

# Santa Monica Daily Press

December 30-31, 2006

Since 2001: A news odyssey

Volume 6 Issue 41

**DAILY LOTTERY**

**MEGA MILLIONS**  
3 4 10 39 50  
Meganumber: 29  
Jackpot: \$72M

**Super LOTTO PLUS**  
1 21 30 39 40  
Meganumber: 4  
Jackpot: \$34M

**Fantasy 5**  
7 14 20 29 31

**DAILY 3** MIDDAY: 9 6 2  
EVENING: 3 0 9

**DAILY DERBY**  
1st: 08 Gorgeous George  
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit  
3rd: 04 Big Ben  
RACE TIME: 1:43.64

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

■ In a deposition, Ennis, Texas, physician Aniruddha Chitale admitted that semen that patient Sherry Simpson found on her face after a 2004 colonoscopy was his and thus later pleaded guilty to sexual assault. However, in his deposition (according to a report by Dallas' WFAA-TV), Chitale insisted that the act that produced the semen was "unintentional." (Simpson is now suing Ennis Regional Medical Center for having tolerated Chitale's behavior.)

■ University of California, Irvine, professor Elizabeth Loftus, a prominent scholar on people's overconfidence about memory, was turned down by the judge as an expert witness in November in the forthcoming trial of "Scooter" Libby (Vice President Cheney's former assistant, who has been charged with lying to prosecutors about phone conversations, which Libby says weren't lies but just forgetfulness). At a hearing on Loftus' credentials, prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald not only exposed some problems with her research but elicited from Loftus the confident assertion that the two had never before met. However, Fitzgerald then immediately refreshed Loftus' memory, reminding her that he had cross-examined her in court once before.

## WORD UP!

acuity \uh-KYOO-uh-tee/, *noun*:  
Acuteness of perception or vision; sharpness.

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2006

HOPE, CHANGE  
& HEARTBREAK

DAILY PRESS INVESTIGATION

## Grapes of wrath

Restaurant patrons order up the vino  
at their own peril to their pocketbooks

SEE PAGE 3

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II [alex@smdp.com](mailto:alex@smdp.com)

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Carl Laurysen, MD

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*Fabian Lewkowicz*



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# Calendar

Santa Monica Daily Press

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WEEKEND EDITION, DECEMBER 30-31, 2006

A newspaper with issues

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## WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



### Mar Vista Farmers' Market

Grandview Boulevard at Venice Boulevard, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

### "Audition!"

1211 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased by calling (310) 394-9779, ext. 1 or by visiting [www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com](http://www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com).

### Debbie Merrill's Inline Skate Group Class

2400 Ocean Front Walk, 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 31, 2006

### Lawn Bowling Lessons

Wilshire Boulevard and 25th Street, 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

### Salsa Dancing at Casa Escobar

14160 Palowan Way, Marina del Rey, 9 p.m. — midnight  
For more information, call (310) 392-3493.

### Winter Break Hour at The Cove Santa Monica Skatepark

401 Olympic Blvd., 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.

To register and shred, visit Memorial Park. For more information, visit [www.thecove.smgov.net](http://www.thecove.smgov.net) or call (310) 458-8228.

### Prayer Vigil and Labyrinth

1008 11th St., 3 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Visit a replica of the maze laid in the floor of the Chartres Cathedral in the Middle Ages at the First United Methodist Church. Open to all at no charge, with free underground parking across the street.

### Break Point Bridge Sunday Meeting

1210 Fourth St., 10:00 a.m. — noon

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to [smdp.com](http://smdp.com) and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

Santa Monica Daily Press  
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For more information on any of the events listed, log on to [smdp.com](http://smdp.com) and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



**CORRECTION** In the Friday, Dec. 29 article "Shooter claims a life in Pico" (page 12), it was incorrectly stated that a car wash fundraiser for Miguel Angel Martin being held this weekend (Sat-Sun, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at St. Anne's Catholic Church was being presented by the Pico Youth & Family Center. The fundraiser is being coordinated by Father Mike Gutierrez of St. Anne's Church.

# He puts Bhutan on the map

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**SECOND STREET** — What might be one of the oddest business plans in existence has proven quite successful for one Bhutanese man with an extensive history.

For the past 22 years, Benchen Khenpo — who claims to be a reincarnate Lama with tight connections to the Bhutanese royal family — has opened a store in Santa Monica, showcasing a vast collection of the traditional Bhutanese arts and crafts. His goal is to raise awareness for the culture of the relatively unknown and tiny South Asian country of about 670,000 people nestled in the Himalayas between India and China.

Bhutan Handicrafts is unlike any of the other stores in the Los Angeles area that specialize in ethnic apparel and crafts. Khenpo's plan, since he opened shop in 1984 on Main Street near Rose Avenue, has been to keep the store in business for only one or two months out of the year, and then head back home to Bhutan.

Once the selling period — which usually occurs in November and December — is over, Khenpo packs up his inventory and stores it until the following year, when he repeats it all over again. During the rest of the year, Khenpo

See BHUTAN MAN, page 17



Christine Chang [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)  
**HANDI MAN:** Benchan Khenpo (left) runs Bhutan Handicraft, located on Second Street, with the help of his daughter, Tsering Yangden (right). Though Khenpo's store is on lease for just one month per year, the Bhutan native has been able to keep his operation going in Santa Monica for more than two decades.



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II [alex@smdp.com](mailto:alex@smdp.com)

**HIGH COST OF WINING & DINING:** Johanna Roth-Noren enjoys a glass of white wine on Friday at Yankee Doodles on the Third Street Promenade.

## Eateries drink in profits

### Patrons pay more for wine when eating out, but at what cost?

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITYWIDE** — A romantic walk along Santa Monica Beach — free. Two tickets to the Laemmle's Monica 4-Plex Theatre on Second Street — \$20.

A bottle of Diamond Creek's Cabernet Sauvignon 2000 at Michael's Restaurant on Third Street to toast the perfect first date — pricey.

In an age when the popular alcoholic grape beverage is becoming more attainable to the masses, with Trader Joe's "Two Buck Chuck" and Australia's yellow tail brand, which is sold in many supermarkets with prices ranging between \$7 and \$12, wine continues to be among the most expensive items on the menu in restaurants across the city.

At Michael's, which specializes in California cuisine, a bottle of Diamond Creek's Cabernet Sauvignon "Gravelly

Meadow" 2000 will set a diner back \$285. That same bottle of wine can be purchased at NapaCabs.com for \$144.95. Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin Yellow Label champagne can be purchased at Select Wines LLC for \$39.90. That same bottle is priced at \$109 at Michael's — about 173 percent more than the list price at Select Wines LLC. Beverages & More [BevMo] has the champagne for \$34.99.

"It bugs me when I go to a restaurant and see wine marked up 300 percent," said Vicki Ho, of Brentwood, as she purchased a couple of bottles of wine at Wine Expo on Santa Monica Boulevard on Friday. "And that's the average now."

After visiting a restaurant and paying for an expensive bottle of wine, Ho likes to browse the Internet for the same bottle of wine and compare prices. "Every time I see a bottle at a restaurant, I think about how I can get that same bottle at a wine store for \$20."

The Internet has made it more conven-

ient for wine enthusiasts to purchase typically expensive bottles of wine and champagne. Andrew Turner, the sommelier at Michael's, predicts that the Internet will someday change the way restaurants price their wine.

Pricing wine is a function of the availability of the wine and the amount at which the wine can be purchased at wholesale, Turner said on Thursday. As the wholesale price goes up, percentage markup goes down, and vice versa.

"We sometimes get closeouts at unusually deep discounts and we would then have a higher relative percentage markup," Turner said.

The name recognition of Veuve Clicquot, which can frequently be seen in the hands of celebrities, allows Michael's to sell the wine at a high markup.

"Customers are not necessarily as inclined to take a risk on something they've never heard of," said Turner.

See WINE COSTS, page 20

## Lost when it comes to insurance?



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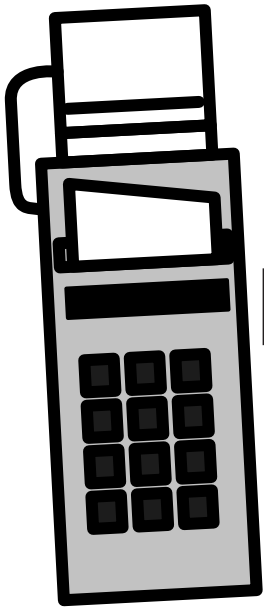
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EDITORIAL

# 10 ways to fix Santa Monica

Just another year in ‘Paradise.’

That’s likely the perception of those outside Santa Monica’s borders, but residents know better; they know much work needs to be done and are fully aware of the problems that pervade the everyday lives of city denizens.

The inherent spirit of the city in which we live is to dream big, to strive and to welcome change for the better (i.e. — progress). With the dawning of a new year upon us, the time to dream and express hopes for the days to come is ripe.

Nothing broken can’t be repaired with the right mix of foresight and perspiration.

We give you 10 ways, in no particular order, in which Santa Monica can be fixed:

■ **Eastside Eden:** A concerted effort should be placed on the development of the city’s eastern border, an underutilized area that not only contains the decidedly unattractive City Yards, but also the city’s No. 1 hidden gem — Bergamot Station, a former rail station-turned-art gallery complex that remains quiet and unvisited by the general populace. An attractive east side would also relieve pressure on the west side of the city, offering residents and developers alike an attractive alternative.

■ **Beat it:** With shootings occurring in the Pico Neighborhood still a regular occurrence, bolstering the police presence in the district seems a no-brainer. But to what degree? Balancing “police presence” with “police state” is a delicate matter, but until gangbangers get the message that the neighborhood is no longer an easy target in which to fire guns and flee, more and more police is needed. No region of the city is in more dire need of the SMPD’s services. Officers need to be walking the streets in increasing numbers and become a constant mainstay at Virginia Avenue Park, where a substation did nothing to deter the attackers who shot and killed 20-year-old Miguel Angel Martin this past week.

■ **On the slow track:** With a disconnect between the city’s neighborhoods, increasing traffic congestion and energy woes giving everyone the willies, the time for an innovative solution is at hand. An alternative energy or electric monorail — free to all city residents — could serve the city on a number of levels, not the least of which might be to serve as “the new Santa Monica” landmark. Connecting Ocean Park to Montana Avenue to Santa Monica beach might seem a pipe dream, but isn’t that what New Year’s is all about? In addition, the venerable Santa Monica Pier is an aging landmark for a city in need of a modern marvel that epitomizes not only where we’ve been, but where we are heading.

■ **Pedal to the mettle:** With everyone in the city calling for alternative means of

transportation, bicycle commuters continually touting their two-wheel travails and city officials yearning to be the greenest of the green, it seems somewhat obscene that Santa Monica ranks poorly among like-sized cities in terms of being bicycle-friendly. More streets need to have bike paths and more corners need bike racks in which to lock them. It’s one thing to tout the use of bicycles and quite another to take steps towards actually making it feasible for commuters.

The city might do well to take a page from Amsterdam, where there are community bicycles that can be shared by all residents and are made readily available. The city could emblazon them with city logos and even outfit them with electronic brake wheels (like those used to guard against shopping cart thefts) if someone attempts to pedal it beyond the city’s borders.

■ **The wading game:** While oftentimes referring to itself as “The City by The Sea,” the beaches of Santa Monica can seem a long way away, especially to residents who live on the northern end of town, where beach access is divided by the bustling Pacific Coast Highway and the natural bluff. The city’s series of pedestrian bridges are dirty, a haven for homeless and uninviting. Grander beach access platforms and crossways, perhaps resembling the pier in architectural makeup, would not only be more aesthetically pleasing, but also more enticing to tourists and locals alike who’ve grown weary of making their way south for a safe, unencumbered entryway to the fabled Santa Monica beaches.

■ **Homeless sweep:** Typically, the major complaint about the city’s homeless is that they dwell in the city’s parks and gathering places, doing nothing to enhance the city, only taking up space and adding a threatening, dirty element. Many within the homeless population contend they are willing to work and earn their keep. City officials should provide them the tools to do so and install bins with rakes and brooms and general maintenance equipment throughout the city. Visitors should be encouraged to tip those they see cleaning, sweeping and caring for the city that cares for them.

■ **Embrace Darwinism:** It’s time to put an end to the Palaeozoic Era in Santa Monica. The Third Street Promenade can sometimes feel as aged as the hedge-lined monstrosities that serve to divide the city’s main shopping district. With Macerich Co. drawing up plans for a revitalized, open Santa Monica Place mall, the time has come to address the adjacent promenade and make it a true town square. Tear up the dinosaurs and clear out the nooks that tend to draw undesirables. Keep the people-traffic flowing. Install a stage for

community concerts and give the want-to-be Cheryl Crows a rest now and then. Inject some life and movement into a tried-and-true gathering place before time passes it by. Learn from the lessons of Santa Monica Place.

If something must be installed in the central courtyard, city officials should consider public bathrooms. They could even be the self-cleaning variety, so that attendants now manning public toilets in the alleys could be relocated to the city’s parking structures, where safety continues to be an issue for visitors and employees alike.

■ **Re-taking the Fourth:** Once a Mecca for Westsiders on the Fourth of July, courtesy of an oceanside fireworks show, the city of Santa Monica’s community spirit is now conspicuous mostly for its absence. The since-cancelled fireworks show became too popular, and in turn, too difficult to maintain. Today, the city stages no parades and no street-closing citywide celebrations on holidays. A city just eight square miles should boast of much more community spirit and celebration. Even the annual Summer SOULstice on Main Street, an outdoor music festival, doesn’t warrant street closures. It’s time to rethink the city’s decision not to bother. For a city that espouses tolerance and cloaks itself in the Constitution, serving as celebration central on the nation’s birthday seems a natural fit.

■ **Boxing day:** With the cost of living in Santa Monica becoming harder and harder to come by, especially for those in affordable housing and on fixed incomes, savings have to be found where they may. The city’s shopping choices consist primarily of health food stores and some of the pricier supermarket chain outlets. Why not attract a so-called “big box” store such as Target or Costco to Santa Monica? Located on the east side of town, it would provide families with a more affordable option, as well as eradicate the need for residents to waste gasoline motoring outside the city in efforts to feed their families.

■ **Gone, but not forgotten:** While progress should be the mantra as we move forward in 2007, we mustn’t forget from whence we came as a city. The recent flare-up of community support for the Horizons Surf Shop building on Main Street, which was in line for demolition before the structure’s history as a birthplace for modern skateboarding led to a change of heart by the owner, is indicative of the city’s history and residents’ realization that their hometown has served as pioneer in modern culture. While the city goes about contracting new artwork and demanding that developers adorn their creations with art, we encourage those parties to take the city’s past (i.e. — skateboarding, Muscle Beach, aviation) into consideration when choosing their subjects.

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*A newspaper with issues*

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

## The Q-Line

### '07 COULD BE THE YEAR OF OUR DISCONTENT

This past week, Q-line asked:

**What will be the biggest changes to life as we know it in 2007? What are your boldest predictions for the year to come?**

Here are your responses:

© "We will see an enormous escalation of the poorly orchestrated Iraqi conflict that only serves the war frame industry and, in doing so, causes America to lose its most precious possession — the lives of the young men and women of our nation. We will see more traffic and human congestion due to over building, compounded by skyrocketing prices for food and other commodity services."

© "I dread the coming of '07 with a Democrat agreeing to ship more military to Iraq and (another) agreeing to have a draft. There appears to be no hope for the future."

© "Considering the Democrats now have Congress, the change will be not much happening in Washington."



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## Resolutions for us all



**MODERN TIMES**  
BY LLOYD GARVER

Experts in the New Year's Resolution field estimate that 25 percent of resolutions don't make it past Jan 8. So rather than torturing ourselves by making resolutions that we may or may not be able to stick to, it's a lot easier to suggest resolutions that other people should make.

That's what I've done below:

#### POLITICS:

President Bush should resolve to apologize and/or admit that he's made a mistake ... about anything. It doesn't even have to be in public. It could be in the privacy of his own bedroom, with his wife. Or even by himself. He'll feel better and we'll all feel better.

