# Keader

## The Art of the Cash Harvest

The politicians of San Diego have a The politicians of San Diego have a well-carned reputation for laundering campaign contributions. In the past six years, no less than five major funding candals have erupted, resulting in ascrise of five- and six-figure fines being levied against companies who evaded the county and city contribution limits of \$250 per person, per election. In each case — brought by the state is Pair Political Practices Commission — the offenders have agreed to pay a hefty fine and apologized for their actions, but no one went to iail. The political practices commission — the contribution of the property of the property of the property of the political practices. nne and apologized for their actions, but no one went to jail. The politi-cians who received the funds all denied they knew that the money had been laundered and agreed to pay to the city treasury a fine equal to the amount of the illegal contributions collected by their campaigns, but they were subject to no other sanction.



to expand its mall, was quoted by the Union-Tribune as saying, "We apolo-gize to them (the politicians), and we deeply regret what has happened. But the company does take full responsi-bility for it, and I think we can be assured in saying it won't happen again."
The council later voted to approve the mall expansion.

■ In November 1995, Cox Communications, the cable-television oper-ator that has lucrative franchise agreements with both the city and county of San Diego, agreed to pay a \$42,000 fine for reimburing seven employees and their apouses, who made a total of \$4850 in contributions to San Diego elected officials. Recipients included then-city councilinan Ron Roberts and Councilwoman Valerie Stallings. The company issued a statement saying, "Cox Communications takes full reaponsibility and accepts the consequences of our actions. We are most anxious to put this matter behind us and move forward by continuing to provide quality entertainment to the people in the communities we serve." agreements with both the city and



In February 1996, H. G. Fenton Material Company of San Diego, a construction-materials supplier, agreed to pay a \$90,300 fine for funneling ost \$10,000 in illegal campaign

contributions in the form of 53 separate contributions through its employ-ces, who were later reimbursed. Recipients included Ron Roberts, Mayor Susan Golding and councilmembers Juan Vargas, Judy McCarty, Christine Kehoe, and Valerie Stallings. Fenton released a statement saying, "The



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#### LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. You may phone them in by calling 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; e-mail them to letters@sdreader.com; or fax them to 619-231-0489. Please include your name, address, and telephone number Letters may be edited for length

#### **Good Job, Editors**

What a great contrast in last week's Reader! ("City Lights." September 21) On one page, one of our children lost to drugs and violence, and on the facing page, a success story of an immigrant who risked his life to ome to the U.S. We who are born here take so much for granted. We can only hope that his daughter doesn't succumb to the illicit pleasures of a rich country. Good job, editors Gene Dixon

#### I Rarely Go There

In this week's "Blurt" section (September 28) by Matthew Kalinowski, I am quoted (which is fine), but it reads that I'm "of the Pacific Beach Bar and Grill." That is incorrect. I rarely even go there. Just wanted to let Matthew and whomever know, for the record.

Julia Garlington Ms. Julia & the Blue Cats

Wise Signals **End's Beginning** I lived in the Bay Area for 30 years, and I know that the traffic, the noise, and the crowds are the tiniest trivial annov ances next to the bloated egos and the deluded fools telling each other how cool they are and how cool their place is and how cool their coolness is because they, the coolest of all because they, the coolest of all cool people in all of the history of coolness, have restaurants which serve only the freshest local ingredients with chefs who worked as busboys at Le who worked as busboys at Le Trendy and moved up to arugula choppers at Le Even More Trendy, and then worked on the line at Cafe So Trendy We Don't Even Mention How Trendy We Are. These idiots will drive you insane. And once they establish a beach-head, they will take over every-one all around you with one all around you with frightening speed. I know, I was there. It was hideous. But of course I made a bunch of money off them and moved down here where a guy with a bad haircut could still sit on a wall by the beach and share a peer with another guy with a pad haircut and never once bad haircut and never once think about anything more sophisticated than whether he should scratch his nose with his right or left hand. But now, in the Reader, the home of cell phones, laser hair removal, and aw shucks

harmers like Daugherty.

Meltzer, and the Mudflap Meltzer, and the Mudflap Girls, we can clearly see the beachhead being established by your new food editor ("Hap-piness on a Plate," Septem-ber 28), who I admit does start out on the right foot with the usual NorCal whining about last year's French food and too last year's French food and too many easily fleeced tourists from Nebraska. But then it begins. The freshest local in-gredients, the chefs who worked their way up through the trendiest restaurants with the most obscure names known only to the cognoscenti. This is the beginning of arrogence is the beginning of arrogance and self-congratulation. I cannot bear to live through this again. I wonder if you could just give me my check now, and I will get out. Lubbock sounds nice - I'm there.

Eric Taylor

#### **How Much Did That Article Cost?** As I was eating my dead fish

on a bun, prepared with mayo and tartar sauce, torn lettuce and sliced tomato, harmon iously placed on a light and airy roll deftly sprinkled with seeds, and served exquisitely wrapped in a square of waxed paper pierced with a dec-orated sharpened pine skewer, all presented in a pure white carrying convenience, I sat outside the Green Light Deli from which I made my cul-inary purchase, reading with delight the article on the ten hottest chefs in San Diego (September 28). The fish on a bun was excellent, cooked to perfection and flavored nicely The article on the chefs was similar, nicely written with a personal touch. But I could not keep my mind from wandering to the thought of who is reading your paper. Is it the folks who can afford a \$200 dinner, or those of us who spend \$5 on lunch a couple of times a week? For all the effort and delights of the senses that Naomi Wise had to endure, I believe you should have sold the article to a publication in La Jolla and used the newsprint for another story on the ballpark or other humor. My curiosities are: Did you pick up the tab for all these meals? How much did that article cost? Is this the last time a free newspaper spends this much on food? Will Naomi review the Water-front or Hoddads with the same passion as Azzura Point? I have been back in San Diego for three years. Since then, I have eaten at 263 different eateries, most good, some the pits, some superb, but all affordable. The chefs at the affordable. The chefs at the good places know the universal language of food. They know how to get repeat customers, they know fresh is best, and they know how to satisfy the palate and the wallet. Do prices and fare march lockstep? Maybe the ten hottest do kick it up a notch, baml, but the Rubio's loboter burrito, fried

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The Art of the Cash Harvest

By Matt Potter

City Lights

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An archive of City Lights stories can now be searched on the Internet

Unforgiven Hollywood is promising a forthcoming movie Hotlywood is promising a forthcoming movie cam artist who currently lives in San Diego, and now they can add a new twist to the story. Barry Minkow, who did a seven-year stretch in prison for the infamous ZZZZ Best carpet-cleaning scandal back in the 1980s, is now pastor of the Community Bible Church Scripps Ranch, Two weeks ago Richard in Scripps Ranch. Two weeks ago Kicharu Elliott, a 31-year-old associate pastor at the church, was arrested and charged with mo-lesting a boy under 14 three times between May and July of this year. After the charges

against him came to light, it was discovered that Elliott had been convicted in 1991 on murder-for-hire-related charges in Denver The story of church-head Minkow has become required read The story of church-head Minkow has become required read-ing in accounting classes, on Fraud. ZZZZ. Best was started by then 16-year-old Minkow in his parents' Los Angeles garage. By 1986, when he was 21, Minkow went public and was boasting that he grossed 550 million a year cleaning carpets and drapes and received a commendation from L.A. mayor Tom Bradley for his keen business sense and appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show It took a diligent newspaper reporter to discover that \$46 million of ZZZZ Best's revenue was phony and based on false insurance of ZZZZ Best's revenue was phony and based on take insurance claims that were ignored by the company auditors. Minkow was convicted on fraud and money-laundering charges and ended up in Lompoc federal prison camp, where he completed bache-lor's and master's degrees and studied the gospel. Raised lewish, he was "born again" and paroled as a Christian minister, still owing his victims \$26 million in court-ordered restitution.

of illegally stashing hundreds of gallons of deadly toxic waste in more than 100 cardboard boxes in a Palm Desert warehouse, reports the Riverside Press-Enterprise. After deliberating only two and a half hours, a Riverside County Superior Court jury last and a half hours, a Kiverside County Superior Court jury last week convicted Marvin Hutchinson of all 45 counts in the hazardous-waste disposal case against him. The waste, discov-ered in July 1998, reportedly contained cyanide, carcinogens, and highly explosive acids. "If that stuff would have blown up, people in the immediate area would certainly have died," deputy people in the immerciate area would certainly nave used, septiny district attorney Guy Pittman told the paper. "Some of it was what was used in gas chambers. It was amazingly dangerous." James Pokorny, Hutchinson's San Diego-based attorney, was quoted as saying that Hutchinson had brought the chemicals to the storage warehouse but no longer owned them when they were discovered. According to the newspaper's account, the chemicals were left over from a Mexican chemical company that chemicals were left over from a Mexican chemical company that Hutchinson, reported to be a pharmaceutical manufacturer and distributor, was once involved in. The waste had been stored in Chula Vista from 1989 until 1993, when officials of the Envi-ronmental Protection Agency ordered that they be moved, ac-cording to the Press-Enterprise. The paper's account added that Hutchinson and an associate were indicted in April 1999 by a federal grand jury in San Diego in connection with hazardous

Say it isn't rape An expose two weeks ago in the Sacra-The state of the s on UC campuses. In response, UC president Richard Atkinson has ordered formation of an in-house task force to investigate. "We has ordered formation of an in-house task rocce to investigate. We think we're doing a good job, and we think we are complying with the law," a UC spokesman told the paper. "We're going to form this internal task force to see if we're doing as good a job as we think we are"... SpO&Es plan to run high-voltage power lines through Temecula in Riverside County is meeting with heavy resistance from residents there, reports the Riverside Press Enterprise. Designed to meet growing demand for power in San Diego, the line is scheduled for construction in mid-2002... Diego, the line is scheduled for construction in mid-2002 ... **Darr Bothwell**, a noted Bay Area artist who reportedly went to San Diego High School and was once briefly married to the late San Diego sculptor **Donal Hord**, has died in Fort Bragg at 98.

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-235-3096.

#### I'm Always on the Go

By Robert Kumpel

he first thing you notice about Bob Guthrie's appearance is his hands. They're huge — the hands of a man who's

worked hard using them. His physique is unusually hard and lean for a 59-year-old man. Guthrie doesn't spend much time resting. He seems to be making up for all of the years he

passion and sensitivity were

dad was more abusive toward me, and he was most abusive to wards my mom. My brother had ways to get away from it, bu I wasn't able to get away from it. I lived in a home near Bremer ton, and then I came out here to transferred in the '50s. I stayed with him for a while until the

get in trouble for it. The em-ployees would take it out on the patients who talked about it or got them fired. They were very strict and had a lot of runaway from that place. Back in the '40s and '50s, a person who had this type of thing had to deal with that because they would just put them in the state hospital. There were several other state hospitals in California that I was in. "[The employees] would

'cause I've seen a lot of natients

CITYLIGHTS

take advantage of most of the patients. They'd steal their cloth-ing and other belongings. Fi-nally, they started searching some of the employees' cars. They found clothing and other

"Special education" as we know it today did not exist for Guthrie when he was a boy. "I

I started goin' to Gamblers Anonymous. I carry a token to remind me what gambling can do. I started makin' a goal for Lakeside and bicycles to work in El Cajon five days a week, one hour each way. "I've been on my own for a year. It's something I vanted to do for a long, long time. The family I lived with be fore in Alpine didn't want me to do it. They said I wasn't ready When I moved out to move into another home in El Cajon, Kelly the house manager at the new home, helped me out. She said

I'm always on the go, always do ing something to stay active. I've made goals for myself. At home I'll make TV dinners and then go out and visit with somebody I know. I have a lot of friends in the trailer park. I also do work in the park to help out with the the park to help out with the rent. I keep myself on a budget. I have a checking and savings account, and I keep them up to date. I keep up on my cable and telephone bills. I always find work to do. I do a lot of lawns and garden jobs."

Guthrie has worked for

that I can adjust. I m learnin not to be shy, and I come in contact with a lot of people. "When I finally came out of that environment, the state hos-pitals, I had to learn to adjust and make goals for myself. I know I've made mistakes. I've learned that in these board-and-care homes they think of the person they're takin' care of as their own child. "When I was at this board-"When I was at this board-and-care in Alpine I got in-volved with gambling. They took me to Laughlin. Then I thought that if I could win in Laughlin, I could do the same thing at Vieias. I lost a lot of money, but I've paid all my debts. The people at the casino saw that I had a problem and do. 1 started makin a goal for myself and thinking positive. It's been a year now since I've stopped gambling." Guthrie lives in a trailer in

person. At the time, I was very

ensitive about it. I've finally wo

ken up and realized that I can't

with some of the younger gen-eration. I used to feel like I stood

out in a crowd, but I learned

that I can adjust I'm learnin' not

You do it when you're ready." was in a lot of debt, and I had to wait until my bills were paid

Doetsch Enterprises for 11 years. "My bosses, Candy and Rick, they're like family to me. They've really helped me out. [Rick] told me, 'You'll never have to worry about losin' you job. You'll always have a job here.' And I don't even have an education! But I've picked up on learnin' things. I work in shipping and receiving, packag-ing, organizin' the warehouse. I'm not good at math but I'w

#### A Big Message

By Suzy Hagstrom

on concluding its December 6, 1999, session, San Diego City Council honored a community volunteer, but few people

knew Janice Kay Loesel or how she died. Councilman Juan Vargas described her as a tireless member of the Golden Hill Cit. izens Patrol who had a special is terest in rescuing stray cats. "Un-fortunately, she did pass away, and our thoughts and prayers are with her family," Vargas said in

Linda Palmer, who monitored Golden Hill monthly with Loesel to help discourage crime, recalls her partner as a quiet per-son. For nearly eight years, while others talked at patrol meetings, Loesel was responsible for tak-ing notes. "Jan blended into the background," Palmer said. "She was very cautious. She never wanted to overstep her bound-aries. She would never argue or

Oct. 27

ego, CA.

a member Patrol of an Diego,

s included

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e Humane

ve set up a

hername.

lude broth-

ters Bob

au: Sharon

thy (John)

and Gary

In the end, Loesel's silence

spoke loudly. However timidly she may have lived, she chose to

die boldly. In the early hours of October 27, 1999, Loesel drove

bridge's waist-high ledge, and

umped. Loesel, 51, an unemployed

Lossel, 51, an unemployed telemarketer, was among 294 people who committed suicide in San Diego County last year. Of that total, 6 died by leaping off the Coronado bridge. As of

off the Coronado bridge. As of August 14, another 6 people have killed themselves similarly so far this year. "That's a dramatic way to die. I could understand if she were very emotional, but Jan was a placid kind of person, "Palmer said, echoing the shock expressed by other acquaintances." At times

n I think about it, I can't

JANICE LOESEL el died un-

fathom it." Jumping from high places, such as skyscrapers and freeway overpasses, is less commo among surctus, shooting oneself, hanging one-self, or overdosing on drugs, said Dr. Rodrigo Muñoz, a past pres-Association, who practices in San Diego. But disturbed individu-als who have lost hope opt for whatever means are available "The bridge is a significant presence in many people's lives, Muñoz said. "It's a certain way to

But even that assertion about the Coronado bridge is mislead-ing, Muñoz acknowledged, given the many degrees between seeking attention, desperately signal

ing for help — both forms of parasuicide — and seriously in-tending to commit suicide. At

least ten San Diego residents have survived after hurling themselves into the bay, while many others have lingered at the

bridge's edge long enough to be dissuaded from jumping. The first death occurred in

1972, three years after the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge opened to traffic, but it wasn't a suicide. The San Diego Police

Department, which investigated the scene, and the San Diego

the body, labeled it potential homicide. An estimated 5 per-cent of bridge victims are first called John Doe or Jane Doe be-

cause they aren't immediately identifiable — as transpired in

Harbor Police, which retr

suicide. Most people drive on the As with other suicides

there's no common thread for bridge-jumping," said Lt. James E. Barker, commanding officer of the San Diego Police Department's emergency negotiations team, which, in its role of diffusing crises, has talked some people out of leaping, "We used to think it was during the holiday season, but during the last few years, we've had zero activity during the holiday. You can't say it's young versus old, successful peo-ple versus unsuccessful people, educated people versus unedu-cated people. It covers the whole

officials reluctant to talk about Coronado bridge suicides for fear of spawning more. "We can't back it up with a scientific study, but every time something like this gets publicized, we have a this gets publicated, we have a copycat or rash of these," Barker said, noting that a suicide at-tempt from the Laurel Street bridge in January was followed by a Coronado bridge attempt. What's the value of publicizing all of this? Who are we educat

ment that sometimes expresses pent-up anger as well as irre-versible despair and insur-mountable pain. The irony is, deaths from the Coronado bridge seldom become news. Coverage has diminished over the years, but phrases such as "police activity on the bridge". and "traffic tie-ups on

partment, San Diego police de-termined the deceased was Jewell P Hutchings 52 and charge her husband, James Albert Hutchings, with murder. From had driven to the bridge, where Hutchings threatened to shoot his wife unless she jumped. Their daughter and daughter's friend watched from the car, according to criminal records at San Diego Superior Court. Hutchings first told police his wife wanted to kill herself, but he later pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaugh ter. He was convicted of tha and then released on probation in 1974. The court's records end in 1976 with Hutchings's viola tion of probation resulting in

The Hutchings case may be conly murder on the Coronado bridge. With the exception of one man in 1992, the San Diego County Medical Exam-iner's Office has identified all 202 people known to have commit-ted suicide there. Each year the number varies: from none in 1985 to 16 in 1980. About 25 percent of the victims are women — a breakdown that roughly ap-proximates national statistics for

Barker is among some transportation and law-enfor

all of this? Who are we educat-ing? To me, it's not worth some-body's life."

Bridge-jumping is regarded by some mental-health experts as a big message, a public state-ment that sometimes expresses

phemisms for suicide and sui-cide attempt.

Either event can involve the California Department of Trans-portation, California Highway Patrol, San Diego police, Coro-nado police, and Harbor police. "It's a multiprisdictional issue," Barker said. "We work very well with seeh others. We have a per-

with each other. We have an ex

part of State Route 75, it relies on local police to investigate some crimes there. As a practical mat-

ceptional relationship." Althou the Highway Patrol has primal

whoever arrives first, be it the Coast Guard, the Navy, or pri-

vately owned boats.
"I think there's reluctance on
the part of the news media to report on suicide because there's a
fear of normalizing suicide. I think this is true in other parts of the country, too " said Rudy time when the Golden Gate Bridge suicides were on the front



ter, police from San Diego or

Coronado are better positioned and staffed to reach suicide sus-

pects first. The patrol, which de-cides whether to halt or restrict

traffic on the bridge, this year made effective a memorandum

trans workers, who routinely

ways there to pull bodies and survivors from the bay. That task,

of understanding that delir the roles of various agencies. Cal-

cross the bridge in emerge and maintenance vehicles, sc





court sent me to the Porterville State Hospital in 1953. I was up there from '53 to '59. In '59 I was sent to Fairview State Hospital 'It was a lot closer to San Diego. The state hospitals Guthrie refers to were mental hospitals. "Most of those places at that time were very ab of the patients. I got hit by an employee one time up at Porter-ville, and I never reported it

vent to school for a while when I was in Bremerton, I was close to 12 years old at the time. That's when I realized I was diffrants when I realized I was dif-ferent from the other kids. There were a lot of them that were ei-ther makin' fun of me or callin' me 'M.R.' and stuff like that, I still see it today. People will use that word, 'M.R.' or 'retarded'

more the exception than the rule in treating retardation. "I was born and raised back in

Philadelphia. I was moved

around from place to place

around from place to place. Later, my dad was stationed at a navy base in Bremerton, Wash-ington. I was taken away from my family because my dad was

abusive. I have a sister two years older than I am and a brother

who's two years younger. My

rides to La Mesa or reational City."

Both of Guthries parents are dead, but he still maintains close ties with his brother and sister. "My sister lives up in Riverside, and I see her on holidays. My brother lives in North Park. I

down in Imperial Beach." When asked if they've ever offered to let him move in, Guthrie waves off the idea. "I'd much rather off the idea. "I'd much rather live on my own. That's what I've always wanted to be able to do for myself. My sister's very proud of me. They don't deny me what I want to do. Most par-

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to broaden your social group.

abled] children to go out in the real world or get married. They're just too protective. I've seen some parents who wouldn't let them out of their

gether in the group. They never let us handle our money. We never got to associate with the outside. The other one, up in Alpine, did not want me to move out. When I moved out, they held it over me. Whenever

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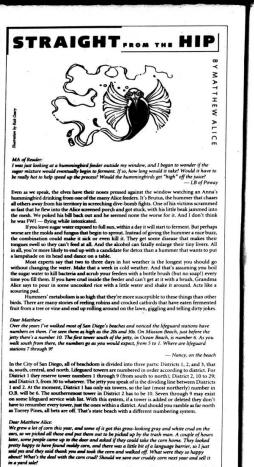
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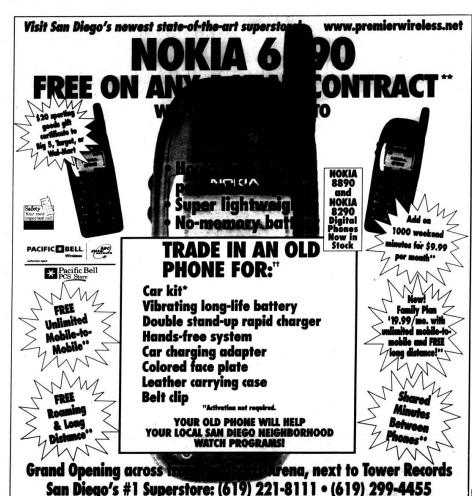
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You threw out outslacobe, a Mexican delicacy that look pretty avail but teste like a cross between mushrooms and corn when it is picked early enough. It's called corn smut, though botanically must be considered to the construction of the construc

Got a question you need answered! Get it straight from the hip. Write to Matthew Alice, do the Render, P. O. Box 5000, Son Diego, CA 92105-5003, or fax your questions to 619-231-0409, or e-mail to haymatt@th.com wit the interval



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#### SportingBox By Patrick Daugherty

## A League Of Their Own

We're doing some things better on offense. I wish we could have been a little more balanced and could have been a little more balanced and could have established some things, but we did some good things." These are the incoherent thoughts of Chargers head coach Mike Riley. They were spoken the day after his team was blown out by the St. Louis Rams' bench,

was blown out by the St. Louis Rams' bench, leaving San Diego with an 0-5 record. There is nothing left to the Chargers. There is no defense, no offensive, no coach-ing, nothing to identify them as a football team other than a fat check from city hall, served up after every hone game. Indeed times are grim for those of us, who like grown up football. We must look elsewher. lege football in San Diego is an oxymoron, the NFL disappeared, and the XFL is a no-

show.
Don't kick the dog again! I may have
a solution. Have you heard of the AAA Pro
Football League? No? Well, step closer, their
2000 season begins next Wednesday. Perking up a bit, aren't you? Well, perk away, ing up a bit, aren't you? Well, perk away, because the San Diego County Cougars open at home on October 26. Is this news too exciting? Better buckle up, I've got more. The AAA Pro Football League has its head-quarters right here in San Diego at 2828 University Avenue!

University Avenue!

We'll get to scapegoats later, right now, let's spread the news! First, the basics. The AAA Pro Football League fields ten teams:
San Diego County Cougars, Las Vegas Gladiotrs, Tucson Terror Birds, Fresno Thunder Bolts, Bakersfield Bison, L.A. County
Barrons, Analysim Condons, Sacramento Barons, Anaheim Condors, Sacramento Marauders, Albuquerque Regulators, and San Jose Sea Lions. Their football season runs

San jose sea Lions. Their football season runs from October 11 through February 1, 2001. According to the league, "Please do not confuse the Triple A PFL with sandlot and Semi-pro football. Our athletes will and Semi-pro football. Our affiletes will have the opportunity to earn in excess of \$100,000,000!!... Games will be played on Tuesday evenings. The 'Game of the Week' will be played Wednesday evenings and will be marketed on Pay-Per-View television...for less than the cost of a movie ticket."

And what a Pay-Per-View extravaganza it will be! 'Selected olarges, coaches and

it will be! "Selected players, coaches and referees will be miked during the contest. As you well know, there are no restrictions As you well know, there are no restrictions on vocabulary on Pay-Per-View, so you will not have the annoying 'bleep' sound over certain expletives...we'll take you into...the locker room, sidelines, coaches' box, field of battle, and ambulance (if required), to bring you the full flavor of professional football."

football."
Drooling yet? Hang on, there's more.
"Instead of the monotonous rehash of the
first half of the game, you, the fan, will be
treated to a mini-concert during half-time
of the Wednesday HUMPNIGHT Football
content! We will be featuring the world's
best Rock and Roll groups during this short
break in the wall-to-wall gridron action!!!

Preax in the wall-to-wall gridinon action!!!

"Here is just a sampling of the tremendous talent that the Triple A Pro Football
League will be inviting to perform: Metal-lica, AC-DC, Rolling Stones, U2, Judas
Priest, Kiss, Pearl Jam, Aerosmith, Creed...

For less than a twelve pack, you and your friends will be able to experience the brutal beauty of the game of Pro Football."
Too good to be true? Rest easy, sports fans, the founder/CEO of AAA Pro Foot-

Foreman in the history of Mattel Toys, supervising 60–125 individuals at age 23.

Mr. Reinholz has been involved with Real Mr. Reinholz has been involved with Real Estate and Mortgage Banking in California for over 25 years while starting up several businesses, including a small chain of import stores, a time share corporation, and a videor/television production company. He is currently focusing his attention on the developmental [sic] of the AAA Pro Foot-ball Leaves and doing research for a node. ball League and doing research for a novel

in progress."

What can you say, except "SIGN ME What can you say, except stors when the control of the racing around the league's website (www.aaapfl.com) looking for an address

#### The Vegas Line

NFL Week 6 [Home Team in CAPS]

Spread Under Underdog

	Sunday			
	MIAMI	2	34 1/2	Buffalo
	DETROIT	3	43	Green Bay
	Indianapolis	3 1/2	44	<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>
	CHICAGO	5 1/2	40	New Orleans
	N.Y. JETS	8	38	Pittsburgh
	Tennessee	10	37 1/2	CINCINNATI
ı	Washington	3	37	PHILADELPHIA
	ATLANTA	1	42	N.Y. Giants
	Oakland	4 1/2	49	SAN FRANCISCO
	ARIZONA	4 1/2	40 1/2	Cleveland
	Denver	6 1/2	43	SAN DIEGO
	CAROLINA	4	43	Seattle
	JACKSONVILLE	2 1/2	38	Baltimore

MINNESOTA 1 39 Tampa Bay

to which to send money.

Triple A football did not disappoint. They have an Advance Season Ticket Sales Reser vation Deposit Form which I can print and vation Deposit Form which I can print and use to send \$25 to league headquarters. They have an AAA Gear page where I can buy hooded sweatshirts, denim shirts, Tshirts, polo shirts, baseball hats, and sweat-

But, there may be a few tiny, tiny prob But, there may be a few tiny, tiny prob-lems. The AAR Football League does not indi-cate where any of these teams actually play. No stadium names, no addresses, nothing. The league office does not publish its phone number on its Web pages and is not listed in the San Diego Phone book. Neither are the San Diego Cougars. The Las Vegas Glad-iators, Tucson Terror Birds, Fresno Thun-tators, Tucson Terror Birds, Fresno Thunin a their city's phone books. I didn't bother to call the rest. Could this be fraud? I don't know.

Look at it this way, they're about as real as the San Diego Chargers.

The Sporting Box solicits your comment via the Internet: sportbox@ix.netcom.cr



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#### SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: United Church of Christ Address: 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-6311 Year founded: 1957 among other things, the promotion of gun and hate-crime legislation, Reverend Stinson launched into his sermon on "Faith, Good, & Compro-mise." Reverend Stinson is a Harvard Divinmise. Reverend Stinson is a Harvard Divini-ity grad and is a fine speaker. Using terms like "theoretical framework," existential." he spoke about a French village that during WWI man-aged to save 6000 Jews by making nice to a Nazi general. "Sometimes justice and love," Reverend Stinson told us, "come within the context of limits and compromise." Senior pastor: Jerald Stinson Senior pastor: Jerald Stinson
Congregation: 400
Staff: one full-time, four part-time
Sunday school enrollment: 150
Annual budget: \$200,000
Weekly giving: 33900
Singles program: no
Diversity: white, some African-American

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

delivery .....

Liturgy ... Music

Extraordinary .

If you're of the mind that there's a vast liberal conspiracy to destroy America, look no fur-ther than Pilgrim United Church of Christ in Carlsbad. It's the sort of church that causes Pat

Carisbad. It's the sort of church mat causes "Fal-mel the heebie-jeebies. Gloria Goes to Gay Pride. My Mommy Has AIDS, Daddy Doesn't Live Here Anymore are a few of the titles in Pilgrim United's lending library for children. Last Easter.

according to a brochure in the narthex, Reverend

lerald Stinson's sermon

examined "why the myths of the resurrec-tion were created." In the sanctuary, below

the cross, hangs a United Nations flag. What was inter-

what was inter-esting, or, depending on your politics, eerie, about Pilgrim United was how churchy it seemed. Acolytes in

white robes marched

down the center aisle

and lit the altar candles

A large choir sang an old-fashioned hymn. Reverend Stinson wore not only an alb and stole,

but also a clerical colla

After he announced it

was time for an "adul was time for an "adult baptism," however, things got unusual. "Tell me why you want to be baptized,"

Reverend Stinson asked Elizabeth Griswald, a

very pretty UCLA English and religion major who's attended Pilgrim United all her

question to answer,

"That's a difficult

she said. "I don't think there's one true religion

I mean, choosing one religion over another just seems so arbitrary to me." Not exactly a zealous declaration of faith,

Not exactly a zealous declaration of faith, but not an outright apology for it, either. Griswald hemmed and hawed a bit more before settling on, "I think baptism is a symbol that I'm leaving childhood to work for social justice." Reverend Simon seemed pleased and asked her to kneel before him. Sprinkling water atop her head, he baptized her in the "name of the creator, the redeemer, and the sustainer of the creator, the redeemer, and the sustainer of

("Why not Father, Son, and Holy Ghost?"

After a special offering was taken for,

"Why not Father, Son, and Holy Choost" Hater asked. "Because "Father is sexist." Rev-erend Stinson explained. "We try not to speak of God only in male terms. Son of God, well, we don't believe he was the Divine Son of God. And as for 'Holy Ghost,' the word 'ghost' has so many connotations, like spooky ghosts in white sheets.")

limits and compromise." He went on to say that religion motivated reices: Sunday 10:00 a m

He went on to say that religion motivated the French villagers to risk their lives to say lews.

"The villagers' theology was much more iteral and conservative than mine, but we must remember that social justice comes out of many religious convictions. Martin Luther King.

Gandhi. Archbishop Romero. Bishop Desmond

"What's so tragic now is that so many

son advised us that man, woman, adult, child, Christian, and those of other religious beliefs" were welcome to partake. The ritual, he advised us, was "sym-bolic." People lined up before the altar, tore a piece of bread from a large round loaf and dipped it into a chalice of grape juice. (From the program: "There are some among us who are struggling to over-come alcohol abuse, and thus we use grape juice rather than wine so all

can participate.")
As someone who
would never take Holy Communion, whether the elements were just a nice symbol for broth-erhood or the literal Body and Blood of the Divine Son of God, I didn't budge. No one seemed to care. I couldn't help but wonder what co pelled these people to partake in a purely sym-bolic Holy Communion.

After the service I asked Reverend Stinson how he, as some one who didn't believe in a God who literally commands and forbids

encouraged his flock to participate in social is to take care of one another. That's what

brings meaning, purpose, and joy to our lives."

I also asked him what thoughts tempted I also asked him what thoughts tempted liberal Christians to stray from their particu-lar straight and narrow path. Was Reverend Stinson ever tempted to think that the federal government spends too much on social pro-grams? Was he ever tempted to vote for a

"No. no," he laughed. "I'd never be tempted

"No, no," he laughed. "I'd never be tempted by that. I'd especially never be tempted to vote for a Republican.

"Like everyone, we're sometimes tempted to be callous. When we see a homeless person on the street, or anyone else who needs our help, we're all sometimes tempted not to care. We worry about temptations like that."

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Dear Aunt Trudy,

My husband wastes money like mad. He doesn't save anything. I pay the family bills, and for a few years I've been putting some of his money aside in a separate account (in my name) for a rainy day. I've saved about \$9000. Well, he found out I had this money and hit the roof. When I couldn't explain where it came from, he accused me of being a prostitute on the side. If I admit I was taking his money he'll want a divorce, if he doesn't kill me first. The whole thing is a mess. We have two small children. What should I

TRYING TO SAVE IN TEMECULA

Dear Temmie.

Thrift is a wifely virtue. This has ever been so Your so-called husband should fall to his hary knees and slather kisses on your tiny feet. He ought to ask the gods while in that position why industrious helpmeet. Do you love this dolt? You live in California, community-property state. This means what's yours is his, and vice-versa, ever since Mr. Cheapskate slipped that ring with the microscopic diamond chip allegedly embedded in it onto your fourth digit. So the money is not going to be days ahead featuring all kinds of stormy weather. Therefore, an emergency fund is not only prudent but essential for the continued survival of your family. The young 'uns may want things are going, tuitions will have to be financed tional Monetary Fund by then, so you are right to start saving now. You're to be congratulated, not meanly accused of running a massage parlor in the codies of spare time you have between diapering, scrambling eggs, drying tears, swabbing the decks, and humming your brood to sleep. Does this beast deserve you? Should you take the money and run unless he radically changes his tune? These are the pertinent questions. Do not underestimate the nowe of a good woman's indignation. It can set heaven vibrating.

Dear Aunt Trudy,

This doesn't make me look good, but I sometimes spy on my neighbors. I use binoculars, and if I press them against my living room curtains I can see straight into the living room of the people in the next apartment building over without them seeing me. They are two college-age girls. They often have their curtains open and walk around without shirts, or they have dates over at night and make out. requently I see them and their sleazy boyfriends taking drugs: smoking a marijuana bong, sniffing der (cocaine, I guess). I've even seen people me over and exchange money for drugs. I think I should call the police, but I don't want to get in trou

ble for spying. What they're doing could wreck the neighborhood, not to mention ruin their own lives. The police say they won't take anonymo tips. I want to report this, but I don't ant to go to jail. Please help me decide how to handle this problem. TOM IN ENCINITAS

Dear Tom.

You sound lonely. Like you don't get out enough. No shame in that. Getting enough of the right kind of contact and affection is one of the banes of existence. To add insult to injury, you're gnawed by guilt while still plastered against the window watching Parade of Vices Theatre every day. This has to stop! You sound miserable — a nauseated audience of one sickened by his addiction to surveilling his neighbors. Forget the police. Forget these trumped-up moral ruses about protecting the neighborhood from the evils of drugs. You need to address your own problems and leave the neighbors to their fate — though you might advise them to install some sale at Home Depot. No one likes a squealer, not even the police. Nobody in their right mind will hang out with a rat - eat spagnetti car or drive all night to Vegas in his comthe sun's coming up, then share the winnings. We need to transform your life so that you're having so much raucous intellectual two-fisted fun (or whatever brands of safe fun you favor) that you won't need to live peeping. So. Tom dear, let's figure out what you're hungry for and hatch some plans. I'd like to see you adopt a dog and/or a lover, maybe get a new apartment, rustle up some pals to troop on in on you and zle your lemonade, and leave the place an unholy mess. Forget the topless coke-snorting bikini models and start looking after yourself.

Write to Aunt Trudy c/o the San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; call her at (619) 235, 3000 ext. 413: fax her at (619) 881-2401; or e-mail to



#### The Art of the Cash Harvest

company recognizes that the procedure was ill-advised and illegal and was incon sistent with Fenton's busi ness ethics "

 In September 1996, a San Diego shopping-center developer and a San Bernardino law firm agreed to pay a \$420,000 fine for laundering more than \$56,000 through 210 separate con tributions to five San Diego city councilmembers includ ing Ron Roberts, Juan Var gas, Barbara Warden, George tevens, and Judy McCarty as well as losing council candidate Andrea Skorepa Wal-Mart developer Frank Gatlin and his attorney Mark Ostoich admitted using friends, clients. employees, and business associates to make the contributions, which were later reimbursed. Roberts, who topped the list with \$24,750

bune as saying he had told Gatlin not to launder money to him and was unaware that the money his campaign had collected had been tainted. "On behalf of Gatlin Develop-

William Roper, Jr., SAIC's chief financial officer, gave \$250 on the same day

SAIC founder J. Robert Beyster gave

ment Co., I accept full responsibility for my actions and want to extend my deepest of apologies," Gatlin said in a statement.

In December 1998, James Mashburn, former owner of Mashburn Waste & Recycling, a North County trash hauler, admitted laun dering \$21,400 in the form of 133 separate campaign cil candidates in San Diego

\$250, as did two other SAIC workers Cox. Dianne Jacob, and Pam Slater, as well as San Diego mayor Susan Golding and Councilman Juan Vargas — said they had no knowledge of the illegal contributions Mashburn agreed to pay a \$249,500 fine. "I have to take full responsibility for what occurred, and I am extremely sorry for any embarrassment I have caused my family or any elected official," Mash-

burn was quoted as saying

and six North County cities

as well as the County Board

of Supervisors and mem-

bers of the State Assembly.

including supervisors Ron Roberts, Bill Horn, Greg

Recipients of the money -



After each scandal, many of the local elected officials involved have vowed to clean up their acts through a vari

finance reforms. In 1996 for example, Ron Roberts said county election laws should be changed to require a warning that laundering

of contributions was illegal. His own fund-raising envelopes carry such a warning, he said in an interview ast summer.

Other critics say that the law's \$250 limit on individual contributions is too ow and argue that it actually invites corporations to inder money to their candidates of choice. Still others point out that, no mat-ter how high the individual limit is set, the law's ban on vides a temptation to companies to continue washing campaign money through their employees, vendors ness associates, and other friendly agents. Without a vigilant watchdog, they say, orporate donors will con tinue to flaunt the law Many blame lax enforce

nent of the city's campaignfunding limits on San Diego city attorney Casey Gwinn, who himself has collected thousands of dollars of cam paign funds from the city's developers builders law ness pending before the city. Padres owner John Moores

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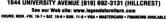
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and family, now enmeshed in Councilwoman Valerie Stallings's stock-trading investigation.

In September 1996, after the San Diego City Council rejected the creation of a so-called "ethics committee" to monitor camannounced he had created a "public integrity unit" in his office to root out violators. But in the four years since it was formed, Gwinn's group has thrown the book at just one alleged campaigr miscreant, Peter Navarro a U.C. Irvine professor and one-time mayoral, supervisorial, and congressional candidate much detested by the city's powerful pro growth lobby. In 1997. Navarro paid a \$4000 fine for failing to report loans he had received during his



proposed versions of a revived ethics committee along the lines of the one cil has repeatedly rejected. At least until after the election though, those proposals will remain campaign promises. Meanwhile, the cost of city chases of television and radio advertising time, highly paid direct-mailings to sway voters — is souring. And, according to disclosure records on file at city hall, hundreds of campaign donors from all er the United States ha been rushing to funnel a total of more than a million and a half dollars into the

Will San Diego's history of laundered contribu-tions repeat itself this year? A computer analysis of con tributions to Murphy and Roberts reveals that each has collected multiple contributions from employees of the same firm, their spouses, and other relatives - which is legal as long as they have not been reimbursed. A small sample of these individuals was contacted by phone and each who agreed to be interriewed denied that he had been reimbursed. Others hung up the phone or failed to return phone calls. Of historical note is the fact that Wal-Mart developer who in

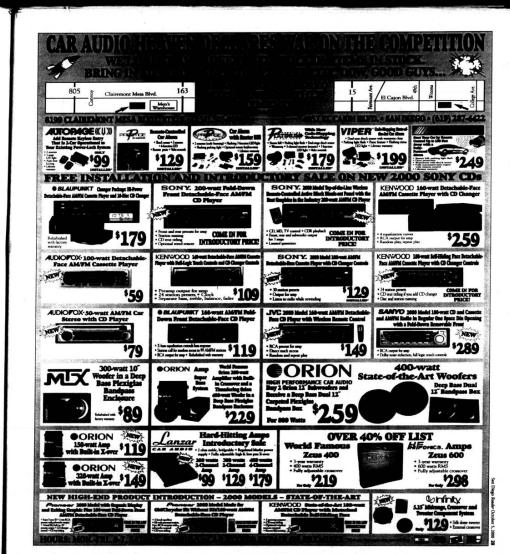
1996 admitted laundering funds to city-council race denied he had laundere money. The denials came during a 1994 interview by a reporter who first discov-ered and reported their suspicious giving patterns.
As of this June 30, the

most recent date for which campaign disclosures are available, the two finalists and Ron Roberts, reported ring raised about \$1.5 million between them, County Supervisor Roberts, a for mer architect and a prodi gious fundraiser ever since Diego City Council in 1986. has collected about \$1.1 million since forming his may oral finance committee in December 1998. Murphy, a Superior Court judge on was not widely expected to make it into the general election past his better-funded opponents), has collected









far less, a reported \$467,464.

With a judge in the race who may soon return to the bench, it might not seem surprising that lawyers have contributed heavily. But it turns out that the city's bigname law firms have split their donations, favoring Murphy by about 60 per cent to 40 percent. Murphy has also collected at least \$18,000 from those who list their occupation as "judge Roberts got only about \$1200.

Roberts, on the other hand, did well with employ source" its data-processing ees of companies that have had business before the board system to a group of private contractors. The move would of supervisors. An example cost 300 county workers their is SAIC (Science Application jobs, but the board of super visors said it would save tax International Corp.), a La Iolla-based thinktank and dollars. The employees defense contractor unafraid to throw its political influ-International Local 2028. ence around.

At the beginning of countered that the private contract would end up cost

1999, as Roberts began to collect contributions to his campaign for mayor, the



become a seven-year, \$650 million contract with three e-year options to revamp and operate the county's confusing maze of computer and telecommunications systems. The board began recruiting bidders for its so called "Information Technology Outsourcing Pro-gram" on February 24, 1999. ing taxpayers more, not less. and by that May was review

Despite the critics, the ing four proposals. Meanwhile, the comboard of supervisors propanies competing for the



deal were fighting their own for the favor of the county supervisors. Each of the four leading bidders — EDS, CSC, IBM, and Lockheed - had formed partnerships with locally based companies Electronic Data System had joined with cell-phone giant Qualcomm and Gateway transplant from South

Dakota. CSC paired with Sci-



ence Applications Interna-tional. Also in the Computer Science Corporation's con-sortium, which called itself "The Pennant Alliance -San Diego's Home Team Advantage," was Pacific Bell and Lucent Technologies.

When the winner was announced on October 15. 1999, few insiders were surprised. Computer Science Corporation's Pennant Alliance had carried the day, some said, by virtue of its

aggressive lobbying. When the final contract was ratiied by the supervisors on October 26, suspicions were 4-0 to approve the plan without question or discussion. According to an account in the next day's Union-Triune, "Supervisor Ron Roberts acknowledged the

lack of questions, but said

he and other supervisors had

Ir., the company's chief finan-

cial officer, gave \$250 on the

closely tracked the yearlong tions behind closed doors. But was merit the only thing that Science Applications had in its favor? Less than a month after the final vote to approve the Pennant show, SAIC employees began to contribute heavily to the Roberts campaign for San Diego mayor. Campaign dis-closure records show that on November 11, 1999, two uary 17, 2000. weeks later, William Roper,

same day founder J. Robert Beyster gave \$250, as did two other SAIC workers and their wives. No Science Appli-Roberts's opponent, Richard The photos and names

of many of the Roberts website of the Pennant Alliance, Richard Jennings a Computer Science Con poration senior systems scientist who gave Roberts \$250 on December 9 of last year. is listed as the alliance's "lead executive." Edward Timmes, a Science Applications \$250 on March 3 of this year. utive," along with another SAIC employee, Michael Moore, who is listed by the Roberts campaign as hav-ing contributed \$250 on Jan-

Shila Patel, whose photo appears on the website under the title "business unit



December 26, 1999. A fourth account executive and Roberts donor - whose photo appears in the web site gallery next to Patel. raises other questions Larry Aker, for many

years a high-ranking count administrator who had headed a nine-member task force to expedite the board of supervisors' desire to put government services up for bid, left his job with the



ounty in May 1998. At the time, Aker was said to have accepted a position "man aging investments and acqui sitions for a venture capi talist," according to an announcement by then-count Chief Administrative Offi cer Larry Prior, as reported by the Union-Tribune

But by January 17, 2000, when he and Hazel Aker at the same Poway address were each listed as giving the



Larry Aker was working as an "account manager" for Science Applications. The Pennant Alliance website says he is in charge of "Pub Safety" for the county data-processing project. Aker gave Roberts another \$250 on May 23 of this year.

In all 16 Science Applications employees, along with four relatives, had by the end of this June contributed a total of \$5391 to the Roberts campaign. Additionally, five

employees of CSC, SAIC's partner in the county ven ture, and one of their relatives gave another \$1500. for a total of \$6891. Science Applications-related donors included the company's longtime "government affairs vice president Kathy Holladay, engineer Mo Oloumi, vice-president Nancy Pabers senior vice presidents Thomas Dillon and Owens Alexander, Ir., as well as board member and stockholder 79-year-old Barry Shillito, a one-time assistar secretary of the Navy, and the company founder and CEO J. Robert Beyster, 76.

John Gulick, a CSC employee who is public affairs director for the Pennant Alliance, was another donor to Roberts. "Yes, I gave him a check," Gulick says, "I got to know Ron real well here, and he's a guy to look up to. Ron, and it had nothing to



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listed on Roberts's disclo-

sure as a CSC employee with

an address in Corona, gave

\$250 on May 23, 2000. Louis

Poanessa, also pictured and

listed with the same title as

Patel, gave \$250 on the same date. Another account exec-

utive, Computer Science

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Another large group of Roberts donors are also associated with a government

contractor based in San Diego, ADCS (Auto Document Conversion System), Inc. According to its website. the company "specializes in data capture and conversion, document conversion. tems, data warehousing. ing software and training Customers are said to include the Veterans Administra tion and the U.S. General Services Administration

The president of Auto Document Conversion Systems is Brent R. Wilkes of Poway, who, according to the firm's website, was o a "tax manager in the Wash ington, D.C., office of the firm of Deloitte, Haskins, & Sells " and currently "is also president of the Wilkes Group, a California corporation that provides general management and govern-

to businesses across the United States." It adds that Wilkes himself "has been instrumental in introduc ing [digital document] tech ology to the Departmen of Defense."

The site goes on to say that "the Wilkes Group has been primarily involved in introducing legislation for defense-related industries Wilkes has also been involved in International Business Transactions and within this

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WILLS AND TRUST

capacity has worked with the U.S. Congress. In fact, Wilkes, his com

pany-run political action committee, the firm's their families have for the contributors to federal cam ing to financial disclosure records. From 1996 until this year, for example, Wilkes is listed as personally contributing \$40,000 to a vari

ety of congressional camaigns, including those of San Diego-area Republic congressmen Ron Packard. Brian Bilbray, and Randy "Duke" Cunningham; Democratic senator Daniel . Inouye of Hawaii; and Democratic Virginia senator Charles Robb. During the same period. Wilkes also gave \$10,000 to the National Committee and \$5000 to a political action con run by ADCS.

In December 1997, the

Union-Tribune reported that Congressman Cunningham "helped direct \$3.2 million worth of military business to ADCS Inc. - the com pany of a campaign contributor — despite Pentagor assessments that others had superior products." The story dell, identified as a former executive of Audre Inc "another San Diego soft ware company, now in bankruptcy proceedings

Lundell reportedly "scratched [his] head" ove the fact that, although Audre's software was ranked significantly higher than the ADCS version, the contract was awarded to ADCS. Wilkes was quoted by the paper as saying, "Audre won in ca egories I would equate with glove box and tire sizes. But n terms of cost, ease, and speed, we killed them." Cunningham reportedly told the paper that anyone who quesned his actions in allegedly lobbying for ADCS could "go to hell

Why is ADCS so supportive of Ron Roberts? Does ADCS have an interest in doing business with the city or the county? When Wilke was contacted by telephone at his office last week and asked about his contributions, and those of his employees and relatives, to Roberts, he said he was in the "middle of a meeting and would call back. He never did; repeated follownot returned. Farlier this year, the

ADCS Inc. political action committee received an advisory notice from the Federal Election Commission telling it that its April filing was overdue. In a letter dated May 15, 2000, ADCS conwho is the action commit that "we had some staff

over in our office, and the filing of this form got The latest disclosure

currently on file with the on, covering the eriod between April 1 and mittee had collected more than \$13,000 in contrib tions for the year to date, of which Wilkes gave \$5000, Borromeo \$3000, and Joel G. Combs, listed as "Director-Bus. Dev.," \$3000. The committee reported having a total of \$62,790 in cash or hand. During the disclosure period, it reported making one donation, \$1000, to the campaign of Brian Bilbray on

Individually, Combs has given a total of \$25,000 to federal candidates over the past four years. Bor romeo has contributed \$5000. He and his wife have given a total of \$5000 to the ADCS, Inc. political action committee Other federal contributors over the past year who have listed their

During 1999, he also con ted \$6000 to four can didates, including Hunter Packard, Robb, and the Republican congressional Larry M. Wilkes of San Diego, listed as an employee of Foodmaker, gave \$2500 December 31, 1999, and a

W. Wilkes of Chula Vista

listed as an ADCS employee

who gave the committee

\$2500 on December 27, 1999

to the ADCS committee on total of \$4000 to Robb Hunter, and the Republican congressional commit tee Similarly Marilyn Wilkes of Provo, Utah, listed as an employee of Seven Peaks Development, gave \$2500 to the ADCS committee on December 27, 1999, and a total of \$4000 to Robb, the "Lewis for Congress Com mittee," and a committee called "A lot of People for Dave Obey."

