Michelle Monaghan
This Leading Lady Proves That Nice Girls Do Finish First

CALIFORNIA STYLE

35 MUST-HAVE ACCESSORIES

MAKING A SPLASH
DIVE INTO THE SEASON’S HOTTEST SWIMWEAR

SPRING HOME + DESIGN
* Farmhouse Chic in Santa Ynez
* O.C.’s Best Decor Digs
* A Bel Air Manse’s Ultimate Makeover

Fresh Flair
LIVING IT UP WITH SPECTACULAR STYLE

APRIL 2011  $5.99
Living Proof

In the handful of years since Rana Creek installed undulating living roofs across San Bruno’s GAP headquarters, then the CA Academy of Sciences, a rare shock of verdant top floor has become a common residential sight. “I’m surprised at how quickly clients sign off on them now,” says Principal Jonathan Feldman of S.F.’s Feldman Architecture and GreenArchitectureNotes.com. Alongside increased public eco sensitivity and the awareness of how beautiful they can be, structural innovations (by firms like Feldman and Rana) ensure less soil and water usage. These changes have initiated a shift to shallow-growing, drought-tolerant succulents, thus opening up a world of plant choice. “Northern California is at the epicenter of what’s happening,” says Feldman. “It’s a genuine movement.” ranacreek.com; feldmanarchitecture.com.

READ IT AND REAP

With keen attention to California Modernism (Donnell Garden, Schindler House and the like), American Eden (Harper, $35) is Angeleno Wade Graham’s perspicacious cultural biography of the garden as social statement.

Los Angeles Table Art

Downtown has designed a Kelly green, powder-coated table inspired by Frances Elkins’ iconic loop chair. Outside Downtown, L.A.; downtown20.net.

Frances Elkins Outdoor Dining Table, $8,900.

Matt Gagnon Studio
Knit Fort, from $3,000.

PLAY HOUSE

Matt Gagnon’s Knit Fort threads teak blocks with rubber cording to create an endlessly imaginative shape for kids. mattstudio.com.