Nancy Pelosi should resolve that she won't allow a situation to come about in which the American people say, "I don't like this new corruption. I miss the old corruption."

Hillary Clinton should resolve to make no more campaign speeches until she announces that she's running for president.

Vice President Cheney should resolve to refrain from hunting — if there are any other people present in the same county.

Republicans should resolve not to make fun of an opponent just because he has a funny-sounding name.

Democrats should resolve not to make fun of an opponent just because he's a Republican.

#### FASHION:

All adult males should resolve that unless they are in the midst of playing a basketball game, they will not wear a tank top in public.

All adult women should resolve that they will not wear pants and underwear that reveal more than what working plumbers are known for when they bend over.

#### SPORTS:

Barry Bonds should resolve that if he breaks Henry Aaron's home run record, in addition to his father and Willie Mays, he will thank the wonderful world of chemistry.

John Madden and other color commen-

tators should resolve to, well, just be quiet once in a while.

The media should resolve to refrain from giving any more publicity to that egomaniacal football player, Terrell ... oops, almost slipped.

Those who control college sports — the television networks — should resolve to not add any new bowl games. I don't want to see the "Manny's Grill and Tire Repair Shop Bowl" brought to us in HD by Viagra.

All sports teams should resolve to get rid of any player who goes to strip clubs more often than he goes to practice.

Macho, sweaty athletes should resolve not to have a cologne or perfume named after them.

#### BROADCASTING

Every television network should resolve to have at least one executive who is old enough to vote.

Every morning news show should resolve to have at least two minutes of news out of every two hours.

#### SHOW BUSINESS

Donald Trump, Rosie O'Donnell and Rush Limbaugh should resolve to think before talking — and then not talk.

Hollywood should resolve to refrain from making sequels of movies whose originals weren't any good.

Mel Gibson should resolve to actually read that "Good Book" he talks about so much.

All female celebrities should resolve to eat at least three healthy meals — during the year.

All male celebrities should resolve not to take romantic roles opposite women young enough to be their granddaughters.

The movie industry should resolve to hold off for at least two years before giving us another movie about penguins.

Celebrities should resolve to avoid being in public wearing less underwear than their babies are wearing at home.

Wow, that was so much easier than my resolving to clean up my office or keep my mouth shut when I think my kids are making a mistake. More importantly, I'd like us all to resolve to have a happy, healthy and peaceful year.

Lloyd Garver writes "Modern Times" for CBSnews.com's Opinion page. Reach him at [smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com](mailto:smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com).

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# Betty Ford carries on without greatest supporter

BY ALLISON HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

**RANCHO MIRAGE** — Where was Betty Ford when her namesake clinic for substance abusers opened in 1982? Dashing off to Kmart with her husband to buy soap dishes for patients' rooms.

The former first couple were not the type to stand on ceremony when it came to helping others.

Perhaps no first lady in history has touched the lives of more Americans more directly than Mrs. Ford, who publicly admitted to her drug and alcohol addiction and also talked openly about her battle with breast cancer at a time when few public figures spoke about either.

The result was that thousands sought help for their addictions, and screenings for breast cancer surged.

The death of former President Gerald R. Ford this week has left Mrs. Ford without her husband of 58 years and without a partner in her efforts at the Betty Ford Center.

"He truly wanted this to be her place, her mission, so he purposely stayed in the background, but he was always there," said John Schwarzlose, the center's president. "They were just two down-to-earth Americans who

wanted to give alcoholics and addicts a chance to get well."

Mrs. Ford's frankness about her dependence on prescription drugs and alcohol has been widely credited with removing some of the stigma associated with addiction.

"It's hard to imagine a more important figure in the substance abuse field than Mrs. Ford," said Rick Rawson, associate director of the integrated substance abuse program at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Rawson, who has studied substance abuse addiction since the 1970s, said it was a huge gamble for a prominent person like Mrs. Ford to publicly admit her demons. Her acknowledgment nearly 30 years ago helped many others break their silence, Rawson said.

"If someone of her standing and her character can have a substance abuse problem, then anybody can have a substance abuse problem," Rawson said.

The Betty Ford Center has treated 76,000 people, including such luminaries as Elizabeth Taylor, Peter Lawford, Johnny Cash, Mickey Mantle and Mary Tyler Moore.

The 20-acre facility is tucked at the end of a guarded driveway and secluded behind high shrubbery on the grounds of

the Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, a celebrity-studded desert oasis 120 miles east of Los Angeles where the family settled after Ford left the White House in 1976.

Though her daughter, Susan Ford Bales, took over as chairman of the center in 2005, the 88-year-old Mrs. Ford remains deeply involved in the day-to-day operations and spends at least two days a week there talking to patients and staff, Schwarzlose said. More than 200 patients and staff gathered at the clinic for a memorial Wednesday, collecting personal notes to pass on to the Ford family.

It was Mrs. Ford's family that forced her in 1978 to confront her addiction to alcohol and prescription drugs, which she took for painful arthritis and a pinched nerve in her neck. She would later describe herself during that period as "this nice, dopey pill-pusher sitting around and nodding."

"As I got sicker," she once recalled, "I gradually stopped going to lunch. I wouldn't see friends. I was putting everyone out of my life." Her children recalled her living in a stupor, shuffling around in her bathrobe, refusing meals in favor of a drink.

Her family finally confronted her and insisted she seek treatment. She credited their "intervention" with saving her life.

## ON THE NET

■ **Betty Ford Center:**

<http://www.bettyfordcenter.org>

Four years later, she opened the center to help others.

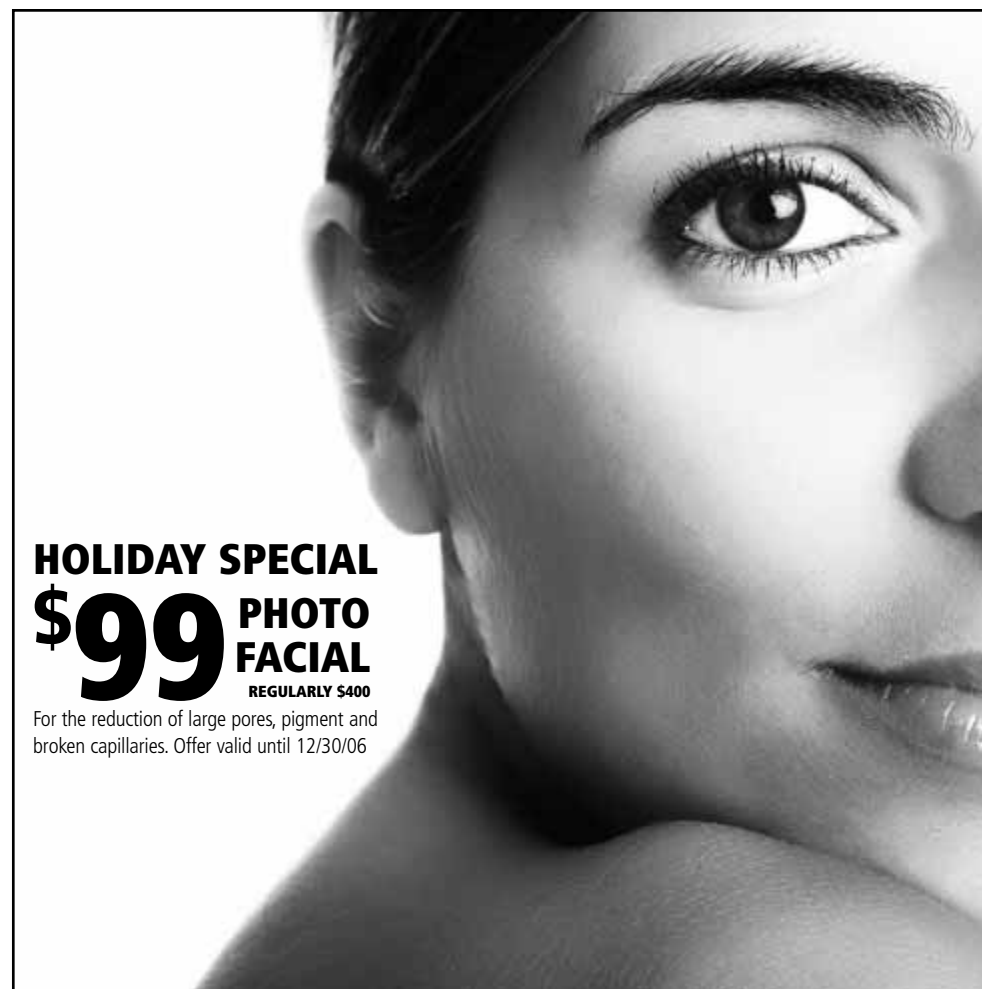
For the center's 20th anniversary, Mrs. Ford threw a black-tie gala that featured a rare gathering of five former first ladies: Nancy Reagan, Rosalynn Carter, Barbara Bush and Hillary Rodham Clinton, in addition to the hostess.

The American Society of Addiction Medicine honored Mrs. Ford in 2000 as a role model for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts.

Shortly after her husband became president in 1974, she underwent a mastectomy to remove a cancerous breast. Her disclosure of the surgery and recovery from it showed others that it was possible to beat cancer and live a full life, said Dr. Richard Wender, president of the American Cancer Society.

"She opened the door for thousands of women to seek support and to be open about their diagnosis," he said.

AP Science Writer **Alicia Chang** in Los Angeles contributed to this report.



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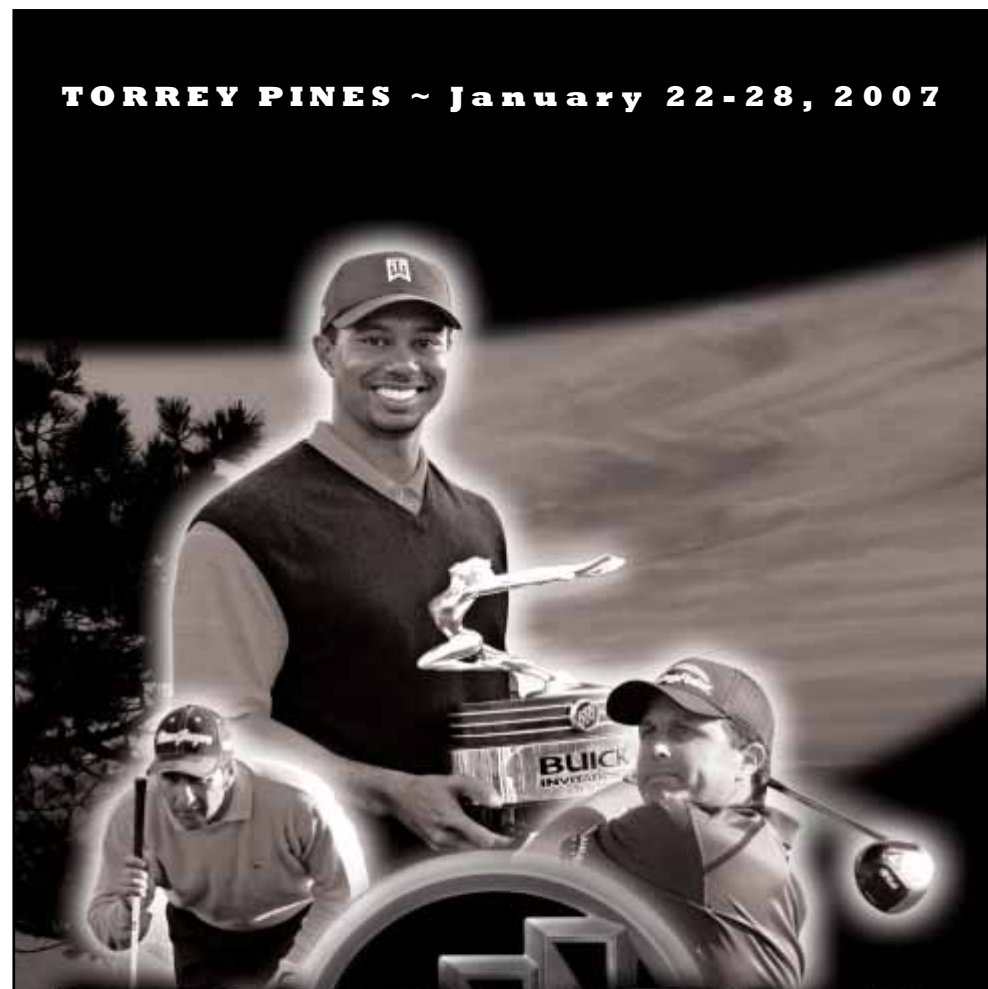
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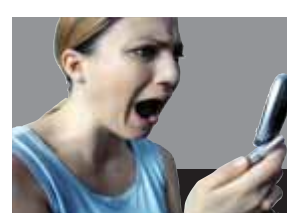


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## STATE BRIEFS

## SAN BERNARDINO

**Deal or no deal? Man accused of aiding gangs opts out**

A man accused of directing a group of gang members to an apartment where 11-year-old girl Mynisha Crenshaw was slain in November 2005 has asked to withdraw from his plea bargain with prosecutors.

Marquis Taylor, 18, gave no reasons in court Wednesday for his request to retract the guilty plea that he entered in exchange for a 10-year state prison sentence.

Taylor accepted a deal with prosecutors on Nov. 28 and pleaded guilty to two counts of aggravated assault with a firearm and allegations of criminal street-gang activity and that a firearm was used in the crime.

The judge scheduled a Jan. 12 hearing at which Taylor will be assigned a new attorney who will review the plea and the case facts.

Prosecutors said members of the street gang were looking for a rival who killed one of their own when Taylor gave them the address of Crenshaw's family and said the man lived there.

Based on that information, they riddled the apartment with gunfire on Nov. 13, 2005, killing the girl and wounding her 14-year-old sister as the family sat down to eat dinner, prosecutors said.

Police have said the family had no gang ties.

A gag order in the case prevents attorneys and other parties from commenting outside of court.

Four other defendants in the case are scheduled to return to court Jan. 19 for a pre-trial hearing

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## SANTA ANA

**A long fall for sheriff also-ran**

The lieutenant who mounted an unsuccessful run for Orange County sheriff in this year's election said he has resigned after being told that he would be demoted to patrolman because of his criticism of incumbent Sheriff Michael S. Carona during the campaign.

Lt. Bill Hunt said Wednesday that he submitted his retirement papers last week after being told he would be assigned to patrol the city of Stanton. He had been head of operations in San Clemente.

His salary would have been cut from \$115,000 to some amount less than \$77,000, he said.

"Obviously, this smacks of political retaliation," Hunt said.

Hunt said he plans to sue Carona for damages.

Sheriff's Department spokesman Jim Amormino did not immediately respond to a phone message seeking comment Thursday.

Hunt was recently licensed as a private investigator and said he will open his business next week.

AP

## LOS ANGELES

**Orange, they glad**

Transit officials unveiled a new \$26 million dollar Orange Line busway station in Canoga Park with a 611-space park-and-ride car lot.

If the Canoga station, which began operation Wednesday, attracts many riders, it could give a boost to the tentatively planned \$135 million north-south extension of the San Fernando Valley's 14-mile, east-west Orange Line, observers said.

"If the valley gets some usage out of it, then it will show that this is a good idea," said Bart Reed, executive director of advocacy group the Transit Coalition.

One proposal has the extension cutting from Canoga station, the line's 14th, to the Chatsworth Metrolink station.

The Orange Line reached its 15-year ridership goals in just one year.

But, according to transit officials, the park-and-ride lots at six of the lines' other 13 stations are only about 15 percent full on an average day.

AP



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# Scofflaw's \$200M has buoyed state's coffers

BY AARON C. DAVIS

Associated Press Writer

**SACRAMENTO** — We may never know if Taxpayer X is a Silicon Valley billionaire, Hollywood celebrity, or some other fabulously rich Californian.

But what's clear is that Taxpayer X did what few can fathom: settle up with the state this year for a whopping \$200 million or so in unpaid taxes, almost single-handedly keeping the state's cash flow on track.

State officials can be penalized with jail time in California for disclosing taxpayer records. So the state has declined to share any details about whether one of its wealthiest residents was a scofflaw illegally sheltering money, or an heir paying up on an old family fortune.

