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MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2007

Volume 6 Issue 114



'THE BRANDO' FOR SALE?  
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LAZY SUNDAY ISSUE

# Santa Monica Daily Press

## HEALTH



# SMOKING OUT SMC

Local college debates banning butts  
STORY BY KEVIN HERRERA PAGE 12

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

## Former mayor's dream being mailed in

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON Former Santa Monica Mayor Ruth Y. Goldway will be front and center during today's ceremony marking the introduction of a forever stamp by the U.S. Postal Service.

It is after all something the former mayor has thrown her support behind for years.

Some would say she championed the creation of the stamp.

A member of the Postal Regulatory Commission for the past eight years, the part-time Venice and Washington D.C. resident wrote a commentary that appeared in the New York Times back in November of 2005, advocating a forever stamp to protect consumers from the ever-rising price of postage.

If the price goes up after a forever stamp was initially purchased, the consumer will be able to use it without fear that it will be rejected.

Currently, stamps cost 39 cents, but only until the next price increase takes place May 14. At that time, the standard first-class stamp will be 41 cents each. Owners of the old stamps would have to add additional postage or purchase new ones all together to

send mail. This problem will be averted by holders of the new forever stamp.

"The United States Postal Service (USPS), which is a huge national monopoly, has been reluctant to make changes that are favorable to the average consumer," Goldway said.

Luckily for the millions of stamp users across the country, the new USPS Chairman

SEE STAMP PAGE 10



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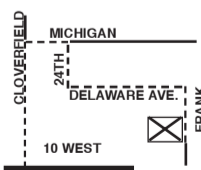
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**Calendar**

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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**WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE**

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



**Danskin triathlon training seminar**

402 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Prepare for the 18th annual Danskin Women's Triathlon series with Sally Edwards.

Sally Edwards is the author of more than 20 fitness sports books including, 'Triathlons for Women,' and is the former masters world record holder in the Ironman Triathlon. Learn the basics of this year's Danskin Triathlon. For more information on the largest, women's only triathlon in the country visit [www.danskin.com/triathlon.html](http://www.danskin.com/triathlon.html).

**Second Annual Santa Monica Teen Film Festival**

The festival invites teens in seventh-grade through 12th-grade, or ages 12 to 18, to submit original films between two and 30 minutes in length. Submissions in all categories will be accepted. The deadline for submissions is Friday, May 4. Film entries that meet the minimum criteria will be considered for screening at the festival in June. Entry forms and submission guidelines are available online at [www.smtteenfilmfest.org](http://www.smtteenfilmfest.org) or at the Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center, located at 2200 Virginia Avenue and the Santa Monica Main Library Youth Reference Desk, located at 601 Santa Monica Boulevard. For more information about the festival or about film submissions, call the Cultural Affairs Supervisor Justin Yoffe at (310) 458-8634 or e-mail him at [justin.yoffe@smgov.net](mailto:justin.yoffe@smgov.net).

**Mom days on Mondays**

1131 Montana Ave., 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.

Aura Medical Day Spa and Balance A Massage and Wellness Center offer spa treatments for moms every Monday. For more information, call (310) 260-1177.

**Free english and citizenship Classes**

2510 Lincoln Blvd., times vary

Classes are offered morning, afternoon and evening at the Santa Monica Adult Ed Center. For more information, call (310) 664-6222.

**Santa Monica Lions Club**

1920 Santa Monica Blvd., 12:15 p.m.

Club meets every Thursday at the Best Western Hotel.

**Hatha yoga at FPC**

1220 Second St., 7 p.m. — 8:15 p.m.

Yoga instructor John Sweetman will lead in the Renaissance Room at First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica. Cost is \$5 per class.

**Argentine tango class with Makela Brizuela**

1416 Electric Ave., Venice, 9 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Meet people while dancing the Argentine Tango. No partner required. For more information, visit [www.makelatango.com](http://www.makelatango.com).

**Tuesday, March 27, 2007**

**Healthy aging seminar**

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

UCLA geriatrician Sonja Rosen, M.D., will discuss ways to maintain health and well-being while aging. The focus will be on preventative measures, health screenings, and methods to retain independence.

**Green living workshop**

2811 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Each six-week Sustainable Works' course is designed to help residents learn about important environmental issues, save valuable resources, lower utility bills, and protect their health. Cost is \$25 for the full six weeks. To reserve a space, call Anna Cummins at (310) 458-8716.

**Enchanted lunchtime theatre**

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

For more information on this family-friendly theatre experience, call the Playhouse box office at (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit [www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com](http://www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com).

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.



# Locals split in grading City Hall's performance

BY KEVIN HERRERA  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITYWIDE** Just like Ebert and Roeper, residents here gave City Hall an enthusiastic "two thumbs up" when it comes to libraries, police and fire, tree trimming and other essential services.

But in the areas of homelessness, traffic management and addressing neighborhood concerns, local government continues to fall short.

That's according to an annual survey of over 400 residents conducted earlier this year.

"There's no surprise here as traffic and homelessness were far and away the most important issues for people [with] the number of people who mentioned homelessness as their top concern doubling over prior years," said Paul Goodwin with Goodwin Simon Victoria Research, a Culver City-based firm which conducted telephone interviews with 417 residents in both English and Spanish back in January.

"The good news is that overall satisfaction with city services has remained at or above 80 percent since 2000, which is a very, very powerful endorsement of the work you are doing as council members and city staff," Goodwin said in a meeting with the council last week.

Residents love their retail, with 89 percent satisfied with the appearance of retail stores and restaurants near their homes. They are also big fans of local parks, with 86 percent reporting that they are very satisfied by their experiences at city facilities.

Cops must be doing their job as well, as a whopping 93 percent of people surveyed felt safe walking in their neighborhoods during the day. However, a significantly smaller number — 68 percent — felt safe walking at night, much of which had to do with a 14 percent increase in those concerned about crime, particularly gang activity.

Views are still mixed on City Hall's spending. A reported 44 percent said City Hall is doing an "excellent" or "good" job, while a near equal 42 percent responded with a negative rating.

Looking closer at the results of the survey,

SEE SURVEY PAGE 10

## COMMUNITY PROFILES | DON ALEXANDER



Fabian Lewkowicz [fabian@smdp.com](mailto:fabian@smdp.com)

**STAYING IN TOUCH:** Don Alexander, owner of Euro Taxi, handles dispatch duties at the company's Santa Monica office.

# Running on veggie oil

### Euro Taxi is the first cab service in SM to run on biodiesel fuel

1BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD** A career path with stops along the way as a dental technician, casino dealer, realtor and personal trainer ended with an opportunity that fell into Don Alexander's lap during a time of financial crisis.

At the age of 52, the native Yugoslavian had finally found his niche.

The owner of Santa Monica-based Euro Taxi has been in the cab business for just

four years, but has already left a significant mark on the industry. Alexander's company is credited with introducing the first fleet of biodiesel cabs in the city.

It was in 2003 when Alexander found himself in dire need of a job to support his family. He had lost his real estate license during the early 1990s and had taken on odd jobs since then that included stints as a personal trainer at 24 Hour Fitness and an art installer for a studio in Venice.

Then, one day, a job opportunity came knocking on his door. A friend who owned a taxi cab company, named Taxi! Taxi!, was looking for a new general manager to improve operations at his Santa Monica-based business.

Alexander credits himself with completely changing the company for the better by firing employees whom he believed had substance abuse problems. He also let go cab

drivers that he suspected were living in company vehicles. Next was the task of replacing the entire fleet of vehicles with Mercedes-Benz S-Class cars. The finale to the plan was to build relationships with local hotels. He ultimately increased business by gaining the trust of local establishments including the Fairmont Miramar Hotel, Shutters on the Beach, the Sheraton Hotel, the Ambrose Hotel, and the Best Western Gateway Hotel.

In June 2005, the former owner of Taxi! Taxi! decided to sell the business that Alexander worked so hard to improve. As a result of the sale, he lost his job. At that time it was only natural that he would continue doing what he knew best — running a cab service.

"I still didn't get back my real estate license," Alexander said. "At 55, it's not that easy to get a job and I already knew this

SEE CP PAGE 11



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Light up the structure scoreboard  
Editor:

All of our wonderful, large (and oft-full) many-storied parking structures along Fourth Street in Downtown Santa Monica let us know, via light-emitting diode, the number of spaces that remain available – “264...67...3...” – depending upon the time of day.

All except one, that is. Structure Nine just past Wilshire Boulevard and Fourth Street.

Let’s face it, the only appeal of dragging our toxic machines through this clogged corridor is the thrill of seeing how many spaces are still empty. Why? Because, according to puzzlemaster Will Shortz’s piece about Sudoku, “A rush of excitement, from filling in empty spaces to completing a large loop” that ran March 21 in the New York Times. He added, “As humans beings, we like to fill empty spaces.”

Thus, I take up virtual pen to say: Come on, Structure Nine, get with the program!

**Henry Rosenfeld**  
Santa Monica

Ditch creepy mural

Editor:

I’ve lived here in Santa Monica a long time and raised my children here and I couldn’t do that if my apartment’s rent wasn’t affordable because of rent control. The reason I’m writing about this is the new Santa Monica affordable housing building at the corner of 26th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. I think the City is doing a good thing by building many apartments that families can afford because rents for other apartments are high. But, what I don’t like about this building is the picture painted on the side of the building. It just shows a Caucasian-American woman swimming in the ocean with a Caucasian-American man staring at her. I think that is creepy, but I also protest that the painting doesn’t show the whole culture of Santa Monica. Where are the women, children and men of color? The painting is disrespectful to women and to the people of color who live here. This city is supposed to be about including all peoples, but that doesn’t seem to be true on this city building. The city should make the painting represent all of Santa Monica and include people of color in the picture.

**Graciella Flores**  
Santa Monica

Depth charging the Navy

Editor:

Let’s hope the lawsuit recently filed in California over the Navy’s sonar tests convinces the Navy to take animals’ welfare into consideration.

