

MAKING A PLEA  
SEE PAGE 1

# Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE BIG PAY DAY ISSUE

## Teachers to get a pay raise

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**SMMUSD HDQTRS** In a public school district where the high cost of living can burn a hole in the pocket, teaching gigs could become more financially attractive as a pay raise is soon expected to be on the books for certificated educators.

The negotiating teams for both the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association (SMMCTA) reached a tentative collective bargaining agreement in December, both parties settling on a potential contract that would grant a 3 percent salary raise to the teachers in the 2007-08 school year while maintaining health benefits.

The contract will result in an average increase of about

\$2,000 per employee.

The union's Board of Directors ratified the terms of the contract last week while the district's Board of Education expressed its general support for the collective bargaining agreement during a meeting last Thursday, signaling a formal ratification of the contract at the board's Feb. 21 meeting.

Last year, the board approved a 5 percent teacher salary raise that initially became entangled in a larger issue of financial accountability when the AB1200 — a financial outlook report submitted to the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) — showed the district could have difficulty sustaining the pay increase. Those issues were later resolved after a consultant's report showed the district could accommodate the pay raise if it adopted several adjustments, which it subsequently did.

Officials at both ends are calling the agreement a "win-win" situation, granting a fair salary raise for teachers and keeping up with the compensation level of other local school districts, helping with not only retention of existing educators in the district, but also recruitment.

"When you talk to the vast majority of teachers, you're really impressed by their dedication and also by their skills," School Board Vice President Jose Escarce said. "There is a teacher shortage everywhere in the country and we need to make sure we retain the kind of teachers we have and are able to attract teachers like the ones we have."

Both parties entered negotiations in the fall and reached a tentative agreement on Dec. 19.

SEE RAISE PAGE 12

## Tech 'baby' grows up with merger

BY MELODY HANATANI  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**MID-CITY** Santa Monica entrepreneur Roger Mabon was only two years into building his technological "baby," involved in a business of producing computer hard drives, when a mega deal inked with Apple gave birth to an empire.

It was that 2006 deal that brought Santa Monica-based G-Technology's products into every Apple retail store in the country, spawning the name recognition the company has today in the creative industry, supplying hard drives and storage space for post production houses. It was that empire, which nearly doubled the company's size overnight, that made G-Technology an attractive option for Fabrik, a San Mateo-based maker of storage systems, to acquire last month.

"We see this as a significant win-win type of situation for them coming in and buying us," Mabon said on Monday. "They get the Apple community and we get the resources behind them."

The acquisition means that the company, which is located on Stanford Street and will be renamed "G-Technology, a Fabrik company," will now have the means to meet demand, Mabon said.



Kevin Herrera [kevinh@smdp.com](mailto:kevinh@smdp.com)

**SCREWED:** Bradley Vibes at G-Technology assembles one of the Santa Monica-based company's SATA external hard drives on Monday. G-Technology, which was founded in 2004, was recently purchased by Fabrik, a San Mateo-based maker of storage systems.

"Their resources behind us will enable us to produce more product to meet the demand we're seeing," he said.

G-Technology was founded with humble beginnings in 2004 when Mabon opened shop in Santa Monica, just blocks from his

home, after a previous company he co-founded, called Medea Corporation, was sold to Avid Technology. Mabon purchased the rights to one of Medea's products, a hard-drive system also used by creative professionals, and spun it off as a founding

product for G-Technology.

The vibrant local creative community, filled with post-production houses, was the reason why Santa Monica was chosen as the

SEE G-TECH PAGE 10

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# Calendar

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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## WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

### Kulturas anniversary

1700 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.

Transplant second-hand bookstore, Kulturas, is celebrating its first whole year in Santa Monica by having "rolling sales" around different sections of the store. Check out their "sort-of-vintage" clothing corner and the current artist exhibit. For further information, call (310) 450-8707.

### Dynamic dinner

2901 Ocean Park Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Vanessa Besack, a former journalist and now publicist, will speak at a Women's Group Dinner at Il Fornaio. Besack, whose clients received exposure in "The Wall Street Journal" and on CNN will share her PR tips. For more information, call (888) 244-4420.

### VITA: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

2601 Main St., 1 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Volunteers from the UCLA Anderson School of Management will provide free tax assistance to low and middle-income taxpayers; covering answers and filing for both federal and state income tax forms. For more information, call the Ocean Park Branch Library at (310) 392-3804.

### Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. — 11 a.m.

The Ocean Park Branch Library brings back their music and story program for toddlers aged 24 — 36 months. Registration and an accompanying adult are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call (310) 392-3804.

### The Play 'tis the Thing

2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

The Ocean Park Branch Library is hosting a six-week play writing workshop. Learn principles of dramatic structure, how to construct dialogue and analyze the finished product with instructor Anna Stramese. Registration required. Enrollment limited. For more information, call (310) 458-8638.

### 'Choosing the Quiet'

1227 Second St., 5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.

Maurizio Barattucci's solo show, "Choosing the Quiet" will be on display at Emeritus College through February 29. Barattucci taught at the Art Department of Santa Monica College for 30 years and retired recently. For more information on this free event, call (310) 434-4306.

## Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2008

### Brian Wright and The Waco Tragedies

1623 1/2 N. Cahuenga Blvd., LA, 10 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.

Texas-born Brian Wright and the Waco Tragedies — an Americana Folk/Rock-inspired band — will play the Hotel Cafe tonight. Tickets available at the door. For more information on the band, visit [www.myspace.com/thewacotragedies](http://www.myspace.com/thewacotragedies).

### Valentine's Enchanted Lunchtime Fairy Tale Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. — 2 p.m.

Story-telling, sing-a-longs, crafts, enactment of a Valentine-themed fairy tale, theatre games and a yummy lunch make up Valentine's Week Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre. Ticket prices for this Mommy/Daddy and Me event for 3 to 5-year-olds are \$25 for kids; parents are free (including lunch). Reservations are a must. Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2 or visit [SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com](http://SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com).

### Mystery book group

1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

The Montana Avenue Branch Library will discuss Josephine Tey's "The Daughter of Time."

### Hurrell's Muses: 'The Women'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Coinciding with the California Heritage Museum's exhibit of Hollywood glamour photography by George Hurrell, the Main Library presents the 1939 classic movie, "The Women," starring two of Hurrell's most prominent muses, Norma Shearer and Joan Crawford. Free program, all ages welcome. Seating is first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

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.







## MO' MONEY

Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)

A check for \$100,000 from Macerich was given to the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum on Friday, Feb. 8. A donation of \$50,000 from four senior Macerich executives was matched by an additional \$50,000 from the company, which owns Santa Monica Place. Louise Gabriel (right, seated), president/CEO of the Historical Society, was present to receive the check from senior executives Mace Siegel (left, sitting), Art Coppola (back right), Dana Anderson (not pictured) and Randy Brant (back left).

## TSM Merges with Edge Swim

BY JON HABER

Special to the Daily Press

**DOWNTOWN** Swimmers and coaches formerly of Edge Swim Club merged with Team Santa Monica last week following a decision by the Culver City City Council to terminate its agreement with the club owner.

The council's action in November 2007 ended the city's agreement with Edge owner Patrick Moran at The Plunge, Culver City's public swimming pool.

Mayor Alan Corlin said the council's decision was a result of the Moran's behavior around The Plunge.

"A lot of it had to do with actions and interactions between Mr. Moran and

our staff that we came to see as inappropriate," the mayor said. "If it wasn't for the interaction with some of the staff at Edge and Mr. Moran in particular, it wouldn't have come to my attention at all."

Several attempts to reach Moran were unsuccessful.

Edge, which was founded in 2001, provided swimming lessons and offered students opportunities to participate in competitions, according to [www.clubswim.com](http://www.clubswim.com)

When Team Santa Monica (TSM) head coach Jon Carroll heard the news, he immediately spoke to Edge head coach Monique Shelton.

SEE SWIM PAGE 11

# Getting out of the garages quicker

(Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.)

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

**CITY HALL** Exiting the city-owned parking garages in Downtown Santa Monica could get a lot easier if the City Council tonight approves a contract to install a series of automated credit card machines in the structures, enabling drivers to pay their fares without interacting with cashiers.

The estimated \$560,000 contract is part of more than \$1.8 million in spending items — from new recycling bins to legal services for employment law — that the council could authorize city staff to expend at its meeting tonight.

Staff is recommending that an existing agreement with Payment Resources International, which handles credit card transactions for parking citations and business license payments, be modified to include a provision that would allow the company to supply automated credit card services at the parking structures.

The parking garages in the downtown area, many of which are concentrated on Second and Fourth streets, accommodate more than 3.6 million visitors a year, bringing more than \$5.4 million in revenue in the 2007-08 fiscal year. Some of the challenges with the garages have been congestion during peak exit times. By allowing customers to pay with credit cards, drivers will be able to leave the garage through the express lane, bypassing a cashier. The credit card option will also be beneficial for customers that might not have enough cash on hand, according to the staff report.

"The two most significant operational challenges at these facilities are accommodating peak exit demand and ensuring the integrity of the revenue collection," according to the city staff report.

