

Hawthorne Press Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Hawthorne

Herald Publications - Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, El Segundo, Torrance & Manhattan Beach Community Newspapers Since 1911 - Circulation 30,000 - Readership 60,000 (310) 322-1830 - March 28, 2013

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LAX Gateway Pylons Go Dark for International Earth Hour



The 100-foot-tall LAX Gateway pylons that illuminate the main entrance to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) were lit solid green one hour before Earth Hour on Saturday, March 23. Then, during Earth Hour, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the pylons were turned off as part of a coordinated worldwide effort to raise public awareness of climate change and the need for energy conservation. Last year, the sixth year of Earth Hour, hundreds of millions of participants worldwide switched off their lights in support of action for climate change and for a cleaner, safer and more sustainable future. The World Wildlife Fund, sponsor of Earth Hour, identified Los Angeles as a leader in environmental issues and chose it as a flagship location for Earth Hour. Photo courtesy of the Los Angeles World Airports.

City Council Tables Settlement Payment to HUD

By Nancy Peters

The City Manager Consent Calendar was a standout at Tuesday night's Hawthorne City Council meeting as Mayor Pro Tem Angie Reyes-English, presiding in the absence of Mayor Danny Juarez, gave the City Manager the opportunity to read his agenda. Most of the time, the Council approves this portion of the meeting with minor comment and generally without controversy, as items involve equipment purchases or repairs. Although no vote was taken and the item was "tabled," discussion was extensive.

The item requested approval of \$2,375,839 as settlement repayment to HUD for federal funds deemed misappropriated after a HUD audit of CDBG/HOME funds found

The audit of HUD monies dated back to funds and requirements by HUD from 2004 and extended to the program dollars in 2009.

Hawthorne's program out of compliance. The federal program assists with various housing elements. Supporting documentation was discussed because it contained names and placed blame on numerous past elected officials--former city managers, attorneys and directors. The Council concluded documentation should be rewritten with names and phrases such as "gross negligence," "total incompetence," "malfeasance," "misfeasance" and "nonfeasance," and "blind neglect to exercise any control" deleted.

The audit of HUD monies dated back to funds and requirements by HUD from 2004 and extended to the program dollars in 2009. Consultants determined the administration of the granted federal funds was a quagmire of documentation and not following HUD regulations. HOME funds were used without proper notification or understanding of the program's full requirements.

Actions requested of the City Manager by the Council include contact with the office of Congresswoman Maxine Waters to ask for her assistance in relieving the City of paying the full amount being demanded. The full amount of repayments is possibly the equivalent of 20

jobs on the City payroll. The repayments must be made from the general fund in the 2012-13 budget and may deplete the City's reserves. Councilmember Alex Vargas stated that all avenues need to be exhausted and the City must fight the full amount demanded by HUD. Waters sits on the Congressional committee that governs HUD and her intercession in the matter could result in a different decision. The City Manager indicated that several phone calls were made to Waters' office and a voicemail was left, as well as an email sent asking for assistance, but no response has yet been received from the Congresswoman.

Since the audit was completed without actual conclusion but demand for repayment, this sitting Council agreed while funds were obviously misused, as stated by Reyes-English, the City needs to carefully consider repaying the amounts determined as there is a possibility that totals are not accurate. A new date to consider this item was not scheduled pending contact with Waters' office and conclusive determination that the \$2.4 million must be paid.

In other business, the Council approved the resolution for a grant from the California Department of Transportation to improve the Hawthorne Airport Air Traffic Control Tower. The tower is one of only three in the state that escaped closure caused by the federal sequestration of funding for many programs in the nation. Due to the proximity of the Hawthorne Airport to LAX and the use of the Air Traffic Control Tower for some airspace of the international airport, it was determined by the government that this tower should remain open. The closure of the Hawthorne Airport Traffic Control Tower was spared as the FAA bore witness of the high risk for the Southern California area if the LAX feeder tower was not available to ensure additional safety for jets and planes in the LAX airspace.