Mounting evidence links sonar tests to many whale beaching around the world. Recently, a 15-foot beaked whale beached herself and was reportedly found dead with bleeding around both ears, likely a result of Navy sonar testing done off the coast of North Carolina. In January 2005, 37 whales beached themselves and died on the Outer Banks following a similar Navy sonar exercise.

A study published in the journal *Nature* in 2003 suggested that high-powered sonar from Navy ships appears to give whales and other marine mammals a version of the bends, causing them to develop dangerous gas bubbles in some tissues and blood vessels forcing them to beach themselves and die. Researchers found a condition similar to decompression sickness in 10 of 14 dead beached whales who were stranded on the Canary Islands soon after an international Navy exercise in 2002.

We’ve put people on the moon – certainly, we can develop a sonar system that doesn’t harm innocent animals. To learn more, visit [www.HelpingWildlife.com](http://www.HelpingWildlife.com).

**Stephanie Boyles, M.S.**  
Norfolk, VA



Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

Is risk taking extreme or just plain foolish?

CALL ME A SISSY, BUT I WAS BORN without the faintest trace of a radical bone in my body.

Oh sure, from time to time I’ll remove the label from a mattress, run with scissors (but only during sewing emergencies, and even then the blades are always pointed down and cushioned in my palm) or talk with my mouth full (which, I suppose, is a more accurate indicator of bad manners than extremism, per se), but the allure of raw, heart-pounding, gut-wrenching adventure appeals to me not at all. I am fascinated, though, with people who get an adrenaline high, or an ego boost, knowing they could be potentially staring death in the face, and do so without even blinking. I mean, isn’t that what sunglasses are for?

Out west, activities like surfing, hiking, rock climbing, biking and backcountry skiing aren’t necessarily considered among the most severe sports. Still, given the abundant and inherent danger of natural and human-triggered avalanches and the possibility of rapidly deteriorating weather conditions, off-piste enthusiasts are urged to train heavily and frequently to use life-saving techniques and electronic equipment.

Late last month a State House panel in Oregon held hearings on a bill that would require climbers journeying above 10,000 feet on Mount Hood during the winter season to carry electronic locator units. The move came on the heels of an incident in which three climbers used one and were promptly rescued after sustaining a fall and spending a snowy, windy and icy night at 7,400 feet.

The way I see it, if I’m doing something that leaves me with even the most remote possibility of being buried alive, or if I’m capable of doing something that could cause someone else to be swept away in an avalanche, I say keep your beacon. I’ll be at home on the couch.

Maniacal driving, otherwise known as NASCAR, has become increasingly popular. NASCAR drivers don layers and layers of fireproof clothes, fireproof shoes and helmets and drive really, really, really fast around a track 200 times and sometimes crash into walls or other cars, causing dramatic explosions. In my car, the looniest thing I ever attempt is driving around and around the supermarket lot looking for a parking space after work, trying not to explode dramatically at the countless tourists who cause incessant swerving because they insist on walking aimlessly, oblivious to the moving cars around them.

A few years ago I went para-gliding, but the thought of having to sign all those waivers again acknowledging the not-so-remote possibility of my imminent death soured me from making a repeat performance. (The fact that my instructor told me I made one of the ugliest landings he had ever seen and my overwhelming acrophobia that never quite went away during the flight also

carried some weight when I made the final decision to pass on round two.)

Bungee jumping, I imagine, would probably be great fun if it didn’t involve plunging off a very tall structure like a bridge or a crane with a life-size hair elastic tied to my ankles, causing me to bounce up and down with my head either nearly cracking into the ground or almost becoming submerged in a body of water while my shirt simultaneously flies up (or down), giving everyone the opportunity to accurately assess my cup size. Then again, if bungee jumping also meant, say, repeatedly flipping a rope over my head and skipping over it just as it reached the floor, I’d be all for it.

**THE WAY I SEE IT, IF I’M DOING SOMETHING THAT LEAVES ME WITH EVEN THE MOST REMOTE POSSIBILITY OF BEING BURIED ALIVE ... I SAY KEEP YOUR BEACON. I’LL BE AT HOME ON THE COUCH.**

Then there’s the running of the bulls in Spain — the annual rite during the San Fermin Festival in which a dozen or so bulls weighing well over a half ton each are set loose on public streets each morning for nine consecutive days.

Spectators younger than the age of 18 are discouraged from joining the bulls on their early morning stampedes, and anyone whose hours partying outnumber their hours sleeping during the celebration in honor of the patron saint of Pamplona are invited to participate in the daily races by watching the televisions in their living rooms. Other than that, everyone else with a pulse and/or an urge to risk being trampled on (by fellow runners and the bulls), gored (presumably just by the bulls) or killed (again, the bulls) is welcome to take part.

Extreme driving? Running? Flying? Jumping? Skiing? No, thanks. On the other hand, extreme eating? Now that’s a radical sport I could get behind. Especially since there are only a few more months until Nathan’s Famous July Fourth Hot Dog Eating Contest. Sure, the cholesterol from the 53 3/4 hot dogs I’d need to eat in 12 minutes to break last year’s record could kill me, but I can definitely think of worse ways to go out.

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Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# We get stacks of letters from our valued readers

**THERE'S ALWAYS FOOD FOR THOUGHT** in letters from our readers.

Boyd Williams (March 12, Page 4) echoed my February 26 column (Page 4) about the Santa Monica/Malibu Unified School District's latest financial crisis. Williams questioned the recommendations of the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team hired to review district finances after the former Chief Financial Officer resigned last fall over a 5 percent teacher pay hike.

Williams points out that although FCMAT said the district could afford the raise after all, steps would have to be taken — such as a transference of funds from building to operating accounts — to balance the books. Williams called it “a complicated shifting of monies that appear to be intended for school facilities will now be heading for salaries.”

Williams notes that when voting for Measure BB, the school improvement bonds on the ballot last November, he might have been misled about the bond money only being used for improving school facilities. After a huge payout to former school CFO, Winston Braham, requiring him to “go away and keep silent,” Williams also asks why Braham was paid anything if he resigned? And why the silence?

Dr. Lisette Bauersachs, (March 16, Page 4) took issue with the possible expenditure of Measure BB money on a new facility for the Edison Language Academy elementary school on Kansas Avenue. Previously, Bauersachs told the Daily Press (March 13, Page 14), “Close to 50 percent of students at ELA are non Santa Monica-Malibu residents. Why would the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu taxpayer money subsidize a school that is 50 percent Los Angeles Unified and Culver City?” Good question. Any answer?

An angry letter from David Mendez-Yapkovitz (March 16, Page 4) trashed the Santa Monica Police Department. Mendez-Yapkovitz has the right to speak his mind, but maybe he should seek ways to get along with police rather than baiting them.

Mendez-Yapkovitz taunted the police for harassing the community's children and berated Chief, Timothy Jackman, for not attending a peace march honoring Miquel Martin and Eddie Lopez who were shot to death by young West Los Angeles gang-bangers. He wrote, “Children are stopped for no reason, no reason at all. A police officer can be just as dangerous a criminal as anybody out on the streets.”

Mendez-Yapkovitz can vent, but cops aren't shooting young men in the back, other young men are. As a volunteer with the SMPD, I know when the police stop someone, there's always a reason which may not be apparent to the person being stopped.

Marches and peace rallies are fine but they can't stop violence especially when gangbangers intimidate people into keeping silent while they assassinate other young men on the streets. If the people who had information about Eddie Lopez's killer would've come forward in time, maybe Miquel Martin would be alive today. Now, that's something to get angry about.

Mendez-Yapkovitz's “cop-phobia” makes a bad situation worse by provoking distrust and anger. We don't need a poison wedge between the community he says he cares about and those in law enforcement trying to protect it.

A March 20 letter by Linda Morris (Page 4) criticized the landscaping planter that's in the middle of Pico Boulevard at 33rd Street instead of a much needed left turn lane for Trader Joe's market. Surely Linda, you wouldn't expect to see traffic planning that makes sense in this town?

And, for those in Sunset Park who want traffic mitigation on Ocean Park Boulevard between 14th and 18th Streets, the same kind of incompetent traffic planning that turned Pico and many other Santa Monica streets into ugly, unsafe avenues were unveiled at a community meeting last week.

These schemes will result in a main boulevard less able to handle heavy traffic loads safely — especially with diagonal parking and single, narrower traffic lanes — and increased traffic on residential side streets with even more congestion, pollution and noise.

Former Rent Control Board member, Alan Toy (March 22, Page 4) disagreed with Joan Roger's assertion (March 21, Page 4) about polluted air around a public housing project under construction at 26th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. Sorry, Alan, Joan's right. The air from all the traffic is not healthy and a busy commercial intersection is not the best place to put any housing — even “affordable” — for a number of reasons.

Well done readers. Keep those letters coming.

**BILL BAUER** can be reached at [mr.billbau@gmail.com](mailto:mr.billbau@gmail.com).



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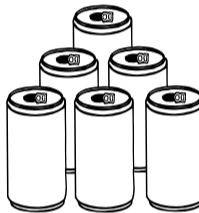
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**THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007 – 7-9 P.M.**

**Santa Monica Public Library  
601 Santa Monica Boulevard  
Multipurpose Room (second floor)**

There's more to the city's Internet presence than its home page. This session of the city's quarterly Leadership Series explores all that Santa Monica is currently doing with this continually evolving technology and what the future holds—from on-line permitting to a new arts/culture portal. With presentations from the City Manager's Office, Information Systems, Cultural Affairs and the Library, followed by a Q&A session, this is a great way for city residents to get connected!

The course and materials are free, but pre-registration is requested, either on-line at [www.smgov.net/leadership](http://www.smgov.net/leadership) or by calling (310) 458-8301 (TTY 917-6626).



The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible and is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9. Please call (310) 458-8606 (395-8499 TTY) for other disability accommodations at least three days in advance of this event.

### The Q-Line

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#### What is in a question?

At times it seems that motorists drive themselves silly by circling city streets and area parking structures time after time searching out an empty parking space. Of course more parking would be nice, but at what cost?