### NEW DESIGN FOR MINI BLUE

The Mini Blue Bus could get a new look. Officials with the Big Blue Bus are ask-

ing the council to approve a \$140,000 increase in an existing contract with Sussman Prejza, which is currently completing a new bus design for Mini Blue.

"Sussman Prejza has been instrumental in the development of the current Mini Blue brand and has developed the current vehicular graphics found on the existing Thomas buses as well as the targets and on-street signage," according to a staff report.

Big Blue Bus officials have been working on a new branding concept for the Mini Blue Bus since the "trolley style" bus was eliminated. Sussman Prejza has worked on branding on several systems, including Rapid Blue Bus.

The increase is necessary to develop six new design concepts, according to city staff.

### MORE RECYCLING BINS

In order to meet the demand for recycling bins from commercial customers ever since the Solid Waste Management Division was tapped last year to be the only provider of commercial collection in the city, city staff is requesting the council to approve a contract to purchase 800 more bins.

Staff is recommending the council award a \$500,000 contract to Consolidated Fabricators to supply the recycling bins.

The Solid Waste Management Division was among the seven companies that applied to be the sole provider of commercial collection in the city last year.

### COUNSELING ON EMPLOYMENT LAW

Liebert Cassidy Whitmore Law Firm, a Los Angeles-based office, could receive \$160,000 to provide legal services on labor and employment law for City Hall on an as-needed basis.

The City Attorney's Office occasionally uses outside legal services when it comes to labor and employment law, which usually comes into play for employee disciplinary hearings. Liebert Cassidy Whitmore Law Firm currently provides legal services to the City Attorney's Office on an as-needed basis, charging hourly rates that range from \$160 to \$290.

The contract will be in effect for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

SEE CONSENT PAGE 11

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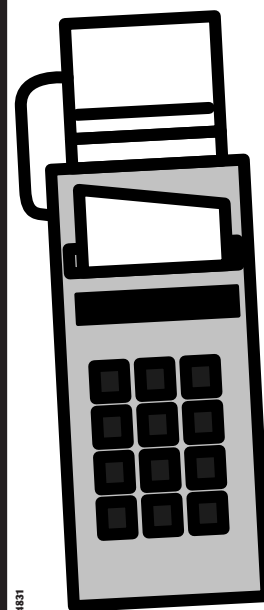
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

### Greening gets two thumbs up

Editor:

This past week, they laid the first swath of greensward down by the beach in Ocean Park as part of the South Beach Demonstration Project, a bright growing spread that the signs say is replacing "30,000 square feet of asphalt with natural turf." But as I strolled past at sunset all I could think of was that song by David Byrne and the Talking Heads with the line, "There was a parking lot ... now there's nothing but flowers." What a concept. Wow. Way to go Santa Monica!

**Hank Rosenfed**

Santa Monica

### Landlords care too

Editor:

Julie Rusk is at best naive when she claims "outrage" that there are 20-year homeless "residents" on our streets.

She is not alone. The citizens of Santa Monica have been "outraged" for decades. Outraged at City Hall.

The city continues to sponsor agencies that "assist" the homeless, but are not required to house them first.

As a result, we have become a magnet for bums, who dilute the resources that otherwise would be available for the truly needy.

She has the audacity to ask, "We need landlords to help" – while apparently excusing everyone else.

Landlords are the most compassionate people I know, but the city of Santa Monica and (Santa Monicans for Renters Rights), long ago, took away our rights to be charitable.

Through rent and eviction controls, they created a shortage of units, encouraged hoarding, drove up rents on vacancies, and made it punitive to take a chance on at-risk tenants.

**Rob Martin**

Santa Monica

### Don't forget absentee voters

Editor:

In response to David Alsabery's ridiculous comment that "8 percent of the Republicans in California are so stupid that they voted for two people (Giuliani and Thompson) that dropped out of the race," I think David needs to pay closer attention to current events before labeling people as "DUMB."

David, did you know that Jan. 7, 2008, was the first day that people could vote by mail, weeks before either of those candidates dropped out of the race (Thompson on Jan. 22, Giuliani on Jan. 31)? According to the Los Angeles Times, "analysts believe at least half of California's voters will have opted to vote by mail." So consider that it may be a case of people voting too early, not a case of "stupidity" as you so eloquently put it. Before calling out people as stupid or uninformed, you may want to check your facts. Talk about embarrassing.

**Chris Kresch**

Santa Monica



## What's the Point?

David Pizarra

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

# Learning the true meaning of love

**STRAWBERRIES AND CHAMPAGNE**, candlelight and negligees, love and romance, that's what this Thursday is all about. A Hallmark holiday, brought to you by the good people in the marketing department.

Valentine's Day is one of those holidays that is designed to make some of us brutally aware of just how alone we are, while others are crafting as romantic a night as possible, no matter how forced and unloving we actually are.

As a family law attorney I see the results of forced romance all too often. My partner and I are in court on a regular basis working out the details of a love, or just as likely these days, a night of passion, gone wrong. We regularly have to negotiate the child support and the visitation by dad, with a woman that he doesn't have any real relationship with, and never did.

Not that either person is bad or wrong, they were impulsive, and that impulse resulted in another life. A life for which they are equally responsible, and in which they are equally entitled to participate in the growth and education of.

Valentine's Day is all about the dream of a perfect love, an enduring romance, finding one's soul-mate and living conflict free and in ecstasy forever. That's not going to happen so much.

The expectations for all that Valentine's Day represents are unreasonable. We all have them, because they start in grammar school. I can remember how I was judged, along with everyone else, by how many little hearts I got. It was a popularity contest for being loved and adored; by my grammar school peers. Talk about a rough crowd. Everyone was vying for popularity, and to find their "true love," but the reality is that pre-teens have no idea about love and romance, but those feelings are what get attached to Valentine's Day and programmed into us.

Along comes high school with the joys of puberty and hormones raging, and what do the teachers have us read? "Romeo and Juliet," "Wuthering Heights," and love sonnets. We spend this most impressionable period in our life, that time of rebellion and angst, when everything our parents did was wrong, when we weren't going to be like them, when we were better and smarter than they were. We spent this time, learning all about romantic love, from poets and dreamers.

It's wonderful. We fall in love with the idea of love. We crave that enduring love of Heathcliff, and the burning lust of Pan. This schoolhouse idealism is what most of us take into the world as we enter our 20s.

And then along comes Hallmark, the Wedding Channel, and "Pretty Woman."

The myth of perfect love continues and meanwhile no one teaches us what love really is, or how to make it last.

Men are told that if they give a woman a dozen roses, a box of chocolates, and buy her a diamond ring, they have fulfilled their duty for the night. Together, they will go to a restaurant for a romantic, candlelit dinner, and so long as she is wearing a negligee and passion erupts by the end of the night, she has fulfilled her role.

When the morning comes, and they are brought back to their lives, the fog of forced romance will lift. That's where the problems come in.

By forcing the romance, by trying to create the "perfect" night, we set ourselves up for the fall back to reality. By never having a real education on what true love and relationships are, we settle for the false, and

## WHEN THE MORNING COMES, AND THEY ARE BROUGHT BACK TO THEIR LIVES, THE FOG OF FORCED ROMANCE WILL LIFT. THAT'S WHERE THE PROBLEMS COME IN.

then get unhappy when that disappears.

I'm all for romance. Heck, my ex had me on the first date, with a \$3 box of European chocolates. But it wasn't the chocolates that were the ticket, it was that he was listening to me and hearing what I said. When I fell in love, I fell in love with a man who I responded to as a person, not as a cotton candy figment of some ad writers imagination who complied with the shopping list of roses, candy and diamonds.

Let's enjoy Valentine's Day. Let's love as much, and as hard, as we possibly can. Throw your heart into it. But let's do it with our eyes open, and be aware of what real love is, not just the Hallmark, hard candy with pre-printed inane messages kind.

Have the kind of love that doesn't disappear with the sunrise, but gets warmer as the day brightens.

**DAVID PISARRA** is a Family Law Attorney in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at [dpizarra@pizarra.com](mailto:dpizarra@pizarra.com) or (310) 664-9969.

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**Your column here**  
**Rebecca Kennerly**

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

# A definite Super Tuesday for PTA

ON FEB. 5, OUR LOCAL SUPER TUESDAY ballots included Measure R, a renewal of a funding measure that provided critically needed operating revenue for our schools. This funding pays for lower class sizes, reading, literacy and math programs, science and technology instruction, school librarians, and music and art programs. For the Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs, the failure of this measure was unthinkable, and much to our relief, the measure passed with a 72.54 percent "yes" vote, well above the very high 2/3 majority needed to renew this funding for our schools.

What does Measure R mean for the district's school children? Its passage means that our schools have at least some assurance of financial stability in the continually unstable and inadequate funding environment that is the state budget. It means that voters in our community pledged consistent local support for their local schools. And, finally it means that, in the face of the current state budget and next year's expected funding reductions, we can, hopefully, stave off the worst of the state's budget cuts.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs began its efforts for Measure R well before the measure even had a letter R, well before it was a measure. Before I became president of PTA Council. PTA starting thinking about renewing this funding measure the minute we passed the last one. We knew our kids need stable, predictable funding for their education, and we couldn't rely on that coming from the state of California.

