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Issue 542 • February 18 - February 24, 2010

Fine Tuning Art

The Weekly's interview
with incoming Fine Art
Commission Chair
Curt Shepard



cover story • pages 8-9



letters & email

“Letters and E-mail” [Issue 541]

Mr. Noah Margo was being mild regarding the parking issues in the city in an article from last week’s Beverly Hills Weekly. I agree with his disagreement about the hours at night that you can’t park; they just cause difficulty for the residents.

The two-hour maximum parking time on most of the streets are a problem when visiting a household; you have to be alert during your stay. To make it worse, there are dozens of streets where parking is only designated for particular residents, again an absurdity; permit parking should include all Beverly Hills residents. They can sell us easily identifiable window stickers.

Perhaps the new city manager will take this into consideration and “fix the problem.”

*Pablo Nankin, M.D.
Beverly Hills*

Corrections, Issue 541

In last week’s cover story “Love is in the Air,” Ed & Linda Brown’s anniversary was misstated. They recently celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary, and were engaged on Valentine’s Day nearly 50 years ago.

“Town Hall Meeting”

We are two more meetings into an already laborious challenge; the schools need new management, and they are getting new management by way of the voters. November 3, 2009 was a second call from the residents; the first was 2007. It is time for the parents to understand the school board has a fiscal responsibility to make our schools great.

“TRUSTEE POWER: (taken from independentschools.vic.edu.au/schools/governance/atb/governance10.htm)

“...Board Members are not on the School Board to represent and promote the interests of particular groups or stakeholders. They are not there to represent the interests of their constituents. The overriding obligation on all Board Members to act in the best interests of the school as a whole arises by virtue of what is known as the ‘fiduciary relationship’ between each Board Member and the school.

The fiduciary relationship is a general law notion and simply dictates that Board Members must always and unwaveringly act in the best interests of the school and must act honestly, fairly, loyally, in good faith, and with integrity. In all deliberations as a member of the School Board you must have regard to the overriding principle that your duty is to act in the best interests of the school, irrespective of any personal or other interests.”

My take away from the first of the two town hall meetings is that our board is still a little removed from being the “Governing Board” for our district.

My take away from last night’s meeting is that Jonathan Prince’s filtered question presentation showed a true dislike for what [Board Vice-President] Lisa [Korbatov] and [board member] Brian [Goldberg] have said and are still saying:

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WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND?

You can write us at:
140 South Beverly Drive #201
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

You can fax us at:
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email us at:
editor@bhweekly.com



SNAPSHOT



MULTI AWARD-WINNING BLEND OF PATHOS AND HUMOR

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DANCE?**

BY
DOUG HAVERTY

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THRU FEBRUARY 28TH



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LUNCHES WITH LOVE SOUTH ELM DRIVE

Beverly Vista PTA organized a Valentine’s Day community service event Friday, Feb. 12 in the school’s cafeteria. Students made 500 lunches for families to support the Westside Food Bank. Kindergarteners and first graders decorated the lunch bags, second and third graders made Valentine’s Day cards, and fourth and fifth graders made sandwiches and assembled the lunches. (left to right, top row: Lauren Aviram, Alexandria Garcia, Tina Ghalchi, Solomon Margo and Jared Asars; bottom row: Melinda Ho, Katia Levy, Isaac Solouk, Mason Bergher and Molly Rabin)

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briefs

Teachers Usually Favored Over Administration in Grade-Change Scandals, Says CTA

Teachers usually prevail over administration in cases of grade-change allegations, said California Teachers Association spokesperson Mike Myslinksi.

In 2001, for example, the Las Virgenes Educators Association sued the Las Virgenes Unified School District over a grade-change incident at the A.E. Wright Middle School. The school's principal changed citizenship marks on the report cards of three students after receiving complaints from their parents that they were ineligible for the honor society, and were at risk of not being allowed to attend a school field trip.

The trial court issued a preliminary injunction requiring the district to reinstate the original marks given by the teacher. LVUSD appealed the injunction, arguing that, per the education code, the teacher failed to contact the parents prior to issuing the grades.

The district lost the case.

According to court documents for the appeal, "the teacher is the person in the best position to assess performance" since grades are given based on "first-hand observation." An administrator's "bowing to pressure" to alter any grade is "to be avoided."

The court concluded that a parent can request a change of a school record if the record is "inaccurate, an unsubstantiated personal conclusion of inference, a conclusion or inference outside of the observer's area of competence, or not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted." None of those reasons applied, and the court found that LVUSD has "exceeded its authority" in changing the grade.

And the California Teachers Association agrees.

"Basically, unless the teacher screwed up, the grade should stand," said Frank Wells, spokesperson for the California Teachers Association. "In [the BHUSD] situation, it sounds like abuse of power and political pressure. It seems clearly inappropriate."

In the ongoing BHUSD grade-change controversy, the original 'D' grade of the Beverly High student was initially changed to an 'I.' The grade has now been changed to a 'P' by the administration against the objections of the teacher, who was not notified of the decision prior to the grade change last month.

Though BHUSD launched an "independent" investigation after the scandal surfaced last November, all of the parties involved in making the grade-change decision allegedly have ties to the parent of the student. Additionally, per the education code, the issue of changing the grade must be decided by both the Board of Education and the superintendent.

The Beverly Hills Education Association said they are currently working with CTA to pursue their legal options.

Horace Mann Principal to Take over Human Resources; Cherniss Moves to Business Services

Horace Mann Principal Dawnalyn

Murakawa-Leopard will be taking over the district's director of human resources position, currently held by Dr. Alex Cherniss. Cherniss will step up as the assistant superintendent of business services.

The appointments, approved by the Board of Education at its Feb. 10 meeting, will be effective July 1.



Dr. Dawnalyn Murakawa-Leopard

Murakawa-Leopard has served as the principal at Horace Mann since 2003. Prior to that, she was an assistant principal at Beverly High for one year. She began working for BHUSD after serving as a high school teacher and assistant principal at James Logan High School in the New Haven Unified School District, and as an assistant principal at Bellflower Middle/High School.

"I am honored and so excited to be moving into this position," Murakawa-Leopard said. "I'm very sad to be leaving Horace Mann. It's been home for seven years. It's a great community to work in. I'm going to miss seeing the staff, students and parents here on a daily basis. I know I'll be able to build on those relationships and to continue to work with the people here while getting the opportunity to work with everyone else in the district, which is great."

Murakawa-Leopard received her bachelors and masters degree from Stanford University and her doctorate from UCLA. She has been a member of the district's negotiating team for six years, working with both the certificated unit of the Beverly Hills Education Association and Office, Technical and Business Services.



Dr. Alex Cherniss

Cherniss has been with the district since 2002, when he was hired as math teacher at Beverly Vista and subsequently moved to Hawthorne, where he served as both assistant principal and principal before taking his current position at the district office. Since the resignation of Cheryl Plotkin from the business services post, the position has been filled by Interim Assistant Superintendents Gary Mortimer and, currently, Mary Anne McCabe.

"Beverly Hills is on the cusp of great things as we enter basic aid, and to be considered an integral part of the bridge to excellence is the ultimate opportunity," Cherniss said.

Cherniss received his bachelor's degree from UC Santa Barbara, his master's degree from Pepperdine University and his doctorate from USC. He recently earned his school business certificate through the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team's Chief Business Officer program.

"Alex and Dawnalyn are very deserving of these promotions," said Board of Education President Steven Fenton. "This is an example



(left to right) Councilmember Willie Brien, Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad, L.A. Councilmember Paul Koretz, Mayor Nancy Krasne, and Councilmembers Barry Brucker and John Mirisch.