This week's Q-Line question asks: **What would you like to see done by our trusted city officials to remedy what at times seems like a daily scavenger hunt for an available spot?**

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



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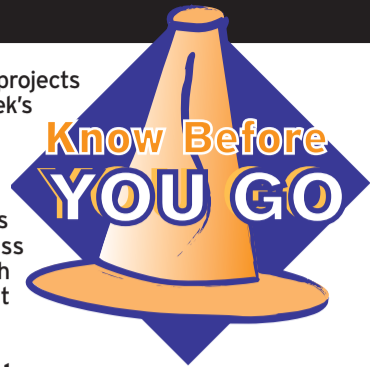
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**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

"Know before you Go" is a weekly update on construction projects throughout Santa Monica. Here is a run-down of this week's construction projects initiated by City Hall



**Access center construction**

Construction of a new two-story homeless services facility begins at 503 Olympic Blvd. for the new Access Center building. The sidewalk on Olympic between Fifth & Seventh Streets will be closed to the public except Samoshel residents.

**Airport Park and Airport Avenue improvements**

Site grading, construction of new artificial-turf soccer fields, building a new playground, restrooms and dog park area, and reconstruction of a portion of Airport Avenue. On-site detour possible during street reconstruction.

**Civic Center parking structure**

Construction continues on a new 900 space Civic Center Public parking structure, located on Fourth Street next to the public safety facility. Construction will require the closure of Avenida Mazatlan and the Fourth Street sidewalk. One lane on southbound Fourth Street is subject to closure while work is occurring.

**Euclid park project**

Construction of a new public park. The project scope will consist of site grading and construction of a new play area (with swings and climbing apparatus), a new garden area, two small green lawn areas, three circular-shaped seating areas, and a trellis entry. Construction is planned to continue until May.

**Lantana east**

Relocation of an 18" storm drain will require street closure on westbound lane #2 of Olympic Boulevard, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Relocation work will continue to April 2, 2007.

**Marine Street utility undergrounding**

Marine Street Utility Excavation - Relocation and excavation of electric, phone, and cable equipment on Marine Street, between Lincoln Boulevard and Prospect Court. Parking limitations will be posted daily and detours may be announced as necessary.

**Montana/Wilshire storm water diversion structures**

Installation of a Storm Water Diversion debris removal and diversion facility will begin August 7 at Ocean Avenue at Montana Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard. Traffic will narrow to one lane in each direction on Ocean Avenue at Montana Avenue. The pedestrian bridge to Pacific Coast Highway is closed and pedestrians will be detoured to pedestrian crossings on Ocean Avenue at Idaho and Palisades Avenues.

**Pier rehabilitation project**

Deck boards in the upper pier parking lot will be replaced. Work is scheduled through May 30. The bike path underneath the pier will be closed until May 30. Minimum closure of parking lot area is anticipated.

**Water main replacement**

Installation of a new water main complete with service connections. Detours and lane closures may occur, and will be posted at various sites during construction.

For more information, log on to [santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug\\_project\\_list.asp](http://santa.monica.org/engineering/projects/kbug_project_list.asp) or call (310) 458-8721.



**COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

**SMC's seeking out the best of the best**

The Santa Monica College Foundation has announced that nominations are being sought for the first-ever SMC Distinguished Alumni Recognition Awards.

"Santa Monica College has an incredible roster of alumni who have gone on – some quietly, others very publicly – to achieve the highest levels of excellence in their fields and in their communities," said SMC Foundation Executive Director JoAnn Ortiz. "It would be a shame not to honor them."

The awards have been established to recognize former SMC students who have distinguished themselves, either through their professional achievements or by outstanding service to SMC or within their communities. Candidates must have completed at least 24 units at SMC.

The awards are broken into two categories – Outstanding Professional Achievement and Distinguished Service – each with its own criteria.

The deadline to submit nominations for two alumni awards is April 1. The alumni selected for the awards will be recognized at graduation ceremonies in June.

For information, contact SMC Foundation Associate Director Suzanne Hanks at (310) 434-4180.

DAILY PRESS

**Ladies, get ready for some action**

Prepare for the 18th annual Danskin Women's Triathlon series with a renowned triathlete. Sally Edwards is the author of more than 20 fitness sports' books including, "Triathlons for Women" and "The Complete Book of Triathlons." She is the former masters' world-record holder in the Ironman Triathlon.

Join Edwards for this special pre-race seminar, March 26 at 6:30 p.m., to learn the basics of this year's Danskin Triathlon and how to prepare, both mentally and physically.

For more information visit [www.danskin.com/triathlon.html](http://www.danskin.com/triathlon.html).

DP

**Outdoor adventures await**

The Department of Beaches and Harbors is again offering its popular "Outdoor Adventures" programs in Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way in Marina del Rey. Subjects covered include bird watching, harbor kayaking and surf kayaking. Individuals and families are all welcome.

Bird watching will take groups to various sites in the Ballona Wetlands, where they will have the opportunity to observe various bird species compete for resources in the shoreline and vegetation habitat. They will also be taken to areas where they can observe Great Blue Heron and Black Crowned Night Heron nesting sites. Excursions are presented at no cost, but pre-registration is essential. Each outing is approximately two hours long.

Bird watching dates and times:

- April 26, 9 a.m.
- May 24, 4 p.m.
- June 28, 9 a.m.

Harbor kayaking offers leisure kayaking outings in the Marina harbor for anyone 10-years-old and older, including families, for whom double kayaks are available. Class size is limited to 15 participants. Outings are from 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. The cost for each outing is \$25 for kids over 18-years-old, and \$30 for adults.

Dates scheduled:

- April 21
- June 16
- Aug. 25
- Oct. 27
- May 26
- July 28
- Sept. 22
- Nov. 10

Surf kayaking will provide participants with the opportunity to kayak through the Marina del Rey harbor and head out to the North Jetty, where they will surf the waves aboard sit-on-top kayaks. Los Angeles County Lifeguards will instruct the outing. Pre-registration is a must, as class size is limited to 10 participants. All classes held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost per outing is \$25.00 for kids under 18-years-old, and \$30 for adults.

Dates scheduled:

- April 28
- June 16
- Aug. 25
- Oct. 27
- May 26
- July 28
- Sept. 22
- Nov. 10

For information regarding all programs, call (310) 822-8530 to register.

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# Deep pockets

A family donates the wallet of an early Mormon writer

BY JENNIFER DOBNER  
Associated Press Writer

**SALT LAKE CITY** Russell Martin Harris celebrated his 86th birthday Friday by giving a gift to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints — a leather wallet carried by his great-great grandfather back in the 1830s.

That may seem like an unspectacular gift, but Harris' great-great-grandfather was Martin Harris, who mortgaged his farm for the \$3,000 needed to print the first 5,000 copies of the faith's central text, the Book of Mormon.

Family folklore holds that the soft, caramel-brown leather wallet carried the cash to the printer, Russell Harris said.

"I have the spirit of giving, and I felt that more people would see it and it was safer here," said Russell Harris, adding that it's just a little hard to let go of the family heirloom.

Passed through the generations from father to eldest son until it arrived in Russell Harris' hands, the wallet will now have a permanent home in a glass case at the Museum of Church History and Art.

Nearby is the original press used to print the Book of Mormon, which chronicles what Mormons believe is an account of Jesus' dealings with ancient Americans.

Church founder Joseph Smith is said to have dictated a translation of the book from a set of gold plates given to him by an angel.

Martin Harris was one of three people besides Smith said to have seen the plates.

He took dictation from Smith. He's also the man who lost the first 116 completed pages, which had to be redone.

"Lost is the fact that he was probably the most significant financial benefactor of the church in its first century of existence, putting up what was then an enormous sum of money," said church elder Dallin Harris Oaks, who is a third cousin to Russell Harris.

The first edition of the Book of Mormon was published in 1830.

Museum Curator of Acquisitions Richard Oman called the wallet the most significant donation to the museum in the last 10 years. Along with the wallet, the museum also holds two other Harris artifacts — a stone from the mortgaged homestead and a family Bible.

**THIS WAS A GIFT OF MAJOR PROPORTIONS. IT TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT HIS FAITH."**

Richard Oman  
Museum Curator of Acquisitions

Oman said when you calculate the value of a dollar today, the value of Martin Harris' original \$3,000 gift to the church would now be worth \$67,000.

"This was a gift of major proportions," Oman said. "It tells us something about his faith."

The museum's collection holds more than 50,000 artifacts and thousands of books.

# Utah school's unorthodox schedule gives jocks a boost

BY DEBBIE HUMMEL  
Associated Press Writer

**PARK CITY, Utah** Back to school. It's the time of year students dread the most. But for 14-year-old Jessie Delacenserie it's made worse because it also means winter is over.

That's right. Winter.

Delacenserie is a student in the Winter Sports School in Park City. The school is in session from April to November giving the student body — most of them elite winter athletes — time off when the snow flies to pursue their slippery goals.

Notable alumni include Olympic gold medal skiers Julia Mancuso and Ted Ligety and for students like Delacenserie, a Wisconsin-native who has been ski racing since 5, there's no choice.

"It's pretty much my life," Delacenserie of ski racing. "I've been missing school since, like, second grade. In Madison they just didn't understand how important ski racing was to me."

That's not a problem at the Winter Sports School, where students are often competitors in the classroom and on the slopes, and many of the teachers have backgrounds in competing or coaching.

"I was a hack really. I was OK," says Rob Clayton of his youth as a ski racer. Clayton has headed the WSS for six years.

Clayton came to Utah from his native Vermont 15 years ago to coach and was hired by the WSS in 2002. Before coming to Utah, Clayton had worked at the Stratton Mountain School, a ski and snowboard academy in Vermont "in almost every capacity besides janitor," he said.

What first struck him about the WSS was the "intelligence" of the schedule. Between training and competitions, many of them a day's drive or more away, it makes no sense for teens actively involved in high-level winter sports to be missing weeks of class or worrying about making up course work when they're trying to pursue their dreams, he said.

Secondly, with other winter sports academies, the training program comes with the education.

"You not only buy their educational profile, you also buy their coaching staff," Clayton said. "We provide you the best education we can provide. You go find the best coach and the best program."

