEST GALOSHES, 1025 GRANDVILLE AVE. #17, L.A., CA 90049. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SARAH WILSON, 1025 GRANDVILLE AVE. #17, L.A., CA 90049. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SARAH WILSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/18/10. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Pub. Nov. 29 Dec. 06, 13, 20, 2010
Publish: Santa Monica Daily Press

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101646752 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/16/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SCHOOL DAY CONSULTING . The full name of registrant(s) is/are: JUDITH A. DAY 2029 GLENCOE AVE VENICE, CA 90291. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/30/2010. /s/: JUDITH A. DAY; OWNER . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/16/2010, 12/23/2010, 12/30/2010, 01/06/2011.

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