Though many of these ADCS-associated congres sional campaign donors live

thousands of miles from San

Diego, all of them — along

with additional ADCS employ

ees, their spouses, and rel-atives — have also chosen to

contribute to the Ron Robert

for Mayor campaign. Though

limited by the city's maxi

\$250, at least 25 ADCS-asso

ciated individuals gave a total of \$9750 to Roberts through

June 30, 2000, the latest dat

available.

for which information is

Combs is identified on the

ADCS website as the com-

pany's "Director of Business

Development." According

to the website, "prior to his

role in business develop-

ment. Combs acted as liai

and Mapping Agency (NIMA) and was directly

involved with a \$600-mil-

lion federally funded NIMA

program to digitize satellite

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"I'm not really that politically savvy.

I know nothing about San Diego politics.

All I know is, ADCS is a customer of ours."

employer as ADCS include: Robert G. Wilkes, of Chula Vista and Carlsbad, who gave \$5000 to the ADCS politcal action committee on December 31, 1999, as well as a total of \$7000 to six cor gressional candidates, includng Packard, Hunter, and

Other ADCS donors Bliss of Great Falls, Virginia \$6000 to Cunningham and Gilman; Cliff Rittel, San Diego, \$2500 to the ADCS mittee; Julie Rittel, \$2500 to the committee: nmer L. Campos, \$75 to the committee; Carlos D. Campos, \$750 to the committee; and Mark Adams. of Alexandria, Virginia

In addition, the wife of Brent Wilkes, Regina, is listed as giving \$5000 to the ADCS e on December 3 1999, as well as a total of \$8200 to Robb, Hunter, Bil bray, and the Republic National Congressional

ages and paper maps." On October 29, 1999 and again on June 7, 2000. Combs gave Roberts \$250, Other individuals with one contribution for the prithe last name Wilkes who mary election and one for

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weeks later, on June 26, 2000. Frank and Patricia Combs of Tucson, Arizona, each contributed \$250. According to Roberts's campaign report, Frank runs an ins ance brokerage and Patri cia works for Mervyn's Combs has in the past lived at their address

Other \$250 Roberts donors of the same date as the Arizona Combs family include Ryan Wilkes, a manager at Cost Co. in Sandy Utah; Richard and Joan Bliss (he is listed as an ADCS employee in Virginia); Jeffrey Wilkes; Bryan Wilkes, a Pacific Bell technician from

Waldorf, Maryland; and Frances Snoots-Dipilla, of Waldorf, listed as an ADCS

As is the case with Science Applications, it appears that nobody associated with ADCS has provided financial support to the Murphy mayoral campaign.

One Wilkes employee, Mark Adams of Alexandria, Virginia, who is listed 'vice-president" of the Wilkes Corporation," did agree to talk. Adams said last week in a telephone interview from his home that he had been introduced to Roberts "through my business affiliations." Though he lives 3000 miles from

San Diego, Adams maintained, "I provided money to the campaign because I like Roberts's policies. I like his honesty." Asked if anyone for his contribu-

one company doing business with ADCS have also been encouraged to support Roberts. According to a sales County computer-hardware

maker, employees at tha

firm were repeatedly solicited

for funds by ADCS execu

Costa Mesa resident who is

employed by Procom Tech-

nology of Tustin, said in a

tives. Richard Creighton, a

Employees of at least

"I provided money to the campaign because I like Roberts's policies. I like

his honesty."

tion, Adams replied, "That's against the law. Of course

employees hung up the phone when asked about

their contributions.

that he had been invited to ADCS president Brent Wilkes "I got something in the mail to come to a fundraiser.

I'm not really that politiabout San Diego politics, said Creighton. "All I know is, ADCS is a customer of ours. They sell computer products to the government. Our company makes computer products. They use our products to satisfy their bid. When they win a bid from the government to do a job, they go out and buy they buy some from us. We make storage devices and most of what they do involves

storage."

Along with Creighton Procom employees and their spouses, all residents of Orange County, gave the maximum contribution to the Roberts campaign, for a total of \$2250. All but one of the contributions was recorded as being made on June 6, 2000. When combined with the directly traceable ADCS contributions, ADCS has been responsible for raising a total of at least

Creighton said he had not been reimbursed for his contribution.

- Matt Potter

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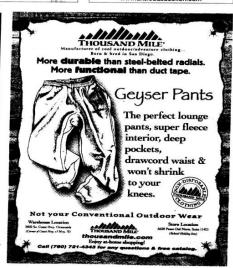
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ne item at the Andy Warhol Museum website (www.clpgh.org) caught my attention. Hid-ing among the predictable raves about Warhol's glamour and savvy, about his being a "mirror of his time," was an announcemen that the museum and the United States Department of State had co-organized an exhibition of his work. What struck me was not that our government has enlisted Warhol as an ambassador. but to which post they were sending him. At this very moment, his smart-ass soup

cans, Marilyns, Maos, and Statues of Liberty are touring Eastern Europe. The exhibition opened on January 8 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and will visit such countries as Lithuania, the Ukraine, Hungary, Russia, and Estonia before its final stop in Riga, Latvia. It's the first time that Warhol originals have been exhibited in several of these

Though sometimes I wish I were energetic enough to be one, I'm no radical. I'm all for irony and occasionally delight in postmodern chicanery But the news of Warhol's infiltration of Eastern Europe reminded me of a dejected moment in ou cultural history — the failure of American left ists, many of whom were influenced by Eastern European humanistic traditions, to resist Pop

Pop, the Andy Warhol Museum and just about every cultural historian who writes about



it would have you believe, was sui generis - an ious cultural phenomenon that, because it was apolitical, shot like a helium balloon up to sky-scraping heights. But even if the writing was on the wall, not everyone believed what George Eliot had said a full century before, "There is no private life," she wrote, "that has not been determined by a wider public

Though commercially successful, Pop Art encountered desperate criticism. In the early 1960s, dealer courtship of the new artists overshadowed the hysterical rants of prominent intel lectuals Pop's critics - Max Kozloff, Herbert Read. and Peter Selz most outspoken among them — refused to sit and watch as Pop's whimsical locu-

ions fragmented and derided the earnest rhetoric of Abstract Expressionism. They may have abandoned the human figure in their paintings, but Jackson Pollock, Adolph Gottlieb, and Mark Rothko, all of whom started out in the WPA's Federal Arts Project in the 1930s, were avowed humanists. Clement Greenberg's edict on the subject, "Avant-Garde and Kitsch," which first appeared in the Partisan Review in 1939, inducted modernism right into the trenches: "Hence it developed that the true

"The true and and most important most important garde," he wrote, "was to find a path along which it would be posible to keep culture avant-garde moving in the midst of ideological confusion was not to

and violence." The painter Robert Motherwell wasn't afraid 'experiment.'" to put it bluntly. "The history of modern art." he

said, is "the history of freedom. So this was the project of the paint-splat tered American artist before Andy Warhol came along in 1963, started to make money, and stated in an interview with Gene Swenson, "I want every body to think alike. I think everybody should be



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society? Or, worse, did it not care either way? A close friend of Warhol's Gerard Malanga,

told a biographer, "Andy element out of his art, and

a Hungarian-born Marxist art historian, to throw up his hands, forgo his usual radicalism, and moan, "He carries on his business for plea sure, fun, or enjoyment. He sage, no creed. He is not

were beginning, the true American left, no longer 4024 BONITA RD. able to glean nourishment from art, withered on the

- Justin Wolff

as he is aesthetically

tip of my TONGUE

floor fan fills my office with white noise. At night I leave doors and windows open. The air is so dry I don't sweat. I lie on white sheets and listen to a cricket hiding in the kitchen.

I've lived a long time in Southern California. The autumn Santa Ana still surprises me. I wake up. My sinuses ache. Sparks arc between

Water my fingertips and the bathroom door-

knob Crows loiter in my neighbor's persimmon tree, inky silhouettes against the blue sky. Termites swarm and discard wings on my windowsills. My skin itches. My mouth is always dry. The basil in the garden goes to seed and withers.

"If you can run for 30 minutes, you can run for an hour. If you can run for an hour, you can run for 90 minutes. A friend gave me this advice the fall I returned to San Diego after my marriage ended. My friend had run marathons. I started to run at night because it gave me something to do. "Drink lots of water. Keep yourself hydrated. That's the impor

It was an unusually hot and dry autumn. I was in a one-bedroom apartment with no furniture, a computer, many unpacked boxes. I bought myself

a pair of running shoes. I ran and ran in by MAX NASH the dry night air until my lungs ached and my mouth tasted of copper. I came home. I drank tap water from plastic jugs I kept in my white refrigerator.

I ran on sidewalk until my shins ached and my friend said I needed to run on a forgiving surface. I joined a 24-hour gym. I started going late at night when I could occupy a treadmill for as long as I wanted. I lugged chilled water

show me how to override a treadmill's 60-minute limit. I wanted to run for two hours, undisturbed, withbeening at me or stopping. The room of 15 treadmills faced a bank of six the same channel.

Run ten miles, I told myself, and you

can drink all the water you want. Water so cold it burns.

young woman. She was panting on a treadmill on the other side of the room. She was pretty. Blonde. In her early 20s. Flat-chested. She wore a pale blue leotard. The skin across her chest was taut and tan: I could see her clavicle. The night she ran on a treadmill in front of

I'd go to the gym after midnight. I bribed an attendant with a \$20 bill to

Many nights I was alone. I stared at the televisions. I listened to my breathing. After seven and a half miles, my sweaty tank top grew dry and stiff with salt. I could think only about water. Thirst eclipsed other preoccupations. The trick was to keep running, to sustain my parched isolation for as long as possible.

me I saw she had a young boy's ass. And there was a gap at

the top of her thighs. My arms were larger than her thighs. As me. leotard revealed her ribs. One night before her run she knelt beside her

treadmill and caretablespoons Gatorade into a liter bottle of water. She saw me watching. She

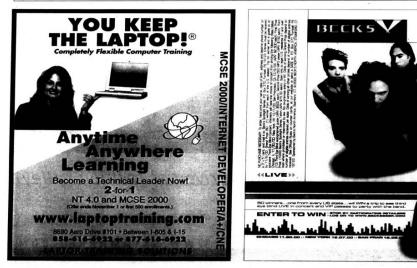
smiled. She ran fast, her legs a spidery blur. She'd sprint for ten minutes, hop of the treadmill, take a few sips of Gatoradeon for an hour. I told the night atten-

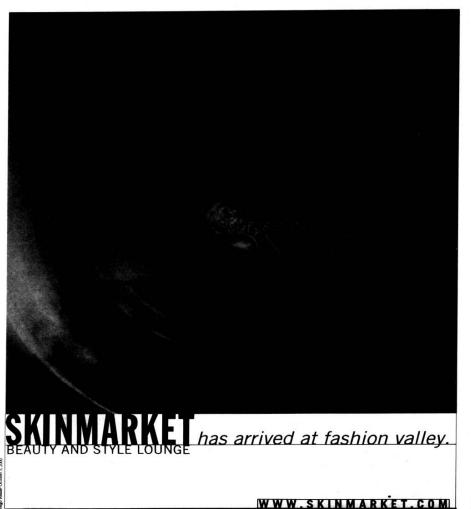
dead." He shrugged, snapped his chewing gum. "See it all the time. We can't order 'em out of the gym until they faint from exhaustion."

The night she fell I was watching One night at the gym, I noticed a the televisions. A cartoon bear chased a cartoon rabbit. With a weak little cry, the blonde dropped. Instead of surrendering to the treadmill's momentum, let it slide her to the floor, she fought against it, scrambling on her hands and knees. Finally, she gave in. The treadmill pushed her to the floor where she lay, a damp heap. I went to her and knelt beside her, my hand on her shoulder. I could feel bone. I offered her water, "Don't touch me!" she howled. "Don't fucking touch

> She got up, limped from the room. Our empty treadmills spun crazily. On the televisions, the bear chased the rabbit

I tried to run a few more nights at the gym, but even my dry mouth, my longing for water, couldn't make me fully spooned four forget the blonde. In my mind I kept seeing her fall. I saw her self-starvation as a parody of my self-imposed drought. The treadmill's steady thrum no longer comforted me. I started to run just before sunset at the beach. I still do. There's a fair number of us, middle-aged, sweating, making our solitary way up and down the coast. To one side of us, acres of dry sand. To the other side, the enddant, "The skinny blonde's going to drop less, undrinkable sea.





#### **Vic Vitello Breaks Bad News**

#### **CONFETTI FOR GIND**



Mamma shamed him for bringing his blond American girlfriend, Vicky. of this trip's tuna — and Gino's future in fishing.

While the other fishermen danced and got drunk at Peter the Rat's recenmorning hours, as Gino made love and Jazzy snored in exhaustion, Monk was already at work preparing the albacore for unloading at the Calpatria

Confetti for Gino - Lorenzo Madalena's nostalgic look at San Diego's fishing colony, Little Italy — follows Gino De-Marino, a tuna fisherman and the captain of the Stella del Mare, as he battles forces of nature: the sea, with its unprelictable weather and worthless catch; Mamma DeMarino, with her old-world ways and hopes for Gino's future; and the changing, post-War world of early-'50s America, where the livelihood of first-generation immigrant stock is threatened by the lure of bigger business. It's a few days since Gino's best friend's wedding, where

the frozen fish. He checked his engine room me-thodically every half hour. He also brewed and drank three pots of strong coffee and smoked two packs of Luckys. The remainder of the night he sat cross-legged in the galley and quietly watched the sky outside melt from black to a murky gray and finally to clear daylight.

Monk was in no hurry for the others in the crew to arrive. He was not lonely; he enjoyed the quiet solitude of standing watch on the Stella the

He pumped fresh sea water into the brine vells, circulating the water to melt and soften

same as he preferred remaining alone, below deck, in his engine room during fishing trips. In a sense, he regretted the coming of morning. Gino and Marco and Jazzy and Tits and Benny and Dirty Dick would drive up, and in a few hours the last ton would leave the wells. Then the boat would be tied up at the Finger Pier and the engines shut off. And Monk's responsibilities would end until the next trip.

At sea there was always something to keep him occupied. He could look after his engines, there were fish to pull in, he could enjoy the con-



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stantly changing ocean, or he could listen to the inane

banter of the crew.

Especially he had his engines. Below deck he could always find a spot that needed oiling, a minor repair that needed attention. And he was not alone, no with the continual, friendly chug of the motors. They ever called attention to the dependence of the entire crew upon him. As engineer he had every man's respect. Gino might know where fish were and how to catch them. but even more the Stella needed Monk for a success ful trip.
Each time a catch was

unloaded, however, Monk realized his worth had temporarily ended. The men ent their own ways, to their homes and families in the colony. There would be nothing for Monk to do bu take his check and head for Miss Annin's Roomin Home near the park. He would have a case of whiskey delivered to the small bu clean room he kept reserved. and there he would hole up and drink himself into a



day she would see that Monk ate at least a little of her own cooking, and she handled the fisherman's laundry per sonally. She was herself or dinary-looking and lonely. She enjoyed the role of mother and nurse that caring for her star boarder in volved. And occasionally, when the engineer sobered

enough to appreciate her

room, and so there he invariably remained until Gino sent a call for him and another trip was under way.

in boxes due to a septaff, a well-known German company, has just released feale to the public a limited number of

fabric, Levi's,

Monk nut on a fresh pot of coffee in the galley. The crew would soon arrive.

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homely charms, she permi

ted him to pull her under the

need for Monk to leave his

cide to put out to sea by the end of the week. It was only Monday, and by the week end they could surely be ready to leave. He dreaded long tie-ups. Once, during a strike, it had been nearly five months before the Stella left port. Monk had gone through his pay and had to leave Miss Annin's each week to collect unemploy-

he had had to curtail his whiskey, and the more ofen he awoke to find himself reasonably sober, the more he felt an emptiness inside forced him to admit his By 7:30 that morning

the crew of the Stella had ar-rived and unloading was under way. Peter the Rat. of moon and therefore indiposed and, by now, possibly ncapacitated. Two tapered, solid iron

baskets capable of holding

500 pounds of fish swun above the Stella and droppe into the brine wells. Monk and Tits worked one while Benny and a pair of Mexi cans hired by the hour han dled the second brine well They nulled on cotton glove and swiftly loaded the bas kets with limp, tender skinned albacore. A man at the operating hoist raised the baskets to dump them in turn into a flume. Running water carried the fish until traction slats lifted the alba core up to the scale house

for weighing. On deck Marco and lazzy stood about in their dungarees and high boots guiding the baskets and waiting their turn in the dock, looking down and supervising the unloading. He wore clean tan slacks and a tight-fitting blue T-shirt. He took care not to get grease or fish slime on his outfit. was his brother. As captain of the Stella. Gino's duty was to check constantly on no only the unloading but also the scalemaster and inspectors. There was no need for him to soil his hands further

"Jazzy," the captain ordered, "give Marco a hand and pull that basket out of the hold. He's doing all the work.

The young fisherman pounding from a hangover. and the pungent odor of fish made him almost reel.

"I don't feel so hot," he apologized pathetically.

Bestia bastardo!" Gino yelled. He started to bawl out lazzy for getting drunk at the reception but recalled his own sickness at Vicky's nulled up his trousers and

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spectors are in a good mood oday," he told Nino, "The Regina lost eight ton last week. Nick said it was all good, but they rejected it anyway." He grasped the midget about the neck. "Come on. We'll see what

they're doing."

Gino waved at the two men in the scalehouse and



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quatted on his heels. The

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same old story every time. he thought. These bullheaded fishermen! Couldn't see beyond their own pole at the larger over-all picture of the fishing industry. Oc casional tie-ups were sary to re-establish the bal ance of supply and demand on the market. And it was always Vic, as port captain, these dumb wops!

He replaced the cigarette in the ivory holder with another. Ah well, someday as second vice-president he wouldn't have to deal directly with the tuna skippers. He would be making decisions, not merely passing them on

to act aggressively. He snapped on an oversized lighter, blew a gust of smoke, and slapped his palm sharply against the desk edge.

"That's it, Gino! Front office says 'tie-up' and that's it. Same with all the boats, not just the Stella. Calpatria doesn't release any boat ur til lanuary one. We pack only fish from boats still out and work a three-day sched ule." He assumed his con-

fiding tone again.

"Another problem involved, Gino," he said. "As you are aware, fishing is faced with a new compet tuna is purchased more cheaply because of no tar-

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iff." Vic frowned impor tantly. "No need to remind you how some unpatriotic unscrupulous brokers pur chase this Jap tuna for resale to small canneries. These canneries do nothing but can cheaper prices. Result? Stolen market for us."

The fisherman turned his anger against this new source of competition. What kind of government ve got, anyway?" he shouted "I put in three years fighting those slant-eved bastards and now those Japs are screwing us good. And our own government helps! Who won the war, anyway, I want to know?" Gino sat

back disgustedly. Vic Vitello put on a

operly sympathetic air. He s immensely pleased with himself, as always. It was so easy to control and direct these tough tuna skippers! Gino had already forgotten his anger at the tie-up and exhausting his temernment. Vic relaxed in his swivel chair, occasionally nodding in agreement to anything Gino attacked. He felt like a puppetmaster. He really did! He should have been a politician. His talents were being wasted. But then second vice-pres

Vic decided it was time

o shut Gino up. He cleared his throat in the Lionel Bar ore manner and fidgeted

"That's it Gino. Tie-up until Ianuary one. Any prob ems come up, call on me. As the fisherman left the of-fice Vic Vitello turned his atish doll that revolved and Gino took his time

crossing through the room where the women cut and packed tuna, past the gov ernment inspectors, and out to the scalehouse. He called Nino and started back to the

His anger at the new of the impending tie-up had

secutive tie-up in as many years. The one before had lasted some five months, almost half a year of idleness in port, hoping anew each day that the end had come. Now this one would last until the new year. But even then, realized the tune boat might not be free to set sail The union chiefs might, as they had on previous occasions, call a strike when the tie-up ended and demand negotiations for new prices

of fish. Gino decided to hold

tie-up to his crew until after

simmered to resentment

the day's unloading. By early afternoon the brine wells had been emptied and the men began on the iced fish. Monk sprayed sea water through a highpressure hose to melt the ice n the tanks and facilitate loading into the baskets.

At 4:30 sharp Gino lled a halt to the unlo The crew and extra help the slime that coated the deck of the Stella and changed into clean clothes. Gino called the men

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"Boys, this trip is it for the rest of the year. The cannery says we don't go out again until new year.

The fishermen shuffled their feet, shrugged, and glanced at one another as they heard the announce ment. A three-month tie-up. Their last pay check for the

Monk looked impassive, but the specter of three lonely, drunken months in Miss Annin's Rooming face of Benny Alvarez turned into a mass of worried line another baby was on the way, his Chevrolet still had eight payments due, he was behind a month on rent, and

he had already contracted the Calpatria parking lot and turned onto Harbor Drive. for a television set. Jazzy alone seemed cheerful: a He drove slowly. The late three-month layoff meant three months of fun in Dago his weekly unemployment

check.
"That's all today," Gino said "We finish unloading omorrow and tie up. The bookkeeper says she'll have kind of scene with Mamma day." He waited a few moments. No one spoke. "Well," he added, "don't forget to report to the unem yment office next week." The fisherman lifted his little brother onto the dock and climbed off the boat. Gino pulled out from

afternoon traffic was heavy with Convair workers anx hundreds of sailors on pass to hit Broadway. Gino was in no hurry to get home. He expected some

He hadn't seen her since Pe ter the Rat's reception las night. He had left Vicky's side rly that morning to unload and had stopped off only to awaken Nino and change clothes. By using the frontinto Mamma in the cellar

could forget about fishing for three months, forget about the Stella. But not Gino. He still had the responsibility of looking afte the boat while it was idle. This damn fishing racket! He was fed up with it!

Gino stopped at a red

light and lit a cigarette. He scowled as he thought of

Mamma. He hoped to Cristo

she didn't jump on him

about Vicky as soon as he

got home. Not the way he

about the tie-up until Nev

owner of the boat. Sure, the

was feeling now, hearing

Gino glanced over at the tuna clippers and jig Year's. Here he broke his eggs working like a bastard. boats tied up along the wa terfront as he passed the Em-barcadero. Sometimes he and now when he was really was fed up to his neck with fishing, but what else could began saving up enough to break from home, now there he do? Fishing was his entire life. Ever since he had It was all right if the othdropped high school and ers welcomed a tie-up. Sure joined his father on the they'd get their \$30 every Stella. Except for a few years week. But not Gino. Not the in the Navy he had known

nothing else. It was the only

work for which he was

The fisherman looked at his thick hands that grasped the wheel of the Cadillac. What training? All fishing took was a strong back and strong hands. And a weak brain wouldn't hurt do it. And he wouldn't have to think. Just fish. Grasp the pole and tense your arms until the muscles of your forearms and biceps swelled into bulging cords and then pull the swaying tuna high above your head and let it into the water for another fish. Over and over again. And don't think. Just act.















Maybe that was why Vicky put him off on mar-riage. She loved him, bu maybe she was ashamed he was only a fisherman. A dumb wop fisherman who by the time he was 55 would withered skin, balding scalp dozen scars from fish hooks, ugly callused fingers with torn black nails. And arthritis. For with aching bones to curse them the rest of their lives, the fishermer paid for the hundreds of thousands of vellowfin and bluefin and albacore and yel lowtail they had ripped from the depths of the ocean.

The only ones to escape the ocean's curse were the smart ones, the fishermen who saved their money and quit the game while they were still young and vigorous and sound and found other iobs ashore.

Maybe that was why Vicky was undecided. She couldn't see herself married two-thirds of his time at sea, away from her, a man who unless he was smart, would wind up a pitiful shell of what she now loved.

Well, he was smart. Not smart in school stuff and education but smart just the same. He'd tell her. He'd fish a few more years and save his dough and then he'd quit. He'd sell his interest in the Stella to the cannery. He'd find something else. Like a bar. Maybe he'd open

this stinking, ball-breaking fishing racket. As soon as he got enough ahead of the game. Only now, now there was the tie-up. For three lousy months.

Gino blasted his horn as he drove past the Circle. Vicky wasn't on yet, but he honked through habit. He'd see her tonight after supper. And maybe he'd tell her what he'd been thinking.

As he swung off the highway, passed the maca-roni factory, and sped up the street toward home Gino nudged his brother.

"Tired?"
"Nope," said the midget. "Just hungry. Mamma's gonna have pasta with anchovies. I asked her

The fisherman turned sharply into the driveway. "How'd you get home after the Rat's party?" He unexpectedly felt guilty for deserting his family at the re-ception and driving away with Vicky. He hadn't told

anyone he was leaving.
"Marco brought us Mamma and his ma and pa and Lilly-Ann and Rose Ann, and then he went back and brought Anna.

Gino laughed. "I didn't ask for a whole report!" "They got back real late," said Nino.

"Who?" "Anna and Marco. Mamma was real mad. She bawled out Anna and Anna bawled her out too."

The fisherman shrugged They're always arguing. Gino shut off the ignition As they left the Cadillac he asked, "Want to go out

The midget grinned. "Try and stop me!"
"Don't get so damn smart," said Gino. Nino hugged his brother about the waist. "What we

a moment. "Wear that blue sport coat and your gray slacks. And a bow tie. No. better make it that vellow sport shirt. The new one you

"Right." Nino held open the screen door for his older brother and followed into the cellar kitchen.

ted patiently at the table Lilly-Ann and Rose-Ann were chasing each other and screaming with delight. Anna had just started boiling the pot of water for pasta And Mamma DeMarino was busy at the sink. She didn't turn about when her

Nonno was already

sons entered. Gino hesitated. Then he pushed the midget ahead of him, up the stairs. "Let's shower up, Nino." There was no point in arguing before supper. Besides, he read on the boat once, in Reader's Digest, where it was bad for digestion.

- Lorenzo Madalena

Next week: Anna gets her

Mark Bucon's plan is to spear fish at a spot along the Northern Baia coast known only to him and a few other guys. Five minutes before we arrive, he unties a black bandanna from the rearview mirror of his Toyota pickup and holds it out to me. I think maybe my nose 2000 dips and bumps

is dripping and he's offer-ing me a handkerchief. He later — Bucon stops the truck. "Disgusting, they're reads the nuzzlement on burning trash over there, my face and explains, "I'm he says more to himself going to have to blindfold than to me. "Actually maybe that's more than just trash. That fire's pretty big...and it's coming toward the road here...and

this is the only way in o

We sit there silently for

a few minutes while Bucon

weighs the risks of pro-

ceeding to his secret spot; I stare into the blackness of

the bandanna. Finally, he

be trapped by the fire or be

out."

I start to laugh, but the look on his face tells me he's serious. "I can't go back to the other guys who know about this spot and tell them I took a reporter down here unless I can say you were blindfolded," he explains.

Three minutes after I've tied the bandanna around my head. I feel the car decelerate and move right to exit the toll road. A minute or so later, the pavement beneath the truck gives way to the world's bumpiest dirt road. "You might want to hang onto something." and bounces along the road.

blamed for starting it by someone who might have seen us drive down the road we turn around and leave.

you," Bucon sighs as we bounce back up the road

"That's Mexico for

going to happen down here. But that's the kind of thing you put up with for good

Spear Man

"One flick of their tails and those things are out of your visibility."

Back on the toll road heading north, Bucon, a soft-spoken, athletically built

brown eyes, says, "There are other spots we could fish here in Baja, but I'd rather not stop until we're back in the States. It sound a little paranoid, but I wouldn't be a bit surprised

If we were arrested, Bucon couldn't expect the locals at his secret spot to come to his defense. They'd be more likely to testify against him.

"The first time I came down to this spot," he explains, "a local fisher-

accused of starting that fire."







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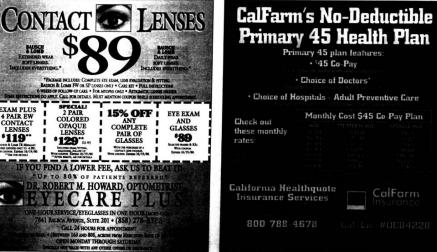
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urchin diver - he came up to me in his boat while I was in my kayak and said. and this is all in broken English, 'Listen, this is my kelp bed. I want to protect my sons. You Americans all the fish and leave. I don't want to see you around here re 'I said 'Richard first of all, I've got a Mexi ond, I'm not coming do here to ruin your kelp bed.

"So next time I came down, some friends and I drove a 19-foot boat that I own with a few other guys took three hours, and we were cold and miserable when we got here, but we figured we could anchor the boat offshore while we were diving, and if there was any trouble we could climb back in and get out of there. So, we drive the boat down, and we're in the water, and, sure enough, Richard comes up in his boat and says to me, 'I told you I didn't want to

see you here again.' I said, 'Come on, Richard, I've been looking for fish like this my whole life. If you

the fish I'm hunting are only here for a few weeks out of the year, so I asked him if I could take all 12 days at once

Two-plus hours after being defeated by fire in Baja, we find a spot at the south end of Kellogg Park.

let me fish here, I promise not to come down too often. He said, 'Okay, but no more than once a month.' Well, and not come back the rest of the year. He said no. Now what I do is I come when I want to, but I show up after 1:00 or so in the afternoon. after they're done diving.

It's not just for any fish that makes Bucon drive all the way down here, blindfold his guests, and dodge

the white sea bass. And not just any white sea bass. "I'm only going for trophy-size

With his left hand on the steering wheel, Bucon fumbles around in the glove box with his right until he finds an envelope full of pic tures. "Look through these, he says. "There are some

In the pictures, Bucon and others stand in wet suit holding by their tails white fish nearly as tall as they are fish with big mouths and spiny dorsal fins. "That was a big one there," Bucon say as I look at one of him squat ting next to his green Ocean Kayak on top of which lies a five-foot-long white sea

for an opportunity to bump "How close do you have

"The speargun," Bucon

Caught it at the spot we just

beds, 10, 15, 20 feet below the surface. They like to sit

just inside the bed on the

kelp. You swim along on

top looking for them, occa-

sionally diving down to

check out spots where it

looks like a fish could be

hiding. It takes an immense

amount of patience. You

can easily spend four or five

hours in the water waiting

them?" I ask

Where do you find

They hang out in kelp

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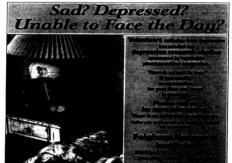
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xplains, "has an effective range of only 20 feet or so, on have to be close The problem is, you don't have a lot of time. One flick of are out of your visibility catch them sleeping, just hanging out sunning them-selves, and it's easier to get close for a good shot.

"What happens when

"Assuming you hit it, the spear goes through the

you shoot it?'

the spear. Then the fish runs. is going through your body. There's a reel on the gun. While you're doing that, the like a fishing rod, with about 500 feet of line on it. With fish is weaving in and out of the kelp bed, wrapping a big fish like that," he points around the kelp stalks, and s he's wrapping around the "you've got to let it run and tire itself out. First of all, kelp stalks, he's going deeper you've got to catch a breath 50 feet of water. and get your heart to slow down, because the adrenaline is pumping so fast through your system that your heart

is racing. You really have to

calm down. Then you have

to try to think straight.

because it's really hard to

"So you have to swim with your gun through the weeds and try to follow the line as you go. You follow through the weeds. At first, the line is only, say, 20 fee deep. But as you get closer

to the end, you're going 35, 40 feet to follow your line Finally you find the fish 50 feet down. So you try to get above the fish and your speargun floating straight above the fish. The problem is, a lot of times, the line gets hung up. So you'll go down and pick your fish up in 45 to 50 feet of water and you'll be coming up, and, 20 feet from the surface you can't get your line through the last stalk of

face holding a 60-pound fish, and you've got to let it go and it sinks to the bottom again. Then, after you get a breath, you've got to go back down and find out what's hanging the line up. swim back down to the bottom and find your fish, pick it up, and swim like a madman to the surface. Some times you're down for a minute and a half. It hurts The lungs are burning, and that first breath of air is the sweetest thing in the world." Not wanting to go

home having done no fish ing. Bucon decides to try the La Jolla kelp forests Two-plus hours after being defeated by fire in Baia including 15 minutes of searching for a place to park at the south end of Kelloge Park. The parking space i so tight that, even though I stand outside to guide him to parallel park the truck two kayaks proti from the camper shell hang three feet over the hood o the Mercedes parked behind

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We leave the two boats and Bucon's speargun sit-ting on the beach and return to his truck to put on our short-legged suit that Bucon lent me feels snug, but no more than his long-sleeved long-legged one looks. In on to the suit, Bucon also dons booties and gloves and a bood. From the back of the truck he pulls out fo me an extra hood, attached to a nylon shirt. "I recommend you wear this too. he says. "It goes under the wet suit."

I feel like a dog chasing its tail as I try to grab the cord that hangs down from the wet suit zipper at the back of my neck. I finally get hold of it and jerk the zipper down far enough to get my arms out of the tight sleeves. As I put on the hood/shirt combo — which Bucon calls a "cheater back into the sleeves and

pull the zipper up. Just then, a blonde life-guard in her early 20s walks up and asks. "Are those your kayaks down on the beach? Because you can't launch

"You can launch at La Iolla Shores or south of the

"Can you radio and ask if we can launch here this one time," Bucon asks her, "because our stuff is already down there and it took us

ing spot and...

south of the station," she repeats.
"What's the number

Bucon looks bemused. "Why not?"

lifeguard station."
"Why can't I launch

here?" he repeats. "Because it's rocky through here, and if there's a strong surge, you'll be on the rocks. It's for your own

15 minutes to find this park-

Before he finishes his litany of reasons, she calls the tower on her hand-held radio and asks if we can paddle out where we are. I hear a voice answer back, "They have to launch south of the

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down there?" Bucon asks, cell phone in hand. The lifeguard gives him the num ber and he dials it. "Hi, this is Mark Bucon, I'm the guy with the two kayaks on the beach up here between the Children's Pool and Boomers. Could we just

of the station and I promise

bait down there."

Bucon flips his cell

"Okav," she says. "Be

Down on the beach,

Bucon drags his green kayak into the water, just deep

enough to float the boat

and climbs onto it. I pull

my vellow kayak into the

eas-y adjective requiring

or exhibiting little effort.

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to launch from there in the

phone closed and says to

the lifeguard, "They said we

could launch here just this

careful."

future.... Thanks a lot."

launch here today since it's sit down without going over "I'll follow you out," I say. exceptionally calm and our stuff is already down there Bucon paddles out, and I follow his path through and it took us a long time to park? We'll come in south

area there? That means there's

re-al eas-y adjective authentically requiring or exhibiting little effort.

the rocks. The surf is lov today, and we glide over the "See those birds working that

dle and am keeping up with

Bucon When I look back

over my right shoulder

toward La Jolla, the view

surprises me. I've stood there

admiring the view out over

the ocean many times but

I've never until now con-

water alongside his, and,

much more clumsily, climb

on top. These aren't the type

legs and torso inside the

boat, head and shoulders

above. You sit on top, and,

consequently, they're tipsy. But I manage to get on and

of kayaks that you slide

about 50 yards to the north where a dozen seagulls circle and dive into the wate See those birds working top of the swells without incident. Once in the open water, we head northwest that area? That means there's bait down there. The water toward the large kelp bed is nice and calm, not too much wind, good visibility bait. Good conditions After a few minutes. I find ny rhythm with the padtoday."

bit the haven of wealth and

privilege that it is. By the time I'm done

ence spots and then says.

This is my spot. Condi

tions look really good; we

should see some fish here today. Maybe not white sea

bass, but we'll probably see

He points to a spot

and reaches into the water grabs a bunch of kelp, and ties his bow line to it. I paddle ten yards away and tr to imitate him, but I can't do it and keep my balance at the same time. "Why don't

you tie up to the back of my iclaned what the view looked like in reverse. Basking in boat," he suggests with a the golden-afternoon sun chuckle. , La Jolla looks every

Even that isn't so easy in the swells, which seem to jostle you much more when you're sitting still than thinking that thought, we've reached the kelp bed, and when you're moving, but finally manage to do it. Bucon stops paddling. For a minute or two, he silently checks a few shore refer-Bucon then tosses me a pair of swim fins, a mask, and a strapped to his kayak. As gear up, he asks, "So have you ever snorkeled offshore or done any diving before?

"Well, you've got a lot

of balls coming out here." "I do?" I wasn't nervous until now. "Why's

"Most people," he ented and a little sick when they first come out here. My guess is you'll go for 10 or 15 minutes and start feeling a little queasy. If so, just ve me a signal and we'll get back in the kayaks."

"I should be okay," I say, not really knowing if it was true.

"Just let me know how ou're doing," he says again, right before rolling into the

I pull my mask up and follow him in. The water is about 67 degrees, cool at first, but warm enough that I'm acclimated in less than a minute. After that, with the wet suit and hood. I'm more than warm enough.

Bucon reaches up and grabs

his speargun - which looks like a wooden combination of a crossbow, rifle, and fish ing rod — off the kayak and, motioning for me to follow him, swims off to the north. start to follow him, bu he's got a head start, he's a lose him. I'm also distracted by what I'm viewing through my mask underwater. The rust-colored kelp sways in the current against a royalblue background. Thousands of eight-inch silver smelt swim in and out of swirling around me, glis tening in the water-filtered sunlight, always just out of reach. I feel like a foreigner in another world — their world. Ten feet below the surface, smaller schools of sardines, also silver but a little bigger and lazier tha

the smelt, wander by. Occa sionally, I spot a green-and tan calico bass hiding under a kelp branch 15 feet down and once a half dozen or so shining silver lines appear at the limit of my visibility and

then disappear. I spend about 15 min

utes watching this under water world, breathing nois ily through my snorkel. what direction when the sound of Bucon's voice stirs me from my reverie. "Over here," I hear him say. I sur-

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all I see is the front side of one westward-traveling swell and the back side of another. "Over here," he says again It's coming from my left and I swim in that direc tion. Once over the first swell, I see his black-hooded head and mask. "Did you see that school of barracuda?" he asks as I swim up "Is that what the silver lines I saw were?" "Probably. How are you doing, okay?"

"Great, I love this." "Good. Occasionally I'm going to give you the

okay sign, and if you're still okay, you give it back."

With that, Bucon swims

beyond. I keep swimming in the direction I last saw him go, but I lose him. I don't off again and I follow. This mind. I keep swimming airr time I make a concerted lessly. The scenes beneath effort to keep up. But after I lose all sense of place. I don't a while he dives down and keeps going down until he know where I am in reladisappears into the blue

Bucon, and I don't care. I could keep swimming like this forever. But after a while the duration of which I couldn't tell you, Bucon calls me over again. "We're a long ways from the kayaks," he says. "We should head are tons of bait fish around here," he adds, "but I haven" seen any yellowtail yet. They could be here; we've just got to find them."

He swims off to the south and I follow. So far I've been reluctant to swim below the surface, but now

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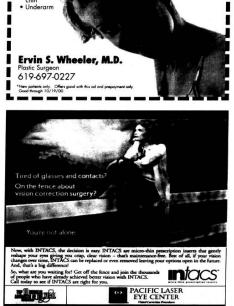
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beneath, I follow him. Imme diately my snorkel and mouth fill with salt water. coughing. Catching up with Bucon, I again follow him on a dive. An exhilaration comes over me as I leave through the kelp forest, as ping out of his space capsule and into space. About 10 feet down, the exhilaration is replaced by a creaking sharp pain in my sinuses Still, I stay down as long as I can. I'm sitting in some kelp reaching out — in vain — to touch a calico bass when something large and black 10 feet beneath me catches my eve. I turn and expect to see a seal or some other large, hopefully friendly sea creature, but it

the first time Bucon goes

ming along 20 feet below the surface.
A little while later, I'm following Bucon to the kayaks, which I can see 40

#### Bucon reaches up and grabs his speargun.

yards ahead toward land. As he pulls himself up onto his and I'm swimming toward mine, seven bar racudas - silver, slender about two feet long, with bright-yellow tails — glide by directly beneath me, about eight feet down. They look like polished stainless-steel

knife blades. I pull myself up on my kayak and awkwardly work myself into a sitting posi flippers, taking off my mask. and pulling the hood off my head, I look over at Bucon who is sitting slumped over his flipper-clad feet dangling over the side, his hood still on his head.

"You did really well." he says. "We were out for over an hour. I'm exhausted I've been out seven out of the last nine days. Too bad we didn't see any fish to shoot at. The conditions were right, plenty of bait fish around, just not the fish we were looking for. But

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## Bad Grammar, Bizarre Vocabulary

Bizarre Vocabulary
Please send Nomi Wise ("Happiness on a Plate," September 28) back to San Francisco
or, at least, back to the books.
She needs to study Strunk
and White and then do a little
testure reading the study strunk
and White and then do a little
testure. The study strunk
and bizare vocabulary
unreadable. Thus, her opinion
of our top thefo or restaurants
(or whatever her subject was)
lacks cerdibility. The arrival
left a bad taste Robin Visconti

Arrogant Wise's

Favorites

Favorites
I enjoyed Naomi Wise's piece
"Happiness on a Plate: San
Diego's Ten Hottest Chefs.,
but I must say, it's kind of
arrogant for her to be calling
them San Diego's 'best' chefs
I've been living in San Diego
for more than 20 years, and
some of the chefs she profiled
may be very imaginative, but
their incorporation of the
terredity yet very tasty foic gras
doesn't seem to have anything
to do about "pushing the

envelope." More like flav-oring with fat content. I've had the opportunity to experience the cuisine of four of the ten chefs menfour of the ten chefs men-tioned, and three of them I'm not at all crazy about, because I've found the food and service quality at the restaurants they work at very inconsistent. I don't want to point fingers, but at one restaurant whose chef was profiled, I had a terrific foie gras salad with

greens, pears, and nuts. But the entrée of rack of lamb was nothing to write home about, priced at about double I've paid for much better else-

where in the county.

At another restaurant Wise mentions, although the food quality is generally but not always top-notch, reservations at prime-time hours can take weeks, and the wait seems pointless because the high-quality service seems reserved pointless because the high-quality service seems reserved primarily for the Japanese

siness community.
At one of the French restaurants mentioned, I've found the entrée menu consistently lacking in imagination and quality ingredients, although, once again, appetizers and deserts were terrific, as was assistance from the venue's

wine captain.

It's nice when I go to a restaurant where I think that the chef has aspired to the cutting edge of gournet cooking, but it's never a substitute for inconsistent quality, whether in service or food.

Paul Gordon North Park

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ended my culinary career
years ago — I was pleased to
read the article on the ten best

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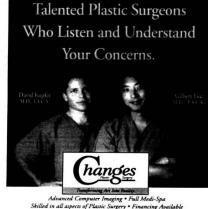




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chefs in San Diego ("Happi-ness on a Plate," September 28). The author made a comment that really struck home: "Every one of them learned 'on the job." "This comment described the way that I began my culi nary experience, starting in the dishwashing area, then progressing up through the positions to chef de cuisine. I feel that I learned more work-ing my way up with a Euro-pean chef, because they started at an early age peeling potatoes rather than the prima donna who got to spend Daddy's money for the slip of paper from the CIA — the Culinary Institute of America—that from the CIA — the Culinary Institute of America — that said that they were a chef. The CIA is not the only culinary school that will take your money and "teach" you to be a chef. Jonly used them as an example of a cooking school. Many advertise in the food magazines, such as Gournet. I worked with screaming maniacs whe discussed the knives, and support of the school and anything else that hap-

pened to be in arm's reach. I have seen whole orders dumped because the cheft wanted to "get back at" a server: "Oops, sorry, your order will be a while." They blame every problem on softwone else, rather than take the responsibility that their position dictates. Some "chefs" would spend untold hours in their office

either drinking or doing drugs to handle the stress of a busy workday and the position as a whole. The culinary school did not prepare them for the little things that happen in a busy kitchen. Some of these "professionals" had a hard time builing water without hurn-

lem for the owner and nurb business.

Owners can create prob-lems for their restaurant by hiring a recent culinary school graduate who has not had any real-life work experience in a kitchen, then the new chef feels that the rest of the kitchen staff is out to "get"

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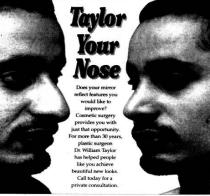
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him, rather than teach and him, rather than teach and guide the staff forward. When things go well, they, the "chefs, are the best thing going, but when things went wrong, they would point fingers at every-one else in the kitchen. I was algad to see the presentation kitchen, a glass-enclosed area, because it cut down on the tirades from these unstable

If the meal is not done to the

customer's expectations, then

you have lost that customer, along with the ten other ustomers that the first told

about the "bad-quality food.

The word compounds, until business is suffering from lack

of customers and then has to close. There is a high failure

rate in the restaurant business. How many times

have you gone to a restaurant, only to find it closed or under

article about the restaurant

Mr. Wolff Is Wrong

Mr. Wolff Is Wrong

I am not an apologist for the
Silicon Valley and the Web
world's loud and empty
promises, just a careful reader. In
this 'Gee-Whir' column of
Institute of the column
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In

ation of the culture of Silicon Valley left him (Cass) breath-

less and optimistic about the

The only problem with this reading is that it is wrong.

Cass's venture into the cor-porate world of the Valley

portrayed the technologica volution" as little more than

inflated hype, well-manicured

campuses, and zealous, pre grammed public-relat

programmed public-relations flunkies. The quotes that Wolff uses are taken out of

context, except perhaps for the last. When Cass writes,

"Regardless of what happens to the market in the short

good thing.

rene in San Diego. Name Withheld

My final comment is that My final comment is that it takes more than a piece of paper to make you a chef, it takes years of practical experience under the guidance of a high-quality chef/mentor. I am glad to see that someone else other than Eleanor Widmer or Max Nash wrote the

another name and cuisine

(So that I would not be charged with simple, self-righteous indignation over differing literary analyses, I checked with a number of such a subsection of the subsection of th chefs.
I feel that Bernard Guillas made a comment that all chefs should adhere to: "Don't serve it, don't even try." If the chef would not eat the meal himself, he should not try and shove it out to the customer who is paying for the dinner. I feel a bad presentation on the plate is worse than bad service. Grammarians Not

#### Allowed In Hemet

Allowed In Hemet
I was delighted by Mr. Bar-barie's letter (September 7)
criticizing Luvasis "China-berry Farm" article (August 24),
although I i'm not certain if impish humor or pedantry gone awry, Like the Luvasaes, I live in Hemet, and while it is true that grammarians are not allowed here — there is a city ordinance against parsing, for ordinance against parsing, for certain flights of fancy. During late summer the odor During late summer the odor of moldering Chinaberries induces the proliferation of metaphors, many of which litter our streets. Our bumper strips (and stickers) thus decry, bemoan, and even belabor (though seldom proclaim, since we are egalitarian here) a gentle chirping chorus which of couples engaged in seren-dipitous sex, one of the few unimpeachable pleasures avail-able in Hemet. (We have surreptitious sex also, although by its very nature it is less commonly witnessed, and, alas, its practitioners - like our president — often im-peached.) Putative acolytes often mistake our lyricism for malfeasance and the meta phors draped over our walls for dangling clauses; but those of us who live here simply smile, and sip, metapho

D.N. Stuefloten

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# Calendar

#### **Two-Color Rubber Law**

San Diego Table Tennis Speeds Up

Ping-Pong resembles table tennis only in the way that, say, commuting to work resembles racing at

Le Mans.

"Ping-Pong is the good, cloppy
little game you play down in Uncle Joe's
basement," says 46-year-old Pam
Ramsey, who won her first table-tennis
trophy at age 11. "Table tennis is an trophy at age 11. "Table tennis is an Olympic sport, where players have unbelievably long railies and hit the ball at 100 miles and hour. The serves are high-toos serves. It's how the Chinese play. And that's bow our club players play"—as members of the San Diego Table Tennis Association.

Size is another difference between two control of the same play.