The Measure R campaign was an extraordinary convergence of diverse members of our community. It included teachers, classified employees, business and civic leaders, seniors, elected officials, district employees, and yes, parents. PTA joined with this extraordinary coalition to invest its money, political capital and volunteer efforts into the future of the children of our school community. And it is with no small degree of pride that I tell you that much of the heavy lifting for this measure was done by PTA. PTA leadership at every single school in the district pledged support for, and then worked to pass, Measure R.

Literally hundreds of people contributed to the passage of Measure R, however, my most urgent thank you goes to PTA members across our school community who not only understood the importance of this

measure, but gave their time, energy and dollars to ensure its passage. You are the real heroes of the day. Please know how important your contribution was, and rejoice in the knowledge that your efforts truly made the difference in providing a better and more secure learning environment not only for your own children, but for all the children in our district.

I believe this election was about more than renewing vitally needed funding for our schools. It was about community. We have heard a lot of talk these last few months about our communities — our two communities. But I strongly believe that we are one community — one school community. We are a community that strives to understand and serve the needs of all of our families. A community that acknowledges our differences, that fights hard to rectify injustices, that refuses to leave anyone behind and will not rest until everyone's voice is heard. And the only way we can do that, the only way we can be effective advocates for our children — is to do it together. We know we are stronger together. And we know that if we turn on each other the ultimate losers are our children.

If we can do this for Measure R — if PTA can come together, despite our differences, to help improve learning in all of our classrooms, I know we can do it as a community — a single school community, working together to benefit our kids and all of our futures.

The state of public education hangs in the balance here in California. According to the California Budget Project's numbers, released this week, the current budget proposes \$4.825 billion (yes, BILLION) of cuts to spending covered by Proposition 98 (the Constitutional amendment that guarantees minimum funding for public education). Proposed 2008-09 cuts to K-12 could move and \$800/student. And these numbers don't include the impact of cuts on other programs that directly impact children and families.

Now that we've had this great victory and a moment's rest, it looks like PTA must now turn our attention to joining other school communities across the state to make our voices heard in Sacramento. Thank you.

REBECCA KENNERLY is president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs. She can be reached at [rebecca@kennerly.com](mailto:rebecca@kennerly.com).

## MY DENTIST IS SO BORING... HE ALMOST PUTS ME TO SLEEP!

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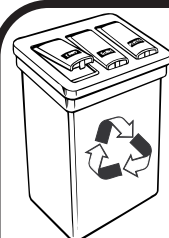
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# Mental health teams on the frontlines

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER  
Associated Press Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON** Navy Chaplain Dick Pusateri has witnessed the stress of war on the faces of troops put in harm's way daily, in the strained relationships of families facing long deployments and the confessions of men shaken by the human cost of war.

For too long, chaplains were among the few people combat Marines felt they could turn to in a crisis.

The Navy and Marine Corps aim to change that by sending teams of mental health professionals to the frontlines this month, after studies showed a jump in the past five years in cases of combat-related mental health disorders, primarily post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We've got a lot of knowledge about the way combat trauma affects people, and having somebody there to guide Marines through it in Iraq means we can respond to it more quickly," Pusateri said.

While psychologists and psychiatrists have long treated military service members on bases and in field hospitals, the deployment of teams of psychological professionals — one per regiment — next month to combat zones marks a new approach in identifying and treating mental health before problems arise.

The teams assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force — made up of about 11,000 Marines — will include a psychiatric technician, a chaplain and, in some cases, a Naval social worker. Psychiatrists or psychologists could deploy to forward operating bases and, in extreme cases, patrol with units.

Three top commanders of the U.S. Marine Corps' fighting forces recently asked to make the pilot program a permanent fixture.

"Now is the time to adjust fire," the generals wrote in a letter to the commandant.

"We must shift the current direction of combat/operational stress control efforts to a more holistic, nested enabling strategy that provides a sound, unified approach."

Marine commandant Gen. James T. Conway is reviewing the request and a decision is expected later this year.



**WHAT IS PROBABLY NEW HERE IS THAT WE WANT TO ADDRESS IT CLOSE ON THE FRONTLINES, AND THEREBY RETURN PEOPLE BOTH BACK TO COMBAT AND BACK TO SOCIETY HEALTHY."**

Navy Capt. Mike Maddox, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force surgeon

The Army adopted a similar approach last year, and has been deploying behavioral health specialists to patrol with its troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"What is probably new here is that we want to address it close on the frontlines, and thereby return people both back to combat and back to society healthy," said Navy Capt. Mike Maddox, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force surgeon.

The push to make the program permanent comes after a report by the Institute of Medicine found post traumatic stress disorder is the most commonly diagnosed mental disorder among veterans. It affected an estimated 13 percent of those returning from Iraq and 6 percent from Afghanistan.

Figures released by the Marine Corps show a fourfold increase in the number of Marines diagnosed with PTSD — from 394 in 2003 to 1,669 to 2006.

"If we identify a stress and if we can treat it close to the unit, it's less likely that person will be sent back, medivaced out of there,"

said Cmdr. David Oliver, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force psychiatrist.

Previously, Marines identified with possible combat-related mental health stress or disorders have been pulled from duty in Iraq and shipped to the U.S. or Germany for assessment and treatment.

Under the expanded program, mental

health specialists would be in daily contact with troops at forward bases, working with chaplains to identify potential risks to troops, talking with squad leaders about their troops, and responding to IED explosions and other combat situations that could effect a Marine's mental health.

While certain combat-related mental health conditions may require extended care, most of the cases in Iraq can be treated or eased.

In some cases Marines or sailors showing signs of stress, such as sleeplessness, anxiety or agitation, may just need a rest.

"In many cases, he's probably not going to have problems if he's given the chance to get some sleep, get some hot chow, take a hot shower," Oliver said.

In more serious cases, identifying the problem early gets the person needed treatment more quickly and gives them a better chance for recovery.

The success will largely depend on the ability to convince Marines and sailors to seek help.

"There's a stigma. Take that stigma away, the more and more you will be able to break down that barrier for Marines," said Lt. Col. William Swan, who attended a conference this week of military officers and mental health professionals meeting to make permanent the pilot program.

While the Marines have adopted stiffer deployment and post-deployment mental health screening measures, critics say the problem remains that Marines are stigmatized if they seek help.

That claim was bolstered last year by the Washington-based advocacy group Veterans of America, which found Marines were reluctant to seek help for post traumatic stress disorder and other problems.

If left improperly treated, problems can worsen. On the frontlines, that can have disastrous consequences, as it appeared to have in March 2006 when an Army private who sought military medical help for stress later allegedly killed an Iraqi family.

Maddox said the stigma of seeking help is dissipating among younger Marines because mental health assessment has always been part of their training.

Lifelong Marines, though, have shown the most resistance to the program. He said awareness and education were the key to overcoming resistance.

For many troops, it will be the first time they come face-to-face with psychologists near the frontlines.

Cpl. Ben Eberle, 25, of Fairview Heights, Ill., said he liked the idea of having someone nearby to talk to, if needed. Seeing the team members around the base would make it easier if he or one of the men in his unit need to talk to someone.

"If I know that person, and I am on a conversational basis and I've met that person in the past, I would be totally comfortable talking to that person," he said.

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# Six charged with planning Sept. 11

By Associated Press

WASHINGTON The Pentagon on Monday charged six Guantanamo Bay detainees with murder and war crimes for the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Officials sought the death penalty in the unprecedented military tribunal case that has been clouded by revelations the key suspect suffered interrogation tactics that critics call torture.

The son of a Sept. 11 victim said he was relieved by the development and hoped it would bring justice. Critics said the trial would be a sham.

Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Hartmann, the legal adviser to the tribunal system, announced that 169 charges had been sworn

against six men "alleged to be responsible for the planning and execution of the attacks" in 2001 that killed nearly 3,000 people.

"These charges allege a long-term, highly sophisticated, organized plan by al-Qaida to attack the United States of America," Hartmann told a Pentagon press conference.

Officials said they'll seek the death penalty and hope to try all six together. That would make it the first capital trial under the terrorism-era military tribunal system.

Hartmann said the six include Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the suspected mastermind of the attacks in which hijackers flew planes into buildings in New York and Washington. Another hijacked plane crashed in the fields of western Pennsylvania.

# Obama looks to keep momentum, runs ads

By Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. Democratic Sen. Barack Obama, riding a tide of momentum, and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is seeking to stop him somewhere and somehow, will launch TV ads in Ohio and Texas, which hold crucial primaries in three weeks.

Having swept all five Democratic presidential contests over the weekend, Obama also was counting on wins in Tuesday's primaries in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Barring a Clinton upset in one of those contests, Obama could have a strong wind at his back heading into the March 4 Ohio and Texas primaries. Clinton generally has done

well in larger states, and she badly needs victories there.