Beverly Hills Honors L.A. Councilmember Paul Koretz

The Beverly Hills City Council honored Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Koretz at its meeting Tuesday with a proclamation for his many years of continued service and work with the Beverly Hills community.

of taking two loyal and gifted employees and allowing them to flourish within our organization. Locking up our future stars with executive compensation packages is how we're going to give our school district the continuity and stability it deserves."

BHEF Announces Apple Ball Honorees

The Beverly Hills Education Foundation has announced its 2010 Apple Award honorees for the Apple Ball Dinner Gala and Auction Wednesday, May 5.

Shawn and Larry King will be honored with The Bosse Spirit of Philanthropy Award.

Debbie Allen will receive the inaugural Building Educational Success Together Award.

BHEF Apple honorees include Hawthorne third-grade teacher Christina McDonald; Horace Mann adaptive physical education teacher Debi Ives; El Rodeo first-grade teacher Barbara Zarider; Beverly Vista first-grade teacher Karen Sekeres; Beverly High special education teacher Kerri Benson; Beverly High Visual Arts Chair Mike Federman; BHUSD Assistant Superintendent

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Pictures are models

briefs cont. from page 3

of Educational Services Dr. Ilene W. Straus; and administrative assistant for educational services Yangchen Dolkar.

BHEF Ambassador Program Continues to Grow

The Beverly Hills Education Foundation's Ambassador Parent Program has been growing since its launch last March, with a recent success story of a family from France registering their sixth-grader at Hawthorne.

Program Chair Nathalie Kunin said the family contacted her last fall to notify her of work-related move to Beverly Hills, and expressed interest in BHUSD schools.

"We set them up on a tour for Hawthorne," Kunin said. "We then helped with what they needed for registration, what kind of vaccinations they might need, and we helped the parent go through the Web site to have everything in order. It was tricky because it was out of the country, but [the daughter] is now a sixth-grader at Hawthorne, and she loves it."

Kunin said she is "sure" other families have moved into the district since the program's launch, but doesn't have an exact number of families who enrolled in Beverly Hills schools this past year.

"We don't have specific numbers because we are just now working on a tracking system," Kunin said. "BHEF is working on how to best track all of our families and stay in touch. We'll also partner with the district on that because we don't have access to registration records. Most of the families that are touring now are for next fall. We'll know next fall how many families registered. It's really interesting to see how many people come

through the Ambassador Program, register and are in the schools."

There are approximately five ambassadors at each school site. The program receives about six to eight phone calls from interested families every week, about 30 to 40 percent of which are from families with children in private schools.

"It's not half, but it could be inching up," Kunin said. "I think it could reach half, and I think it is the fastest growing segment [of families]."

As a parent, Kunin has first-hand knowledge of the transition from private to public school. Her son transferred from the Center for Early Education to El Rodeo for seventh grade.

"I wanted more information before I made the move from private to public," said Kunin. "The Ambassador Program gives you that information. You have access to parents, principals, and you have a better understanding of how this transition would be, if it was realistic, and if I felt [my son] would be happy. He had a very smooth transition."

Kunin said many families with children in private schools become interested after hearing "great things" about BHUSD schools from their neighbors.

"They have a chance to take a tour and learn more through an ambassador," Kunin said. "So we're making it very accessible for them."

The program organizes approximately one tour every two weeks at each of the school sites.

"The requests [for tours] mostly come from people who do not live in the district who are very interested in moving into the district, and



(left to right) Joseph Martin, Daniel Synn, Decathlon coach Stewart Horowitz, Benita Lin, Nick Cho, Michelle Mah, Nicole Kim, Thomas Blauvelt, Albert Sung

Beverly High Places Fifth in Academic Decathlon, Advances to State Competition

West High School of Torrance outsmarted all others to win the 28th Annual Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon team title. Academic Decathlon scores were announced at an awards ceremony last Thursday, Feb. 11 by Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Darline P. Robles at the Quiet Cannon Country Club.

Of the 48 L.A. County high schools, Beverly High came in fifth place. A total of 60 teams and about 540 students participated in the LACAD, which took place Jan. 30 at El Rancho High School and Feb. 6 at USC.

West High School, a perennial top contender and last year's winner, won with a score of 43,999 points (out of a possible 60,000). Keppel High School of Alhambra finished with a close second at 43,741 points.

The top seven teams will compete in the California Academic Decathlon March 12-15 in Sacramento. The other five teams include Torrance High School with 42,823 points; El Rancho High School of Pico Rivera with 41,849 points; Beverly High with 41,206 points; Redondo Union High School with 40,979 and San Marino High School — named the number one public high school in L.A. County in the 2008-09 school year based on its API of 935 — with 40,194 points.

The top-scoring individual decathlete overall was Jordan Smolinsky of West High School, a senior who tallied 8,525 points out of a possible 10,000. He was followed by Patrick Xiao, also a senior from West who scored 8,215 points, and Shao Yi Qian, a junior from Alhambra High who tallied 7,972 points.

The three levels of competition for decathletes include honors students (GPA above 3.75), scholastic students (GPA between 3.0 and 3.74) and varsity students (GPA below 3.0).

Decathletes are challenged to use analytical skills, performance abilities and test-taking and writing aptitude in 10 subject: art, economics, essay, interview, language and literature, math, music, science, speech and super quiz (social science).

Beverly High's individual medal winners by competition follow:

Essay — Nicole Kim, silver medal, honors; Nick Cho, silver medal, honors; Benita Lin, bronze medal, scholastic

Speech — Benita Lin, silver medal, scholastic; Joseph Martin, bronze medal, varsity

Interview — Joseph Martin, bronze medal, varsity

Math — Michelle Mah, silver medal, honors; Daniel Synn, gold medal, scholastic

Economics — Nicole Kim, bronze medal, honors; Michelle Mah, gold medal, honors; Daniel Synn, bronze medal, scholastic; Joseph Martin, silver medal, varsity

Language and Literature — Benita Lin, silver medal, scholastic

Science — Daniel Synn, bronze medal, scholastic; Joseph Martin, silver medal, varsity

The LACAD is open to public high schools outside of the Los Angeles Unified School District, which holds a separate Academic Decathlon competition and awards ceremony. This year, the decathlon focused on the subject of the French Revolution. The state winner will earn a trip to the U.S. Academic Decathlon April 21-24 in Omaha, Neb.

Last year's state champion, Moorpark High School of Ventura County, won the national competition.

are very interested in learning more about the schools," Kunin said. "Some families live in the district, and are interested in a change or are interested in starting [their child in] kindergarten in the fall."

Kunin said tours are requested of any number of BHUSD schools, and are with the school principal. After the tour, the family is

paired with an ambassador parent based on the age of the incoming children.

"We will set them up for whatever they want," Kunin said. "Kids are invited [to tour] if they'd like, especially older kids, post fourth grade. [The families] are able to ask the ambassador all the questions they didn't ask the principal or questions appropriate for

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another parent.”

Beverly High to Compete at USC in Los Angeles Surf Bowl

Beverly High students will compete in the annual regional ocean sciences bowl Saturday, March 6 beginning at 8 a.m. at the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies. The winning team will compete against 24 other regional champions in the 13th Annual National Oceans Sciences Bowl April 23-25 at the University of South Florida.

About five students with a strong interest in marine science from 16 confirmed Southern California high schools will participate in the all-day event.

The National Ocean Sciences Bowl is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership based in Washington, D.C. NOSB seeks to interest students in ocean sciences as a college major and potential career.

Approximately 2,000 students from over 300 high schools nationwide will participate in this year's ocean sciences bowl.