Yet state officials also haven't been able to entirely keep Taxpayer X's existence a secret.

"This was a personal income tax matter, so this is an individual," said Patrick Hill, spokesman for the state's Franchise Tax Board, when asked to explain a spike in state personal income tax revenue of about \$200 million last August. "We have taxpayer confidentiality ... I'm just forbidden from disclosing or characterizing this."

There are, however, clues about Taxpayer X.

State financial reports released this fall show budget officials expected an influx of \$200 million in audit revenue last year after Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger offered individual taxpayers amnesty to get right with the taxman.

Leading tax preparers in the state who helped clients navigate the clemency offer said they had heard about a "monster" deal with an unnamed taxpayer.

"It happened the very first month of the amnesty," said Claudia Hill, owner of a highly respected Silicon Valley tax firm, Tax Mam, Inc., and editor in chief of the Journal of Tax Practices and Procedures. "We were all laughing when the state came out so quickly and called (the amnesty) a success because the scuttlebutt was that it was all from one person."

Without more details about Taxpayer X, Hill and others said it would be impossible

to gauge how much income he or she may have been hiding from the state, but the settlement could be a record in the state for an individual, several tax experts said.

Based on the state's top tax bracket, simple math says Taxpayer X paid on income in the neighborhood of \$2 billion.

But was Taxpayer X a scofflaw?

"You can read between the lines," Hill said, elaborating broadly about the state's tax audit and amnesty programs, "These are the big nets for the big fish, and so I think it would be accurate to say these are high earners who are settling up with the state."

Exactly how much Taxpayer X paid California is unclear. In a recent report, the state's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office listed \$200 million in revenue this year from "an audit payment that had been expected in 2005-06." Other state reports have been more vague, saying audit receipts were far above forecast the month the payment came in.

Taxpayer X's payment alone could cover the cost of several state programs this year. For example, it's at least three times the state's annual budget for the California National Guard.

As sales tax receipts and other state income has fallen in recent months with a slowdown in California's construction and real estate sectors, Taxpayer X's payment has gone a long way toward maintaining the state's cash flow. For the fiscal year that began in July, the state is \$47 million below revenue projections. Without the tax payment, the revenue gap would be five times as large.

"The name would be fascinating," said Assembly Budget Chair John Laird, D-Santa Cruz, when told about the case.

Identifying Taxpayer X wouldn't be easy. Forbes magazine lists more than 300 billionaires in the United States, scores of whom keep homes in California. Laird said lawmakers were not privy to details of the settlement.

Hill said there's certainly much more the public will never know.

"To me, this case says there was someone out there feeling incredibly guilty about something. Or someone who inherited an incredible estate and was being incredibly cautious."

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# Aging Arnold's leg break is latest ailment

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD

Associated Press Writer

**LOS ANGELES** — The Terminator is looking all too human these days.

The shattered leg that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger suffered in a fall on an icy ski slope was the latest in a list of injuries and ailments to befall the actor-bodybuilder-politician.

The seven-time Mr. Olympia whose broad shoulders and tree-trunk legs earned him the moniker "the Austrian Oak" has a medical chart you might find at a senior citizens' home.

Schwarzenegger, who turns 60 in July, has had a hip and a heart valve replaced. He had rotator cuff surgery in 2003. A rapid heart-beat sent him to a hospital last year. One motorcycle crash in 2001 left him with several broken ribs, and another last January resulted in 15 stitches in his lip.

Now he is on crutches while the right thigh bone he broke while skiing with his family over the holidays in Sun Valley, Idaho, heals. Doctors used screws and wires to

repair his leg Tuesday, and he is expected to be released from the hospital by week's end.

Despite Schwarzenegger's travails, his doctor says he is in great shape for a man his age, though few details about the governor's condition are ever released. Schwarzenegger's office says such information is private.

The governor "is in excellent physical condition and his health is very good. He has fantastic muscle tone, excellent bone health and is in great cardiovascular shape. The governor's health is in the top 5 percent of people his age," said Dr. Kevin Ehrhart, his orthopedic surgeon.

His office Thursday released two photographs of the governor in his hospital bed, surrounded by monitors. He was dressed in hospital garb with a sheet covering his legs, and he appeared to be signing or editing documents. An intravenous tube was protruding from his right hand, and a laptop computer was perched at his bedside.

"I woke up feeling great," he said in a statement. He said he was looking forward to his inauguration next month "even if it

means I have to walk into my swearing-in ceremony on crutches."

Schwarzenegger has carefully cultivated an image of vitality and strength, and his best-known Hollywood roles were built around his rippling biceps and deltoids.

In a tailored suit and a pair of his finely tooled cowboy boots, Schwarzenegger still looks younger than his 59 years. His cordovan hair appears impervious to gray, and his skin is remarkably smooth and unblemished for a man his age.

But he is not in the championship form of his youth. Photos surface occasionally showing a mushy midriff and arms that only faintly resemble the 22-inch biceps of his prime.

Schwarzenegger has acknowledged using steroids in his bodybuilding days, before they became illegal without a prescription in 1991. But he has never provided details about his usage, and it is unknown whether the drugs — which can cause heart problems — have had anything to do with any of his health problems.

Charles Yesalis, professor emeritus of

health and human development at Penn State University and an expert on performance-enhancing drugs, said for someone who is athletic and not overweight, Schwarzenegger "appears to have a lot of health problems."

But "a lot of very healthy people who exercise a lot and look robust have bad health problems. It's hard to tie it together in any meaningful way," Yesalis said.

In addition to the physical toll exacted by professional bodybuilding, Schwarzenegger suffered his share of bangs and bruises in movie stunts.

At a 2005 appearance in front of medical workers in Burbank, Schwarzenegger credited nurses with making his hospital stays more tolerable.

"I was in the hospital three times in a row these last 10 years — for open heart surgery, with a hip replacement and with shoulder surgery," the governor said at the time.

"This is what happens when you are the Terminator," he added. "They switch body parts."

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# Forget Frommer: County thrives amid boycott

JENNIFER DOBNER

Associated Press Writer

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Travel guru Arthur Frommer offers much advice. Not everyone is listening, if lodging ledgers in southern Utah's Kane County are a sign.

Room taxes and tourist traffic hit a record this year, despite Frommer's call to boycott Kanab after town leaders said the "natural family" has mom at home, dad at work and many kids running around.

"Arthur Frommer hurt us a little bit in the early part of the season and then we rebounded," said Ted Hallisey, Kane County's tourism director.

County lodging taxes totaled \$371,903 for the 12-month period ending Oct. 31,

compared to \$348,839 for the same period a year earlier, Hallisey said Friday.

In October alone, taxes were \$36,600, up 58 percent, he said.

Kane County, 300 miles south of Salt Lake City, is a gateway to some of Utah's grandest red rock landscapes as well as Zion and Bryce Canyon national parks.

The cliffs and canyons were a favorite location to film westerns such as "Gunsmoke" and "The Lone Ranger."

In Kanab, the county seat with a population of 3,600, the City Council in January unanimously passed a resolution in favor of a traditional family as the best way to raise children.

In a March 2 syndicated newspaper column, Frommer called for a travel boycott. He

later said Kanab's resolution was a "smoke-screen for discriminating against gays." Council members felt the criticism was unfair.

Frommer shrugged off news of higher tax revenue.

"These are just numbers. I don't think it means anything," he said Friday from his office in New York City. "I still have grave concerns. My own conscience does not permit me to vacation among people who are as intolerant as that City Council."

Frommer, noting the good economy, said tourism was up across the country this year, with many cities and national parks reporting record numbers.

After he endorsed a boycott, hundreds of calls and letters poured into the local tourism office, and many businesses reported cancel-

## ON THE NET

www.kaneutah.com

lations from tour companies and travelers.

Hallisey said some businesses tried to counter the negative publicity with an "Everyone Welcome Here" campaign, posting stickers in windows at shops, restaurants and hotels.

"They made lemonade out of the lemon," he said.

Frommer said he hopes merchants will continue to battle what he considers bigotry in Kanab. But he isn't planning to make a visit himself.

"We just don't like to travel to places where people are intolerant," Frommer said.

## Free Workshop Reveals 7 ways to slash college costs

**SANTA MONICA** —An extremely popular free workshop is being held for the parents of college bound high school students during the month of December at various Santa Monica locations.

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The workshop dates are Thursday, January 18th at the Santa Monica Main Library, Saturday, January 20th

at the Santa Monica Main Library 10:15 a.m. to 12 p.m., and Tuesday, January 23rd at the Montana Avenue Library The classes on Tuesday and Thursday 7:15pm to 8:45pm & Saturday Morning 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation's leading expert on paying for college. Ron Caruthers the President of the College Planning Network is a continuous guest of KUSI TV News, Author of "How To Give Your Child A 4-Year College Education Without Going Broke", and an instructor at Palomar and Mira Costa colleges.

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# A change of heart has Feds wanting to renew relationship with tribes

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — Federal wildlife managers have reversed their decision to cut off tribal involvement in management of the National Bison Range.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service abruptly canceled an interim plan that had allowed the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes a role in managing the range, on tribal land in northwestern Montana. The department said Friday that it will re-establish that relationship in January, under certain conditions.

The agreement was announced by Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall and Associate Deputy Interior Secretary Jim Cason. The three said they have agreed to draft a five-year range operations plan and retain an ombudsman to work at the range to assist in resolving any problems with range management.

The Interior Department statement also said a tribal proposal seeking full management of the 19,000-acre bison range would be "suspended at this time."

That proposal came just months after release of a performance report that indicated some of the work for which the tribes were responsible was not done.

Tribal chairman James Steele Jr. said Friday that members were surprised and pleased about the department's reversal. He said the tribe was taking care of its responsibilities on the range and there has been a "continual pattern of misinformation and false allegations" about tribal activity there.

The new decision means "somewhere along the line someone was actually listening to our concerns," he said.

"We had some serious concerns with the allegations and the reasons they had used to negate this agreement," Steele said.

A fax sent to the tribes Dec. 11 told them to "immediately cease performing all activities" at the bison range and withdraw all employees from the site. The fax said the tribes had failed to perform work properly and had created a hostile and intimidating work environment.

The joint management plan has been controversial from the start.

Environmentalists worried tribal management could lead to reduced stewardship.

And earlier this year, federal employees at the range complained of mistreatment.

Jeff Ruch, executive director of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, a Washington interest group that lobbies for environmental causes, said he thought the agency had "cast a rare profile in courage" when it cut off the tribe's responsibilities. He said the decision to re-establish the relationship was a political move.

"This is all about politics, and politics don't get the fences repaired," he said.

The Salish-Kootenai maintain that they should manage the land to which they have historical ties, and that they are best prepared to tell visitors about the bison and American Indians. The range lies within the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Two years ago, the tribes and the federal agency reached an interim agreement that allowed the tribes to take on some management responsibilities at the federal bison range.

The agreement expired at the end of September, but the two governments had agreed to continue honoring it while anticipating negotiations aimed at producing a permanent management plan.

## Big cats die off at Salt Lake zoo

By The Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Abby, an African lion, has died at age 20, the last big cat at Hogle Zoo.

"Even though she was elderly, she never lost her enthusiasm for greeting the keepers and the public. She especially loved children," said Gina Phillips, animal-care supervisor.

Abby, who was in poor health, was euthanized Thursday. Her partner, Flip, died in 2003 at age 16.

The zoo will not acquire lions until the African Savannah project is completed in five to 10 years, spokesman Brad Parkin said.

"African lions are very much a big part of the future of the zoo," he said.

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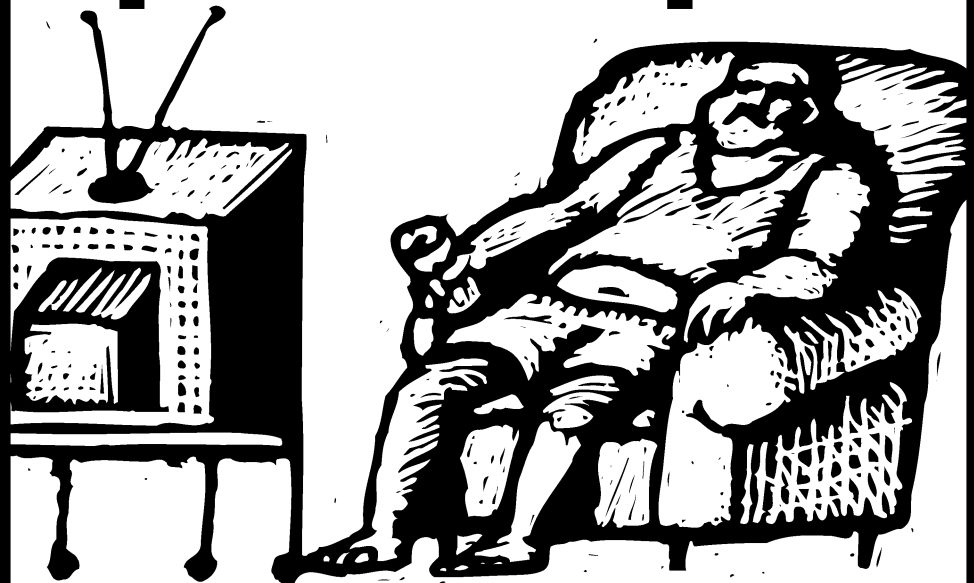
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# Natives embrace tradition amid West's influence

**BY RACHEL D'ORO**

Associated Press Writer

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** — Debra Dommek sees herself as a tribal elder in training.

Never mind that her cheeks glow with the dewy rose of youth. The old soul in the Anchorage teen shines through when she talks about the traditions of indigenous Alaskans, including her people, Inupiat Eskimos. At 18, she believes it's her responsibility to preserve their songs and dances, art and stories.

"This is who I am, who my children will be," Dommek said. "Sometimes I feel pressure taking on such a position but somebody's got to do it."

Across the state other Alaska natives are heeding the same call.

For some it's a counterblow to the grip of technology that has made life so much easier but led to cultural erosion in even the most isolated communities. Elders say this is especially true among young people swayed by the faraway media glitz so absent in Alaska's utilitarian villages. That disconnect is blamed in part for chronic problems in native society — alcoholism, suicide, domestic violence, high dropout rates.

But Alaska natives, who represent 11 distinct cultures and 20 languages, are fighting back with culture camps and rural student exchanges. Villages have resurrected dances and festivals banned a century ago by missionaries. Schools have launched native language immersion programs. And yes, sometimes preservation efforts involve technology.

Even science is recognizing the value of ancestral knowledge passed on to later generations of natives, said Patricia Cochran, executive director of the Alaska Native Science Commission. The nonprofit organization brings conventional scientists together with native partners in studies requiring historical and environmental perspectives on multiple topics, including climate change, pollution and subsistence foods.

"There's a reason we've been able to survive in the harshest of conditions, in the strangest of times," Cochran said. "It's because of our resilience and our adaptability — and

that's the strength that our communities have to go back to."

For Dommek, returning to her roots meant learning ancient arts, particularly dance, in an after-school program run by the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage. Dommek is part Dutch and German, but felt a need to connect with her Inupiat side.

"We have so many strengths," she said. "Thinking of all the things we are, I get really excited, especially about dancing."

On a recent afternoon, Dommek and other dancers entertained center visitors, the young women waving fans made of caribou fur while the men chanted and beat on wide, flat drums. In a modern twist, the drums were covered with a synthetic skin of fabric instead of the usual walrus stomach lining.

Through the heritage center, Dommek also narrated a short film called "Asveq, the Whale Hunt," documenting the creation of a dance by Yupik and Inupiaq high school students.

The dance merges Yupik Eskimo lyrics with Inupiat dance styles. Scenes of teens embracing their traditions against an urban backdrop are woven throughout the eight-minute clip, which has been shown at numerous film festivals.

"The big city can be daunting," said longtime program manager Steven Alvarez, who is of Apache and Athabascan descent. "Some of the kids are from villages, and this is a refuge for them. It fills them with pride of culture, self esteem, a sense of place — and that can help academic performance."

Some 550 miles to the west, the Nunivak Island village of Mekoryuk reclaimed its own ancient dances and songs that disappeared in 1936 after being outlawed in the Cup'ig Eskimo community by missionaries. The Mekoryuk dancers initially followed recordings made by tribal council member Howard Amos of an elder who remembered the traditional festivals once celebrated there. The elder has since died.