"This is going to be a better month for Senator Obama than it will be for us," Clinton spokesman Howard Wolfson said Monday. "We believe next month will be a better month for us than it will be for him."

Obama and Clinton are set to begin running ads in Ohio and Texas on Tuesday. Obama's ad, which has aired in other states, features him discussing the death of his mother at age 53 from cancer and the cost of health care. The Clinton camp planned to unveil its ad Tuesday and also planned to run Spanish-language ads. Obama will air Spanish-language ads later on.

# McCain challenges notion that he's not conservative

By Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. Republican John McCain challenged the notion he is struggling to rally conservative critics as he picked up the endorsement Monday of evangelical leader Gary Bauer.

"We're doing fine. We're doing fine," McCain told reporters in Annapolis, dismissing the notion that losses in two states on Saturday had hurt his campaign.

McCain lost in Kansas and Louisiana on

Saturday to former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, although he won narrowly in Washington state. The Arizona senator is all but assured his party nod after rolling up huge numbers of delegates, 719, to the national convention. Huckabee has 234.

"We have close to 800 delegates. Last time I checked, Governor Huckabee had very few, so I think I'm happy with the situation I'm in," McCain said.

He also won the endorsement Monday of former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

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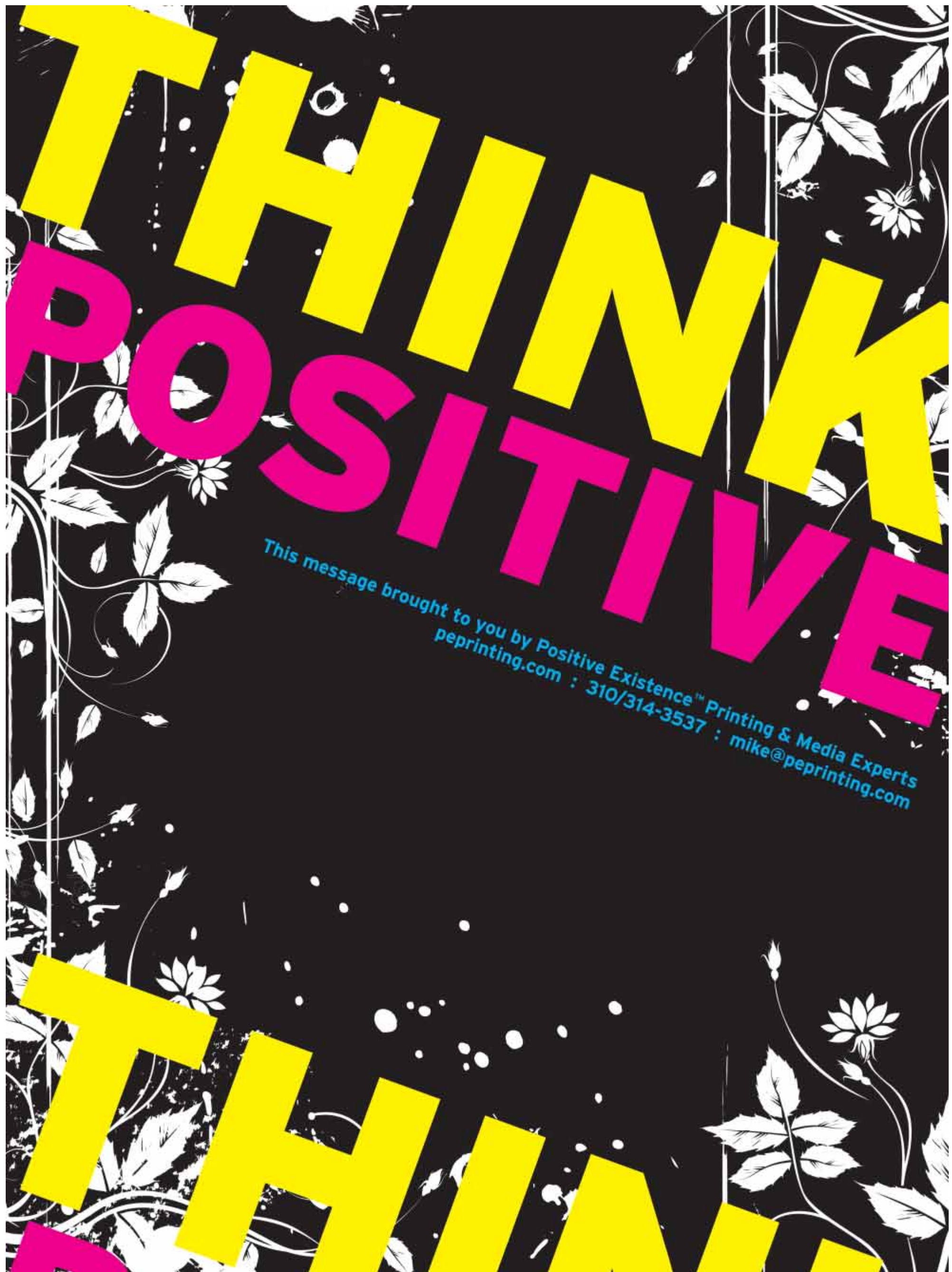
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# Living to 100 is possible for those sick

CHICAGO Living to 100 is easier than you might think.

Surprising new research suggests that even people who develop heart disease or diabetes late in life have a decent shot at reaching the century mark.

"It has been generally assumed that living to 100 years of age was limited to those who had not developed chronic illness," said Dr. William Hall of the University of Rochester.

Hall has a theory for how these people could live to that age. In an editorial in Monday's Archives of Internal Medicine, where the study was published, he writes that it might be thanks to doctors who aggressively treat these older folks' health problems, rather than taking an "ageist" approach that assumes they wouldn't benefit.

For the study, Boston University researchers did phone interviews and health assessments of more than 500 women and 200 men who had reached 100. They found that roughly two-thirds of them had avoided significant age-related ailments.

But the rest, dubbed "survivors," had developed an age-related disease before reaching 85, including high blood pressure, heart disease or diabetes. Yet many functioned remarkably well — nearly as well as their disease-free peers.

# Mummified body found in bathtub

By Associated Press

PHOENIX A dried and decomposing body was found in a bathtub filled with dirt in a Phoenix apartment that was stacked to the ceiling with garbage and human waste.

Owners of the small, standalone unit thought it had been abandoned in August, when they stopped receiving rent payments, Phoenix police Sgt. Joel Tranter said Monday.

Tranter said the owners didn't decide to do anything about the filthy apartment until last week, when they paid other tenants in the complex to clean it out.

He said the cleaners began by removing garbage and boxes and buckets filled with human waste.

When they made their way to the bathroom Friday, they found the bathtub covered with plywood, a sheet, and plastic, and filled with dirt. When they started shoveling the dirt out, they found the leg of a body and called police, Tranter said.

He described the body as part skeleton and partly mummified, and that it had been there at least several years.

"Very unusual, very bizarre," Tranter said. "This guy was literally buried in the bathtub."

Police removed the tub with the body still inside and took it to the Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office, which is conducting an autopsy.

Tranter said the body may be that of a man who rented the unit in 1995 and was last seen seven years ago. He said the property owners saw a man they didn't recognize at the unit four years ago and asked him who he was.

Tranter said the man identified himself as the original renter. The owners didn't push the issue and continued to receive rent checks.

That man has not been seen since August, and Tranter said police are looking for him.

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Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

1.) Julio Martinez assembles a SATA hard drive at G-Technologies, a Santa Monica-based company that makes external hard drives for post production companies, filmmakers and Apple. 2.) Pete Schlatter (left) and Roger Mabon are the co-founders of G-Technology. After inking a deal with Apple, G-Technology was recently purchased by Fabrik, a large manufacturer of storage systems. 3.) A look at the G-Speed, which has a capacity of 16 terabytes.

# Apple helped local company's rise

FROM G-TECH PAGE 1

home for G-Technology, Mabon said.

The company gradually grew until 2006 when G-Tech entered into an agreement with Apple, creating a specialized hard-drive system that complemented the Macintosh computers, making the product available in all Apple retail stores.

It was then when the company exploded, going from posting sales of about \$20,000 a month in 2004 to millions of dollars a month after the Apple deal.

"Overnight we became much more visible," Mabon said.

G-Technology is expected to complement

a previous acquisition made by Fabrik last February when it purchased the consumer production arm of SimpleTech's business. Based in Santa Ana, SimpleTech Inc. produces hard disk external drives and flash memory cards.

SimpleTech "offers a leading portfolio of online services, home network solutions, storage devices and memory for the consumer and small business market," according to a release issued by Fabrik last month.

**OVERNIGHT WE BECAME MUCH MORE VISIBLE."**

Roger Mabon, Founder, G-Technology

"Fabrik intends to not only maintain, but accelerate the growth of the G-Tech product line, which represents a strategic part of our overall portfolio," Fabrik CEO and co-founder Mike Cordano said in the release.

The financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Many of loyal users of G-Technology's hard drives includes so-called "boutique" post-production houses, such as Belief, which is located down the street from the tech supplier.