El Rodeo Musical Theatre Program Gets Three Times the Stipend of Comparable Programs

El Rodeo second-grade teacher Amy Arebalo is receiving nearly triple the stipend of other teachers in the district for organizing the school's music theatre program, with a board-approved cap of 250 hours between November and June, according to BHUSD personnel records.

In comparison, the musical theatre program was approved for five times more hours than Student Council Advisor Richard Waters' 50

hours within the same time period. El Rodeo's Science Olympiad program is headed by a parent volunteer, unlike Hawthorne's Science Olympiad program, coached by science teacher Lori Schwartz. Schwartz was approved for 113 hours.

El Rodeo Principal Pat Escalante said the disproportionate salary should be compared to Hawthorne's two musical theatre teachers, who each receive 150 hours for a total of 300.

Escalante said the music program "double casts" students, so each night showcases a different group of students, and therefore requires more time and work to prepare and practice. The program is funded by the Parent Teacher Association.

"PTA is allowed to provide extra support for the schools where they see necessary," Escalante said. "That's one of the reason why PTA is so supportive of helping to underwrite this is because we want to broaden the opportunity for students to participate. So it takes a lot of time for [Arebalo]. It's something the PTA values: to help [us] become inclusive."

Escalante said having two casts for the March 24-25 shows of "Aladdin, Jr." is similar to organizing two different shows since two groups of students must undergo rehearsals. She said there are currently 50 students in the musical theatre program.

Hawthorne Principal Toni Staser confirms there are two teachers who help organize the school's musical theatre program, which will be opening their spring musical this June. She said each teacher logs in under 150 hours each.

"We're probably looking at, between the two teachers, maybe around 225 hours," said

Staser, who added that the long hours are needed in areas such as musical preparation, staging, choreography and training students on lighting.

Previous musical theatre teachers volunteered their time outside of class to organize the program, and received no stipend.

Arebalo, who has no formal musical training, could not be reached for comment. El Rodeo PTA Co-President Cindy Dubin didn't return messages left by the Weekly as of press time.

Paley Center for Media Presents Special Events and Screenings

The Paley Center for Media will be presenting PaleyFest2010 from Friday, Feb. 26 through Sunday, March 14 at 7 p.m. at the Saban Theatre on Wilshire Blvd.

The event will honor the casts and creative teams of "Breaking Bad"; "Community"; "Cougar Town"; "Curb Your Enthusiasm"; "Dexter"; "FlashForward"; "Glee"; "Lost"; "Men of a Certain Age"; "Modern Family"; "NCIS"; and "The Vampire Diaries." PaleyFest2010 will also include "An Evening with Seth MacFarlane & Friends."

For the complete schedule or ticket infor-



Recent Arrivals

Dorothy Pearl Vogel was born to Peter and Michelle Vogel (both Beverly High Class of 1991) Monday, Feb. 8 at 8:12 a.m. She weighs six pounds and 13 ounces, and is 21 inches long. Dorothy joins brother Gavin. Proud grandparents are Beverly & Michael Berman, Nicole Vogel and Bill & Joan Vogel.

mation, visit www.paleycenter.org.

Events with free admission include the "Celebrating Black History Month: Milestones," which can be seen now through Sunday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m., and "Miracles On Ice: Highlights from Past Winter Olympics," which began Friday, Feb. 12 and will run through Sunday, Feb. 28 at 4 p.m.

The Black History Month series will feature screenings of the Million Man March, the

briefs cont. on page 7



Speak Up and Be Counted



Have questions about recent water charges on your Beverly Hills utility bill?

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City Hall – Council Chamber 280A

7:00 p.m.

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from the hills of beverly



Around The Village

People and events in the news

By Rudy Cole

A small army of bicyclists marched, make that wheeled, to city hall Tuesday to demand protection from hit and run drivers, pointing out that they have become the targets of motorists with anger management problems.

Although almost all the incidents they cited occurred in Los Angeles, one said he had been a victim on a major Beverly Hills street. There were also calls for designated bike driving lanes. Staff said they would study the complaints, no one suggested they should appoint a "spokes" person.

They might not have known but some years back, a Beverly Hills cop actually chased an MTA bus into West Hollywood to recover a homeless guy's bike. When asked by a West Hollywood sheriff "why all the fuss over a street person," our "finest" responded: "Yes, but he is a Beverly Hills homeless man."

The City Council Tuesday honored veteran government leader **Paul Koretz** (see page 3), the long-time West Hollywood city councilmember and mayor who then became our district's state assemblyman and is now the Los Angeles City Councilmember representing the district that surrounds Beverly Hills.

Councilmember **John Mirisch** said his (Koretz') election means that we will now have an elected official responsible for our bordering areas who "shares our views" on overdevelopment and responsible regional planning.

Koretz was presented with a proclamation by Mayor **Nancy Krasne**.

Speaking of regional planning, the approval of nightclubs and restaurants in West Hollywood near our north eastern borders has dramatically changed the lifestyle of our own residents who had no ability to impact our neighbor's approval process.

Despite some strange split votes inside the Parking and Traffic Commission on the issue, the city council quite wisely approved some preferential permit parking requirements for the most impacted streets.

Former Parking and Traffic Commission member **Ken Goldman** made a puzzling argument that parking permits would give the impression that we do not welcome visitors to our city. Well, not when those intrusions are after midnight,

create police enforcement issues and are other threats to public safety, all of which were brought to the attention by our own residents. Although not speaking for his commission, **Noah Furie**, a planning commissioner, not only supported the parking limits, he pointed out the need for cooperative planning with neighboring cities.

When the new club was being considered in West Hollywood, Mayor **Nancy Krasne**, Councilmember **Barry Brucker** and Councilmember **John Mirisch** appeared to oppose approval. They lost.

On another parking issue, the city council also acted wisely in not requiring parking meter payments on Sunday near our city's churches. In a revenue driven plan, the parking staff has moved to enlarge meter payment requirement on Sunday in most areas of the city.

The council voted unanimously to exempt streets adjoining churches and also to keep control of exemptions at the council, requiring notification if and when any changes are being considered.

One of the historic churches of our city, that is not on church row, Mt. Cavalry, is celebrating its 70th anniversary in Beverly Hills. Pastor **John Perling** spoke for the popular house of worship located at the corners where Canon Drive and Beverly Drive converge just south of Olympic Boulevard.

He was joined by representatives of most of the other churches who are on "church row" north of Santa Monica Boulevard.

Although the vote was unanimous, it was Mayor Krasne who had made this a personal crusade, if that word fits this issue.

I also spoke at the hearing, and isn't it fun to be on a winning side, just this once? But it did give me an opportunity to thank Good Shepherd (Catholic) for something very important that had appeared in the church newsletter.

When the controversy erupted over a British Catholic prelate's tasteless argument that there was no proof there ever was a Holocaust, our own Beverly Hills Catholic church took immediate and strong action by denouncing the clergyman's views. Good Shepherd's newsletter was far more powerful than any words coming from the Vatican on the same issue.

The churches and synagogues of our city are good neighbors. Now, the city is a good neighbor too.

Speaking of recognition, Parking

Service Manager **Shawn McCormick** was recently honored by the California Public Parking Association and Tuesday our city recognized his services to our city and the state with a special proclamation.

One of his first chores in Beverly Hills was the implementation of the city's License Plate Recognition Program. He has also overseen the valet and parking programs in our city.

A nationally recognized authority on parking and traffic management issues, and an active leader in his professional associations, Shawn joined our city staff in September, 2008 following many years of service in Los Angeles.