"It has given the community a lot of pride that they are Cup'ig people," said Amos, who runs a nonprofit heritage-preservation center. "I feel a lot more like an Eskimo than I ever did."

Along with dances, there's been a cultural renaissance in the community of 200.

Early elementary grade students attend Cup'ig immersion

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classes as part of a village effort to preserve the dwindling Native language. Once a month the village school has culture week, offering lessons in dancing, native arts and crafts, mask-making, ivory and wood carving, beading and drum-making. Junior high and high school students take winter survival camping trips with seasoned hunters like Amos, shooting and butchering reindeer and musk oxen for their meals.

"They love it," Amos said. "It's a first for some of them."

Other students around the state also are experiencing native life through a federally funded program that links village schools and students with their big-city counterparts. In its seventh year, the Rose Urban Rural Exchange pairs village and city classrooms to share a cultural curriculum. The program culminates with selected students and teachers visiting each others' communities for a week.

Participating students, who stay with host families, can be any ethnicity, although village students are virtually always native. Sometimes urban students come from a cultural mix, such as 17-year-old Michelle Kanosh, who is Filipino, German and Irish and Southeast Alaska Tlingit.

Kanosh was among a contingent from Wasilla that paid a visit last spring to Savoonga, a Siberian Yupik village of 700 on St. Lawrence Island. Kanosh learned native dances and beading, sampled chunks of bowhead whale and ate Eskimo ice cream, a dessert often made with shortening, berries and sugar. She was given the Yupik name of Piitsighaav, which means daisy.

Even though she experienced a native culture different from Tlingit, Kanosh said she felt a deep connection with Savoonga residents and even went back to visit in July. Before the trip, she had worried about being rejected.

"Now I see a lot of them as family and great friends," she said.

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# Slick move: Exxon moves to regain leases

BY STEVE QUINN

Associated Press Writer

**JUNEAU, Alaska** — Exxon Mobil Corp. wants a state Superior Court to overturn the state's decision to revoke the company's leases in the North Slope's Point Thomson oil and gas field.

In a court filing late last week, the company asked for the reversal or "in the alternative, to remand the matter to the commissioner with instructions to make a new and different decision."

Alaska Department of Natural Resources acting Commissioner Marty Rutherford has already reviewed the case once and late Wednesday backed the Nov. 27 decision by the former commissioner, Mike Menge.

Menge found last month that Exxon Mobil — which operated the field on behalf of itself and other companies — failed to come up with a viable plan for developing the field's vast reserves. Menge was the commissioner under former Gov. Frank Murkowski.

Recently named acting commissioner by new Gov. Sarah Palin, Rutherford concurred with her predecessor.

"The facts clearly uphold Mike Menge's decision to terminate the Point Thomson

Unit agreement," Rutherford said in a statement Wednesday. "I agree that Exxon Mobil has not met its obligations, and I must deny them the relief they sought in their reconsideration request."

This lawsuit is among four, plus a complaint, filed as recently as Tuesday by oil and gas companies.

All are related to the Point Thomson issue, and are now being reviewed by attorneys for the state's natural resources agency.

Stripping Exxon Mobil of its leases, set off what the Irving, Texas, company says could be "protracted" litigation and detrimental to an agreement for an Alaska natural gas pipeline.

"This is a major setback for an Alaska gas pipeline project since gas supply from Point Thomson is critical for the project," company spokeswoman Susan Reeves said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

"Exxon Mobil, on behalf of the PTU owners, has complied with the Point Thomson lease agreements, the Point Thomson Unit Agreement and all Alaska statutes and regulations," she said. "Litigation related to the termination of the Point Thomson Unit is likely to be protracted."

In the court filing, the company said the Menge "breached a covenant of good faith and fair dealing."

DNR spokesman Dan Saddler said agency's lawyers are reviewing the Exxon Mobil claim as well as related lawsuits filed by BP PLC, Chevron Corp. and ConocoPhillips.

Exxon Mobil and ConocoPhillips had requested Rutherford to reconsider her predecessor's decision to strip the leases.

Rutherford was not required to reply to the oil companies' request for reconsideration. However, she said in their request, the companies indicated Menge's decision that Point Thomson did not contain certified wells implied other units or leases were in danger of being revoked.

Rutherford discounted that, saying the Nov. 27 decision dealt only with Point Thomson. She also did not find other units and leases were going to be terminated.

This is the final administrative action, she said, and will allow the state to eventually reopen the lease sale process to bidders.

That sale could be held as soon as October, but the legal battle could delay the bidding.

Other oil companies being stripped of their leases include BP PLC and Chevron Corp.

Point Thomson is the North Slope's second largest natural gas field, after Prudhoe Bay.

It is estimated to hold about 9 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves, more than a quar-

ter of the known gas in all North Slope fields.

Alaska officials ruled in 2005 that Exxon Mobil was in default for delaying development by submitting a plan without any sure date for production to begin.

The state threatened to revoke the leases but stayed that decision while negotiating a contract with Exxon and two other oil companies for a \$25 billion natural gas pipeline that would take gas from the North Slope to Midwestern markets.

The negotiated contract fell through amid worries that Alaska would be giving away too much to the producers. That left Exxon Mobil with an October deadline to update its development plan.

In the plan rejected in November, Exxon Mobil proposed paying the state \$20 million and giving up 20,000 acres to settle its unmet obligations to developing the gas field. The plan included a promise to drill one well in 2009 to better map the extent of the field.

Rejecting the plan, "amounted to an abuse of discretion," according to the lawsuit filed by Exxon Mobil.

Over the last three decades, Exxon Mobil has filed 22 development plans for the 106,200 acres unit. No commercial oil or gas operations have begun in that time.



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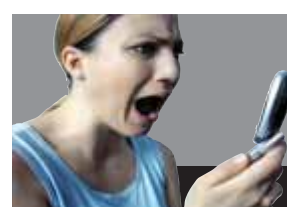
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# Nine stories that changed Santa Monica

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITYWIDE** — The more things change, the more they stay the same.

So was the case for 2006, a year filled with promise as several top-level posts were filled by fresh faces promising to build new relationships and repair fractured alliances. Voters approved a multi-million dollar bond measure to improve schools, the City Council moved forward with plans to build a public beach club at the old Marion Davies estate, a new sports team called Santa Monica home, as did REI.

That being the case, the year also brought with it the same problems that have plagued the city for decades, including continued gang violence in the Pico Neighborhood that claimed the lives of two young men, more traffic and parking woes, a contentious and costly campaign for City Council, and a deep distrust between business interests and those fearful of commercial development.

A new city manager, city college president, chief of police, superintendent of schools and chamber of commerce president were all welcomed with open arms.

The same couldn't be said for a controversial smoking ban and a decision to change the color of police cars from the trusted blue-and-white design to the more traditional black-and-white. Law enforcement officials were disappointed with the passage of a law that makes marijuana use by adults their lowest priority, as were elected officials with the defeat of an initiative that would have overturned a controversial measure curtailing contributions to politicians.

Beaches once again received poor marks by Heal the Bay, prompting voters to pass a parcel tax that will fund water treatment initiatives. A new Main Library was unveiled along with the Main Stage, a state-of-the-art theater complex in the heart of Santa Monica College, as well as an emergency slide at the end of the Santa Monica Pier to help evacuate visitors in the event of a terrorist attack or massive fire.

Security cameras were also installed along the pier, as well as the Third Street Promenade, after law enforcement received calls about three Middle Eastern men suspiciously videotaping city landmarks.

A retail giant apologized for proposing a development at Santa Monica Place that was completely out of step with the community's desires, while an 89-year-old responsible for the deaths of 10 people when he drove his car through a crowded Farmers' Market three years ago chose not to appear in court so his victims could confront him.

The arts got a boost with the arrival of Ashes & Snow and the formation of a cultural master plan. Hot Dog on a Stick celebrated 60 years in Santa Monica, the City Council voted to restore a gangway at the edge of the pier, and bathroom attendants were hired to watch over restrooms on the promenade.

Santa Monica High School's football team pulled off a major upset of undefeated Culver City High School during homecoming weekend, while young entrepreneurs took home top honors in an international competition in China that pitted Samohi students against the very best in the world.

Mail arrived on several doorsteps late (often in the wrong mail boxes), a librarian was assaulted, a former game show host died in a plane crash off the coast, squirrels were targeted for extermination because of a fear of Bubonic Plague, and canine lovers once again argued for the creation of a dog beach.

In all, it was a year filled with excitement, tragedy and triumph, proving once again that Santa Monica, while at times a sleepy seaside town, is always on the cutting edge

and creating a stir.

The Santa Monica Daily Press ranks the top nine news stories that shaped 2006. These are the stories that affected us most and drew the lions' share of attention from readers.



## 9) FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS NEED LOVE TOO

Once again, the squirrels in Palisades Park took center stage as residents protested City Hall's hunting of the furry critters. It wasn't the city's fault that the squirrel population on the bluffs was cut. Los Angeles County officials forced Santa Monica to hire a squirrel hunter out of fear that there were too many breeding, creating the potential for Bubonic Plague to spread. The fear has never been realized and probably never will considering the fleas living on the squirrel's backs need to be in a certain altitude for the plague to come into effect, an altitude that could never be reached in Santa Monica.

Ducks got some love this year, too. Residents living near Douglas Park called into the Daily Press in May out of concern for the fluffy quackers after seeing city staff draining the ponds at the park. Many mother ducks had just given birth and were depending on the ponds for sustenance.

However, city staff needed to drain the putrid bodies of water because the ducks apparently didn't learn the lesson that you should never defecate where you eat. Every year, just before summer, City Hall is forced to drain the ponds at Douglas Park so that they can be cleaned of the fowl's fecal matter, which causes nitrogen levels in the water to rise and promote algae growth that starves the water of oxygen. This kills the goldfish, mosquito eaters and other fish City Hall releases into the ponds, not to mention plant life.



## 8) HELPING THE HOMELESS

After years of feeding the homeless outdoors, City Hall finally reached an agreement with food providers to move indoors so that the down-and-out could be linked with social service providers.

City Hall, with the help of homeless czar Ed Edelman, established a homeless court that will begin hearing cases within weeks. The court will handle those cases involving quality-of-life crimes, such as public intoxication, camping and public defecation. The community court is expected to compliment City Hall's current roster of homeless services, while simultaneously saving money by ridding the system of repeat offenders.

## 7) MAKING A MISTAKE

Humbled by community disdain, the owners of Santa Monica Place apologized to residents and abandoned plans to demolish

the mall and replace it with a 10-acre mixed-use complex, including high-rise office towers and condominiums.

Instead, officials with The Macerich Co., the publicly traded Santa Monica-based real estate investment trust that owns the mall and about 75 others, announced in June that they are opting for a more modest remodel of the aging Frank Gehry-designed mall located at the southern end of the Third Street Promenade.

Macerich had proposed in late 2004 to raise the mall and replace it with three, 21-story buildings that would have included condos, commercial and retail.

The plan was strongly opposed by residents, who said the buildings would not only be out of step with the Santa Monica's small-town atmosphere, but would have also created more traffic in a city that is desperately trying to find solutions to congestion.

The City Council voted against the Macerich proposal, sending the company back to the drawing board.

In November, Macerich officials submitted a plan to operate in the existing footprint of the mall and instead of tearing it down, they are thinking of just tearing off a portion of the roof to make it an open-air mall with a food court on the third floor overlooking the ocean and pier.



## 6) ROUGH ROAD TO VICTORY

While voters nationally chose to go in a different direction politically, ousting several long-standing politicians while ushering in Democratic majority in both branches of Congress, voters locally chose to stick with the status quo, re-electing every single incumbent aside from school board member Shane McCloud.

As in years past, the 2006 municipal election proved to be highly contentious and turned dirty as various special interest groups attacked incumbents, with Kevin McKeown getting the worst of it. The election was of historic and unprecedented proportions with the operators of Casa del Mar and Shutters spending nearly \$400,000 on commercials and a series of mailers calling into question McKeown's voting record.

Despite the effort, McKeown came out on top, collecting more votes than any other candidate, followed by councilmember Pam O'Connor.

The election reaffirmed the dominance of Santa Monicans for Renters Rights, which retained its majority on the council and the school board.

Councilman Bob Holbrook, often the target of SMRR, secured enough votes to come in third, followed by newcomers Terry O'Day, a planning commissioner and environmentalist, and Gleam Davis, a corporate attorney and education advocate.

O'Connor became the target of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, which called into question the councilwoman's acceptance of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from Macerich Co. around the same time the mall operator was presenting plans to city officials for a massive redevelopment of Santa Monica Place.

O'Connor said the contributions had no

influence on her. She voted against the proposed development.

The election also presented votes with the choice of making adult marijuana use the lowest law enforcement priority. The voters overwhelmingly approved the initiative along with a \$268 million school bond to improve facilities. A parcel tax to improve water quality in the bay narrowly passed the 66 percent threshold, the outcome uncertain until several weeks after the Nov. 7 election.

Voters also struck down an initiative to reform a law that prohibits elected officials from accepting contributions from those who have received a benefit from the council, that included Holbrook's wife and others who have volunteered on commissions. Elected officials said the law is too cumbersome to follow and freezes civic participation.



## 5) LIFE'S A BEACH

Putting aside litigation in favor of recreation, a handful of residents living along Pacific Coast Highway in September reached an agreement with elected officials that cleared the way for the construction of a public beach club at 415 PCH — the old Marion Davies Estate.

Members of the Palisades Beach Property Owners Association and resident Jonathan Ornstein filed a lawsuit in June asking a judge to stop the project because City Hall violated conditions of the California Environmental Quality Act, as well as a local law prohibiting the creation of food-serving facilities along the beach.

The plaintiffs also said the beach club — funded by a \$28 million grant from the Annenberg Foundation — would create dangerous driving conditions on an already deadly stretch of PCH, and therefore, a stop light needed to be installed.

City officials made several attempts to appease the residents, including scaling back portions of the facility, as well as the hours of operation. Additional security was also included, and city staff entered into negotiations with the California Department of Transportation to have a traffic signal installed.

As part of the settlement, City Hall will be required to operate the beach club according to conditions approved by the association and provide around-the-clock security for at least seven years, with certain conditions in effect for 10 years.

There was some concern that the lawsuit would derail plans for the beach club, causing delays that would force the Annenberg Foundation to pull out. Friends of 415 PCH staged beach parties on the law of City Hall and near the Davies estate to draw attention to the effort, which was followed by newspapers from across the country, pitting it as a battle between wealthy, beach-side residents and the middle-class looking for a taste of "Gold Coast," a term used to describe an opulent stretch of beach where Davies estate now sits.

## 4) COUNCIL GETS BAN HAPPY

Looking to extinguish the deadly effects

## Lights out in 2006

YEAR IN REVIEW, from page 14



of second-hand smoke, the City Council passed an extensive smoking ban that went into effect on Thanksgiving. The ban makes it almost impossible for tobacco lovers to light up, except in the privacy of their own home or in designated areas, such as those on the Santa Monica Pier.

The ban includes the Third Street Promenade, the farmers' markets, all outdoor dining and services areas, bus stops, ATM lines, information kiosks, theater lines, and within 20 feet of any entrances or windows open to the public.

Smoking is also prohibited inside all public buildings, parks, the beach and portions of the pier.

Those who violate the law are subject to a \$250 fine.

Many business owners and hotel operators fought its passage, claiming it would drive customers away, however, elected officials were not convinced and unanimously passed the ban.

The vote came on the heels of a report by the U.S. surgeon general that concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to second-hand smoke, which is the smoke that

individuals breathe when they are located in the same air space as someone puffing on a cigarette, cigar or pipe filled with tobacco.

The council's preliminary approval of the ban was seen by advocates, including the American Cancer Society, as a major victory for public health in light of the fact that nearly half of all non-smoking Americans are still regularly exposed to secondhand smoke.

Environmentalists were also pleased with the council following a vote in December to ban all non-recyclable plastic food service containers, including Styrofoam.