Size is another difference between the two—recreational game and serious sport. While basements may be able to accommodate Ping-Pong, the legal dimensions for a table-tennis

page 67 Art Museums & Galleries "You do need a lot of space," says
Ramsey, who became the number-two
junior in the country at age 15, "because
people are going back and they're
lobbing."
In the 1970s, table-tennis rackets

Theater page 72

**Local Events** 

page 53

Movies page 109

Pop Music page 77

got more sophisticated than your average Ping-Pong paddle. Materials like rubber and sponge were added, and players began to spin the ball and crease its speed. At that time, too Nixon's trip to China and Ping-Pone diplomacy. In 1979, the public was se primed for images of Ping-Pong and its high-class equivalents that Ramsey was asked to use her skills in a TV studio and played table tennis using a studio and played table tennis using a ball that had been painted with Maybelline nail polish, and after eight hours it wasn't chipped. She really played eight hours straight? "Actually we played for three days, to get all the

played for three days, to get all the taping in."

But then a problem developed for table-tennia-se-spectator-sport. The game had gotten so fast, it became viewers. Media interest declined. Table-tennia players around the world worried and wondered what to do.

"And that's why we're going to the "And that's why we're going to the "To spoak to table-tennis afficionados this month is to remember the relativity of serues like "Big" and "small." Starting October 1, the dimensions of the ball increased from 38 dimensions of the ball increased from 38

to 40 millimeters. The new size, voted into the rulebook by the International Table Tennis Federation, makes the so-called big ball just a bit heavier than the erstwhile small ball.

cause to go dul just a not neaver than the The change was not welcomed by everybody. According to Ramsey, dissenters included the top players in the United States. "When the vote came across, we were one of three countries across, we were one of three countries like seniors, and those with defensive games, see it as an advantage, because the game is slower overall." Describing hereiff as "more of any somero" and mixed -doubles titles after the jumin of any, feeds "a big difference when she strokes the big ball. "If you were not familiar with table tennis and you say one of the new balls bying on you say one of the new balls bying on the difference." A millimeter is, after all, just .0394 inch. "But if you were a regular player, you could tell. I can regular player, you could tell. I can physically feel the difference when I hold

one in the palm of my hand."

Even with the big ball, things

may be able to follow. topspin shot, which, when executed properly, can curve in midair before hitting the table, whereupon it may "skip," changing direction sharply and unpredictably.

A twirl is a rapid turning of the racket in midserve or midpoint. Its racket in midserve or midpoint. Its purpose: deception. The hope is that an opponent won't know if the shot is to be made with the spin side of the racket or the anti-spin side — and anti-spin can be just as deadly as spin. Twirling isn't as effective a strategy as it once was, however, because of the "three seld-with her he."

"two-color rubber law," which requires players to use red rubber on one side of the racket and black on the other, nding to spin and anti-spin

racket." This weekend, the public can watch the flashes of red and black at a major table entire tournament in the Balbou Park Activity Center. More than any and the Park Activity Center. More than play for \$5000 in prizes. The Western. Open has attracted several United State Olympians, mong them Khoo Nguyen of San Jose and Cheng Yinghua of Montgomery Ulige, Maryland. If Youg Fan, the top player in the country, will be three, no. Originally









Cheng Yinghua (left) and Samir Tarquisti (right

Free Table Tennis info: 619-525-7854 Activity Center info/ directions: 858-581-7100

GETAWAYS

**EVENTS** LISTINGS

A Drama Festival is planned at the A Drama Festival is planned at the Tijuana Gultural Genter from October 5-13. Programs begin at 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. on Sunday, Tiskets are 57 U.S. Find the center at Pasce de los Heroes and Mina Street in the Zona Rio. For more information, call 011-52-66-87-9600, (IULIANA)

A Sculpture Expo featuring work by Ana Maria Guardia begins with a re-ception at 7 p.m. on Friday, Octo-ber 6, at the Tijuana Cultural Center

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must rived by 5 p.m. Friday the week received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including neighborhood) a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER EVENTS.

information to READER EVENTS, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at www.SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

for a 6k run on Sunday, October 8, commencing at 8 a.m., for those five years and older. For more details, call 011-52-66-13-5021. (ROSARITO BEACH)

Mexicals Friesta del soir con con-tinues through Tuesday, October 17, in Vicente Guerrero Park, Mexicali is the state capital for Baja Califor-nu. Take in the valley expo, featuring agricultural exhibits; a social expo; commerce expo; a section highlight-ing art, bread, and wine; traditional Mexican arts and crafts; and kids'

Admission for children is 30

(Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Dial 011-52-66-87-9600 for details. (TJUANA)

87-9600 for details. (RIJAMA)

La Voz de la Prontera 10k Run, for men and women in all categories, starts at 8 a.m. on Sunday, October 8, in Parque Vicente Guerrero. Call 011-52-66-34-3232 for information.

NEMICAL)

Remain Paur of La Plays Motocross
Series is slared for October 8, at the
Cantamar Sand Dures outside
Rosario Beach, Professional and amsterus ATV and motocycle neares will
be competing. Practice runs are
slared for Saundrog, Cochoer 7, from
noon to dark, and from 7 to
9-20 am, on Soundry The first race
on Sanday begins at 10 a.m. Admintory of the Competing of the Competing of the Competing
The Theory of the Competing of the Competing
The Theory of the Competing of the Competing
Theory of the Comp

Campo Emiliano Zapata is the site for a 6k run on Sunday, October 8,

Celebrating Prosperity, Cultural Diversity, and Mexican agriculture. Mexicali's Fiestas del Sol 2000 con-

cents per day, or free with paid adult cents per day, or free with paid adult admission; adults pay \$2 Monday through Thursday, \$3.50 Friday through Sunday. Hours are 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday. For many information, did \$11.52 &6.

OUTDOORS

Dense Ground Fogs are a trademark

Deane Ground Fugs are a trademark of the onset of autumn along San Diego's coastal strip. These happen during the night and early-morning hours when moist marrine air that has actited in valley and low areas is chilled below the dew point. These ground fog are distinct from the low overcast that usually blankets the coastal strip on late- pring and summer mornings.

Spider Webs, decorated with myr-iad tiny dew droplets, are a beautiful sight on foggy autumn mornings. Look for them in San Diego's wild

own back yard.

Chinsee Flame Twees are now displaying colorful clusters of orange,
reddish, or atlemon-pink need pods.
Good specimens line the south end
Lake Murray Boulevard through San Diego's San Carol datrict. Most of
the remainder of San Diego's oranmental trees will continue to remain
drab until November, the onset of
"autumn" botanically. 65-6152, MEDICAL)

"Amassessas," is's the rew film at the Omnimax Theater in the Tijuana Cultural Center, screening Tuesday through Friday at every hour on the hour from 2 to 9 p.m., with additional screenings at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sarredt in the Zona Rio, For more information, call 011-52-66-87-9600. (TRUMM)

canyons and park areas, or in your own back yard.

"actume" bostocicily.

Red Gom Brodyppur Trees all over San Diego County are trensing out of late, having been attacked for some mouths now by the red game the county of the county of the county of the particular species of reachyptus. The red game the putry leaves of these particular species of reachyptus. The red game to the county of the county of

payma intestants of reteasing a nat-ural enemy of the psylick, a tiny wasp, into the eucalyptus groves. Both the psyllid and the wasp are from Aus-tralia, the home continent of the eu-calyptus tree. Some arborists think

that the onset of wet weather this winter will help the surviving red gums fend for themselves and re-cover by sprouting new leaves.

cover by sprouting new leaves.

No Push-Ups Required, some of the buildings are going to survive and some will be razed, so explore the old NTC with Walladout perambulators on Friday, October 6. Meet in the on Printy, Cottober 6. main entrance at 9:45 a.m.; take Roosevelt Road, gate 3, at the signal on Rosecrans Street. Free. Call 619-231-7463 for information. (PONT LOMA)

information. (POBT LOBAL)
Golden Eagle, warblers, and fox
sparrows are possible sightings during an Audubon Society outing at
Lake Morena on Saturday, October 7, from 8 a.m. to early afternoon.
The lake is reached from Mission
Valley by taking 1-8 cast to the Buckman Springs Road exit; drive south
five miles to Oak Drive, turn right

five miles to Oak Drive, turn right (west), and go about two miles to Lake Morena Drive. Turn right and go through the village and on to the park. There is a vehicle day-use fee. Ering water and lunch. There will be considerable hiking of a somewhat strenuous nature. 619-280-7710. (LAKE MORENA)

(IAME MORENA)
Meet an Animal Currently Under
"Rehabilitation" when Heise Park
offers "A Cole Look at Our Wildlife"
at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 7. A
member of Project Wildlife will discuss the organization and the animal
in question. Find the park at 4945
Heise Park Road; 858-694-3049.

stancey in Observe, Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long history walk, blending Balbon Park, history with its wealth of architectural and botanical tressures, on Seaturdy, Oc-tober 7, at 10 a.m., starting at the vis-tior's center. Free. 619-235-1121. (BALBOR PAPER)

Notive Plants and Their Uses will be the subject when ranger Brian Ful-ton leads a nature walk at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 7, in Lake Jen-nings Park (10108 Bass Road), Call 858-694-3049 for details. Free.

EAMISSE)
Lawe the Lagana, the Torrey Pine.
State Reserve invites volunteers to
help restore the critical labshiss of Los
Peñasquitos Mersh Natural Preserve
and Lagons on the first Statesdy and
act work parties converse at 9 a.m.
no Criches 7 and 8, starting in the
north beach parking lost off Carmel
Valley Road. Bering pardening gloves
328 x 755 2003 x 1008 for reservations.
(A. JOLA) (LA XXLIA)

(IA JOLIA)

Birding the Marsh, the Chula Vista
Nature Center hosts a guided birdwatching hike around the Sweetwater Marsh, Saturday, October 7, at
8 a.m. For reservations and details

oly-409-5900. Free. (CHULA VISTA)
Learn About the Widthfe calling
Sycamore Canyon/Goodan Ranch
home when ranger and widthfe expert Maureen Abare leads a wall
along the trails on Saturday, Octo-

ber 7. Join the group at 3 p.m. at the Sycamore Canyon Road staging area, 16281 Sycamore Canyon Road. Free. 858-694-3049. @OWAY)

summit area of Volcan Mountain on Saturday, October 7, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The hike is 2.5 miles round trip. To reach the trailhead, drive to Julian, and then table Farmer Road 2.2 miles, turn right on Wynola Road and drive 100 yards. Turn left, back anto the continuation of Farmer Road, proceed 100 yards and park on the shoulder of the paved road by the preserve sign on the right, 15:5–69-7.900, Free, ULLIANO

right. 858-694-309. Free. (AUAN)
Lecal WHIRER. Needs You, Wildlife
Assist, an organisation dedicated to
rescuing wide animals in precarious
situations — birds with broken
rungs or tangled in fishing line—
plans an orientation at 2 p.m. on Saturday. October 7, at the Patrick
Sandieron Cubbrouse (on Jacaranda
Plence, Mosley Beld). Participants ar
Plence, Mosley Beld). Participants ar
619-921-4094. (BALROS PANN) Afternoon Delight, join docent

619-921-6044, (BARGO PAPIG)
Rack Pusple Hills, join Will Bowen
to look for interesting rucks, atones,
and pebber at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, in Los Petasquitor
Cartyron Preserve. Consider how
rocks were used as a source of wisdom and healing in ancient culture.
Meet in the west end parking/iraging area on the south side of Sorrento
Valley Boolesward (one-half mile east
Valley Boolesward (one-half mile east

of the intersection with Vista Sor-rento Parkway). Free. 619-484-3219, (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Help Maintain Florida Canyon's Trails and replant the area with na-tive vegetation by joining the volun-teer trail crew. Crews work on the first and third Saturdays of each Ba.m. until noon. Meet the others at the corner of Park Boulevard and Morley Field Drive. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Free. 619-235-1121. (BALBOA PARK)

1121. (MALIGN PAME)
Take a Flust Proced Walls with ranger
Luanne Barrett along the Father
Serra Trail in the Mission Trails Regional Park starting at 8 a.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the visitor's center
(One Father Junipero Serra Trail).
For information, call 619-668-3275.
Free. (MISSION GORGE)

Afternoon Delight, join docent Heather when she leads a four-mile hike at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, in San Dieguito River Park. Call 858-674-2275 x5 to make the mandatory reservations and obtain directions. Free. (ESCONDIO)

directions. Free. (ISCOMBOD)
For the Birds, head out to Tecolote
Canyon Open-Space Park on the second Sunday of each month, including October 8, for a one- to two-hour
burd walk starting at 9-30 a.m. at the
Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Bring water and binoculars and wear comfortable shoes.

Commonly seen species: red-tailed and Cooper's hawks, Cassin's king-birds, and common yellowthroats. Free. 858-581-9961. (CLAIREMONT)

What Made That Sound? Take in what made that Sound! Take in the sunset and an easy two-mile hike by the light of the full moon in Daley Ranch next Thursday, October 12, with naturalist Larry Allen Tonar. Fining a flashfight and join the group at 7 p.m. in the main parking lot (on La Honda Drive), 760-839-4680. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

"Blood Variations" will be pre-"Blood Varietions" will be pre-sented by the Wally Cardons Quartet Thursday through Saturday, Octo-tor-15-7, at Subil Performance and Visual Art. The evening opens with a special edition of "Available Succeeper presented by the Lower Left dances: Tickets are 15 general. The dancing, begins at 8 p.m. in the ReinCarna-tions united by the Control of the Period 19-235-446d, (Downtrown)

Contradance, the Old Twine String Band performs while Harry Brauser and Steve Barlow call for the con-tradance set for Friday, October 6, at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). The fun begin at 8 p.m., following beginners' in struction at 7:45 p.m. Admission is

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\$6. Call 760-436-4030 for informa-

/ Dencet All kinds of dancing classes

begin.

All shapes, sizes, and ages of dancers are invited to take the belly dance classes starting on Saturday, October 7. African dances from the Fra Fra tribe in Northern Ghana Fra Fra tribe in Northern Ghana are taught beginning on Monday, October 9. For fees, class times, and registration, call 619-298-3576. (MISSION VALLEY)

(MISSION VALLEY)

"El Gringo Enamorado" by Mari Jóse is being presented by the Academia de Baile Español on Octo-ber 7 and 8, at La Jolla High School. More than 40 dancers will perform along with singers Marisol Fuentes and Pilar Moreno, guitarist David De Alva, and percussionist Antonio Luna.

The flamenco performances be-

The flamenco performances be-gin at 7 p.m. on Saturday and at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$15. Find the school at 750 Nautilus Street (at Fay Avenue). For more informa-tion, call 619-275-4618. (LA JOLIA)

A 30th Anniversary Extravaganza is planned by Pasacat on Saturday, October 7, at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. Thirty-five for the Arts, Escondido. Thirty-five dancers and instrumentalists will be performing the authentic dances and music, including Tagabili, Singkil, and Musikong Bumbong. Performances begin at 2 and

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7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Find the center at 340 North Escondido Boulevard. Call 619-477-3383 for reservations. (ESCONDIDO)

reservations, (ESCOMODO)

Reyou Boogle Night is lated for Saturday, October 7, at Clayton's Rockin' J'e Shop (630 F Street, at Seventh Avenue). The pool tables will be pushed to the side for begin-deco dance lessons by the Bon Temps Social Cuba #730 p.m., with open dancing to CDs from #50 to 1130 p.m. Admission is \$5. Call \$40.00 p.m. of the Company of the Company

GIASLAMP QUANTER)
Swing Time, the San Diego Swing
Dance Club meets for dancing at the
Awal Training Center (through gate
3) on an ongoing basis. Swing dance
lessons are offered, followed with
a dance party afterwards. The interdays, while the beginners start at
3 p.m. on Sundays. Admission. \$72,
the first class is free. Single and outples
are welcome. 619-491-1808.
proort LOMI.

POWI LOMA:

Open to the New, the Calico
Twirlers Square Dance Club is recrusting new members for an introduction to square dusting from 6-30
to 8-30 pm on Tuesday, October 10,
st the Chall Vista Parks and Recreation Center (468 L Street). The fersion Center (468 L Street). The forformation, call 619-426-3407. (CHULA VISTA)

(CHULA VISTA)
Southern Appalachian Platfeeting
(clog) dancing classes — with Celtic
and English origins — continue on
Thursdays at 6-30 pm. at the A (clog)
dancing classes — with Celtic and
English origins — continue on
Thursdays at 6-30 p.m. at the Adams

Avenue Recreation Center (3481 Adams Avenue). The classes incorpo-rate traditional mountain figures with special footwork. All ages are wel-come. The first four classes are free. Call 519-462-2889 or 858-48-5573 for information. (NORMAL HDGHTS)

#### FILM

How About a Real Nail-Biterf See Wait Until Dark, starring Audrey Hepburn as a blind woman being terrorized by psychotic Alan Arkin when it screens October 5-7 at the Garden Cabaret. Find the Garden Garden Cabaret. Find the Garden Cabaret in the open-air marketplace near the clock tower at University Towne Centre. Showtime: 8:30 p.m. Admission: 59. Call 619-295-4221 for reservations. (IA JOLA)

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Wheth De Heavy Whikee and Alice
Cooper Have In Commend Both
nake cames oppositions in the Intelligence
Coast Plan Festival, rounning Oxtobers 6-15 in Emmedde Books and
Coffee. The festival features short
films and animated films from
worte and meet many of the filmmakers. Different books are kernede
each night Most avereining begin at
metalla at 1935. Cumino del Mar.
Takets are \$6 in advance, or \$10 at
the door, available at Exercicals
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maker (619-220-17XS), (00, MA)

Platevilland, Testessee Adamstell

Disturbingly Grotesque Animated Short Films, it's how the folks at Short Films, it's how the folks at Spike and Mike's Sick & Twisted Fes-tival of Animation describe the 16 new short films and two returning "favorites" on their 2000 program. The festival continues at 9-30 p.m. on Friday, October 6, and at 7 and 9-30 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at

the Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla (700 Prospect Street). Tickets: \$7.50 at the box office; Tickets: \$7.30 at the box onner, \$7 through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). For information: call 858-454-0267. Viewers must be at least 18 years old. The festival con-cludes on November 18. (LA JOLLA)

Short Attention Span Film and Video Festival, see this two-hour competitive program made up of two-minute or shorter noncomtwo-minute or shorter noncom-mercial works when it screens at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 6, at the San Diego Museum of Art. Tick-ets: 59 for nonmembers. For more information, call 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

(BALBOA PARK)

The Small Novelty Orchestra known as the Tenny-Tiny Pit Orchestra for Silent Films will appear at Granger Hall on Saturday, October 7, at 7 p.m., to provide live music and sound effects for classic silent films including The Great Train Robbery, the Buster Keaton film The Electric House, and D.W. Griffith's Londolle Constituted of the Control of the House, and D. W. Crittin's Loneitale Operator. Audience members are wel-come to play on all the pit orchestra instruments between the films. Tick-ets are \$5. Find Granger Hall at 1615 East 4th Street. For details, dial 619-660-8184, mattonal. CITY)

619-60-8184, PMONBAL CPM)
Films by Robert Frank will be screened at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the Museum of Photographic Arts, in conjunction with Robert Frank: The Americans, Centroly on chibit at the museum. Call 619-238-7539 x3 for information. (BALDO PAM)

(BALBOA PARK)
Archival Footage and Interviews
are used in BL Chr. Investigating a
Legend, screening for the Film Forum series at 6 pm. on Monday, October 9, at the San Diego Public Library (R20 E Steer). Gelebrate the
anniversary of the death of Ernesto
"Che" Guevara with UCSD profes-

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Film for Theody, the film series co-housed by CSU-San Marcos and the California Center for the Arts. Excondicts in themse. The Selling of a control of the CSU-San Marcos and the California Center free the CSU-San Marcos the CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos) (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos) (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos). The CSU-San Marcos (Table Selling of the CSU-San Marcos).

ley Parkway). (\$5.000,000.

The Rackwell Him Series continues with a look at "The Rockwell Myth Staged" and a screening of Frank.
Capra's You Can't Take! It With You at 7 pm. on Wedneaday. October 1, at the San Diego Museum of Art. The fick stars limmy Sewart, lean Art. The fick stars limmy Sewart, lean Art. The fick stars limmy Sewart, lean Art. The fick stars for nonmembers. Call 619-66-1966 for nonmembers. Call 619-66-1966 for information. (BALBOA PANO) Think About Hate Crimes, on the

Think About Hate Crimes, on the second anniversary of the death of Matthew Shepard, the Cross Cultural Center at the University of San Diego is presenting a video of Phil Dullois, president of the University of Wyoming, speaking on the cents surrounding Shepard in murder and how the university responded to the gins at 1000 nates. Thursday, October 12: USD is found at 5998 Alcial Park, call \$858-\$854-\$816 for information, Free, LIPSA WSTAI.

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, o film at the theater, opening on Fri day, October 6. Journey to exotic places in Wild

California, illustrating how the California, illustrating how the beauty and the majesty of the state's wild places help inspire our culture and adventuresome spirit. Shooting locations include San Diego, Big Sur, Death Valley, Yosemite National

#### LECTURES

"Bytes of Knowledge" will be presented by Ancestry.com for all levels of online users when the annual ge-nealogy seminar hosted by the North San Diego County Genealogical So-ciety takes place from 9 a.m. to Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). For information, call 760-723-0676. (CARLSBAD) What Is a Marine Mammal? What's

a pinniped? Learn about these crea-tures and La Jolla's harbor seal colony during the naturalist and do-cent trainings planned by the La Jolla Friends of the Seals from 9 a.m. to

"Genealogy Research in the Five New States of Germany" provide the topic when genealogical researcher Marilyn Abigt speaks for the German search in Germany; she'll also discuss on-site and research-by-mail meth-ods behind the (former) Iron Cur-tain. Free. 858-451-1928. (HILLGREST)

Friends of the Seals from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at the La Jolla Recreation Center (615 Prospect Street). Training includes slide shows, videos, lectures, and on-site training. Free. To register, call 619-687-3588. (LA JOLIA)

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workshop on Saturday, October 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Chula Vista Nature Center. The fee is \$20; bring lunch. To make the required

seum admission. 619-696-1966.

(BARDON-PROF)

Treshide with Talessart The evolution of the Talessan Picellerin — that is whether the status of Talessan is only an internal problem of the Calcinosist of t methods of solution, and American interests are the topics when Paul Tai speaks for the U.S.-China People's Friendship Ausciation on Sunociation (Control of the Control of

(SCRIPPS RANCH)
"Don't Panic — It's Organic: Natu-ral Pest Control" is the subject when Andy Lopez, founder of the Invisible Gardener, speaks for the San Diego Horticultural Society on Monday, October 9. Expect to learn tech-

October 9. Expect to learn techniques for organic gardening.
Plant experts will be on hand to answer questions during the plant forum following the talk. The meeting takes place in the Surfside Race Place at Del Mar on the Del Mar Fairgrounds. 760-630-7307. Free. (OLI MAR) What's to Love About Echannel Find

What's to Love About Relignost Find out when Cheryl Ann Kurz presents "Edgrass — Aquatic Trash Collector" for the North County Sterra Club on Monday, October 9. During the side-libutaneel levere, Kurtz will explain the effects and benefits of selgman on heavy metals in harbors, marshes, and backwaters. The program begins at 27-20 pm. at the Rancho Bernardo Libutaneel Control County of the Co

Pastel Artist Joan Grine presents a demonstration for the El Cajon Art Association at 10 a.m. on Monday, October 9, at the El Cajon Art Associ-Get to Know the Recoco, art histo-rian Timothy Adams presents "Art

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mission. (#SCONDIOO)

A Variety of Ethnik Rhythm Pat-terns for skill levels from beginning to advanced wilb te utigate when pro-fessional drummer Brent Levi Lon-ducts a drumming and rhythm workshop at 2 pm. on Sunday, Oc-tober 8, at the Hilling Center (3) and Schemel, The charge is 20, but Schemel, The charge is 20, but Schemel, The charge is 20, 20, 723-1899, (MALBIOON) Insight Gallery Talk, the subject is portraiture when Jim Grebl speaks at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the San Diego Museum of Art. The

World!

reservations, call 619-422-2481. (CHULA VISTA)

Amateur Sleuths and Law Enforce-ment Professionals Alike are invited

mental Professionals Alika are invited to take part in the San Diego Museum of Man's 14th annual forensicaseminars, lated for Saturday, October 7, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Crime caperts and physical anthropologists will discuss the many methods, techniques, and procedures used to help solve crimes and determine causes of death. The few is 560 for nonmembers. To register, call 619-239-2001. (MALGO PAPOR)

Art from the Sky, Japanese master kite maker Nobuhiko Yoshizumi will construct kites in the traditional Edo style October 7, 8, 10, and 11 at the

style October 7, 8, 10, and 11 at the Mingel International Museum of World Folk Art. Kite making demonstrations begin at 10:10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contemporary artist Gregory Burns will decorate Yoshiristinggory Burns will decorate Yoshiristingfour-by-siz-foot kites on Saturday and Sunday.

The programs are included in regular museum admission (15) for adults, 22 for children). The museum

adults, 32 for chidren). The museum is located on the square with the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of Art. For addi-tional information, call 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

OOO3. (BALBOA PARN)
"The Way of the Tactical Tracker:
Techniques of Search and Rescue"
will be illuminated when Backyard
Tourish hosts a class at the San Diego
Natural History Museum at 9 a.m.
on Saturday, October 7. Ideal for all
outdoor enthusiasts. The fee is \$31
outdoor enthusiasts. The fee is \$31
orn nonmembers. Call 6:19-232-3821
x203 for details. (BALBOA PARK)

Art Talk, Mexico City artist Eloy

Art Talk, Mexico City artist Boy Tarcisio discusses his "Recent Work (Obra reciente)" and the installation Musera de toded during a gallery talk at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the California Center for the Arts. Ea-condido (340 North Excondido Boulevard). Following the talk, Tar-cosio will sign copies of the exhibi-tion casalog, 706.89-41 (20. The talk is changed in regular museum ad-mission (1850-0000).

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former chair of the National Endow-ment for the Arts — speaks at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, in UCSD's Price Center Theatre. Alexander is speaking as part of the commemoration of the 50th ancommemoration of the 50th an-niversary of the Universal Declara-tion of Human Rights. Admission is free, parking is not (\$3). For infor-mation, call 858-822-0510. (LA XXLA)

tober 12, at the Seaside Church of Religious Science (1010 South Coast Highway 101). Tickets: \$25. Call 760-753-5786 for information. (ENCINITAS)

general. (BALBOA PARK)
Self-Described Shaman and Mod-ern Mystic Lynn Andrews plans a talk entitled. "Getting Out of God's Way" at 7 p.m. next Thursday, Oc-tober 12, at the Seaside Church of

"A Director's Perspectives SDMA's Collections — Now and in the Fu-rure" will be discussed when Don Bacigalupi presents lectures for the Meet the Masters series at the San Diego Museum of Art on Tuesday, October 10. Bacigalupi is the director of the museum. of the museum. Talks begin at 11 a.m. (\$17.50 for

non-members, or \$34 with lunch) and at 5:30 p.m. (\$20 for non-mem-bers). For reservations, call 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Fong Shul Essentials, learn what feng shui is and how to use it in your living spaces when Cheryl Magers conducts a workshop at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, at the Healing , uesday, October 10, at the Healing Center (12307 Oak Knoll Road, suite A). The fee is \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the class. For information, call \$58-513-1697, (POWAY)

"Preedom of Opinion and Expres-sion: The Unfinished Human Rights Agenda" is the topic when Jane Alexander — actress, activist, and

Balloon Rides 50% Off: Vs protest pric Fig 1818 -Survise or survised Participation of the Control of

members. For more informati 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Imaginative and Experimental New Architecture is the focus for the

ongoing "Dialogues in Art and Architecture" series at the Athenacum table and the control of the Architecture of the Architecture of the Architecture of the Architecture of Lordon of Architecture of Lordon of Lordon

"Ten Myths About Night Sky Photography" will be dispelled when astronomer and photogra-pher Dennis Mammana presents a talk for the Eyes on the Universe talk for the Byes on the Universe series at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center on Wednesday, October 11, at 7 p.m. For information, call 619-238-1233. Admission is \$5 general. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Natural History of Fire" will be examined during a class (at 6:30 p.m. next Thursday, Octo-

ber 12) and field trip (8 a.m. on October 14) hosted by the San Diego Natural History Museum, Partici-pante explore the role of fire in shap-ing Southern California's diverse landscapes and take a field trip to several recently burned sites to ob-serve how plant communities have slateted and recovered after fire. The adapted and recovered after fire. The \$45 fee for nonmembers includes van transportation. To register, dial 619-232-3821 x203. (BALBOA PARK) General Principles of estate plan-ning and how to set up a trust will be divulged when attorney Mark L. Miller conducts an educational sem-inar on wills and trusts at 6 p.m. next Thursday, October 12, in the third-

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Paculty Recital, the Benedetti/Svo-boda Guitar Duo plans a concert at 7 p.m. tonight, Thursday, October 5, in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. Free, Call 619-594-6031 or 619-594-6020 for further in-

Poets 2000, local poets of all ages will be reading their works at 7 p.m. tonight, Thursday, October 5, at Barnes and Noble (11744 Carmel Mountain Road). Free. 858-674-1055, (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

A Mystical Tale of a Knight's Quest for true love is told in "The Legend of Tamar," a musical event featuring Erisioni, the country of Georgia's National Singing and Dancing En

The San Diego County

TIXS), (goowtoow)

The Avunt-Capach Measts the Middle Ages in music performed by the 20 Bulgarian women who are memor so Arngelite, the Bulgarian Women's Choire, planning a concert's 17,90 pm on Friday, October 6, in Close 1,00 pm, on Friday Cotober 6, in Close 1,00 pm, on Friday Cotober 6, in the concert's 17,90 pm, on Friday, October 6, in Cotober 6, in Cotober

Tracians.
Tickets are \$18 general. Call
858-534-4090 for information; tickets are available by calling 858-534TIXS and through Ticketmaster
(619-220-TIXS). (IA JOLIA)

Audience Participation Is Encour-aged when the Julian Triangle Club presents its annual old-time melo-

presents its annual old-time melo-drama and olio on weekends from October 6-29, at the Iulian Town Hall. You'll be invited to boo the vil-lain and cheer the hero. Perfor-mance begin at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and at 1130 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission

is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 4 to 12. For more information, call 760-765-3911. (JULIAN)

What Does a "Scots Neotraditional Supergroup" Sound Likel Find out when the Old Blind Dogs, a Scottle folk revival band, present a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 6, in the Cavic Center Community Rooms (adjacent to the Oceanside Public Library, at 330 North Coast Highway). Admission: \$6. For information, call 760-435-5570. (OCEANSIDE)

766-435-5370, IOCLAMSCOI.

Lever, Leas, and Small-Teven Life popular the rounsatic melodramas by Nicholas Sparks, who will sigh his newest book, The Renou, at 515 pm. on Friday, Oxforder et al. Bay Books (1029 Orange Avenue). Free, Call 619-443-8070 for details, IOCRAMOSON, Sparks size plans an appressure at pm. on Strategic, Oxforder at pm. on Strategic, Oxforder Sparks, Company of the Sparks of the Spar

Author Anne Broyles signs her new book, Shy Mama's Halloween, at 3 p.m. on Friday, October 6, at Bor-ders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). Free. For

information, call 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)

A "Choral Pops Celebration" is planned by the Grossmont Maste planned by the Grossmont Master Chorale at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oc-tober 7, at the White Sands of La Jolia (7450 Olivetas Avenue). The concert promises music from serious classical to light standards, with a special salute to J.S. Bach in honor of the 250th anniversary of his death. Free. 619-644-7254. (LA XXLA)

619-644-7254. (IA JOLIA)
TIEras and Boas Are Optional when
the Deadly Divas — authors Sherri L.
Board (Anguis of Anguish). Letha Albright (Tulus Time), Susan McBried
(And Then She Was Geno), and
Denise Swanson (Mursler of a Small-town Housey)— gather at Mysterious Galaxy Books at 2:30 p.m. on
Saturday, October ? They!'ll sign
books and discuss "Why Nice
Women Write About Munder." Find the Galaxy at 7051 Clairemont Mess Boulevard: 858-268-4747. Free (CLAIREMONT)

Sunday Night Concerts, the series continues at the College Avenue Bap-tist Church with a concert by Azusa Pacific University's Choir and Or-chestra at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Octo-

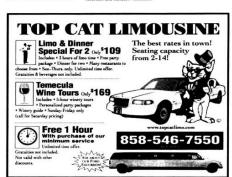
Enjoy New and Traditional Ar Enjoy New and Traditional Arrangements from the stage and screen when the 75 volunter musicans in the Coastal Communities Concert. Band present "Pops at Moonlight" at p.m. on Sunday, Ctober 6, at Moonlight at p.m. of Sunday, Ctober 6, at Moonlight Amphitheatre (in Brengh Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive), Tickets are \$10 reserved seats, 75° 50 for lawn seats. For reservations, call 760-724-2110. (MITA)

What's an "Alternative Healing Modality" Add this phrase to your repersoire when author and Reiki teacher Joyce J. Morris leads an "ex-perientual Reiki workshop" and signs her book, Reiki: Hands That Heal, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at Barnes and Noble Bookstore. Free. Find the shop at 11744 Carmel Mountain Road and by calling 858-674-1055. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Pure, Authentic New Orleans Jazz Is Promised when Alan Adams' New Orleans Wanderers perform at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the Circle North). Admission is \$7 gen-eral. For information, call 619-297-5277. A dance floor will be available.

(MESSON VALLEY)
Llar's Clab, Part II, picking up where her debut novel left off, Mary Kar's Cherry A Memoris is usid to be "a triumph in the art of memoir and the art of living." Kar will sign and dictus Cherry at 8 p.m. on Monday, October 9, at Eameradda Books and Coffee (1935 Camino del Mar). Free.

(UNIVERSITY HOUSE) (UNIVERSITY H





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#### Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Fulfill Your Soul's Profules after Marta Monahan discusses and signs her book Strength of Character and Grace: Develop the Courage to Beril-lant's 47:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Octo-ber 10, at Bookstar Costa Verde (8650 Genesee Avenue). Free. Call 858-457-7561 for details. (pl. 2014)

Poetic Brew, spoken word is promised when the Homeless Artists and Writers Coalition performs for Poetic Brew on Tuesday, October 10, at 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune (2906

Spooky! The subject is San Diego Specters when author John Lamb speaks at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oc-tober 11, at the Loma Theatre Book-start (3150 Rosecrans Place). Free. 619-225-0465. (PONT LOMA)

619-229-0465. POWT LOMAI Prom Amnicontents to Yoga, au-thor Carolle Jean-Murat covers it all in Natural Proguescy A to Z, which the author will sign and discuss at 7-30 pm. near Thunday, Cotober 12, at Barnea and Noble Boolstore (10755 Westsieve Parkway), Prec. Call 858-884-3166 for details (MRAMESA)

#### TV

If You Wanna Be a Rebel, you've If You Wanna Be a Robel, you've got to have something to rebe against. Maybe that's why John Wa-ters stays in Baltimore, instance that a baltimore, instance estatic culture of LA. He was the king of filth (ankle-deep in the main-stream as of Polysterle) with now. Polysters airs tonight, Thurs-day, October S, at 8 p.m. on Com-edy Central, Cox Cable Channel 48.

edy Central, Cox Gable Channel 48.
Butchering Hegil's Philosophy of
History with a painfully shallow
summary you have this thing (The
Fignine TV series) that becomes its
opposite (The Fignine Fature film)
and then becomes itself again (the
new Fignithe TV series), only better
for having made the trip. Now, it
of the first of the first own on
KFMB, Cox Cable Channel 8.

KFMB, Cox Cable Channel 8.

Robert Divaril Posured Everything
He Had into the character study The
Apoutle, and the came up a winter.
The film takes you right into the pro-tagenost, without grining rout expension, and the property of the property of the pro-tagenost, without grining rout expension.

The company of the property of the pro-team of the pro-team of the pro-team of the pro-team of the pro-tage of the pro-team of the proteam of the pro-team of t

Cox Cable Channel 34.

Heav's the Thild, About Informa-tions (it's presented with milly-without any not of ordering period-ple or criteria for judgment. It be-requestly, demonstrated — one piece of data is as good as another. Exeri-ince becomes muchilated — one piece of the property of the com-paration of the com-paration of the com-paration of the com-paration of the com-lex than the com-tex t

The first of the control of the company of them, from Primds and Neighborn really doesn't like are the amazingly evil, inhumban monsters in his filmst Men. In the Company of the airs Fridey, October 6, at 9 p.m. on Brave, Cox Cable Channel 42.

Attention, Outraged Critics of Reader film critic Duncan Shepherd its just not true that all he likes are Asian, Middle Eastern, and arty old films, along with Gline Eastwood and the Corn brothers. Four-star films: Blood and Wine, Deparentally Seeking Susan, The Little Mermand (1), Tomisone, and Morine, aring Friday, October 6, at 9 pm. on the Sci-Ft Charnel, Cox Calbe Channel 63.

The easy side of this is stuff like Seven and Kiss the Girls, the latter especially so. Kiss the Girls airs Sun-day, October 8, at 9 p.m. on KNSD, Cox Cable Channel 7.

Cox Cable Channel 7.

Seems Like Only Yesterday when
Showtime was airing its hilarious ads
for the black (racially) convely Line's.

Filed). White TV exces trying to get
Williams to say, "What you talkin'
bour, Willia"—genius, Now, Line's
has escaped to hase cable, but Tuned
TV.-MA. Airs Tureday, October 10,

18. 10.0 m. on BET. Cox Cable

at 8:30 p.m. on BET, Cox Cable Channel 40.

SPORTS

Professional Skateboarders will be competing in the Vans Triple Crown of Skateboarding World Champi-onships, running Friday through Sunday, October 6-8, from 9 a.m. to

Breast Cancer Education and Prevention benefit when the Janis Fitch Pro-Am Tennis Tournament takes place on Saturday, October 7, at the Rancho Bernardo Inn. The tournament is named in honor of a local nel, Cox Cable Channel 63.

Bette Midler, Genea Davis, Oliver
Platt, Jim Cameron, and yes, even
resious actor (and frequent baddie)
Gabriel Byrne — all doing work on
the small screen this fall. Mr. Byrne
stars in what sounds certly like as the
Burna movier— three generations of
Irish goys stumbling about in the dating world. Madages aften premiers
ing world. Madages aften premiers
on
KGTV, Cox Cable Channel 10. ment is named in honor of a local player who died of breast cancer ear-lier this year. Former touring tennis professionals Gigi Fernandez, Gretchen Magers, Ros (Fairbank) Nideffer, and Terry Holladay will pre-Nidetter, and Terry Holladay will pre-sent an exhibition match. The tour-nament includes women's, men's, and mixed doubles' competition. For information, call 858-451-1520 or 858-487-6498, GIANCHO BERNARDO) KGTV, Cox Cable Channel 10. Nathan Lane, Breadway Star, Hal-lywood Surprise, and TV Stinker. (Encuret Eurored died long before it could give one) recently speculated on the endowment of gentlemen who found themselves critiquing his work. See him play a critic who get stuck in the Midwest in The Man Whe Came to Dinner, airing Satur-day, October 7, at 8 pm. on KPBS. Cox Cable Channel 11.

Hit the Speedway Soon, Cajon Speedway hosts the Coors 100, with open competition in sportsmen and spec truck divisions, along with a train world championship on Satur-day, October 7. The first race starts at

to 15 p.m., wirn quantying runs and to mig at 5 p.m. to 36-mile track is located next to Gilleapie Field. Take 1-8 to Highway 67, and use the Bradley exit. Drive left for two blocks to Wing Street, then right one blocks to the track entrance. Adult admission: 39 (west side) and \$10 (east side); 35 for those to 12 free for kidds under 6 with an 6 to 12 free for kidds under 6 with an Recently, We Wrote About the dra-matic power of Ralph Fiennes' brow. Similar accolades must be given to Morgan Freeman's eyes, which just look like they've seen all kinds of man's inhumanity to man. adult. 619-448-8900. (EL CAJONA

adult, 619-448-8900. (R. CALON)

Memory Walk, the tenth annual 5k
event hosted by the Alzheimer's Association is set for Saturday, Octoher 7, starting at 8 a.m. at 5ea
World. Day-of-event registration
starts at 6.30 a.m. The fee is \$15. For
information, call \$58-537-5040.
(MISSION BAY)

Football, the San Diego Chargers host the Denver Broncos at 1:15 p.m. on Sunday, October 8. Fan informa-tion: 858-455-1984/85/or 86: ticket information: 877-CHARGERS, (MISSION VALLEY)

ber 8. A moderately paced social ride stars at 8-55. am., an "express" ver-sion of the same ride start at 9 am.; both depart the parking lot behind the administration building at the Lawrence Well Resort (rest 1-15 at Deer Springs Road and head north on Champagne Boulevard). The rides promise three long uphill climbs. Bring money for a brunch stop" at straditional roadbouse." For information, call 858-809-9345 (so cial ride) or 858-483-5877 (express)

Sunday, October 6-8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, at the beach am-phitheater and upper lots at the Oceanside Pier (300 North the Strand). Expect boarding, live mu-sic, display booths, and exhibitions. Admission is free for spectators. For information, call 310-996-0239. (OCEANSIDE) A Scenic, Past Course is promised for the ninth annual Celebrate

scheduled for Sunday, October 8, at 10 a.m., on Los Huecos Road, Mount Laguna. Registration and training for newcomers begins at 10 a.m. and Encinitas Day 5k and 1-mile run/walk, slated for Saturday, Octo-ber 7. The racing begins at 7:30 a.m. at Third and A Streets; race-day reg-

newcomers begins at 10 a.m. and continues until noon. Parking and registration will be just at the west end of Los Huecos Road; one mile past Pine Valley, turn north off I-8 to S-1 (Sunrise Highnorth off 1-8 to S-1 (Sunrise High-way), toward the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. After ten miles, turn west onto the dirt road (Los Huecos Road); continue west about two miles to the end of the road. U.S. muss to the end of the Foad. U.S. Forest Service Adventure Passes are required (\$5 per day, available at the general store). Watch for orienteer-ing signs. For information, call 858-638-7849, 858-578-9456, or

coursed to attend, MOMOT LAGURA.
Pela Timas, the San Diege Polo Club
hosts matches every Sunday through
Coober, The Clemiler Cup is and
Or October. B. Club matches begin at
1,59 p.m., with the feature match at
1,59 p.m., with the feature match at
mission for all events is \$5. The
grounds are found at 14555 El
Camino Real. For reservations, call
858-481-9217, (BANCHO SANTA FE)

Pointing to Point Lome, join the Knickerbikers bicyclists for a ride on Knickerbikers bicyclists for a ride on Sunday, October 8, starting at 10 a.m. at the San Diego County Of-fice of Education (at Linda Vista Road and Via Las Cumbres). The 30-mile ride for novices promises "some event or architectural curios-

Three on the Road, One Off, the 15th annual Tour de Poway includes road courses of 15°, 25°, and 50° mile distances and a 16-miler for moun-tain bikes on Sunday, October 8. The event starts and finishes at the Poway Community Park (from I-15, exit at Poway Road, and drive east three miles). Day-of-event registration starts at 6:30 a.m. Call 800-679-2453 for details. (POWAY)

Ride the Shores and Farms of La Ride the Sheres and Farms of La Jolla with San Diego Biyche Touring Society riders on Tuesday, Octo-ber 10. The 30-mile ride starts at 9:15 a.m. at Perry's Cafe (4620 Pa-cific Highway). Bring money for lunch, For more details, call 619-286-7958. (OLD TOWN)

#### SPECIAL

Sprechen zie Oktoberfest? The an-nual Oktoberfest hosted by the Ger-man-American Societies of San man-American Societies of San Diego is set for Saturday and Sun-day, October 7 and 8 (and Octo-ber 14 and 15), at the clubhouse and beer garden, located at 1017 South Mollison Avenue. Events include live German music and dancing, food for sale, vendors' and craft booths, chil-





## COLUMBUS DAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 • 11 AM-9 PM • FREE ADMISSION

Amici Park in Little Italy (State & Date Streets)

Free flags to the first 1000 attendees

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■ Crafts ■ Spin art ■ Kids' rides ■

■ Variety of food and adult refreshments ■

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SAN DIEGO'S LARGEST INTERACTIVE ADVENTURE!

Moonbounce • 22' Rock Climb/Side • 18' Fun Side
 Velcro Wall • Boxing Ring • Football Obstacle Course
 Monster Truck Rides • Idddie Carnival Rides • Face Painting

PSYDECAR performs

Sun., October 29 • 10 am-6 pm • Free Admission! (Tickets required for games and rides.)

St. Cherica Catholic School - 850 Setum Boulevard - 619-423-3701

A 1 top of the first, but only into Seam Boulevard - 619-423-3701

Become Service of the first of the first

dren's fun zone, air gun shooting renge, and more. Admission is \$1.

19-14-24-03/2, it Cooken vollage Oktoberfest runs Oxiober 6-8 on La Mess Bouleard Oktobered runs of the State of t

619-465-7700. (I.A MESA)

"Art in the Parlab 2000," this juried fine art exhibition presented by artists in the Episcopal churches of North County starts with a reception at 6 p.m. on Finday. October 6, and continues on October 7 and 8, at St. Michael's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (2775 Carlshad Boulevard). All work is routenal and for rate. Church (2775 Carlsbad Boulevard). All work is original and for sale. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. 760-729-8901. (CARLSBAD)

Family Friendly in PB, the third an ramust Pricesory in Ps, the turio an-nual Pacific BeachFest, an outdoor festival for families, takes place on Saturday, October 7, from 11 a.m. to 7,30 p.m., on the boardwalk and beach around the Crystal Pier (at the foot of Grand and Garnet Aven Expect food, art, music, volleyball, kite flying, sandcastle building, and a variety of live entertainment. Free. 858-273-3303. (PACIFIC BEACH)

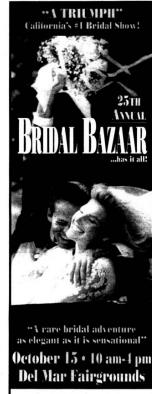
Camino Ruiz Will Be Closed be Camino Ruiz Will Be Closed between Mira Meas Boulevard and New Salem on Saturday, October 7, from 10 am. to 5 pm., for the annual Mira Meas Street Fair. Expect to see performances by the Fern Street Gircus. live entertainment on two stages, kids 'ride and attractions, vintage car displays, craft and food vendors, and games. Admission is free. 858–895-7964, MMM MEAS)

Tree. 858-959-7904. (MIRA MESA)
Call It Harvest Festival or call it the
fifth annual Polish Arts and Food
Festival, the place to be on October 7
and 8 is the Polish Mission and Cultural Center (1735 Grand Avenue). There will, of course, be food for sale music, dancing, and singing. Admission is free. Hours are noon to 9 p.m on Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. on Sunday. For information, dial 858-668-0485. (PACIFIC BEACH)

OMS, PACPE ELECH

Hower People Reckmend, head to the
Fred Grand Arena when Ramons Information Days for Equestriant take
place from 9 a.m. to 4 pm. on Satunder and Sondare, Centher 2 and a
topic state of the state of the state
part Jerry Tindeld, demonstrating a
yearly of nonresistant horse-handing techniques; other equise professionals will conduct seminars on a
con band offering their swers, and an
informal swap meet is planned, Admission is free. 760-788-0897.
((MANDAR)

"The Art of the Tree's in the three when the Torrey Fines Star Reserve clorebrates the sequencements of the clorebrates the sequencement of the clorebrates of the clorebrates of the server the clorebrates of the same three clorebrates fearuring balancy and Crisbber 7. An art show and sale by members of the San Dieguito Art sepreture seations, and there will be children's nature crafts and basket-waving demonstrations. It is not be clorebrated to the Camer Valley suit, head week, and see the more the besh parking but on the Camer Valley suit, head week, and set the more the besh parking but on the Camer Valley suit, head week, and set the more the besh parking but on the Camer Valley suit, head week, and set the more the besh parking but on the Camer Valley suit, head week, and see the more the week of the clorebrates of the parking the clorebrates with the week to the comment of the parking the clorebrates are George Walley Startes and the second through the comment of the clorebrates are the clorebrates are the clorebrates are the close the comment of the clorebrates are the close the cl



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Brides register at: www.BridalBazaar.com

3:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 7. Paperbacks and hardbacks of all types are offered. The library is found at 7265 Jackson Drive; 619-527-3430, (SAN CARLOS)

Antique Airplanes and Automo-biles will be part of the open house planned at the San Diego Aerospace Museum's Gillespie Field facilities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 7. The guest speaker is Colonel Harold E. Fischer, USAF re-tired, decorated Korean War ace. A children's fun aero-themed activity center is planned, and there will be center is planned, and there was of food, drinks, and music. Admission is free. Find Gillespie Field at 335 Kenney Street. For information, call 619-234-8291 x14. (El. CAJON)

Bird Fair, meet some of the com-

Adoption Center presents a bird fair from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at the Golden Hill Recre-ation Center (2600 Golf Course Drive). Admission is free. 619-232-2409. (GOLDEN HILL)

What Am I Bid for This New Guinean Wood Sculpture! It's time for the sixth annual collector's club auction at the San Diego Museum of auction at the San Diego Museum of Man; events begin at 1 p.m. on Sat-urday, October 7. Exotic items from around the world will be on the block. The \$5 entry fee includes a program, bidding number, and re-freshments. For information, dial 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Glassware Like Grandma Used, the annual Depression Glass Club show and sale is slated for October 7 and 8 and sale is slated for October 7 and 8 at the El Cajon Community Center (195 East Douglas). A variety of glassware, china, and pottery will be on offer. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$3.50 general. Sunday. Admission is \$3.50 general. 619-443-5300. (EL CAION)

Not Just a Walk Through Time, the 13th annual Grand Military Encampment runs from 8 am to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, October 2 and 8, at the corner of Presidency of the Common State of Presidency of the Common State of Presidency of the Common State of Presidency Opening Commonies state at 10 am Free For more details, dat 619-421-6192, Blazade Frees, Deep Common State 10 am Free For more details, dat 619-421-6192, Blazade Frees, Deep Common State 10 am Free For more details, dat 619-421-6192, Blazade Frees, Deep Common State Opening Common State

Pow Wow! Head to the CSU-San Narcos campus on Saturday, Octo-ber 7, for the eighth annual American Indian powwow, featuring intertribal dancing, Indian arts and crafts, and food for sale. Admission is free. Hours are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The campus is found at 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road; 760-439-8569.