Yes, to all those kind readers who love finding my goofs, long time friend **Mrs. Maxwell Hillary Salter's** first name is **Janet**, not Janice as I wrote last week. But despite my best efforts, when I managed Max's campaign for city council, he was still called "Sonny" by his friends and family. Somehow, I thought "Sonny" was not a name associated with "city fathers." He won big no matter the moniker, and since when do candidates or their families ever listen to campaign consultants anyway.

The Iranian American Parents Association will hold their annual "Now Ruz"

Event on March 14 at the Beverly Hilton, this year honoring Sheriff **Lee Baca**, **Stanley Black**, **Gail** and **Lee Silver**, **Thomas Blumenthal** and **Nasser Ovissi** with various awards.

Always a great gala, with outstanding food and entertainment, you too can be involved and attend by calling 310.358.3337. Thanks to **Dr. Nanaz** and **Ali Pirnia** for keeping me informed.

Iranian events do have longer hours; this begins at 5 p.m. and is supposed to end at 12:30 a.m. But come in time for the food and festivities, and under no circumstances eat anything earlier.

Last week we had some thoughts on our public relations office that obviously need some clarification. What I tried to convey was the need for information from our press people on hard news, especially the work of our city commissions.

None of this should reflect on the hard and highly professional efforts of **Cheryl Burnett** and her associates. They have the respect of our working reporters. Better information flow requires cooperation with the commissions, their staff and our own city reporters, a goal that will serve open and transparent government too.

Nice to see so many former mayors and civic leaders at the reception welcoming our new city manager, **Jeff Kolin** Tuesday at city hall.

We spotted **Joe Tilem**, **Max Salter**, **Donna Ellman Garver**, **Vicki Renolds**, **Les Bronte**, **Mark Egerman**, **Steve Webb** and all five of our councilmembers.

Others included business and community leaders such as **Mark Allhouse**, **Walter Marks III**, **Ken Norian** and **Arnold Rosenstein**, **Steve Dahlerbruch** and **Joe Stabler**, former school board members **AJ Willmer** and **Lillian Raffel** and current board member **Myra Lurie** and City Treasurer **Elliot Finkel**.

Friends of Greystone has been doing some remarkable work at our historic mansion, and one of the most exciting is the restoration of the "minstrels and music gallery."

Under the leadership of our own historian and archivist **Katherine Timme**, phase one of the years long effort has just been completed. This merits a much longer report which we hope to do soon, but congratulations to the Friends and to Ms. Timme for their outstanding contribution to our community.

Little early for speculation on who will and who will not run for city council next year, however so far the only consensus candidate appears to be Planning Commissioner **Noah Furie**. Although he has opposed, as a member of the Commission, many high profile development projects, he has earned the respect of both business and resident leaders for his fairness and planning skills.

A recent national poll indicated that only 21 percent of the electorate approved of the work on the Congress. That is almost an historic low. However, will it lead to any major changes in House or Senate? It doesn't take much to go from a Democratic to a Republican controlled congress, but despite the low opinions polls, at least 60 percent of incumbents will win reelection, as is always true. We don't like the institution, but we do vote for our own representatives.

What should be troubling is the lack of confidence in our system of government. This gives rise to extremist movements such as the "tea baggers" and discourages competent, able and ethical leaders from seeking office. Of the many challenges facing our educational system, one of the most important is making the realities and functions of our political system, still one of the finest the world has ever created, more understandable and more relevant.

In our own community, being an incumbent is not always conducive to winning reelection. In recent years, and despite broad endorsements and vigorous campaigns, three former mayors: **Steve Webb**, **MeraLee Goldman** and **Linda Briskman** lost as did two strong school board presidents **Virginia Maas** and **Alissa Roston**.

In fact, Webb had endorsements of both newspapers, almost every major community leader, more lawn signs and a powerful list of backers, and still did not win.

Next month **Jimmy Delshad** will be installed as mayor, succeeding Nancy Krasne. Issues aside, Mayor Krasne has

presided during one of our city's most difficult years: Draconian revenue losses that led to cuts in many city departments, the retirement of our city manager and long, extended council debates on a host of highly divisive issues. plus welcoming two new members.

Whether or not you always agree with her or approve of her very human foibles as a presiding officer, Nancy did come

prepared, was open and available and now deserves her Australian vacation with husband and life partner Jim.

Although they often voted alike on issues, Delshad will bring a very different style of leadership to the council. More of a technician with strong focus on money matters and not broader philosophical questions, he can be expected to be a consensus builder. We used to call the type

technocrats.

Rudy Cole served for eight years as a member and chair of the city's Recreation & Parks Commission. He was also President of the Greystone Foundation and served on three other city committees. Rudy can be reached at: Rudy@bhweekly.com.

briefs cont. from page 5

Black Panther trials and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, as well as groundbreaking shows such as "Julia, I, Spy, Roots," "The Jeffersons," and "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings."

The Winter Olympics series celebrates highlights from past Olympics and features athletes such as Dorothy Hamill, Eric Heiden, Peggy Fleming, Franz Klammer, Kristi Yamaguchi, Dan Jansen, Nancy Kerrigan and the 1980 U.S. gold-winning hockey team. The Paley Center will be showing live broadcasts from the 2010 Winter Olympics during public hours.

Horace Mann Night at the Grove

The Horace Mann Night at the Grove will take place Tuesday, March 2 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Horace Mann will receive a percentage of purchases from Barnes and Noble, Johnny Rockets and Piazza. The Sticker Planet will donate stickers to students.

Parents, teachers and community leaders will support the school through a book reading to students. The fundraising event will also include performances from the Horace Mann choir, band and ukulele players.

How to Get Through Tough Economic Times Without Destroying Your Marriage

When an economic downturn puts your marriage on the rocks, one key ingredient will smooth it out — communication.



Dr. Bonnie Mark-Goldstein

And it's important to know you're not alone, said Dr. Bonnie Mark-Goldstein, director of The Center for Psychological Services. "Having people to talk to, having a community in which you can share your concerns, makes a difference and allows you to feel less alone," Goldstein said. "Communication is everything, and when you work with other couples, you're able to learn. If you work with other people and learn from other people, you're able to get to a point where you can rethink things for yourself and to really assess what you know and what others know."

Goldstein said therapy can be problematic for couples going through tough financial cir-

cumstances, and are short on funds.

"There are groups that are forming across the country that cost very little to nothing," she said.

Goldstein said there are churches and local synagogues that provide outreach for people who are struggling and in need of support.

"The Maple Counseling Center is terrific, where one can get confidential low-fee therapy," Goldstein said. "Southern California Counseling Center is another one. Dealing [with these problems] in a group is so much more bank for your buck."

Couples often turn to family members for economic or emotional support, said Goldstein, though family and friends often become polarized.

"On the one hand, speaking with your friends and family really can help you brainstorm, to come up with solutions and ideas," Goldstein said. "On the other hand, it's important that the couple both agree that a dialogue would help before that information is communicated. It would be ideal to share with your mate that you are sharing information with someone close so the mate is not caught unaware, and the couple can talk about who they feel is safe."

Goldstein said when the deal on the table is

no longer the deal you thought you were getting in the marriage, the first step would be to acknowledge the "currency."

"Every couple an agreement," she said. "Every couple has a currency. How does one get their needs met? What are they offering? That's a very important question."

For couples who want to resolve the issue privately without third-party assistance, Goldstein suggested reading books aimed at individuals, families and couples dealing with economic challenges.

"A very safe place to have dialogue would be at the bookstore," Goldstein said. "Reading the books together, not only looking for answers and ideas but also getting a sense of some of the experiences that comes with these challenges. This type of bibliotherapy has proven successful as an adjunct in my individual work with my clients."