The WSS program is modeled after the international baccalaureate program and is rigorous and college preparatory, Clayton said.

"We don't just take jocks that want a college diploma. We provide the education, but we try to facilitate those who have high aspirations," he said.

And it makes for an interesting population, Clayton says.

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# Mine tops feds' list of greatest toxic polluters

By the Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska Federal environmental regulars have listed the Red Dog Mine in Northwest Alaska as the top toxic polluter in the United States, for the sixth consecutive year.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said in a national ranking of toxic emissions that Alaska also maintained its status as the state producing the largest amount of toxic emissions to air, land or water. The ranking, published Wednesday, is largely due to the Red Dog Mine's routine disposal of hundreds of millions of pounds of waste rock.

Mined waste rock, which accounts for 90 percent of Alaska's toxic releases, is regulated to prevent toxic metals from leaching into the environment, according to state officials. Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Larry Hartig said the waste is stored in permitted facilities.

"We still haven't been able to get the message out that this isn't pollution," said Jim Kulas, Red Dog's environmental superintendent. "It's waste rock."

Claims that Red Dog's waste rock isn't harmful are disputed by some environmentalists. Waste rock has the potential to leach toxic materials, according to some experts.

# 'Natural' makeup looks like spring

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL  
AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK Makeup is getting a makeover for spring.

Whether your seasonal wardrobe will be made up mostly of cool neutral clothes or pop-art brights, makeup artists advise not to go overboard with rainbow colors.

They'll create too much of a contrast with the understated pieces, and you risk appearing cartoonish with the whole mod look.

Robyn Tamura, director of strategy and creative development for Clinique's global education program, says if white is the base of your outfit, the first beauty step to take is to smooth out the skin's texture and color. Then brighten the eye with concealer — which will draw attention to the eyes — and work on defining the lash-line, eyelashes and brows.

"It doesn't have to be about bold colors, it's more about technique," she says.

Joe Costa, national makeup artist for Yves Saint Laurent, suggests a palette that is natural in the spirit of the great outdoors, which has countless shades of rich browns and sandy tans.

"We have a tendency with a natural look to think everything has to be neutral, but if you look at nature that's not how it is. ... Think of when grandma used to pinch your cheeks. That's 'natural looking' but you have color."

could be bronze. I'm sure Beyonce, Jennifer Lopez and Gwyneth Paltrow all have different nude colors."

Adds Brown, whose newest book "Bobbi Brown Living Beauty" (Springboard, 2007) targets women 40

**IT'S NOT ALL BEIGES, IT'S ABOUT FINDING THE COLORS THAT ARE RIGHT FOR YOU."**

Bobbi Brown, make-up artist and CEO of Bobbi Brown cosmetics

If you have browns and beiges on the eye, Costa says to wear a rosier shade on either the lips or cheeks — not both. To dress up the face for evening, use black around the eyes.

"Eyeliner is huge for spring," Costa said. (YSL has just introduced an eyeliner that uses the brush-application technique of its popular Touche Eclat concealer that will create an even, thick line.)

"It's about the 'natural nude face' — that's what I call it," says Bobbi Brown. "It's not all beiges, it's about finding the colors that are right for you."

"If you're very pale, nude is the color of your lips, probably a pale pink. But if you have darker skin, what is 'nude'? It

and older: "Natural is what blends and enhances what you have. You don't want 'nude' to wash you out. If you put it on and it disappears, what's the point?"

For drama, Tamura of Clinique suggests a smoky eye — still with those earth tones. You can go with darker colors or gold, she says, but make sure to keep them warm. "The most important tip for daytime is to make sure everything is soft and blended."

Also, Tamura adds, lots of mascara punches up a look and helps define the face without looking like you have a lot of makeup on.

As for lip color, it depends where you want the focus to be.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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# This is the year to pick organic

BY DEAN FOSDICK  
Associated Press Writer

NEW MARKET, Va. It seems everyone has a tale to tell about why they decided to grow organic.

For some, it may have been one E. coli scare too many and concerns about becoming ill after eating fruits and vegetables produced in contaminated fields half a continent away.

Perhaps it was the desire to see if home-grown foods really tasted all that much better than store-bought.

For Doug Oster, co-author of "Grow Organic: Over 250 Tips and Ideas for Growing Flowers, Veggies, Lawns and More" (St. Lynn's Press, 2007), the decision came after watching his then 3-year-old son wandering down the plant rows moments after he'd dusted with an insecticide to rid some cabbage plants of green caterpillars.

"I stood triumphant as I looked over the garden — the conquering hero who had destroyed the invading force so determined to annihilate my crop," Oster wrote. "... My smugness turned to dread in the pit of my stomach, and I thought, 'What have I done?' That was my awakening, the innocence of a small boy searching for a fresh treat.

"It was the last day I ever used chemicals in the garden and my first as an organic gardener," he wrote. ... "It has been a wonderful journey of discovery and it's not over yet."

Organic gardening generally is defined as growing without the use of synthetic pesticides or fertilizers. It's using natural ingredients to feed the soil rather than the plant.

Five percent of the overall U.S. gardening population grows organically, said Bruce Butterfield, research director for the National Gardening Association.

The number of organic gardeners will increase from 5 million to 8.1 million in the next few years, Butterfield said, giving an estimate based on his research. "The practice will grow around 10 percent a year. ... That's double the growth of conventional gardeners."

Oster and co-author Jessica Walliser recommend that would-be organic gardeners think of organic growing as more a marathon than a sprint. It takes time — on average, two years — before any dramatic changes occur as the result of having abandoned chemicals. First signs might include a sudden emergence of earthworms, for example.

**YOU'LL NOTICE SLOWER GROWTH, INITIALLY. BUT EVENTUALLY, ORGANIC GARDENS SURPASS (THE PRODUCTION OF) TRADITIONAL GARDENS."**

Jessica Walliser  
co-author of "Grow Organic: Over 250 Tips and Ideas for Growing Flowers, Veggies, Lawns and More"

ommend that would-be organic gardeners think of organic growing as more a marathon than a sprint. It takes time — on average, two years — before any dramatic changes occur as the result of having abandoned chemicals. First signs might include a sudden emergence of earthworms, for example.

"You'll notice slower growth, initially. But eventually, organic gardens surpass (the production of) traditional gardens," Walliser said in a telephone interview from her home at Sewickley, Pa.

However much of your yard you choose to make over or however you choose to do it, the conversion method will be comparable to giving up smoking.

## Growers deciding to go organic need approval from the Feds

BY DEAN FOSDICK  
Associated Press Writer

Growers planning to label their products "organic" are required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to become certified. That means finding a third-party or state certifying agent to evaluate their growing operations to determine if they meet a lengthy list of standards.

Home gardeners need be certified only if they market their organic products and then only if they exceed \$5,000 in sales a year.

Growers must submit an "organic system plan" that has to be approved before the USDA-accredited certifiers will perform their onsite evaluations. The plans must be updated and the growing operations and processing facilities inspected annually.

Those who pass muster are then certified by the agent and are allowed to use symbols or certificates in selling or describing their produce as organic. The agent, in effect, has tried to ensure that the grower is presenting the real, uncontaminated goods.

"A certified farmer has about 60 pages of rules, depending upon the (certifying) agency, that they have to follow," said Jessica Walliser, co-author of "Grow Organic: Over

250 Tips and Ideas for Growing Flowers, Lawns and More."

"That can vary from taking the temperature of their compost for a couple of weeks to ensure it reaches 160 degrees (among other things, to kill weed seeds) to ensuring their baskets haven't been treated with any insecticides.

"Those (rules) would be real difficult for home gardeners to follow," she said. "If people get certified, it's because they want to sell something. If you make more than \$5,000 a year, you have to be certified."

Even a certified program, however, can have its problems.

"Organic certification is not a guaranty of quality or purity of the product," according to a fact sheet from the Organic Trade Association. "Rather, it is evidence of the operation's adherence to a prescribed system of agriculture and food production that involves the building and enhancing of the soil naturally, protection of the environment, humane treatment of animals and avoidance of toxic synthetic substances."

Certification costs vary according to the size of the growing operation and fees assessed by the organic certifying agencies. For small farms, however, fees range from \$100 to \$1,200; for large farms.

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# Forever stamp makes debut in Washington

FROM STAMP PAGE 1

of the Board of Governors, Jim Miller, read Goldway's commentary when it was published and thought it was an excellent idea.

It is a win-win situation for both parties according to Miller. The forever stamp helps consumers avoid additional costs and at the same time fosters a positive public image for the USPS, an organization that has had its fair share of public relations problems over the years.

"It's a brilliant innovation that helps both sides," Miller said recently.

The forever stamp is expected to go on sale during the next couple of months,

Miller reported.

The new program allows postal customers the benefit of avoiding inconveniences brought on when rates go up. When the price of postage increases again, frustrated letter senders will be able to use their forever stamps rather than standing in long lines to purchase additional postage. It will also help avoid confusion regarding the price of sending mail, Goldway said. For the USPS, the new program will help cut cost.

"They won't have to sell the 2 cent stamps at all," she said.

The price of stamps typically increases every two to three years and is adjusted with

the rate of inflation. There were rate increases in 2000, 2002, and 2006 and now in 2007.

"We had four years without a rate increase," Goldway said. "It usually doesn't go that long."

The concept of the forever stamp has been used in other countries for years, but the suggestion to implement one in the United States wasn't embraced until 2001.

"It wasn't until my editorial that things were moving quickly," Goldway said.

Postage was at one time used for legal tender and the "old timers" at the USPS were reluctant to enact change, even though the stamp has not been valid in exchange for

money for a long time, Goldway said.

With big-time clients such as major banks, utility companies and catalog companies, the USPS has been reluctant to help the average consumer, she added. Business usually trumps public opinion down at the post office. When the design for the stamp is unveiled today in Washington, Goldway will be smiling.

"I'm very pleased that a useful consumer idea is being implemented," she said. "They haven't told us (the stamp design), but there is a rumor going around that it's going to be a Liberty Bell."