A new four-way stop sign will be installed at the intersection of Kornblum Avenue and 116th Street. In a special meeting held prior to the call to order of the regular Council meeting, the Downtown Specific Plan Steering Committee, required by the grant that will allow the Downtown Specific Plan to be implemented, was restructured and no longer includes all those previously appointed by

Mayor Juarez. The new committee will only consist of City staff members who will review submissions from the Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultants, beginning on March 27. Previous members of the committee were Juarez and Reyes-English, the City Manager, citizens Don Harris and Greg Guerrero, and Planning Department Director Gregg McClain. The new committee will only include McClain, Public Works Director Arnie Shadbeh, and Building Safety Director Ray Shun. A request was made, and included in the motion, for one other department head to assist when the committee has questions that may need input from other departments. The 3-1 vote, with Juarez absent, had Reyes-English cast the lone dissention.

A few announcements were made of upcoming events. A Taste of Hawthorne at the Hawthorne Municipal Airport will take place on Saturday, May 19 with no entry fee for the attending public. It is expected that the event could attract 25,000 people to the area and vendors are asked to sign up at www.tasteofhawthorne.com as spaces are filling up quickly.

The Fifth Annual Service Provider Fair will take place on Saturday, June 1 at the Hawthorne Memorial Center.

The deadline for submitting names for volunteers to be appreciated is March 30. The 31st Annual Volunteer Appreciation Day is Sunday, April 21 at 2 p.m. at the Hawthorne Memorial Center.

Essay submissions for the annual scholarship from the Vietnam Veterans Association are needed by 11:59 p.m. on April 7 in order for high school seniors to be considered for the \$1,000 scholarships available. Entries in Microsoft Word or .pdf format must be emailed to scholarships@vva53.org. So far, no entries have been received from any Hawthorne senior students.

Several citizens voiced opinions on the need to find a way to develop the former Hawthorne Mall and bring business to the abandoned large piece of property that has been closed for more than 10 years. Interest has been expressed by a movie theatre company, restaurants and department store chains, but the mall owner is stopping any development.

Weekend Forecast

Friday
Mostly
Sunny
66°/54°



Saturday
Mostly
Sunny
62°/56°



Sunday
Showers
62°/54°



Calendar

ALL CITIES

• 5th Annual Shakespeare Awards Poetry Competition for Los Angeles County adult and high school poets. For more information visit www.southbayconservatory.org. New poems accepted through April 2nd. Categories: Adults living in Los Angeles County, students attending a public, or a private high school or home schooled high school students based in Los Angeles County. Mail all entries to: Shakespeare Awards Poetry Competition, c/o P.O. Box 424, Torrance, CA 90508.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

• Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. For more information call (310) 544-6815.

HAWTHORNE

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

• Community Day, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Del Aire Baptist Church, 4951 W. 119th Pl. For more information call (310) 676-8352.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

• CERT Community Emergency Response Training, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Hawthorne Memorial Center, 3901 W. El Segundo Blvd. To register contact (310) 349-1687 or ctaniguchi@cityofhawthorne.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

• City Council Meeting Council, 6-10 p.m., City Council Chambers, 4455 W 126th St. For more information call (310) 349-2915.

UPCOMING

• Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Roundup, Apr. 20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Betty Ainsworth Center, 3851 W. El Segundo Blvd.

ONGOING

• Wiseburn Food Fest gourmet food truck event benefiting the Wiseburn Education Foundation, 5:30-8:30 p.m. the last Friday of every month at R.H. Dana Middle School.

INGLEWOOD

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

• Earth Day 2013-"The Breath of Life", 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Inglewood City Hall, 1 Manchester Blvd. For more information call (310) 412-5333. www.cityofinglewood.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

• Citywide Yard Sale & Recycling Event, 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Hollywood Park Gate 8 off of Pincay/90th Street. For more information call Joi Aldridge at (310) 412-5333.

LAWDALE

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

• Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m., William Green Park, 4558 W. 168th Street.

MONDAY, APRIL 1

• City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., 14717 Burin Ave. For more information call (310) 973-3212.

ONGOING

• Lawndale Certified Farmer's Market, 2-7 p.m., every Wed., lawn of the Lawndale Library, 14615 Burin Ave.