This is just one of several outreach methods couples can turn to, Goldstein said, though group programs are effective to understand what other couples have done, especially since unemployment no longer carries negative connotations

"Not having a job is not as much of a stigma as it was a generation ago," she said. "It sadly has become ubiquitous."

letters cont. from page 2

Our district is broken and we need to fix it.

People want to sugar coat the truth of the matter and de-rail what took place last November. It was great to see and hear from the administrators, but I'm not sure a town hall meeting is the correct forum. There was input in between some of the questions where Jonathan added his feelings and his slant. When this happened in another circle I was in, this was called poetic license. The telltale remark came in at the end of the meeting regarding donations the BHEF and PTA bring to our table.

They encouraged more while patting each other on the back. There was absolutely no mention of our Joint powers agreement which provide BH schools a lot more flexibility than the other schools they were comparing us to.

I am really glad these two town hall meetings are over. I really want to see our new board succeed with "trustee power" since the voters of our community have elected them to carry out that power.

*Lee Lewis
Beverly Hills*

"Market Space"

Beverly Hills has four post offices. But there is only one full service market, one specialty market and a small store near the senior center [facility] on Crescent Drive. The 9200 Wilshire Blvd. location has been empty for well over 20 years; this would be a good location for an Albertsons market and a Trader

Joe's. There is enough room for both parties, plus parking.

*Paul Bernstein
Beverly Hills*

"Google High Speed Internet"

Today, Google announced an exciting initiative to bring high speed internet to residents in a limited number of municipalities, on a trial basis. I hope that the City of Beverly Hills will officially apply to be one of these test cities.

Google's Gigabit per second service will be 100 times faster than the speeds most of us are used to today.

I believe Beverly Hills would have a good shot at being chosen by Google because it would be seen as giving a chance for entertainment industry executives (synonymous with Beverly Hills) to personally preview the business opportunities and challenges that a faster internet brings. It would also position Beverly Hills as a cutting edge city, which in turn would continue to attract the valuable sorts of businesses that we have already (MySpace, AOL, Netflix, etc). (Even if this service is residential, not for businesses, it positions us as a leading-edge city.)

The city can submit its official application here (coordinated by the City Manager's Office and/or City Council): <http://www.google.com/appserve/fiberrfi>

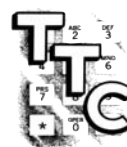
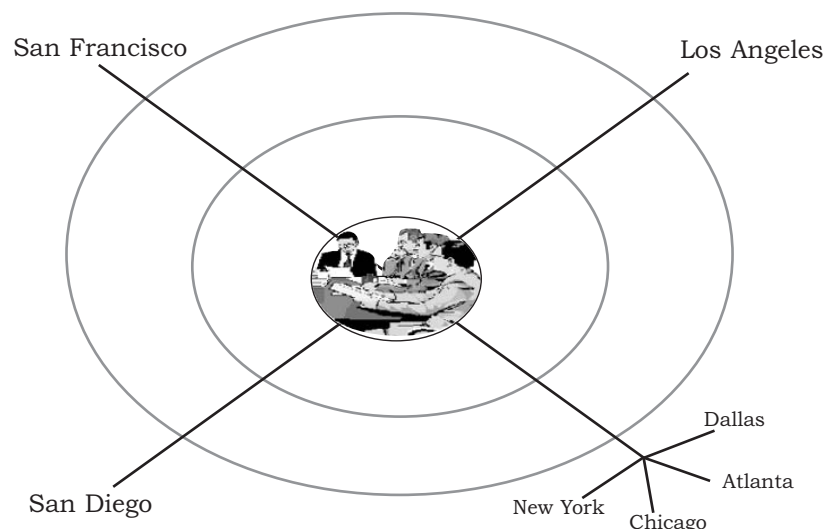
*David Murphy
Beverly Hills*

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FINE TUNING ART

The Weekly's interview with incoming Fine Art Commission Chair Curt Shepard

By Kimberly Cheng



Tell us about yourself.

I grew up in Bend, Oregon. My father was, for a time, the mayor of Bend, Oregon and then a county commissioner so I have public service in

my blood. I went to Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon. I have a master's degree from Ball State University, and [I earned] my Ph.D from UCLA. I worked in student affairs at UCLA.

I've lived in Southern California for 25 years. I've lived in Beverly Hills for 11 years with my partner, attorney Alan Hergott. We're significant collectors of contemporary art. I'm also the director of children, youth and family services at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center. So I run all the programs for homeless youth, a drop-in center, where we see 80 homeless youth per day, and three residential programs, where we house up to 32 youth a night.

I had a peripatetic career path. I started out in higher education. I have a Ph.D in education. My intention was to become the chief student affairs officer at a college [or] university. But as many people with liberal arts degrees do, I got diverted, and I became involved in gay organizing and activism. I worked for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as the national director of campus organizing, and then I took a another detour and became a television writer for three years. I wrote for a show called "The Parent 'Hood," which was created by and starred Robert Townsend. I believe it was the first sitcom on the WB Network. When that ended, I did some freelance screen writing for a while. I started working here [at the LAGLC] about five years ago. I was the director of government relations for three years, and two years ago, I took over this role [as director of children, youth and family services].

Tell us about your family.

My father and mother were both school teachers by trade, and then my father left teaching to get involved in public service. He was elected to the city council in Bend, Oregon, and like in Beverly Hills, they have a

rotating-mayor process, and then he ran for and was elected to the county commission in Deschutes County, where he served for a number of years until he retired. I have three sisters, two of whom reside in Portland, Oregon and one of whom resides in Minneapolis.

Are you and your partner married?

We are not married. That's a whole other story.

Tell us about your work with the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center.

I'm responsible for overseeing about 40 staff, and what our department is responsible for is anything having to do specifically with young people. So, as I've said, we have a drop-in center where young people can come get three meals a day, take showers, do their laundry and ideally get into case management and our GED prep program and youth employment program, where we help them to prepare for, get and keep jobs.

In addition to the homeless side of things, we have a program called LifeWorks, which is a support program for at-risk youth who are in crisis and not homeless. It's largely an educational support program, where we try to help people who are in school to stay there and complete their degrees. LGBT people often drop out at a high rate because of harassment and bullying in the schools. This program is designed to mitigate that and provide support for those who need it.

You were appointed to the California Council for the Humanities in 2006. Tell us about that.

I am a gubernatorial appointee to the California Council for the Humanities, and I'm about to be the chair of that as well as of March. [I'm] crazily overcommitted.

How do you balance the Humanities Council with your job at LAGLC?

I still do interact with elected officials in Washington, largely around funding issues because we receive a lot of government funding, including the federal government. And because I am currently the one with relationships from the center with folks in Washington, D.C., the Southern California Congressional Delegation and our senator's offices, I still participate in those conversations and go to Washington occasionally to

educate and advocate on behalf of the center, which is a \$50 million organization. Mine is just one program of a multifaceted social service agency.

How did you get involved in the Fine Art Commission?

Four summers ago I attended a program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government for Senior Executives in State and Local Government, and one of things I came away with from that program was a resolve to get involved in a more serious way in my community. Get involved in public service. And, as it happened, literally the day I came home and turned on my computer in my office, there was an invitation from [current Fine Art Commission] Chair [Brooke] Kanter wondering if I would be interested in applying for an opening on the Fine Art Commission. And I thought the stars had aligned. It was exactly what I told myself I wanted to do when I came home. So I applied and became a member of the commission.

What are some things the commission is currently working on?

We're currently working on an installation of a commissioned sculpture by a very distinguished artist, Dan Graham, who is internationally renowned and recently had a very popular well-reviewed retrospective at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Tell us about the new installation by Dan Graham at Beverly Gardens Park.