Citing numerous studies documenting the prevalence of expanded polystyrene and other non-recyclables landing in storm drains and on beaches, causing residents to pay thousands in clean-up costs, the council, with a unanimous vote, directed staff in June to draft a law banning the products heavily used by restaurants, delis, grocery stores and non-profit and for profit groups serving prepared food.

The law also forces City Hall to serve food only in containers made from biodegradable materials.

By passing the ban, Santa Monica joined more than 100 other cities across that country that enacted a similar law.

When the ban on non-recyclable plastics was first proposed, restaurant owners, backed by the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and the California Restaurant Association (CRA), argued against it, claiming it would hurt them financially because of the added cost associated with more environmentally-friendly materials that they say have been found to not perform as well as Styrofoam and other plastics.

Elected officials and other supporters said

See YEAR IN REVIEW, page 19

## Christmas at First Presbyterian Church

### Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Come celebrate with us as children re-enact the first Christmas.

### Family Caroling Party

Thursday, December 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Meet in the church lobby

Singing and bringing holiday joy to the Santa Monica community.

### Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 24

Communion Service at 8:45 a.m.

Traditional Service at 10 a.m.

Christmas Eve Family Service at 5 p.m.

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# Shopkeeper was trained to be a monk from age 6

BHUTAN MAN, from page 3

is busy traveling across his countryside into the rural areas, meeting with the people from whom he purchases the items that are displayed in his collection. For the past 10 years, Khenpo and his wife, Tashi Wangmo, 40, have also been busy running their own touring company, Lingkor Tours & Treks.

Khenpo, 62, said he has good reason not to keep Bhutan Handicrafts running all year.

"Only I know the background of all my products here so I can explain it to my customers," he said on Thursday at his shop, located this year on Second Street. "Without me, there will be nobody to explain the items and the customers won't buy it. I have to explain that the items are not machine-made."

Due to the lack of free space on Main Street and the reluctance of property owners to lease a space for only one month, Khenpo was forced to relocate the business from Main Street for the first time. He opened on Dec. 1 at his friend's gallery at 1418 Second St., and plans to close his doors on Sunday.

The small temporary shop, filled with the smell of incense, is lined with colorful traditional Bhutanese scarves and dresses, all hand woven from the people of Bhutan. His collection represents the hard work of some 400 people from Bhutan.

Opening a shop became Khenpo's dream when he first visited the United States in 1977, after resigning his post as a diplomat in India. Visiting America for the first time was a culture shock for Khenpo, who was used to the natural beauty of his homeland.

It also came as a surprise that he did not encounter a store specializing in traditional Bhutanese arts and crafts. There are just 212 Bhutanese people in America, according to the United States 2000 Census.

"That is the reason why, when I go back, I always bring something from my country and make it available to the West," said Khenpo. "That is why I started this project."

Khenpo began traveling across the country in 1979, showcasing the arts and crafts to homeowners and museums. His efforts paid off, with his collections having been displayed in the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass., the Asian Arts Museum in San Francisco, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Mingei International Museum in San Diego.

When he decided to open a temporary store, Santa Monica was a logical choice, being the city that most reminded him of Bhutan.

"The weather is much better and cleaner [than in other parts of California]," he said.



Christine Chang [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

**SAME TIME NEXT YEAR:** To supplement the income of his Santa Monica store, Benchan Khenpo also operates a tour company to support his family of five. He operates the store with the permission of the King of Bhutan.

"I'm used to clean air in Bhutan. I can't deal with East Los Angeles."

"The people are nice in this area and a lot of people are interested in the arts."

Today, Khenpo runs the store with the help of his wife and his son, Ogyen Tsheden, 15, and daughter, Tshering Yangden, 19, a freshman at Santa Monica College who remains in the city.

## NO LIVES LOST

A devout Buddhist, Khenpo was told at the young age of 6 that he was the reincarnation of a guru to the royal family of Bhutan.

Khenpo was taken to a monastery for training, where he stayed until he turned 10 and was transferred to Tibet with a guru. When China took over Tibet in the 1950s, Khenpo fled with his guru back to Bhutan. He resigned from the temple at 18, turning in his robe to the guru.

"I gave my vow back and became a lay person," he said. "But the guru said, 'Remember who you are and meditate every morning and evening.'"

"I've never missed a prayer."

For more information about Bhutan and Benchen Khenpo's business, visit his Web site at [www.lingkor.com](http://www.lingkor.com).

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# The healing begins

YEAR IN REVIEW, from page 15

the environmental costs associated with non-recyclable plastics far outweigh costs business may incur considering Styrofoam, even when it is disposed of properly, can break into thousands of smaller pieces that are so light they float on water and are easily carried by the wind. Marine animals and birds have been found to consume the plastic foam which results in reduced appetite and nutrient absorption and possible starvation.

In December, the council also voted to ban genetically-engineered plants from community gardens out of fear that the mutant plants would damage soil and help the development of “super pests” that would be resistant to existing, environmentally friendly pest deterrents.



### 3) VIOLENCE CLAIMING INNOCENCE

Gang members continued to wreak havoc on the Pico Neighborhood, taking the lives of two young men who were simply walking down the street when they were the targets of senseless violence.

The first fatality was Eduardo “Eddie” Lopez, a popular athlete and straight-A student at Samohi who was shot and killed in February by a suspected gang member while he and two of his friends were hanging out near the corner of 26th Street and Pico Boulevard one Tuesday night. Lopez’ death sparked outrage in the community as well as a march through the streets of the Pico Neighborhood in which youth called for an end to gang violence. The community rallied behind the Lopez family, hosting events in his honor, including a tree planting ceremony.

Police are still searching for Lopez’ killer.

Following Lopez’ death, the shootings seemed to quell. But once the summer rolled around, Pico was once again the scene of several gang-related shootings that took place in broad daylight, signaling a change in tactics by gang members.

None proved fatal until earlier this week when Miguel Angel Martin was murdered by a suspected gang member, who most likely came from outside of the city. Police said Martin was walking on Pico Boulevard near 23rd Street with two friends when a car pulled up and a young Hispanic man began yelling the name of a street gang and opened fire. Martin was hit in the back as he tried to run for cover. He died a few hours later at a local hospital.

A car wash is scheduled for this weekend at St. Anne’s Church to help raise money for Martin’s family.



### 2) FINAL CHAPTER FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

The year brought closure to many families whose lives were forever altered by the Farmers’ Market tragedy in 2003. George Russell Weller, the 89-year-old charged with

the deaths of 10 people when he plowed his Buick LeSabre through a crowded Farmers’ Market, was found guilty in October of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence. A Los Angeles Superior Court Judge sentenced Weller to house arrest and probation due to his failing health and the potential cost to taxpayers, who would be responsible for Weller’s medical care if sentenced to prison. Weller was facing an 18-year sentence. A civil trial remains.

Another high-profile case was concluded this year when an ex-con who pretended to be a producer working on a James Bond film so that he could lure young women and rape them was sentenced this summer to 25 years to life in prison for the murder of Kristi Johnson, a 21-year-old Santa Monica woman whose body was found three years ago at the bottom of a ravine in the Hollywood Hills.

Victor Paleologus made a plea after weeks of graphic testimony by several women who said they had been duped by the former restaurateur. Johnson’s family confronted Paleologus, who showed no emotion during sentencing.

The trial of a 19-year-old Santa Monica man charged with killing Jalonnice Carter came to a close this month when the jury returned a guilty verdict, bringing to an end three years of suffering for the Carter family.

It took a jury five days to find Mathew Felix Vargas, 19, responsible for Carter’s murder. Vargas, a suspected gang member who went by the name of “Lil Rooster,” will be sentenced Jan. 23. He faces life in prison if convicted.

Carter, who was known by friends and family as “Little Bear” and “Pooh Bear,” was shot in the back in the alley east of 20th Street with a .22-caliber bullet that pierced his heart on Sept. 2, 2003. He died a few hours later at a local hospital.



### 1) CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The year was marked by several significant departures and arrivals in local government, as well as the school district and SMC, sparking optimism and hope for a new beginning and a new way of interacting with the public.

The most notable change came with the hiring of City Manager Lamont Ewell, who has enacted reforms in City Hall in efforts to make it more responsive to the public, most notably, new customer service standards. Ewell oversaw the completion of the largest budget in city history — nearly \$458 million — and has designed a new organizational structure for City Hall that is intended to streamline operations. Ewell also had to hire a new finance director, police chief and fill a vacancy in resource management.

Following Ewell was Dr. Chui Tsang, who replaced Dr. Piedad F. Robertson as president of SMC. Robertson held the post for nearly a decade, leaving the job during a time of unprecedented growth and in the wake of controversy over cutting academic programs because of a faltering budget.

Tsang, an immigrant from China who worked his way up to become president of San Jose City College before committing to SMC, vowed to heal a rocky relationship between faculty and the administration. During his tenure, faculty ended contentious contract negotiations, the college opened a performing arts center and is well on its way to complet-

See YEAR IN REVIEW, page 20

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Serving Size Grande, 16 fl oz (453g)

Amount Per Serving

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| <b>Total Fat</b> 21g     | 32%                   |
| Saturated Fat 13g        | 64%                   |
| Trans Fat                |                       |
| <b>Cholesterol</b> 116mg | 39%                   |
| <b>Sodium</b> 248mg      | 10%                   |
| <b>Whole Milk?</b>       | Sure                  |
| <b>Whip Cream?</b>       | Why Not               |

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# Some restaurants allow customers to bring own

WINE COSTS, from page 3

Large retailers like BevMo might be purchasing their Veuve by traveling to Europe and buying the bottles for much less than what they are priced in the United States, said Ian Blackburn, founder of LA-based Learn About Wine. Blackburn, who teaches classes about wines and trains restaurant owners and employees on how to sell wine, said it is reasonable for restaurants to mark up Veuve Clicquot three times more than the price at which they purchased the bottles.

The industry standard is to mark up wine about 300 percent, according to Palamino Schuerenberg, a wine buyer for the Ma'kai Lounge on Broadway. The wine markup at his restaurant averages about 250 percent.

"People like myself, who are buyers, can work out deals for different people we buy wine from and charge less," Schuerenberg said on Thursday.

Customers are willing to splurge for a nice bottle of wine at a restaurant, even if they know they could purchase it for cheaper at a wine store, because of one word — ambiance.

"You can obviously buy [cheaper at the store], however, you're not going to be out. A lot of people, especially in LA, feel they need to go out," Schuerenberg said.

The high markup for wine is a fact of life for restaurants that want to stay in business, said Robert Rogness, general manager at Wine Expo. In Europe, many restaurants charge a cover fee, averaging about \$3, to every customer. That cover charge enables

the restaurant to "cover" expenses like linens, fancy plates, utilities and employee salary. The benefit to the customer is cheaper bottles of wine.

But in the United States, there is almost never a cover charge for a restaurant. Therefore, the price markup for wine is necessary for restaurants to afford the luxurious ambiance that customers enjoy like nice music, fancy plates and good service, said Rogness.

**"I'LL SOMETIMES BUY A BOTTLE OF WINE [AT THE RESTAURANT], BUT IT STILL IRKS ME THAT THEY MARK IT UP SO MUCH."**

**Vicki Ho**  
Wine lover, Brentwood

Unlike retailers, many restaurants in Los Angeles, where the real estate is one of the most expensive in the nation, cannot afford to purchase a large number of cases of wines at a bargain. The standard markup for retailers is 20-25 percent.

Rogness pointed to a bottle of Amarone 2001, sold at Wine Expo for \$45. That same bottle can be seen at restaurants for anywhere between \$100 and \$150.

"On the flip-side, a lot of wineries and importers who want a wine to go away, but don't want to hurt their image, will give a good price to restaurants, who in turn don't pass that along [to customers]."

## AND MORE EXPENSIVE WINE ...

Suzanne Snell dined at a Santa Monica Italian restaurant on Monday with three friends and ordered a bottle of Chianti Reserve, 2001. She investigated the price online and discovered the restaurant had marked the bottle up 100 percent.

Snell orders a bottle depending on how many people in her party will drink. If she's on her own, she opts for a glass instead.

French restaurant Melissé on Wilshire Boulevard, voted the No. 1 restaurant and No. 1 wine list in Los Angeles by Zagat Survey, charges \$215 for a bottle of Kistler "Durell Vineyard" Chardonnay 1998. That same bottle can be found at WineAccess.com for \$95 — a 126 percent price difference.

Another Kistler vineyard Chardonnay, the "Cuvee Cathleen" Los Carneros 1996, is priced at \$260 at Melissé, whereas Shop.com sells a cheaper version for \$129 — a 101 percent mark up.

But not all wines are more expensive at Melissé. WineGlobe.com sells a 2000 made bottle of Chateau Haut-Brion Pessac-Leognan Bordeaux for \$279.99. Melissé lets it customers drink the French region wine for \$200, a 39 percent difference.

Italian restaurant Locando del Lago sells the famous Veuve Clicquot for \$79, a 125 percent difference from the price at BevMo.

Other marked-up wines include a 2004 bottle of Sauvignon Blanc, produced by Cakebread Cellars for \$46. WineAccess.com sells the same bottle for \$24.99. Robert Mondavi's Cab Sauv Reserve 1999 costs \$94.99 at GothamWine.com, but at Lago, the wine costs \$190.

"I'll sometimes buy a bottle of wine [at the restaurant], but it still irks me that they mark it up so much," Ho said.

## STICK A CORK IN IT

Some restaurants will allow customers to bring in a bottle of wine that does not appear on the wine list. The corkage fee averages about \$20.

In terms of business survival, it would make more sense if restaurants allowed customers to bring in corkage and eliminated or minimized the wine list, Rogness said. If so, the restaurant would basically receive free money with the corkage fee, and would not have to worry about maintaining the extensive wine list.

Blackburn agreed that it would help businesses to allow customers to bring in their own bottles.

"I think some restaurants should almost be happy when someone brings in a nice bottle of wine and agrees to pay the corkage," Blackburn said. "I encourage restaurants to charge a corkage, to let customers bring in a nice bottle of fine wine," he said.

"Those are the people who are going to eat out a lot."

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## 2006 REVIEW

# New faces in familiar places

YEAR IN REVIEW, from page 19

ing a new Liberal Arts facility on its main campus, as well as the Music and Performing Arts Center at the Madison Campus.

Many were shocked and disappointed when schools Superintendent John Deasy bolted for the East Coast in March, looking to take on greater challenges as the top education official in Prince George's County, Maryland. Deasy, who joined the district in 2001, left Santa Monica-Malibu in good shape, as grades for all students continue to improve.

However, his absence created a feeling of

uncertainty that was only compounded by the departures of Assistant Superintendent Mike Matthews and chief academic officer Donna Muncey.

Following an extensive, nationwide search, the school board in July chose Superintendent Dianne Talarico from Canton, Ohio, to lead the SMMUSD. After a brief honeymoon period, Talarico is now faced with a budget crisis and the departure of finance director Winston Braham, in addition to calls from African-American and Latino parents to close the achievement gap for students of color.

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# Prime minister re-enters capital to cheers

**BY LES NEUHAUS**

Associated Press Writer

**MOGADISHU, Somalia** — Somalia's prime minister entered the capital Friday, a day after an Islamic movement's fighters retreated ahead of his Ethiopian-backed troops, and was welcomed by thousands of cheering residents of the battle-scarred city.

While the visit was meant to symbolize the government's victory, fighting was likely to continue. Clan divisions, hatred of Ethiopia and religious fundamentalism remain problems for the government to tackle.

Ali Mohamed Gedi drove into the southern part of the city in a heavily armed convoy of 22 vehicles, then toured Mogadishu's seaport amid tight security.

Trucks fitted with loudspeakers roamed the city, blaring patriotic music. Mogadishu for the last six months has been controlled by a group who tried to establish a government based on the Quran. Some of its leaders are accused of having links to al-Qaida.

"The government will lead this nation to a bright future," Gedi told reporters after arriving in central Mogadishu. "Today is the beginning of a new life, new stabilization and

a new future for Somalia."

His first task is disarmament and demobilization of the thousands of militiamen in the country, he said.