• Food Truck Fridays for LESD Ed Foundation, every Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Mark Twain School, 3728 W. 154th St. •

Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

1BD/1BA. Southwest side of town, off street parking. Sorry, no pets. \$1200/mo. (310) 880-1460.

2BD/2BA. Westchester, residential area, immaculate, appliances, Near (LMU), 8420 Fordham Rd. \$1995/mo. Call (310) 365-1481 or (310) 641-2148.

3BD/2BA. El Segundo. Fantastic "Owner's apartment" in quiet building steps from the beach and blocks from lovely downtown El Segundo. As spacious as a house! Storage everywhere. Perfect for a couple with lots of stuff or 3 roommates. No dogs please. \$2100/mo. George (310) 344-3436.

3BD/3BA. With 1 car garage. Overlooks LAX. \$2,695. Call (310) 647-1635.

EMPLOYMENT

Display Ad Sales Position. We need an experienced Display Ad Salesperson for Herald Publications. Territories include Torrance, El Segundo and Hawthorne. Full or part-time positions are available. 20% commission on all sales. If interested please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

GARAGE SALE

746 Hillcrest Street. ES. Sat., 3/30, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Household items, furniture, tools, clothes.

325 E. Oak Ave. ES. Sat. 3/30 & Sun. 3/31, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00

p.m. each day. MOVING SALE - Everything goes.

HOUSE FOR RENT

2BD/1BA. And a Den with fireplace, front house. Newly refurbished, garage, N/S, no pets, W/D hook ups. \$2,200/mo. (310) 322-4848.

WANTED

Looking to purchase well-kept 2BD/2BA condo, single level, in El Segundo. Contact Fred & Georgie Curcio (310) 414-0976 or kajida@aol.com.

To appear in next week's paper, submit your Classified Ad by Noon on Tuesday.

Visit us online: www.heraldpublications.com

Easter *In the Field*

Easter Sunday / March 31st 6am

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Community Briefs

El Camino Recognizes 2013 Women of Distinction



Members of the Women's History Month Committee at El Camino College recognized outstanding women from the El Camino College area, honoring them for their contributions to the community. Nominees were judged for their contributions in one or more of the following areas: professional accomplishments; leadership and/or mentorship; and social, educational, or health services and must live or work in the communities within the El Camino Community College District: El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lennox, Inglewood, Hawthorne, and Torrance. The leaders were honored at the annual Women's Wall of Fame Program on March 21. Honorees will also be featured on the El Camino College Women's Wall of Fame throughout the year and their names will be engraved on a plaque that remains on the wall permanently. The new members for 2013 include: **Antoinette Brown-Leon**, professional, youth advocate and community advocate; **Bonnie Coronado**, educator, community leader and youth advocate; **Mattie Eskridge**, professional, leader and missionary; **Leslie Fletcher**, registered nurse, entrepreneur and innovator; **Christina Gold**, educator, leader and author; **Heidi Maerker**, business woman, communicator and community advocate; **Penny Rahmeyer**, foster parent, youth advocate and humanitarian; **Lisa Raufman**, counselor, author and career advocate; **Marna Smeltzer**, community advocate, leader and mentor.



El Camino Debate Team Wins State Tournament

The dynamic El Camino College, ECC, debate team recently swept the state championship title at a tournament in Woodland Hills, with ECC student Jonny Deatherage named best speaker in the state. The team crushed the competition, with second place many points behind. ECC finished the tournament with 265 points, followed by Irvine Valley College with 210. This win marks the first state tournament championship in ECC history. The team is now looking forward to the national championships, also in Woodland Hills, on April 16. Bottom row, from the left: Mario Mejia, Joy De Guzman, Nicholas Bishop,

Frank Masi, Harrison Shieh. Middle row from the left: Brooke Matson, Crystal Smith, Andrew Escalante, Lawrence Lan, Carter Beck. Top row, from left: Abigail Watkins, Jonny Deatherage. Courtesy of El Camino College.