Rob Sonner, who works with Belief as a contractor and was previously on staff at the post-production house, has been using the G-Tech products for about two years, discovering the company at a time when the hard drives he was using were constantly failing.

"We really depend on them for solid drives for a long time," Sonner, who works on television commercial and short film editing, said. "They've really pulled through in crunch time."

melodyh@smdp.com

**✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

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

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# Vote put parents in a tough spot

FROM SWIM PAGE 3

"We felt in Santa Monica it would be a great opportunity to create the biggest team in West Los Angeles," Carroll said. "So we made the offer to the head coach [to join teams]."

Carroll invited all Edge swimmers and coaches to TSM to help provide stability to his program.

"[Edge swimmers' families] made it clear they didn't want to get rid of all their coaches," Carroll said. "In our experiences, when you have quality coaches, you really don't want to break that up."

Councilman Steven Rose, who also serves as president of the Culver City Chamber of Commerce, added that the decision to part ways with Moran was the result of an unsatisfactory landlord-tenant mix.

"All the city was doing was renting the pool's

time and space to the Edge swim team, and it wasn't working out for the city," Rose said.

"Mr. Moran's Edge swim team is a private company," the council member said. "He was renting space from us. If that agreement didn't work out for either side then he, as a private business person, needed to find his own space."

Originally, the council's vote left Edge parents in a difficult position. Many didn't know whether they should remain with Edge and find a new pool or leave Edge altogether.

"The vast majority of us voted that it was in the best interests of our children to place them with a stable organization and we have enthusiastically opted to merge with Team Santa Monica," said parent David Walley in a Feb. 4 press release. "A handful of other parents had the ambition to form a brand new team and we wish them nothing but the best."

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



Brandon Wise [brandonw@smdp.com](mailto:brandonw@smdp.com)

**CASH A THING OF THE PAST?** Nicanor Nava, employee of Parking Concepts Inc. exchanges money with a customer at the public parking structure on Fourth Street. The City Council is considering purchasing credit card machines to make it easier to pay for parking.

## City Hall thinking of buying more recycling bins, legal aid

FROM CONSENT PAGE 3

### FINDING THE HEAD HONCHOS

Searching for the best man for the job isn't always easy, but the process could get a lot simpler for City Hall if the council awards a contract tonight to Teri Black & Co. LLC to provide recruitment services for executive positions.

The firm was chosen for this fiscal year to search for qualified personnel to fill the positions of assistant director of planning and community development, housing manager and employment services manager. Teri Black & Co. was also tapped to perform two more anticipated searches.

City staff is asking council to authorize a continuation of services for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

### NEW CENTER FOR THE YOUTH

After moving out of its former digs off

the corner of Lincoln and Pico boulevards, the Pico Youth & Family Center (PYFC), which provides after school services to Santa Monica teenagers, has re-emerged about a block west.

The council gave a one-time assistance fund of \$50,000 to the PYFC last summer to help with the move to 715 Lincoln Blvd., but because of necessary upgrades at the new site, such as plumbing and improvements to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, youth center officials are asking for an additional \$31,000. The center has already identified matching funds of \$27,000 from other non-City Hall affiliated sources.

Construction at the center is expected to be completed in May.

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

### ✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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# Calling for a makeover in the Republican party

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES An influential Republican donor with ties to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is pressuring the California GOP to overhaul its operations, depicting Chairman Ron Nehring as an ineffective, insular manager apparently more concerned with promoting conservative purity than electing Republicans.

In a four-page letter to Nehring obtained by The Associated Press, Larry Dodge outlines a litany of complaints against the state party, from sinking registration numbers to suspect expenditures by party officers.

"The registration gap (with Democrats) is widening, contributions are drying up, key posts have been left open for a year, staff is being laid off and there is a never-ending string of reports which is causing long-term damage to the image of the party," Dodge wrote in the Jan. 31 letter.

"Immediate comprehensive action is required," Dodge writes. "The stakes are too high, the problems too deep, to do otherwise."

The letter comes as the latest indication of turmoil inside the California GOP, which has long been strained by ideological differences over social issues such as abortion, gay rights and, more recently, financial problems.

The scolding missive could signal an emerging revolt against the chairman, mirroring the party's broader struggle to unite bickering factions in a presidential election year.

More troubling for the state party, the American Sterling Co. chief executive strongly hints in the letter that he may withhold a \$3 million check he was planning to write within days to retire the state party's long-standing debt. That would be a devastating financial blow in the midst of the 2008 election season.

Dodge writes that he reviewed party operations and "what I have found is of the greatest concern."

Among his complaints, Dodge says the party has not had an effective finance chairman — the key fundraiser — in place for more than a year. He suggests that party officers are squandering money without accountability. Major donors, he said, were promised a hand in the party's operations committee but "nothing has happened."

"The party needs professional management," he writes.

Nehring did not immediately respond to two messages left on his cell phone Sunday afternoon.

Party spokesman Hector Barajas said the state GOP "will have the necessary resources to deliver California for Sen.

John McCain, and we will continue to work with all of our donors to address any issues they may have."

The state GOP has been struggling to get out of debt, creating a potential drag on voter registration and other party-building efforts.

As of last month, the state GOP's main account had a balance of \$3.2 million but \$3.4 million in unpaid obligations. The party's federal account — used to finance activities that support congressional candidates — listed a balance of \$34,000 but nearly \$460,000 in debts.

The party collected \$5.6 million in contributions in its main account from Jan. 1 through Jan. 19, but virtually all of it came from a single source: wealthy Southern California Indian tribes. The tribes donated \$5.4 million to help finance an advertising campaign to win voter approval for expanding their gambling businesses.

Republicans make up about 33 percent of California voters, compared to 43 percent for Democrats. Between February and December last year, the GOP lost more than 170,000 registered voters in the state. The Democratic decline in that period was about 69,000 voters.

In the letter, Dodge urges Nehring to support a party platform that reflects "core principles" and honors diversity, "not just the position of a few." That echoed a proposal from Schwarzenegger, who wants the platform distilled into as little as a single page focused on lowering taxes, limiting the size of government and building a strong national defense.

The party is scheduled to discuss its platform at a state convention later this month.

Dodge also accuses the party leadership of making a strategic blunder by failing to permit the state's 3 million independents — about 20 percent of all registered voters — to participate in the GOP presidential primary on Feb. 5, an election in which Democrats welcomed unaffiliated voters.

He called Nehring's shifting positions on the issue "confusing and puzzling," and said he was alarmed by the possibility independents could be excluded from all GOP primaries, not just the presidential race.

Some of Dodge's criticism was reminiscent of concerns raised by Schwarzenegger, a centrist known for working across party lines. The Republican governor has warned the party could face a future of Election Day misery unless it makes a shift to the political center. "We are dying at the box office," he told party activists last year.

It also mirrors divisions witnessed in the candidacy of McCain, whose conservative credentials are under constant attack by member of his own party.

# Raise comes as district teaches fewer students

FROM RAISE PAGE 1

"The district works best when the adults are getting along and this contract was a part of that," Harry Keiley, the president of SMMCTA, said last week.

During the meeting on Thursday, the Financial Oversight Committee expressed some concerns with regards to the collective bargaining agreement, most notably that school officials had not yet identified where the money will come from, either cuts or increases in revenue, according to its Chairman Paul Silvern, who added he expected that to occur in the coming months as part of the budget preparation for the fiscal year.

Voters in Santa Monica and Malibu on Feb. 5 approved Measure R, which combines and extends two existing parcel taxes that bring more than \$10 million annually into the district. That money is used to cover the cost of teachers and librarians, art programs and other services for students.

Silvern also noted that the AB1200 document submitted to LACOE is optimistic in that it does not reflect changes in the enrollment forecast as presented last week by consultant DecisionSite which predicted that enrollment in the school district would continue to decline as a result of a permit policy

that places a moratorium on non-district residents. The AB1200 also does not reflect any possible settlement agreements with other bargaining units, Silvern added.

The committee made several suggestions to district staff, including preparing a multi-year budget outlook that goes to the 2011, one year beyond what is required by the AB1200 and launching a public process, formulating a plan to balance the budget and launching a public process whereby they would disclose how it would reduce expenditures or increase revenues.

Through the bargaining agreement, the school board is sending a message that teachers in the district are highly valued and need to be fairly compensated, said Grant Clark, a member of the union's Board of Directors. Clark, a kindergarten teacher, has taught at Franklin Elementary School for 11 years.

"We know that teaching doesn't pay a lot of money generally compared to a lot of professions," Clark said. "They're stepping up and saying we appreciate and recognize that you're contributing to a really great school district."

melodyh@smdp.com

**THE DISTRICT WORKS BEST WHEN THE ADULTS ARE GETTING ALONG AND THIS CONTRACT WAS A PART OF THAT."**

Harry Keiley  
President, Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association



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# Taliban official critically wounded

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan Pakistani forces captured and critically wounded a senior Taliban militant on Monday, the second successful targeting in two weeks of a terror suspect as the government faced growing Western pressure to crack down on cross-border attacks into Afghanistan.