Take the Train to Tecate via Campo, when the San Diego Rail-road Museum offers a vintage train excursion to Tecate, Mexico, on Sat-urday, October 7. The train departs the depot at 10 a.m. Once in Tecate,

visitors have three hours to explore the town. The cost is \$40 for adults, \$20 for children. Reservations are re-quired, made by calling 619-595-3030 x03 or 619-938-1943. (CAMPO)

Calebrate Oktoberfess when the House of Germany hosts the lawn program at the International Cot-tages at 2 p.m. on Suday, Oxober 8. The Bavarian Beer Garden, the Heimstking Choral Singers, and the Geisundheid, and the Pantera Dancers will perform. Food will be offered for sale; admission is free. 619-286-4166. (BALBOA PARK) Celebrate Oktoberfest when the

Original Artworks in pastels, char-coal, and other media by the North coal, and other media by the rivorin County Pastel Society are on exhibit through October at the San Marcos Community Center (3 Civic Center Drive). There's a reception set for Sunday, October 8, at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 760-744-9000 or 619-284-0499. (SAN MARCOS)

A Celebration of Art and Athletica is promised during the "San Marcos Alive" event set for Sunday, Octo-ber 8, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Palo-

mar College (1140 West Mission Road). You're invited to participate in over 20 hands-on art projects, and there will be performances by dancers and vocalists, a book fair for children, mini-soccer tourna

Art to Wear, the San Diego Artwear craft guild announces its North County fall sale on Sunday, Octo-ber 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Carmel Valley Library (3919 Towns gate Drive). Admission is free. Call 619-297-3030 or 760-436-4827 for details (DEL MAR)

on a major exhibition of original documents mounted by the Hunt-ington Library in 1998 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Wash-ington's death. Find the library at 820 E Street and by calling 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

Free, (DOWNTOWN)
Students from the Minak School of
Art in Belarus have work on exhibit
in the sizth annual Young People's
Art Exhibit and Sale." continuing
through October at the La Jolla
Branch, Library (7555) Draper Avmuel. The show and sale benefits whe
Children of Chemobyl organization,
rasing funds for 30 children from
Belarus to speed sommers in the Sain
Grantation, Call Sales 4-59 4-650 or
\$585-552-1657. (A. ADLA)

Country French to the nth! Fifteen Country French to the ath! Fifteen interior designers and firms from throughout the country have helped design the 6500-4guare-foot, 23-room estate, 33 million custom luxury home that's the site for the 2000 American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Designer Show-case, continuing through Sunday, November 5.

vember 3. The home is on Cascade Cross

### READING

#### **Blood of the Liberals**



ing within the Heritage Golf Eatates, one of five mansions included on the Street of Dreams home tour. To reach the spot, take 1-15 to Rancho Bernardo Roda and head east, turn left onto Old Coach Road, and follow the signs. Viewing hours are 10 a m. to 7 p.m. Sunday through Thursday.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Sat

Time to Scream, get a head start on your Hallowern festivities in the 2000 Haunted Hotel (424 Market Street, at Fourth Avenue; 619-231-0131) and Frightmare on Market Street (530 Market Street, at Sixth Avenue;

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WHAT THE CRITICS SAY: I THE CRITICS SAY:

Booklist: "Family sagn and
story of a political idea blend
thoughtful, gracefully written
tion. Journalist and novelist reflection. Journalist and novelis Packer traces three generation of his own family and the shifting meaning of liberalism over the past century. Packer's materna grandfather, George Huddleston represented Birmingham, Alabams

carpenter for a few years. I began writing. I wrote a book about my time in Africa — that came out in 1988 — called The Village of Waiting.

Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. The Puppet Theater Players present The Pied Piper October 11-15. Per-formances begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday through Friday and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday and Sunday.

Find the theater near the Aerospace Center; 619-685-5045.
Regular admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children (11-2), free for those under two. (BALBOA PARK)

witer's Mexishep, head to Book-star Costs Verde at 10:30 am. today. Thursday, October 5, when hoday. Pearson gives a talk on "Writing Di-alogue. Grabbing Your Reader this lust the Right Voice?" Pearson is the suthor of David v. God. Find the store in Gosta Verde Center, at 8500 Genesee Avenue; 858-457-7561. Free. (IA JOLA)

(530 Market Street, at Sixth Avenuer, 619-231-3611). The rooms promise "terrifying special effects and illu-sions" created by "some of the top artists and technicians in the busines." Hours are 2 p.m. to midnight Thursday, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday and Make a Cricket Cage and listen to Eric Carle's Very during a story time commemorating the Japanese tradi-tion of "freeing the insects" at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 6, at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (Grossmont-Cen-Tuesday, and 7 to 11 p.m. Sunday Tuesday, and Wednesday. Tickets for either haunted house are \$9.95. The houses will be open through Octo-ber 31. (GASLAMP QUARTER) ter, 5500 Grossmont Center I 619-667-2870. Free. (LA MESA)

Award-Winning Author and Illustrator Janell Cannon — creator of Stellalum, Trupp, and Verdi — reads from her newest book, Crickwing, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 7, at Exprendia Books and Coffee (1555).

Camino del Mar). Free. 858-755-2707. (DEL MAR)

2707. (DEL MAN)

"Grimace: Two Grimm Tales With a Twist" are being presented at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, at the Weingart City Heights Library Performance Annex Theater (3795 Fairmount Avenue). The play for young people was written by Thelma Virata De Castro. Free. 760-729-3383. (CITY HOGOTS)

The "Bewitching Comedy Skits" The Curse of Hag Hollow, Bowitched and Bewildered, and Which Witch Is Whith! are being presented by the Mira Mesa Theatre Guild's Junior Theatre group. Performances begin Mira Mesa Theatre Guild's Junior Theatre group. Performances begin at 1 p.m. on Saturdays through November 11 at the Mira Mesa The-later Guild Stage (in Mira Mesa Mall, 8190-A Mira Mesa Boulevard). Tick-ets: 55. Dial 858-893-7328 for infor-mation. (MRA MESA)

October 8, at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. The Potato People are said to perform in a "de-lightful, comedic, nonverbal style of theater," combining mask/mime vi-sual theater with colorful characters and masks. After the performance, audience members can meet the show's cast and participate in an art Tickets for the Sundays Are Fun

Tickets for the Sundays Are Fun Days program are \$9.50. Find the center at 340 North Escondido Boulevard (at Valley Parkway). Call 800-988-4253 for reservations.

From the Sunday New York Times Book Review: "Liberals, who haven't had a good day since sometime in last #165, won't be having another one this morning. Their "ism" is now the subject of America's inewrite functered jurner, the memolr. What poverty was to Frank McCourt, what skobellam was to Mary Kerr, what death was to Dave Egers, liberalism is to George Pucker. It's the dyslunction that serves as the larger-than-life force that shapes the people in his book as they wretchedly press up against a thing they can never quite comprehend. Liberals can take some comforts Packer shows how liberalism occasionally

e some comfort: Packer shows how liberalism occasions ceeds by failing frequently." From the Washington Post: "It is difficult to imagine a m cise and pointed summary of the current state of Americ realism."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: George Packer was born in Stanford, California, in 1960. On the afternoon that we talked, he said, "I spent by first 18 years there. I went off to college at Yiak. After that, I led erraic life." Pursuing some 'strange and bind allers," I think is what said. I went into the Peace Corps in Togo in West Africa, I ended up in Boston for 16 years, from 1984 to just there months ago." As to what he did in Bostons, Packer offered, 'I worked as a

"A Bat's Eye View," explore the mysterious world of the bat during a class for kids three and four years old (with an adult) slated for Sunday, October 8, at 2:30 p.m., at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Par-October 8. at 2:30 p.m., at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Par-ticipants will hear Janell Cannon's Stellaliuma and make a "flying fox." The fee is \$20 for nonmembers. Call 619-232-3821 x203 to reserve a spot. (BALBOA PARK) [DALIBOA FAMO].
Falling Leaves and the colors of au-tumn are the focus for the story time planned at 10-30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 10, at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (1)744 Carmel Mountain Road; 836–874-1055. Expect a treat. Free. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

An Allen Spacecraft Is About to Crash in Nancy Potato's back yard in Spud Trek, being presented by the Potato People at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at the California Center Free, [Goode, Monthle Into Clowns while surfing in Surf Clowns: Seven Mental Missions. Author Leslie Connell Lyon and illustrator Charles Lyon will sign and discuss their book at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, at Borders Books and

he suffered a stroke and, three years later, committed sukide. Twelve when his father died in 1972, George Packer pursued his own vision of Beresliment at Na, he he Paces Corpa, he wolunterium, and political scivium. A faciliating, through providing neuralive." From the highle News. 'George Packer found himself and his politica somewhere between Palo Aits and Birmingham, with halder tips to Boston and Affects. Along the vay, he answered the questions What happened to liberullam?" From the Studies New York Times Book Review. "Uberstab. From the Studies New York Times Book Review." "Uberstab. It's now out or print, but rarrar, Straus a going to ressue it next year. I wrote two novels. And I've made part of my living by doing magazine writing, articles and essays and reviews for Harper's, for the New York Time Magazine, and others. I tsught undergraduates at Harvard, graduate students at Emerson College in Boston, at Bennington, and now I will be teaching at Sarah Lawrence. I moved to Brooklyn three months ago. And that's," Packer said, "the bare booses of my life."

MISSION VALLEY

Birds on the Move, learn about mi-gration patterns of birds with the Ju-nior Rangers at the Tijuana River Es-

es of my life.

I asked Packer, "If you were in a bookstore and saw some

It's now out of print, but Farrar, Straus is going to reissue it next

bones of my life."

I asked Packer, "If you were in a bookstore and saw someone looking at your book, what might you say to introduce the book of the property of the property

continued on page 64

Writer and Illustrator Bruce Hale visits Borders Books and Music; at 7 p.m. next Thursday, October 12, to sign and discuss his newest series for young readers, Chet Gecker Private Eye. Find Borders at 1072 Camino del Rio. North; 619-295-2201. Free. tuarine Reserve next Thursday, Oc-tober 12, at 3:15 p.m. The program takes place at the reserve's visitor's center, 301 Cappian Way. Open to kids kindergarten through grade 6. Free. 619-575-3613. (MPERMA BEACH)

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Meet and talk with New York Times bestselling author

**Nicholas Sparks** 

author of

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In The Rescue, Nicholas Sparks weaves his inimitable spell, immersing us in the passions and surprising complexities of modern

relationships — and in doing so teaches us something

Ancient Egyptian Royalty and Commoners are contrasted in the newly renovated Children's Discov-ery Center at the San Diego Museum of Man. The 1350-square-foot ex-



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continued from page 63 shelters. I asked him about that time

whethers I asked him about that time.

"That was a particular moment in my life, when having been a kind of insider all my life, having been raised in some privilege at least, intellectual privilege — on a college campus with a larity unquestioned world view, extracted myself and threw myself that the state of the s

"They were," I said, "almost embodied expressions of your state

ind.
"Exactly. To that extent, I used them. I was certainly interested Exactly. To man extent, it used unent. Was comen in the individuals, and I spent hours sitting with them and hearing their stories. Most of them were all of mo willing to tell me everything, at few of them recoiled and told me not to interview them. But most had a lot of time on their hands and were pleased by someone's attention. I filled notebooks with the details. Not really knowing attention. I tilize noterooss with the declary, ivol ready knowing what I would do with the results, but I was interested in their lives and how they'd gotten to be where they were. But mostly I just felt at ease with them. I felt more relaxed around homeless people than I felt around my old friends and my family, for a while.

'When I got back from Africa, I had this sense of having cut myself off from the life I'd lived before. And it was upsetting to be in the presence of my life. It reminded me of how cut off I felt. Whereas, with the homeless I felt like I could talk to them and be undisturbed in myself."

isturbed in myself.

I said, "It seemed to me that you felt homeless in a sense I said, "It seemed describe it an emplephonical way; I was homeless. I did not feel attached to my old society. I was upite supprisoned way; I was homeless. I did not feel attached to my old society. I was quite suspicious anyone who was getting ahead. I at samplistic way! I shought, If you're getting ahead, it means you're screening somebody over. I couldn't get the African villagers out of my head. I seep thinking. What would they think of parking it clerks, what would they think of the What would they think of parking it clerks, what would they think of contained they make the miner?" To think through those eyes means you're going to feel like an outsider."
"And," I said, "when you went to Africa and when you came

"And," I said, "when you went to Africa and when you came back, you were still very young."

"I was too young, in a way— I went to Africa at 21— and not just young in years, but young in experience. I had been a student all my life. I'd been a good student, really. I went from Sanford to Yale. I had all the privileges of an academic life. And that was what I was destined for. I had really never done badly."
Packer writes in his book about John Staurt Mill and Mill's fall, as a youth, into depression. I suggested to Packer that his own story was not all that different than Had of Mill's.

fall, as a younn, into encountry and the fall of Mall's.

The story of a young man who fulfills all the expectations of many the story of a young man who fulfills all the expectations of many of the fall of the expectations of many of the fall of the expectations of many of the fall of the expectation of the expecta

for a nervous breakdown."
Packer talked about an event he described in his first book. 
"One night while! was in the village in Africa, I thought! was going 
to have a stroke, which makes perfect senie given what happened 
to my father [who suffered a massive stroke from which he never 
high recovered]. Commisced myself fresally was about to have a stroke. 
I would die because! was in Africa, where no one could help me, 
and somehow my father had cught by with the tever. And it was 
and somehow my father had cught by with the fewer. And it was

this chilling sense of fate having finally made a move on me. I got myself to a bospital quickly, through a local driver. And this German doctor took one look at me and said. These are very subjective reactions. You're not going to have no my little discharge booklet. Heginning nervous breakdown. Which stunned me. So then I thought I had narrowly averted a stroke. I had no idea that this was a psychological event that had just occurred. "You weren", "I said, "at that age, particularly psychological sphilipsychiaticated."

"No, I wasn't. I was smart, but I didn't really know myself. I knew books. And as I described [in Blood of the Liberals]. I tried to solve these psychological problems by

"This German doctor took one look at me

and said, 'These are very subjective

reactions. You are not going to have a stroke."

breakdown, turned, was Kierkegaard — specifically, to Sickness unto Death. I said that I had laughed, bleakly, when I read about Packer's reading, because

I had laughed, bleakly, when I read about Packer's reading, because as a teranger, I boo had turned to this particular book in hopes of finding answers to my problems.

"It should be banned," Packer said, "for people who are in serious trouble, I's too dangerous, really, It's a brilliant, profound book of I'd read it now, I'm sure, with a lot of pleasure, But a that time, it was like watching a borror film. But I you're also an over-educated sort—a sy our probably were, as I was —you think that hillnang as of the langer it. If you get the right I tagle and the langer is the group of the right I tagle and the langer is the group of the page of the group of the page of the group of the g

maca College campus, 12110 Cuya-maca College Drive West, 619-670-5194, (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine His-torical Society, it is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in

mess you're in. And, of course, it only worsens the mess. It doesn't get you out. So Kierkegaard was the wrong direction."

wrong direction."

When a young person is in a troubled state of being like that, I said, he or she reads these books "as if they were prescriptions."

in er of site reads these books." as it they were prescriptions. If you feel inadequate because you're too living up to Kerkegaard of jung or whoever. You know that you 're lapsing back into yourself. Ironalizely, that's what Kierkegaard wants from you. He wants you to be younged but you don't know how to."

seed that in one know how to."

I suggested that in one's early 20s, there's not "historically, an arbful lot of self there."

That's for true. That's so true. And, if you're is olated as I was, what you really need is another human being. Whether it's a shrink, or a lover, or a parent, or a friend, you need another human being. I was alone. I was really isolated. So I had these books, and it was impossible to solve my problems. That German dictors and to me. Don't you have arroney sou can talk too'! only the problems in the control of the co

r talking to an African peasant."

Reading Blood of the Liberals, I was once again reminded of ow important the Alger Hiss trials and Hiss's incarceration and his lifelong attempt to prove his innocence were for people of Packer's and my parents' generations. Packer said he didn't know how much most Americans nowadays cared about the Hiss story. 'My guess is, very, very few, but those who do care, care intensely

and always will. It's very hard for people to resolve that case. It's become too symbolic. It's too many other things. The whole kell of the property of the p

them [politicians today] have been so thoroughly produced and air

ned. . .they're not living enough to hate." I asked Packer if he would talk to me about the title 'In a way, that's one of the mam ideas in the book, that the differences between the generations of my mother's father and my father was the difference between two kinds of liberalism. In the first case, it came, really, out of the 18th Century, out of Jeffersonian democracy, and it essentially put its faith in the ability of ordina people to run their own affairs, to govern themselves well. And that's how the Democratic Party came to identify itself, as the party of the people, which it still does, but it just doesn't do it as co anymore. But my grandfather, as he said, threw back to 1820. His ideal was a republic of small farmers who each had enough pro to have a stake in society, but no one had too much. And it was ar egalitarian idea that to have a democracy you couldn't have too mumoney and power in too few hands, or else liberty and self-gover

"So when the New Deal came along, it would have seemed as if a politician like my maternal grandfather — from Alabama, represented Birmingham in Congress — might have seen the New Deal as just the thing he had been waiting for, because all his career he had been denouncing corporate power. But, in fact, had been waiting for, because the New Deal looked too much like another monopoly. It was just the monopoly of the federal government. And I think the Southerner in him and the poor boy was suspicious of Washington telling farmers, not what crops to was suspicious or wasnington teining tarmers, not what crops to grow, but how to live, which is what, for instance, the Tennessee Valley Authority tried to do. So, my grandfather was defeated by the New Deal. And, in the generational shift, it's ironic that his daughter married my father, who is, as I said, a man who took daughter married my father, who is, as I said, a man who took the New Deal of granted. In other words, who believed in large organizational control, in government. And, to a certain extent, in corporations, although he wasn't uncritical of them. But he just accepted that we lived in a complex society of big organizations that needed central control and expertise. Not the wisdom of the common man, but the expertise of the intellectual. And that vas the liberalism that came to flower in the '60s and then came

To conclude, Packer said, "Liberalism went from being populis To conclude, Packer sand, "Liberatusm went trovin eeing propulses to being corporate, from being Jeffersonian to being New Deal. And it had its greatest successes, and it also had its greatest defeas, as a result of that change. I think today we still haven't come out of the debris. It's a better moment than we've seen for a very long time for liberalism, but what it might look like in the 21st Century, I don't know. I hope my book at least raises that question. I don't

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#### Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

mummy (replica) of an Egyptian princess. Admission is included in regular museum entry fees. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Children's Museum of San Diego, range crate labels; San Fr. artist Glenn Brill and Los Angeles artist Dean Swick joined Anderson in painting the mural. Local sculptor Bill Schindler designed a piece using road signs to depict the shape of the U.S.A. The exhibit includes installations and workshops to increase chil-dren's awareness of graphic arts. Continuing exhibits include

Build a Piece of San Diego,"

#### MUSEUMS

(Art museums are listed in the Reader's Guide to Art.) Bancroft Ranch House Museum

Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area and is run by the Spring Val-ley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a Na-tional Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kume dians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found at 9050 Memory Lane; call 619-469-1480 for more information.

hotographs by Ball and text. Many of the photographs, surfboards, and other artifacts have never been on public display before. The museum features surfing ar-

The museum features surfing ar-tifacts and memorabilia — such as-surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.L." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and that way-cool megastar from Hawaii, Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

California Surf Museum, "Early

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, is located in the coastal wetlands, is located in the middle of Sweetwater Marsh Na-tional Wildlife Refuge. The facility is home to fish and invertebrates that inhabit the mud flats and marshes of

scopically, use a Wentascope for views of microscopic organisms found in the Swettweet Sour," and exploring how the Swettweet Sour," and exploring how takes affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diege Bay" chibit, A other exhibits, visitors can pet tharks and rays, see horizonte good and migratory bads, but the Rayford E Street Tolley Station or at the center's parting lot at the foot of 1 Street and Bay Boodleval, for more details, call 6 19 422 281.

Computer Museum of America, the museum includes an educational exhibit covering the history of data processing and the contributions of pioneers and history-makers in the neers and history-makers in the computer industry. Some of the over 200 historic computing machines and calculators date back to the 1890s. Interested in restoring and pro-gramming historic computer equip-ment? The museum hosts workshops

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (at 6156 Mission Gorge Road, suite H, in Mission Val-ley), Call for registration and space

Find the museum on the grounds of Coleman College, 7380 Parkway Drive; 619-465-8226. (LA MESA)

Coronado Beach Historical Mu-seum, the museum, housed in a re-stored 1898 house, traces the history of Coronado, mostly through pho-tographs. The exhibit shows the con-struction and early days of the Hotel del Coronado, Tent City, the firs school and restaurant, and the ferry-boats. One room is devoted to the story of early aviation at North Is-land. Find the museum at 1126 Loma Avenue Call 619:435-7242 for fur

Flying Leatherneck Museum, the museum is dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the

ated in building T-2002, at Marin

reading philosophy."

Packer writes in this lates:

book that one of the authors to

whom he, in this near nervous

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, Simpse San Diego Solorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wayst Eary's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the navid disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street Chetween Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492 (GASLAMP DUARTER

Heritage of the Americas Museum the museum features art and artifact from South and North America, con centrating on the utilitarian and dec orative artistry of crafts workers from

the East County. On exhibit are In-dian artifacts from the Kingery fam-ily. The museum is open on the last Saturday and Sunday of every month from 2 to 4 p.m., at 2116 Tavern Road. For information, call 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

nents, samplings of popular music rom each era, historic photographs ments, samplings of popular music from each era, historic photographs and paninings, and trends and inno-vations in the music industry. Find the museum in the corporate head-quarters of the NAMM — Interna-tional Music Products Association, at 200 A.

Poway Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of the newly renovated mu-seum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts us periods of Poway's past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 141/34 Midland Col. 619-748-3700 or 619-486-3064.

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Gay B. Woodward Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verfaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial dieging still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artisefacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Caser Tibbs Memora. m. The Casey Tibbs M

with the contraction of the cont

resident who was a world-champion roder rider. Women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800 are also on display. The Bancroft Memo-rial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex. Find it all at 645 Main Street. For more information, call 760-789-7644, (Dosdon)

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#### Come meet Bruce Hale, author of the Chet Gecko mysteries. He will be signing copies of his bo



The Mystery of Mr. Nice. To show our appreciation to all teachers, Borders is offering a special Teacher Appreciation Day, Shop at Borders on October 12 and receive 20% off your

entire purchase (some restrictions apply). Join us from 6-8 pm for a specie drama workshop, giveaways and prizes.

6-6:45 pm Drama Workshop 6:45-7 pm What's New in Books 7-7:45 pm Bruce Hale 7:45-8 pm Giveaways

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#### A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond • By Jerry Schad



frequently referred to as "the for-gotten war," the Korean War was fought between 1950 and 1953, with 39,000 Americans losing their lives in the effort. The per-manent exhibit "Air War Korea. manent exhibit "Air War Korea: Return to MiG Alley" features the MiG-15 and F-86 Sabre fighters, a J-47 engine, pilot images, war ar-tifacts, war-era model airplanes, period films, and other historical information.

A Quide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond By Jerry Schad

The inequal pace of the on Sents Catalina Insulant affects it is alsofress. The method is a school of the pack it is alsofress. The method is a school or perfect it is alsofress. The method is a school or perfect to report the control of the pack in the school or perfect to regard the control or perfect to regard the regard to regard t



(EXCENTA)

SERT Museum, "Treasures Uncovered Trade and Exchange at the San Diago Freation" features artifacts recovered from the Presidio archaeological site, dataptic the first European settlement in California (in 1790) when Father Junipero Serra extablished the Basilica San Diago de Alcalia. "Treasures" in the form of ceramics, religious, and personal goods experienting just a fraction of the sound to date at the Presido in the Presido site. to the Space Age, along with an International Acrospose Hall of Parlement and the Space Hall of Parlement to the Space Hall of Parlement to Space Hall of Parlement to Hall of Pa

vated to date at the Presidio site

San Dieguito Heritage Museum, the museum offers informative displays on the unique history of the San Dieguito area at 561 South Vulcan Avenue. For more infor-mation, call 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Drive. 619-297-3258. [PRESIDD PARIO]

Stephen 2. To MA-Quarteen Management of the Control of the These exhibits continue through Sunday, March 4, 2001. The museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit." The museum includes five scale-model railroads. cludes five scale-model railroads of the Southwest, an interactive toy train, and a refurbished toy train and a refurbished toy train agilery with a Lioned O gauge exhibit. There is a multimedia present to the state of the sta

0.199, (BALBOA PARK)
San Diego Natural History Museum, the muscum's permanent
exhibits include the Scripps Hall
of Mineralogy, the Hall of Ocean
and Shore Ecology, and the Hall of
Desert Ecology, 619-232-3821.
(BALBOA PARK) cal marine life.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). For more inormation, call 619-534-FISH. (LA HOLLA)

playing. But in 1965, a nervous affliction in his right But in 1965, a nervous affliction in his right hand forced a radical change of direction. Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Liszt, Rachmaninoff—all were now out of the question. He turned to pedagogy (becoming a famous professor at the Peabody Connervatory) and conducting. His activity as a pianist was never quite numfed out, for he continued to play those few works written for the left hand alone (cheftly those commissioned by a similarly Wells Farge
seums, the museum features a
working agents' office staffed by
guides in period contumes and
contains a working telegraph for
visitors to send and receive mesages. There's a most films on California and Wells Farge history; a
gold display, part of the collection
would be seen a collection. ifornia and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the last century; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stage-coach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House, at 273-3 San Diego Avenue. (OLO TOWN)

not like a recovering invalid.

Still in the Race

Fleisher played like the fine musician he is,

The Summer Fest concert featuring Leon Pleasher inevitably involved semiments lying beyond music. Fleisher, who was already performing in public in the early 1940s, was a proady in all respects. No one would dispute his presence in Philips's CO Series tuiled "Great Planists of the 20th Century." For two proved himself a master of the standard Classic-Romantic repertoire. His recordings of the Bethoven and Brahms concertos, with their grandeur, discipline, technical brilliance, and expressive grace, are lamous and unsurpassed. If you have heard his student and the standard Classic-Romantic repertoire. Not a world about this marging signal special most any other performance of it will sound a bif flacted in comparison. He was an inspired exponent of contemporary piano works as well. His career had the same ineluctable sweep as the playing. Fest concert (quite unprecedented this season) was in considerable part a tribute to the pi-anist's courage and determination under adversity, which nature had finally rewarded. It is impossible not to share this sentiment and to rejoice in Fleisher's return. Still, from a purely musical point of view, the question to be addressed is whether he won his Tour de

The program began with a work belonging to the left-hand period of Fleisher's career:

Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

however, there was a distinctly audi-ble change. In his traversal of the piano part of Mozart's Concerto No. 12 in A. K. 414, Fleisher's sensitive musicianship and stylistic acuity were as much in evidence as ever, and were as much in evidence as ever, and his right hand seemed to function with full competence. The tone was clear and suave, the phrasing was ele-gant, there were no flubs, there was not even the slightest trace of stiffness or awkwardness. Any tension the audience might have felt at first, wondering whether the revered pi-anist would be able to get through his ordeal without causing embar

George Perle's Musical Offerings, for the Left Hand Alone, which was composed for Fleisher's 70th birthday in 1998. The planist premiered it only piece of academic serialism, with all the clickes of its genre—but at Sherwood it gave Fleisher the opportunity to demonstrate the unimparted physical properties of the pro

ooted and irresistible. When his two hands came into play, rassment to himself or to the

listener, was rapidly dissipated. Fleisher played like the fine musician he is, not like a recover-



Leon Fleisher

SummerFest: Leon Fleisher
Sherwood Auditorium (La Jolla Chamber Music Society)
Perle, Musical Offering, Jor the Left Hand Alone, Mozart, Pano
Concerto No. 12 in A. K. 414; Brahms, Piano Quartet No. 3 in
C Minor, Opus 60

Yet the performance had little of the share focus and uninhibited vitality of the young Fleisher's Mozart. The playing did not sparkle,

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own. Former PSA employees have

donated items for the snow, includ-ing the famous orange with pink trim miniskirt flight attendant's uniform, and other memorabilia. The museum offers exhibits

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including a replica of the Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, the flight deck of the USS Yarktown, and a Lockberd

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#### Calendar CLASSICAL MUSIC

chamber music for piano and strings larger than a trio (though he composed a mas

terful quintet for piano and winds). The chamber edition

the gap, for it does not at all re

music (which is far more in

semble Mozart's chamber

(egrated and contrapuntal). but even in the best perfor-

ance sounds like what it is: concerto on the cheap

The SummerFest perfor

mance intelligently tried to

sion's weaknesses. A double ass was added, doubling th cello, and this made a big dif-ference, giving at least a semblance of orchestral sonor-

ity. The textural problems in the slow movement were alle-

viated by having the strings play with mutes. The string players (violinists Ani Kavafian

and Chee-Yun, violist Toby

Hoffman, cellist Adrés Diaz

and the exceptional bass-player Donald Palma) were first-rate.

Fleisher was dutifully atte

Donald Palmas were first rate-Flesher was durfully attentive to matter of balance. Even so, the performance quite in-dependent of the pianus's history. The concerto sounded shotson, the concerto sounded also smaller in scope. No such external issues in-serfered with the final work on the program. Farbhur's Plano Dpus 60. There, too, the string players were exemplary, half the Emerson Quarter (violin-the program, players were the pro-parate were exemplary. That for the program is the pro-parate were the pro-parate were the pro-sent of the pro-sent pro-tact, the firey passion of the string players (who will ever diant, hearts breaking initial statement of the slow move-ment's niclosty?) tended to force into relief the more re-playing. The plans here should lead the way, but instead it

minimize the a quattre ver

On the other hand (I use this expression intentionally), who can tell what might still be in the future! Seventy-two is not old for a pianus! Fleisher out; he still has it in his firmegers, and what we were hearing at Sherwood were the first, still heistant steps of what may turn out to be a whole new career as brilliant as the one that was truncated in 1965. It is good to have this great prants—both hands—back CLASSICAL LISTINGS mance, but one must suppose he did so only for financial considerations, for the work HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must received by 5 p m. Friday the we prior to publication for. and effect in its smaller incar-nation. There is no Mozart

ide), and a phone number for

tended to retreat into the background. Leon Fleisher was born to play this passionate Brahms work with such collaborators, but — placed together with them in the year 2000 — he was unable or un-willing to throw himself fully into the music skemands. One listened with regret for what might have been.

On the other hand (I use this expression intentionally).

Connisseur Series, the season for the San Tiego Symphons: Chesic transl conductor Imp III D Pak gets understay with concerts Chesider 18. The program includes: The Chesider 18. The program includes: The Chesider 18. The program includes: The Chesider 18. The Ch Connoisseur Series, the season for

Soprano Cynthia Leigh Karp per Supramo Cyntina Lega Karp per forms works by Mozart, Bellini Verdi, Schubert, Puccini, Lehar and others during a concert set fo Sunday, October 8, at 7 p.m., ii Sherwood Auditorium (Museum o ontemporary Art, La Jolla, 701

St. Cecilia Evensong, at 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, the men and girls St. Cecilia Choir will sing even-song using the Thomas Tallies short service and the William Byrd an-them "Let all mortal flesh keep si-lence." Find St. Paul's at 2728 Sixth Avenue. An offering will be re-ceived. 619-298-7261. (MIDTOWN)

ceived. of 19:298-728a. [antitrons]

"Second Sandaya at Seven," the series presented by the San Dieguio Performing, Arts Association commerces with a concert by the Pacific group—including violatine Registral Lews, ceili

Works by Persichetti, Beethoven, and Ravel are promised when vio-linist Paivikki Nykter and pianist Cynthia Darby join forces for a con-cert at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Octo-ber 8, at the San Diego Public Li-brary (third-floor auditorium, 820 E Street). 619-236-5810. Free (DOWNTOWN)

Guest Organist Gary Toops plans a concert at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Octo-ber 8, in the Spreckels Organ Pavil-ion. Free. For information, call 619-702-2138.ditorium, 820 E Street). 619-236-5810. Free

(DOWNTOWN)

Canticles, Motets, and Organ

Works by Healey (1880-1968) may
be heard during evensong beginning at 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, at Trinity Church (845 Chest-

An offering will be received. 760-743-1629. (ESCONDIDO)

concert at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Octo-ber 8, in the Spreckels Organ Pavil-ion. Free. For information, call 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Eat Outdoors in Horton Square – across from the Lyceum Theater is Horton Plaza — when the Sym phony Brass Quintet entertains for the San Diego Mini-Concert or Monday, October 9. The free con-cert begins at noon and Iasts ap-proximately 50 minutes. 858-587-

New Music Forum, UCSD gradu ate composition students present their recent works at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, in the Recital Hall at UCSD's Mandeville Center. Call 858-534-5404 for in-formation. Free. (IA 30LIA)

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#### **Slightly Bug-Eyed** Love

Rembrandt renders him as a rough character bearing his traditional attribute, a butcher's knife.

wired in Philadelphia until I vas 21 and reverence for in Independence Hall. When 1 get married, my wist insisted on seeingit, so I finally crossed that invisible bridge that causes us to ignore or overlook good thing because they reason available. On my many trips to obtain the control of the Times of a building, given it an appreciative glance, and walked past. A few weeks of the Times for Collection. I was on chaprined 1 wanted to change the subject to Independence of the Times for Collection. I was on chaprined 1 wanted to change the subject to Independence of the Times for Collection. I was on chaprined 1 wanted to change the subject to Independence of the Times from the collection. I was on chaprined 1 wanted to change the subject to Independence of the Times from the table, and the restless that the collection is the control of the Times from the table, and the restless that the collection is the collection of the times of the

wanted to change the subject to Independence Hall.

And The Part of the Carlon of the

investigations of material reality.

That said, in the Library is a satisfying and, for a still life, rather kinetic painting. The brunching and drapery of blue tablecloth, the folder of papers drooping from the table, and the realiess and the reality of the paper of the painting of the paper of the pap

scoop of a large tree, where the buttery figures play their games. His subject games. His subject and technique sug-gest frivolity, ancien régime delectables, but Fragonard's best pictures depict how desire lures, blinkers, and flutters us into

The collection oice Dutch and Flemish pieces: a mop-top Young Man by Rubens; Man by Rubens; Petrus Christus's solemn Death of the Virgin, where the bulbous eyelids of those present record different kinds of at-

tentiveness to sacred events; and Rembrandi's very brown 
St. Bartholomew, a 
sturdy study piece 
with heavily muscled 
paint and typical viriele expressiveness, depicted as a rough 
character bearing his 
traditional attribute, a 
butcher's kniller 
butcher's 
bu Rembrandt painted hands as registers o existence, of the fac

that time writes its changing messages into skin and mus-cle. (My favorite hand in New York is the meaty paw hold-ing a stick in the Frick's Self-Portrait.) The attack and speed The attack and speed sRembrandt developed in the 1650s is evident in St. Bartholomew's lifted brow, which looks shoved into place by a palette knife.

Amy Putnam studied Russian in college and had a special interest in icons, so the Timken has unusually rich holdings. The icon in Russian Or-thodoxy differs from the imagery of Roman Catholicism in that Catholic images are signs meant to induce meditation on the life of the fig-



The Timken Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado, Balboa Park.

Museum hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;

Sunday, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

ure represented. In contemplating an icon, a person evokes a memory of the forgotten depths of being, the recovery of which brings jov. In the words of the great theologian Pawel Florensky (1882–1937), an icon presents to the sense a spiritual world, "that which is not given to sensual experience...] and which jis not a work of art, a product of self-sufficient creativity, but a work of winness, which has need of art along with





Florensky.) The Putnam Collection's The Putnam Collection's icons are mostly remnants from churches stripped of religious imagery after the Russian Revolution. Florensky could have been writing about "The Jerusalem Mother of God," a 17th-entury work in which the Virgin Mother is depicted as "Hodgistria," Greek for "pointer of the way," because the points toward the Christ child, "the Way, the



Truth, and the Life," who ofon a sanctuary screen, or iconostas', which separated the nave where the congregation stood from the holy sanctuary where the Eucharist rite was performed. The Timken has a fers Mary a sheaf of wheat, symbol of the Eucharist. The oversized baby lesus floats loosely in his mother's arms. as if already rising to his great task. Mary's huge scalloped cowl, the Byzantine draping of grand, though somewhat damcowl, the Byzantine draping of her mantle, and Christ's robe that looks like wood-carving are all exquisitely "aesthetic." Icons had an architectural aged, seven-panel series, Deisis: The Saviour Enthroned, the Virgin Mary, the Archangel Michael, the Apostle Peter, St. John the Baptist, the Archangel

Gabriel the Apostle Paul the noble beauty of which could easily serve as a meditation niece for nonbelievers. The colpiece for nonbessevers. .... lection has two fine examples of larger icons that were hung in the nave of churches, the complex St. Basil with Scenes from His Life and the stupendous, six-foot-tall Last Judgment, with delicately articulated spiritual strata of the delivered and the damned. Now that I know what's here. I'll be so into hock to the three. I'll be so into hock to the

Now that I know what's there, I'll be going back to the Timken — and to Indepen-dence Hall, for that matter — but to get a closer and more detailed view of the icons, some of which are mounted high on the wall as they often were in their original setting. I intend to bring opera glasses.

ART LISTINGS

HOW TO SEND US YOUR ved by 5 p.m. Friday the week precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER ART, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also

Regular gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and by appointment. For more information, call 760-434-2282. See this show through Thursday, November 30. (CARLSBAD) GALLERIES The Crone Show: The Old, the

Bold, and the Beautiful," an exhibit of work by 22 women, opens with a reception at 6:30 p.m. tonight, Thursday, October 5, in the Bard "The Secently of Chinese Break," a show of recent Chinese brushworks show of recent Chinese brushworfs by Peggy Obculae, opens with a reception at 6 p.m. on Priday, October 6, at the Arxistis Callery (7420 Grand Awrnue), Call 858–459-5844 for information. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Monday, November 4. (LA JOLIA) Thursday, October S., in the Bard Pall Gallery as First Uniarian Universalist Church (4)90 Front Street). The reception includes agiese the Old Women Players and their performance at mask, prose, and their predings; and Women of Ancient Wisdom pressed drumming at 7 pm.

The this show through Friday, October 27, Regular gallery hours are

Monday, November 4, BASLA 
"Sens and Usess," featuring potrials by France-Marie Hager, openat UCSD's Facility Club Gallery with a reception at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 
Cotober 6, A written recollection by 
both the artist and the individual 
portrayed accompanies most portrains, the worls were created in 
pastdi, conti pendi, psytholi, and than 
100 pendi portrayed 
100 pendi por October 27. Regular gainery hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon on Sun-day. For information, call 858-270-6447. (HILLCREST) "Beyond Borders," an exhibition chronicling five decades of the art group Allied Craftsmen, opens in the Southwestern College Art Gallery be-ginning with a reception at 6 p.m. tonight, Thursday, October 5. Mex-

tonight, Thursday, October 2, mea-ican glass and mixed-media works by Einar and lamex de la Torre are showcased in the exhibit; continuing through Thursday, November 2. Find Southwestern College at 836-534-8042, ILA DOLLA 
"Leopy Memoratums illustrations, paintings, and animation" by Blair 
Thorniey go on exhibit at the Spruce 
Street Forum with a reception at 
p.m. on First, "Chough gain 
p.m. on First, "Chough 
p.m. on First, "Chough 
Carlotte 
Aday, January 15, 2001. Find 
Street and by colling 619-239-3001. 
Call 
Street and by colling 619-239-3001. 
Call 
and Saturday, ORLIGHEST) Find Southwestern College at 900 Otay Lakes Road. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with hours ex-tended from 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednes-day and Thursday. For more infor-mation, call 619-421-6700 x5368. (CHULA WISTA)

"Of Earth and Soul" — a collection of new paintings, multimedia pieces, and photographs — goes on exhibit with a reception for artist Tera Lynn Nelson at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 6, at the Galerie D'Art International (592 Cartisbad Village Drive). Nelson plans a lecture on October 27 et 6 kb n.m.

Being a Small Mements, a photo of a loved one, or a personal remem-brance to contribute to the commu-nity altar being constructed at the Next Door Gallery in commemora-tion of El Día de los Muertos. Over

Magai Enternational Museum of Pull Art, the set of postery suiking in Japan is an unbodien tradition agains in the proper intradition agains in the property of the property of the property of a Retrospective of a Living National Control of the Pull Art o other works for the show, exploring experiences with death and its tie to the living. The show opens with a re-ception at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Octo-ber 7, and concludes on Saturday, November 11.

November 11.

The gallery is located at 2963
Beech Street (between 30th and Dale
Streets); 619-233-6679, Gallery hours
are noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday
through Sunday, (GOLDEN HILL)

through Sunday, 100.CDU HALI Westerocker Stear, the 20th annual juried "International Exhibition" bosted by the San Diego Watercolor Society opens with a reception at 7 p.m. on Saturdey, October 7, at the 7 p.m. on Saturdey, October 7, at the Cheng-Khee Chee. Find the gallery in the Studies Building, at 200 Kettner Boudevard. See the show from 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Saturday, October 28. e13-338-0502. 100mc100ml.

(DOWNTOWN)

"A Ducade of Exploration and Dis-covery" by artist Stephanic Goldman is evident in the paintings, drawings, and parets on exhibit through De-cember at South Fair Artists Space (2010 Jimmy Durante Boulevard). There's a reception planned on Sat-urday, October 7, at 6 p.m. Call 619-223-3990 for hours and infor-mation. (DEL MRP)

Blanco and Jalisco's Rosendo Ro-driguez, along with architectural pieces by Candelario Medrano and woodcarvings by Manuel Jiménez. All regions of Mexico are repre-sented, with selections ranging from objects of daily use to those of cere-

objects of dairy use to those of cere-mony. Enjoy the exhibit through December.

The Mingei is located on the square with the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of

Ernesto Pujol, Marcos Ramirez, ERRE, and Doris Salecdo. Find the museum at 1001 Ket-tner Boulevard (at Broadway), di-rectly across from the Santa Fe Rail-road Depot, adjacent to the America Plaza trolley transfer station. 619-234-1001. (DOWNTOWN)

mation, (RE, MM)

"The Calestral Calculustion of Commonplace Objects: by arised Dorestly monoplace Objects: by arised Dorestly may from her tespot series along with images of other conductors household things. Annette says her "still-life paintings are metapons for people", she works primarshy with old on can-value that of the conductors of the conduct

November 2.

The gallery is located in the student center; the campus is found at One Barnard Drive. Regular gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with addi-

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Mu-California Center for the Arta Mu-seum, "No Sun Without Shadow: The Art of Harry Sternberg," open-ing on Sunday, October 8, in the first retrospective devoted to the work of this pioneering American print-maker, painter, and educator, who

this pinnereing American print-maker, painer, and educator, who have york. The show, featuring nearly 100 works (some being seen creative processes of the state of nearly 100 works (some being seen creative processes of the attack A va-riety of plates, woodblocks, trail proofs, and finished pieces will also with the state of Pageon Work (Obre recinety) by Eboy Turcisio also goes on exhibit ing the continuous or of expenie, man-terials in a wariety of applications. In these troe-dimensional works, the test of applications in these two-dimensional works, the test of applications in these two-dimensional works, the Medico City artist roce pertals, and made with conven-tional models such as acrylic and plates. The Signarior and of blood, roop relates, and made with conventional media such as acrylic and oll paints. The Signarior and and plates and the state of the

ley Parkway); 760-738-4120.

Baroque: Aspects of Post-Latin American Art. The exhibit presents a critical evaluation of the Baroque and its use as an important cultural metaphor in contemporary art. far-metaphor in contemporary art. far-ther art. and art. art. art. art. art. well known in their own counts in said known in their own counts and abroad but may not have been empressionly in the United States. British fashion designer Zandra for the San Diese Opera's 2001 pre-fer the San Diese Opera's 2001 pre-

British fashion designer Zandra Rhodes debuts her costume drawings for the San Diego Opera's 2001 pre-sentation of Mozart's Magic Flute in an exhibition including 30 of her sketches and drawings, including costumes for Mozart's comic Pa-

700 Prospect Seret. 854-63-541. A GOLA A GOL

619-339-0003, IMAROA PAND Museum of Castemponery Art, Dewnstewn, "Ojes Diverson/With Different Eyes Par-American Hold-ings from the Permanent Collec-tion," Continuing through Sanday, November 28, includes 35 paintings, sculptures, photographs, and video installations suggesting the range of subjects, sylvs, and close defining the subjects, and the subjects and the critis include [ose Bedils, Sandar Citino, Silvia Grener, Vic Muniz, Ernesto Puiol, Marcos Ramirez, ERRE, and Doris Salendo.

Oceanida Measurem of Art. the de-velopment of indocreasis in chair design from the beginnings of in-dustrial production in the mid-li 800s through the 1900s in docu-lings of the 1900s in docu-lings of the 1900s in docu-lings of the 1900s in the 1900s in do-cu-lary of the 1900s in the enable is a technically perfect replics repro-sentation of the 1900s in the production of the 1900s in the 1900s in the supports, and joints. The minit-ments plexing the chairs in historical context. See these "Cissus" through Stundey Cocheler 3. The missuand context. See these "Cissus" through Stundey Cocheler 3. The missuand is supported to the 1900s in th

Timken Museum of Art, the mu seum's first American acquisition in 13 years is John Frederick Peto's In the Library, a large oil

costumes for Mozart's comic Pa-pageno and Papagena and the evil Queen of the Night. Both shows close on Sunday, January 7, 2001. Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (IA KOLA)

The 721-278, OCKMENDO TO THE ADDRESS OF THE ADRESS OF THE ADDRESS OF THE ADDRESS OF THE ADDRESS OF THE ADDRESS The museum's permanent col-lection includes Italian Renaissance paintings, Spanish old master paint-ings, American art, 19th-Century European paintings and sculpture, and the Weisman Gallery of Con-temporary California Art. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

on a draped table. The painting has been in the possession of a Philadelphis family for four generations—perhaps since its completion. In terms of its scale, impact, seriousness, and abstract purity...In the Library stands as one of the masterpieces...of aide Museum of Art, the de-

American still-life painting as a whole."

The museum's permanent col-lection includes European mas-ters, 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. For information, dial 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARS)





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Regina Carter

Nov. 17 • Friday

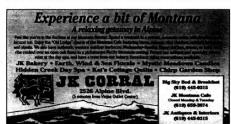
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#### **Don't Even Burn Broken Bridges**

When people started buying tickets it was a complete surprise. They hadn't printed any.

hen he performed for San Diego Junior Theatre, a director told Obaloc Phillips,

"You're very, very talented; you'll have to leave San Diego. There's no work here for black actors." Phillips, who grew up in various parts of the Southeast, knew, "Even as a INTERVIEW teenager, that anyone considered a serious black performer does not ournalism at UCSD and got

his BA in 1995. But instead of pursuing that proession, Phillips, a serious performer, chose no

"No black talent in San Diego? Go to any African-American church on a Sunday. You'll hear some of the best unrecorded voices, period. They'd love to be in a production. It's just, no body's knocking on their doors or casting them. So they don't audition anymore.

"I grew up in church. We went six times a week. When we weren't praising the Lord, we were scrubbing the floors. I knew these soloists. When I asked if they want to be in The Wiz, they jumped. I have no problem finding black talent."

Through this weekend, Phillips's new com pany, Noir Productions, is staging The Wiz, the "funkified" Broadway musical based on The Wizard of Oz, at the Spreckels Theatre. He has directed.

