



People, power and politics
By NIKKI SCHWAB

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BY THE NUMBERS

Sanford is still a big name in South Carolina politics

\$124,000

How much cash former South Carolina Gov. **Mark Sanford** has sitting in his federal campaign coffers. According to Roll Call, Sanford is “studying” a run for Congress to fill the seat that **Tim Scott** just vacated in his move to

the U.S. Senate. Turning the special election into a soap opera, Sanford’s ex-wife is considering entering the race too. But **Jenny Sanford** would have a powerful woman at her side, likely getting an endorsement from South Carolina Gov. **Nikki Haley**.

CHARACTERS

‘West Wing’ alum doing show for Shakespeare Theatre Company

Actor **Richard Schiff**, perhaps known best for playing Toby Ziegler on the “The West Wing,” will be coming to Washington next month to perform in the play “Hughie” at the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s Lansburgh Theatre.

Written by playwright **Eugene O’Neill**, “Hughie” takes place in the lobby of a New York City hotel in 1928 and consists of dialogue between just two characters, Erie Smith, whom Schiff will play, and the night clerk, Charles Hughes, played by **Randall Newsome**. **Doug Hughes** will direct the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s production. Schiff is coming off the Broadway production of “Glengarry Glen Ross,” having played the character George Aaronow.

“Hughie” opens on Jan. 31 and will run through March 17. Tickets can be purchased online or over the phone from the Shakespeare Theatre Company.



LET’S GET PHYSICAL



From left, VIDA Fitness owner David von Storch poses with Alan Shaw, who plays Joly in “Les Miserables,” Trinity Wheeler, the play’s production stage manager, John Brink, who plays Courfeyrac and VIDA Group Fitness Director Alex Zamudio.

‘Les Mis’ works out Washington

On Tuesday, “Do You Hear the People Sing?” was more like do you see the people sweat, as members of the traveling production of “Les Miserables” took over Vida Fitness on U Street to work out with some Washingtonians.

The workout consisted of reps of lunges, crunches, bicep curls and jumping jacks set to a mix of sometimes-remixed Broadway tunes. There were yoga stretches and relay races. And yes, there was spontaneous singing throughout the hourlong class.

Trinity Wheeler, a production stage manager for the tour, is a certified personal trainer and developed the regimen to make stage life a little easier. “You don’t think of it because it’s not a dance show, but the second act is basically a battle,” Wheeler said of the musical. “And the barricade, I tell people, is like a giant jungle gym ... it’s actually really physically demanding.”

But it’s not just the play itself that’s tough. **Alan Shaw**, who plays Joly, has been on the road with the production for two years and finds it hard to stay healthy living out of hotel rooms and eating out for every meal. “Although I’ve had a really healthy lifestyle in New York, I still was finding myself gaining weight,” he said. “Because our schedule is pretty hectic.”

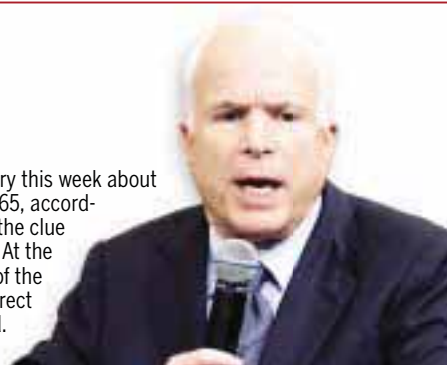
Also while in D.C., the entire cast was treated to a Friday prescreening of the new movie version of “Les Miserables.” “I loved the movie — being with the show for two years, it kind of reinvigorated my passion for the show,” Shaw said of the film out next Tuesday. “We saw it at 11:30 [a.m.] this past Friday and we had a show that night and you could just feel the energy and the passion on stage.”

“Les Miserables” is playing at the National Theatre until Dec. 30.

SPEAKEASY

“Loser again.”

– Sen. **John McCain**’s crack when retelling reporters a story this week about how he performed on the game show “Jeopardy!” back in 1965, according to a report in the Washington Times. McCain was given the clue “Cathy loves him, but she married Edgar Linton instead.” At the time, McCain answered “Wuthering Heights,” the name of the **Emily Bronte** novel the characters are depicted in. The correct answer? Heathcliff, the character’s name, instead.



UNBALANCED



THINKSTOCK

Fox News is a fan of the Columbia Room’s cocktails

Fox News released a list of the top 10 cocktail bars in the United States this week, and D.C.’s own Columbia Room made the list.

For those who are unfamiliar, the Columbia Room is the bar inside the Passenger, a popular spot near the Convention Center Metro station and the brainchild of mixologist **Derek Brown**. “Brown was nominated for a James Beard award and even created cocktails for the First Family’s holiday parties at the White House,” the FoxNews.com article boasts. “If the bartender can help ease the president’s woes, he should be able to help with yours.”

And as a testament to how well-respected the cocktails are at the establishment, the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States is holding a holiday “speakeasy” at the venue later this week. But don’t even think about crashing. In true speakeasy style, a password is needed to enter the soiree.