But in a reminder of the growing militant threat destabilizing Pakistan, a suicide bomb wounded a candidate and killed seven others as he campaigned for next week's parliamentary elections. Also, Pakistan's ambassador to Afghanistan was missing and feared kidnapped as he traveled in a volatile Pakistani tribal region.

The arrest of Mansoor Dadullah, brother of slain Taliban military commander Mullah Dadullah, was a boost for the U.S.-backed campaign against the Taliban and al-Qaida, though it also demonstrated that militant chiefs operate inside Pakistan despite its deployment of 100,000 troops along the border.

It followed a Jan. 29 U.S. missile strike on a militant hideout in the northwestern tribal belt that killed Abu Laith al-Libi, a top al-Qaida commander in Afghanistan.

Mansoor Dadullah was caught in the southwestern province of Baluchistan, but there was some confusion over exactly how and where.

# Marine arrested, accused of raping teen in Japan

BY CHISAKI WATANABE

Associated Press Writer

TOKYO A U.S. Marine accused of raping a 14-year-old girl in southern Japan was arrested Monday, police said, stirring memories of a rape of a Japanese girl by U.S. troops over a decade ago.

Police took custody of Staff Sgt. Tyrone Luther Hadnott, 38, of Camp Courtney in Okinawa, an Okinawa police official said on condition of anonymity citing policy. Hadnott, who has denied the allegations, has not been charged.

Under a mutual security pact, the United States has about 50,000 troops deployed around Japan. Most of them are based on Okinawa and tensions over potential accidents, land use and troop-related crimes are common.

In 1995, the rape of a schoolgirl in Okinawa by three American servicemen sparked large-scale protests. The three served prison terms of six and a half to seven years.

"This is extremely regrettable," said Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko

Komura of Monday's arrest. Komura said the government asked Washington to tighten discipline among its troop based in Japan to prevent such crimes in the future. Tokyo has made similar requests in the past.

Hadnott, whose hometown has not been identified, is alleged to have offered to take the girl to her home on his motorbike on Sunday, but instead took her to his house, another local police official told The Associated Press.

When the girl started crying, he said he would drive her home, but he is accused of then raping her in a car, the official said, also speaking on condition of anonymity in line with policy.

Hadnott told investigators he forced the girl down and kissed her, but that he did not rape her, the official said.

Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, commander of U.S. Forces in Japan, said the U.S. was aware of the "serious allegations in Okinawa."

"(We) are closely monitoring the situation while fully cooperating with Japanese officials," Wright said in a statement. "If the allegations are true, our hearts are with the victim and family."

# East Timor president stabilized

BY GUIDO GOULART

Associated Press Writer

DILI, East Timor East Timor's president was in "extremely serious" but stable condition at an Australian hospital Tuesday after surgeons worked through the night to remove bullet fragments he suffered in a failed coup attempt, the hospital's administrator said.

Dr. Len Notaros, the general manager of the Royal Darwin Hospital, told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. Tuesday morning that surgeons operated on President Jose Ramos-Horta for three hours overnight to remove the fragments and repair his wounds.

"His condition remains extremely serious but by the same token, stable," Notaros said. "The next few days will be the telling point."

Ramos-Horta, who won the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize for his nonviolent resistance to the decades-long Indonesian occupation, was shot in the chest and stomach by gunmen in

two cars around dawn Monday, officials said.

Rebel soldiers separately attacked Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao's motorcade an hour later. He escaped unhurt.

The strikes against the two independence icons were a striking reminder of the bitter rivalries beneath the surface in Asia's newest nation and could trigger more unrest and political turmoil.

The country's top fugitive, Alfredo Reinado, and one of his men were killed in the attack on the president. One of the president's guards also died.

South Africa's U.N. Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo, who led a council mission to East Timor, told reporters at U.N. headquarters in New York that the president was shot as he took his regular morning walk.

"One report is that they went to the house looking for him and discovered that he was on his walk and that's where they attacked him," Kumalo said. "He's a very simple man ... a man of the people and sometimes you pay a price for that."



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### SURF REPORT



**SURF CONDITIONS**

**WATER TEMP: 56°**

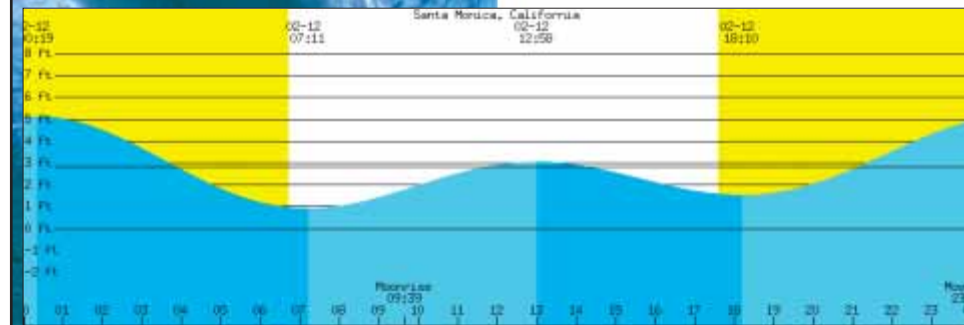
**SWELL FORECAST ( 4-6 FT )**

Today looks similarly sized, although it's quite possible that we'll see about a 10% increase in size from the NW. Most west facing breaks are looking at chest to head high+ sets with direct south facing breaks picking up chest+ sets. Winds should be lightly offshore in the morning, although some wind-prone spots could see some 14 mph gusts at times. The tide seems quite reasonable as well.

**LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS**

NW GROUND SWELL THURSDAY, BUT POSSIBLE STRONG WIND EVENT...

**TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA**



Santa Monica, California


02-12 07:11 02-12 12:56 02-12 18:10

8 ft 7 ft 6 ft 5 ft 4 ft 3 ft 2 ft 1 ft 0 ft -1 ft -2 ft

0 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Flow: Low 09:39

Next: High 23:01



## NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

**February 6, 2008**

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 -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 2

Number of wet days -- 14

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 13

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8 / 31

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 Closures and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sepulch Creek mouth (Jocarrilla)	A+	C	WII Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	D
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	B	WII Rogers State Beach at Palga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachase and Las Alitas creeks	A+	A+	WII Rogers State Beach at Tenebrum Canyon drain	A+	C
Escorial Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+	WII Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauque)	F	F
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	C	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Rancho Canyon Creek mouth	B	F	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain	F	D
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	C	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant)	A+	F
Lafayette Canyon Creek mouth	A+	C	Goose Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	A
Saltine Canyon at Deer Bladder County Beach	A+	C	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	C
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	B	F	Venice Beach at Bristol Ave. drain	A+	D
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	C	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	A+
Sunridge Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	C	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	C
Sunridge Beach (beach location)- daily	F	F	Venice Beach-projection of Topical St.	A+	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	B	F	Marino del Rey, Mothers' Beach- Hesperian tower	A	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	C	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	F	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	A	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19943 PCH stairs	F	B	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	A
Pine Creek at Los Tunes County Beach	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of GWN jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	B
Tepanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	C	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hesperian Treatment Plant	A+	A
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	D	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	m	F			
WII Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	D			


**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

**m** -- no sample taken

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

 Heal the Bay

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NFL

# Green, Booker get cut by Dolphins

BY TIM REYNOLDS  
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI Quarterback Trent Green was acquired by the Miami Dolphins last year as part of a plan to turn the franchise's fortunes around. Not surprisingly, Bill Parcells' ideas will differ from the previous model.

In the Dolphins' first major player purge since Parcells took charge of Miami's football operations, the team parted ways with Green, wide receiver Marty Booker and seven other players Monday — ushering in the start of what's expected to be a massive offseason roster shakeup by the rebuilding franchise.

"This is never easy, especially since all of these players worked hard during their tenure here," new Dolphins' general manager Jeff Ireland said.

There is a chance that Green — who was due a \$500,000 roster bonus if he wasn't cut and who would have cost the Dolphins more than \$3.6 million against their 2008 salary cap — could see his Miami tenure continue.

His agent, Jim Steiner, told The Palm Beach Post that Green and Parcells plan to meet soon to discuss options.

"There is a window for him to come back, depending on circumstances," said Steiner, who didn't immediately return a message left at his office by The AP.

Other notable cuts by the Dolphins included tackle L.J. Shelton and massive defensive tackle Keith Traylor, both of whom were starters.

Miami also waived tackle Anthony Alabi, defensive tackle Anthony Bryant, tackle

Marion Dukes, defensive tackle Marquay Love and tackle Joe Toledo.

Most of these moves were expected, and more will undoubtedly follow over the coming weeks as Miami looks to retool following its 1-15 season. The Dolphins haven't made the playoffs in six seasons, the longest stretch in franchise history.

Green was placed on injured reserve in October after his second severe concussion in 13 months, and the 37-year-old may contemplate retirement. Traylor suggested at times last season that his 16th season may be his last.