This November

VOTE

choreographed, and, with Robert Murphy, co-produced the show. He also plays the Wiz. Instead of leaving town, Phillips wants to create local the-ater based "on talent, not color." He got into performing arts because his

mother, now a minister, was very strict. He couldn't play outside. The streets were too dangerous. "It was either listen to church music or Broadway shows. That's

where I got the love for performing. Because I couldn't do anything else." His mother came from Nigeria when she was 10. "She had me at 15," says Phillips, whose first name — pronounced "o-BAY-lock" — means "bright eyes" in Swahili. And his father? "You tell me and we'll both know. Life's a mystery. I don't delve into that anymore

Feeling that neither mother nor father "rooted me on." Phillips moved in with the Crowsons a white Point Loma family - when he was 14 "They're the ones who see my shows, the ones I spend holidays with, the ones I look to as parents."

Theater and arts coverage are symbiotic. But a few subjects, for actors, are off-limits. Should a rew subjects, for actors, are orr-amits. Should an actor complain, in print, about a director or a company, the actor will never get cast there, or possibly anywhere else. "You want, need to do the work," one told me, "so you don't burn



bridges, even when they're broken."

A gifted African-American performer we'll call G agreed to talk about her experiences, which are typical, if I didn't use her name. "When you're are typical, it ium tuse ner name. When you're a black person, you're working up from nega-tives," she says. "You have to do this" — pulls herself up an imaginary rope — "from the start. You're always fighting stereotypes. Somebody'll tell me, 'Oh, you aren't like black people at all.'
Like it's a compliment, you know? That's just
racism reversed, to say I'm not like them.
Theater all over is still hard for African-Amer-

neater an over is sun hard for African-Americans. Look at Broadway shows, the percentages. And it's better than in the past! Look at the performers in Play On! They were GREAT! Most of them have done theater for years and have only

Ease on down the road to... "The Wiz is exciting, and you get your money's worth — 22 songs in all! With the fervor of classic Aretha Franklin!" —N.Y. Post The Wiz is funky and paved with soul. Go! Take the kids (they'll love it)! Take **25th Anniversary Revival Tour** ay thru Saturd Sunday, 4 pm The Wiz, the super-soul musical version of Wizord of Oz, returns in its first professional tour millennium. This promises to be a sold-out favorit e whole family. Don't let this tornado pass you by our tickets today! 50% off children 12 and under. October 4-8, 2000 (5 Performances Only!) SPRECKELS THEATRE

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been in four shows: Ain't Mis-behavin', Dream Girls, Once on This Island, and The Wiz. They do 'em over and over and go to Maine and play them there and go to Oregon and play them there.

"It's worse in San Diego, musicals especially. There's a monopoly here. Same old people doing the same old stuff. They have these paint-by-the-numbers shows. You send away for a how-to book and videotape, and they tell you cancily what to do. Music Theatre International offers that. And all you have are carbon copy productions." G has auditioned through-

out San Diego and is always "pigeonholed into roles as maids, scrub-women, and such." Unlike many African Americans, and other people of color, G continues to audition and "tote my résumé around," knowing there is "no guarantee I'll ever be in another those parts it was like proving their point. In the end, they're constantly telling you that you're inferior."

show again. People here still cast by type, not talent.\* Phillips learned is at a young age. From his home to Junior two his home to Junior two-hour wali. It was tough. A young black child trying not to get involved in a gang? They have to make you, you know? To keep their recruitment up-today, but when I was in Junior Theatre, white kids'd say. You're so Jucky we let your black but the inova show, that have it im the tost and the church and stuff, so I didn't have it in me to start fights.

have it in me to start fights. I just said to myself, okay, I'll beat them onstage. They were putting me down so much I had to show them."

Often Phillips didn't get

roles he felt he deserved. Even ensemble roles — "if you don't ensemble roles — it you don't count slaves in Showboat" — went to "blue-eyed boys" in-stead of him. "I dealt with that for years. When I didn't get

you're inferior."

As he grew older and worked with Junior Theatre directors Dan Regas and Mindy Hull, "who had clear minds," Phillips got cast for his talent. Suddenly everyone wanted to be his friend. "But by then I had hings in perspective. I know oe his friend. But by then I had things in perspective. I know what this is: You guys befriend me now because I'm a leader. Well, I'm not here to make friends. I'm here to learn a craft."

Frustrated with what he and friends were going through, on a whim Phillips started making phone calls, signing contracts, and casting "talented people from local choirs." He put on a production of Ain's Mishwain' in 1995 that got rave reviews. "We weren't trying to do it." When people started buying tickets in was complete surprise. They hadn't printed ainy. As a youth Phillips walked two two-hour-long paths, to Junior Theatre and the downtown library, where he read about music, theater, and "ev-erybody: Italians, Jews, Irish. I love learning about people." He became a "library nerd," and he taught himself piano by checking out books and plunking beat-up keys. When he graduated from Point Loma

In the last three weeks of the run, they sold out the 250-seat

st. Frustrated with what he and

Hahn Theatre every night.

High, in 1990, Phillips took this alternate path, majoring in journalism at UCSD.

While in school, he kept urging African-American friends to audition for shows. Some did, "and bleve those people away, Other auditioners were, like, "Oh, my God," and ready to walk out of there." The retuil was always the same, however. None got cast. Hahn Theatre every night. Since no one had seen them on-stage before, audiences assumed they were from out of town. Phillips has since restaged, ain's Misberhavin' and written, directed, choreographed, and starred in Boogle Nights, which had a run extended several times at several locations. These days he's in demand.

Not interested."
Will you continue to say

"no" to local companies?

"Always. But it's not an ego
thing, right? I won't work for
any other company because if
I was an unknown, I wouldn't get cast. Just won't happen. It's been funny to me, since the big theaters have been around betheaters have been around be-fore I was born. They didn't want me before I did my own productions. I'm not impressed that they want me now." Phillips isn't bitter, just def-nite. The pattern he experienced in Junior Theatre — rejection

based on race/acceptance based on talent — repeated itself in the 1990s. "When I was a kid, I was extremely affected by it. I've become thick-skinned

He dreams of "mixed-up" productions: racial collages based solely on talent, with au-diences just as "mixed." He also dreams of a theater school for children "unlike any you can get down here." San Diego is blessed with several children's theater programs, but their fees prohibit attendance for many kids. This summer, Phillips took steps toward fulfilling both

took steps toward hilling both dreams.
Robert Stein, manager of the Spreckels Theatre, signed Phillips to create a touring pro-duction of The Wiz. After this week's run, it will play in Phoenix, Riverside, Los Ange-les, Oakland, and Sacramento. Phillips cast democratically and



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He opened a theater youth camp, for free. Every Saturday from 10 to 2 during August and September, the kids learned September, the kids learned about performing at the Casa del Prado Theatre in Balboa del Prado Theatre in Balboa Park. Phillips never expected 100 to show up but, to the de-light of ecstatic parents, put everyone into the musical, "no issues all access to

everyone into the musical, "no issues, all races.
"I grew up in a children's program, and it helped me a lot. Even though felt I wasn't treated the best, just getting up onstage gave me confidence when I had none. Most of these lots in the last of the second programs of the last of when I had none. Most of these kids'll never become perform-ers. But the experience will help them in whatever they do, like public speaking, or raising their hands in class and asking a

question." How to fund a youth camp with no tuition? Phillips designated a special Saturday matinee. Benefits will cover the camp. Leftover money, if any, will go to T-shrits, trophies, and a pizza party.

Why The Wiz? "I love the music. And in all honesty, with

music. And in all honesty, with the childhood I had, my fa-vorite books and movies were about kids going on adven-tures and finding a home. I used to pretend I was building a spaceship, fantasized I'd be

whisked away."
Which character do you re-

"I have the traits of the other three, but it's Dorothy, She wants to help people. I'm not goody-two-shoes, but I'm like that. She's trying to get out of trouble, but along the way she

helps others get out too.
"The other three have the traits already! Scarecrow's smart. Tin Man has a heart. The smart. Tim Man has a heart. The Lion has courage; he's just scared of rejection-type thing. And that's what Dorothy helps them realize. That's why I like it. These qualities are already in you. You just need to bring them out."

#### THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to impure about ticket availability. Many theaters offer

The African Company Presents Richard III.
The North Coast Repertory The-ters stages Carlyle Brown's histori-cal drams about the first black the-strical group in America and a rival white company's efforts to shut them down. Sor Powers directed. NOTH COAST REPUTION HEATING. PRODUCT STATEMENT OF AS SUN-DAY AT 700 P.M. MATHEE SURDAY AT 200 P.M.

Bedroom Perce Palomar College stages Alan Ayck-bourn's farce about four couples and three bedrooms and one week-end. Dana Case directed. HOWAND BRUBECK THEATRE, PALOMAR HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE, PAU COLLEGE, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, THROUGH OCTOBER 15, THURSDA THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

MATTHE SURDAY AT ZOO P.M.
The Bellie of Amiherret
The Laguns Playhouse opens its
new season with Julie Harris as
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Commidy Codependents
The Improv comedy troupe performs the first Friday of every
month at the Creativity Centre in
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on Anton's Wel. The sight I cought the above, there is no Diago consention papers of "Noticego match" against players from the fine Joseph Sander, and the sight of the sight

WORKER BY THEATER, 3717 BROM STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUR: PRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. FOR BIFOR-MATION CALL 619-285-4999.

MATION CALL 613-295-6900.

Death Ridon the Image
HIT Productions new interactive
comedy-septicity, written by Beth
and Scott McChilden, in set in Texast-Ton serviced a stampede. Lacy
"You serviced a stampede. Lacy
"YOU was "Land there's a dead body in
the next room."

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South Coast Repertory Theatre presents the world premiere of Richard Greenburg a Grama, which propreses from the Lower East Side of Manhattan in the 1940s to modern-day Orange County. Evan Vionoulis directed.
SOUTH COAST REPRETION THEATRE, MAIN STAIR, THROUGH COTORER 8.

MES SAUMEN AND SARGAVAT 2200 F.M.

Poerver Flaid
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Entertaining Mr. Shome South Cose Repertory Theatre stages loc Orton's seldon-pro-duced face; in which "secrets tum-ble out of the close." Martin Ben-son directed. SOUTH COSST REPERTORY THEATRE, INDICAS COSER 22: UND

gast symmetry! Is this a drama or a physics theorem? On opening or a physics of the phy

2:00 P.M.

Hot I. Baltimore Mess College Theater Company presents Lanford Wilson's drama about the residents of a Baltimore about the residents of a Baltimore hotel "as old as the town itself." MESA COLLAGE APOLLIAD THEATER, PRI DAY, OCTOBER 6, THROUGH OCTO-BER 15; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

Improv Survivor — Outwit to Outland
TheatreSports presents a sneak preview of their "Survivor" show, in which songs and scene get made up on the upot. A tribal council vote players out of the show.
MINISTOON THEATINE, WEDNESON,
OCTORER 31, AT SO OP MA FOR INFORMATION CALL 619-465-SHOW.

It Ain't Nothin' but the Blues It Ain's Nothin' but the Blues
The San Diego Rep returns its
Tony-nominated Broadway-hit
show to the Lyceum. The title's a
misnomer. To say its "just" the
blues understates egregiously. The
show's 46 song trace the history of
the blues, from African roots to the blues, from African roots to work songs in the plantation fields to spirituals rang in the "holiness" churches of the old bouth, through the churches of the old bouth, through old bouth, through old bouth, through old bouth, the old bouth, through ol

Punny Girl
The Welk Resort Theatre presents
the popular musical-comedy about
Fanny Brice, comedienne.
WELN RESORT THEATRE, THROUGH circumstance. In fact, the seven performent (sel by world-sized Ron Teylor) are rasely if ever "bule." They're spontaneous, visit, often elegant, and always moving forward despite of American music. Child's pick.

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DAYS) AT 2:00 P.M.

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fore Jesy and Marta's Camedy Italian Wedding
The Culy Theater hosts "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater," as Josy and Maria tie the knot.
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tion (The Trujan Women), ego-freaks extraordinaire (Ornen's Shadew), or silly gecks (LLL). Words a try. O.O GLOSE THATHE, SMOON EDSON CENTER FOR THE PERSONNERS ARTS, HERCURY OF THATHE, SMOON EDSON CENTER FOR THE PERSONNERS ARTS, HERCURY STUDIOS FOR THE SOP PAR SUN-DAY AT 700 PM. MATINES SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 200 PM. MATINES SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 200 PM.

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Much Ado About Nothing MiraCosta College stages Shake-speare's popular comedy about Beatrice and Benedick, reticent

DEATHOR AND DETROICE, PELICENT LOVERS.
MIRACOSTA COLLEGE THEATRE (OCEAN-SIDE CAMPUS), THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5. THROUGH OCTOBER 15. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

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Orean's Student of the Committee of the first wife and now 14/9/hs czary, and loan Plowingh, his current loves. It's hard to empathize with the control to the control shouts "impostor!" But then he goes to work, revealing the force of Olivier's feelings. Throughout Hormann demonstrates eloquently that, even at the height of their powers, great artists must always feel like the naked emperor.

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THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

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A national touring production of
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CURTAN A BOOP.M.

B. Suckinalizer, Pullers The History and Hystery of the Universe Blocky Fluir's an unlikely subject for a theater piece. But if you widen your definitions and let D.W. waves through your mindfrein, marwick can occur. It's as if Fulir, who devoted his genius to world-theater. The such that the subject is the subject to humanity. Here's what he'd any. History and Mystery's a talk, hasded on Fulir's voluntiness writings. It chart, instead of aging at the stars and getting lost in their infinitude, Fuller makes the world, the stars and getting lost in their infinitude, Fuller makes the world, the stars and getting lost in their infinitude, Fuller makes the world, the stars and flatelic. We'd just better fast soon. Directed by Jacobs, the

Radio Gala
The Pine Hills Lodge and Dinner
Theatre presents the "toe-tapping,
rib-tickling" musical comedy by
the creators of Pump Boys and
Dinnertes, Mike Craver and Mark
Hardwick. Scott Kinney directed.

start soon. Directed by Jacobs, the

start soon. Directed by Jacobs, the piece is surprisingly theatrical. On Annie Smart's simple raked stage, Fuller recalls his life and discover-ies. Terrific video work, slides, and a film arranged by Dave Cannon add dimension. And Ron Camp-bell, who plays Fuller, can spellbind

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, LYCEUM SPACE, THROUGH OCTOBER I THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATI-NEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

Rumors Coronado Playhouse presents Nei Simon's comedy about a ten-year Simon's comedy about a ten-year-anniversary party that doesn't go as planned. Larry Steckling directed. COROMADO PLAYHOUSE, THROUGH OC-TOBER 29: THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY. AT 2:00 P.M.

as the man many have called "our

as the man many have called "our first engineering saint." At times Campbell betrays an urge to enter tain (the eager, over-explanatory sound design shares this impulse) Overall, however, Campbell gives

one of the year's uni

Scotland Road
OnStage Playhouse presents Jeffrey
Hatcher's drama about a survivor of the Titanic discovered many

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motivation to make you question not who — but who didn't — dun-nit. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre's latest has a relatively loose script and a cast adept at comedy and ringing ad-libs, James Pascarella, one of the funniest people in San one of the funniest people in San Diego, again reigns supreme in multiple roles (audiences be warned: Think you're witty! This guy's all-pro). Her hair an orangis! red not found in nature — maybe on Mars — Diane Thrasher's a on Mars — Drane I brasher is a scream as Petals, who never met a situation she didn't yearn to con-trol. Gerry MacKinnon, William Fredrick, Megan McLeod, and Crystal Verdon (whose middle Crystal version (whose missis name should be "Talent") keep the show rolling, even when the script lulls. Worth a try.

MYSTERY CAFE, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FE DAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. FOR INFORMATION CALL 619-544-1600.

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Mira Mesa Theatre Guild presents
Andrew Bergman's popular comedy about a married team of art
dealers and their new resident: the
wife's mother. Jan Humphreys di-

rected.
MIRA MESA THEATRE GUILD, FRIDAY,
DOTOBER 6, THROUGH NOVEMBER 4
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M.
MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

Strange Some
One could pick at Lamplighters'
production of Stephen Metcalfe's
drama. For example, if manic Mega
puts his fast through a kitchen wind
dow in Act one, and it's snowing in
Act two, the evening of the same
day, why han's someone covered
up the broken window! It's easy to up the broken window? It is easy to pick but also easy to find positives. The play, for one. Strange Snow combines an unlikely romance, be-tween a wallflower and a weed (who is "not up to her standards") with two Vietnam vets in whom the war still rages. Though first

Casa Del Piedo Inderer, anisona Pari, 1919 279 330 3 SAN DIRGO EPPERTONY THEATE PARISON DEL COMMUNICATION FOR HAMPING AND ANISON DEL SAN DIRGO STATE UNIVERSITY Don Fowell Theater and Experimental Theater. Cipies air Amphabrasier (1917) 944-9475. SAN DIRGO THEATRESPORTS (1917) 944-9475.

S.D. SCHOOL OF CREATIVE & PERFROMING ARTS

SER PROMEN AND SERVICE OF THE PROMENT AND SERVICE OF THE PROMENT AND SERVICE OF THE PROMENTY THAN THE PROMENT AND SERVICE OF THE

LEDGEHAMMER THEATRE L. Ceculia's, 1620 Stath Ave. I fow

605 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa (714/708-505) SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE Arena Theater, Mayan Hall 900 Olav Laker Stoat, Chula Vista (619/482-616) THE SPERCKELS THEATE 121 Brondway, San Diego (619) 225-9500

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St. Cecular's, 1620 Stath Ave. I lowntown (619) 544-1484 SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATP

URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

Theatresports
A cross between improvisational comedy and Family Frud. Improv. making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene-making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the oficiousness of compension, but ning team. Pursts might balk at the odiousness of comparisons, but Theatresports' "game show" is a hoot. The 'On-minute evening uses various formats. The show I caught had "Team Sports' — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience, and "Gonila Theatre" — five "directors' invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a branch the lower "dorfer!" Joseph Sports and the statements and the second section of the section of the section of the second section of the section of t man, the lover a "forfeit." Some at tempts went nowhere (I repact improve it tought. I did it in my, as hundaght reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group is talented enough (and know when to black-out best) to make the histo more frequent than the misses. Their grans, Keith Johnstone, has written one of the few brilliant books (Impro) I've ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motor. "Remember 1990 due and their motor."

TORREY PINES THEATRE 8320 La Iolla Scenic Dr., San Diego (619) 615-8628 1900 W.7-914
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produced in 1984, Lamplighters di-rector Cynda Green reset the play today, using action offer than today, using action offer than works (I personally know Virtnam vetrans till profoundly disturbed by their experiences), as does most of the acting. Bolion Christi squit-effective ar plain. Martha Flina-fishing season could become the first day of a new life. E. Dunne Weekly is solid as Martha' is brother, David, in denial for pened' in country. And, when pened' in country. Yand, when pened "in country." And, when he pened "in country." And, when he doesn't slur key lines, Vincent Joseph Baca creates a lively Megs Megsaser, human storando. Martha and Megs are so different. Do they have a chance? Can David overcome horrific memories! Who knows. But the play, and the Lamplighters production, make you hope the answer is yes. Worth a sy.

LIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE.

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Tribuse Tropic Tropictoria Tropictoria Parces Scottie Templetoria Decea Peter Javan Scottier S placed; current performers are Dane Stauffer, Scott Cervine, and



L. Scott Caldwell, Amy Morton in Going to St. Ive Tropia Womes

Euripide's tragedy is so much a
play for our time there have been
al least three new translations since
should be the second of the second of the
original. Marianne McDonald's
"adaptation" and the Old Globe
Thearies's staging have the play
that the second of the second of the second of the
original. Marianne McDonald's
"adaptation" and the Old Globe
Thearies's staging have the play
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Slade - and Wayne Alan Erreca gives us a not-a-dry-eye-in-the gives us a not-a-city-eye-in-the house ending. Worth a try. OCTAD-ONE PRODUCTIONS, THROU OCTOBER 15, FRIDAY AND SATURD AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caf-feinated Comedy
Due to popular demand, the Hor-ton Grand Theatre hosts a reprise
of this comedy about three inept
performers. Hugh Butternut's
done his lounge act at the Triple
Espresso Coffechouse 20 years to
the day. While patrons sip one of
the house Platends — "Grane" of pady eights where Robin's Jinus pady eights where Robin's The Spoils, women of Tray included. During the 90-minute drama. Queen Hecube becomes as embattled as her city. The Old Globe's production, which features an extraordinary set by Rajh Funcedinary with the Robin's copyrish Contrendance Variety of the Contrellation of Copyrish Cop to the audience, as if we couldn't make obvious connections by our-selves). Contemporary siang (Mernedaus says of Heine, for example, "I miss the bitch") performs similar dilution. Directed by Serret Scott, the acting swavers in part because the strongest performance are hard acts to follow: Rayme Cornell's Cassandars, carry and vise; John Campion's Menellaus, loose cannon and vain buffoon; Jennifer Regan's Andromasche, about to lose her no. Hecube in a Lear-sized fig. three comedians are far too tal-ented to play inper characters. One's a whiz at the piano. An-other's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjsck magician. The tro's so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this entertaining, if lightweight show (note: the origi-nal cast members have been reher son. Hecuba is a Lear-sized figure. Randy Danson doesn't get the entire role (how many get all of Lear<sup>2</sup>), she even drifts away, at times, but overall does an admirable job demonstrating that "happiness is just a feather in the wind."
LOWEL DAMES FESTIVE, THEATRE, SONG EXDONG COSTER FOR THE FER. FORMING ARTS, THEOLIGH OCTO-

DAIRE SAURIET, SCOT CETVINE, AND DUARNE DAIRIES.
Worth a try.
HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENGED RUN: WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT The Wiz Featured this issue. SPRECHELS THEATRE, THROUGH OCTO-BER 8: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 4:00 P.M. FOR INFORMATION CALL 619-284-4905. shows and their van would

"Spin Records steals your music and then [they] don't pay you for it." That was McPherson Struts

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in Blurt. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456,

help haul our equipment. They've never done anything for us. They never even gay us an update to let us know what's happening. I've heard they pretty much let everybody go."

One of those people let go

corked in A&R at the

the inside track

KSDO's Scooter and Sully show talking about his band's unhappy relations with Spinrecords, com.
"They asked us if we would sign up with them. They said they would sell our stuff online. They told us they needed 25 CDs. We took needed 25 CDs. We took them the CDs, and we never heard from them again. That's \$250 to us. We're lucky when we make \$250 fo a gig. They never promoted one of our shows. They promised they would send their swag wagon out to our

Carisbad-based company. He also played in the band the Color Red, which for months was one of the high-priority bands pushed by Spinrecords.com. Zamora said he and the other four members were all released when they found that you can be considered to the control of the company of the company of the control of the control of the company of the compan underwrite their two-month,

60-date national tour.
"They helped us book this whole tour. We were headlining all the dates

except for a few where we

Zamora said his band

opened for someone else. It

was 60 shows in 44 states. Two months before we were

manager presented them with a budget. They came back all positive. They said, 'Let's do

positive. They said, 'Let's do it.' A couple of weeks went by. We needed to make sure

supposed to leave, ou

major-label support. "Because of

Spinrecords.com, our name did get out there. Overall. Spin did a lot of great thing for us, like getting us in the studio and putting out an album. They didn't get distribution for it, but at leas they did put it out. They gave

band.... They can't swallow their pride and just say they don't have the money

anymore. They have to make it look like it was for other

Jan. 1 THE COLOR RED SEES REE

THE COLOR RED SIES RED
us a CD-release party."
Zamora said he has
soured on Spinnercords.com,
not because they have
apparently run out of money
but because they were never
up front to him and his band.
"We were loyal employees
[all members of the band
worked in various capacities
at Spinrecords.com]... The
Color Red was their flagship
band... They can't swallow

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

it. 'A couple of weeks went by. We needed to make sure the money was going to be the work of the week of the weeks of the tour. Tons of people were coming out of nowhere to help us."

now has solid management,

which is actively seeking

tour and unemployment insurance. They have now all been laid off from the

insurance. I hey have now all been laid off from the comment of the last of the last from his former company. It's hard to tell. People aren't talking, it's a big hush-hush thing. ... We spinctords.com. Our credibility may have been damaged. Hopefully it will be fixed again."

Party Regan, the public Party Regan, the public Managed. Hopefully it will be fixed again."

Party Regan, the public Managed. Hopefully it will be fixed again."

We have no comment on the Color Red. ... We wish them the best." Regarding McPherson Sturts, she says, website and read our agreement we have with the bands who provide us with CDs. We broke no agreement. CDs. We broke no agreement with them."

What's worse, says

for the band to resign their day jobs just before the tour.

day jobs just before the tour. The group had voluntarily agreed to quit their jobs in order to get the tour support. Had they resigned, they would have been without a

Zamora, is that

- Ken Leighton

OR CALL: 444-CASH for Location

"Naked girls go with rock 'n' roll like jelly goes with peanut butter," says Steven "Sugar" Cole. The former adult bookstore manager wants to open a club called Groupies that would offer both live music and avs that city bureaucracy ha

nude entertainment, but he says that city bureaucracy has made this impossible.

"I sank fifty grand you with the saturance that I'd get all the permits, but at the last minute they rejected my licenses—after lying to me for as months about what I want is to have stripper goo girls while the bands play. On individual podiums and on a separate stage for anyone who I'd rather look at girls while the bands play. On individual podiums and on a separate stage for anyone who I'd rather look at girls with the liquor license if the girls can be nude.

"I'm sure I could still make money, but the city just plain doesn't issue permits, and they haven't since the 70s."

Cole says he's managed similar clubs in Philadelphia and Rhode! Island, but San and Rhode! Island Rhode! Island Rhode! Island Rhode! Island Rhode! Island Rhode! Isl

and Rhode Island, but San Diego officials have been the most difficult he's ever dealt this town, they got their



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original licenses over 20 years ago. The permits get renewed if they can prove that someone who lives in San Diego still owns the place and if they've been okay with vice. they'll be now place they'll lie and say I can get a 'burlesque' permit by putting in more of a theater setup, but then they deny every other application I need to open. Cole claims that a vice

open.

open.

open.

official once told brim. "You could be the head of the Mafia and you'll still never put another nude dub in our town."

official once told the market him even more determined to do business in San Diego. "For a Nawy port, it's pretty... conservative here. The strippers has their Gratings with the pretty of the wild, wild West! You guys really need a place like Groupies. It's not healthy without any kind of sexual release."

—Jay Allen Sanford.

"Playing country music today in San Diego is like being a Buddhist in Rome."

Frank Sullivan is an unlikely honky-tonk hero. He grew up near the beach. He lives in Rancho Santa Fe and lives in Rancho Santa Fe and builds condos in La Jolla and office buildings in Escondido. Nineteen years ago he played in a local new wave band called the Sarcastics. He didn't get into country music until he was in his 30s.

until he was in his 30s.
"Five years ago I was
driving to Eureka with an exgirlfriend and she put in a
Randy Travis tape. I fell in love
with country music.... My



A BIT OF TEXAS AT THE RANCH

wife hates it. She likes Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston. In San Diego, especially along the coast, country is looked at as a backwards, uncool type of music. I'm trying to change

Texas Sky Band makes its public debut next weekend. "Country music is the

the nation, but there's almost nowhere to play it here in San Diego. When I went to the guy at In Cahoots in Oceanside, he said we could

play there, but he didn't wan us to just play country. He told us to put some rock in there. I just think what San Diego needs is a pure country bar where the undercover country fans can go and enjoy themselves....You rarely hear steel guitar or fiddle in pop country. To me they are vital

something happen. The reality in Nashville is that it is reality in Nashville is that it is very political. It is who you know. It is possible that if you have enough money you can leverage yourself up to meet the right people. You can leverage yourself up to meet the right people. You can can't deliver the goods you may hit a brick wall. But I must say the days where you could show up in Nashville with just your guitar and get discovered are over.

Fram Sky Ramd appear 8 p.m. Fram Sky Ramd appear 8 p.m. Spending his own money hasn't hurt him as he struggles to make a name in country music. He ponied up country music. He ponied up \$10,000 to have ten original songs recorded at the L. A. \$10,000 to have ten original songs recorded at the L. A. \$10,000 to have the songs and the songs are the songs with Nashville studio musicains. He hope the resulting demo will draw the songs with Nashville studio musicains. He hope the resulting demo will draw the songs with Nashville studio musicains. He hope the resulting demo will draw the songs with Nashville studio musicains. He hope the resulting demo will draw the songs with Nashville studio musicains. He hope the songs with Nashville studio musicains are the songs with the \$10,000 to have ten origina Texas Sky Band appear 8 p.m Oct. 13 and 14 at the Del 

who has toured and recorded

with Vince Gill, Jann Browne, Ray Price, and the Academy

of Country Music's house band. He responds to Sullivan's self-investment

approach.
"In a perfect world, we

would hope that a person who had talent and was good at what he did would make

"I got kicked out of school for a misunderstand[ing], for something I didn't even do." "What was that?" "I brung a shotgun to school — which I didn't, recommend. But before I came to this school I was on the streets, standing on the corner. I was at another school but I didn't pot thought this stiff [creative

writing] was stupid at first," says one of the participants of Street of Dreams Workshop who cannot be named because he is on probation. The Street of Dreams is an

outreach program taught by local San Diego musicians as a public resource for the San Diego Court Schools. It has been operational since 1998 and was first taught at the



STREET OF DREAMS - ROCKER TEACHES AT-RISK YOUTH Place, a school for homeless

teens. Today it serves as a magnet program for seven court schools. The Street of court schools. The Street of Dreams workshop began artistically, as Trailer Park Queen, Teresa Gunn's 1996 "performance art" album, which told the tale of Juanita LaRue, a biker chick from Imperial Beach. Later that year, she created her first songwriting workshop at the Place in downtown San 1500 children in these schools. There are a public school system and a working part of the San Diego County Office of Education. They are an alternative for youth who have been expelled from the regular schools. They have an other schools of the san of the san of the schools of the san of the schools of the san of the schools of the san of

Foundation hosted a CD-release show for the workshop's collective, the Poets of Prayer, a nation of volunteer

and students, who performed selections from their selfproduced debut, Hope, at the San Diego Women's Club in Hillcrest.

"The Poets of Prayer disc," she said, "is the first step toward a student-run record label based out of the record label based out of the Street of Dreams workshop." Gunn described her goal of using local musicians— former Beat Farmer Joey Harris is involved along with other local musicians—











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and Dave Romero mentorship roles at the label.
According to the
brochure, the workshop uses
a method called "word art" to
transform the students.

transform the students'
"emotional lives into creative olutions."
One such solution:

One such solution:
I regret in telling you
sooner but now we are face to
face like angels souls and
flowers / She was telling the
truth falling in low is
something / beautiful and
clean / I regret not telling you
sooner. / I was just wasting
time. Alejandro Angeles,
age 14, Monarch High
School.

The Poets of Prayer will
be at Jaya [65, 1956 Bacon

be at Java Joe's, 1956 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach on Sunday, October 8, at 8 p.m.; \$10 suggested donation Phone: 619-523-0356 -Will K. Shilling

"At least 50 percent

were dressed up," said Michael Michelle about his recent Wigfest. "That's pretty good for a theme party in San Diego. San Diego is pretty conservative. The whole purpose of throwing parties is to bring more of a creative side to nightlife. Because anywhere you go it's usually just a DJ and a location. There's not much as far as visuals. I do it for the love of art sometimes."

been throwing parties since 1989, each with a different

"We had Afros, Mohawks, beehives, white-trash wigs, Victorian wigs. We had a David Bowie and a Marilyn

Last year he threw eight parties. I asked why he only

art sometimes." Under the name Freak Show, Michael Michelle has

1989, each with a different theme.
"The first one was at Rich's [in Hillcrest]. That went off so well that the owners asked me to do it once a month. When it got too big for Rich's, I went to Club Montage." Wigfest happened Switember 24 at happened September 24 at Club Montage.

"Twe been busy. I'm a live body painter and a photographer." He uses body painter and a photographer." He uses body paint to make his naked subjects look as if they're wearing uniforms or costumes. His Freak Show parties are known for their live participants. "Last week we had trapeze artists, fire eaters, still walkers." I asked him if he ever had any of his naked subjects drop by his parties. "I've been busy. I'm a live

naked subjects drop by his parties.
"That would be against the law to be naked in a place where you serve alcohol. We follow all the rules... We pull in a diverse crowd. It's not agay or a straight thing. It's more of a creative crowd." The Wigfest gave trapeze artist Cheryl Lindley a rare

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JAY ALLEN SANFORD

opportunity to perform locally. Her stage name is "Columbia": her husband uses "Capitano."

"They are old commedia
dell'arte names. We
resurrected them from

medieval traveling players We usually do corporate incidental advantage payers.

work. This is my living, Our next gig is in Malayais. We normally don't do local gigs like this. We're expensive.

ours. We got to try out something new lat the Wifgest!. The trappere was on a swivel so we spun in the air. Wifgest! The trappere was on a swivel so we spun in the air. The work of the work advantage to the day in a body-pirering studio. At nights he performs in drag

as Viagra. "I've been going to Freak Shows for two years. I love the diversity of the love the diversity of the crowd. Michael gets suits and ties, and he gets freaks. People who aren't your average run-of-the-mill freaks had no trouble putting

on a wig."

The next Freak Show will be in November at Club Montage on Hancock Street.

—Ken Leighton

O reviews Baga
Trickus, Straight Out Tha
Bag, WH Records
This is not the worst
white regages/da band that
ever lived. No.
It also ain't a band overly
concerned with demographic
universality, or even
ecumenicity. Being all things

CALIFORNIA EXPRESS

to all people is in no way their meat. "If you drink wheatgrass, wear patchouli eat a fucking burger because we eat vegetarians" — talk we eat vegetarians" — talk about cultural food tubes and foods!

Partially dedicated to Partially dedicated to some guy in jail for ganja — eight years already served, f'r chrissakes (four to go) — this is A-1 party music for all occasions, or most occasions, specially if you've got plenty of cannabial matter to ignite of cannatus... and ingest, —Richard Meltzer

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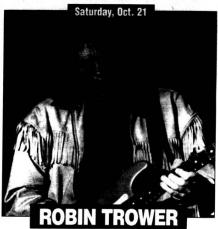
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## **He Sold Tuxedoes**

"I could beat the snot out of them.

The following interview with Rod Page was con-ducted September 26. Last weekend, Page died at his home due to complications of diabetes, accord-ing to the medical examiner.

energy of the second second

had his mike on while Page ranted about a technical error of them," said Page about his disdain for his former KPOP bosses. Tin May, little girl Kevin Taylor sent me a lexpleivel memo. (Taylor, KPOP's as-sistant program dictor, was Page simmediac-sor) a man." I call him little girl because he's not a man."

supervisor.) "I call him 'little girl' because he's not a man."

Page said the problems began when Taylor issued a directive to RFDP ID to amounce the sissued a directive to RFDP ID to amounce the times an hour. Page said he missed that memo because he was on vacation in Hawaii. He eventually got his own memo. "He said I didn't say "AM 1 360" enough. ...! I work him back and I am not gonna he insulted by someone in their 30s with a degrading memo like this."

Page originated his 7-11 p.m. weekinght show from his downtown San Diego high rises per situation of the situation of th

night of August 24, Page said a new, inexperienced engineer at the studios made a technical mistake. There was this intense, maddening

Page exploded. His rant went out over the

mits he berated the station on the air.
The next day he said he got a phone call at
3:30 p.m. from Taylor telling him he was fin-ished at KPOP. "He said my nightly show was
ff and my [Sunday] Sinarte show was also off.
I said, 'Oh yeah? I'm going on the air if I have
to come down and pound you.' It wasn't my

we beer on the air feer continuously time

| Solid | S

Page started locally at ATRA (AM 690) In 1961 when that station was the first all-news sta-tion in the country. He has also worked at KSDO, KFMB, and the now-defunct KPRI and KDEO. He has done news, sports, commen-taries, and held DJ shifts. He still hosts music taries, and neid DJ shifts. Fe still nosts music shows on KSPA and KSDS. Page said he is some-what miffed that he has not heard from his fellow broadcasting veterans whom he worked with at KPOP.

with at KPOP.

Page's tenure at KPOP was marked by the number of advertisers he was able to draw to KPOP in spite of KPOP's weak inghttime sign of KPOP in the spite of KPOP's weak inghttime sign power at night.) KPOP didn't pay Page a salary, Instead, Page carred money from his own sponsors. According to Page, when he left, many of his advertisers went with him.

A condition of the spite of t

management...
"It's just terrible what's happened to our business... KPOP is part of Clear Channel, which is a colossal corporation. They have 800 sta-

tions across the country."
"Rod has a temper, and I like that in him," said Jerry Klein of A Better Deal discount tuxe-dos. "He sold a lot of tuxedoes for us. Three



weeks ago we had a 17-year-old swing dancer come in. We sold at least one tuxedo a week from his show. If people think his listeners were all older, they are sadly mistaken. I think it behowes the radio attain to step back, take a deep breath, and move on. What was a small shouldn't have happened. They have some canned national prerecorded show on now." "My feeling is they though the was making too much money," said Ron Martin of Cashway Electric, another advertiser. 'It looks to melike he was set up. I won't do business with itself to be a supplementation of the said of the

I've been half thinking about buying a station

I've been half thinking about buying a station myself and putting him on it." Page said, "My wife asked me if I was ready to retire. I told her no. I'm still learning how to do this." He said he would like to land a new radio gig at KCBQ or K-12ac.

KPOP's Taylor and McCarthy had no

KPOU'S Layou and The Comment.
Comment.
On Thursday, September 28, two days before the clash, Page gave his 150 year radio career that included gigs in West Virginia, Montana, his native lows, and Los Angeles. Mofor he came to San Diego in 1961. That interview will be rebroadcast tonight at 8 pm. on KPSD 92.1 FM. 

© And On Sunday at 10 pm. on KPSD 92.1 FM.



11 pm-12 am

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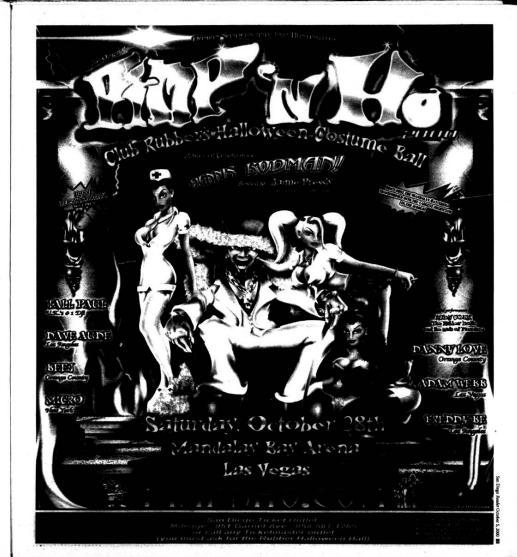
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## **Murder Before** Melody

Spade arrived in L.A. with a violin in his hand and four cents in his pocket.

pade Cooley beat his wife, Ella Mae, to death one evening in 1961 in front of their daughter. "You're going to watch me kill her," Spade said. It seems Ella

her," Spade said. It seems Ella Mae had been going around town bragging that she had screwed Roy Rogers. For those of us who grew up in the '50s, this seems highly implausible. Roy loved Dale Evans, and he loved his horse Trigger even more. Besides which, no one had sex in the 1950s. So implausible and strange, in fact, that it takes on an air of the surreal. But singing Hollywood cowboys are a somewhat

erace of contract of the second

cowboys are a somewhat bizarre phenomenon to begin with the same of the same o

cents in his pocket, and he got his name by winning an extraordinary string of poker hands.
However it actually came to pass, by 1942.
Spade was a star of stage, radio,
and the string of the string of stage and become Spade's home base,
playing for up to 4000 dancing fans every Sarurday night
all over California, sonth huge,
some timy. So much money was
to be made that even the legendary Texan Rob Willis, along
moved the base of operations
west. This initially created a
problem for Spade when Bert I

Records and in '44 made his first screen appearance in Bing Crosby's Singing Sheriff. In the control of the con

grelized genre, bear in mind so is country music itself, and so is jazz, the latter an amalgam of field hollers, marches, rags, European song forms, West African polyrhythms, and Caribbean stylizings

Caribbean stylizings (among other things).

Spade Cookey

In western swring, depending on the band, one can hear elements of black rural blues, mariachi music from Mexico, jazz, reels, raga, polkas, schottisches, breakdowns, two-steps, and even a Teasa-flavored waltz or two, whatever passed through town. One forgets how many immigrants were living in Teasa in the early 20th Century at the inception of disacred in more control of the cont

capital.

Syade Cooley's band would occasionally swell to 25 pieces, as it did with Decca in 1950 when he added a string section. As interest in cowboy section of the company of the late '40s. Cooley | Introduced the country, but with the result that his label, RCA, kicked Cooley of the hillibility roster and many of the country, but with the result that his label.

RCA, kicked Cooley of the hillibility roster and many of the limited by the country of the hillibility roster and many of the country of the limited by the country of the limited by the limite

1943 and 1946, catch

Cotumota, between 1943 and 1946, cache was a swinging fiddler; his daddy taught him that. And his band of this era features three fides (including Cooley), two guistrs, a bassist, drummer, two accordionists, a harpist, two steel guistrs, and Tex Williams on vocals. Williams in a low socialist, but it is on the instruction of the country of the count to the Vacaville Medical Center, a prison/hos-pital facility. A model prisoner, Spade Cooley was pital facility. A model prisoner, Spade Cooley was granted parole in 1999, a little over eight years after murdering Illa Mae. He was to be released eight mombis later, in February of 1970, but that November the prison a suthorities granted him a 72-hour leave to perform at a benefit for the Alameda Sheriff's Association. Cooley received a standing ovation on completing his first upb-lic appearance in over a decade, walked offstage, and dropped dead. a

Spadella: The Essential Spade Cooley (Legacy/Columbia CK 57392) Best of Roy Rogers (Curb D2-77392)



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Touchor's Pat, for Lemma, and the Reduced: The Carbols, tonight, Threshy, October 5, 8:30 p.m., 2501 Eather Reuberd, nithbows. 619-720-8497 or 619-732-4355.

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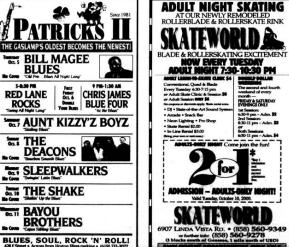
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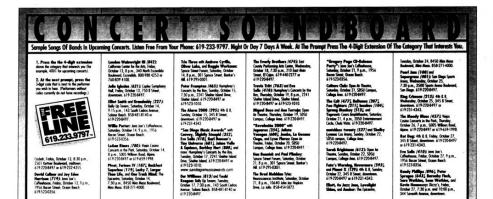
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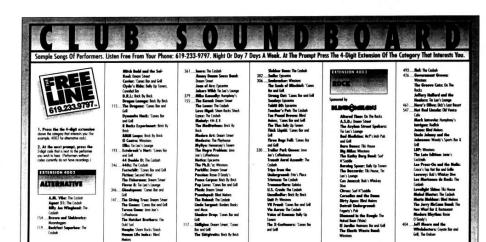
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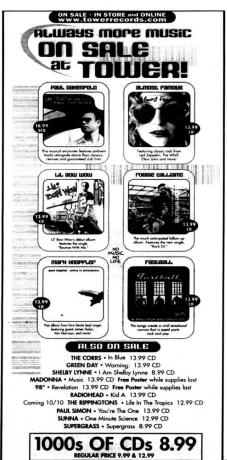


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SPACEMAN SPIFF BLUME under, October 8 • NO COVER SUNDAY SOUL SOL BEEL STANDARD THE STANDARD THE STANDARD CHOOSE & RETURN OF BESAND WHO DI UNION MONTH OF CONTRACT O DJ Buddha October 9 = NO COVER NEON BEAT

DJ Dirty Needle spinning the best and worst of the 80s. Tuesday, October 10 = NO COVER PURK HITE DJ Rice Boys spinning Pent, Glan, Power Pap Friday, October 13 AGUA DULCE Salestay, October 14

ISECTICIDES

by October 20 QUETZAL 4079 Adams Au 284-2848

LEOIS Lounge

WITH DI Unite.

Microlin, October 9

FROM CLOBO & FRANCISCO

Transition, October 10

March, Parket Street, October 11

PRIALLES & A.S.S.

Fricky, October 13

ME INCROM STREET, OCTOBER 13

SALICIO, OCTOBER 14

THE BUZZARDS THE BUZZARDS AFFREY RALFORD A THE HEALERS SLEEPWALKERS FLAVOR 8 ELLIS - JOHER'S WILD Turnday - October 10 - 6-5 pm CURTES THE MAGICIAN PRINTE BANCE LESSONS 4-4 PM SINL, MON. 5 THRES. A RESTURBER

- NO COVER -WITH STUDENT ID THURS, FRI. & SAT Storytellers Boom Box with DI Rhe ricky & Saturday, Oct. 6 & 7

for Happy Hour 5-9 pm Wednesday Oct. 11 Lana Spence's Open Jam Call 501-5218

619-858-8888 5215 Adobe Falls Road Off I-8 & Waring Road



2. At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you with to hav. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)



619.233.9797

The Celtic Ensemble: Iwggs Tecond Coffee Company Jill Costemze: Jova Joe's

ifeehouse ewnsout: Solona Beach Caffee

Company
Rendi Driscoll: Twiggs Tec and
Coffee Company
John Eddible: Belly Up Tovem
Evens: Kofty's Pub.
Glean/Rades: The Cometal Inn
Harmony 24: The Metophor
Caffeehouse

The O'Perion Revolvers:
Nemocosy's Jones (1891), to Foreign
P.J. Olssee: Belty Up Foreign
Femory Price: Edy's his
Prismant: The Sook
Works/Transfan (de
Derroll Reyr Mikey's
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Jesus Stantru & the Trey
Deuts Indirects: Der Jon's
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Spilt Feess: Jon's Googo Coftee
Nick Stammy; The Oold Sod

EXTENSION 4009 BLUES/SOUL

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The Beachwarter Blaze Bund.
The New Hard for & Restaueri.
The Rybin Gel.
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Hob and Gel
Scottle Blaze and the Tail
Tender: Tail Novel

Torchers: Thi House
Blue Four: Putick's II
Blue Large: Coyote Bor and Grill,
Belly Up Towers
The Blue Water Rhythen
Bend: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Simon branch from the best class by James III. The branch is the branch branch

Poteck's II Mame's Boys: Dek's Last Resort The Nudo Bloos: Botec Belle Cruse
The Oktoberfest Band: The
Sorton Bersch Brewny
Pacific Breeze: Juke Joint Cafe

979 Thee & the Zydece Petrol: Corneled Roy, Buffalo Ion's Earl Thomas and the Bloes Authorsoulers: Olf Verice Cele 942 The Urban Gypsys: Hennessey's Towm, Vegis Casino

EXTENSION 4010 EVERYTHING TELSE ELSE

Assoresa: Turto More
Burnett Audersea: Cafe La
Maze
Asspellica: Hollywood Stor Grille
Autenia: Bordes Books and
Music (Mission Yolley)

Keren Georgie: The Westgele Hotel

IXJell Nellanes: House of Munich
Plang Net: U.S. Genet Hotel

Bank Levez: Onyx Room

Jeerskik: Unyx Room

Jeerskik: Unyx Room

Beoch: Coffee Company

Gerefeen Eaklet House of Munich
Fram LuCastez: The Westgele

Hotel

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Sir Klappy Marrico: Lester's
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Sir Klappy Marrico: Lester's
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Jean Travasidule: Hotel del

Coronado Walter II y Rembasey: Seelle

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Every Friday......STUDIO 64 RESIDENT DJs Jon Bishop, Maris, Erick D, DJ Demon, & DJ Circa

Rachel Auburn (Tidy Trax/ Sun Dissential UK)

Oct 13th...Funky Techno Tribe | Donald Glaude & DJ Rap

Oct 27th.....Josh Wink

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If you wish your underground dance dub to be included, fac information in 619-881-2401, attention Scott Ellis, or 619-235-2006, ext. 261, or 4-mail scottelbadne.com, night or day by 2000 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Arcadia: DJs. Mantis and Tom Fürgerald spin bouse, transe, and

Fitzgerald spin house, trance, and techno. Wednesdays, the Brass Rail, 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. Information line, 858-613-9523.

Asylum: DIs spin house, disco, funk, and techno music nightly. North County Sports Dome, 680 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos 760-744-4120.

The BK Lounge: Dis Bille Knight, Jalil, Scotter, and MC WordBond spin hip-hop, reggae, danothall, and R&B. Fridays. 9 p.m., Buffalo Joe's, 5th and Market, downtown. 619:236-1616. BLISS: DIs Kazy, Fingers, and Saudman spin house and progre house. Saturdays, 9 p.m., below Buffalo Joe's, 5th and Market, downtown, 858-728-1489.

Boys Night Out: Tuesdays, the Flame, 1780 Park Boulevard, San Diego.