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# Homelessness, traffic continue to bug Santa Monica residents

FROM SURVEY PAGE 3

a higher proportion of people living in the 90401 zip code gave the city a negative rating for addressing neighborhood concerns, at 62 percent, than in other zip codes in the city. Those living in Sunset Park were also more positive in their review of City Hall's job performance in that area, at 61 percent, than those living in the Ocean Park area, at 38 percent. Renters are also more likely to give City Hall a good review — 48 percent — than homeowners, a group that reported just a 39 percent approval rating.

A person's attitudes towards City Hall varied greatly depending on how much contact someone has had with local government, with more negative reviews the more interaction residents had.

Like any survey, there is a 5 percent mar-

gin for error as well as a measure of inconsistency from one year to the next because of how certain questions were presented in the most recent sampling, Goodwin said.

City Hall has embarked on a new customer service campaign with the tag line, "Doing the Right Thing Right!," in an effort to improve relations with customers, being they residents applying for a permit to remodel their homes, entrepreneurs looking for a business license or visitors trying to find a bus line that serves Montana Avenue.

City staff will also be using the results of the survey, along with suggestions submitted by the public, to draft community priorities for upcoming budget discussions with the council. The survey asked very detailed questions including how easy it is to access the city's Web site, overall satisfaction with the beach and local parks, services provided

by first responders, and youth services.

"I think it's clear that in the past couple of years, this City Council has more seriously opened its mind to new approaches to homelessness and even though that continues to be a major concern of our community I think there is a sense we are looking at new solutions and we are starting to find them," said Councilman Kevin McKeown. "I still believe there is a lot more we can and need to do to address traffic or mobility in Santa Monica."

Residents can get involved this evening — Monday — during a meeting with Planning Director Eileen Fogarty and staff at Virginia Avenue Park, where they will be discussing what qualities make neighborhoods interesting and desirable places to be as part of the update to the city's general plan, which will guide the city's future in terms of development and circulation for the next 20 years.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Mayor Richard Bloom had some encouraging words for city employees who are on the front line interacting with the public in both good times and bad.

"The statistics show that members of the public are making inquiries of staff and are utilizing city facilities and services more and more every year and customer service levels relate partly to where we live, and partly to the fact that we have an extremely professional staff who are very dedicated to serving the public," Bloom said. "If we didn't have both of those things, these numbers would read a different way."

kevinh@smdp.com

✉ **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**  
■ Send letters to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

Santa Monica Daily Press

# Restaurant Listing SM's only local listing for fun eats

**BENIHANA**  
THE JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE  
1447 4th St.  
(310) 260-1423

For more than 40 years Benihana chefs have been cooking up a feast on the hibachi grill. Steak, chicken, seafood and vegetables are all prepared teppan-style "right before your eyes." Start your meal with a sushi appetizer, then relax and enjoy the show while sipping exotic cocktails served in collectible ceramic mugs.

**HOURS** CALL RESTAURANT FOR HOURS

**MARIX**  
118 Entrada Drive  
(310) 459-8596

For over 20 years, the best south-of-the-border Tex Mex munchables and the most "Kick Ass" margaritas are found at Marix Tex Mex Playa in Santa Monica. Fresh ingredients, great prices, excellent service and a location just steps from the beach, keep the grazers coming back for more. Open Daily. Banquets, catering, take out and delivery.

**HOURS** MON-THU 4pm-10pm FRI-SUN 11:30am-11pm

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

**IHOP**  
RESTAURANT  
1920 Santa Monica Blvd.  
(310) 829-9597

Come hungry, leave happy. The Santa Monica IHOP is located at the corner of 20th Street and Santa Monica Blvd. Try our variety of pancakes such as Pumpkin, Country, Harvest Grain 'N Nut. Lunch and dinner specials offered daily as well as senior discounts. Best value service in all of Santa Monica.

**HOURS** MON-SUN 6:30am-10:00pm

**AT THE VICTORIAN**  
2640 Main Street in SM  
(310) 314-3250

Originally built on Ocean Avenue in 1893, The Victorian was moved to its present location in 1978. Many successful events and happy customers later, we are proud to introduce The Victorian Baker Cafe to Santa Monica. Specializing in down home, tasty fare, we hope to give our customers a place to relax and enjoy each other's company. Have a seat on our patio and enjoy the California sunshine.

**HOURS** MON-SAT 7AM-2PM SUNDAYS AT FARMER'S MARKET 8AM-2PM

**KAIDO**  
Japanese cuisine  
2834 Santa Monica Blvd.  
(310) 828-7582

The closest it comes to dining in Japan! This new restaurant features authentic Japanese dishes, a Tokyo trained sushi chef, and Asian fusion cuisine. The soft shell crab with ponzu sauce and broiled butter fish are must have appetizers. Enjoy the newly remodeled atmosphere and savory creations prepared by a true Japanese chef.

**HOURS** Lunch MON-FRI Dinner MON-SAT

**Big Dean's Cafe**  
AT SANTA MONICA BEACH  
1615 Ocean Front  
(310) 393-2666

Where the 'locals' meet and the 'fun-loving' tourists always return! Come enjoy our highly acclaimed beach fare, beer, and wine at the best people watching place on the beach. Music, satellite sports, 2 outdoor patios, and smoking allowed. This nostalgic eatery has been here since 1902! The prices are reasonable and children are welcome.

**HOURS** MON-SUN 11am-Close

**HARA SUSHI**  
12222 Wilshire Blvd.  
(310) 820-1021

The newest authentic Japanese restaurant and sushi bar on the Westside. The freshest fish, traditional entrées like chicken teriyaki, donburi and a wide variety of your favorite sushi and sashimi. Excellent prices, the best quality.

**HOURS** Lunch MON-FRI Dinner MON-SAT

**Il Fornaio**  
1551 Ocean Avenue  
(310) 451-7800

In the tradition of Italy's trattorias, the sight, sounds and aromas of authentic Italian cuisine are recreated everyday at Il Fornaio. Mornings bring crisp crusted bread hot from the oven accompanied by the scent of fresh brewed espresso. During lunch and dinner, pastas and flavorful sauces simmer while meats and vegetables roast over hot coals.

**HOURS** M-TH 11:30am-10pm, F 11:30-11pm, S 9am-11pm S 9am-5pm

Daily Press readers spend nearly \$1 million per week on dining and entertainment. CALL US TODAY TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS LOCAL LISTING.

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# COMMUNITY PROFILES | DON ALEXANDER



Fabian Lewkowicz [fabianl@smdp.com](mailto:fabianl@smdp.com)

**PROUD OWNER:** Don Alexander's company, Euro Taxi, operates the first fleet of biodiesel cabs in Santa Monica.

## Local taxi company operator claims to be biodiesel champ

FROM CP PAGE 3

[business] and had contacts. A friend of mine helped me financially and I started Euro Taxi."

The name of the service, which launched in October 2005, stems from the fact that Mercedes-Benz is the only make of cars used by the company, similar to the practice of cab businesses throughout Europe.

It wasn't easy building a company from the ground up, especially considering that Taxi! Taxi! was already so established in the city.

**IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING THAT IS GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND INVOLVED IN THE GLOBAL WARMING ISSUE."**

Don Alexander, owner, Euro Taxi

"I have no revengeful feelings toward Taxi! Taxi!," Alexander said. "I still feel it's a good company. The reason I got [support from] certain businesses is because I had contacts from Taxi! Taxi!"

The new business owner worked around the clock, forgoing sleep to take calls for taxi service during the early morning hours. It was a business that started with four cars and three drivers, including Alexander.

He tried to get the word out about his company, going door-to-door, sending out mailers and contacting his old clients at the local hotels. In the end, he was able to establish a relationship with the Ambrose Hotel, the Holiday Inn, and the Le Merigot Beach Hotel & Spa.

The company has since grown to include 22 drivers and 17 Mercedes-Benz cars.

Just as the taxi business in Santa Monica had made a

strong impression on Alexander, he decided to do the same thing in return.

In March 2006, General Manager Daniel Howerly of the Ambrose Hotel mentioned to Alexander that the city of Santa Monica converted some of its heavy-duty vehicles and equipment to run on biodiesel during the previous year. Alexander believed that a taxi company could do the same thing and made plans to move in that direction.

Soon after his revelation, he decided to contact the man who had helped the city — L.A. BioFuel President Joe Gershen. With his help, Alexander was able to convert his four diesel Mercedes-Benz vehicles to run on biodiesel, a sustainable fuel made from vegetable oil.

He added the first biodiesel car to his fleet in August 2006. By doing so, Alexander believes Euro Taxi became the first cab company in the city to utilize biodiesel fuel.

Since that time, most of his in-city competitors have followed suit. For instance, his old employer Taxi! Taxi! has recently converted a few of its Mercedes-Benz vehicles to biodiesel with the help of Lovcraft Bio-Fuels in Los Angeles.

The biodiesel cars run much smoother than their diesel and gasoline counterparts, Alexander said. When his customers are informed they are riding in a biodiesel car, some remark that they can smell vegetable oil, he added.

As for cost savings, there is not much of a difference between biodiesel and regular diesel fuel. In the winter, biodiesel costs about 40-cents more per gallon than regular diesel. In the summer, biodiesel is about 20-cents cheaper because prices tend to go up during the warmer months.

Filling up the fleets' tanks can be a pain at times considering that there are just two nearby locations offering biodiesel fuel. They are located in Marina del Rey and the Pacific Palisades respectively.

But, to Alexander, it's worth the trouble if it helps the environment.

"It makes me feel good to be a part of something that is good for the environment and involved in the global warming issue," he said.

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

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Santa Monica Daily Press Visit us online at [smdp.com](http://smdp.com)

# Students to decide smoking ban

BY KEVIN HERRERA  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**SANTA MONICA COLLEGE** Standing in front of the music department, Damon Reiss takes a long drag from his cigarette and exhales as if he's just dropped a thousand pounds of stress.

"I really enjoy smoking, especially when I'm studying," Reiss said, obviously relishing the chance to rest without worry. "It helps me relax and kind of gives me a moment to sit and think without having any distractions."