Dan Graham works in many mediums, and among his most famous are his pavilions, which are glass enclosures of various sizes; usually, they're round in shape or oval, and they are made of glass and steel. The glass is made in such a way that it's virtually unbreakable. The pavilions about seeing and being seen. There are some panels in the glass that are reflective and you can see yourself and other panels where you can see through to other people who are engaging the sculpture.

The pavilions work in many kinds of settings, but we as commissioners, all of whom are familiar with Graham's work, feel they work best in an outdoor, park-like environment. They reflect trees, you can see through them, they frame views of the landscape and the cityscape, and they're highly interactive. In other places where they've been installed,

people congregate around them. We like the idea that this will be a hub of interest, conversation and hanging out in Beverly Hills.

What will be discussed at the commission meeting today?

This meeting is an opportunity for the community to provide input about the sculpture and its placement in Beverly Gardens Park. We've done all the due diligence, particularly with regard to safety issues, which have been of concern to us as commissioners and to other members of the community. The piece has been working its way through the process, and there's a lot of checks and balances along the way leading up to what we hope will be final approval by the city council in the coming months. But we believe it's important to hear what the community members have to say about this proposed installation, and that's what this meeting is about.

What are the arguments you've heard for and against the piece?

I think there are some concerns about safety and about placement in that particular park. Some people would prefer to have Beverly Gardens Park remain just as it is. When I joined the Fine Art Commission, they were already working on a program to create a critical mass of important, world-class sculptures in Beverly Gardens Park, which is highly visible because of all the traffic that goes by, and to create a sculpture garden that would attract attention, and would help establish Beverly Hills as a world-class art city. I mean, it's a world-class city already, and we, as a commission, believe that it deserves to have a world-class public art collection.

And so that's what we have seen as our mandate, part of which has been to showcase important pieces from the collection on Santa Monica Blvd. The Dan Graham piece will be the last piece of the creation of this sculpture garden. We are then going to be working with the Rec and Parks Commission to talk about future placement of art, and to establish some kind of agreement if not policy about placement of art works in the city's public spaces. That process needs to be revisited.

Back to the safety issue, there have been concerns, and rightly so, about the glass, which is generally highly breakable, but as I said, there's basically no concern or question that anybody could raise that we, as a commission, haven't thought about and discussed at length.

How do you respond to safety and placement arguments?

There are these Dan Graham pavilions all over the world. Some of them are in very high-traffic places. Some right next to high-volume traffic, and one literally right in the middle of a busy roadway in The Hague. So there's that sort of anecdotal experience of these things all over the world. And by the way, if the council approves this, it will be the very first Dan Graham-commissioned public sculpture in the United States, similar to the Kusama, which was the first of her works to be commissioned by a public body and installed in a public setting in the U.S. All of this lends to the prestige of the City of Beverly Hills as a venue for important, world-class art.

The other answer to your question about

safety is that part of the due diligence was checking with the city's risk management department, and they signed off on it, and didn't think there was any problem with it. It's going to be very solid. The glass, as I said, is virtually unbreakable. Glass panels are replaced relatively easily if they do get damaged or scratched, and in terms of being a solid structure, it's going to be engineered like a work of architecture, so it's going to be very solid and immovable. We'll have every possible safety and engineering code covered and accounted for.

What are some things you look for in an art piece?

That's a really hard question. There's a balance that it's our responsibility as commissioners to strike between what we might put in our own home and what will be appropriate for the city. It's so subjective.

In terms of collecting art for the city, we look for a number of things, some of which have to do with the aesthetics of the piece. That's really important. We want something that will be accessible to the public. We know that it's going to be impossible to please everyone, and we welcome the dialogue about that. That's one of the things that we do look for in a piece of sculpture for the city. We see it as part of our responsibility to bring things to the city that may be challenging to some people but will create interest and discussion within the community.

The other thing that we look for is the reputation of the artist. Are the artists' works in major important museum collections? Have they been critically considered in the international art press? What galleries do they come from? Like I said, we believe a world-class city deserves world-class art. So that's what we're looking for.

Is there one particular piece you feel proud of?

These things take a lot of time. I came on to

the commission at the tail end of the Kusama process, as it was being fabricated. That was three years ago. So the only project that I've been involved in from start to finish other than the Dan Graham piece is the Roxy Paine piece [Erratic]. And I am enormously proud of the Roxy Paine. I was one of two or three commissioners who actually saw it in a setting in New York, where we knew it would be right for Beverly Hills.

Let's face facts. I know not everybody loves it, but I've gotten a lot of feedback from people in the art world and people not in the art world who have said to me they weren't sure about it at first, but it's really grown on [them], and [they] really like it. I know there's been a lot of discussion on it, but that's part of what we think is interesting about art.

In Brooke Kanter's interview [Issue 452] as chair two years ago, she said it's important to approve art that everyone in the community can appreciate. Do you agree?

I don't know if appreciate is exactly the right word. It may take some people more time than others to appreciate it. I hope that eventually everybody will come to appreciate it, but I don't believe that's possible when a piece is first installed. I think there needs to be community education. I think there needs to be exposure to art. I go into this knowing that it's impossible to please everybody and that we're setting ourselves up for failure if we're trying to do that. I don't believe we're doing our job

if everybody appreciates everything right off the bat.

What are some of the challenges to working on the Fine Art Commission?

A big challenge is determining the role that public art should play in the city, along with what individual pieces are going to appeal to the community and are appropriate for the city. Those to me seem like the main challenges.

Another challenge is when we are in the process of selecting art, which has been up to now quite transparent in terms of being discussed at public meetings every step along the way. I think there is a challenge in bringing the community along and educating them about art in general and about the pieces that we're looking at as we're looking at them. Some of these things to a lot of people do just seem like they fell from outer space, and they have no reference point for them, but I think the best art is art that you need to look at a lot, that you need to study and learn about what the context is. And that's what I think brings appreciation.

To that end, we've talked about having, at the Affaire in the Gardens for instance, members of the commission stationed at the pieces that are in the park, and have information to hand out and talk to people about the work. That's the kind of community engagement I'd like to see happen.

What are your goals as commission chair when you take over next month?

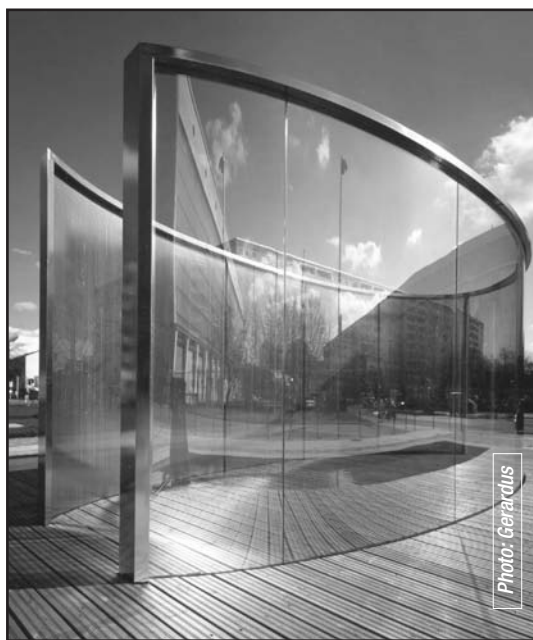
We are going to go through a process at the request of the city council to review the public art ordinance. The concern that some people have raised about why we're spending the public's money on art in this economic crisis; the fact is, there's nothing else that this money may be spent on. It's a public art ordinance that requires the funds to be dedicated to the acquisition and presentation of art in the city's public spaces. So we are going to be looking at the ordinance to see if it needs to be changed. It may be fine as is, but we need to look at it again.