Geremonial Club: DJs Orrebor 7 and fx Machina spin ether/goth, larkwave, synthpop,

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The Clockwork Sessions: Dis France

Club Bem-Bey: Thursdays, DJ Ramney and weekly special guests spin house, techno, and disco. Fridays. Get Your Gravor On with DIs spinning Top 40, hip-hop, and house. Call club for Saturday events. 3175 India Street, midtown. 619-296-6789.

Club '80s: D18 Brian P. Richard D.
Kurt Heilige, and Zero Out spin best of
'80s music, new save, synthysop, and
new romantic; 21 and up. Free before
10 p.m. with college or military ID.
Thursdays, Shonterz, 3815. 50th Street,
San Diego. 619-465-5827.

Club Elements: Wednesdays, RAM, jungle, drum in bass. Thursdays, Frammuson, trance, Fridays, Playbous, house, Saturdays, Elements, progressive and trance. 1255 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-296-8160.

619-290-8100.

Club Max: Thursdays, the Hot Spot presented by the Union, DIs Gil, the Good Dr. Berian Foxworth, and KI. Rockwell. Saturdays, DI. X-Ray with jams of the '80s. Doubletree Mission Valley, 7480 Hazard Center Drive. 619-297-5466, x4035.

Glub 911: Top 40, hip-hop, house, and trance. New 2000+ capacity multi-level venue; 18 and up. Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturday Red Mill Entertainment Complex, 1340 Broadway, El Capon. 619-441-1800.

Club Pure Lates: Fridays, house. The Hollywood Star, 1320 Fifth Avenue,

5N■TE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

After hearing that Tabiti 80 played breezy, slightly retro, French-accented indie pop, my friend Ossie and I went to see the band play on a summer night a few seeks ago. The music was all chiming guidar, sweetly cheesy synth, sugary meliodes, and smiles. Xavier Beyer's accert disappeared when he sang, but there was something every Continental.

Boyer's accent disappeared when he sain, but there is a second drums, but there was sementing very Continental was but there was sementing very Continental was been disappeared and based band depiciested classe American and British possibles at dougle so were an individual of science. Boyer asked whom we liked better, or cover both harance is a dougle so were an individual of the statistism as identify of its own — at the statistism of the statistism as identify of its own — at the statistism of the statistism as identify of its own — at the statistism of the statistism as identified by the statistism of the statistism as identified by the own and the statistism of the statistism as identified by the own and the statistism of the statistism as identified by the own and the statistism of the statistism as identified by the own and the statistism as identified by the own as a statistism as identified by the own and the statistism as identified by the own as a specified by the own as a statistism as identified by the own as a specified by the own as a

showed they were also familiar with Stereoleb and My Bloody Valentine. Tahiti 80 may have worn all these influences a bit too prominently on its collective sleeve, but those bands are some of my favorites.

I spent most of

I spent most of the night meeting peo-ple and talking about our favorite bands. Ossie met Amy Linton, the singer of the Aislers Set, his new favorite, and they talked about the best

Club Torito: Salsa, merengue, Euro-Latin house, and rock en español. Two

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ob Placement Assistance

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downtown, 10 p.m., 21 and up. 619-232-2102.

Club Retro: DJ Dementus spin: 80 vinth-pop, new formantic, new was and darkwave. Tuesdays, the Brass Rail, 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-2233.

Club Tongue & Groove: Fridays, alternating DIs spin hip-hop, dance hall reggee, dirty South, old school, and dance. Call club line for information and directions, 760-737-5040.

rooms, 9 p.m., Saturdays, El Torito, 2693 Vista Way, Oceanside, 760-439-5407.

766. 494-5407.
Club Tropics: 19 Kool T spins Latin house, hip-hop, freestyle, dance hall reggie, and old whood. I birndays, college night ratheses, lammin Z30 night with fifth filter and T2.
Type of the Company of the Company of the Epicenter. Lordon, October 33, Lammin 790 Hallowene Costume Party, 240 Nordald Road, San Marcos 260-737-9402.

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Darkwave Gardem (D): Tyler and Dragon spin goths; pop, and darkwave; 21 and up. Wednesdays, 9 pm. to 2 am. Goming up. Special Halloween Ghoul nights with prizes governave, and special guests, two governaves, and special guests, two wednesdays, October 31, and tole. 2820 Lyston Street, Point Lorna, n19-465-5827; www.klubs.com. Dreamer: Weekly celebration of

Dreamert Weekly cichration of undergound dance culture showcasing San Dings artists, tatron, body art, and wideography. Local and regional Dis-spin house, transe, and progressive. Tuesdays, 802-Sath.<sup>3</sup> Avenue (corner of Sorth and F), Gaslangs, downcown, 21 and up. Info-line. (1)<sup>2</sup>-884-2<sup>5</sup>88.

8mm Loop: DJ Grashopper spins downtempo groove, Afro-Cuhan, trip-hop, and more; 21 and up. Wednesdays, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Etra's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University), 619-582-6730.

Epiphany; Dis Chud Fortin, IIB, Jared Joseph, and Williams, Mondays, Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844. Fever: Dls Ryan Somers, Scott Martin, lesse, Matty A., and guests spin '70s disco, him bon, transe, and house

progressive world, and dancehall. Saturdays, Aztec Bowl (the Turquoise Room), 4356 30th Street, North Park. 619-220-4944. Saturdays, 'Canes Bar and Grill, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 619-979-9999, www.metropolisproductions.com. Darkwave Garden: Dis Tyler and

Gasoline: DJs. Rite One, Jon-E-Thin, Clay Dunsmors, and international guests spin trance and European hard house; 21 and up. Thursdays, 2028 Hancock Street, Mission Hills South. 619-687-5779.

Ice House Young Adult Dance Club: Ice House Young Adult Dance Clab-to House Johnson yates high-hop. 10 Johnson Johnson yates high-hop. Röß, and boory bass. Dance to trance, hope yates and hard house on the patter. Thursdays, Isdae's right-hops, Jammes 200 night with Johnson Johnson 200 night with Johnson Johnson Johnson Johnson Johnson Hope Johnson Johnson

Kim's Place: Thursdays and Sundays, hip-hop, old school, hard core, and R&B dance music. 637 H Street. Chula Vista. 619-420-3321.

Ledies' Night Out: DJ Barringer. Wednesdays. Buffalo Joe's, 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616.

Avenue, Jownsown, 619-226-1616.

Liquid: Dls Dave Aude, Mike Orozo, Ryan Sourers, and Ardo & the King spin deep house, trance, and hip-hop. Fridays, E-Street Alley, 919 Fourth Avenue, downtown, 619-79-9999; www.metropolisproductions.com.

Live Wire: DJ Ratstar cuts up funk hip-hop, and jazz grooves. Kung fs and anime vids on two screens. No



The Open Bar

The Open Bar 4302 Mission Bark (1858) 270-3221
There is no better time to be at the beach than right now. The weather is mild, the tourists have gone back to where they be standard to the second atmosphere in Pacific Baech. It's a laid-back place to play a little pool, pick out should be second to the second

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Coam Beach wakes up when Dram Street
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baudd and the Sio-Reed, Parkfife,
Shillighers and Giving Tree bring you
find the music you are searching for at
Dream Street. The doors open at Bpm
ding the shoes you are searching for at
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deep night. Call shead to find out who's
playing on the night not fisted here, or
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This is the best bar in the areal Treat your mind to some new stimulation. Etta's Place has pool tables, live music and a Trip From the University of University of the Universit

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The Brass Rail
3796 Fifth Ave. (619) 290-2232
You will neve view Hillcret in the same light once you will reper view the Hillcret in the same light once you tilt spremier drance club featuring. Dis every night of the week. Sundays, come early, the kitchen is open Allerfalf with featured DJ Robert and Quests throwing out opticity, synthypo. EBM, industrial and fetsish. Club Retro brings you can be supported from the property of the property of

that you never want your night to end.

BUSTER DALY'S

3112 University Ave. (619) 284-2747

Don't overlook a great time! This bar has the best local bands on the weekends and Happy Hour specials. Call to find out what's going on this week.

Chicks hate him. Perhaps it is because he is glib and sarcastic. "People seem to dislike the fact that I say what I want when I want." Underneath his crass facade is a sophisticated man who

lives his life to the fullest. Brought to San Diego by sunshine, surf and beautiful women, Vince

established his business, Prospect Photography and Graphics, so he could capture the essence that drew him here in the first place. He is a strong supporter of local, original music and has blurred the lines of his business to include band promotions. When he's not snapping shots of

models and bands, you will find him in the water either scuba diving, surfing or kayaking, or you might see him zipping by on his dirt bike.

755 Fifth Ave. (619) 557-0146 755 Fifth Ave. (619) 557-0146
If you're all dressed up for a party but you don't know where to go, then come down to the Gastines of the control of the cont

TIVOLI BAR 505 Sixth Ave. (619) 232-6754 Sometimes it's better not to change. The best example is Tivoli. Come to the Gaslamp District and visit the oldest bar in San Diego. You'll love it.

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Laundmath DJs Tom King, Brends Cabill, and Cybian spin industri gothic. Tuesdays, Kickers, 308 University Avenue, Hilkerest. 619-491-0400.

Mergarine Rocker Call club for nightly information. 959 Hornblend Street, Pacific Beach. 858-272-2780. irenium Nightclube Call club for rmation. 485 Main Street, nitas. 888-922-5827.

Methers Mills: DIs Afshar and Ramse spin deep funk and house. Mondays, the Flame, 3780 Park Boulevard, San Diego. 619-295-4163.

Nightfall: D! Robert and guests spin gothic, synthpop, EBM, industrial, and fetish; 21 and up. Sundays, the Brass Rail, 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

Octopus: Dis Jean Paul and Unholy Roller upin '80s, electro/industrial fetish dance music; 21 and up. Fridays, 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Etta's Place, 6179 Unreventy Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730.

and university), 619–582-6730.

Olé Madrish Fridays, Club Aura, DJs
Matt Spencer, Tasya, Scooter, and
guests spin house, hip-hop, and
trance. Satundays, 100% Olé with DJs
Jose Amezina, Josep Jiminez, and Rags
spinning global sounds. 751 Frith
Avenue, downtown. 619–557-0146.

Owyx Room: Call club for nightly information. 852 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-235-6699.

Project Cathedral: Fourth Sunday of each month, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., St. Paul's Cathedral: Fifth Avenue at Nutmeg, Banker's Hill. 619-220-4944.

After ho

Wednesdays, 9 p.m., 18 and up, Club Elements, 1255 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-296-8160.

Bespekti DJs Et Machina and Otrebor 2 spin dense/electro, darkwave, synthopo, industrial, and eher-goth. Fridays, 9 p.m., Cabaret Magico's, Revolución Avenue between Fifth and Sixth Street, downtown Tijuana, Mexico. Information, e-mail respektivegroups.com.

respectivegroups.com.

Black's Thursdays. Club Hedonism.

Dis Ion Bishop and Milk Orozco spin
house, techno, and groove. Fridays.

Go-Go Fridays. Di Derek spins house
and tribal. Saturdays, Di Derek and
guests spin house and tribal. Sundays.

spin house and tribal. Sundays.

spin house and tribal. 1801 University
Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-497-4588.

Sabbatt DJs Eric Hart, Marc Braseland and Adam Atom. Dark electro, gothic, darkwave, industrial, and fetish. Saturdays, Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, San Diego. 619-574-0744.

San Ingo. 619-524-0744.
Savilla: Mondays, rock en espanol
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and
Thursdays, Club Salsa: Fridays and
Saturdays, high energy Eare-Lains
Nightchib: Sundays, Club Beazal. 555
Fourth Avenue, downtown.
619-231-5979.

Stees: Thursdays. Theep, drum 'n' has Saturdays. DIs spin hip-hop, rare groove, nots reggae, and soul. The Rhythm Lounge, 3048 Midway Drive Sports Arena. 619-224-4835.

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Setadio 64: Dis Jon Buhop, Erik D.

Circa, and Demon spon hard and progresser house masses with a separate hip-hor coom: Three floors, five rooms with three separate may hor coom: Three floors, five rooms with three separate may be come seen three separate may be come seen for the common seen for

Summer Sundays: Dls Juhr and Socko spin acid jazz, rare groove, lounge, house, Latin, and hip-hop, Sundays, Silver Dollar, 341 Thard Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-422-4381.

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industrial, EBM, fetish, gothic, ac.d darkwave. Fridays, the Flame, 3780 Park Boulevard, San Diego. 619-465-5827.

Tsumami: Wednesdays, '80s. Thursdays through Saturdays, '80s, hip-hop dance, disco, and techno. Tsunami Beach Club, 802 Sixth Avenue, downtown, 619-231-9981.

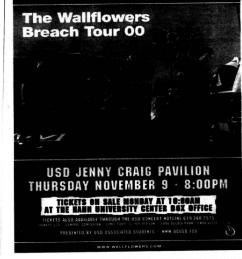
Two-Wheel Twendaye DJs spin vintage punk, glam, and primitive rock in roll. Sci-fi bilar flicks on two screens. Plenty of cycle and accoster only parking. No cover. Tuesdays, 9 p.m. Live Wire, 2103 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-291-7450.

your boys," with a voice that could overwhelm a bandsam cutting steel was, for gother part of the provided an interviewer why he liked mount patentials and the patentials and the patentials are steel and the patentials are the patentials and the patentials are the patentials are

Vensus 18 and up. Dis spin trance, techno, house, hip-hop, party mix, and jungle. Open Wednesday throug Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 7200 El Gion Boulevard, College Area. Call club for nightly information, 619-501-VENUS. If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-2000, cst. 4055, night or day by 619-255-2000, cst. 4055, night or day by 7 pm Prishly, which work pine to the platfornion. To send wordly or munthly 700-700, result on Busine Munic Scene, P.O. Bac 65005, San Diago CA 9218-5000, Uponning concerns, and or proposed clash listings, or multiple control of 1019-215-3000, cst. 201, found to 619-235-3000, cst. 201, found to 619-235-3000, cst. 201, found to 619-235-3000, cst.

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regges.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros
Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022,
gThursday, 9 pm. Burning Spear with
World Anthew Friday, 743 pm.
Cyde's Rule with Voice of Reason and
Rise Largo. Sasturday, Stams with
Colorbind United, regges. Sunday, bill
Soutt. Tuesday, 730 pm. David Wilcox
and John Edde. Wednesday, 130 pm.
The The with P.J. Olson.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, pFlower Hill Mall. 1-5 at Via de la Valle. Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 pm, Primasi, castern European folk.

Bub's Whinkey Dive, 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-757-BUBS. son rock.

La Costa Tournament of Champlon
Loungs, La Costa Resort and Spa,
Costa Del Mar Road, Carlibad.
760-438-9111. Friday, Nova, high-energy dance, Saturday, Roz and the
Wrecking Crew, pop, dance.

The Camelot Inn, 887 San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-744-1332. Thursday, Stefani Stevens, salsa, jazz, and blues. Friday, the Strange Woods, Celtis folk. Saturday, Glennfinian, Scottish music. McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Call club for information.

Friday, Night Hawk, rock. Saturday, Andrea's Fault, pop rock.

Andrea's Faulk, pop rock.

Capyets Bare and Gell, 90 Carlebad
Village Drive, Carlebad, 760-7294695. Thursdey, po no 10 pm. deVentilature, rock and bloom, Nicolar Ventilature, bloom, Sattodray, 3 pm. to 5-30 pm. him language and the 10 pm. Let Manya Sattodray, 5 pm. to 10 pm. Let Manya Sattodray, 5 pm. to 9 pm. Peres Syrappe, 124. Monday, 6 pm. to 10 pm. Little Chris and the Night Considers bloom, Weddensky, 8 pm. op. Salature, ventigan's bloom.

Progerty's Pub, 1260 West Valley Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-0833. Thursday, 80's and Gestlemen, pop. Friday and Saturday, Detroit Underground, classic rock.

Heniffi's Irish Pub, 13314 Poway Road, Poway, 858-486-0764. Friday, live acoustic/folk music. Call club for featured musician.

featured musician.

Hennassey? Tavers. 2727 Rossevelt
Street. Carlshad. 390-379-8951.
Friday, Mrhyns, alternative. Saturday,
the Urban Gyptys, blues.

The Krisken, 2531-040 Highway 101.
Cardiff. 760-4601. Thursday, Jeff
Moure and the Withhelicton. Friday
and Saturday, Service Guese.
Wedinrelday, Alternative Music
Schwiczae.

Showcase:

I.a. Cane del Zerren, 3945 Yaqui Pass.
Road, Borrego Springs, 766-767-5323.
Fon Derri Thrusten, 50er Abrero, 5323.
Fon Derri Thrusten, 50er Abrero,
Land Borrego, 50er Abrero, 50er Abrero, 50er 13 pm.; at the man pool, and 7 pm to
1 pm.; in the final pool, and 7 pm to
1 pm.; in the Fox Ders. Ruby and the
Med Hoto, swingin blues.

La Coetta Coeffer Resisting Ca., 5065
506-548-8160 Friedsy, Rub Buguert,
soft rock. Saturday, Carl Robinson,
soft rock.

Rough blues, rock.

Nelmans Bar and GHB, 300 Carlsbad

Village Drive, Carlsbad, 700-7294131. Thurnday, in the carouselstrong, Friday, 100-700, months bared
swips, Friday, 100-700 pm, the Nobard
Swips, Friday, 100-700 pm, the Nobard
information. Sunday, 9-10 pm, II
Janutin, Latin rock, Monday, Randy
Morser: Tuestley and Welnesday, call
club for information.

The New Wharf Bar & Restaurant, 925 San Marcos Boulevard, San

**SN**TE

I was sating a Sparmwich when the phone began entering friends, colleagues, family, and a straight friends, colleagues, family, and a straight friends, colleagues, family, alterting me that S. Diego's formost musician of an underground persuasion. Its propest purpoye of musique nor. The Artist Presently Focom As 60 — is ONLINE1 Check it, Gliss — is oblive you to check, check in OUT! www.mp3.com/rapkee...the place to be, to see, and to feed.

"Tom Cruise Can't
Out-Act an Olive": wow.
Now ThAT is what I call
"muse."
great artists presently
known as Ed — Ed
McCommack, Ed Helvey,
Halen, Ed The Head"
Ruston, Ed Wood, Ed
McCommack, Ed Helvey,
Laten, Ed The Head"
Rustowki, Ed Zeppelin,
Fast Eddie Southwick,
Edwins Rumple of Beatiery's Châld — the
as The Artist Presently
Known As Ed (and occasi-

as The Artist Presently
Known As Ed and occasionally known as Ed
Lucas) takes the brass ring 40 ways to
Artist Known As Ed Feeric action.

Artist Known As Ed Feeric action.

Artist Known as Ed Feeric action.

Artist Comm

Mikey's Coffeehouse, 12222 Poway Road, Poway, 858-486-5540. Live acoustic/folk music almost nightly. Thursday and Sunday, open mike. Friday, Dani Carroll, Sturday, Banjer Dan, Monday, Davrell Ray, Tuesday, Janac & Pere. Wednesday, Perer, Past, Frank, and Drew. North County Sports Dome, 680 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-744-4120. Friday and Saturday, live band, call club for information.

Frank, and Drew.
Miruclee Cafe, 1953 San Elijo Avenue.
Cardiff, 760-943-7924. Friday, call
club for information. Saturday.
7:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Corey Bess, folk.
Sunday, 10 am to 1 pm, Jordano,

Pounders, 125 West Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-759-1288. Thursday, live rock and roll. Friday, Point Blank, classic rock. Saturday, John Pappus and Triple Shot. Sunday, Nocean, surf rock. Wednesday, blues jam. The Raintrees, 735 Raintree Drive, Carlsbad, 760-931-1122. Friday, 6 pm to 10 pm. Rainmaker, contemporary, saturday, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Sonny and the Rumble Tones, blues.

The Naked Bonn, 520 Hacienda (near Islands in the Food for Less shopping center), Vista. 760-639-5282. Friday. 8 pm to 10 pm, Diamond in the Rough, blues, rock. Randy Jones Big Stone Lodge, 12237 Old Pomerado Road, Povey. 858-748-1617. Friday and Saturday, the Reckless Revelers, country.

Solana Beach Coffee Company, 437 South Highway 101, Solana Beach. 858-792-1553. Performance are from 7 pm to 9 pm. Thursday, Mike Cos. jazz. Friday, Downsoul, folk. Saturday, Jordano, Flamenco.

Jordano, Flamenso.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street
(Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101),
Solana Beach. 888-755-9474. Friday,
the Kathy Burg Band, original rock.
Saturday, Cirrus, rock/alternative.

4571. Music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Weeknight performances are from 6 pm to 9-30 pm, Sunday, 10:30 am to 2 pm. Thursday, Sunday, and Monday, Saep Meyers, Friday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Ron Freshman, Saturday, Steve Smith.

Valentino's 11828 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rarcho Bernardo. 858-451-3200. Friday, 6:30 pm and Saturday, 6 pm, Donnie Finnelle and Company East, jazz.

Barefoot Bar and Grill, the San Diego Paradise Point Resort, 1404 West Vacation Road, Pacific Beach. 858-274-4630, Call club for information.

information.

Blind Melous, 710 Garnet Avenue,
Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

Durnday, Mara Muldiaux, Sultry
Blues, and Joans Friday. Comedous and
the Durn Dirty Apes, rock, and Distanted and
the Durn Dirty Apes, rock, and Distanted
Salvaday, Ten Paund Brown,
Pseudopod, and Human Life Index.
Sunday, C.A. Jones. Monday.
Epiphany with Chad Fortin. Tuesday,
P.J. Dolly, blues.

F.J. Dolly, blues.

\*\*Canes Bar and Grill, 3105 Ocean
Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-4881780. Thursday, call club for
information. Friday, Establish of Hurr,
Shadow Drog, Festerbil, and Three
Bug Full Stutterly, Dynamin Hack
and Caviar-Sunday, Streng Out, No
Motry, the Devalue, and Death by
Steren Monday, the Drugons, the
Goons, 5 San Degenerate, and

Humphresis

Frontline. Tuesday, the X-Ecutioner the Souls of Mischief, and Psp Love. Wednesday, Ten Pound Brown, Shillglen, Thick Liquid, and Ghoulspoon.

Gheulpoon.

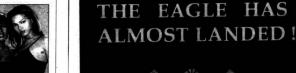
Canalhal Bar, at the Catamaran
Hotel, 1999 Mission Boulevard,
Mission Besch. 838–488–1011. Friday
9-30 pm, Pacific Breas and Electric,
pp. Saturdsky, 10 pm, Cybir's Ride,
tunk. Sunday, 2 pm, Theo and the
Zysleco Patrol, blues. Wedstoeday, the
Big Daildy Orchestru, big-band swing.

Chateau Orleana, 926 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach. 858-488-6744. Thursday, Tomcar Courings and the Blues Dusters, blues. Friday, 7 pm to 10 pm, Paul Nichols, acoustic.

10 pm, Paul Nichols, scoustic,
The Crescent Sheeres Gelli (stop the
Hotel Ia Jolla), 7955 La Jolla Shores
Orive, La Jolla, 584-699-6941, Music
is jazz unless otherwise noted.
Thursday, 730 pm to 10-30 pm, the
Peer Sprague Tric. Friday and
Saturday, 8 pm to 1 pm, the Mike
Wolfand/Holly Hofmann Quartet.
Tuesday, 7 pm to 10 pm, Carbin
Romance. Wednesday, 7 pm to 10 pm,
Romance. Wednesday, 7 pm to 10 pm.
Romance.

Dram Street, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131. All shows start at 8 pm. Thursday, Modern Art. Plack, and Barley Pop, poplalternative. Friday, the New Masters of Jove, the Kernel. Pepper, and the Fishermen, alternative (she the Fishermen, alternative/ska. Saturday, Mitch Budd and the Sol-Red, Purkhje, Shillglen, and the Goring Tree, alternative. Tuesday, Jimmy Damm Suess Band. Wednesday, Phallus and A.S.D.

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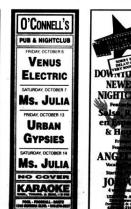
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Calendar MUSIC SCENE

Tris, Jaz.

Hennameny's Terrera, 4650 Minston Boulevach, Pacific Beach, 836–433

8467, Senturies, Pa mo minsings, the O'Drien Brookers, trish folk.

O'Brien Brookers, trish folk.

Derm Jean Carlothomens, 1956 Bacon Street, Cocan Bacch, 619–525–5056.

Thurndey, Andrew Jean and Randy Lorder, Solid Perilips, the Veger Jean Carlothomes, 1956 Bacon Street, O'Cocan Steak Treet, Packet Information, alternative, Sunday, the Trainler Park Quant with Trans Gross, Monday, vol. Trainler, Sunday, the Trainler Park Quant with Trans Gross, Monday, 1957 September 1958.

Windly's open make rught.

### San Diego



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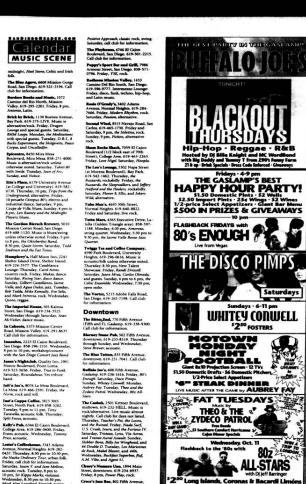


TOMMY CASTRO COCO MONTOYA

KEB' MO

ON SALE TOMORROW, FRI. 10/6

RAY CHARLES



Friday, 8 pm. Power Hop, rock.
Cross' Jess Ban, 602 Fith Avenoe,
downtown, 619-233-4353. Thurnday,
the Hollis Garry Querte, Jazz. Friday
and Saturday, call clab for
information. Sunday, Kalappill, AfroCuban/Latin jazz. Monday, Gler
Fisher con Alma, Casiac and Latin jazz.
Tuesday, the Shop Morer Quartet,
Sassic Jazz. Wednegday, the Jorg
Camberos Quintet, Latin jazz.

Camberes Quinter, Latin pazz.

Crocc's Top Biel Ber and Gefflin, 802

Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-2334355. Thurnday, Pazza and the
Bluermen, Friday, Lee Press: On and
the Nalls and Hollis Genery's Neon.

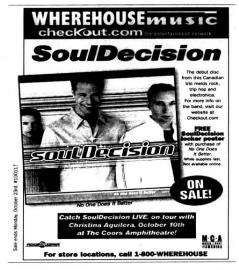
Saturday, Pazza and the Bluesmen and
Prims, Sunday, Billy Watson, blues.
Monday, the BelFonics with Whisp

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morens Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-276-537. Friday, Tim Quinn a Venus Electric, blues. Saturday, Ms. Julia, blues.

The Ould Sed, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-6594. Friday, Lisa Campbell and Nick Stamey. Wednesday, the Hatchet Brothers, alternative.



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BAR GRILL

### Calendar MUSIC SCENE

Dukota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5554. Thursday and Wednesday, 6 pm to 10 pm, Friday and Saturday, 7 pm to 11 pm, Robberecht the Psanoman,

pop/Top 40 piano.

Dich's Last Resert, 345 Fourth
Avenue, downtown, 619-231-9100.
Bands start at 8 pm. Thursday, Private
Domain, rock and roll, Friday, NRG,
high-energy dance. Saturday, Manu's
Boys, blues, rock. Sunday, Hen's
Olive, alternative. Monday, the Soul
Persuaders. Tuesday, the New Breed,
pop rock. Wednesday, Private
Domain.

Dissy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown, 858-270-7467, Thursday, the Josh Welchez Sexter, jazz. Friday, the Chris Klich Jazz Quinnet. Wednesday, Far East Feserubend.

4th & B. 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Thursday, 8 pm, Quie Riot, Malady, and Sirens Wail, heavy metal. Friday, 9 pm, El Gran Combo and Primo, salsa.

Hollywood Star Grille, 1320 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-2102. Friday, Angelica, vocalist/pianist.

Friday, Angelica, vocalistipanist, Humny Lave's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G.), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday, X-Cel, pop-Friday, Atomic Groven, disco, dance. Saturday, NRG, high-energy dance. Saturday, 1888 featuring from Maglioux-Monday, Rogge Smith and Promoted for Time, Jazz. Tuesday, the Millianusian. Wedtnesday, Higher Ground, dancel Top 40.

Ground, dance? Top 40.

Juke Joint Cafe, 327-Fourth Avenue,
downtown, 619-232-SOUL. Thursday,
the Gilbert Castellams Quartet, Latin
jazz. Friday and Saturday, Pacific
Breeze, Sunday, Shelle, blues.
Wednesday, Cynthia Hammond, jazz.

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Club

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The following nightclubs have valuable counons

in the Music Section of the Reader's Web site.

o indicates North County.

Blind Melons 2 for 1 cover Blue Agave \$2 cocktail

Brick By Brick 2 for Ladmission

O joit'n joe's 1hour free pool

O La Costa 2 for 1 admission

Liquid @ E St. Alley \$2 off cover

McCabe's Beach Club \$2 off admission

Martini Ranch 1/2 off martini

Moondoggies \$1 off cover Navajo Inn No cover

P.B. Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entrée Patricks II 2 for 1 cover

Champions Lounge

California Express VIP Card

'Canes \$1 discount Saturday Cannibal Bar \$2 off admission

Croce's Free cover with dinner

4th & B 2 free comedy tickets

Juke Joint Cafe Free admission Thursdays

Kenny B's, 624 E Street, Downtown. 619-235-6993. Friday, Tomcat Courtney and the Blues Dusters, blues.

Roger's an 5th, 815 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-702-0444. Thursday and Saturday, 6 pm tc. 11 pm, also, Friday and Wednesday, 7 pm to 11 pm, Robberecht the Planoman.

The Pentagon, 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2830. Call club

Redfish, 731 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-234-7226. Music plays from 9 pm to 1 am. Friday and Saturday. *Intrigue*, rock and roll.

La Tavola, 515 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-232-3352. Saturday, 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Daniel Jackso and Chuck McPherson, jazz piano.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Music is Latin. Thursday, Hector Rivera y la Conciencia. Tuesday, Latin Fusion. Wednesday, Walter II y Rumbaney.

U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway

classical harpist.
The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second
Avenus, downtown, 619-281-1818. Le
Fontamelheau Room: Monday
through Friday, 11-30 pm to 2 pm,
through Friday, 11-30 pm to 2 pm,
Plaza Bart Thomater, and Friday.
7 pm, and Saturday, 8 pm, 16-28.
LeConta, Friday, Monday, Touesday,
and Wedinesday, 5 pm to 7 pm,
Robbertok the Phanoman, Alio,
Tuesday, and Wedinesday, 7 pm to
Tuesday, and Wedinesday, 7 pm to
Vedinesday. 7 pm to
Vedinesday, 8 pm to 7 pm,
Robbertok the Toponopa, panos and
Vocals.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Wednesday, David Patrone, jazz. Onyx Room, 852 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-235-6699. Wednesday, Jonki, Paluka, and Ikah Love. South Bay/Coronado Cafe La Mane, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, piano bar, featuring Sandy Chappel, Sammy Canonizado, and Burnett Anderson.

Friday and Samurlay, Night Shift, rock and roll.

And the Command, 1500 Change, 150

naturstay. 2 pm to 6 pm, Salsa Steel.
The House of Munich, 230 Third
Avenue, Chula Yista 619-426-5172.
Friday and Saturday. 6 pm, and
Sunday. 5 pm, Gerdon Kohl, Kjell
Holmeis or Vicki Eriqat, European and
ethnic accordion.

Island Saloos, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Thursday open blues jam. Friday. Sweet Blue Onion. blues. Saturday, Tom Quinn and Venus Electric, blues.

Janie's Cocktalls, 656 E Street, Chula Vista, 619-420-9951. Friday, Jumpstart, rock and blues. Saturday, the Late Edition, classic rock.

the Late Edition, classes rock.

Leew's Germado Bay Resert, 4000
Coronado Bay Road, Coronado.

619-424-4000, Cars Lounge, Friday,
8 pm to midnight, Tyler & Allen, jazz,
Saturday, 8:30 pm to 12:30 am, the
Jimmer Bolden Trio, jazz,
Azzusa Point: Friday and
Saturday, 6:30 pm to 11 pm, Kemau
Kenyutta, solo piano.

Kenyatta, solo piano.
McP's Irish Pub and Gelll, 1107
Orange Avenue. Coronado. 619-4355280. Thursday, Big Giry Shaman,
blues. Friday, Bad Mediscine, rock,
blues. Saturday, the Blue Water
Rhythm Band. Sunday, Gene Waren,
folk. Monday, Steve Brewer, acoustic,
rousday, Ingam & Hanley, acoustic
folk. Wednesday, Heart and Soul, folk.

The Outside In, 1121 Third Street, Chula Vista. 619-426-2977. Thursday through Saturday, Super Trax, rock. Sunday, 8 pm to midnight, blues jam.

**East County** 

Den's Cocktell Lounge, 13321 Business Highway, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, Sweetwater Junction, country. Pannie's, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. All music is rock and roll unless otherwise noted. Friday and Saturday. This Side Up.

On the Rocks, 518 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-579-3537. Friday, Altered Time, rock. Saturday, the Greeve Cats, rock.

## MOVIES

### MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shapherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed.

Absorb Fusions — Cameron Crowe's most "personal" film to date, a notative into its role, and roll access of the sarly Seventies. The names have been changed, to cover up, perhaps, for revision or lapse of memory, and for inguined ten dencies to sanities and whitewash. The fifteen-year cold free-lance rock journalist — Crowe's stand-in — In owe radde Williams. teen-year-old free-lance rock pournaist— Crowe s stand-in— in now called William Miller (the dimply Patrick Fugit, projecting a Howdy Doody wholesomeness); and the fictitious heavy-metal band on whose tour he tags along is called Stillwater (Billy Crudup as the limmy Page—int guitarrist, Ia-son Lee as the Robert Plant-ian singer). Crashpa as the insumy ragic with generate, as Crown has aboya been consistent to play to the crowd—and the bigger the better. Or the crowd—and the bigger the better. Or the crowd—and the bigger the better. Or the crowd—and the bigger the better of the crowd and the crowd the better of view, is that the music of the period in several tiggers, a single-some college processor, for all with the required. And the percental figure, a single-some college processor, for all with the required. And the percental figure, a single-some college processor, for all with the required and the percental figure, a single-some college processor, for all given a distinctive write—not to mornion, in Frances Me-rous the contraction of the contraction given a distinctive write—not to mornion, in Frances Me-rous the contraction of the contraction processor, a given a distinctive woman, a strong woman. (Crown's own mouth; chin; eye, everything, both a strow woman, a strong woman. (Crown's own mouther moudel many approach). A distinc-tive contraction of the contraction of the processor of the processor from Philip Seymour Hoffman an the late from Philip Seymour Hoffman an the late

rock critic Lester Bangs — no name—change necessary — and the bere's long-distance pure. Two canner make friends with rock and the second pure the control of the properties of the control of the reporter's clear choice between "ferred" and "exemp," the rockers' inside out compaign to woo him and win him — is a woodwhelt between capited with diagnocuted the control of the recent of the control of the recent of the properties of the recent of the properties of the recent of the control of the recent of the rock of the recent of th

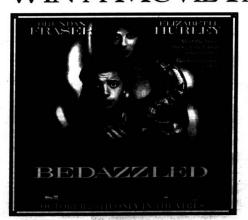
Astonia: A Periralt of the Woman — A documentary sketch of Antonia Brico, who wen acclaim first in the Twenties as an orchestral conductor — in Berlin, London, New York — and for a while was able to ride on the novelty of breaking through the

sex barrier on the conductor's podium. Once the novelw pean wearing thin, the top conducting jobs became harder to come bys and in the late Fortise she settled in Denver, where, into her seventies (and into the Seventies), the still techse music and infrequently conducts. Her life story might have provided a suitable model for a nevel of Willa Cather's, because of the novel of Willa Cather's, because of the heroine's frontier fortitude and struggle, her feeling of being passed by and falling short, and of course her music. The hour-long film, by Judy Collins and Itil God-milow, is made up mainly of the woman's informal reminiscences, at the kitchen table one of her prize piano students, age sixteen and it judiciously inserts images of memen toes, municial scores, and idolized com-posens of the past, as if to grant us glimptes of the phantom inspirations that must in-habit the brain of any striving must

The Art of War -- Lush, loud, furiou has are of War — Lush, lood, furious, repeaterous expionage trailing, something to do with a pending Chinese Trade Agreement and ougaing attempts to south it. The too-much too-moon opening is a indigestable as any recent James Bond pre-cred its sequence. But Worldy Snipes, although its constantably a superspy, is a least not superspy, in a least not superspy, in a least not supersilisms about it. And there is an interest. precisions should is. And there is an interesting (internate device—more interesting than any expisioning profess—of him total control of the control of the

Bud Munhammed. — The titular adjective reveals itself to be a definite understate-ment our insufaces of littleway Keefel) offer-tions seems like a say from the under-ty of the same of the same of the same that, who members has infiltrated the New York Police Department. He takes drougs the whole day through (abbri hold-ing off till be has dropped off the kind as aboud) as well as rapidizing in them; he cannot be same of the same of the same to be a same of the same of the same to be a same of the same of the same to be a same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same of the same of the same of the same to be same of the same to be same of the sa

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### NDIEGOREADER.COM Calendar MOVIES

isod a log of coolsin for himself, after far blooming swey the outers. The ode see the shown as interest in orbing in the rape of a nun (talaciously depreted), and only be-cause the \$50,000 resurd par up by the case the \$50,000 resurd par up by the for himself of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the seed of the number of the seed of the number of the seed of the and a bag of cookies) for himself, after first MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS. 10. 6



recting debut, set in the pageant world, with Minnie Driver and Joey Lauren Adams.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CINEMA STAR 13; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASSAMONT TROL.

stallone

"ACTION-PACKED! Stallone is back with a vengeance."

Bloos the Child - The forces of Good stree the Child — The forces of Good versus the forces of Evil in modern Manhattan, more specifically the forces of radiant serene ethercal CG imagery versus those of dark dirty squirmy CG imagery. Kim Basinger, a pair of worried eyes in a face of geisha-like immobility, inherits the newborn of her drug-addicted sister: a very special "child, evidencing telekinetic ten-dencies by kindergarten-age, blue he knack to resurrect dead birds and the je ne asis to resurrect dead birds and the je ne asis the Virgin. Now, however, a gain of Goths, under the command of a best-willing self-help garu (with a British accent for added malevolence: "Maybe God's justs a nice idea. like the Easter Bunny"), want to get their like the Easter Bunny"), want to get their hands on the girl for their own nefarious ends. The himsing of all this is, shall we say, blessedly straight; and the angelic inter





Bub Roberts — A political satire irre-trievably middlercted from its basic premise a thirty-converbing Right-wing falls injer, one of whose absuma has not been seen to be the second of the Penn-rybranis sentatorial seats on the monoral-bic slague of "Polity" of the Penn-rybranis sentatorial seats on the monoral-bic slague of "Polity" of the Penn-rybranis sentatorial seats on the monoral-tic slague of "Polity" of Theodolog unique to the properties of the political sentatorial politic district sentatorial politic distric-entided. "Drugs Stank" and "Reeding might meet the standards of a specially number at a celebrity reset or on the Ierry Lewis telenho, but searchly those of a Top Lewis telenho, but searchly those of a Top seems to be that writer-director-star Tim Robbins is to deeply entrenched a liberal that he hasn't the foggiest notion of what goes on on the far side of the bettlefield. The only thing he can think to do is to graft incongruous conservative attitudes on top of liberal models: allown titles, cover art, even a music video ("Wall Street Rap") are all knockoffs of Bob Dylam the awestruck all knockoffs of Bob Dylant, he avestruck, under groupies an drev an assistantion sutterny, condisingly-right lengths are just making from the condition of the

• (FASHION VALLEY 18)

PROMENADE 24: PARKINAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16: SANTEE DRIVE IN: SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; SWEETWATER 9: TOWN SQUARE 14: WEGAND PLAZA)

The Cell - S-f sickie to do with a serial

The Cell — S-f ackie to do with a serial black of the serial black

they're French, the young couple are in-spired in their lawlessness by Rimbaud.) Good photography, especially of the dap-pling light in the forest, and an ardent ac-ting job by Natacha Regnier; but the self-conscious mythic properties add more incredibility than interest. With Jeremie

Chicken Run — It would be nice — it would be bliss — if this, at eighty-odd minutes, were three times as good as any of the half-hour Wallace and Gromit shorts issued from the same British claymation studio, Aardman. Things don't work like that, an

Miranda Richardson, Jane Horrocks. 2000. ★★ (UA HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Color of Parenthes — Irasian film-maker shails Asjaid's entry into the world of a bind boy, a triumph of humility and empathy. The boy's openness to the world around him in contrast to his father's insu-lation from it is a constant them; they counderack, in one instance, quiete down to just the distant bird-call that brings a private output part of may be missed, completely oblivious to his child's source of delight.

Which of them is blind? Which is more

which of them is blind. Which is more alive? A simple truth, simply illustrated, and copiously. The movie is very sensuous in its sounds (the rhythm of a woodpecker interrupted by a snorting hone) as well as in its imagery: the tactility of rocks in a stream, a field of grain, widdlowers. Majid upholds the unfashionable humanist tradi-

upholds the unfashionable humanist tradi-tion in cinema (marvelous faces on the blind boy, the sullen father, the crinkly granny), but he does so with enormous for mal precision, besides, and poetic imagina-tion (the rising fog bank that signals the ebb of life). Like the same director's Chil-

ebb of life). Like the same director's Children of Hoswin, like Islaft Panah's The White Balloon from the same upot on the map, this is a movie about Children, but quite unlike those others, it is not also for them. There is no pair of sneakers, no goldfish, no tangible reward, at the finish line — not in this world, anyway. 1999.  $\star$   $\star$   $\pm$   $\star$  (LA DOLA VILLAGI)

THERE (I. ACLLA VALAGE)

Copysis high — A mile feightened would be congeniter from South Amboy.

N. I. move to Manhatan to pursue her dream among the bumping and-grinding formale harrenders (tile exotic dancers without the dorhing removal) of the timlar majerapor. Habby, empty puffery. With Piper Persho, Adam Garcia, Maria Belob, missed procede by David McNally, 2000.

6 (7ASHON VALLEY JR. HARRON DIVICE 70)

Criminal Lowers — Fractured fairy tale (to borrow a phrase from Rocky and His Friends): Hansel and Gretel recast as a French Bonnie and Clyde (he's impotent) who lose their way in the woods after bury-ing a body, and fall into the clutches of a historic bowness of hemi-

Digiment: The Movie — Big screen version of the animated TV show on the Fox Kids Network.

(EARMET MOUNTAIN, CHEMA STAR 10. CHEMA STAR 12. FASION VALLEY 20. GROSSMORT CHAFTEL A STALA 12. MISSION VALLEY 20. COLOMOS 15. RAJA PROMOS MOZI REY 16. TOWN SALE 12. MISSION VALLEY 20. COLOMOS 15. RAJA PROMOS MOZI REY 16. TOWN SALE 12. RAJA 12. RAHAGIN OZI, REY 16. TOWN SALE 12. RAHAGIN OZI, RAHAGIN OZI, REY 16. TOWN SALE 12. RAHAGIN OZI, RAHAGIN OZI,

Scott Speedman, Maria Bello, Angie Dick-inson. 2000.

© (FASHION VALLEY 18: UA HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Exercise I have because the film-makers do not trouble to work out one in-teresting development of character, sinu-ation, or metaphysics, is no secure for the-tweer to sit back, dull. And it is to the-film's credit that there are so many tensing possibilities to pursue privately in this bor-ors story, at once pertensions and lowbrow, the story of the story of the story, at one pertensions and lowbrow, trist and all fund of sink, feelile of shody-medirealist who join forces against the de-month that searched the olay of a Holly-

wrood morrie star's darking daughter. For a while, at the start, the morrie maintains an appealing star of chans, with in spring moins, everywhere measures, and fentified properties of the starting of the little get. Regas, and the special effects on the little get. Regas, and the special effects of the little get. Regas, and the special effects comes as routine as if it were dispensed by the American Vending Corp. Every time someone entering the Regas is done, it is like treat—a sock in the jaw, a cyclone of 45 repm's, a shower of guazander vouris, mas-torbation with a creditio, set. This gid howes how of treats. Little Bitte own her

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Jeffrey Lyons, WHEC "A brilliantly conceived comedy with some of the most outrageously funny scenes in memory!"

Robert De Niro Ben Stiller





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From the Director of 'AUSTIN POWERS'

ZIR STARTS FRIDAY Here 

### Calendar MOVIES

Occar nomination to the makeup man and Mercofet McCambridge's dubbing—she can't acc, can't have, but she was a can't acc, can't acc,

Got Cortor — Sylvester Stallone stars in a remake of the 1971 British gangster film (Michael Caine, star of the original, has a supporting part); directed by Stephen Kay. (CAIMGL, MOUNTAIN, CHEMA STAR DALAW) CHEMA STAR 10. CHEMA STAR 13. CHEMAMA 6. HON VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: GROSSI FASHION VALLEY 18; CASLAMP 15; GROSSMON CENTER, HAZAD CENTER 7: LA JOLLA 12: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME NADE 24: PARRIWAY PALZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN: SWEETWATER 9; TOWN SQUARE 14; WIEGAND PLAZA; PROM 10:76.

headed Latina high schooler, channeling her hostility into boxing lessons at the

Brooklyn Roys, 'Clab, and finding a charsol for her hidden tendermen tone afflow featherweight one afflow featherweight amend Adrian. Touble sheds the two channels collide at the General Control of the Control of the

Classifictor — Rome's greatest general, Maximus, reduced to a slave (Minimus, that would be), then resurrected as a site of the sporting arena (not necessarily Circus Maximus). Throwback historical epic with all the modern amenities: overamplified digital sound, computer-generated sets, blue-runsed and butter-basted photograblue-rinsed and butter-basted photogra-phy, herky-jerky hallucinatory slow-mo-tion, time-lapse clouds, music-video-style dream scenes, Jackson Pollock dribbles an sprays of gore — and no narrative facility whatever. With Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix, Connie Nielsen, Richard Harris, teed; directed by Ridley Scott. 2000 ● (HAZARD CENTER 7: OCEANSIDE 16)

Godzilla 2000 - The first made in lapan monster movie in general release in the U.S. since Godzilla 1985, complete with



had English dubbing and a barrel of laughable lines: "Quit your bitchin." "I guaran-tee it'll go through Godzilla like crap through a goose." "He's coming. Get go-ing. "Did you see that flying rock go by? "Great Caesar's ghost!" It comes as a wonderful relief, after the Hollywood vers ownin relief, are the routywood version of two years earlier, to realize that we do not have to start back again at square one. There is already a Godzilla Prediction Net-work on the lookout, and a raging debate within the scientific community over the

relative desirability of trying to destroy the beast or trying to understand him. (On the understanding side, a sitcommy father-daughter team; on the destructive side, a barttone-voiced business uit.) The mid-tech special effects, state-oft- the-art crea 1960, with the brief exception of some taffy-textured computer animation, are ar guably an improvement over the higher-tech, up-to-the-minute Hollywood ones. And our too-close-for-comfort first sight Godzilla, using a boat for a toothpick, as

well as subsequent sights of him lumbering toward and around Tokyo, on pass without apolegy on any count. The even naties of the count of the coun

The Kid - A blunt and downright rude The Bidl — A blust and downright rude image consultant (Binew Willis, mirking with impunity) confront is suffeed lener (billis — Birth is suffeed lener (bill — Birth) — when his right year-old self, or in other worth is self of thirty on the self of thirty of the suffeed lener (billing) is suffered by the suffeed lener (bill own a dog at the age of forty. Sentimental and sententious family film from Disney own a dog at the age of torty. Sentimental and sententious family film from Disney (Jon Turreltaub, director); Juscious photography, if it matters, by Peter Menzies, Ir. Nothing on screen arouses more of a sense of wonder and amazement than the colors of the Biquo bottles above a run-of-the-gin-mill bar. Emily Mortimer, Lily Tomlin.

• (SANTEE DRIVE IN)

The May Lady — Iranian feminist film-maker Rakhshan Bani-Eternad depicts a fic-tional filmmaker much like herself. (KEN, 10/6 THROUGH 12)

Most the Perenta — A had-to-worse weekend for a male nurse named Focker (you'll need weveral sets of fingers and toos to count up the utterances of that name), who accompanies his prospective farance to his prospective sister: in law's wedding. The women, including the prospective motherin law, virtually finde into the woodwork, as in-taw, virtually fade into the woodwork, as all attention centers around the man-to-man head-butts. Pat and overstated comedy, but solid, professional, compliant performances from Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro. With Ten Polo, Blythe Danner, Owern Wilson, directed by Jay Roach, 2000.