Even before the rise of the Islamists, Gedi's government had been kept out of Mogadishu by clan violence. There was an attempt on his life during a rare trip to the city in November 2005. He called for the international community to provide both humanitarian and technical support and for the U.S. to help "to rid terrorism from the region." He said the government will move to the capital when it is safe.

As Gedi arrived, several thousand demonstrators in one neighborhood took to the streets to protest the presence of Ethiopian troops in the capital. Protesters threw stones, burned tires and used cars to block a main road. The crowd was later dispersed.

Earlier, Ethiopian troops aboard tanks fired warning shots into the air after dozens of young men threw stones at the convoy traveled through the city.

Gedi drove through the international airport past Ethiopian tanks guarding the runway. Thousands lined the route, according to an AP reporter who was with Gedi.

Many in overwhelmingly Muslim Somalia are skeptical of the government's reliance on neighboring Ethiopia, a tradi-

tional rival with a large Christian population and one of Africa's largest armies. Ethiopia and Somalia fought a bloody war in 1977.

Sheik Sharif Sheik Ahmed, the executive leader of the Council of Islamic Courts, the umbrella group for the Islamic movement, was defiant in comments to The Associated Press Friday.

"We will not run away from our enemies. We will never depart from Somalia. We will stay in our homeland," he said from the southern coastal port of Kismayo, where his forces retreated from Mogadishu.

Hundreds of foreign fighters, mainly Arabs and southern Asians and some wounded, were seen in Kismayo. Some of the Islamic movement's members espouse an extreme form of Islam, and the United States accuses it of harboring al-Qaida terrorists.

Somalia's president vowed to take the fight to Kismayo. "We are going to go there and confront them," Abdullahi Yusuf said. "If we capture them, we will bring them to justice."

Associated Press writers Salad Duhul and Mohamed Olad Hassan in Mogadishu, Nasteex Dahir Farah in Kismayo and Elizabeth A. Kennedy in Baidoa, Somalia, contributed to this report.

# Former dictator Saddam Hussein executed for war crimes in Iraq

**BY CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA**

Associated Press Writers

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Saddam Hussein, the shotgun-waving dictator who ruled Iraq with a remorseless brutality for a quarter-century and was driven from power by a U.S.-led war that left his country in shambles, was taken to the gallows and executed Saturday.

It was a grim end for the 69-year-old leader who had vexed three U.S. presidents. Despite his ouster, Washington, its allies and the new Iraqi leaders remain mired in a fight to quell a stubborn insurgency by Saddam loyalists and a vicious sectarian conflict.

President Bush called Saddam's execution "the kind of justice he denied the victims of his brutal regime."

State-run Iraqiya television news reported that Saddam's half-brother Barzan Ibrahim and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, the former chief justice of the Revolutionary Court, also were hanged. However, three officials said only Saddam was executed.

"We wanted him to be executed on a special day," National Security adviser Mouwafak al-Rubaie told state-run Iraqiya.

Al-Rubaie said Saddam "totally surrendered" and did not resist. He said a judge read the sentence to Saddam, who was taken in handcuffs to the execution room. When he stood in the execution room, photographs and video footage were taken, al-Rubaie said.

"He did not ask for anything. He was carrying a Quran and said: 'I want this Quran to be given to this person,' a man he called Bander," he said. Al-Rubaie said he did not know who Bander was.

Mariam al-Rayes, a legal expert and a former member of the Shiite bloc in parliament, told Iraqiya television that the execution "was filmed and God willing it will be shown. There was one camera present, and a doctor was also present there."

Al-Rayes, an ally of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, did not attend the execution. She said Al-Maliki did not attend but was represented by an aide.

The station earlier was airing national songs after the first announcement and had a tag on the screen that read "Saddam's execution marks the end of a dark period of Iraq's history."

The execution was carried out around the start of Eid al-Adha, the Islamic world's largest holiday, which marks the end of the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, the hajj. Many Muslims celebrate by sacrificing domestic animals, usually sheep.

Sunnis and Shiites throughout the world began observing the four-day holiday at dawn Saturday, but Iraq's Shiite community - the country's majority - was due to start celebrating on Sunday.

The execution came 56 days after a court convicted Saddam and sentenced him to death for his role in the killings of 148 Shiite Muslims from a town where assassins tried to kill the dictator in 1982. Iraq's highest court rejected

Saddam's appeal Monday and ordered him executed within 30 days.

A U.S. judge on Friday refused to stop Saddam's execution, rejecting a last-minute court challenge.

Al-Maliki had rejected calls that Saddam be spared, telling families of people killed during the dictator's rule that would be an insult to the victims.

"Our respect for human rights requires us to execute him, and there will be no review or delay in carrying out the sentence," al-Maliki's office quoted him as saying during a meeting with relatives before the hanging.

Human Rights Watch criticized the execution, calling Saddam's trial "deeply flawed."

"Saddam Hussein was responsible for massive human rights violations, but that can't justify giving him the death penalty, which is a cruel and inhuman punishment," said Richard Dicker, director of Human Rights Watch's International Justice Program.

The hanging of Saddam, who was ruthless in ordering executions of his opponents, will keep other Iraqis from pursuing justice against the ousted leader.

At his death, he was in the midst of a second trial, charged with genocide and other crimes for a 1987-88 military crackdown that killed an estimated 180,000 Kurds in northern Iraq. Experts said the trial of his co-defendants was likely to continue despite his execution.

Many people in Iraq's Shiite majority were eager to see the execution of a man whose Sunni Arab-dominated regime oppressed them and Kurds.

Before the hanging, a mosque preacher in the Shiite holy city of Najaf on Friday called Saddam's execution "God's gift to Iraqis."

"Oh, God, you know what Saddam has done! He killed millions of Iraqis in prisons, in wars with neighboring countries and he is responsible for mass graves. Oh God, we ask you to take revenge on Saddam," said Sheik Sadralddin al-Qubani, a member of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

On Thursday, two half brothers visited Saddam in his cell, a member of the former dictator's defense team, Badee Izzat Aref, told The Associated Press by telephone from the United Arab Emirates. He said the former dictator handed them his personal belongings.

A senior official at the Iraqi defense ministry said Saddam gave his will to one of his half brothers. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

In a farewell message to Iraqis posted Wednesday on the Internet, Saddam said he was giving his life for his country as part of the struggle against the U.S. "Here, I offer my soul to God as a sacrifice, and if he wants, he will send it to heaven with the martyrs," he said. One of Saddam's lawyers, Issam Ghazzawi, said the letter was written by Saddam on Nov. 5, the day he was convicted by an Iraqi tribunal in the Dujail killings.

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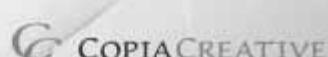
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# Ice shelf snaps, breaks from the Canadian Arctic

BY ROB GILLIES

Associated Press Writer

**TORONTO** — A giant ice shelf has snapped free from an island south of the North Pole, scientists said Thursday, citing climate change as a “major” reason for the event.

The Ayles Ice Shelf — all 41 square miles of it — broke clear 16 months ago from the coast of Ellesmere Island, about 500 miles south of the North Pole in the Canadian Arctic.

Scientists discovered the event by using satellite imagery. Within one hour of breaking free, the shelf had formed as a new ice island, leaving a trail of icy boulders floating in its wake.

Warwick Vincent of Laval University, who studies Arctic conditions, traveled to the newly formed ice island and couldn't believe what he saw.

“This is a dramatic and disturbing event. It shows that we are losing remarkable features of the Canadian North that have been in place for many thousands of years,” Vincent said. “We are crossing climate thresholds, and these may signal the onset of accelerated change ahead.”

The ice shelf was one of six major shelves remaining in Canada's Arctic. They are packed with ancient ice that is more than 3,000 years old. They float on the sea but are connected to land.

Some scientists say it is the largest event of its kind in Canada in 30 years and that climate change was a major element.

“It is consistent with climate change,” Vincent said, adding that the remaining ice shelves are 90 percent smaller than when they were first discovered in 1906. “We aren't able to connect all of the dots ... but unusually warm tempera-

tures definitely played a major role.”

Luke Copland, head of the new global ice lab at the University of Ottawa, used U.S. and Canadian satellite images as well as seismic data to discover that the ice shelf collapsed Aug. 13, 2005.

Copland said the speed with which climate change has effected the ice shelves has surprised scientists.

“Even 10 years ago scientists assumed that when global warming changes occur that it would happen gradually so that perhaps we expected these ice shelves just to melt away quite slowly,” he said.

Within days of breaking free, the Ayles Ice Shelf drifted about 30 miles offshore before freezing into the sea ice. A spring thaw may bring another concern: that warm temperatures will release the new ice island from its Arctic grip, making it an enormous hazard for ships.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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BASEBALL

# Giants’ winning pitch lands Zito for \$126M

BY JANIE MCCAULEY  
AP Sports Writer

**SAN FRANCISCO** — The Bay Area’s other Barry is the new face of the San Francisco Giants — now and well into the future.

Barry Zito and the Giants reached a preliminary agreement on the largest contract for a pitcher in baseball history, a \$126 million, seven-year deal. Zito joins the Giants three weeks after the club came to terms on a \$16 million, one-year contract with slugger Barry Bonds for a 15th season.

Zito’s father, Joe, and Zito’s publicist, Kathy Jacobson, confirmed the deal, while the Giants were waiting for Zito to take a physical Friday before making things official. San Francisco planned to formally introduce the three-time All-Star sometime next week.

“I think it’s a very, very good fit,” Joe Zito said. “Truly, I am respectful of the owners who came forward and would believe in Barry to such a degree that they would go this far. I am profoundly respectful of that. He is truly happy.”

Zito, the 2002 AL Cy Young Award winner with a nasty curveball and eccentric personality, has never missed a start in his career and is eager to help the Giants become a contender again. San Francisco has missed the playoffs the past three seasons.

“It’s a huge piece of the puzzle as far as solidifying our rotation,” fellow Giants lefty starter Noah Lowry said. “We have a couple of No. 1-caliber pitchers. I’m obviously going to be able to learn from him. I think the seasons as long as they are and as grueling as

they can be, he hasn’t missed a start. That says a lot about the guy and his durability.”

Zito will lead a rotation that features Matt Cain, coming off a strong rookie season, Lowry and Matt Morris. The fifth spot is still to be determined.

Zito’s agreement, reached late Wednesday night, includes an \$18 million option for 2014 with a \$7 million buyout that could increase the value to \$137 million. The option would become guaranteed if Zito pitches 200 innings in 2013, 400 combined over 2012 and 2013 or 600 combined from 2011-13. Zito also has a full no-trade clause.

The deal ties for the sixth largest overall, matching the \$126 million, seven-year extension agreed to this month by Toronto and center fielder Vernon Wells. The Giants were looking for someone to fill the void left when ace Jason Schmidt departed earlier this month for the rival Los Angeles Dodgers.

“A lot of money,” Zito’s former Oakland teammate Mark Ellis said. “I was shocked. That’s great for him. That’s a good place for him. There couldn’t be a better fit I don’t think. Obviously, we wanted him in Oakland.”

Giants general manager Brian Sabean had said the team had money to spend for a top pitcher, and Bonds agreed to defer some of the money from his new contract to give the team flexibility to improve the roster.

The Giants’ top brass — including owner Peter Magowan, executive vice president Larry Baer, Sabean and new manager Bruce Bochy — had a long dinner with the 28-year-old and his agent, Scott Boras, at the Peninsula hotel in Beverly Hills on Nov. 26.

MLB

# Baseball’s players union to ‘fight’ steroid ruling

BY DAVID KRAVETS AND PAUL ELIAS  
Associated Press Writers

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Major League Baseball’s players’ association will fight a federal appeals court’s decision to give prosecutors access to the names and urine samples of about 100 players who tested positive for steroids in 2003.

If Wednesday’s decision “is allowed to stand it will effectively repeal the Fourth Amendment for confidential electronic records,” wrote Donald Fehr, executive director of the Major League Baseball Players Association, in a statement Thursday.

The court’s 2-1 ruling could help authorities pinpoint the source of steroids in professional baseball. It also could bolster the perjury case against Giants slugger Barry Bonds, who is under investigation for telling a grand jury he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs.

Michael Rains, Bonds’ attorney, disagreed. “It doesn’t help their case against him,” he said.

Fehr said he was consulting with union attorneys to “determine what our next step should be in our fight to protect the constitutional rights, including the basic right to privacy, of our members.”

Options include asking the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to rehear the case with the same

three judges, petitioning the court to hear the case with 15 judges or appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court. Any appeal, even if unsuccessful, could delay the government from getting the records for months or more.

The samples were collected at the league’s direction as part of a survey to gauge the prevalence of steroid use. Players and owners agreed in their labor contract that the results would be confidential.

The players’ union sued to keep the government from accessing the records, saying the seizures violated the players’ constitutional rights.

Wednesday’s 120-page decision overturned a lower court that sided with the players. U.S. District Judge Susan Illston of San Francisco had quashed the subpoenas, ruling they constituted harassment and were unreasonable.

U.S. Attorney Kevin Ryan of San Francisco praised the appellate court’s finding that the government’s “use of grand jury subpoenas were reasonable.”

The government’s investigation of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, a Burlingame supplements lab at the center of the steroid scandal, already has resulted in guilty pleas from BALCO president Victor Conte, Bonds’ personal trainer Greg Anderson, BALCO vice president James Valente, chemist Patrick Arnold and track coach Remi Korchemny.



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## SURF REPORT

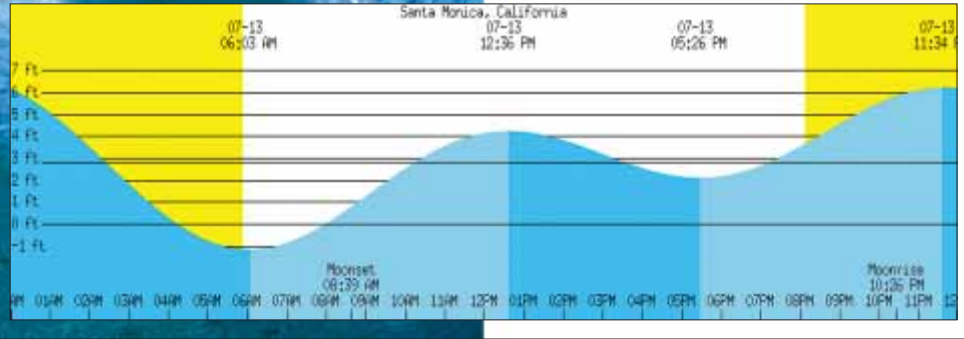
**SURF CONDITIONS**

**SWELL FORECAST ( 7-10 FT )**  
Your next NW swell is due from recent western Pacific activity. This has some moderate 14-second periods from around 290 with size expected to be around a couple feet overhead at west facing breaks. Standout west facing breaks can expect some DOH set waves at times.

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**WATER TEMP: 60°**

**TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA**



Santa Monica, California  
07-13 06:50 AM  
07-13 12:36 PM  
07-13 05:26 PM  
07-13 11:34 AM  
Moonset: 08:39 AM  
Moonrise: 10:26 PM

**BEACH REPORT CARD**



## 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 5, 2006**

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**QUICK STATS**  
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0  
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8  
Number of wet days -- 4  
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37/31  
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10/13

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

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

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

**LEGEND**

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

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

**ns** -- no sample taken



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

Heal the Bay

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

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.

# Swap jokes tonight, Pisces

**JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS**  
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★★★★★ Dynamic   ★★★★★ Positive  
★★★★ Average   ★★ So-So   ★ Difficult



## ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Are you feeling pushed? Do you really want to react? Think before you launch into action. Sometimes the less said or done the better the end results will be. If you are stumped, don't worry: You aren't the only one! Tonight: Curb spending.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Though your smile wins over nearly anyone, you hit a brick wall with someone you value. Perhaps a heart-to-heart is what might work. Someone appreciates your understanding and gesture. Use compassion. Tonight: As you like.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Take your time rather than make an error. A friend, family member or associate needs that extra caring. He or she gives back in multiples. You find talking somewhat frustrating, as no one seems to hear you. Tonight: Get needed rest.

## CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You hit a home run in nearly any situation you might find yourself. Friends and supporters are naturally there for you. If you really want a closer bond, decide to do something about it. Use money sense. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ If no one knows what's going on, step up to the plate and put some form to events. If no one wants to take responsibility, demonstrate your innate skills. Through nurturing, you show the depth of your caring. Tonight: A must appearance.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Take off if you can, even if it might be for a walk in the woods or a day trip. The change of scenery might clear your mind. Someone clearly demonstrates his or her caring. Don't indulge in insecurity. Tonight: Let your mind wander to a movie or music.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Stay in touch with your feelings, as well as someone else's. Your sense of achievement will take you a long way if you just relax. Caring stems from you if you remain open. A friend could be out of kilter. Tonight: Share a New Year's resolution.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Let go of the reins, as you find you are dealing with a runaway horse anyway. You will feel better if you just try to maintain control of yourself. Examine your feelings. Reach out for a caring individual. Tonight: Say yes.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Clear out as many leftover errands as you can. You want to enter 2007 smiling and ready for what life has to offer, which will be a lot! If you want to express your caring, a thoughtful call or note could do the trick. Tonight: Easy does it.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Your smile and caring could easily bowl someone over. Why are you surprised? Express your sincerity by revealing the authentic Goat. Others might be touched by your feelings. Tonight: Act like a kid again.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You might choose to keep a lot to yourself. Others simply see the twinkle in your eye. Lie low; rest. A family member or loved one stars in your thoughts. Demonstrate your feelings. Tonight: Mellow out.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Friends and loved ones want you with them. Share warmth and conviviality as the year ends. Let someone know how very special you are. Make calls. Touch base with someone who rarely has plans. Tonight: Visit. Swap jokes and resolutions.

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**Golfer Tiger Woods (1975)**  
**Musician Bo Diddley (1928)**

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## Happy Birthday!

This year, your unusual radiance draws many. Still, a side of you remains inaccessible to many. This hidden side might have people trying to break down your door. You value your privacy and choose whom you want to share it with. Your creativity becomes a commodity to many. Don't give away your talents. Value what you have to offer. A partnership could be a bit tougher than in the past. Decide what you want from this bond. Late 2007 might be a very different story with relationships in general. If you are single, many want to be close to you.

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Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty  
**SILVER**

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

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

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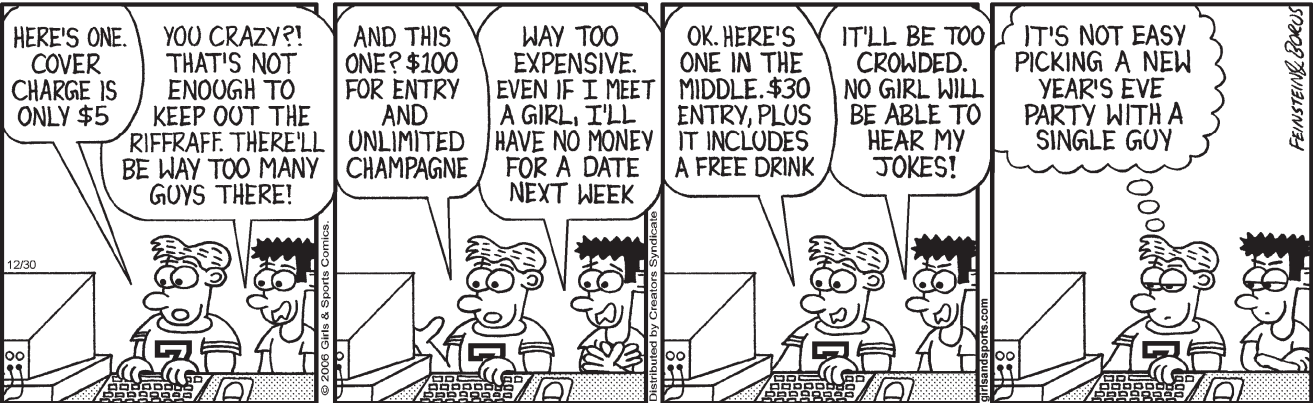
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310 993 2727 CALL NOW  
www.ePrepNow.com

Girls and Sports

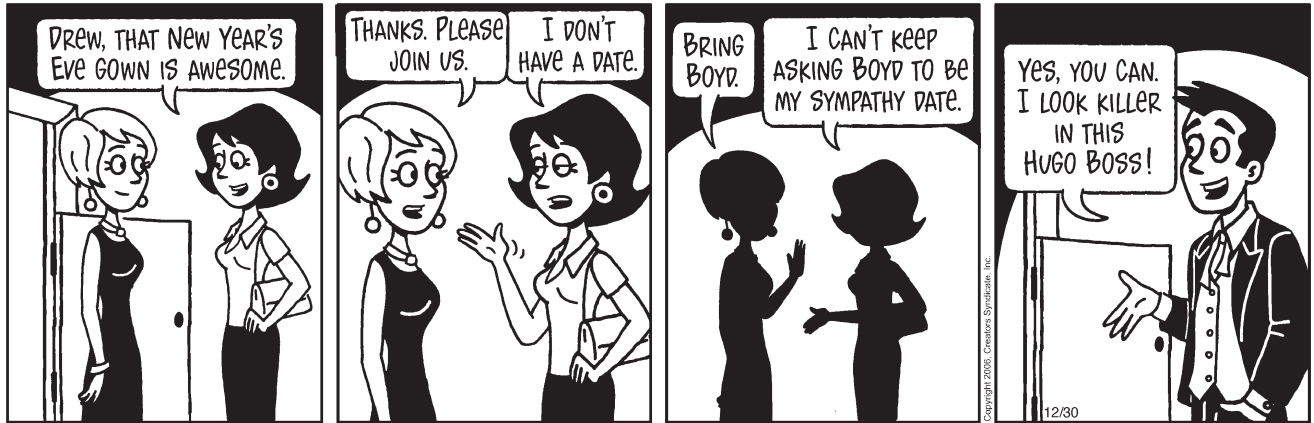
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



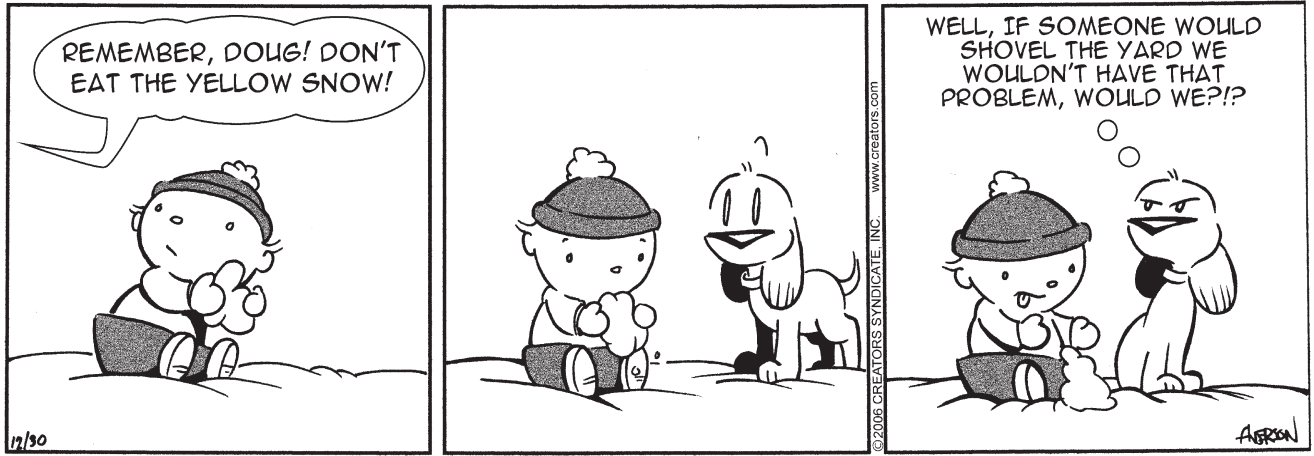
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



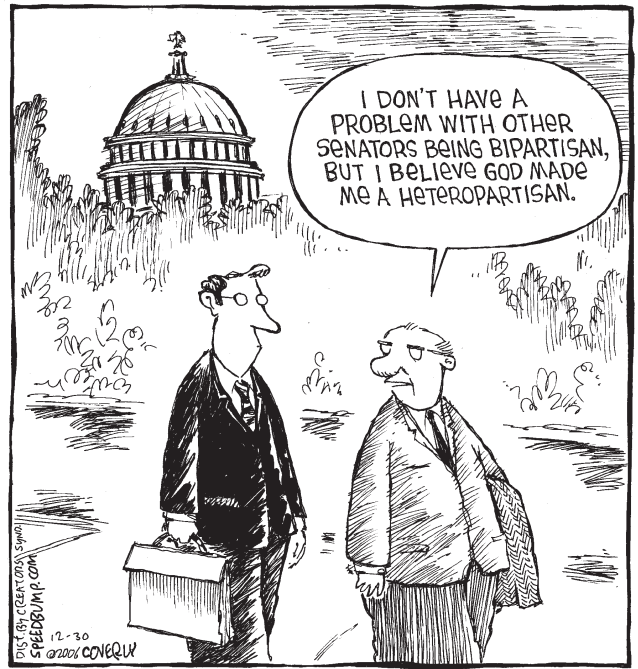
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



Your ad could run here!  
Call us today at (310) 458-7737

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Floppy topper
- 6 Group of plotters
- 11 "Go jump in —!"
- 12 Met music
- 13 Paint base
- 14 Contract makeup
- 15 Midday break
- 17 Bind up
- 18 Not to mention
- 19 Talk foolishly
- 22 U.S. neighbor
- 23 She's a monster
- 24 The fifth element
- 25 Aloud
- 27 Keystone character
- 30 Selects
- 31 Pitching number
- 32 Very popular
- 33 Pinhead
- 35 Tuned in
- 38 Train stop
- 39 Ballet wear
- 40 Writer Zola
- 41 Predicaments
- 42 Keanu Reeves film

DOWN

- 1 Fragrant wood
- 2 "The Graduate" girl
- 3 Blue, in a way
- 4 — out (squeezes by)
- 5 Class needs
- 6 Camp bed
- 7 Copy
- 8 Docking places
- 9 Warring groups
- 10 Focused beam
- 16 "Let's Stay Together" singer
- 20 Nick-name for the U.S.S. Constitution
- 21 Kayo count
- 24 Scary cry
- 25 Appear

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | J | A | K |   | R | A | M | B | O |
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| A | L | A | N |   | U | R | S | A |   |   |
| C | O | N |   | A | M | O | U | N | T | S |
| T | U | N | I | C |   | T | E | N | O | N |
| S | T | E | R | E | O | S |   | E | R | A |
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| A | R | O | A | R |   | A | L | O | O | F |
| B | A | R | G | E |   | L | A | R | V | A |
| S | L | E | E | P |   | T | R | E | A | D |

Yesterday's answer

- 26 Spud
- 27 Topknotted doll
- 28 Jim Palmer, once
- 29 Touched lightly
- 30 Talks
- 34 Office aide
- 36 Furrow
- 37 Road curve

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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| 11 |    |    |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    |    |
| 13 |    |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |
| 18 |    |    |    |    | 19 |    | 20 | 21 |    |    |
| 22 |    |    |    |    | 23 |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    | 25 | 26 |    |    |    |    |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 31 |    |    |
| 32 |    |    |    |    | 33 |    | 34 |    |    |    |
| 35 |    |    | 36 | 37 |    | 38 |    |    |    |    |
| 39 |    |    |    |    |    | 40 |    |    |    |    |
| 41 |    |    |    |    |    | 42 |    |    |    |    |

12-30



SELL YOUR CAR FAST!

Advertise your used car for sale in the only LOCAL DAILY newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY  
\$45

Run it until it sells!\*



1964 Pontiac Catalina  
New Transmission, new paint job. 150K original miles. Immaculate condition inside. Kept in garage for many years. Must see!  
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.\*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- FREE online placement!

Call us today at  
(310) 458-7737

Take advantage of this great offer.

Santa Monica Daily Press



\*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to schedule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renewal is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to [annie@smdp.com](mailto:annie@smdp.com). Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

Just like a new baby can have a tremendous effect on your life, even a few cigarettes a day while pregnant can have an effect on your baby. Smoking while pregnant reduces the amount of oxygen your baby receives. And it can increase the risk of premature delivery, low birthweight, childhood asthma, SIDS and other problems. Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you can do for your baby's health. We can help you learn to quit for good. Call 1-866-66-START or visit [www.greatstartbabies.org](http://www.greatstartbabies.org).

Legacy Foundation

# Relax, Renew & Re-energize



## OCEAN SPA & FITNESS CENTER

LOEWS SANTA MONICA BEACH HOTEL



### *The Spa*

**Massages • Body Treatments  
Facial Treatments  
Face & Body Waxing  
Packages Available**

### *The Salon*

**Hair Services • Haircuts  
Color Treatments  
Nail Services**

*The Westside's  
Best Kept Secret*



### *The Fitness Center*

**Cybox • Precor • Life Fitness • StarTrac  
Equipment**

**Personal Training Services  
Private Pilates Training  
Group Exercise Classes  
Spinning™, Yoga, Pilates Mat  
Water Aerobics, Core Conditioning**

*Limited Health Club Memberships Available*



**LOEWS  
SANTA MONICA BEACH HOTEL**

*Stop in or call for an appointment:*

**1700 Ocean Avenue, Santa Monica 310-899-4040  
Monday - Friday 6am-10pm • Saturday & Sunday 6am-9pm**

Santa Monica Daily Press

# Classifieds

**\$5<sup>50</sup> per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.**

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

## YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!\*

Some restrictions may apply.

Prepay your ad today!



**(310) 458-7737**

\*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not guaranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

|                                                                                |                                                           |                                                                                                  |                                                                                               |                                                                                                                |                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CLASSIFICATIONS:</b><br>Announcements<br>Creative<br>Employment<br>For Sale | Furniture<br>Pets<br>Boats<br>Jewelry<br>Wanted<br>Travel | Vacation Rentals<br>Apartments/Condos<br>Rent<br>Houses for Rent<br>Roomates<br>Commercial Lease | Real Estate<br>Real Estate Loans<br>Storage Space<br>Vehicles for Sale<br>Massage<br>Services | Computer Services<br>Attorney Services<br>Business Opportunities<br>Yard Sales<br>Health and Beauty<br>Fitness | Wealth and Success<br>Lost and Found<br>Personals<br>Psychic<br>Obituaries<br>Tutoring |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out [www.smdp.com](http://www.smdp.com) for more info.

### Obituaries



HERMAN GERARD LOAIZA JR.  
April 2, 1964 – December 23, 2006

OWNER OF H&H AUTOBODY Santa Monica. He was taken from us in tragic car accident on Sunset Blvd on Saturday December 23, 2006, he will be dearly missed. He is survived by his fiancée Cheryl Johnson, his beautiful and precious daughter Olivia Tess, father Herman Loaiza Sr., brother Jerry and sister Terry and a thousand close friends. A graduate of St. Mark Catholic School, Venice and St. Bernards Catholic High School, Playa Del Rey. A native to both California & Costa Rica he lived a wonderful & exciting life. An avid motocross rider, racecar enthusiast and passionate outdoorsman, he lived life to the fullest. He found his soul mate in his fiancée Cheryl aka "Trixie" and let her know that he loved her every day. His beautiful daughter Olivia Tess was and will always be the light of his life. He was truly a very proud father. His love, admiration and respect for his own father Herman Sr. will live on forever. The love for his brother & sister was his heart and soul as well as his extended family here and in Costa Rica. To his thousands of friends that will miss him, just remember all the good times, take comfort in the memories and live life to the fullest, just like Herman.

The wake will be held Friday, December 29, 2006 from 6 - 8 pm. Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, December 30, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. both at St. Mark Church, Venice. Herman's eternal resting place will be with his mother Maria Teresa at Holy Cross Cemetery, Culver City.