El Camino Presents Essay Contest, Space Science Day

South Bay students in grades five through 12 are invited to enter El Camino College's annual Onizuka Space Science Day essay contest. The contest winner will receive an invitation to bring three guests to meet and attend the Space Science Day dinner with a NASA astronaut. Entries are due by 10 p.m. April 7. Students are asked to write 150 words or less on the following essay subject: While addressing the 1980 graduating class at Konawaena High School in Kona, Hawaii, Ellison Onizuka said, "Your visions are not limited by what your eyes can see but by what your minds can imagine. Make your life count, and the world will be a better place because you tried." How do you plan to make your life count and make the world a better place? Essays should be sent in the body of an email (no attachments please) to [Robin Dreizler c/o SpaceDay@elcamino.edu](mailto:Robin.Dreizler@elcamino.edu) or fax to 310-660-6786. They can also be mailed to El Camino College, c/o Outreach Office, 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, CA 90506. El Camino College's Space Science Day 2013 is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 20. Workshops will be in the college's planetarium and science classrooms.

spcaLA offers Passover, Easter Pet-Friendly Tips

Passover and Easter celebrations are upon us and Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) offers solutions and preventative measures so that the holidays will be happy and stress-free for everyone, including pets. Those preparing for Passover may wish to feed their pets food containing only unleavened grains, as well as avoiding the mixture of meat and dairy. For suggestions of pet foods appropriate for Passover, please call or visit the spcaLA Marketplace in Long Beach (562-570-4926). The Marketplace carries a variety of grain free pet foods and foods that contain meat but no dairy. Easter and spring might be a time for bunnies and chicks, but they require a lot of care and attention. After the novelty of a pet rabbit or baby chick has worn off, and the daily responsibility of feeding, cleaning, exercising and giving attention to the animal has set in, all too often the animal is dumped either in a park or in a shelter. Play it safe and buy your child an ultra soft stuffed rabbit or chick instead. That way there are no consequences if they become bored with the daily chores. For those adamant about getting a live animal, always adopt one versus buying and remember that it is a lifetime commitment. Lilies are beautiful but are poisonous to dogs and cats and can cause kidney failure. Easter time brings lots of candy into the household, especially chocolate. And just like most people, pets love chocolate. The big difference is chocolate can make animals very sick, so keep all candy, especially chocolate away from your pets. Baskets filled with goodies are a big hit on Easter. While Easter grass may make the basket look inviting, it can be very dangerous to animals. If ingested, the grass can cause a serious intestinal blockage that may require surgery. Instead of the plastic grass use a safer alternative such as straw, tissue paper, or newspaper shredding to fill the basket. •

"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit."

~ Harry S. Truman

Police Report

MON 3/11/13 TO SUN 3/17/13 ROBBERY

Robbery 3900 W El Segundo Bl Motel & Hotel Room

Date/Time Reported Sat 3/16/13 10:17
Crime Occurred: Thu 03/14/13 20:00

Property Taken: Playstation video handheld gaming system, Madden 2013 for Playstation Vita, blue Dell older model laptop w/15.5" screen, silver Verizon "RAZR" cell phone, Phillips stereo rack system, approx. \$900.00 - (1) 100 bill and all other 20's

Carjacking W 132nd St/S Prairie Av Street, Highway, Alley

Date/Time Reported Sun 3/17/13 21:33
Crime Occurred: Sun 03/17/13 21:00

Property Taken: Vehicles (auto, trucks)
Weapon: Hands, feet and fists

BURGLARY

Res Burglary - Residential 14000 S Chadron Av Apartment/Condo

Date/Time Reported Mon 3/11/13 22:26
Crime Occurred: Mon 03/11/13 16:00 To: Mon 03/11/13 22:26

Property Taken: 72" Black Flat Screen Television

Method of Entry: Body force

Res Burglary - Residential 13100 S Roselle Av Storage Shed, Public

Date/Time Reported Thu 3/14/13 16:36
Crime Occurred: Thu 03/14/13 08:00 To: Thu 03/14/13 16:00