For Emily Moore, also a music major, cigarette smoke is a distraction. She's not a fan of smoke wafting into her airspace, forcing her to move to another bench to study.

"Tobacco isn't good for those who are exposed to it second-hand or those who are smoking. It's not good for anyone," she said. "I'd like to see it banned."

Moore just might get her wish. Students here will be asked in April whether or not they would like the campus to be smoke-free. Based on the vote, SMC officials may bring the matter before the board of trustees for a vote, making the community college smoke-free for the first time.

At present, smoking is prohibited within 25-feet of any building, open window or public entrance on campus, said Bruce Smith, a spokesman for the college.

Anti-smoking advocates plan to run an advertisement, beginning Wednesday, urging students to vote in favor of an all-out ban.

Dr. Trisha Ross is one of the forces driving the proposed cigarette butt-out. A pediatrician at Cedars-Sinai who has testified regarding the dangers of cigarette smoke,

Ross said she is concerned about the health of students, many of whom are in their teens and may not understand the dangers of smoking or may believe that they are invincible because of their age.

"This is definitely one of the hardest groups to reach," Ross said.

**IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, JUST WALK AWAY, GO SOMEWHERE ELSE."**

Ellika Soltani, SMC student who smokes

In 2005, students were asked whether or not they would prefer a smoke-free campus or the establishment of smoking areas. The vote was virtually split down the middle, with half the students in favor of an all out ban, according to The Associated Students of Santa Monica College, which represents the interests of students on campus.

Smith said the vote was pushed to the wayside during a transition in leadership.

If SMC were to ban smoking on its campuses, it would join City Hall in enacting some of the most far-reaching restrictions on smoking in the nation, aside from Calabasas, which has outlawed smoking in public all together.

Late last year, elected city officials voted to ban smoking on Third Street Promenade, all outdoor dining areas, bust stops, ATM lines and other service areas, as well as within 20-feet of any window or entrance open to the public.

Smoking has also been outlawed at all parks, the beach, restaurants and bars.

More municipalities are enacting bans following reports by the United States Surgeon General and the California Air Resources Board that labeled second-hand smoke a toxic air contaminant that leads to premature death. The Surgeon General went so far as to say there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke.

At SMC, reactions to the possibility of a smoke-free campus were mixed. Smokers were naturally not happy with the idea, while non-smokers were eager to see something passed.

"If you don't like it, just walk away, go somewhere else," Ellika Soltani, a smoker. "We're out in the open air. I can see with restaurants and bars, but this is an open space. I don't see what the problem is."

Soltani did admit that if a ban was passed, it would force her to cut down on smoking.

"I guess I wouldn't be able to have that smoke before class," she said.

Juliana Gabrovsky, a political science major, said she doesn't smoke and doesn't really feel bothered by those who do, however, she thinks it is a good idea to pass some kind of restrictions to protect public health and protect children from learning bad habits early in life.

"Kids seeing adults smoking reinforces it, making them believe that's OK and it's not," she said.

Gabrovsky is skeptical that a ban will be approved by trustees given the large number of foreign students who attend SMC and smoke.

There is a common belief that other countries are less concerned regarding the dangers of



Photo courtesy SMC

**REACHING THE VOTERS:** This poster backing the smoking ban is posted all over Santa Monica College's main campus.

second-hand smoke, even though countries in Europe, including Ireland, have outlawed smoking in the workplace and other public places.

"I don't think there's much point in discussing it," Gabrovsky said.

kevinh@smdp.com

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- 3/27 "NEXT LIFE: NEW POEMS" FROM RAE ARMANTROUT**  
Come savor a reading and conversation with award-winning, first-generation Language poet Rae Armantrout. • Tues, Mar 27 • 11:15 am • Free • Art 214 • SMC Main Campus
- 3/29 SERIES ON GLOBAL ISSUES PRESENTS ANDREW MEINKE, JR.**  
SMC's Global Connections Lecture Series continues with a talk on "The Conundrum of Preservation vs. Publicity," featuring guest speaker Andrew C. Meinke, Jr., CEO and President of the World Heritage Foundation. This series of free lectures brings experts to the campus to discuss the effects, benefits, and drawbacks of globalization. For information about this series, please call (310) 434-4303. • Thurs, Mar 29 • 11:15 am • Free • Art 214 • SMC Main Campus
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- also** SMC POLITICAL FILMS SERIES showing of *THE CANDIDATE* (1972), Mon, Mar 26, 6:30 pm, HSS 105, SMC Main Campus • *ACADEMY LECTURE* with top-ranked acting coach Lisa Robertson, Mon, Mar 26, 7 pm, AET Screening Room • *Track & Field: Western State Conference Meet #4*, Wed, Mar 30, 2 pm, Corsair Field • *Swimming & Diving*, Fri, Mar 30, 2:30 pm, SMC Main Campus • *PLANETARIUM* shows, Fri, Mar 30: "Night Sky" 7 pm, "Observing Program: Saturn in the Eyepiece!" 8 pm, Drescher 223, SMC Main Campus • *"THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL" OPENING NIGHT*, SMC Theatre Arts Production, Fri, Mar 30, 8 pm, Main Stage, SMC Main Campus, runs thru Apr 8 (\$20/\$18/\$15) • *18TH ANNUAL LATINA/O YOUTH CONFERENCE*, Sat, Mar 31, 8 am-3 pm, Free (details at [www.smc.edu/latinayouthconference](http://www.smc.edu/latinayouthconference)), SMC Main Campus • *SMC JAZZ BAND*, Sun, Apr 1, 4 pm, Concert Hall, SMC Main Campus

1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405  
For campus locations: [www.smc.edu/campusmap](http://www.smc.edu/campusmap)  
For event information, call (310) 434-4303 or (310) 434-4209  
For more events: [www.smc.edu/schedules/2006/fall/events](http://www.smc.edu/schedules/2006/fall/events)

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NCAA BASKETBALL

# Wyoming hires new basketball head coach

BY DAN LEWERENZ  
Associated Press Writer

LARAMIE, Wyo. Wyoming hired Heath Schroyer as its basketball coach Friday, reuniting him with the man who gave him his last head coaching job.

Schroyer comes to Wyoming from Fresno State, where he was associate head coach for two years. Before that, Schroyer was head coach at Portland State for three years. He was hired there by athletic director Tom Burman, who now holds the same job at Wyoming.

The contract Schroyer signed Friday will pay him a base salary of \$150,000 a year. With incentives, he can earn up to \$500,000.

In three seasons with the Vikings, Schroyer went 35-47 overall, 19-23 in the Big Sky Conference. He took over a struggling program and finished last in the Big Sky in each of his first two seasons, going 5-22 in 2002-03 and 11-16 in 2003-04.

But Portland State won the Big Sky regular-season title in 2005, going 11-3 in league play. The Vikings played host to the conference tournament but were upset by Weber State in the semifinals, finishing the season 19-9. Schroyer didn't earn a postseason bid in his three seasons.

After that season, Schroyer left Portland State to join head coach Steve Cleveland at Fresno State; the two had coached together at Fresno City College and BYU.

"I had a great situation," Schroyer said.

"This is the one opportunity I would have left it to come back to."

Schroyer replaces Steve McClain, who was fired earlier this month after going 157-115 in nine seasons. McClain led Wyoming to four postseason bids in his first five seasons, and in 2002 coached the Cowboys to their first NCAA tournament win since 1990.

But McClain's last four seasons were mediocre — Wyoming went a combined 57-63 in those seasons, with two losing records and no postseason bids. Burman cited on-the-court losses and slumping ticket sales when he fired McClain.

Schroyer was an assistant to McClain for one season at Wyoming, coaching defense on the 2001-02 team that went 22-9, won its first regular-season conference championship in 20 years, and upset No. 6 Gonzaga 73-66 in the NCAA tournament.

"It's great to be back," Schroyer said. "I told Tom (Burman) when I got here it feels like coming home."

"I'm not just confident, I know that we hired the right guy to lead Cowboy basketball." UW President Tom Buchanan said.

Schroyer promised an aggressive style of play.

"We're going to open the floor up," Schroyer said. "I think it's a mistake at this level not to play fast at 7200 feet."

Guard Brandon Ewing said he hasn't talked with Schroyer yet.

## SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 57°

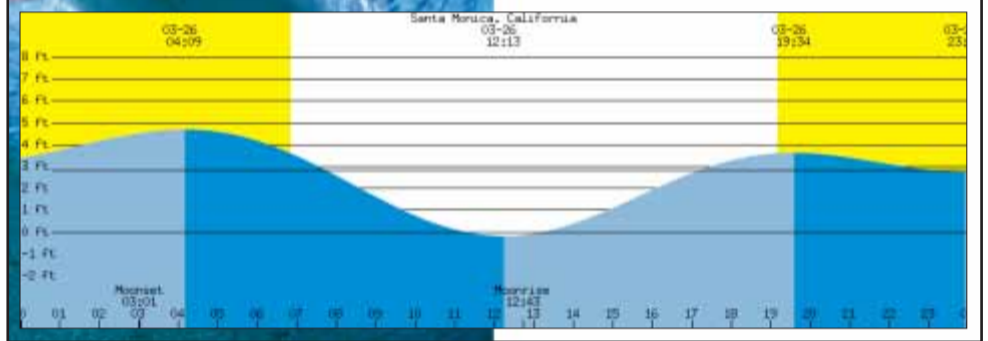
### SWELL FORECAST ( 3-4 FT )

Today is looking smaller as the NW swell declines: waist high around west facing breaks with some chest high pluses, knee+ at south facing spots. Winds should be light in the morning; however, some eddy texture is expected, and the afternoon could get messy. The tide is looking manageable, but will be receding throughout the morning.

### LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

NW TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, BUT WEATHER ON THE WAY...

### TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



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### 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 **March 5, 2007**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - [www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org) - [brc@healthebay.org](mailto:brc@healthebay.org) - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)	Number of sewage spills -- 6
	Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 4
	Number of wet days -- 8
	Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 31
	Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 12 / 14

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	F	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	B	F
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	F
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	B	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	D	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	B	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	C	C
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	F	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	D
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	C
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A+	A+	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	B	A+
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A	A+	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	C	A+	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	B	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	B	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	F	F	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	D	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	C	F	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	D	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 1994B PCH stairs	A	A+	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	F
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	F	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	F
Casterock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	B	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	A+			
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.  
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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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

# Expect a late night, Libra

**JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS**

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★ Dynamic   ★★★★ Positive  
 ★★★ Average   ★★ So-So   ★ Difficult



**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★ Nurturing in the classic context is not your style. You learn more effective ways of expressing your feelings, for better or worse. Examine your options before closing a door or running in the opposite direction. Tonight: Head home. Isn't there a movie you want to see?

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★★ You will have a tendency to say what you think and not really worry about others' reactions. Consider your options carefully. You might be surprised by another's intentions. Tonight: Hang out.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★ Expenses could be building, and you might be far more frantic than in the past. Your ability to read between the lines emerges, allowing new vistas and a different perspective. Tonight: Pay bills first.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★★ Your smile is a sure-bet winner. You'll come out ahead. You are on top of your game. Tonight: The world could be your oyster if you so choose.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★ Slow down and take your time. You might feel awkward and out of sorts. Frustration could accompany these feelings. Remain centered. Tonight: Try out the role of loner for a change.

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

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You might want to touch base with friends who really do understand your cause, choices and directions. Listen to others and their opinions. Stopping and assessing other perspectives wouldn't hurt. Tonight: Zero in on yourself.

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

★★★★ You are on top of the world. Though you might be all smiles, someone else, or many people, could be difficult. Understanding takes you in a new direction. Tonight: Expect a late night.

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

★★★★★ Your ability to read between the lines might make not only a partner uptight but also those in your daily life. Make your own decisions and don't allow others to get involved. Tonight: Feed your mind.

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

★★★ You could feel awkward, as you are dealing with a partner who tests your strength and mettle. You'll come out on top if you don't push yourself too hard. Tonight: Happy as a cat.

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

★★★ Others will test your indulgence and determination. Some of you, and for good reason, might decide to head in another direction or do something very different. Tonight: Do your own thing.

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

★★★ You might want to think before you leap into action. Zero in on what you want. Your imagination and high energy could possibly backfire. Unexpected spending could point in a new direction; friendships help. Tonight: Easy does it.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ Your creativity helps you see life with a renewed interest. You are on top of the world. Your intuition comes forward, and you follow through with determination. You are in charge of your decisions. Tonight: Out and about.

**Born Today**

- Singer **Diana Ross (1944)**
- Reporter **Bob Woodward (1943)**
- Singer **Teddy Pendergrass (1950)**



**Happy Birthday!**

This year you have drive and a destiny. The unexpected happens frequently. As a result, you gain quite a few insights. Friends play a role in your life, more so than usual. You need to frequently pull back and gain a perspective. If you are single, you might have difficulty developing the type of nurturing bond you would like. What you are seeking this year might not be suitable for your life. You will be somewhat of a homebody. If you are attached, your sweetie will react to you and want to nestle in more. Travel and understanding could cause some tension.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>  
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**Nutritional Facts**

Serving Size 1 Piece (43g)

Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 139	Calories from Fat 34
<b>Total Fat</b> 4g	6%
Saturated Fat 0g	2%
Trans Fat	
<b>Cholesterol</b> 2mg	1%
<b>Sodium</b> 116mg	5%
<b>Resolutions Broken</b>	All
<b>Weight Gained 2006</b>	Yes



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# 'The Brando'

Representatives of **MARLON BRANDO'S** estate are suing two furniture companies and a retailer over the sale of a home theater chair called "The Brando."

The lawsuit, filed

Thursday in Los Angeles Superior Court, claims misappropriation of the name of a deceased celebrity. The actor died in July 2004 and permission wasn't obtained to use his name, the estate claims.

The estate's representatives are asking for unspecified damages and a court order to halt the sale of any more goods using the Brando name.

The chairs are being sold by Southern

# Marlon's estate sues over the sale of his easy chair

California-based City Leather Inc., Winnipeg, Manitoba-based Palliser Furniture Ltd. and North Carolina-based Palliser Furniture Corp.

Jason Brainard, vice president of City Leather,

said officials at his stores were told to stop using the Brando name when selling the chair. No decision has been made yet on what to rename the chair, he said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Gibson takes professor to school

**MEL GIBSON** exchanged angry words with a university professor who challenged the accuracy of his film "Apocalypto" at an on-campus screening. Gibson was answering questions from the crowd at California State University, Northridge, Thursday night when Alicia Estrada, an assistant professor of Central American studies, accused the actor-director of misrepresenting the Mayan culture in the movie. Gibson directed an explosive at the woman, who was removed from the crowd.

"In no way was my ques-

tion aggressive in the way that he responded to it," Estrada said. "These are questions that my peers, my colleagues, ask me every time I make a presentation. These are questions I pose to my students in the classroom."

Gibson's publicist, Alan Nierob, characterized the professor as "a heckler."

"The woman ... was rude and disruptive inasmuch as the event organizers had to escort her out," Nierob said.

Lauren Robeson, editor-in-chief of the campus newspaper, the Daily

Sundial, said Gibson denounced Estrada as a troublemaker.

"It was a brief disruption to an otherwise interesting, stimulating event from our students' perspectives," said university spokesman John Chandler. "The students were very appreciative of Mr. Gibson being there. He spent a lot of time answering question-national headlines. The R-rated epic about the decline of Mayan civilization shows Mayan rulers slitting throats and beheading and ripping the beating hearts from the

chests of their enemies.

Human sacrifice among the Mayans has been well-documented in recent years and is accepted as fact by most anthropologists, knocking down a previous theory that the culture did not take part in such bloody rituals.

However, there are some scholars and Indian activists who still believe the human sacrifice accounts are false or overblown, and an attempt by racist scientists to paint the culture as violent.



AP

## THE WHO HITS THE ROAD

**THE WHO** resumed its North American tour Thursday after lead singer Roger Daltrey returned from a near-weeklong bout with bronchitis.

"Boy, it feels good to be out of bed," Daltrey said about a half-hour into The Who's concert Thursday night at Alltel Arena.

Daltrey sang all but one song in a 95-minute set, resting his voice only when guitarist Pete Townshend sang "Eminence Front."

The band returned for an 18-minute encore, a medley of songs from the rock opera "Tommy," and Daltrey then stayed onstage for a second, acoustic encore. Throughout the show, Daltrey could be seen coughing while away from the microphone, and sipping drinks.

The Who canceled a show Tuesday at San Antonio, and also postponed appearances at Mexico City and Tampa.

AP

# Foxy Brown is on the run from court

An arrest warrant was issued for rapper **FOXY BROWN** on Thursday after she failed to appear in court on charges stemming from a scuffle in a beauty supply store.

Brown was applying beauty products in the bathroom of Queen Beauty Supply when an employee told her

the business was closed and it was time to leave, according to the arrest report. She refused and threw hair glue at the employee, then spat at the man as he called 911, the report said.

She later struggled with a responding police officer, the report said. She was released on a \$1,500 bond.

She was charged in February with battery and resisting arrest without violence. Judge Joel Lazurus issued the bench warrant after she did not appear in court in Fort Lauderdale, The Miami Herald reported.

Brown's lawyer, New York state Sen. John

Sampson, was participating in the legislative session and was unreachable, an aide said.

Brown's real name is Inga Marchand. Her albums include "Ill Na Na" and "Chyna Doll," and she is known for her sexy outfits and racy lyrics.

AP

# Another would-be dad provides DNA

**ZSA ZSA GABOR'S** husband provided a DNA sample Friday in the ongoing dispute about the paternity of Anna Nicole Smith's infant daughter, and said he wanted to raise the child if he was the father. Frederic von Anhalt said he's "almost sure" the test will prove he's the father of 6-month-old Dannielynn. He says he carried on a decades-long affair with the former Playboy Playmate of the Year.

"I'm almost sure the baby's mine, almost sure," von Anhalt, 59, said after having a cotton swab brushed along the inside of his mouth. He added he

hopes to gain custody as soon as possible.

"Oh yeah, if it's my baby, it belongs in my home," von Anhalt said. "I'm going to take good care of it. I will be a good father."

A judge in the Bahamas on Tuesday ordered a DNA test on the girl at the request of Smith's ex-boyfriend Larry Birkhead, who has also claimed paternity. Howard K. Stern, Smith's companion, is listed as the father on the baby's birth certificate.

Immediately after von Anhalt gave his sample at the Identigene Lab, his lawyer, Edward Lee, called on Stern, to do the same.

Stern's lawyer, James Neavitt, did not immediately return a call for comment.

Smith, 39, died Feb. 8 in a hotel room in Miami, but no cause has been given. Authorities plan to release autopsy results Monday.

Stern has been caring for the girl in the gated, waterfront home where he lived with Smith in the months before she died. The Bahamian courts have ordered Stern not to leave the country with the girl before a custody ruling.

The baby, whose full name is Dannielynn Hope Marshall Stern, could inherit millions from the estate of Smith's late husband, J.

Howard Marshall II. Smith had been fighting the Texas oil tycoon's family over his estimated \$500 million fortune since his death in 1995.

Von Anhalt acknowledged that his 90-year-old wife was angry after he announced last month that he could be Dannielynn's father, but added that she has since forgiven him.

"If it's my daughter, it's my daughter and Zsa Zsa can't help but love her," said von Anhalt, who uses the royal title prince, which he says was given to him by a German princess who adopted him.