\*\* (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CINEMA STAR GALANY) FROM 10/6)

Human Beety — Noil Lalbute wades into the mainteram, above the ankles, over the hences. He, as we bezand from it in the Company of Men and Tow French and Neight man Town French and Neight man the Company of Men and Tow French and Neight man the Company of Men and Tow French and Neight man the Company of Men and Tow French and the Men and the Company of Men and Land Town Anderson Control (Heave use, that is on least "realisting" and the Men and Sentence of Successification of the Men and Sentence of Senten But each piece of flesh, each article of clothing, added onto two bones will diminish the potential. A movie about an overzeal-ous soap fan automatically has less to say about soap fans in general, and about their about the properties of the prop

R

his calves, that he has not lost his tough-ness. And maybe the husband (Lalbur erg-uler Arann (Eshart, with a white-trash "ablong" hisrcut; labor on soy, long in the "ablong" hisrcut; labor on soy, long in the same are expected to be able to enjoy his mu-tilation. But then again, maybe this is sim-ply a sign of the limmaker's inemativity as sign of the limmaker's inemativity as labor to his seeming bitindness to the non-rable to his seeming bit of the seeming to take the seeming bit of the seeming to the seeming the probability probability. It is a seeming the seeming the hospital revenues. Chris Rock, Grey Kin-wer, 'Is I' Teach Almon Januny, schibern

Wilholte. 2000.
# (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMEMADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Paul seriodistocic 24; Tohin signification of leish-born writer and director Myles Conflict, I here no writer and director Myles Conflict, I here not the heist straight. Piet No. 1(b), the one boot the ex-con who tries to go streight but gat demand by bed company. (We writer-director, 4), when the ex-con falls to perceive what every morteger will know mit and the property of the conflict of the

cially well used or photographed. (Almospher has always been harder to come by many the state of a stat

\* GLALA WLAGE. THROUGHS 10/91

OFFREE — All DOTTON a strenke of Biold Orphrus. Not done from the inside rather than
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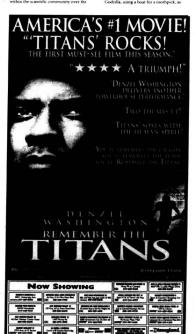






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Saving Grace - Tiddly little English Baving Ornos — Tabli Intic English commod about a marrolly videow who, deep in debt, gives over the greenbase to the method of the debt of

Auptame-style, Naked Gum-style, spoof of slasher films, which is to say that it's as unparticular about its to gets as about its aim. Scream and I know What You Did Last Summer and their re-spective sequels are the main targets, and The Blant Which Project. The Matrix, The Sual Suspects, Amistad, whatever, co into the line of fire, too - a rotating turre



ing than up and-up spoofing. (Yes, you can spot The Usual Stapperts, but can you spot a tweak, a gibe, jabb!) The primary sources, or models, or host-organisms, were bad jokes in the first place, making a spoof re-dundant or irrelevant. And by and large the dundant or irrelevant. And by and large the found of gags asembled by director Kennen Ivory Wayams — drool gags, snot gags, poop gags, boob gags — are unattached to the foundation beneath. The artistic credo is a simple one: if a woman farting is funny one, if will be three times as funny the third time. A big "if." With Anna Faris.

Shannon Elizabeth, Regina Hall, Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans. 2000.

■ ICINEMA STAR 10: GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT TROLLEY: OCEANSIDE 16)

Short — Strictly speaking a sequel and not a remake, a perpetuation of the family name, or brand name, of the identically titled 1971 blasplotation hit. The original John Shaft, now "Unde" John Shaft (Richard Roundtree), purs in a couple of cameo appearance; (along with his director, the feorime Gordon Parko) as a veneration.

ated private detective who is trying to per ated private detective who is trying to per-suade his namesake nephow, a New York homicide cop, later a narcotics cop, to join the firm. The nephow feels he has bigger fish to fry, a rich white "race killer" and a two-bit Dominican drug lond whose paths cross and intertwine. The hero of the earlier cross and intertwine. The hero of the earlier Shaff- and its sequels - was very much a man of his times (he still has a hot mama at each elbow), but the times, if you keep up with the daily papers, have not really changed all that much, and the younger Shaft is still plaqued by 'that colored thing:

too black for the uniform, too blue for the brothers. The new generation director, John Singleton, commands a handsome, burnished, gleaming image (anything less would be an affort to Parks, the long-time Life photographer), some above-average shootoust and car chanes, and a pair of theorogaby wile villains who modestly de-thouse the command of the command of the theorogaby wile villains who modestly de-tended to the command of the command of the Lackson is a powerful presence in the title role, his head shawed in possible homage to hasse. Hayes (whose own presence contin-lasses Hayes (whose own presence continrole, his head shaved in possible homage to hase. Hayes (whose own presence contin-uous to be fift on the music track), but he is upstaged by leffew Wright as the dope-dealing Dominisans, with his attoosed the best of the control of the control of the his verbal mannetism of stopping short of the ends of words ("Tiger Woo," "Holly-woo," etc.), commissify frustrated at his in-ability to stract a higher-caliber clienter. It is almost underlieashed that this is the mann as the dignified and tactions es also more starting demonstration of what's eant when an actor is said to "disar in a part. With Christian Bale, Vanessa Williams, Toni Collette. 2000. ★★ (vogut) Smilling Fish and Goet on Fire — Un-

Institute Fish and Goot on Five — Un-charming sharmer, more of a pleader, about the romantis flounderings of dissimi-tar wins (For some reason) was a happy-go-lucky little fack. My brother was born with a migraine headache", lyaped by the real-life Martini brothers, durty-blond Seven and dark. Derick. They also co-wrote the script with director (and old friend) Kevin lendars, and much of their wit con-Kevin Jordan, and much of their wit con-sists in salting the dialogue with a "dick," a "dickhead," a "bullshit," a "shitting," an "asshole," a "sucks," a "fick me," a "fucked-up," Jazz singer Bill Henderson is likable, if no better written, as a memento-laden veteran of 1930s black films. With Christa Miller, Amy Hathaway, Rosemarie Addeo, Heather Jae Marie. 2000.

(HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Space Cowboys — Clint Eastwood's forty-sixth starring role is a sufficiently

proper and plausible one for an actor of seventy years of age. Or anyway it has beer made sufficiently no. Ample thought and talk have gone into the script to persuade us that Eastwood and no one else on earth can fix the outmodel guidance system us that Eastwood and no ore due on earth on a first the outmodel guidance system of the commodel guidance system thing?) on the Russian communications steelile Room data in must be fixed in a steelile Room data in must be fixed to steelile Room data for the steelile Room for the deeply rooted, it that Jones has less reason than the others have been been all for a juicy rolle that allows him to act his age. (Garreer has been been all the properties of script, or to take a remedial pencil and craiser to it. And there is a good deal in the movie that is deflatingly routine, conveniental, and crowd-concious. But at the same time, it has many (so to speak) negative virtues. Vitrus of avoidance and abstraence. No obligatory also mo about of the suited-up attrounts strating shoulder to aboulder romant the armers. No overlaying musical actions of special effects. No willoying musical ac-

companiment. No operatic pumping up and arrectiong out of the demantic dimansa. Very much to the contravy, there lac
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The Tae of Stove — Yet another little film to come out of the Sundance festival

with hig ideas, or hig head. It undersiably had a concept to start with, pertry well nammed up in the cutery cleasing credit, and the contest of the contest with big ideas, or big head. It under had a concept to start with, pretty w

provenance, has an inevitable ring of reality to it; and Donal Logue, with a twelve-ty of the reality of the reality of the fleshes out the concept, so that it grows into a character, a performance, a person. Waistine notwithstanding, however, he re-mains the small center of a little film. What mains the small center of a little film. What takes shape around him is not so much a "story" as a chastening rebuttal, a sermon-izing object leason, a motherly reprimand, feminist reprisal. Or in short, Mr. Right: 'Don Giovanni stept with thousands of women because he was afraid he wouldn't be lowed by sma." For every line that jumps off the screen (to his doctor: "I'll have the occasional pack: a-day"), there are dozens more that lie lifeless on the page, overly

6:30, 9:00; Remember the Titans (PG)
Fri. Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 9:30, 8:00; 10:30;
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2000.

\* (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 10/5; LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 10/6)

Urbania — Jon Shear's film about a gay man (Dan Futterman) in a personal crisis. (HILOREST CHEMAS)

Urban Lagender Final Çut — Chilicr with lennifer Morrison, Matthew Devis, and Harf Bocher, Girected by John Detman. And Harf Bocher, Girected by John Chimas. STAI 3.5. CHEMAN 5.7 M 10.5. CHEMA 5.7 M 10.5. CHEMA

West metti Dark — Quintersential blind-lady-in-diatree thriller, from the theare proceed by Prederick Konti, playwright also of proceed by Prederick Konti, playwright also proceed to the process of the process of the and stage, but the device whereby the here-encerry as in ignorison bit of signorals, and include the process of signorals, and pro-position as well as from Audrey Hepburn's emoting. And the final life-and-death fully repident Alan Arkia constants one mo-ment — perfectly framed and timed ——a-most guaranteed to put some space. Bit and Cremna, Jack Weston, directed by Terrace Young, 1974, per, 10,55 1997, pp. 1997, pp. 11,975 1997, pp. 1997, pp. 11,975 1997, pp. 11,975, pp. 11,975 1997, pp. 11,975, pp. 11,975 1997, pp. 11,975 199

The Watcher - Your monthly serial The Watcher — Your monthly serial-killer fix. Your killer, as you like him, is an egomaniacal taunter, Fed-Ea-ing photos of his targeted victims to the cops, twenty-four hours prior to strangulation. For the role, Keanu Reeves lowers and loudens his

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8.30 p.m.

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Lovets, Sold Belows, Deep Lovets, Lovets

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Fri. Thu. (1:10, 4:20) 7:30; Godzilla 2000 (PC) Fri. Thu. (1:20, 4:10); Meet the Parents (PG-13) Fri. Thu. (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:00; Space Cowboys (PG-13) Fri. Thu. 7:05, 9:55

Assion Valley 20
Io80 Camino Ind Ros North (856-588-206)
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Meet the Parents, Get Carler, Digimon: The Movie, Almost Famous, Balt, Nurse Betty.
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Mon.-Thu. (215) 445, 7:15, 9:40, Goya in Bordeaux (R) Fri. (2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; Ass. Sun. 11:15:20; 224, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; Mon.-Thu. (2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; Smilling, Thu. (2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; Smilling, Thu. (2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; Smilling, Smi

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Sweetwador 9 Theodres 1720 Sweetwador 19 Theodres 1720 Sweetwador 18 (19-9-47-857)) Almost famous (19) N. Sun. (12-02, 25) 19-19. Almost famous (19) N. Sun. (12-02, 25) 19-19. Almost famous (19) N. Sun. (12-03, 25) 19-19. Special (19) N. Sun. (12-03, 25) 19-19. Special (19) N. Sun. (12-03, 25) 19-19. Special (19) 19-19. Special (19) N. Sun. (12-03, 25) 19-19. Special (19) Nov. Thu. (12-16, 25) 12-19. Special (19) N. Sun. (12-03, 25) 19-19. Special (19) N. Sun. (1

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The Executed Usban Legends: They Lick ReThe Executed Usban Legends: They Lick Rethey are the Mission of the Mi

Oceannide 16
401 Minim Avenue, Counside (760-419-1233) <sup>18</sup>
Maset the Presents: Get Carter: Digimon: The
Movie; Gleffight: Bail: Glediator, Scary
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Beaustifet: The Exorcist: The Art of War.
Bring It On: The Call; Urban Legende: Final
Cut; Almost Famour; What Lies Beneath

The Way of the Gun — Spawn of Tarantino. A gory, amoral, all-attitude ca-per thriller, written and directed by per thriller, written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie (writer only on The Usual Suspects), who arranges such a crowded schedule of 'startling' revelations that they soon become ho-hum revelations. Juliette Lewis, the kidnapped surrogate mother (ready to pop), is in rough proxim-ity to her real-life father, Geoffrey Lewis. ity to her real-life father, Geoffrey Lewis, but it is not he who will turn out to be her startling father on screen. That, to spill one bean, is James Caan, the most sympathetic figure in the group, a fossilized mob tor-pedo by the name of Joe Sarno. If this is an in-joke — Joe Sarno being the name, also, of a nudie director of the Sixties and Seven-— it is (a) esoteric in the extreme, and

Oct. 17 at

Pirey's

What Lies Banneath - Acceptable me core to the ghost stories of the year pervious. The Stark Sense and Size of Edwar. Bull qual to them in the voltage of the joint, qual to them in the voltage of the joint, pervise of details, bowever, more mechanical me creations, but at the same time delete in surface and tonier in ambience, so that it executions, but at the same time delete in surface and tonier in ambience, so that it work to be considered to the surface of the s The sixth Sense at least in part. The long-drawn-out ending (might as well say par-for-the-course ending) loses touch with the phost for too long at a stretch, and for more than just one stretch. The jotts keep com-ing, but they are even emptier and more mechanical than before. Diana Scarwid,

James Remar. 2000.

\* (FASHON VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GHOSS-MONT TROLLEY: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEAN-SIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; VOQUE)

Woman on Top — A sweet nothing as-sembled from pre-tested art-house ingredi-ents: food, samba, magic realism, a you-go-

girl transventire, and, at the center of it all, Pendope Crus as short-blooded Brazilland for the years part in wood have been for the few person and wood have been for the gray better the control of the control current of motions acknown as receipt yilled set of scales. With Murilo Benicio, Mark Fourtestin, and Hardof Fernineau, Ir. di-rected by Fina Torres, 2000. The control of widows NACLY 12, GASLAMP 15, LA DILA WINDOWS MALTE, GASLAMP 15, LA DILA WINDOWS MALTE, GASLAMP 15, LA DILA MARTE AL MANCHO DEL SEY 18, 1 DOW.

X-Mon - Another comic book comes to A-mount — Another comic book comes to life. Or more accurately, it comes to live ac-tion. (How is it, in the CG age, that Holly-wood has overlooked Plastic Man so long Evolution, as we join the story, has taken a far leap in the near future; and the good mutants of Xavier's School for Giffed far lasp in the new future, and the good manners of News School for Giffed Youngstern, all he Mutant High, are arrayed mand of the end happens. (In McKellen, cast by the anne director, Brayen Singer, as the Vision our command in Age Payla, in now the Vision our command in Age Payla, in now with the Age of t



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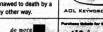
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## **Back to My Island**

For most of us, South America is terra incog-nita ("Here be monsters," said Medieval maps, and that attitude still persists). The Andes are gorgeous, but it's just so hard to travel there. Plane fares are exorbitant (Lima's four times the Plane fares are exorbitant (Lima's four times the price of Paris), and when you land, you never know whether you'll be stepping into a politi-cal uprising, a bloody coup, a drug war, an earthquake, landslide, volcanic eruption, or epidemic. Hence, few Americans have had a chance to discover how varied and rich the distinction.

cuisines are.

Some years ago, at a fortuitous moment of relative peace, I was lucky enough to score a magazine assignment to explore the Pan American Highway from the U.S. border down to Tierra del Fuego, the last stop before Antarctica. Eat-ing was half the fun, and I've been missing the food ever since. I found it again in Old Town, at Berta's, featuring the foods of Central and South America. The restaurant's interior is cozy and rather plain, but the front patio (with more than half the total tables) is festive, with lights than half the total tables) is festive, with lights winkling from an overhead awning and Andean flute music playing softly from a small speaker. The lengthy menu ranges from Guatemala south to Patagonia and reads like a "pick hits" collection—these are some of the tastiest dishes each country has to offer:

At the start of the meal, a server brings and the start of the meal, a server brings.

warm flour tortillas and a ramekin of tomatillo-based green salsa. This is the last familiar food you'll encounter here — aside from a few choices from δpain, the rest of the fare comes from the less-known lands to the south. And although

less-known lands to the south. And although some of the dishes are on the spiry side, you may yet need the salss if your taste runs hot. Berta herself (she prefers to use just her given name) is from Chile, a temperate-zone country with closer cultural ties to Europe than to its neighbors. Hence, contrasy to its name, Chile has the mildest food in South America—that has the mildest food in South America—that. Among the starters (listed on the menu as rapas, Spain's word for appetizers) are two types of Chilean empanadas (turnovers) — fried ones stuffed with cheese and baked ones with a meat stuffed with cheese and baked ones with a meat filling. (In Chile, these are called empanadas - "leaf" turnovers - and em de horno — oven turnovers.) The cheese



empanadas are Twinkie-size half-moons, deep-fried so that the dough separates into thin layers, perfect up around a hollow center containing a comforting nubbin of melted jack cheese. The call half the contained and the control of the control of

asserole of the same savory beef mixture

casserole of the same savory beef mixture. chicken, and a topping of fresh, sweet-corn custard. Most entrees come with an appropri-ate starch and a pleasant green salad. Peru is just to the north of Chile, and its cooking is dramatically different — this is the original homeland of the chile pepper (and numerous other vegetables, including pota-mination of the chile perior pota-

toes). It's one mighty spicy cuisine — but it's also a flavorful one, not just hot for hot's sake. Centuries ago, the Inca Empire organized the

dishes is available on weekends; at least on one midweek visit, several Peruvian dishes weren't

available.)

Peru's distinctive ceviche, with small cubes of Pacific red snapper "cooked" by several hours' marination in lime juice, differs from the typical Mexican version in that, along with diced red and green bell peppers, it boasts a serious joil to minced serrano chiles, with relief in the form of avocado dices and a weet hunk of corn on the cob. Among the main courses, Seco de Cordero. ("Gro flamb") has less of lamb cubes of lamb cubes of lamb cubes. Cordero ("dry of lamb") has leg of lamb cubes

3928 Twiggs Street (at Congress), Old Town

HOURS: Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
RESERVATIONS: Advisable for Saturdays and

RESERVATIONES. Advisable for Saturdays and for groups of six and more.

ATMOSPHERE: South American cooking in a casual, cheerful setting. Best tables are on the covered front patio. Wide-ranging menu includes ample vegetarian choices.

with many Argentine and Chilean selections available by the glass. Beer selection is equally

venturesome. PRICE RANGE: Tapas \$2.50-\$10; entrées

Ratings are from zero to four stars and are

(a lean cut, hence a bit dry-tasting indeed) (a lean cut, nence a bit dry-tasting inacea) stewed with potatoes and green peas in a light meat broth with intriguing undertones of orange and lemon juices and an emphatic dose of cilantro. Pollo Arequipa consists of sautéed chicken breast dressed with mani (Incan for chicken breast dressed with mani (Incan for "peanut"), a creamy, spicy sauce based, of course, on ground peanuts, with a side of pasta. My favorite Peruvian dish, Aji de Gallina, has chicken shreds in a crunchy-creamy sauce of spice, Parmess ncheese, and gound almonds, colored red-gold by annatto and garnished with new-potato quarters. I found Berta's rendition a little disappointing, despite the superb little red new potatoes she uses.



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D'Lish Course

### Calendar RESTAURANTS

Ajt, pronounced "ah-hee," is Incan for "pepper," and Cuzco cooks add a quantity to make you yell "Ah-HEEEE!" Fortunately, the Cuzqueño rortunately, the Cuzqueno version includes enough sweet, mouth-soothing bread crumbs and canned milk to prevent instant death-by-chile. One midweek evening when Berta was absent and a trainee cook was absent and a trainee cook was in the kitchen, the ajf came out weirdly wimpy and unbal-anced, but even the restaurant's normal version is a little thin-ner and milder than I prefer, with only white-meat chicken and a dominant flavor of

Parmesan. The best of Brazil is rep-resented by Vatapa, available

as both a seafond stew and a as both a sealood stew and as a vegetarian pasta dish. Unlike the meat-heavy Portuguese food of Rio (e.g., fejioada) and the weighty Germanic dishes of São Paolo, the cooking of the state of Bahia (north of Bio and the Atlantic coat) in Rio on the Atlantic coast) is a hot-climate Creole cuisine rooted in Africa — cotic, sen-suous, deliriouly tropical, a culinary equivalent of Car-men Miranda's for Chiquita banan's) hat. Berta's flaw-less seafood Vatapa mingles medium prawns, tiny bay scal-lops, and diced red snapper in a luxury-bath of coconut milk, occonut shreds, toma-toes, ground peanuts, and chile sauce. The spiciness is easy to take because both coconut milk and ground nuts guly up rooted in Africa — exotic, sen milk and ground nuts gulp up hot pepper faster than you can taste it, so you just feel a lin-

at the Harbor

Lush tropical gardens, entertainment

& fabulous cuisine!

A real surprise on this Latin menu is Beef Curry Trinidad, from the bustling English-speaking Caribbean island eight miles off the Venezuelan coast (home of the planet's best carnaval). When Queen Victoria abolished slavery throughout the British Empire, all the emancipated slaves of Trinidad cipated slaves of Trinidad promptly moved to the city and applied for civil-service jobs. They were replaced in the cane fields by indentured servants from India — hence, West Indian East Indian Curry, Although I later learned that Berta has never actually visued Trinidad, it didn't even the common than the common that the common than the common that the common th to set me singing like calypso-king David Rudder: "Take me, take me, take me back to

my island!"

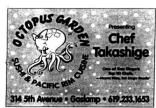
In a great swath of the Americas—from Mexico all the way through Central America on down past Darien to Colombia and Venezuela—commeal is king, the campesino' staff of life. Cornmeal cuisine is well represented on this menu, with represented on this menu, with dishes from half a dozen countries. We chose Guatemalan chilemal, a fragrant pork casse-role with a thin, flavorful sauce of meat broth, tomatoes, chiles, cilantro, hints of coriander and cilantro, hints of coriander and clove and achiote (annatto), and a haunting, earthy trace of masa harina, the fine-milled cornmeal used in tamales and tortillas. I hate to admit it, but it tasted not only genuine, but, um, uh, better than anything I

There are four desserts (lemon cheesecake, flan, glazed bananas, and semolina pudding). All are house-made, so you can't go wrong. Even though I can't afford another six-month trip to South Amer-ica, I can always go to Berta's.

ABOUT THE CHEF The wonder of Berta's is how one restaurant can cover so many distinct cuisines with such consistent credibility. As such consistent credibility. As young women in Chile, Berta and her next-older sister were avid cooks, recipe collectors, and travelers (to Peru and Bolivia). After arriving in the U.S. in the mid-'70s, shortly after Pinchett's coup blood-ied the country, Berta and her sister found jobs in a French restaurant, working up from vegetable-choppers to line-chek. Fifteen years ago, Berta sister opened a uncoesful Jaintee Oregon; almost ten years ago, Berts moved to San Diego to open its twis here. Her restaurant is a magnet for visiting she'll invite them into the kitchen to teach her their own recipes. "With Chillean women, we have it in the blood," asid things to do." Cong term house things to do." Cong term house manager Ricardo explained it a little differently. "The main ingredient in Berta's food is love."

Naomi Wise is an author of four cookbooks (three out of print), including Totally Hot, The Ultimate Hot Pepper Cookbook (Doubleday/Dolphin). She has previously been a restaurant reviewer in Northern California for City Magazine, East Bay Express,













## **Gaslamp Fringe Breakfast**

"Now you can have coffee and tango."

ometimes, I've believed as much as six impossible things by breakfast, asys Lewis Carroll, going round and round. That is, his message goes round and round in the sidewalk, pretty expertly painted into the concrete on the corner of Seventh and F, right out-

conver of Seventh and F. right outside Calyton's. Guest a gives a clust to the atmosphere that used to be here, when it was more a hangout for the Street. Kids being cook, playing pool, talking rock. 'n' roll, sharring immortal lines they'd penned, and as they say of Lewis Carroll himself, maybe inhaling a little something to help the fautary life along. It kept the copa coming in on a regular basis Friddry Louise, the manager gay. 'Now vit's Calyton's and it's different. Now you can have coffee and tango." Uh, tangeg. TIN FORK ED BEDFORD

it's different. Now you'can have coffee ain damgo."
Uh, tango!
Actually I had been following my nose down
Seventh toward F, and the whiff I was following
was...baking, Mmm. Sweet pastry baking, Scones!
Piest Macaroom's This was around eight in the
morning, Opposite the Salvation Army headquarters. I spay a modest sign in a doorway in the old 1913
Maryland hotel block. "Pies by Clayton." And on
cutrance. Inside, if feel like 1913 plan Goremockh
Village 1993. Big, cavernous, with large greeny-

daubed concrete columns, wrought-iron everything tables, wiggle-back chairs, and
chandelien—a couple of maroon-coth pool tables, and a great, varnished, new-looking planked
floor. "That's the mirack." says (abby at the
floor. "That's the mirack." says (abby at the
to have for breakfast. "When this
changed hands two years ago and
they started cleaning it out, it was
suzzy carpet and phywood and tar
underneath, and then they found
the formation of the control of the control
a great dance floor! That's why
we've started the tango night."

we've started the tango nights."
Tango?"
Right then Gabby's called away, I look at the menu Gabby handed me. 'Have one of these menu Gabby handed me. 'Have one of the started that the started t

mixing-bowl size. The guy's munching Raisin Bran, his lady has shredded wheat, \$2.50 each. But the menu lists "three steamed eggs for \$2.00." You can add anything from green onions to black olives to turkey to ham to jalapeño to broccoli to bacon for 45 cents each. Toast is \$1.00 extra. And the for 45 cents each. Toast is \$1.00 cana, have a hand-written deal offering four sausage for a dollar. When Gabby returns I order the eggs

for a dollar. When Gabby returns I order the eggs, with provolone cheese, green onions, toast, four sausages, and coffee (\$5.76 after tax, including \$1.00 for the coffee).

The big plate comes loaded with the eggs shining under a big blood melted cheese. The sausages are there and two big squares of toast. Gabby's freshened the loads with a little fruit section of orange and grapes sitting on purple cabbage. Only usuages, Now they're, like, kingle proof. But still, it's a good solid breakfax. And, it's odd, you look around and you start to feel like you're gard of around and you start to feel like you're part of something...the inner-city lost? The New Soci-ety? A student stares at his sea of books and papers. ety? A student stares at his sea of books and papers. Guy at the window seat punches words into his laptop, munches a scone, glugs coffee, and every now and then says loudly. "Hey, what's up, big guy? Going good. Going good!" He's got an ear-price wired to a cell phone stiming beside his coffee. Six carnest people sit at a big tuble with papers in fromt of them, strategizing. You know they're.

heavily tabbed Bible and scribbles notes. It's

like, dot-coms, or an MP3-ish startup, 'cause twe

of them sit with their bare feet folded up lotus fast

ion in their chairs. Lady at another table flips a 37

the control of the co

poor tables and clear the decits for dancing. It is great. We get mixed ages, and, like, rich and poor, and they dance! Wednesdays, tango. Thursdays, West Coast swing. Fridays, East Coast swing. All because of this incredible floor we discovered. You should come on down. All you have to do is buy a coffee."

buy a coffee."

Man, that appeals to the skinflint in me, but dancing? That's like one of Mr. Carroll's six impossible things. Memo: remember not to tell Carla re. tango.

The Places: Clayton's Coffee House, corner of Seventh and F, downstown (619-212-5066)
Type of Foods: American
Type of Foods: American
Type of Foods: American
Type of Foods: American
Type of Toods
Ty





He shoos the bees with an aggressive wave of his arm and a venomous stream of invective.

hen I arrive, groggy and ten minutes late at 6:40 a.m. on a Saturday, the number of the street of the saturday, the ing kiss to school teacher/wine student Bill Madigan's home vineyard in Jamul's Lawson Valley. The sky is light, but the

60 or so vines that rise from the south-facing slope in front of hi house are still in shadow. It will nouse are still in shadow. It will not be so for long; south-facing means almost constant exposure to the sun for his grapes, and the ridge to the west often blocks the eastward meanderings of the ma-

I am here at this ungodly hour because to-day is harvest day, and we want to finish picking before the heat gets up over 100 degrees. A few days ago, the heat was welcome, helping as it did to drive sugar levels in the grapes up past 21 degrees Brix (Brix is a measure of the total solved compounds in grape juice, which in turn gives an approximate measure of sugar concentration). Now, it is a thing to be avoided.

concentration). Now, it is a thing to be avoided. Whatever the temperature, Madigan will remain swathed in heavy flannel, protection against the compact meat bees swarming around his vines, particularly the black, ripe Zinfandel filis other varietals are Grenache and Mourvedre). The bees are voracious caters, slipping through the thin bird proof netting properties of the proof of

the rows, bulging with dead bees, but their ranks are steadily replenished. They are this year's problem, says Madigan, "a convergence of a good year for them and my grapes ripening.

Though he is allergic (a condition discovered only recently, and only through a paintul swelling experience; he apaintul stream and we begin picking, starting with a proposed proposed and the proposed propose

root through the greenery. The bunches are tight, making it hard to find the stem; sometimes, they surround it completely. Forcing the clippers through the mass of fruit to snip it free breaks a few skins, as does tossing the bunch into the aluminum washtub that serves as grape

"Would that get me fired at a professional

"Would that get me fired at a professional vineyard?"

"No. It depends on how long they sit. If you're a fair distance from your winery and there's partially crushed fruit, it's going to start to ferment from natural yeast, and you don't want that. But we're not far away." The win-ery, an adobe outbuilding named Bodega 1, stands at the top of the hill, built by the same hands (Madigin's) as the how of the profession of the pro-

hands (Madigan's) as the house The work is cheerful and easy we do not



face the prospect of hours spent crouching and clipping in the September heat. The bees leave us alone. Madigan asks me to try to avoid get-ting stalks and leaves into the tub. "They call that MOG — material other than grapes. They're very technical in this business," he one, they [showed me] this business, he smiles. "When they gave me the tour up at Opus One, they [showed me] this big stainless steel tray with this incredibly ornate group of pistons and things that shake the table" once the harvested fruit is placed on it. "All that [MOG] comes to the top, and they've got people re-moving it; it helps you avoid the green flavor in the wine." He also puts me on the lookout

very day

0000

° <u>Solitaine</u>

for unripe fruit. "If you see any grapes that still have that red tinge, where the grapes are not re-ally dark, don't put them in the bucket. Grenache tends to not get as dark, so if you get a little bit of ruby color, that's okay, But with a little bit of ruby color, that's okay. But with the Mourvedre, it's a concern." We do, how-ever, toss in all but the most skeletal of the bee-munched bunches, hopeful of squeezing a bit of tannin, flavor, and color out of the sur-

bit of tannin, flavor, and color out of the sur-viving skins.

Madigan's friend Justin arrives a half-hour into picking. He is 24, an employee at the Wine Bank, where Madigan worked part-time for five years. Justin is in love with wine and with

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the prospect of this harvest the prospect of this harvest, exclaiming over "clusters like udders," the ripeness of the Zin, even the leaves on the vines. "I want to make wine," he confesses. Wine has "ro-mance, history, psychology, mance, history, psychology, enology, geography. It's awe-some. Doing something like this is second to my wedding

Some of the Zinfandel bunches are riddled with hard green berries, the result of un-even ripening. "These will add even ripening. "These will add a real nasty zing to the wine," worries Madigan." Matt, see if you can pick these out. I turn to Justin. "Now you can say you've worked a crush where the fruit was hand-picked and hand-sorted. "I can say I'm a wine expert and a winemaker," rejoin Madigang doesn't take tone, and soon we are haul-

long, and soon we are haul-ing the second tub's worth of apes up to the concrete slab next to Bodega 1, there to

dump it into the second of dump it into the second of two 22-gallon white plastic screw-top containers. It is time to crush. Madigan dis-appears into the house to rouse his wife Teress for the ceremonial stomping of the grapes. She emerges a few minutes later, sleepy but obliging. He places several bunches in the now-empty bunches in the now-empty tub after carefully rinsing it

to remove bees and earwigs.

and she stomps away.

Madigan intended to crush the rest of the fruit by hand so as to obtain an ideal mix of crushed and whole mix of crushed and whole-berry fruit (allowing some fruit to ferment within its own skin can result in brighter, less tannic fruit flavors), but the thought of squeezing a bee-ridden bunch that managed to sneak into the container proves too intimidating. He fetches a couple of boards, and lust in and 1 set to work Justin and I set to work smashing the fruit. We keep

at it until only a single layer of

berries can be seen floating on top of the green jide. By now, the sun is blazing away.

After weighing the containers on an old bathroom scale—they come in around 80 and 50 pounds — Madigan adds sulfite to the mix, a light teaspoon for the larger, two-thirds of a teaspoon for the smaller. The sulfite will kill the natural yeasts on the grapes (Madigan wants the grapes (Madigan wants the nly working yeast to be the one he adds) as well as various bacteria, which might cause untoward flavors. Hot and

You may request up to three menus

DOWNTOWN

nthony's Fish Grotto-

Buffalo loc's American-

Grant Grill Continental

Hard Rock Cafe Continental ---Hollywood Star Grille American

Hollywood Sac Grille American like Joint Cale Sast Front Karl Straus Brewery & Grill Kenns R's Memphor the BRQ Length Representation of the Jahr's American Custone Midney's Yazer American Compus Gorden Sudie C Partifi Rim O'K Madrid Sparind Mediceranan Rei Do Goldo Braziliana Rei Do Goldo Braziliana Rei Do Goldo Braziliana Rei Do Goldo Braziliana Seculi Spanio et Variod Seculi Spanio et Variod State of Memorana State of Memorana

SOUTH BAY

& CORONADO

UPTOWN & NORTH PARK

NORTH COUNTY

INLAND

Anthony's Fish Grotto

D'Lish Gourmet Pizza, Salad, Pasta
D'Lish Xpress Pizza, Salad, Pasta
Galley at the Marina

Casa Sanchez Mexican ...... Cottage Cafe Polish-Russan .

Grangers & Ethiopian Cafe Ethiopian & American

Anthony's Fish Grotto-----New Wharf Bar & Restaurant

American & Oriental

San Luis Rey Downs Continental

Fish Hut Seafood -

Lotus Thai Cuisine Pizza Nova Italian

Sanfilippo's Italian Thai Foon

Caesars Cafe Greek

into the relative cool of Bodega 1. More next week. ■

### RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader's Guule to Rensurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers. Individual restaurants will appear once or twice at month. A complete searchade list at available online at San Diegolkender com.

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NORTH COASTAL

THE ARMENIAN CAFE 3126 Carisba Boulevard, Carisbad, 760-720-2233. Lo-cated in a cottage with a view sun deck, this Armenian cafe prepares authentic specialities such as gyros cooked on the premises. Best bets are breakfasts that include omelies with shish kebabs. Mu-sic and belly dancing Friday and Satur-

Low to moderate.

BARONE'S TRATTORIA DEL MARE.
2334 Carmel Valley Road. Del Mar.
858-259-9063. Pleasant interior, 27 pastas. low prices, huge portions of tasty
food make this a winner for all bargain
seckers. On weekends, try the paella,

day through Sunday, Low to moderate.

THE BRASSERIE La Costa Resort &
Spa, Costa Del Mar Road off El Carmino
Real, Carlabad, 760-438-9111, x4500.
This hotel dining room offers breakfast,
lunch, and dinner. All-you-can-eat Sunday buffet brunch with champagne is
\$32.00. Seafood buffet Friday, from 5:30

and chicken Marsala best bets. Lunch, Tuesday through Friday; dinner, Tues-day through Sunday, Low to moderate.

Expensive.

D.B. HACKERS SEAFOOD CAFE

AND GRILL 101 North Highway 101,
Encinitas, 760-456-3162. This simple
dining room is enhanced by beautiful
watercolors on the walls, and the fish
and chips are terrific. The fish (New
Zealand hoky) arrives in a golden crust.

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At the prompt press the 4-digit extension of the restaurant that interests you.





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2430

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Galoka Indian ---

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Rock Bottom America

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Chopahn Afghan Cuisine

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Ginza-Sushi Japanese -------Hard Rock Cafe Continental

Hops! Bistro & Brewery American

Hops! Bistro & Brewery American

Karl Strauss Brewery & Grill

Lila's Urban Tapas

Palomino Euro Bistro California Chin

2181

2176

### NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

MIDWAY

OLD TOWN & MISSION VALLEY

2282

2277 2264 2267

2280

2263 2275 2274

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Chiba Japanese & Sudn

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Troy's Greek Restaurant

Ginza-Sushi Japanese

Shanehai Mandarin

Try Thai Cafe

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dinner. Low to moderate. FIDEL'S CARLSBAD 303. Carlishad Boulevard. Carlsbad, 7e0-729-0903. A sister restaurant to the venerable estab-lishment in Solana Beach, the stars here are carnitass, quesadilia with chicken, beef, or pork; tostada superma; and breast of chicken Milanesa. Open daily lunch and dinner. Low.

Nuch and dinner. Low.

MILTON'S DELICATESSIN, GRILL

AND BAKERY 2660 Via de la Valle.

ROBERT STANDER STANDER

OSCAR'S 1505 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-632-0222. Here's a good place to take children or to enjoy a low-cost, unpretentious meal. The menu cost, unpretentious meal. The menu consists of pizza, barbecue chicken and ribs, sandwiches, salads. The best bet is the chicken-rib combination for two with salad in a bowl large enough for four and hot bread sticks. Fun for a ca-sual meal, Same menu lunch and dinner, continuous service. Branches in Larmel Mountain and Mission Valley Open daily, Low.

PACIFIC COAST GRILL 437 Sou Sunday brunch from the menu. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Warm, casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and din-ner. Low to expensive. RED TRACTON'S 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Truly mam-moth portions of prime rib, steak, chicken, and fish are served in lovely surroundings. Dinners come with com on the cob (when in season) or baked postores or vegetables. Salada are à la carte, but are enough for two people. Oppn disky. Expraisee.

ST. TROPEZ BREAD FACTORY 947 S. Goast Highway, Encinitas, 760-633-0084. Twenty-five varieties of bread; some French, some traditional. Many low fat, fat free; all organic. Great flavor. Excellent honey-nutty oat, brioche, foccacia, potato dill. Open daily. Low.

daily Low.

SPICES THAI CAFE 30 10 Valley Cen-tre Drive, Pazza Carmel Shopping Cen-tre Drive, Pazza Carmel Shopping Cen-tre, Del Mar Casa of Carmel Valley Sur-ner, Del Mar Casa of Carmel Valley Sur-erstaurant that, not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The sation dishers rate thighly. Among other deficacies are dusk and forglesp. Put Signers that Cafe at the top of your last. Open daily for lunch and donner. Low to mode/size.

dinner. Low to moderate.

TORREY PINIS CAFE 2334 Carmel
Valley Road, 858-259-5878. The menusample to the sister resisuariant, the
Berd Back Get, with many salidad, pastas, and clear with many salidad, pastas, and rest refer one additions,
paells and terre still new additions.

A pael pael pael properties and terre and

### NORTH INLAND

BERNARD'O RESTAURANT 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo Village Shopping Center 858-487-7171. The restaurant is elegans in food, service and ambiance. The cu-858-487-271. The restaurant is elegant in food, service and ambiance. The cusine is California French, menus change every few weeks and best lets are 18ck of lamb, filet mignon, fresh daily fish and cetme brülee. You'll have a good experience here. Lunch, Monday through Friday. Dinner. nightly. Moderate to expensive.

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**RESTAURANT & BAKERY SINCE 1984** 

BEST LATE-NIGHT NOSH!

DELICIAS 6106 Paseo Delicias, Ran-cho Santa Fe, 858-756-8000: The room is smashing and the menu offers excel-lent pastas, fresh fish, first-rate meat and chicken, gourmet pizzas. Open for din-ner nightly. Expensive.

DICRESCANDS (2) 11423 Durands and unitarity global repeats of the process of the

through Sunday. Low to moderate:

A LITTLE BIT OF GERMANY 1717.

Bast Vista May, Vista, 260-941-626.
Authentic German menu offers most of your favorites: chicken in champagne sauce, sourchraten (beef in wine-many and a succe). Whereschantzel. Hot potato saled, made on-the-premises spacial, and strudel mapor plases. Call for directions. Closed Monday. Low to moderate.

FECTION. Closed Monals; Low to MINIX JAPANES RESTAULEDATIVATION OF MINIX JAPANES RESTAULEDATIVAND SASSHI BARA WELL CLARED CARROLL CARR

156 GRAND CAFE 150 West Grand, Escondido, 760-738-6868. The new chell brings vision and expertise to the menu as well as gorgeous presentation. Best persolehol mushroom in puff pastry, crusted pork loin, steamed salmon. Romantic patio and interior. Closed Sunday, Moderate to expensive.

Sunday, Moderate to expensive.

RRAL TEXAS BBQ 6904 Miramaz

Road, SSS-566-5233. Texas barbecue
consists of meat, chicken, and links that
are smoked rather than cooked over a
fire. The room is unasformed but very
clean. Same menu lunch and dinner.
Open daily, continuous service. Low to
low moderate.

SIRINO'S 113 West Grand Avenue, Es-condido, 760-745-3835. Located whin two blocks of the California Center for the Arts, Exondido, this restaurant stays upen on Sunday when special events occur at the Art Center. Achum-istry open on Sunday when special events occur at the Art Center. Achum-istry open on Sunday when special events occur at the Art Center. Achum-istry open of Sunday and Sunday in Frenchittalian. Superb desserts. Closed Sunday and Monday (except on concert dept). Lunch, Tuesday through Friday, Jamer, Tuesday through Satur-diay. Jamer, Tuesday through Satur-

### LA JOLLA

AESOP'S TABLES 8050 Genese Avenue. Costs Verde Shopping Center, 410b. 838-455-1355. The chef at ributes of this Greek and Mediterseness restaurant are fresh food, tasty preparation, and low cost. The saled preparation and low cost. The saled preparation are sealable for takerost. Lunch, Mondre Brinogh Shartadey, Sons day, dinner only, Low to moderate.

AZUL LA JOLLA 1250 Prospect Street 858-454-9616. The unobstructed ocean 858 454-9616. The unobstructed ocean view and opulent interior are glam-orous. Cuisine is Mediterranean with California influence. Menus change daily. When available try pan-seared scallops and the outstanding asparagus soup, not duplicated anywhere. Feesh fish and seafood. Moderate to CHOPAHN 8935 Towne Center Drive 8111, Renaissance Towne Center, Golden Triangle, 858-677-0100. Lo-cated in a romantic, elegant dining room, this Afghan restaurant offers first-rate food — possibly the best Afghan menu in the city, the sure to or-

title falle most — protestiery ans over title falle most — protestiery and over der two or three appetitiers and the house specially Kabob-E-Chopahn, into blost Origo an a shewer or lands her are a good choice for vegetarian. Lowing ownership personalized service. Lunch, Monday through Friday. CRESCHY STORES GEILL, 7951. Lolis Sorre Drive, Hord La John (for-nerly Summer House Inn), 100-11, The 110 floor new car-tomatic control of the seed of the partner American food, fish, seedood, trake, thicken. Open daily hersifast cholester to expensive

FLEMING'S STEAK HOUSE AND WINE BAR 8970 University Center Lane, Aventine Complex, La Jolla East, 858-535-0078. Beautiful atmosphere, excellent service, very fine preparations. Very crowded weekends. Steaks and chops first rate. Vegetables a la carte. Open dinners only nightly. Upper moderate to expensive.

sauce, you'll have a good meal. Steel plates make food cold. The dinner for two at \$38.95 not necessarily best buy. Same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily, call for hours. Low to moderate.

THE MARINE ROOM 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla Shores, 858-459-7222. Complete redecoration, change of chefs, and extensive California and Contiand extensive California and Conti-nental ments have restored this venera-ble room to its former grandeur. About men fish dishes are available night, Buffet brunch Sunday for \$26.95. Splen-did service. Open daily. Lunch moderate, dinner expensive. ROPPONGI 875 Prospect Street, La lolla, 858-551-5252. In terms of atmos-phere and food preparation, one of the

best restaurants in La Jolla. Euro-Asian preparations offer 20 appetizers, which include stabl. Don't overfook the Thai soup, Atlantic salmom, duck confit, niçois salad. Excellent Sunday brunch but be sure to get there early to avoid a long wait. Beautiful interior; excellent service. Open daily. Moderate to expensive.

expensive.

SAMMYS CALIFORNIA WOODFIRED PIZZA 702 Pearl Street,
S86-436-522; Von heve a choice of 22 wood-fined pizzas, most with exotic toppings. Many come here just for the asids; balf orders are served for most salsids. Same menu lunch and dinner.
Continuous service Open daily DownLocation, S86-94600. Carlibad location, S86-94600. Carlibad location, S80-94600.

SANTE RISTORANTE 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The chef has added luster to every dish on chef has added luster to every dish on the mem, but mouly to the nightly fish and seafood dishes. At least 3 fresh fish are available every night along with those on the mem. Excellent chopped slad, pasts with mushrooms, ravioli with quail and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private during room. Lusch, Monday through Friday. Dimere. Monday through Starton, Control of the properties of the control work of the control of the control of the mem. Separate private Monday the Moderate to expensive.

Moderate to expensive.
SUSHI ON THE ROCK 7734 Girard
Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This
Japaneer restaurant has revisitated Gi-rard Avenue, Very cowded on week-ted because of first-rate unish har and innovative cooked dishes. Try tempura checkes the profession and combination such plates. Open daily, lunch, Monday through, Friday dinner nighty. To 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Moderate to expensive.

TRATTOBIA ACQUA 1298 Prospect Street, 858-454-0709. You'll do fine if you stay with the simplest dishes: marinated grilled chicken breast on piza dough, grilled portobello mushrooms, or past a dishes. Entrees from shores other than Italian don't fare as well. The

0 5 G SANCHEZ The HWTTEST Mexican Food

with the FINEST Ingredients! Sunday Lunch or Dinner for 2

Saturday Cerveza Brunch Champagne Brunch [2 12.95 == 10.95 == 12.95 ==

day and Tuesday - Catering Ave

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at garage below on Coast Boulevard. Open daily. Low to upper expensive.

### CLAIREMONT &

BACI RISTORANTE 1955 West Morens Boulevard, 619-275-2094 Hydrones Boulevard, 619-275-2094 Hydrodie food, consider this place a special treat. Be sure to order at least two pastas (parties of flow or more can request a condicional transplant of the order of the pasta (parties of flow or more can request a condicional traceller fried squal and the best ashappione (deseare) in the city, 3st may be more than usual First-rate service. Open Monday through Saturday-Closed Studie) Moderate to expendig

Closed Sunday Moderate to expensive.

EMBRALD CHINESE SEAFOOD

RESTAUBANT 3709 Convoy Street,

Peofic Gateway Plaza, Kearri Meta,
858-595-6888. San Diego's best Chinese
restaurant for firsh seafood and fish.

Lure fish, prawns, and lobsters are key

under. Superb dim sum, served daily, is

especially fine on Saturday and Saturday

when 100 items are available. Opton

doly, Upper moderate to expensive. HSU'S SZECHUAN CUISINE Hazard

HSU'S SZECHUAN CUISINE Hazard Village, 9350 F-G Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Kearny-Mesa, 858-279-9799. This restaurant is noted for its hot and spicy Szechuan dishes as well as for its Mandarin specialties. For Mongolian barbecue, you have a choice of beef, pork, lamb, or turkey with site-fried veg-etables (barbecue is not available Sun-Chateau Orleans Chopahn Afghan Cuisine Delilah's Mediterranean Grille day morning). Extensive menu with many unusual dishes. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Low.

KOBE MISONE 5451 Kearny Villa Road, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-7399. Es-Road, Kenny Mesa, 888-806, 7390 Esentully a Japonese steak house, this restaurant serves Japanese style ktosak, siehe by themselves or in combination with lobater, thrimgs, or scallage, Alfernian and the state of the state of

Moderate to expensive.

PRUONG TRANG 4170 Convoy

Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750.

Don't mass this excellent Vietnamese
restaurant where 232 items are offered.

The cuisine is healthy, offers great variety, and is pleasing to the eye as well as

the palate. Best bets are egg rolls, charthe palate. Best bets are egg rolls, char-grilled shrimp on sugarcane, ground-beef wrapped in grape leaves, prawn-salad, rice in rartherware pot, grilled whole fash, spring rolls. Service is swift, the food very tasty—it's low-fat and wonderful. Open daily, Low.

wonderful Open daily. Low.
SAN TONE PALEAE 6490 Convey,
Kearny Meas, 585-571-6857. This unassuming, strip and restaurant is early overlook, but once found, impossible
Chance menu Gares from the seregons
tasticat styles. Their Rainhow Saled
demonstrates this combination deliciously, and San Tong's domptling are
set expecially remarkable. For the adventurous, we recommend the pithfuls
shall, a novel user for Westerners. A
San Tong Julion, curious appetites are
research with Live.

### THE BEACHES

GUAVA BEACH BAR AND GRILL 3714 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-6688. Old-fashioned American cooking such as meat loaf with mashed potatoes and mecaroni and cheese (on children's menu) are prepared here, along with Mexican and seafood specialties. Open daily, Low to moderate.

daily, Low to moderate.

HARBOR'S EDGES Seration Harbor fi-land Resort, 1380 Harbor laland Drive (across from altegor), 619-219-2900.

The restaurant has a stuming bay vice-al formation of the control of the con-passa. For inexpensive diversion, try the Bakery (adjacent to the dining come) where sandwickes and pastries are served. Open day, breathan, launch, dinner, and Sandy brunch. Moderate

HUDSON BAY SEAFOOD 1403 Scott

## Online **Restaurant Coupons**

indicates at least one North County location.