Property Taken: Paint gun, Ryobi Router, circular saw, Lincoln Chop Saw, Black and Decker car battery charger, 4.5 gallon air compressor, Craftsman cordless drill, Rigid cordless drill, Sawzall reciprocal saw, Coleman 8 person tent, Coleman 8 person tent

Method of Entry: Opened

Res Burglary - Residential 4400 W Broadway Apartment/Condo

Date/Time Reported Thu 3/14/13 18:09
Crime Occurred: Thu 03/14/13 17:09 To: Thu 03/14/13 18:07

Method of Entry: CUT SCREEN POE: SINGLE SWING DOOR Entry Loc: FRONT

Burglary 11800 S Gale Av

Date/Time Reported Fri 3/15/13 06:58

Crime Occurred: CAD: Fri 03/15 06:58--No RM S Ent

Attempt Residential Burglary 4600 W 120th St Yard

Date/Time Reported Fri 3/15/13 15:49
Crime Occurred: Fri 03/15/13 15:25

Method of Entry: Attempt only

Res Burglary - Residential 4600 W 129th St House

Date/Time Reported Fri 3/15/13 17:08
Crime Occurred: Fri 03/15/13 07:20 To: Fri 03/15/13 16:50

Property Taken: Wedding ring with "Yousuf" & "Asma" written on top, gold rope chain with name plate "Asma", a large amount of custom jewelry from India, gold necklace with "Asma" letters, white gold/yellow gold beaded necklace, heart looped necklace, four gold bracelets

Method of Entry: Opened POE: Sliding window Entry Loc: Front

Attempt Commercial Burglary 4800 W El Segundo Bl School

Date/Time Reported Sat 3/16/13 18:02
Crime Occurred: Sat 03/16/13 18:02

Method of Entry: Pried

Comm Burglary - Commercial 4800 W El Segundo Bl School

Date/Time Reported Sun 3/17/13 16:42
Crime Occurred: Sun 03/17/13 16:42

Method of Entry: PRIED POE: SLIDING WINDOW Entry Loc: FRONT

Arrest

Comm Burglary - Commercial 2700 W 120th St General Merchandise Store

Date/Time Reported Sun 3/17/13 19:58
Crime Occurred: Sun 03/17/13 19:58

Method of Entry: Other

Arrest

Burglary - Residential 13000 S Florwood Av House

Date/Time Reported Sun 3/17/13 20:53
Crime Occurred: Sun 03/17/13 18:45 To: Sun 03/17/13 20:50

Property Taken: 2 blk long sleeve shirts, 2 blk pants(G4S uniforms)

Method of Entry: Pried POE: Single swing door Entry Loc: Front •

Hawthorne Happenings

News for the City of Good Neighbors

From City Clerk Norb Huber Easter Sunday

This Sunday is Easter. The Christian Church is built on the event that is commemorated on this special day. Jesus, the Son of God, became man, lived for 30 some years, and was crucified on a cross. But what makes him different than all the other prophets and religious leaders is that he rose from the grave and revealed himself to a lot of people following his death. He was resurrected. The Christian gospel, or Good News, is that through faith in Jesus, poor, miserable sinners, like myself, and anyone else can have eternal life. Almost all other religions of the world are based on the works that a person does to make it to paradise. Christianity is not based on what you do, but whom you know and what that one man did for you 2,000 years ago. May this Good News bring you JOY this Easter and every Sunday as we are reminded of what God has done for us through Jesus. I hope that you will make an effort to attend the church of your choice this glorious Easter Sunday.



service was top notch. The only thing that was average was my golf game. A big thank you goes out to the board members of the Hawthorne Recreation and Parks Foundation who work hard all year long to pull the event together. It is always great to have some of the same great sponsors who donate to the cause. This year's funds will go toward providing low-cost swimming lessons to the children of Hawthorne.

State of the City Luncheon Set

Hawthorne Mayor, Danny Juarez has set Friday, May 10 as the date for the "State of the City Luncheon." The annual event will begin at noon, with registration beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Memorial Center. The luncheon will be geared to give more citizens an opportunity to attend and hear of the latest news regarding the City of Hawthorne. Mayor Juarez has promised to have some exciting news regarding development and growth in the City of Good Neighbors. More details regarding tickets will be released in the coming days.