AP

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Breach (R)  
7:10, 9:45  
Bridge to Terabithia (PG)  
2:35, 4:55  
I think I love My Wife (R)  
2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30  
Premonition (PG-13)  
2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 10:00  
Pride (PG)  
2:05, 4:35, 7:45, 10:10

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

300 (R)  
1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10  
The Last Mimzy (PG)  
2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00  
Reign Over Me (R)  
1:00, 2:05, 3:45, 4:50, 6:40, 7:40, 9:30  
TMNT (PG)  
1:10, 2:05, 3:45, 4:50, 6:40, 9:30  
Wild Hogs (PG-13)  
2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45  
Zodiac (R)  
2:40, 6:10, 9:50

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE  
1314 Wilshire Blvd  
(310) 281-8223

First Snow (R)  
11:30a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50  
The Wind That Shakes the Barley (NR)  
12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:55

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

Beyond the Gates (R)  
12:00, 5:30  
The Lives of Others (Das Leben der Anderen) (R)  
1:10, 4:20, 8:00  
Memory (R)  
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00  
The Namesake (PG-13)  
1:00, 2:40, 4:00, 7:00, 8:15, 9:55

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

Dead Silence (R)  
12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
The Hills Have Eyes 2 (R)  
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00  
The Host (Gwoemul) (R)  
11:10a.m., 2:10, 4:30, 7:50, 10:30  
Music and Lyrics (PG-13)  
11:20am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10  
Shooter (R)  
11:00a.m., 12:50, 1:50, 3:40, 4:40, 6:30, 7:40, 9:20, 10:40

More information email [news@smdp.com](mailto:news@smdp.com)

# 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  
**BRONZE**

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

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## GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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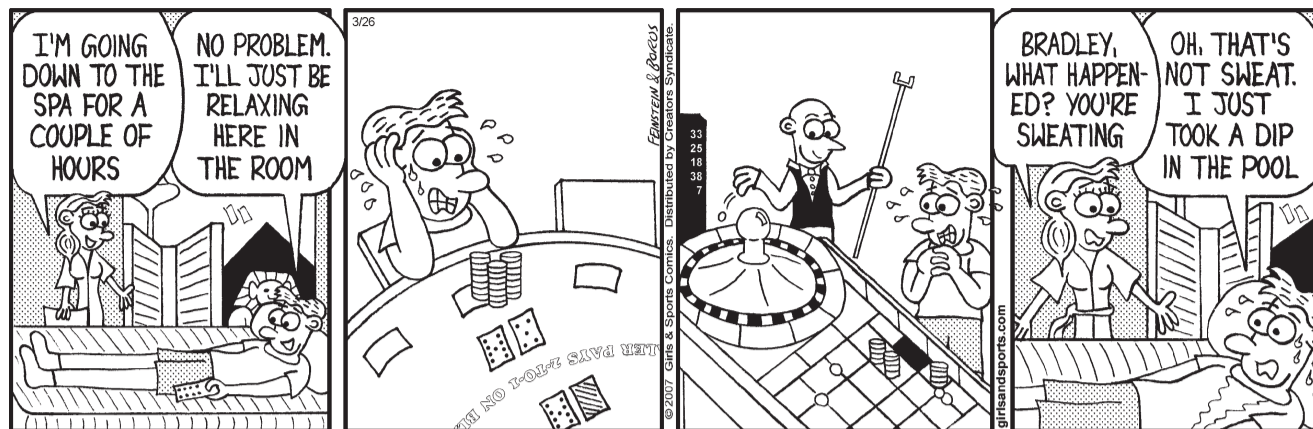
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# Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



# The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



# The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



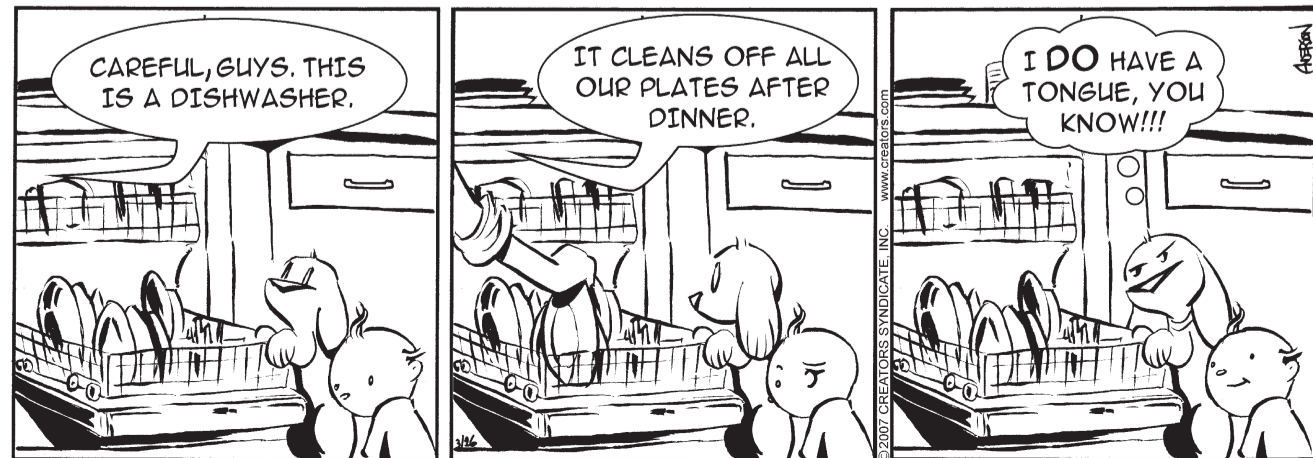
# Garfield

By Jim Davis



# Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson





### The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



### Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



### Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



### Mystery Photo

Fabian Lewkowicz [fabian@smdp.com](mailto:fabian@smdp.com)

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com).

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

#### ACROSS

- 1 Prepare coffee beans
- 6 Lasagna and linguine
- 11 Church feature
- 12 Glorify
- 13 Mediator's goal
- 14 "Keen!"
- 15 Retain
- 17 Decay
- 18 Diner side dish
- 22 In the center of
- 23 Calgary team
- 27 Enticed
- 29 Panic
- 30 Followed
- 32 Make socks
- 33 Vacation, for some
- 35 Thanks-giving veggie
- 38 Accomplishment
- 39 Steer clear of
- 41 Unattached
- 45 Bewildered
- 46 Sandy hills
- 47 Travel stop
- 48 Like a cliff

#### DOWN

- 1 Dr. Dre's music
- 2 Bullfight call
- 3 — glance (quickly)
- 4 Caught some z's
- 5 Forest makeup
- 6 Distant writers
- 7 Chopping tool
- 8 Asterisk
- 9 Oz-visiting dog
- 10 Heaps
- 16 Toy maker
- 18 Racer
- 19 Portent
- 20 Tops
- 21 Nutso
- 24 Lion feature
- 25 Composer Satie
- 26 Hardens
- 28 FDR program
- 31 Buck's mate
- 34 Fuses metal

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

#### Saturday's answer

- 35 Casual assent
- 36 Singing voice
- 37 Needs to
- 40 Scottish river
- 42 Undivided
- 43 Look upon
- 44 Sixth sense, for short

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
			15		16			17		
18	19	20					21			
22					23			24	25	26
27				28		29				
30					31		32			
			33			34				
35	36	37		38						
39			40			41		42	43	44
45						46				
47						48				

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9 16 9 43 46  
Meganumber: 14  
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**Fantasy 5** 4 17 19 37 38

**DAILY 3** MIDDAY: 0 3 5  
EVENING: 2 2 0

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2nd: 07 Eureka!  
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms  
RACE TIME: 1.43.44

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### NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

**Democracy in Finland:** The Intopii computer firm of Helsinki announced in February that it has installed software to assist voters, who, studies suggest, tend to select candidates who look like themselves. When a voter uploads his or her photo, the Web site will use facial-recognition software to find those among the 800 candidates in March parliamentary elections who most resemble that voter, to ease the difficult burden of citizenship in a democracy. And in March, incumbent parliamentary candidate Jyrki Kasvi launched the new version of his campaign Web site, written entirely in the Star-Trek language Klingon.

**A 15-year-old boy in Hamilton, Ontario,** was finally rescued after dangling from a rope, nearly naked, upside down, in the minus-5-degree (F) cold, after a February attempt to spray graffiti on a new bridge went bad. He got his inspiration while tobogganing alone, at about 8 p.m., and left his gloves and cell phone in the sled as he rappelled over the side of the bridge, but when the rope slipped and entangled him, he found himself upside down and then lost some clothes as he tried to wriggle free. At about 10 p.m., when a party was breaking up at a nearby home, someone finally heard his screams for help.

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1026** Pope John XIX crowns Conrad II as Holy Roman Emperor.

**1917** World War I: First Battle of Gaza - British troops are halted after 17,000 Turks block their advance.

**1943** World War II: Battle of the Komandorski Islands - In the Aleutian Islands the battle begins when United States Navy forces intercept Japanese attempting to reinforce a garrison at Kiska.

**1945** World War II: the third and final Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima.

**1971** East Pakistan declares its independence from Pakistan to form People's Republic of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Liberation War begins.

**1976** Queen Elizabeth II sent out the first royal email, from the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment

**1982** A groundbreaking ceremony for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is held in Washington, DC.

**1997** Thirty-nine bodies found in the Heaven's Gate cult suicides.

#### WORD UP!

**expunge** \ik-SPUNJ\, *transitive verb*: 1. To strike out, erase, or mark for deletion; to obliterate; as, "to expunge words, lines, or sentences." 2. To wipe out or destroy; to annihilate.

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DIAMOND! (3HS44431)  
Toyota Santa Monica  
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Silver, V6 3.5L, Bose Prem. Sound,  
Leather, Moon Roof, Alloy  
(P1535) \$29,994  
Infiniti Santa Monica  
(866) 507-7253

'03 Infiniti I35 Sedan 4D  
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)  
Met. Green, V6 3.5L, Automatic,  
Bose Sound, Air Bags, Multi CD  
(I6757A) \$17,992  
Infiniti Santa Monica  
(866) 507-7253

'04 Infiniti G35 Coupe  
(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)  
Silver, V6 3.5L, Auto, RWD,  
ABS, Air Bags, Leather, Alloy  
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### Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Late-March 2007

		<u>Single Family Homes</u>	<u>Condos &amp; Townhomes</u>
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 3,262,167	No Listings
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,395,889	\$ 3,055,319
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 2,395,000	\$ 839,000
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 966,667	\$ 666,640
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,291,545	\$ 661,895
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,483,143	\$ 1,086,000

Statistics updated weekly

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