WAKE & FUNERAL LOCATION  
Church of St. Mark  
940 Coeur D' Alene Ave.  
Venice, CA 90291  
Telephone: (310) 821-5058  
Fax: (310) 821-7031  
Email: [info@st-mark.net](mailto:info@st-mark.net)

### Announcements

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN**  
Community Corporation of Santa Monica announces the opening of the 2007 Marketing List. To be considered for an affordable housing unit in Santa Monica, you must pick up an appointment card at 1423 2nd St. #B, Santa Monica between Dec. 11th and Jan. 4th, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-Th - Closed Dec. 22, 25, 29 and Jan. 1. EOH

### Employment

College radio music promoter (310)998-8305 xt.85

Customer Service/Full Time- starting up to \$12.00 per hour. 22 year old telephone services company in WLA with free secure parking. Experience preferred but will train. Good language skills and reliability a must. Call 310-281-3079 for recorded details.

**JOB COACH,** on day program for adult with developmental disabilities. Mon-Fri 9am-3pm. Admin Assistant Mon-Fri 9-5. Excellent benefits. Call (310)457-2026

**SHIFT WORKER** Santa Monica Heavy Manual Labor mornings/evenings. Approx. 12-150/hrs week. Must work Sundays both shifts. \$11.50/hr. This is not a temporary position. Must have valid driver's license and id. [CartsatThirdSt@aol.com](mailto:CartsatThirdSt@aol.com) (818) 907-7898

### Employment

**OFFICE COORDINATOR**  
Salary: \$45k - \$50K w/ Benefits!  
College degree preferred, 5+ years experience in administrative assignments.

Work independently, highly developed organizational/problem-solving skills, multi-task in faced paced environment, excellent communication skills. Detail oriented essential. Bookkeeping a plus!  
Send resume to: [candidatesseek@yahoo.com](mailto:candidatesseek@yahoo.com) or by fax 310-564-0408.

**RADIO INTERVIEW** campaign sales person p/t flexible SM (310)998-8305 \* 84

**SALES**  
**SANTA MONICA**  
Earn \$60K - \$400K.  
One of the nation's  
oldest/largest precious metals  
co. seeks sales pros. No cold  
calling or license required,  
paid training & full benefits.  
[www.Goldline.com](http://www.Goldline.com).  
310-395-0762

Salesperson needed for dental services and promotion. Aggressive commission plus \$15/hour. Local sales in Venice Beach. Call Dr. King at 310-391-0699.

## Mail. Fax. Call. Email. Running your classified ad is easy!

**\$5<sup>50</sup> per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Classification** (Pets, Yard Sale, Etc...): \_\_\_\_\_

**Ad Copy** (attach copy if necessary)

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_

10 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_

13 \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_

**Requested Start Date:** / / **Requested End Date:** / /

**Extras (Additional 20 cents/word):**

☐ ALL CAPS ☐ bold ☐ italics

☐ Box (.50/day) ☐ Reverse(\$1/day)

**Payment:**

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Check

Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ | 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable:** Santa Monica Daily Press

**NO CASH PLEASE**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Mail.

**Fill out this form and mail to:**

1427 Third Street Promenade  
Suite 202  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

## Fax.

**Fill out this form and fax to:**

(310) 576-9913  
ATTN: Classifieds

## Call.

**Call Annie Kotok!**

(310) 458-7737 Ext. 114

## Email.

**Email your ad to:**

[anniek@smdp.com](mailto:anniek@smdp.com)

**PREPAY YOUR AD TODAY!**



**Call us with questions**  
**(310) 458-7737**

Santa Monica Daily Press

Visit us online at [smdp.com](http://smdp.com)

### For Rent

## BEAUTIFUL MONTANA GARDENS

### Room and Board

401 Montana Avenue  
**Your home away from home.**

Daily meals, laundry, housekeeping, utilities, and cable. 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath + Full Kitchen. Seniors and all ages welcome.

**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS**  
**\$2,500/MO**  
**(310) 245-9436**

**FREE HOUSING SERVICE**—We help match seniors with seniors/mid-age/younger people. 323-650-7988 M-F 9-5.

**FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals.** Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90403.

**HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP**  
(310) 869-7901

2bdrm/1bath \$2550/mo  
2103 Oak Unit C  
Refurbished.  
928 6th St. #12 \$2550 2+2  
1011 Pico #18 \$2450 2+ loft

PLEASE Visit our website  
for complete  
listings at:  
[www.howardmanagement.com](http://www.howardmanagement.com)

**HUGE 3BDRM/2BATH** upper, Beverly Hills adj. Totally remodeled. Balcony, A/C cable, laundry, parking, immaculate, no pets. \$2100/mo (310)913-1906

**MAR VISTA 11924 Courtleigh Dr.** unit 9, stove, fridge, carpets, blinds utilities included, parking, no pets.\$995/mo (310)737-7933 [www.jkwproperties.com](http://www.jkwproperties.com)

**MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd.** Unit 211 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. \$1075/mo (888)414-7778 [www.jkwproperties.com](http://www.jkwproperties.com)

**PALMS/BVRLYWD-ADJ.**\$725. Bachelor, Stove, refrigerator, utilities paid, NO PETS, 2009 Preuss Rd., #1. Los Angeles, 90034. Open daily for viewing. Additional info in unit.

**SANTA MONICA \$1275/mo 1bdrm/1bath - 1950'S COURTYARD STYLE APARTMENT** Cat ok, laundry-on-site, yard, ( 3 1 0 ) 3 9 5 - R E N T [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$1280/mo 1bdrm/1bath,** Carpet Floors, refrigerator, remodeled, covered parking with storage. (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$1595/mo 2bdrms/1Bath,** No pets, Carpet Floors, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, (310)395-RENT, [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SENIORS**—Affordable Housing starting at \$430/month. 323-650-7988 M-F 9-5.

### For Rent

**SANTA MONICA \$3875/mo** 4bdrms/2.5bath, dishwasher, fireplace, washer/dryer hookups, with front yard, wet bar (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$1075/mo Studio/1 Bath,** Will consider small pet with deposit, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, yard, (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$1275/mo 2bdrm/1bath** Hardwood Floors, parking, laundry-on-site, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, yard, (310)395-RENT, [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$1300.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath,** Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No Pets, 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

**SANTA MONICA \$1595.00 2 Bdrms, 1 Bath,** Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No pets. 2535 Kansas Ave., #209, Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

### Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

**SANTA MONICA \$1600/mo** 2bdrms/1bath, Tile Floors, 1-car refrigerator, stove, balcony, gated, private patio, (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$2650/mo** 3bdrms/2baths, Carpet, Hardwood, and Tile Floors, stove, microwave, central heat (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**SANTA MONICA \$2980/mo** 3bdrms/2baths, Hardwood/Carpet Floors, parking, dishwasher, balcony, controlled access building, fireplace, ( 3 1 0 ) 3 9 5 - R E N T [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

### Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

**SANTA MONICA \$800/mo** Bachelor/1bath, Carpet floors, refrigerator, microwave, private courtyard, paid utilities (310)395-RENT [www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

**WLA: 2BDRM/1BATH.** \$1500/mo. Great location, new carpet, tile, clean, quiet, parking, patio. Brenda (310) 991-2694.

### Commercial Lease

**SANTA MONICA 2941 Main Street.** Small single room offices \$825-\$890/month. Parking available. PAR Commercial (310)395-2663

### Real Estate

## HOME SELLERS

**Free home evaluation. Free computerized**

**list of area home sales and current listings.**

Free recorded message.

1-800-969-8257 ID #1041

[www.FreeListingPrice.com](http://www.FreeListingPrice.com)

### Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

## CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

Prepay your ad today!



**(310) 458-7737**

Santa Monica Daily Press

**HOURS** MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm

**LOCATION** 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90405

**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

GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Prepay your ad today!



(310) 458-7737

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

\$5<sup>50</sup> per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Real Estate



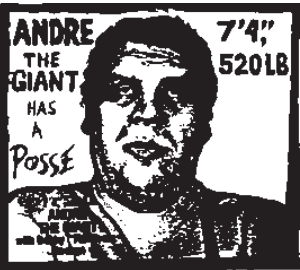
Kato Bransfield

Estates Director  
Chairman's Circle - Platinum  
#1 Prudential Santa Monica Realtor

310.395.1133

What is Your Home Worth?  
Contact Me to Find Out.  
for local, current real estate info...

SantaMonicaListings.com



ANDRE THE GIANT HAS A POSSE

7'4" 520LB

SELL YOUR CAR FAST!

Advertise your used car for sale in the only **LOCAL DAILY** newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY \$45

Run it until it sells!\*



1964 Pontiac Catalina  
New Transmission, new paint job. 150K original miles. Immaculate condition inside. Kept in garage for many years. Must see!  
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.\*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- **FREE** online placement!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Take advantage of this great offer.



\*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to schedule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renewal is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to anniek@smdp.com. Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

YOUR AD COULD RUN HERE!

CALL US TODAY AT (310) 458-7737

Real Estate

**PAC WEST MORTGAGE**  
2212 Lincoln Blvd in Santa Monica  
**1-888-FOR-LOAN**  
**310 392-9223**

VERY AGGRESSIVE RATES

TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| 30 YEAR FIXED   | 6%      |
| 10 YEAR/1 ARM   | 6%      |
| 7 YEAR/1 ARM    | 5.75%   |
| 5 YEAR/1 ARM    | 5.75%** |
| 3 YEAR/1 ARM    | 5.5%**  |
| 1 YEAR/1 ARM    | 5.25%   |
| 6 MO./6 MO. ARM | 5%      |
| 1 MO./1 MO. ARM | 1%      |

\*Rates subject to change  
\* As of November 12, 2006  
\*\* Denotes an interest only loan

NEW CONFORMING LOAN AMOUNTS

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| 1 Unit  | \$417,000 |
| 2 Units | \$533,850 |
| 3 Units | \$645,300 |
| 3 Units | \$645,300 |
| 4 Units | \$801,950 |



**ROB SCHULTZ**  
BROKER  
LICENSED CALIFORNIA  
BROKER #01218743



Health/Beauty

LOSE UP TO 30 lbs. in 30 days. Call for your free diet sample pack (310)281-6220

Massage

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing body work by mature European. Very Professional, Sonja (310) 397-0433.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL Head-Toe, light-strong, Relaxing Swedish, Deep tissue, TLC Footbackwalking, outcalls

Massage

anytime. \*82-310-927-7434.  
\*82-702-787-2590, Dorothy

Personals

**Talk to a Model**  
**24HRS.**  
**877-EZ MARIA**  
**877-396-2742**  
**\$10-17 for 15 min.**  
**ATM/CC/Checks by phone**  
**www.USLove.com**

Vehicles for sale

**\$\$ CASH 4 \$\$**  
**\$\$ MERCEDES BENZ/BMWs \$\$**  
**1980-1995** Running or Not  
Any Questions Please Call  
(310) 995-5898



'04 Chevy Malibu \$9,995  
Low miles, auto, a/c, p/w, cruise & more (4M603301)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'03 Toyota Tacoma PreRunner Xtra Cab  
Low miles, Vg 3.5L, 2WD, SR5, towing pkg, alloy wheels, wide tires  
Shell not pictured (I6054B)  
\$14,992  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

YOUR AD COULD RUN HERE!

CALL US TODAY AT (310) 458-7737



'05 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D  
Low miles, V6 3.5L, Navigation system, Bose sound, leather, moon roof, alloy wheels (I6168A)  
\$21,393  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'05 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D  
Low miles, V6 3.5L, Auto, multi CD, leather, moon roof, alloy wheels, telescope wheel (I6123A)  
\$20,793  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

Vehicles for sale



'05 Volkswagen Jetta GLI Sedan  
4-Cyl., 1.8L Turbo, A/C, CD, Air Bags, Moonroof, Alloy (I6311A)  
\$14,793  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 577-7253



'05 Toyota 4Runner SUV 4D  
Low miles, V6 4.0L, roof rack, traction control, running boards, towing pkg, privacy glass, alloy wheels (I6188A)  
\$23,992  
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'03 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D  
Silver, low miles, V6 3.5L, Cruise, leather, moon roof (I6100A)  
\$18,394  
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'03 Mercury Sable \$8,995  
Auto, 6 Cyl., P/W, P/L, Tilt, Cruise (3G608497)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'06 Corolla S  
Auto, A/C, alloys, C/B, power pkg (62749274)  
\$14,995  
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'03 Volvo S60 Sedan 4D  
5-Cyl., 2.4L, auto, air bags, traction control, leather, moon roof (I6375A)  
\$14,951  
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Vehicles for sale



'01 Volkswagen Cabriolet GLS  
Low miles, auto, leather (1M812271)  
\$12,995  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'05 Mazda 3 i Sedan  
Champagne, 4-Cyl., 2.0 L, 5 speed, air bags, alloy wheels (P1481)  
\$14,993  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'03 Lexus RX 300  
Silver, V6 3.0L, Low Miles! (I6069A)  
\$23,493  
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'99 Acura Integra LS \$9,995  
Auto, a/c, alloys, low miles  
Lots more! (XS011518)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'01 Audi A6 \$18,995  
Immaculate! Loaded! Best buy around! (1N063236)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'04 Toyota Corolla Sedan  
4-Cyl., 1.8L Turbo, Alloy wheels (I6072A)  
\$12,993  
Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'04 Hyundai Accent GL \$10,900  
Silver, auto, CD, 50K miles (540810)  
Hyundai Santa Monica (866) 309-6705

Vehicles for sale



'05 Mini Cooper \$21,995  
Auto, Best Buy - Come See This One! (5TG95346)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'04 Avalon XLS \$18,995  
Toyota Certified! Low miles, loaded (4U383719)  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'02 PT Cruiser  
Auto, leather, moon roof, low miles, immaculate! (2T336107)  
\$9,995  
Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'05 Sonata GLS Sedan only \$14,800  
Blue, 14K miles, auto, cd (119613)  
Hyundai Santa Monica (866) 309-6705



'06 Tucson GL \$16,900  
3,200 miles, 1 owner Better than new (438787)  
Hyundai Santa Monica (866) 309-6705



'04 Santa Fe \$14,900 \$15,650  
2 to Choose-Black or Silver  
Low miles, some factory warranty (U786948, U648625)  
Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705



'04 Nissan Sentra  
CD, 42K Miles, Very Clean Will Not Last (4L915794)  
Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705

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\$5<sup>50</sup> per day. Up to 15 words,  
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## Vehicles for sale



'05 Corolla LE Blue  
34K miles, auto, CD,  
Nicely equipped  
(502125)

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'03 BMW 530i Silver \$29,900  
Still has warranty, only 43K miles,  
Loaded  
(K35507)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705



'03 Sonata V6 White . . . \$11,500  
Low miles, pristine, has factory  
warranty  
(794493)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705



'00 Grand Cherokee Ltd. \$11,900  
Red/Tan, 4WD, Moonroof,  
Pristine!  
(VC223308)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705



'02 Santa Fe 4 x 4 \$12,900  
Low Miles, Pristine Condition,  
Loaded Warranty  
(2U175332)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
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'02 Escape 2WD \$9,900  
R-Brds, Leather, CD, Pristine!  
Must See!

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'05 C230 Sport Sedan \$26,900  
1 Owner, Silver/Gray, Leather,  
Moonroof, 24K Miles. Like new!  
Loaded factory warranty.  
(SF727053)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705

## Vehicles for sale



'05 QX56 Nav \$38,900  
Low miles, Navigation, DVD, tow,  
Running boards, Buy Wholesale  
(810914)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705



'06 Town & Country \$15,900  
White/Gray, 7 Passenger  
10K Miles, Pristine  
(6B704117)

Hyundai Santa Monica  
(866) 309-6705

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COULD RUN HERE!  
CALL US  
TODAY AT  
(310) 458-7737**

**SELL YOUR  
CAR FAST!**

Advertise your used car for sale in the  
only **LOCAL DAILY** newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY  
**\$45**

Run it until it sells!\*



1964 Pontiac Catalina  
New Transmission, new paint job. 150K  
original miles. Immaculate condition  
inside. Kept in garage for many years.  
Must see!  
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

## Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.\*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- **FREE** online placement!

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(310) 458-7737**

Take advantage of this great offer.



**Santa Monica Daily Press**

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Repipes, New and Old Constructions, Remodels  
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No job too small

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**SELL YOUR  
CAR FAST!**

Advertise your used car for sale in the  
only **LOCAL DAILY** newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY  
**\$45**

Run it until it sells!\*



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