Too Toxic to Trash

There will be a household hazardous waste and e-waste roundup on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Betty Ainsworth Sports Center located at 3851 W. El Segundo Blvd. in Hawthorne. If your garage has been waiting for you to clean it out, this would be a great opportunity to dispose of your old paint, old computers, old batteries, and everything else that is not cool to throw in the regular trash barrel. No ammo, tires, refrigs, or controlled substances.

Upcoming Events

Taste of Hawthorne - Sunday, May 19

Comments or Questions

If you would like to contact me regarding this column or anything to do with the City of Hawthorne, please email me at norbhuber@gmail.com.

Real Nice Golf Tournament

More than 100 golfers enjoyed playing



in the 28th annual Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Foundation Golf Tournament this past Monday at Rolling Hills Country Club. The course was first class. The banquet food was outstanding. The hospitality and

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

~ Dr. Seuss

Pet of the Week

Wesley
13-02569
Pitbull Mix
8 months
Male

South Bay
Pet Adoption Center
12910 Yukon Avenue
Hawthorne, CA 90250
310- 676-1149



I'm a smart boy who loves to learn. In fact, the kind folks here at the spcaLA have taught me how to sit and shake! I walk well on a leash and would love to be a hiking or jogging buddy. Come see what a fabulous friend I would be. •

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Easter is Sunday, March 31st



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Sports

Joe's Sports

Gutierrez, Hawthorne Enjoy Big Week

By Joe Snyder

Sophomore Dominic Gutierrez enjoyed a big week as Hawthorne High's baseball team enjoyed three consecutive blowout wins last week. At Leuzinger on March 19, the Cougars scored their second rout of their cross-town rival Olympians, winning 17-2. In a doubleheader against St. Monica from Santa Monica last Saturday at Hawthorne, the Cougars enjoyed two 10-run mercy rule wins over the Mariners by scores of 13-3 and 11-1.

In the three games combined, Gutierrez went six for eight with 11 runs batted in and eight runs. He was two for two with five RBIs, two runs and two doubles in Hawthorne's doubleheader opener. In the nightcap, Gutierrez went two for two, drove in three runs, scored two and had a double.

Also in the first game of the twin bill against St. Monica, Jonathan Marquez went three for three with one run scored. Winning pitcher Mark Laffoon went four innings, allowing one earned run and three hits. He struck out five batters and walked three. Against Leuzinger, Gutierrez was two for four with three RBIs, two runs and a triple.

Hawthorne (7-4) had a balanced offensive attack. Jose Sandoval went three for four, drove in three runs and scored once. Moses Chavez was two for four with two RBIs and two runs scored. Javier Martinez went two for three with two RBIs and two runs. Antonio Ramirez went two for three, drove in a run and scored twice. Gutierrez was also the winning pitcher by hurling four innings. He allowed one hit on two hits and struck out five. Highlighting the Olympians (1-9) was sophomore Angel Vital, who was two for three with a double.

Hawthorne hosts Lawndale in non-league play today at 3:30 p.m. The Cougars then will play in the St. Paul Easter Tournament from Saturday through next Wednesday. Hawthorne begins the Ocean League at home against Santa Monica on April 9. Leuzinger hosts Animo Leadership from Inglewood today and Lynwood next Wednesday in 3:15 p.m. non-league games.



Lawndale High's Ivan Argueta takes a cut at a pitch during last week's non-league baseball action against Culver City.

LAWDALE ROUTS LEUZINGER

After falling to Culver City 9-1 on March 19 at home, Lawndale High's baseball team rolled over Leuzinger 12-1 last Friday at Lawndale. Keying the Cardinals in their win over the Olympians was senior Steven Rudolph, who was two for three with three RBIs. Arnold Escobedo went two for five and scored a run.

