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CROSSING OFF JORDYN

World champ gymnast Wieber misses out to U.S. teammates in all-around qualifier.
C1



AL MARTINEZ

Ugly reality is that there will be more massacres

As a movie, "The Dark Knight Rises" is forgettable summer waste, but as an element of human misery, it will endure until the end of memory.

The two will be remembered as a collision of cultural traits, one celebrating our love for violent entertainment, the other crying over the carnage that leaped from a movie screen into the audience, an almost mystical union in the space that separates fantasy from reality.

A shooter identified as James Eagan Holmes, loaded down with guns and draped with ammunition, stepped into the gap and began firing into the theater for reasons that I am certain will never be known. His distorted perception told him only that there had to be killing on that summer night in Aurora, Colo.

And so he killed.

It doesn't matter whether God, anonymous voices in his head or a kind of free-floating misanthropic compulsion turned him into a mass murderer. Within the rationale of a killer's madness, truth is at best obscure.

It has been more than a week since the shooter blasted his way through the Century theater, killing 12 people and wounding 58. A 6-year-old girl was among the dead, a 3-month-old boy among the wounded. And now, while families mourn, a dazed and bewildered Holmes sits silently in a prison cell, awaiting judgment and listening to his heart beat.

I, along with everyone else, can't stop thinking about the horror that afflicted us all. The media continue to feed us pieces of what they know, banging it into our heads like the repetitive beat of a funeral drum, the same solemn ode to the dead that has accompanied mass murders at

MONSTER COOKIE



A traditional Chinese dessert contained an extraordinary fortune for a CSUN grad



Michael Owen Baker Staff Photographer

Daria Artem holds a couple of colossal fortune cookies made by her company, Lady Fortunes Inc. A dinner with friends inspired her when she received a P.F. Chang's fortune cookie with a slip that said "You will be successful in business." She wished she could share the fortune. Now she does.

By Gregory J. Wilcox Staff Writer
CANOGA PARK — Daria Artem won't forget the night 10 years ago when fortune smiled on her.

As her birthday dinner with friends at P.F. Chang's in Woodland Hills wound down, Artem cracked open her fortune cookie.

"You will be successful in business," the little slip of paper said.

"I said I wish it was bigger because I want to share my fortune with everyone," Artem recalled telling the group. "One of my friends challenged me to make a fortune cookie as big as a cake that we could share."

And so she did.

It wasn't long before Artem — whose 33rd birthday is today — was turning out supersized fortune cookies and other confectionery treats in the kitchen of her Bell Canyon home. She called the startup business Lady Fortunes Inc.

Today, Lady Fortunes operates out of a 5,000-square-foot bakery with 27 employees in Canoga Park. It turned out 5 million to 8 million cookies last year and generated \$4.5 million in sales, said Artem, the company's CEO and chief confectionery officer.

And the treats have gone from her modest warehouse to the White House.

In 2006 Artem was selected to bake 300 cookies featuring the presidential seal for the Presidents Day Party hosted by then-first lady Laura Bush.

The catch? Protocol deemed she had to pay her own way to Washington and bake in the White House kitchen.

Was she ready for the challenge? You bet.

"There is nothing to describe it," Artem said of the experience. "You just feel so proud. It's an

FORTUNE A9

Lady Fortunes' Top 10 Fortunes

- 1 I am so "fortune"-ate to have you in my life.
- 2 You are my sweetest cookie and my greatest fortune — you make my heart crumble!
- 3 Confucius Says: A Bundle of Good Fortune Is On The Way!
- 4 The "perfect diet" is a cookie in each hand!
- 5 Lady Fortune will smile on you
- 6 You are one sweet and smart cookie!
- 7 The fortune you seek is in a giant fortune cookie!
- 8 When good fortune does not knock - build a door!
- 9 Hard Work is the mother of good fortune
- 10 Good fortune favors those who eat cookies!

ELECTION 2012

Romney: Jerusalem is Israel's capital

CAMPAIGN: Presidential hopeful wouldn't say he'll move embassy if he wins.

By Kasie Hunt The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Standing on Israeli soil, U.S. presidential candidate Mitt Romney on Sunday declared Jerusalem to be the capital of the Jewish state and said the United States has "a solemn duty and a moral imperative" to block Iran from achieving nuclear weapons capability.

"Make no mistake, the ayatollahs in Iran are testing our moral defenses. They want to know who will object and who will look the other way," he said. "We will not look away nor will our country ever look away from our passion and commitment to Israel."

ROMNEY A8

2012 LONDON OLYMPIC GAMES



Kimberly Rhode of El Monte won the gold in women's skeet shooting Sunday. She has now won medals in five straight Olympics.

Rhode shoots her way into record books

By Tim Reynolds
The Associated Press

LONDON — Step aside, Carl Lewis. You, too, Jackie Joyner-Kersey and Al Oerter.

Meet Kimberly Rhode, the first American with individual medals in