The other priority that I have is to continue the good relationship that we've established with other commissions, particularly recreation and parks. I really look forward to working with them. Discussions have already started about where, other than Beverly Gardens Park, it might be interesting and stimulating to display artworks.

Thirdly, at every meeting commissioners are urged to bring in ideas, artists, pieces that they know about, and from those, we compile a list of things that we will consider in a priority exercise that I believe is going to take place this summer. So hopefully we'll have a good critical mass of works of art from which to choose, either as purchases or commissions by the artists. We will be looking for pieces that will fit within our budget and that will be of similar import and value to the city as the pieces already in the collection.

What are your plans after you leave the commission?

I don't know if I would look for another commission within the city. I don't have aspirations to run for office, which I think a lot of people who do this do have such aspirations. After six years of being both on the commission and on the Humanities Council, I'll probably want to take a rest.



Dan Graham Pavilion

Photo: Garattus

sports & scores



Playoff Opener Tonight At Swim-Gym For BHHS Girls' Basketball Team

Norman boys' basketball, girls' soccer, water polo teams also advance to playoffs.

By Steven Herbert

The Beverly High girls' basketball team will open the Southern Section Division 2A playoffs tonight by playing host to Santa Maria Righetti in a first-round game at the Swim-Gym beginning at 7 p.m.

The Normans, seeded fifth in the 32-team bracket, are 17-11, while the Warriors, who were fourth in the PAC 7 League, are 16-8. The teams do not have a common opponent.

If Beverly Hills wins, it would face the win-

ner of the Lakewood Mayfair-La Palma Kennedy first-round game Saturday at 7 p.m. The Normans would play at Kennedy, while the site of a Beverly Hills-Mayfair game would be determined by a coin toss.

Under Southern Section rules, the team with the fewer home playoff games is the home team. If both teams have played the same number of playoff games, the site is determined by a coin toss. Winter sports other than basketball

conduct coin flips for second-round games before the first round.

The quarterfinals are scheduled for Wednesday.

Beverly Hills 64, Culver City 39

Chelsea Austin scored 11 of her 18 points in the first half as the Normans took a 33-16 half-time lead in an Ocean League game at Culver City Jan. 27.

"We played extremely well," Braddell said. "I was very proud of the effort the girls gave."

Austin scored nine points and Miranda Abdul-Mansour six of her 22, including a 3-point basket, in the first quarter, as Beverly Hills outscored the Centaurs, 15-7.

Jaina Abdul-Mansour, Miranda Abdul-Mansour's twin sister, scored all nine of her points, including a 3-point basket, and Lisa Kliman made a 3-point basket in the second quarter as the Normans outscored Culver City, 18-7.

Miranda Abdul-Mansour scored eight points and Austin and Serena Shlomof four each in the third quarter as Beverly Hills outscored the Centaurs, 16-12.

Kliman made two 3-point baskets in the fourth quarter as the Normans outscored Culver City, 15-13.

Jaina Abdul-Mansour and Kliman both scored nine points, Shlomof four and Tiffany Haney two for Beverly Hills.

The Normans hoped to be aggressive in rebounding, Braddell said, and were, out-rebounded the Centaurs 57-19. Austin had 17 rebounds and Miranda Abdul-Mansour 13. Beverly Hills had 25 offensive rebounds to Culver City's nine defensive rebounds.

No Centaur scored more than six points.

Inglewood 61, Beverly Hills 45

The Normans "played much better" than they did in their first game of the season against the Sentinels, but still lost an Ocean League game at Inglewood Jan. 29.

"We started out really well," said Braddell, whose team lost to Inglewood, 70-49, Jan. 13 at the Swim-Gym. "In the second quarter we struggled a bit and Hazel [Ramirez] got hot. She just shot us to death."

Ramirez, a 5-foot-6 guard who has signed with Loyola Marymount, scored 16 of her 18 points in the second quarter, including making four 3-point baskets, as the Sentinels outscored Beverly Hills, 18-8, to take a 31-24 halftime lead.

The Normans were outscored 14-10 in the

sports cont. on page 10

sports cont. from page 9

third quarter, as Inglewood 6-foot-1 forward Deajanae Scurry scored eight of her 12 points, making all four of her free throws.

Beverly Hills trailed 45-34 entering the fourth quarter and was outscored 13-11 over the final eight minutes.

“We played well at times,” Braddell said. “We couldn’t finish. We played a little too quick. We rushed things. We weren’t shooting slowly in the way we normally would.”

The Normans made 13 of 58 shots, 22 percent, including two of 20 3-point shots. The Sentinels made 24 of 63 shots, 38 percent, including six of 12 3-point baskets.

Beverly Hills led 16-13 at the end of the first quarter, as Miranda Abdul-Mansour scored six points and Austin and Jaina Abdul-Mansour four each.

Miranda Abdul-Mansour scored 19 points, Jaina Abdul-Mansour nine, Austin seven, Kliman six on 3-point baskets in the second and third quarters, and Natalie Moy and Shlomof two each for the Normans.

Austin had 11 rebounds and seven blocked shots.

Inglewood was ranked second in the Division III-AA poll released Jan. 25.

Bishop Montgomery 61, Beverly Hills 45

With leading scorer Miranda Abdul-Mansour unable to play, the Normans “didn’t have any enough offense to get the job done” in a Santa Monica Westside Extravaganza game Jan. 30 at Santa Monica High School, Braddell said.

Miranda Abdul-Mansour was diagnosed with “a bit of a concussion” from an “inadvertent elbow” to under her right eye a night earlier against Inglewood, Braddell said.

Beverly Hills closed the first quarter by outscoring the Knights, 11-2, taking a 17-11 lead, but were held to just two points for the opening 6:14 of the second quarter, as Bishop Montgomery went on 9-0 and 10-0 runs.

“In the first quarter, we really weren’t boxing out,” said Knights point guard Kristen Ale, who scored 11 of her game-high 20 points in the second quarter. “We were letting them attack the gaps in our defense. We picked up our intensity defensively.”

The Normans trailed 32-23 at halftime and were outscored 10-7 in the third quarter and 13-8 in the fourth.

“We played as hard as we could,” Braddell said. “I thought we played well enough defensively. We sat in a zone. We knew they could shoot the ball well. We just had to live and die with them making 3s and they made more than we could make on the other end.”

Bishop Montgomery (19-6) made five 3-point baskets to two for Beverly Hills, both in the first quarter.

Austin scored 13 points, Kliman nine, including a 3-point basket, Jaina Abdul-Mansour eight, Moy five, including a 3-point basket, and Tiffany Haney and Shlomof two each for the Normans.

The Knights were ranked second in Division IV-AA poll released Jan. 25.

Boys’ Basketball

Santa Monica 70, Beverly Hills 39

The Normans were outscored 19-3 in the first quarter of an Ocean League game at Santa Monica Jan. 20.

Beverly Hills trailed at halftime 41-23 as they were outscored 22-20 in the second quarter, as Austin Mills and Greg Townsend both

scored seven points for the Normans.

Beverly Hills was outscored 19-6 in the third quarter, while both teams scored 10 points in the fourth.

Townsend scored 11 points, all in the second and third quarters, while Mills had 10, all in the first half, including 3-point baskets in the first and second quarters.

Mike Pedram added four points, Alon Kashanian three, Kian Alam, Bo Abrams, Aurash Jamasbi, Markus Silbiger and Arie Watley-Anderson two each and Vince Slatkovich one for the Normans.

Beverly Hills 69, Morningside 65

Townsend scored 18, Mills 16, with four 3-point baskets, Alam 15 and Abrams 12 as the Normans ended a 13-game losing streak in league play over two seasons with a victory in an Ocean League game Jan. 22 at the Swim-Gym.