Freshman winning pitcher Miguel Osorio went three innings, allowing one run and four hits. He had four strikeouts and only one walk. Relievers, senior Sergio Blandon and freshman Luis Valencia, held Leuzinger scoreless, giving up just one additional hit over four innings. Ben Cady went three for

three for the Olympians.

On March 19, Lawndale had a hard time containing Ocean League power Culver City. It was the Cardinals' second loss to the Centaurs. At Culver on March 15, Lawndale lost to the Centaurs 4-3. "In the first game, we had a mental breakdown," Lawndale head coach Tony Parente said.

Parente, a standout player at El Segundo High under the late legendary head coach John Stevenson (1933-2010) during the 1980s, is in his first season as head mentor for the Cardinals. "I'm trying to bring that same exposure I had at El Segundo to



Lawndale High pitcher Jesse Garcia throws to a Culver City batter during last week's non-league baseball action. Photos by Joe Snyder.

Lawndale," Parente added. "We're trying to take it to a different level. The players are giving it out 110 percent."

The Cardinals are off to a 7-3 start, their best since Lawndale High reopened in 1998 (closed down from 1981-98) and had their first baseball team in 2003. "Previously, we lacked leadership," Parente said. "We have players who have played together their entire life. A good nucleus helped."

Host Lawndale meanwhile, rolled over cross-town rival Environmental Charter 13-1 on March 20. The Cardinals visit Hawthorne in non-league play today at 3:30 p.m. Lawndale opened the Pioneer League at North Torrance last Tuesday and host the Saxons Friday at 3:15 p.m.

MORNINGSIDE WINS ONE OF THREE

Morningside High's baseball team won its first game of the season, winning the opening game of a doubleheader against Rolling Hills Prep of San Pedro 8-7 last Saturday at Morningside. The Monarchs, though, lost the nightcap 16-5. At Animo Leadership last Thursday, the Monarchs were shut out by the Aztec-Eagles 8-0.

Morningside begins Ocean League play at home against cross-town rival Inglewood on April 9 at 3:15 p.m. At Kern Valley High in Lake Isabella last Friday, the Sentinels were shut out 7-0 as they failed to get a hit.

LADY COUGARS TOP LAWDALE

Hawthorne High's softball team used a 12-run fifth inning to defeat host Lawndale 15-11 on March 19. The Cougars' balanced attack was led by Elisa Marin, who was two for four with three RBIs and two runs. Savannah Donnelly went two for five, drove in two runs and scored three. Diana Montenegro was three for five with one RBI and three runs. Freshman Simon Simone was two for three, drove in a run and scored twice. Emily Banuelos went three for four and scored three runs for the Cardinals. •

The Horrors of the WBC

By Adam Serrao

The World Baseball Classic (WBC) has proven to be effective for the globalization of baseball. For approximately three weeks out of the year, the tournament displays national baseball teams featuring professional players from the highest level leagues around the world, including Major League Baseball (MLB). The tournament not only provides a platform for the best players from around the world to compete against one another while representing their home nations, but it also helps to promote the game around the globe. For that reason and that reason alone, Bud Selig and the rest of the executives in charge of MLB have become married to the idea of the WBC. The players who participate in the Classic may be putting themselves at a greater risk than most teams' owners and general managers would like, however. With the risk of injury to key players on contenders' rosters, is the World Baseball Classic worth the three-week display of talent that most baseball fans don't even avidly follow anyway?

Though Japan has dominated the World Baseball Classic since the inception, there is no denying that the Dominican Republic has been and is one of the greatest teams to exist in the tournament's history. Featuring some of the best baseball players from Major League Baseball, the Dominican Republic made short work of this year's tournament in beating Puerto Rico 3-0 in the final while capping off an undefeated run at the championship. One of the key contributors to the country's success (in addition to many others) was the Los Angeles Dodgers' very own Hanley Ramirez. The Dodgers acquired Ramirez from the Miami Marlins at last year's trade deadline to fill in at third base and shortstop for the club.