Booker caught 50 passes in 2007, but managed only one touchdown for the second time in his four seasons with the Dolphins. Shelton started all 32 games during his two-year stay with the Dolphins and had two years left on his contract in Miami.

"I want to thank all of them for their contributions to the Dolphins and wish them good luck," Ireland said.

Parcells has already reshaped the front office, firing general manager Randy Mueller and other members of the team's player personnel staff. The coaching staff was rebuilt, most notably with Tony Sparano brought in to replace Cam Cameron.

With the start of free agency Feb. 29, Parcells' eye has clearly turned toward the roster.

"In the case of each of the veterans, it's especially difficult to release players who have been productive and valued members of the organization," Ireland said. "However, we feel these decisions are in the best interest of the team."

NHL

# Zednik in stable condition

BY JOHN WAWROW  
Associated Press Writer

BUFFALO, N.Y. Florida Panthers forward Richard Zednik lost five units of blood, but doctors never considered his life in jeopardy after the player had his carotid artery nearly severed by a teammate's skate in a freak and frightening accident.

Zednik underwent an hour of surgery to reconnect the artery Sunday night and was listed in stable condition in the intensive care unit at Buffalo General Hospital on Monday. He was awake and cooperative with the medical staff, doctors said.

Attending surgeon Sonya Noor said there were no initial signs of brain damage, which is a fear whenever the carotid artery is clamped. She said clamps were in place for about 15 to 20 minutes during surgery, which she considers a short time.

"So far, he looks very good. He's awake, oriented," said Noor. "He remembers what happened last night."

Zednik was sliced across the right side of the throat by teammate Olli Jokinen's skate midway through the third period of Buffalo's 5-3 victory. Doctors said the skate blade just missed cutting the jugular vein.

The carotid artery supplies blood to the brain, while the jugular vein takes blood from the brain. Blood pressure is much higher in the carotid artery.

According to Noor, the slashed artery was

"hanging by a thread." She stressed if the artery had been completely severed it would have recessed into the neck, requiring even more extensive surgery.

Prior to surgery, doctors noted that Zednik's blood pressure was dropping, and there was also swelling around the cut making it difficult to breath. Doctors put a tube in his neck to open an airway.

Robert McCormack, the hospital's clinical chief of emergency medicine, said: "We became concerned. He was clearly in shock from blood loss. His heart rate was high his blood pressure was a bit low."

Vascular surgeon Richard Curl, who assisted Noor, said the cut was about an inch-and-a-half deep and also as wide. Doctors were astonished the skate blade did not hit any other arteries or veins or cause any further damage.

"Luck," was a factor, according to Noor.

"He might have some hoarseness and that's about it at this point," said Noor, who said Zednik had a "normal, beautiful artery."

The Panthers returned home to South Florida following the game, a flight coach Jacques Martin said was "pretty quiet."

However, Zednik was joined at the hospital by his wife, Jessica, and Karen Cohen, wife of Alan Cohen, who is the Panthers' general partner, chairman of the board and CEO, hospital spokesman Mike Hughes said in a release. The two arrived by charter flight late Sunday night.



# Food chain

## Sienna Miller tells court that she felt 'hunted' by frenzied paparazzi

**SIENNA MILLER** felt hunted by a group of paparazzi as they chased her car across London in an attempt to find out where she lived, the 26-year-old actress told a British court Monday.

Miller was testifying at the trial of her friend Otis Ferry, who was charged with criminal damage after yanking two sets of keys from the ignitions of pursuing photographers' cars.

Miller said she was chased by photographers as she left Boujis, a celebrity hot spot, following an after-party at a London nightclub in February 2007.

"In any situation, if you're a woman and you're

running and there are men chasing you, it's a threatening situation," she said.

She said at least five paparazzi then tailed her as she drove to her new home, driving dangerously and overtaking her vehicle in an attempt to locate her new address.

"The reason they were

being that reckless is that they wanted to find out where I lived, which makes you feel quite hunted as a woman," she said.

During the pursuit, the "Casanova" actress said she called Ferry, who had been with her at the club, to ask for help. Ferry acknowledged that he twice got out

at traffic lights to pull the keys from the ignitions of two of the pursuing cars.

But Ferry was cleared of criminal damage later Monday. District Judge David Simpson called his actions "impetuous," but said they did not legally constitute criminal damage.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### RAPPER "THE GAME" PLEADS NO CONTEST

The rap artist known as "THE GAME" pleaded no contest Monday to possession of a firearm in a school zone in connection with a 2007 pickup basketball game.

Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Tien Pham said Jaceyon Terrell Taylor, 28, received three years formal probation, 60 days county jail (with two days credit) and 150 hours of community service.

Taylor, who is scheduled to surrender in the next week, allegedly got into an altercation with a player on an opposing team during a basketball game at the Rita Walters Educational Learning Complex in South Los Angeles. After punching the victim, Taylor allegedly pulled a gun from his Escalade and threatened to shoot the victim.

DAILY PRESS

## Cher will headline Caesars

She has released 25 albums that have sold more than 100 million copies and has enjoyed a career that has included concerts, recordings, Broadway, TV, film acting and directing, and books. Now she's taking her show to Vegas.

CHER has announced she'll be one of the headline acts at Caesars Palace.

"I started in Vegas at Caesars, so I've come full circle," she said. "I'm back, and I plan to give my fans the best experience yet. I think everybody knows I only do things in a big way."

The Oscar, Emmy and Grammy award winner said in a statement that she will begin a three-year,

200-show engagement May 6.

"Cher's name in one word encapsulates icon, award-winning legend, and captivating performer," said Caesars Palace President Gary Selesner. "Caesars is pleased to welcome Cher back."

"Cher at The Colosseum" is scheduled to include hit songs from her career of more than 40 years, with choreography, costumes and special effects. It is a partnership with AEG Live.

Cher will alternate performances at the 4,300-seat Colosseum with other headline acts Elton John and Bette Midler.

In December, Celine Dion ended a five-year run

at the theater, which opened in 2002 as home of her show, "A New Day ...".

John, who began playing at the Colosseum in 2004 when Dion's show was dark, is now booked to play his show, "The Red Piano," through 2008. Midler's "The Showgirl Must Go On" is set to open Feb. 20 for a two-year run of 100 shows per year.

Cher's 90-minute show will feature choreography from Doriana Sanchez and lighting, special effects and costumes by Bob Mackie. Engagements will run four nights a week on Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Ticket prices are from \$95 to \$250.

AP

## MOVIEGUIDE

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**Atonement (R)**  
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG)**  
1:35, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40  
**Over Her Dead Body (PG-13)**  
1:40, 4:00, 6:30, 8:50  
**Untraceable (R)**  
1:50, 4:20, 6:40, 9:05

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

**27 Dresses (PG-13)**  
1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30  
**Cloverfield (PG-13)**  
1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50  
**The Eye (PG-13)**  
2:30, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35  
**Fool's Gold (PG-13)**  
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40  
**Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert Disney Digital 3D (G)**  
1:00, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
**There Will Be Blood (R)**  
2:45, 6:30, 10:00  
**Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins (PG-13)**  
1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

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**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly (Le Scaphandre et le papillon) (PG-13)**  
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55  
**Juno (PG-13)**  
12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15  
**No Country for Old Men (R)**  
1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55  
**Persepolis (PG-13)**  
12:55, 3:15, 5:35, 8:00, 10:15

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

**The Bucket List (PG-13)**  
11:50am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30  
**Meet the Spartans (PG-13)**  
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
**Michael Clayton (R)**  
1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 10:20  
**Rambo (R)**  
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00  
**Strange Wilderness (R)**  
12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
**Vince Vaughn's Wild West Comedy Show: 30 Days & 30 Nights - From Hollywood to the Heartland (R)**  
12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30

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

## Fun and games, Capricorn

### Happy Birthday!

If possible, avoid putting inordinate pressure on roommates and family this year. You might be more demanding than you realize, as different situations unfurl. Be sensitive and aware of the reactions you could provoke. A close friend or loved one might seem distant more often than not this year. This person could be evaluating his or her life on many different levels.



### Born Today

**Actress Christina Ricci (1980)**  
**Actress Joanna Kerns (1953), comedian**  
**TV host Arsenio Hall (1955)**

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

★★★ Know and understand upcoming costs. Evaluate or ask for more information if need be. A project or a must appearance might toss you way out of whack. Investigate other ways around this issue. Tonight: Treat a loved one well.

#### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You might start acting like a Bull, close to unstoppable. If you can, stop and rethink a situation more carefully. Your imagination adds that finishing touch to anything you apply it to. Your nerves could be frayed. Tonight: Once more, tap into your creativity.

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

★★★ If others want to dominate, make it your pleasure. No one knows better than you how much you love free time to allow your mind to wander. What you accomplish right now might not be as important. Tonight: Yawn – get a good night's sleep.

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

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Others might appear to have reversed their positions. Recognize that people grow and change. Stay open as opposed to judgmental, and you'll get results. Confirm an appointment. Tonight: Where there are people.