Beverly Hills led 51-42 entering the fourth quarter, but was outscored, 25-18, over the final eight minutes as Monarchs sophomore guard D.J. Harris scored 10 of his 19 points, making six of seven free throws.

The Normans led 16-12 at the end of the first quarter as Alam scored nine points, including a 3-point basket.

Beverly Hills increased its lead to 33-24 at halftime by outscoring Morningside, 17-12, in the second quarter, as Mills made three 3-point baskets and Townsend scored six points.

Both teams scored 18 points in the third quarter, with Abrams scoring six for the Normans.

Farzan Azinkhan and Silbiger each added four points

Beverly Hills 54, Culver City 46

Mills scored 19 points and made three 3-point baskets, Alam 12 and Jamasbi 10, both with two 3-point baskets, in an Ocean League game at Culver City Jan. 27.

The Normans (12-10, 2-3 in league play) trailed 24-23 at halftime, then outscored the Centaurs, 21-8, in the third quarter, taking a 44-32 lead.

Beverly Hills was outscored 14-10 in the fourth quarter, but held off Culver City’s challenge as Mills made six of eight free throws. All the Normans’ fourth quarter points came from free throws.

The Normans were outscored, 12-7 in the first quarter, but outscored the Centaurs, 16-12, in the second, with Jamasbi scoring six points, including a 3-point basket.

Townsend added five and Mike Lanier and Trevor Walters two each for Beverly Hills.

What’s Next?

The Normans were scheduled to play at fifth-seeded Santa Maria Righetti, the PAC 7 League champion, Wednesday in a Division 2A first-round playoff game that was to end after the Beverly Hills Weekly’s deadline.

If Beverly Hills won, it would play a second-round game Friday at 7 p.m. against the Irvine University-San Jacinto winner. The Normans would play host to San Jacinto, while the site of a Beverly Hills-University game would be determined by a coin toss.

The quarterfinals are scheduled for Wednesday.

Girls’ Soccer

Santa Monica 1, Beverly Hills 0

Julia Glantz scored off Amanda Phillips

assist in the first half and Rachel Forer made 10 saves for the shutout in an Ocean League game Feb. 5 at John Adams Middle School.

Beverly Hills 7, Morningside 0

Mashar Zargar had four goals and an assist and Ashley Aviram scored twice for the Normans in an Ocean League game at Morningside Feb. 8.

Annie Math also scored, while Solange Levy had three assists, Tiffany Moore two and Kaela Reisfelt one.

Ida Trevino made two saves in 60 minutes and Tylor Fields one in 20 minutes for Beverly Hills (10-6-3, 5-1-2).

The Normans led 3-0 at halftime.

What’s Next?

The Normans were scheduled to play host to Pasadena Mayfield, the fourth-place team in the Prep League, Wednesday in a Division 3 wild card round playoff game Wednesday at Nickoll Field that was to end after the Beverly Hills Weekly’s deadline.

If Beverly Hills won, it would play a first-round game Friday at 3 p.m. at Lakewood Mayfair, the Suburban League champion.

If the Normans defeat the Monsoons, they would play host to the Bloomington-Laguna Beach winner in a second-round game Feb. 24 at 3 p.m. Nickoll Field.

Girls’ Water Polo

Torrance 6, Beverly Hills 1

Patty Salgado scored for the Normans with 3:31 to play in an Ocean League game Feb. 4 at the Victor E. Benstead Plunge in Torrance.

Beverly Hills trailed 1-0 at the end of the first quarter, 5-0 at halftime and entering the fourth quarter.

Goaltenders Lorrain Oill made three saves and Agnes Rapala one for the Normans.

Santa Monica 9, Beverly Hills 7

The Normans scored three consecutive goals to cut the Vikings lead to 6-5 with 6:30 to play, but were unable to tie the Ocean League game at Santa Monica Feb. 9.

Natalie Karlo scored her third and fourth goals of the game to give Santa Monica an 8-5 lead with 4:50 remaining. Mallory Smith scored for Beverly Hills with 4:00 left, but Karlo scored again 1:23 later.

Alli Friedman scored for the Normans with 11 seconds to play.

Beverly Hills (15-12) never led. The Vikings took a 2-0 lead 3:17 into the game on goals by Aleya Spielman and Felle Baumgarten. Smith scored the Normans first goal 16 seconds later. Karlo scored the first of her five goals with 1:01 left in the quarter.

Beverly Hills trailed 5-2 at halftime as Karlo and Lauren Nadel scored for Santa Monica in the second quarter, with Salgado scoring for the Normans.

Nadel scored the first goal of the third quarter. Ava Rezai and Arina Levina scored for Beverly Hills in the final 2:01 of the quarter, cutting the deficit to 6-4, then Salgado scored 30 seconds into the fourth quarter.

Rapala made six saves.

What’s Next?

The Normans were scheduled to play at Fullerton Troy, the second place team in the Freeway League, Wednesday in a Division 5 first-round playoff game Wednesday that was to end after the Beverly Hills Weekly’s dead-

line.

If Beverly Hills won, it would play a quarterfinal Friday at 3:15 p.m. against the Redlands East Valley-Riverside La Sierra winner. The Normans would play host to Redlands East Valley and play at La Sierra because of a lost coin toss.

The semifinals are scheduled for Wednesday.

Wrestling

Torrance 60, Beverly Hills 15

Josh Rezvani, wrestling in the 152-pound weight class, recorded a pin while three Norman teammates won by decisions in a Pioneer League match Jan. 14 at Torrance.

Armand Farrokh won by a 4-1 decision in the 145-pound weight class, Matt Flagel, wrestling in the 171-pound weight class, was an 8-1 winner while heavyweight Romeo Soofiani was a 10-3 winner.

Boys’ Soccer

Santa Monica 2, Beverly Hills 0

The Normans “didn’t perform well at all” in an Ocean League game at Nickoll Field Feb. 5, coach Steve Rappaport said.

“Defensively we left their players unmarked,” Rappaport said. “We gave up a number of easy opportunities in the first 20 minutes. In the second half, it was almost like we gave up. We didn’t compete. I don’t have an answer other than we tightened up with the pressure, the importance of the game.”

Beverly Hills allowed goals in the 10th and 22nd minutes. The Normans were out-shot, 6-2, on a rainy day.

“Our problem all year has been the lack of finishing,” Rappaport said. “In the game, it was the lack of participating. It was like we were going through the motions of the game.”

Matt Davidov made three saves and allowed both goals, and Jonas Brock one for the Normans.

Morningside 2, Beverly Hills 0

Chigozie Nwobi scored for the Monarchs in the 51st minute on a corner kick in what Rappaport called “a pretty questionable call,” then added a second goal on a counter-attack 12 minutes later in an Ocean League game at Morningside Feb. 9, as the Normans were eliminated from playoff contention.

A tie or victory would have given Beverly Hills the chance to qualify for at-large berth with a tie or victory against Culver City in its regular-season finale Feb. 11, but the loss assured the team of a losing record, making it ineligible for a playoff berth.

On the first goal, the Norman players “were adamant” that a defender had his feet on the goal line when he cleared the ball away with his chest, Rappaport said.

Beverly Hills (8-10-4, 2-4-3) was out-shot, 17-4 as it was shut out for the sixth time in league play.

“They outplayed us,” Rappaport said.

Davidov made eight saves.

Steven Herbert has covered Beverly High sports for the Beverly Hills Weekly since 1999. He welcomes feedback and suggestions. He can be reached by e-mail at StvHerbert@aol.com, by telephone at (310) 275-7943 or by fax at (310) 273-4519.

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