

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SM BAY

Big surf hits coastline

Surfers should have plenty of opportunities to catch a wave this weekend thanks to a southern ocean storm off New Zealand, which is expected to pump up breakers to about 6 feet at all south-facing beaches, according to the National Weather Service.

The swell is expected to arrive Friday morning, with the largest surf coming this weekend as the world's top surfers compete for awards totaling \$100,000, as well as ratings points toward a berth in the 2010 Association of Surfing Professionals World Tour, during the Hurley U.S. Open of Surfing in Huntington Beach.

"Pretty much the whole L.A. coast is exposed, definitely those south-facing beaches," said meteorologist Bill Forwood with the National Weather Service. "The winds from this storm that formed in the South Pacific just east of New Zealand create the swells and direct them right toward us."

Lifeguards are warning that only strong swimmers and experienced surfers should brave the big waves. Venturing out of breakwaters can be hazardous because larger-than-normal swells can suddenly flood previously dry areas – especially when the tide is rising.

"Always check with your local lifeguard to find out what are the safest places to swim and surf. That's the most important message I can give," said Capt. Terry Harvey with the Los Angeles County Fire Department – Lifeguard Division. "We only have a couple of south-facing beaches until you get farther north in L.A. County. Nevertheless, we will have personnel on stand-by ready to work so things to get out of control. We are prepared for this high surf."

Harvey urged those thinking of visiting the beach to check out watchthewater.org, a Web site sponsored by the county that features the latest weather and water conditions, as well as Web cams of popular spots to give people a "pre-beach experience," and help them plan their trip.

DOWNTOWN

Jackson Browne defeats John McCain

Singer/songwriter Jackson Browne won a federal copyright lawsuit against Sen. John McCain and the Republican party, receiving an apology and an undisclosed sum for the unauthorized use of one of his songs in a pro-McCain video during the 2008 presidential race, it was announced Tuesday.

Browne sued McCain, the Republican National Committee and the Ohio Republican Party last year over use of his 1977 hit "Running on Empty" in a Web ad mocking then-nominee Barack Obama's proposed energy policy.

The lawsuit had been slated for trial in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles early next year.

Browne, a supporter of liberal causes, "is not a litigious person, but felt he needed to stand up for artists' rights and believed this was an appropriate undertaking," said the singer's Santa Monica-based lawyer, Lawrence Iser.

"This means that just because you're running for office doesn't give you the right to use copyrighted works without permission," Iser said. "The copyright laws apply to everyone, and everyone needs to be reminded that copying is illegal when you don't have license to do it."

McCain, the RNC and ORP settled the complaint jointly and issued a statement apologizing.

"Although Sen. McCain had no knowledge of, or involvement in, the creation or distribution of the Web campaign video, Sen. McCain does not support or condone any actions taken by anyone involved in his 2008 presidential election campaign that were inconsistent with artists' rights or the various legal protections afforded to intellectual property," the statement said.

McCain and the other defendants also promised to get artists' permission before using their work in the future.

Financial details of the settlement were not announced. The McCain campaign's apparent use of material from other artists also caused sour notes to be heard from the Foo Fighters, Heart and John Mellencamp.

Browne's lawsuit accused McCain and his campaign of engaging "in a consistent pattern of making unauthorized use of copyrighted musical compositions in an effort to boost McCain's image."

DAILY PRESS

Classical pianist lost hearing at young age

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of 17, winning competitions including the NHK Mainichi Music Contest and Bunka Radio Broadcasting Company Music Prize, later working with the Japanese Philharmonic Orchestra and studying music at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts.

Hemming moved to Vienna after completing her studies, working with the likes of Shura Cherkassky, a famous Ukrainian pianist, and conductors Bruno Maderna and Leonard Bernstein.

After losing hearing in her left ear, Hemming moved to Sweden where she taught music and worked as a janitor in a psychiatric hospital where she discovered an upright piano, performing impromptu con-

certs for nurses and patients.

When she regained about 40 percent hearing in her left ear, the pianist resumed where she left off, recording a debut album, which went on to receive numerous awards, and performing in venues all over the world.

Hemming described the fear that kept her from seeking medical attention when she became sick at 16, instead spending the money her mother had given to see a doctor to watch American movies.

But she has found peace in her condition. "I accept whatever happens to me in life," she said. "I do not like looking back at the past, instead, I think of what positive things lie ahead for me in the future."

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'Tarzan' actress Brenda Joyce dies at 92 in SM

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA Brenda Joyce, the only actress to play Jane with two different movie Tarzans, has died. She was 92.

A family friend, David Ragan, says she suffered from dementia for a decade and died July 4 of pneumonia at a nursing home in Santa Monica.

Joyce, whose real name was Betty Leabo, appeared in some two dozen movies but she

is best known for succeeding Maureen O'Sullivan as Jane in the "Tarzan" pictures. She appeared in five "Tarzan" movies in the 1940s, opposite Johnny Weissmuller and later Lex Barker.

Joyce made her last movie in 1949. Ragan says she worked for the immigration department for a decade, helping new immigrants find housing and work.

She is survived by a son, two daughters and three grandchildren.

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