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

★★★ Take a stand. Others might be reactive, though you might not be as bothered by it as you might think. Know that responsibility and leadership can frequently isolate people, even you. Curb any wild spending. Tonight: Up late.

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

★★★★ While others might be focused on handling the immediate issue, you will tend to pull back and see the big picture. As a result, you can gain remarkable insight and knowledge. Use this skill in relationships as well. Tonight: Follow your imagination.

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

★★★★ Deal with people as if they are the most important people in the world. You cannot help but get results. Trust yourself, knowing what you want. Refuse to hedge, and be as direct as possible. Tonight: With a favorite person.

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

★★★★ The smart move is to let others have their head space and allow them to express what they feel. Ask questions and encourage conversations. You will understand much better why someone does this or that. Tonight: Go along with another's request.

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

★★★★ You are likely to take a chance or approach a situation totally differently. Remain confident and direct in your dealings. Your main goal is to accomplish what you need, rather than push someone too hard. Tonight: Choose a tension-buster.

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

★★★★ You find solutions while others try to calm down situations or return to the status quo. By allowing your creativity to emerge, your ideas will be laden with excitement and energy. Share this high energy. Tonight: Fun and games.

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

★★★ Whether you admit it or not, you often get entrenched in "stuck" thinking. Events encourage you to forge ahead in a new direction. Revise an opinion without making a public announcement. Time will reveal if you are right. Tonight: Order in.

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

★★★★ Add in diplomacy, and you'll find that others open up more. A friendship develops to a deeper level. A partner who frequently feels remote opens up once more. Confirm meetings. Don't stand on ceremony over a hassle. Tonight: Hang out.



Janric Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty  
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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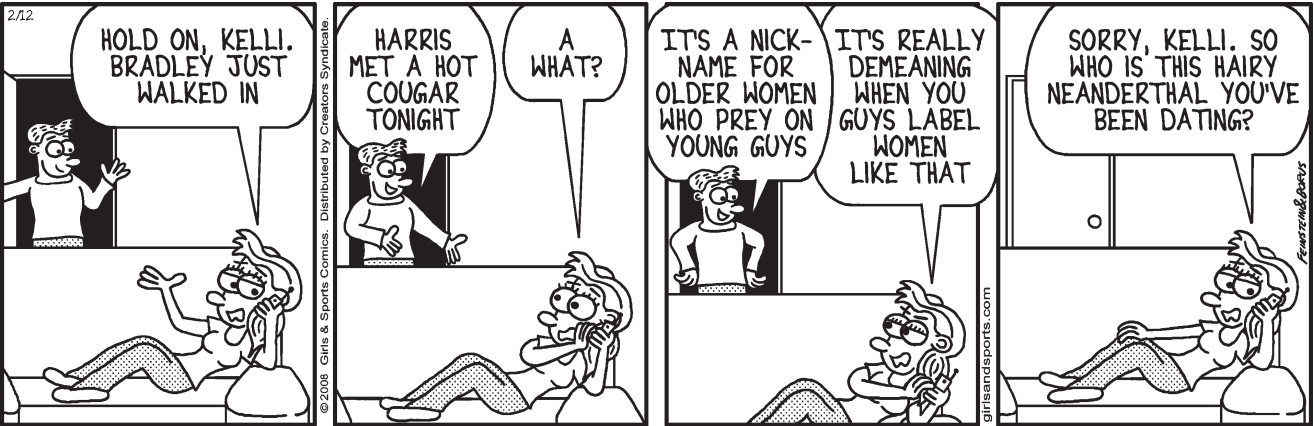
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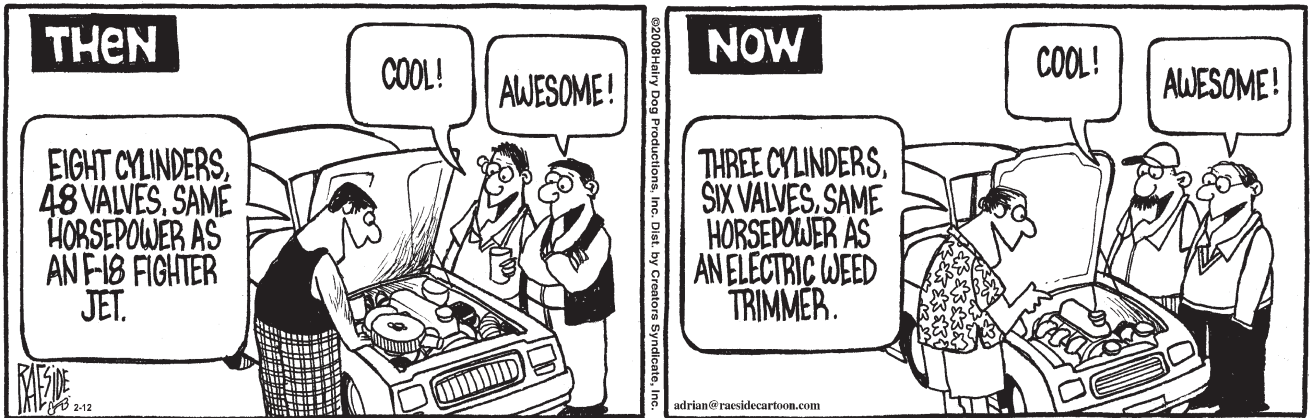
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By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



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

CROSSWORD  
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rough guesses
  - 6 Aspirin targets
  - 11 Danger
  - 12 Quiver item
  - 13 Chess game start
  - 15 Hamilton's bill
  - 16 Bill word
  - 17 Never, in Nuremberg
  - 18 Homes for oysters
  - 20 Halloween mo.
  - 21 Mine material
  - 22 Sword-fight
  - 23 Frogs' kin
  - 26 Daring
  - 27 In the past
  - 28 Junior, to senior
  - 29 Relaxing site
  - 30 Adding booze to
  - 34 Feeling down
  - 35 Leather shade
  - 36 Huge snake
  - 37 Trading day start

- 40 Leg bone
- 41 Give addresses
- 42 Worries
- 43 Titles

- DOWN**
- 1 Giraffe features
  - 2 Conical abode
  - 3 Game place
  - 4 Storage place
  - 5 Fast curving pitches
  - 6 Congress aides
  - 7 Elbow setting
  - 8 Resolve
  - 9 Beginners

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

Yesterday's answer

- 10 What "dolce" means in music
- 14 Au naturel
- 19 Portend
- 22 Dip, as a donut
- 23 Write easily
- 24 In theory
- 25 Scholar's world
- 26 Happen-ing
- 28 Reach across
- 30 Mixes up
- 31 Construc-tion girder
- 32 Actor Nick
- 33 Strong winds
- 38 Fruitcake bit
- 39 Lingerie item

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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				

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**DAILY 3** MIDDAY: 9 1 1  
EVENING: 4 3 4

**DAILY DERRY** 1st: 07 Eureka  
2nd: 03 Hot Shot  
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George  
RACE TIME: 1.43.69

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**NEWS OF THE WEIRD**  
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In December, as the director of the District of Columbia's Youth Rehabilitation Services spoke before the City Council on the successes of his special unit tracking down escapees, one on-the-run youth watched from the audience a few feet away, unknown to the director, according to a Washington Post report. (Another 19-year-old ran away in September and was unaccounted for because a female YRS officer, unknown to her superiors, had subsequently married him and was keeping him at their home, according to the Post.)

■ Authorities in Valentine, Neb., have been on the lookout since November for the vandal who has approached several storefronts at night and, apparently with Vaseline smeared over his nude body, pressed himself against windows and doors. A radio station called the person "the buttcheek bandit" (although some speculate there may also be a copycat). Asked Valentine police chief Ben McBride, "Who in their right mind would do something like that?"

**TODAY IN HISTORY**

**1809** Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, was born in present-day Larue County, Ky.

**1554** Lady Jane Grey, who'd claimed the throne of England for nine days, and her husband, Guildford Dudley, were beheaded after being condemned for high treason.

**1818** Chile officially proclaimed its independence, more than seven years after initially renouncing Spanish rule.

**1870** women in the Utah Territory gained the right to vote. (However, that right was taken away in 1887).

**1908** the first round-the-world automobile race began in New York. (It ended in Paris the following July with the drivers of the American car, a Thomas Flyer, declared the winners over teams from Germany and Italy.)

**1909** the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded.

**1912** Pu Yi, the last emperor of China, abdicated, marking the end of the Qing Dynasty.

**1915** the cornerstone for the Lincoln Memorial was laid in Washington, D.C., a year to the day after groundbreaking.

**1940** the radio play "The Adventures of Superman" debuted with Bud Collyer as the Man of Steel.

**WORD UP!**

**ersatz** \AIR-sahts; UR-sats\, *adjective*: Being a substitute or imitation, usually an inferior one.



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\$639,000

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## Average Price of Properties Listed for Sale As of Mid February 2008

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 2,305,500	\$ 1,399,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 3,579,923	\$ 2,011,708
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,289,900	\$ 968,471
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,047,390	\$ 785,441
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,297,333	\$ 637,900
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,876,467	\$ 973,039

Statistics updated every Friday

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