In just half a season last year, Ramirez brought power from the plate that was otherwise nonexistent for the Dodgers in previous years while also fitting in nicely with the rest of his teammates. Now, however, the Dodgers may be looking at spending an extended period of time without Ramirez after he tore his right thumb ligament diving for a ball in the WBC. With a star-studded roster like the one that the Dodgers display this year, the only thing that can stop them from being an elite team is having to deal with injury. Already worried about Zack Greinke and Carl Crawford, the Dodgers now must focus their attention on getting Ramirez back into playing shape as well. "It's bad, it's bad," said Ramirez. "It's something I can't control. It could happen anywhere. Unfortunately, it happened in the WBC. It's very disappointing." But would the injury really still have happened if Ramirez was at spring training in Arizona with the rest of the club? It's a question that will certainly never reveal an answer, but sustaining an injury of that magnitude that will now have the star shortstop missing opening day and the first two months of the season would seem very unlikely to happen in spring training.

While Ramirez even through his injury seems to be in favor of the WBC, many

athletes have been barred from participating by their teams or have simply declined the invitation outright. Detroit's Justin Verlander, Tampa Bay's David Price and even LA's Clayton Kershaw all turned down bids to play for their respective countries in the tournament. The risk of injury is obviously the biggest cause for concern from players and coaches around the Major Leagues, although many, like Dodgers' General Manager Ned Colletti, contend that injury could happen anywhere and at anytime. "Things happen all the time. Injuries happen to teams all the time," Colletti stated. "We have to play without [Ramirez] for eight weeks. I think our offense is still good. There's nothing more we can do about it." At the moment, Colletti is correct. Come next time, however, the GM may think twice before letting any of his players participate in a tournament that concludes only two weeks before the season begins.

The concept of the World Baseball Classic simply does not seem important enough to merit as many setbacks as it does. In addition to injury risk, players will lose time that they need to get familiar with their teams. Spring training is a time for catchers to get used to catching pitchers, pitchers to get used to throwing to catchers and hitters to get work on their mechanics. Instead of worrying about their teams, managers like Don Mattingly begin to worry if players like Hanley Ramirez will return to the club in one piece. The WBC is not the Olympics. Baseball was voted out of the Olympics for the 2012 games and the WBC doesn't get nearly the same viewer interest as the Olympics. That being said, don't look for the tournament to disappear anytime soon. The Commissioner and other key MLB executives are "1,000 percent committed" to the idea of the tournament. "It's a worldwide event and it's an unqualified success," said MLB Executive Vice President Tim Brosnan, who chooses to look past all of the negatives that the tournament may present. "People can talk negatives all they want. I can cite 1,000 positives for every negative."

Despite the fact that potential all-stars get injured and other all-stars choose to not even participate, it looks as if the Classic will be around for good. The games don't come close to selling out, even with highly discounted tickets. In America, only five newspapers from outside of the Bay Area (where the championship game was held) even sent reporters to cover the championship round. Even so, the passion that was shared in many countries outside of the USA goes unequaled--and both the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico this year gained a national identity as the two nations received the chance to celebrate as their own stars took center stage. So for now, Dodger fans' cries will fall upon deaf ears. They will be without a starting shortstop for almost half of the season, but that's the way the ball rolls. The World Baseball Classic will indeed be back in effect again and Major League Baseball fans everywhere will have to begin their worry once more. •



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Congresswoman Maxine Waters Hosts Women in Business: A Small Business Expo

Courtesy of the Office of Congresswoman Maxine Waters

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43) hosted "Women in Business: A Small Business Expo" on Tuesday, March 26 at the Lawndale Community Center. The event drew a standing-room-only crowd and provided information and resources to small business owners and interested entrepreneurs.

"As we celebrate Women's History Month throughout March, it includes reflecting on the important role women business owners' play in our economy and why support for women's small business ownership is so important here in California and across our country," said Congresswoman Waters. "Women have accomplished amazing things

in every area of business imaginable, but there is still work to be done. We must continue to seize opportunities to break new ground for women in both the public and private sector."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, California is one of just four states with at least 500,000 women-owned businesses and leads the United States with over one million. The government agencies and organizations in attendance at the expo included the U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration, California Center for International Trade Development, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, local chambers of commerce, and more. •





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