Angelo's Free dinner
Ashoka 50% off lunch or dinner Atlantis
Bahia Cafe
Black Angus Restaurants
Blook Structure Struct Blue Crab Lunch for \$5.95 Bollicine Free dinner entrée Free appetizer S2 off breakfast or lunch Brockton Villa Restaurant Broken Yolk Cafe Buffalo Joe's 2 for 1 dinner Free baklava 50% off dinner Caesars Cafe Calvoso Café 'Canes 51 Bloody Mary Free dessert Casa Picante Casa Sanchez Free appetize 2 for 1 Cajun/Creole entrée 15% off lunch or dinner Cottage Cafe Free apple strude

Cucina fresca
llah's Mediterranean Grille
DeLuca's Cucina Italiana
DeLuca's Cucina Italiana D'Lish Xpress 1/2 off dinner

Complimentary appetizer \$2 off entrée Elephant & Castle Fish Hut Galley at the Marina
Galoka
Galoka
Ginza-Sushi
Ginza-S

Grangers & Ethiopian Cafe

© Greek Village
Hard Rock Cafe

Hard Rock Cafe Harry's Coffee Shop
Hollywood Star Grille
50% off 2nd entrée Honey's Diner Free dessert or drini Hornblower Cruises & Events | 55 off dinner or brunch cruise | lewel Box Bar & Grill | 2 for 1 menu item

Juke Joint Cafe Complimentary des La Cosa SS off large or jumbo pizza Free margarita 10% off any purchase Le's Restaurant

Lila's Urban Tapas & Bar Lips Restaurant Free tapas plate 50% off dinner \$10 off Moroccan cuisine Marrakesh

Mikko 50% off sushi 2 for 1 espresso Mirage Coffee Company Olé Madrid 50% off entrée Palomino Euro Bistro

Free appetizer
50% off dinner
54.50 pasta
Dinner for 2 \$12.99
Lunch special \$4.25 Pampas Argentine Grill Passage to India Pasta Espresso Pride of Italy Raw Mana

55 off sushi Free appetizer Lobster or steak for 2 \$49.95

Rock Bottom O Roma Mia Russia House Restaurant

Lobster or steak for 2 149.95 Free dessert 1 free Itam 2 for 1 dinner Pizza or Issagne for 2 10.49 buy 1 dinner, got 1 free 37 off Paella Valenciana Hongolian Blog dinner 18.50 514 off dinner entrie 25% off entire check 1/2-orica montier O San Luis Rey Downs Sanfilippo's Saska's O Sevilla Shanghai Shelby's

O Star of India Su Casa The Surfside Thai Chada Thai Foon

Thai Orchid Cuisine Thai Time II Restaurant O Tio Leo's

25% off entire checi
1/2-price appetizer
15% off total bill
Free egg roll order
2 for 1 dinner
Free dessert
Free dessert
20% discount for ser

\$500 with min. \$12 to purchase with coupon. Expires 10/19/00. Dine-in only. BREAKFAST SERVED ANY TIME . OPEN LATER EARLY BIRD DINNERS FROM 4.6 PM DA 535 UNIVERSITY AVE. AT 6TH . HILLCREST PHONE: (619)995-9747 - FAX: (619)995-9199 FRI & SAT. 7 AM-9 AM - SUN. 7 AM-MIDNIGHT HAPPY HOUR DRINK & FOOD SPECIALS VALIDATED PARKING AVAILABLE C-----

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6333 A 3510 Volley Center Dr. 858-350-1468

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Pattaya Lobster Sauce, Amarin Crader, Crystal Hot Pot, Sea Boat and much more. We provide you with dishes consisting of many combinations and blends of different flavors of traditional Thai cuisine with the fresh aroma of spices and herbs prepared with vexetable oil and NO MSG.

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er of Richmond St. and University Ave.)
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Yes, the 2000 "Holidaze" are right around the corner. And at Brockton Villa, w are prepared to releve you of the stess of finding gifts and stocking staffers for your teacher, office, neighbor, in-laws, hard-to-buy-for friends and lamin's Gis-them: "AN OCCASION" — ago opportungly to get out of the house, for reas and enjoy a beautiful ocean view, a meal they don't have to cook or clean up after, and best of all. 3s already paid for the staffers of after, and best of all. 3s already paid for the staffers of after, and best of all. 3s already paid for



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### Calendar RESTAURANTS

BARNES BAR-B-QUE 9725 Campo Road, Spring Valler, 619-607-3031. Bar-becus Memphis-sipe, with an empha-sia on pork sandwiches served with ange success and collaise that resembles range success and collaise that resembles in the collaise of the complex of the links, foliden, ber Firsthet, were posted links, foliden, ber Firsthet, were posted jes, and fruit collider. On Fridge 1995, and fruit collabor. On Fridge sea affective of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision of the collision of the collision of the collision of the sea of the collision o LADER'S ITALIAN-CALIFORNIAN RESTAURANT 5654 Lake Murray Boulevard, 619-463-9919. This charmbreakfast, lunch, and dinner. Low. HUMPHRRY'S 2241 Sheliver Island Drive, 919-224-3577. California constat cusine in a newly removated room with the constant of the constant of the constant prepared dishos. Note that the constant corporated the back. Among the well-perpared dishos, block. Among the well-comed crusted ship, gream cockets; par-fait. Excellent service. Open daily for preakfast, lunch, and dinner. Sunday buffet brunch. Moderate to expensive.

for each hours. Low to expensive. LY'S GARDN 6011 El Capon Boule-vard, 619-265-1885. Although the ex-tensive menu offers Chinese as well as Cambodian specials, it's best to order the Cambodian food. He sure to ask Mr. Ly for suggestions. Live crab and lobster as well as fresh oysters and shring avail-able. Open daily. Low to moderate. buffet brunch. Moderate to expensive.

JAREDYS 80: Sal Flathor Island Drive,
619-291-1028. The house specialty is
619-291-1028. The house specialty is
testa, effered in a room directly in
the harbor. Presentation, in the manner, of
Morton's, is to show you the entire
taw. Price of entire includes nothing
tier. vegetables, postores a la carte. Excellent appetizers, especially five onion
tr. First atte bread and bread pudding.
Closed Monday. Dinner only, Tuesday
through Smalley Experience. MARIO'S DE LA MESA 8425 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-461-9390 Best tamales served anywhere, excellent carne asada, sensuous enchiladas. Artive early. Always crowded. Open daily

LAMONT STREET GRILL 4445 Lam

PIZZERIA UNO 4465 Mission Boule-vard, Pacific Beach, 838-483-4143. The

ward, Pacific Brach, 838-483-4143. The menu has been expanded and you will now find lots of salads and low-calorie items as well as pizzas. The shift has been to healthier offerings which in-clude pastas with light sauces. Try it. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner, Low to low moderate.

EL AGAVE 2:04 San Diego Averue.
Old Town of 1:220-0092, has start and
form of 1:220-0092, has start and
doubt one of the best if not the best
Medicane power restaurant in the city.
No chips and salas, but requisite prepaNo chips and salas, but requisite prepaNo chips and salas, but requisite prepaNo chips and salas, but requisite preparation.
The appreciaers. Cereast stated, fish,
seafood, duck are outstanding, Besulting
Open daily, lunch and dinner. Low
moderate to expensive.

GEORGIA'S GREEK CUISINE 3550 GEORGIA'S GREEK CUISINE 3550
ROSCERAS SIERCE, GOOVERON SQUARE
Center, 619-523-1007. This small, immaculate Greek restaurant serves food
that will please anyone on a budget.
Lunch is an especially good buy. All entrées, as well as sandwiches and appetizers, are prepared for takeout. Open
daily for lunch and dinner. Low to low
moderate.

moderate.

OLD TOWN MEXICAN CAPE 2489

San Diego Avenue, Old Town,
619-297-4330. This boisterous cafe is
noted for its excellent breakfast, served
from opening to closing. Try also the
rotisserie-rosated chicken, the carnitas,
or the fajitas. Open daily. Low to

EAST COUNTY & STATE COLLEGE

LAMONT STREET GRILL 4451 Lamon mistreet, Pacific Roads, 98-27-05. Seleg the entries that cost \$11.95 to Seleg the entries that cost \$11.95 to post, vegrables, and fresh froit posts on choosales. This restaurant boasts or real fireplace in the heated outdoor patin. It's really romaints. Uninervolve patin fir seally romaints. Uninervolve patin fir seally romaints. Uninervolve patin fire realization services re-gional dashes from Puebla, Guerrero, None Leehand Betrauc City. The Book Campus Plaza, 619-229-9050. You will find this Thai restaurant as charming as its owner. The menu is extensive, the service attentive. Try the spicy seafood combination or the Chinese specialises. Name Leon, and Mesiso City. The food is quite spier, so if you prefer fewer chiles, say so before ordering. Low-cost its meaning the control streng, show the first probability of the control streng, showed open with the interest, shredded pork with stausage interest, shredded pork with stausage preparation of sun-dend beef and regulation, and chile refillent opposed with fight and chile refillent opposed with girls at the cooking, at a not to be missed. Open daily, lunch Turedday through Sunday, dunner nightly Low to moderate.

dinner only. Low to low moderate.

SUNNY GARDEN CUISINE OF
CHINA 5500 Grossmont Center Drive.

In Meas 619 464 2288. This neighborhood restaurant (formerly Chang) of
free 18 chicken preparations at low cost.
plus dised chicken in letture cups and
moded chicken in letture cups and
moded disches in long cogno aurroundings. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Low
to moderate.

sigh. Upen usary, miret a trait district, some indicates.

In indi

### OLD TOWN & MISSION VALLEY SAN DIEGO

ANTIQUE ROW CAFE 3002 Adams ANTIQUE ROW CAFE 3002 Adams Avenue, 619-282-9750. Breakfast, served all day, offers at least 30 items. These include a variety of omelets, eggs Benedict or Florentine, egg burritos, and biscuits and gravy. One portion is enough for two. Dinner offers burgers, Philly steaks. Indoor and outdoor seat-

CHICKEN PIE SHOP OF SAN DIBGO

rific Cpm daly, Low.

MAMA'S BAEETA AND EBANNESS
DELI 4237 Alabama, North Park,
419-688-077. This informal little
restaurati is more interested in quality
restaurati is more interested in quality
reclaims to word. Mama's affert
quark mask with a cullinary reduction,
definitely may "fast flood," but with as a
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### UPTOWN

BREAD AND CIE 350 University Avenue. Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. Twelvivarieties of bread are baked daily in a 10,000-pound French stone hearth BUSALACCHI'S RISTORANTE 368

Moderate to expressive.

CAFE ON PARK 381 Park Boulevard.
Flark and University. 16:P-283-725.
Gigantic portions and good food make this a standout for people with large appetites and dilm purses. Be aware the their ear long waits on weekends for breakfast and lunch (served simulation-outly) and dinner. The place seat 40, or moderate.

Comfort 560d. It's home-typic rather than slick. Open daily. Low to low moderate.

CITY DELICATESSEN 535 Universi

200 nm. Friday and Saturday Low. CREST CAFE 28: Robinson Avenue. 619-265-2510. Onion nugs served in a folia, homemade potato chips, chicken, steak, pasta, and a variety of extra-lean charbrouled hamburgers, plus the con-tinuous service from breakfast to lare inglik keep this cafe crowded. Bereakfast omdets particularly good. Deserts are homemade. Noisy and high spirited, this cafe is open daily, breakfast, lunch, and dinner: Low.

EL INDIO SHOP 3695 India Stree

GEATO VIEW CATES 3753 Inches Services of CEATO VIEW CATES 3755 Inches Services of Minches Services of Minches Services of Minches on Conference Services of Minches and Conference Services of Minches and Conference Services of Minches and Conference Services of Minches Services Serv

5:00 p.m. Moderate to expensive.

LIASBON 220 Fourth Avenue (Fourth and Ity), 6:19-234-5540. This French restaurates with its rosansite stemosphere offers an a la carte means and fixed-price meals. Pleasant food, excellent service. Paties dining, weather permitting. Cosed Mondey, Open Tuesdey through Sunday for dinner. Low moderate to expensive.

MALTESE RISTRO AND BAR 4015
Goldfinch, Mission Hills, 619-290-2028.
At present the menu offers items from
Spain, Italy, Morecco, Tunisia — a littie of this and that. Food fresh, casual
atmosphere, nice bar, and outdoor seatsing, Good preparation. Closed Monday,
Good preparation, Closed Monday,
Sunday brunch, Low to moderate.

Sunday brunch. Low to moderate.

PRADO House of Hospitality, Balboa
Park, 619-557-9441. There's finally
something decent to eat in Balboa Park,
10-7800, situated on the edge of a caryon,
10-090 to nature unlike any other
restaurant in the city. They offer Mexition" fare, succeeding with their more
fare, succeeding with their more
cophisticated disher musels in broth,
ahi cocktail, crab cakes, pitachio
constellard, of fareh and 19-hese treak

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• CUCINA•ITALIANA• Served 9 am-2 pm IIVE JAZZ The Nia Jazz



ith a bordelaise and toasted cumin. hese preparations reveal a kitchen that sinks with its palate. Prado's clever— restsurant that's amusing enough for ourists with kids and sophisticated 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, 858-459-3921.

SAFFRON NOODLES AND SATE 3737 India Street, 619-574-7737. Casual

3737 India Street, 619-574-7737. Cassal Thai food, noodle dishes, soups, saté (grilled chicken, beef, pork) to eat in or take out. Best bet chicken noodle soup and curry served Wednesday only. Gor-geous art work. Open daily, same menu all day. Low.

TERMA 1270 Gleveland Aversus (cor-ner of Vermont, one block north of University). Hillers, 619-289-780. This handsome Hillersi restaurant server American contains that it com-without head of the contained that it may be a superior of the contained that it that the contained that it contained that it for the contained that it is that it is a superior to the contained that it is the contained that it is a superior to the contained that it is that it is a superior to the contained that it is a superior to the contained that it is a superior to the contained that it is that it is a superior to the contained that it is a superior to the that is a superior to the contained that it is a superior to the contained that it is that it is a superior to the contained that it is a superior t

DOWNTOWN

BUCA DI BEPPO 705 Sixth Avenue

6/9-23-7272. Family-style, southern trainar dining room seats 305 people. Food is simple (one sauce fits all), portions buge and restaurant is child- and tecnager-friendly. Go for plain fun, but not for gourner dinner. Metaballs and spagheti best bet. Open daily. Nightly for dinner; Saturday, 400 pm. to midnight; Sunday, noon to 10:50 p.m. Low to moderate.

to moderate.

THE CRESSE SHOP 401 G Street,
619-232-2303. This cafe offers ourse
grously good sandwiches of which my
favorties are the Black Forest ham and
the roast pork. Muffins and cookies are
baked on the premises. Paper plates for
food but real mugs for coffee and tea.
Open daily: Low. Branch in La Jolla,

Shores, 838–459-3921.

CREVE 538 Fourth Avenuer, downstown, 619-222-4683. This downstown host spot a sleek, stark, dramatic, a retainant of state, stark, dramatic, a retainant of stark, and carabbens influenced and succeeds the stamosphere. We found the astimen and pork ones bucco outstand the astimen and succeeds the astimosphere. We found the astimen and the

all day, Low.
TASTE OF SEZECHUAN NO University
Avenue, Fillicrest, 619-291-1668. The
Amaderia Sextosum memo offers standards with few surprises. But the three
test features are the lovely room, the
astonishing friendliness of the management, and the late hours. The Peking
dack is excellent and so is the chopped
chicken in lettrace cups. If you have favoirit dailses they will be prepared upon
request in advance. Open daily, Low to ented, if a little any and uneven.
THE FIELD IRISH PUB AND
BESTAURANT 344 Fifth Avenue,
Geslamp District, 619-223-9806. Every
bit of the interior was sent from Ireland
or recreate a country frish pub. Try the
boxtry, (postao pancakes filled with eggs
and sausage), fish and chips, Irish sha.
Great for breakfast Saturday and Sun,
Music and dancing Stundey 500
0 9:00 p.m. Bring kiddies. Low to low
moderate.

moderate.
FIO'S 80. Fifth Avenue (corner of F
Street), 619-234-3467. An entirely new
menu characterizer that releasant,
which now employed residuation,
the pizza of in no not provided that and sedood.
The pizza of in no not provided that the
wey past deliber are sure to please your
palote. Open for dinner, nightly,
Moderate to expensive.

Moderate to expensive.

GRANT GBILL U.S. Grant Hotel, 326
Broadway, 619-239-6806. As always,
this restaurant serves quality meat in a
traditional room that uses tableside
service. Best best are spinch shadd, lobster paella, shrimp-and-scallop risotto,
and, of course, the mixed grill. Open
daily, Breakfast, lunch, and brunch,
moderate. Dimner, expensive.

moderate. Dinner, expensive.
LAEL'S RENZUEANT Hyatt Regency.
Hotel, One Market Street,
19-887-8066. All-you-can-eaf fishand-seafood buffer, Inday nights only.
600 to 9-00 pm., \$21:95. All you-caneat prime rib buffet, Thursday night,
\$18.95. Wednedday night, all you-caneat Italian buffet for \$14.95. Worth trying for lovers of buffets.

ing for lovers of buffers.

LA FROVENCE 708 Fourth Avenue,
Caslamp District, 619-344-6661.The
new owner has redecorated and upgraded the menu to Southern French
coulet, Fisherman's caserole, rack of
lamb, and frog legs. Separate disting
possible for the proposition of the proposition of proving partner specially
most port private partner specially
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most possible partner specially
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OCTOPUS GARDEN 314 Fifth Ave-

619-233-1653. Not to be missed

618-233-1653. Not to be missed lepares and Commented preparations. Suppris solid and subfinite unique has been contained as the contained by t

and distant. Moderate to expensive THE PARROY GRAIL ROS Uses to Ace to. Galating Quarter, 619-521-9981. In Innomines take most Dimore is served to the control of the through Settorday a light ment (send-victes, saides, appetruer, deserroit is exitable to 200 a.m. Food in Fordian, most from appetruer, deserroit in exitable to 200 a.m. Food in Fordian, most from appetruers, deserroit in exitable to 200 a.m. Food in Fordian, most from appetruers, deserroit in exitable to 200 a.m. Food in Fordian, most from appetruers, deserroit in the control of the through Saturday. Upper moderate RAINWATER'S IDS. Kenner Books I.

RAINWATER'S 1202 Kettner Boule-vard, 619-233-5757. Though this at-tractive restaurant is noted for its fine steaks and chops, the live Maine lobster and fresh fish (especially the salmon in parchiment) are outstanding here. For

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and diamer. Low to expensive.

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Best bets are spinach saled, fresh eat bass or ahi, chicken breast with potato lasagne. Contemporary atmosphere, ex-cellent service. Bar serves 50 types of martinis. Open nightly, dinner only. Moderate to expensive.

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Of the 26 entrants, 10 were correct. The winners are: 1. Rosy Goldberg, El Cajon 2. Wisteld Martynowicz, San Diego 3. Matt Dulley, San Diego 4. Janice Hughes, Olsowskow, Ont. 5. M. Lugdowski, San Diego

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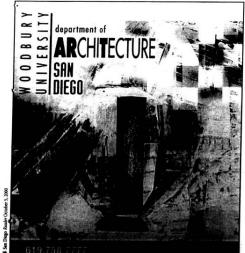
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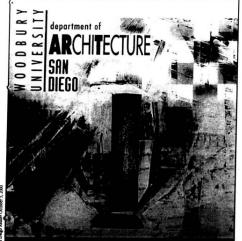
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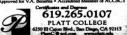
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#### Call 1-900-844-6282

\$1.99/minute [18+ only]. No cordless or cell phones. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating

Outside San Diego County \$1.99/minute [18+ only]

# READER MATCHES ADS!

Use your credit card No 900# access? If your phone is blocked or if you would simply prefer having Matches charges on your credit card, this option is for you. Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to you Visa MasterCard, Discover or American Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours

No refunds. You may also purchase time

at our office with cash or check only

MATCHES

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

# Send an e-mail

Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an "anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also

SanDiegoReader.com From this page, simply click on the "Matches" link.

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READER MATCHES, the best place to meet San Diego singles! You'll receive

a free personal matching ad in the Reader Classifieds and on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com. You'll also receive a free "voice mailbox" that allows you to record and receive messages from a touch tone phone.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD: To place a free ad, fill out the coupon below and mail or fax it (619-233-7907) to us. (If faxing, please photocopy the coupon first.) The deadline for submitting your free ad is Saturday at 7 am. Free ads are not accepted over the phone or in person. We'll send you a 5-digit mailbox number (printed in your ad) and a 4-digit security code for exclusive access to your responses.

# **NEW!** E-MAIL **RESPONSES TO YOUR**

You may place a late ad until 6 pm Tuesday by phone (619-235-8200), in our office (1703 India St. at Date St., downtown), or by fax (619-233-7907). The charge for these late ads is \$20 for the first 25 words plus \$1.20 per additional word. By phone or by fax you may use Visa, Master-Card or Discover only.

#### HOW TO USE YOUR VOICE MAILBOX:

After you receive your mailbox number and private security code, you can record your personal introduction and listen to your responses. Call (619) 881-2000, 24 hours a day, and follow the easy instructions. You must have a touchtone phone. Cordless and cellular phones are not recommended.

QUESTIONS? Call (619) 235-8200,

MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

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Card number

Expiration date

Signature

# MEET YOUR MATCH! Use the form below to place your FREE, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your FREE Voice Mailbox.

TO PURCHASE AN OPTIONAL HEADLINE, use the lines below, keeping in mind the following: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized:
abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is \$12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary; no more than 10 lines. Please print clearly.

San Diego, CA 92186 Face (619) 233-7907  LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday (Must include \$20 service fee.) Pere (619) 233-7907 Flowers (619) 235-8200  Walli-lin: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown  The control of the		Signature NEW! Now you ca	n also receive e-mail responses! Simply	No cancellatio	ns. No refunds. Make check or mo
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☐ Woman seeking a man

☐ Man seeking a woman

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address will not be revealed.)

E-mail:

Choose One:

☐ Shared interests

SAN DIEGO READER MATCHES PRESENTS EVENTS AND PARTIES FOR

# **INGLES!**



# Meet the Ghoul of Your Dreams!

Ready to do the Monster Mash? You'll have plenty of opportunity when The Big Idea takes the stage! Enjoy our tricks and treats and place a FREE 50-word Matches ad. tricks and freats and proce or FRET. 50-word Matches ad. Our special freat to you: Be one of the first 50 'people' to arrive with your ad already written and you'll receive or REE 10 minute block of calling sime to answer ads \$17.50 value). Other prizes will be awarded for best costumes! Only \$5 for this scarp both!



THE BIG IDEA



TO MAKE RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL OUR 24-HOUR RESERVATION LINE AT 619.235.8200 x266.

Everyone who attends will receive a free 50-word Reader Matches ad (\$30 value).

American Company (1971) Company (197

TP 23648

Your 6'2"+, 34-44, very, very attractive financially secure, physically fit professional. Me. 5'11'. 120bs, very, very attractive, financially secure, model type Won't be sorry. (10/18) 127/23617 beston in whereasty street, where from the control of the control

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# **READER MATCHES ADS!** Use your credit card

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\$1.99/minute [18+ only]. No cordless or cell phones. Call and enter the number at the introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating Questions? 619-235-8200 x268

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The 30+ Singles Parties!

NEW FACES-FREE!

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Classes in San Diego & North County Tuesday or Thursday from 7-10 pm. \$29 at door • \$19 prepaid • Andiotape \$4.95 \$\psi\$ date-american 1-888-438-DATE \$\psi\$

ERNIE POOK'S COMEEK

new Stranger THERE'S A PLACE ACROSS MIM-FORD WHICH IS AS FAR FROM THE CANNERY AS A PERSON CAN GET



JANET JIMMERS TAUGHT MAY-HAS TRIED THE MAGAZINE



PLAYING THINGS ON A GUITZ AND SMOKING, GIRS SMOKING JANET JIMMES, MAYBONNE SMOKING, IN THE LAST DAYS OF SUMMER THE TEENAGERS DRAG, TRYING TO STOP TIME, ACROSS MUM-

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by Lynda Barry ©2000

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APPRICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF

50% 1st hr. admission of with ad or copy. (exp. oct. 6) **FRIDAY** 



Radisson Mission Valley SOUTH OF 18 @ 163

B PM TILL ABOUT 1 AM
DJ Kenny spine "PARTY MIX"
("bld school" techno, hip-hop & Latin) REGULAR ADMISSION: ONLY 8

InfoLine: 619/596-9777 SanDiegoSinglesSociety.net

LADIES' NIGHT Wednesday, October 11 Ladles: FREE admission 7-8 pm wednesday nights



DOUBLETREE HOTEL
MISSION VALLEY
SO COVER\* PREE PARKING
HUNGRY HOUR: 5 - 7 PM \*ENLOY CMAX'S GREAT SUFFET FOR \$5
THEN STAY FOR THE PARTY FOR
FREE
Daily Drivit Specials All Night

WILD FAM DIGOS 925 Fabulous 2 PARTYI WEEKEND PARTYI PARTY! EVERY WED. EVERY THURS. EVERY SAL. LADIES 1/2 OFF Mr.O's ACAPUICO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O ST ADM. 53 early ada. before 5 pm 65 eds. 5 pm till closing 7 olital Dis up to 300 angles 7 state describer two bar fill 7 pm 7 cannot from read safety 760-S-I-N-Q-L-E-S www.SanDiegoSinglesParties.com

# Debra pronounced them Husband and Wife.

Before Doug met Lauri, Debra stated these prophetic words, "I know the woman who'd be the perfect wife for you. Together, you'd make a great couple." If months later, Doug and Lauri were honeymooning in the Caribbean. Debra's introductions have resulted in

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#### Use your credit card Send an e-mail

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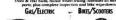
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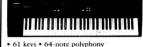
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Someone screams, "WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!" And I know that it is me.

Park, New Jersey, in the middle of Jan-uary, hands thrust into my black, greaser, three-quarter-length coat, sleet raking three-quarter-length coat, sleet raking sidewise through a gunnetal sky. My breath lingered for a second in front of my face and then was whipped inland with the sleet, but not before provid-ing a soft-focus lens for the hellish clown face at the end of the deserted clown face at the end of the deserted boardwalk. It seemed 50 feet high, topped with the words FUN HOUSE, its nose a sun-bleached and wind-rav-aged red, a color repeated by a once-crimson ring around its lips; ten gal-lons of faded blood paint smeared by winters of decadence and summers devouring children. It seemed I was the only soul for miles and the clown

I seemed alone again in the darkness this Friday night, though I could hear the screams of those restrained hear the screams of those restrained and confined as lws. It was pitch black, the only sounds: metal grinding on metal like the chewing of some vast automaton and the roaring of some lell-bound train. My spine was being wracked sideways, then back, my neck whipping brutally unto suddern, unnatural movements that brought sharp boartes, incomprehenable glibertah. I tensed the presence once again of that long-ago winter clown — as I

of that long-ago winter clown — as I had come to think of him.

The first day of autumn. The first The first day of autumn. The first inght, Friday night at Bellomort Park. The garish chain lighting from the Big Dipper roller coaster and the chemical paste fluorescence from the Tilt-a-whirl for "Spin-and-Hurl" as the attendants and security guard call it) stain the troubled cloud cover overhead like a subliminal, visual preview of the

Christmas horror to come. Indecisive winds whin off of the ocean un from Men ico and down from the north carrying urban spells from Los Angeles streets, the curses of Baja curanderos and the ghosts of drowned men at sea. Rain spat-ters in fits, dampening the last-ditch pilgrims clutching at a die-hard memory

of summer.

The roller coaster emerges from the track's mouth of darkness and climbs toward the sah and neon sky. The clouds are coal and filthy cotton. Passing at the top, a brief reprivent. Furn in my seat at the very front car and see a half-dozen passengers behind me, their faces manic masks of gley. It is spot a presence among them, a block man neither young nor old, gray in its beard, calm in his eyes. Next to him is a beautful woman with a whimscal folded hat. She is smilling up into the sky. In the space of there heartheas to before the plunge, I know they presence is protective, shammatistic. Nonetheless, as we hurten to made appropriate after homeone screams, WEFR & ALL CONNA DIE! And I know that it is me.

The ride lasts an eternity, its nauseous and wrenching disregard for human

The ride lasts an eternity, its nauseous and werenching disregard for human life signals the onset of days of Ben-Gav, nighto of fifful sleep.

On the ground, walking past a smattering of families, necking teenagers, or rowing bands of feral youth seeking mischief, I see two boys portion over the wares of a merchant selling tiny figurines to be strung together like beads. The boys are I oan 49, they tell me, and are intent on the little skulls, soldiers, and animals on display. Joined by their mother, she helps them select items for what night be a talismanic necklace. Soon a man, weaving and reeking of beer, joins under the control of the woman, announces himself as "her lover," and is ignored by the mother woman, announces himself as "her lover," the state of the state of

I move away and thank him, my tape recorder now full of his self-indulgent madness.

A girl named Rachel, 11, seated eating ice cream, says of the roller coaster, "It was kind of slow compared to other roller coasters I've bean on."

"Not really, I'm not a big fan of roller coasters."

Her eight-year-old sister, Sarz, however, "I, hought it was really cool. I was really scared at the top 'cause my dad said once it broke down at the top and it was stuck. So I was scared, but then it was fin." I wanted to chuck Dad lightly on the shoulder and say, "Way to go, Pop. Reep' em terrified."

The merry-go round is still and harabyl illuminated, its kacquered parthers and tigers, horses and mately snarling beasts seem somehow more animated himself, the still real particular still really in the still real particular size of them to some fine the coaster of them to work of them about his experience and he fixes me with a dizzy, possessed look, "I wet my pants," he said grinning proudly, then indicating his friend he added, "and I got a boner when he touched me." He ran off into the parking lot cackling.



E.I. Wilson and Renet Smith

I see the couple I had noticed during our ride. I approach them. The man's men is EI. Wilson. He is a poet, a philosopher, and musician. The woman he is with is Renet Seinth. 'It wann't deep enough,' he says of the Dipper,' I used to cut school in junior high and go to the roller coaster on the boardwalk of San Francisco Beech. You used to go into this log lital dy junghin.' It was considered to the same of the clown in Asbury Park. Renet says the last time she was on a roller coaster was with EI. Jan dher kids, two and a half years ago in Santa Cruz. She recalls it was "a traumatic experience." E. adds that "there is one in Hershey, Pennsylvania, that is the ultimate rolle

coaster.\*

I have a sudden image of E.J. traveling around the country riding roller coasters with Renet, keeping children safe like the catcher in the rpe. "You're poet?" Lask. "Can you give me an example!" as poet?" Lask. "Can you give me an example!" as poet of lask. "I happen / Say what you gotta say to make it right? Cuz when you feel good inside bout what you say and do / Nobody can take that peace of mind from you/ Don't let the changes of life get you down! / You see, it's time for new beginnings, tole the old endings go! It's time for you to see the real Deauty list to show / Always look up, you never look back / Cuz there's a brighter day up what you want / Take what you can get / You make cut with what you have/ what you want / Take what you can get / You make out with what you have / but then you hold what you got / Above all, don't let the changes of life get you

down.
"That's what I live by," E.J. Wilson says. "That's what God give me." And then he and Reneé walk off into the amusement park, unmindful of the Winter Clown...or the Fat Lady.

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# **BestBuvs**

-EVE KELLY

Mom was always on the lookout for stacks of firewood by the side of the read. Times of the read that the state of the s

Our home was heated by a cast-iron stove. Dad would rise early on winter stove. Dad would rise early on mornings to spark up the fire. Within an hour, the living room would be the one toasty room in the house. On a recent chilly morning here in San Diego, as I pulled out a sweater untouched some April, I thought, time to start pricing fire-wood.

Dukes, the owner of Califor-nia Firewood, located on Campo Road, behind the Rucker Equipment building. What are hardwoods, and why are they called that?

"They are named hardwoods because

"For every one cord of oak. you will go through two cords of a softwood."

they are harder and they will burn hotter and longer, \* answered Dukes. \*Oak is one of your harder woods and one of your heavier woods. Mesquite is also a hardwood, like oak, but it is kind of hard to get here in San Diego; you find it mainly in Texas. Eucalyptus is a there is a lot of it in South-

ern California. It burns
very clean if its dry, but
if it hasn't been dried
long enough then it
is a little sappy and
people often don't want
to use it. Softwoods are like
pine and avocado."

What do you recommend to your customers, to buy the cheaper or the more expensive woods?
"It often depends on what peo

ple like to burn," answered Dukes
"There are a lot of people who take noth I ing less than oak. Many people use wood for heating their houses and they only use hardwood. We have a lot of clients in Jamul who use wood stoves and they use oak or euca lyptus, but mainly oak. I tell my customers tha

for every one cord of oak, they will go through two cords of a softwood. So the hardwood is mere efficient. Right now we are selling oak for \$285 for a cord. Eucalyptus \$195 for a cord, pine is \$175 for a cord, and a mixed cord of oak and pine is \$240." Where do you get your wood from? "Bight now the oak is comine all the

Right now the oak is coming all the way from about Sacramento," continued Dukes. "Most years, by now, we've

had a sale on it, but we were able to get it from Mexico, Julian, or Santa Ysabel, Right now, there is no oak here in Southern California, s

Southern California, so most of the oak wood is coming all the way from Sacramento."

My father loves maple wood for its smell. Are there vast differences in the odors of woods? "There are definitely ferent smells from

"There are definitely different smells from wood," smiled Dukes. "Oak smells lighter and when you cook with oak, it has a beautiful flavor. I sell a lot of oak to restaurants who use it for their

"Pine wood costs more," said the man at Olson Firewood, "because you get the pine [\$275 a cord] smell from it. That is why it sts more than the avocado (\$195 a cord

costs more than the avocado [\$195 a cord].
But if you're looking to get a lot of heat out
of it, stay away from the soft woods."
How much is your mesquite wood,
"Mesquite is pretty expensive wood," he
continued, "so I wouldn't recommend buy-

pay extreme trucking costs to get the wood here. Mesquite costs \$435 a cord. If it's just for home use, I'd recommend eucalyptus. It's \$275 delivered for your area, and it puts out the same heat and lasts just as long as mesquite or oak; it is a very good wood. We have an addi-tional stacking fee of \$49 on a full cord." The lady at Buds Firewood in El Cajon

also praised the eucalyptus wood. "I've beer burning eucalyptus for 30 years," she answered "I have a small stove that has a small area for "I have a small stove that has a small area for the ash and when I burn oak, it always leaves a whole lot of ash and then I'm cleaning my freplace out every other day. When I burn eusa-lyptus, I can have a fire every night and into the day for three weeks without emptying the ash container. It burns very clean." Buds Firewood sells eusa-lyptus for \$210 a cord. A \$950 mis of oak and eusa-

Buds Firewood sells sucs.

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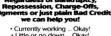


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BY ANNE ALBRIGHT

# After Much Pushing and Screaming on My Part

couldn't wait to have Benjamin, Thirty-six weeks into a 40-week pregnancy, my belly measured full term. At my belly measured full term. At my OB appointment that week, I lay down on the examining table while my doctor stretched a paper tape measure from my pubic bone up, up across the great expanse of my belly to where my uterus ended directly below my sternum.

"Hmm," he murmured. He probed the white flesh with his ands. "You're measuring pretty big." I pulled down my shirt, and my doctor helped me sit up. "It could just be a big baby." He paused. "Or you could have a lot of amniotic fluid. That might

indicate the baby is having some problems swal-lowing." He scribbled a note on my chart. "Why don't you go see Dr. G. I send my high-risk patients to him. He has a really good sonogram machine. He'll be able to tell us if there are any

Two days later, lying on a small, white table in a dimly lit examining room, I watched the black-and-white video screen while Dr. G. rubbed a plastic wand through the conducting jelly he'd squirted on my belly. "You do have a lot of fluid," he said, "That's

You do have a hot of fluid." he said. "That's the dark area up here at the top. But that could just be because the baby is large. A big baby is going to process a lot of fluid and excrete it as urine. Here's the head." Dr. G. showed me the abdomen. Let's see how large the baby's measuring.

abdomen, Let's see how' large the baby's measuring."

For, G. used a cursor to trace the circumference of the baby's abdomen on the screen. He chicked the computer mouse. A number flashed in the corner of the screen. "Wel, see, it's off the charts." He pushed in a few more numbers. "Eight most whe baby weight eight and a half pounds. If you go to term, you're looking at over 10 curred up the lights. "Think this baby's fine."

The next week, my doctor looked over.

The next week, my doctor looked over.

The next week, my doctor looked over Dr. G.'s notes. "He thinks you have a big baby," he said. "A big baby." He counted off the remaining three weeks of my pregnancy on a wall cal-endar. "If you haven't had the baby by here"—

he pointed to the Sunday of my 39th week — "we'll go ahead and induce. That way you can make arrangements for your kids and have every-

last in a labor and delivery room at Mary Birch Hospital for Women. I'd spent the day doing laun-dry, straightening the house, making lists and notes for my husband, Jack, and babysitter Becky. At 7:30, Jack and I kissed Rebecca, Angela, Lucy ACT-30, Jack and I kissed Rebecca, Angela, Lucy, and Johnny good-bye. Tomorrow after school, you can come to the hospital and see the baby." I told the girls. Johnny snuggled next to Becky on the couch. "We'll call you from the hospital and let you know the room number once we're

and let you know the room number once we're settled," lack told Becky.

Driving through the dark down 1-15, I felt an occasional half-hearted contraction, lack broke the silence. If feeth werd, he said, "going to the hospital without any sense of urgency. Your water hasn't broken. You're not in labor. Not like the other times."

"I keep worzning they're poing to say.

"I keep worrying they're going to say,
'You're not ready,' and send me home."

Mary Birch seemed oddly deserted when

Mary birch seemed oddiy deserted when we arrived. Nurses wandered the halls and chatted in small groups. When I'd changed into a light-blue hospital gown and been hooked up to an IV, my doctor strolled into the room. He

to an IV, my doctor strolled into the room, rie gave me a hug. "You ready?" At 9:30, the attending nurse, Julie, clicked on a machine that added pitocin to my IV. Pitocin is the hormone that brings on labor.

For the first hour or two, I felt contractions every now and again. Jack and I watched the Olympics on TV. Julie periodically increased the amount of pitocin. By midnight, my contractions were hard and regular. I breathed through them. Jack dozed on a hide-a-bed beside me. I heard women go into the rooms on either side of mine, have babies, and leave.

I kept breathing. At 3:30, the anaesthesiologist came in and A 13.9. the anaesthesiologist came in and gave mea negliural to block the pain. At 43.9, I felt like I wanted to push the baby out. Julie examined me. Yonge, "she said, "You fe fully dilated, but the baby's head isn't down yet. There's a high bubble of anniotic fluid between the baby's head and your cervit. We need to wait until the baby's head drops."

For the next two hours i resisted the irresistible urge to push every minute or two as each contraction washed over me. Finally, at "It's time to have a baby," he said. He broke my water. The baby's head dropped. Fifere minutes later, after much pushing and

teen minutes later, after much pushing and screaming on my part, Benjamin Michael slid into the world. Julie wiped him off and laid him on my chest. "Get a scale in here," she told another nurse. "I want to see how much this gu

weighs."

When Julie set Benjamin on the scale, she paused for a moment. "Ten pounds, one she announced.

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# Reader's

"The Best of San Diego" winners, as chosen by our readers......

# San Diego Reader's Best 2000 Staff

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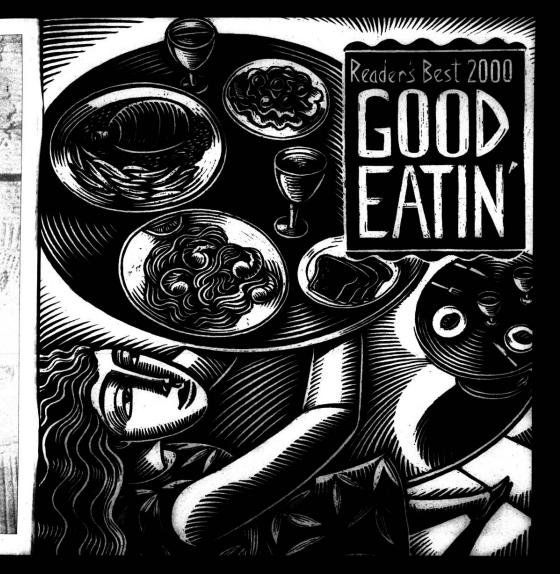
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#### BEST NEW RESTAURANT Bertrand at Mister A's

2550 Fifth Avenue, 12th floor, Park West (619) 239-1377

The full name is Bertrand at Mister A's, and because of the president's recent visit, the restaurant has been catapulted to instant fame. The renovated 12thfloor premises are elegant, subtle, luxurious without being intimidating. You have a choice of views, an outdoor terrace for cocktails, and a private dining room adds to the amenities. The appe tizers range from lobster salad to foie gras, and the entrées include Dover sole, salmon, steak, and rack of lamb. Cuisine may be defined as American with French and Mediterranean influences. Portions are small but exquisite. The owner, Bertrand Hug, who also operates Mille Fleurs, is the consummate host, guiding you through the premises as well as the menu. It's not inexpensive to eat there; appetizers are \$12 to \$22, entrées \$21 to \$45. But it's an experience to dine amidst such luxury surrounded by the so-called beautiful people. Try Bertrand at Mister A's for lunch. It's less costly and a grand way to spend an afternoon

#### BEST PLACE TO WAIT IN LINE FOR SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Kono's 704 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach (858) 483-1669

By 10:00 a.m. the queue stretches out to the middle of the street. But Garnet Avenue ends here, at Crystal Pier, so there's little danger of being hit by a car while you're waiting to order one of the four varieties of egg burritos. Nonmotorized traffic - joggers, strollers, bicyclists, skaters — stream by, an endless diversion, while thick hical smells of bacon, onions, fried potatoes, and sizzling French toast provide reassurance that the wait is worth it. Afterward, when eater's remorse sets in this is the perfect spot to walk it off. Heading south, there's boardwalk for a good two and a half miles, all the way to the Mission Bay Channel. For variety, you can meander back along the bay.

#### BEST PLACE FOR HAWAIIAN FOOD

Da Kine's Plate Lunches 4120 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach (858) 274-8494 1635 Sweetwater Road, Suite H, National City (619) 477-8494

For a real Kalua pig, you have to cook it imu style — in the ground. Half an hour a pound. You need to split open bananatree stumps and put them in the hole with leaves of the ti-tree so their liquids all provide steam. And you need wood from the Kiawe tree to give flavor, as well as natural Hawaiian rock salt and porous rocks that won't explode in the heat. On the other hand, you could just go to Da Kine's. This is the Hawaiian place that Nelson and Belen Ishii started in Pacific Beach and then National City to cater to San Diego's Hawaiian community. Any time of day, they're crowded with homesick Hawaiians who crave the taste of Kalua pig, Portuguese sausage and eggs. or a traditional plate of mahi mahi grilled over an open fire with lemon and green onions. "This food is exactly what we'd eat back home," says Marie, who works behind the counter, "except back there, everybody would be eating outside."

Marie says things are relaxed like at home too. Sundays, the daily special is Lau-Lau with poi — pork with fish wrapped in taro leaves and slow-roasted in the oven. Saturday, it's a surprise. The menu says, "I'll figgah it out wen I get up, okay?"

# BEST DELI LUNCH

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad (760) 438-2620

When Big John decided to become a boxer back in East Germany, he became an Olympic heavyweight. When he decided to become a butcher, he got a master's degree in butchering. When he came to America, he decided to create the best German-style deli he could give America. And at his deli in Carlsbad, Tip Top Meats, you're just not allowed to leave hungry. A \$3.98 breakfast of two eggs, home-fried potatoes, and toast includes all you can eat of his own smokehouse bacon, or pork link sausage, bratwurst, or ham. No limits. Overstuffed lunch plates like "braised short ribs served with mashed potatoes and gravy, green salad or soup, and red-cabbage, sauerkraut, or broccoli" cost \$6.98. You can buy a raw steak from the meat department and have





# Good Fatin

them cook it right there. But what everybody says is the "must-cat" is the end-ofweek prime rib roast. "A massive portion of prime rib, served with mashed potatoes and gravy, baked potato or french fries, red cabbage, sauerkraut, or broccoli, soup or salad, and a dimer roll," for \$7.98. This garlisky, sausagey, cabbagey generous place has been Carlsbad's secret too long.

# BEST BARBECUE The Barbecue Pit 2888 University Avenue.

North Park (619) 298-2400 2388 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon (619) 462-5434 920 East Plaza Boulevard, National City (619)262-0331 727 Center Drive, San Marcos (760) 432-0177

Say "barbecue" and people think of sauce — sauce, after all, is what gets advertised. Sauce is important, even crucial, the glamorous finishing touch that may propel a barbecue chef to glory. But all that style is nothing without substance. In the case of barbecue, it's the meat that carries the day, and the thick, tender slices of ham or beef that fill up the middle of a Barbecue Pit sandwich border on carnivorous perfection. The sandwich runs \$2.99; spend an extra \$2.20 (E.S in E.Cajon and \$1.50 in San Marcos) and order extra meat—it's worth it. The sauce is light in taste and texture compared to some, but it's not oversweet. More than anything, it provides a delicate backdrop to the meaty matter at hand—and a fine dip for your french fries.

#### **BEST COLLEGE FOOD**

West Terrace Cafe West Commons, San Diego State University Campanile Drive (619) 594-7635

terias and college food halls on any "Best" list. And these days most campuses have a scattering of fast-food franchiese and call it a day at that. And, let's face it, a bunch of broke students? Distracted profs? Basic burgerites or vernal vegans? But at SDSU's West Commons, they not only give you a \$6.99 deal, they give the greatest gift of all

Granted, it's a stretch putting school cafe-

a guarantee to overstuff you with the evening's fare. Chicken, casserole, or man icotti were on the menu one recent evening (pick one). On the other hand, you can come back like Oliver Twist and ask for more — and pick what you didn't have first time around. Have as many sides as you like — brown rice, carrots, corn — soups such as chicken and rice, and extras like baked potatoes with host back and a such as tramisu, apple-raisin tart, upside-down princapple cake.

# BEST OLD-STYLE CHINESE EATERY

Pekin Restaurant 2877 University Avenue, North Park (619) 295-2610

You know it's old from the way they spel the name. "Pekin," not Telijing." Not even "Pekin," North Parkians probably don't even notice it, it's been here so long But if you come after dark, the big red "Chop Suey" sign and the wooden lattice-work and the green tile Chinese root and the red columns all speak 1930s loud and the red columns all speak 1930s loud and clear. Jennifer, at the counter, asys her

grandfather came from Canton at the age of 27 and set up business on this spot in 1931. He's still here, 96 years old, "Only changes came after a fire in 1945," says her Auntie Anna. "Before that we had private cubicles, old Chinese style." Even minus the private cubicles, you feel like you're in a colorized 1930 film-noir. The circle-glass swing doors, the rows of big-cushioned red booths, the mother-of-pearl pictures of misty Ming palaces, the hanging lanterns with translucent pictures of songbirds, the five-foot fans on the walls, the shouts in Chinese from the kitchen: it feels like old China. And so much less antiseptic than many newer Chinese restaurants. Auntie Anna even uses an old-fashioned cart to roll meals up to the customers on her aisle. "It worked for grandfather," she says, "Why change?"

#### BEST PANCAKE JOINT IN TOWN

The Family House of Pancakes 562 Broadway, Chula Vista (619) 425-5133

Thirty-six years ago, Mrs. Spizzano arrived from Italy with her husband and family and started this modest restaurant with one aim. "I'm not here to make

Just because life is full of compromises, doesn't mean you have to eat at one.





#### **BEST DECK DINING**

Fletcher Cove Cafe 106 South Sierra Avenue, Solana Beach (858) 259-7866

Ulys Miller thought he was buying a restaurant with inside and outside dining. He got it half right. There's no inside, Keep your eyes peeled: Fletcher Cove Cafe has a little sign at the tiny entrance. Mosey down the passage, past the kitchen, and suddenly you're on a red-timber deck with tables,

**Big Shot** 

# BEST RESTAURANT FOR A SPECIAL NIGHT OUT

Mary Pappas, owner of Athens Market restaurant in the Gaslamp Quarter: There are two of them in San Diego, not only because their food is wonderful but because it's healthy and it never bothers me: California Cuisine and the Fontainebleau in the Westgate Hotel. California Cuisine has the best of the best food in this whole city. Chris Walsh is the greatest their in San Diego. He reminds me of chefs in the South of France and he's maybe even better. For ambiance, the Fontainebleau Room is very similar to the Louis XV room at the Hotel de Paris in Monte Carlo. It's gorgeous, it's upscale, the people are great there.

Charles Kaufman, former horror film director, owner of Bread & Cie bakery in Hillcrest: That would be Tapanade. The food is terrific, the bread is fantastic, and the atmosphere is sophisticated, and French, and romantic. All of the fish dishes are

Don Bacigalupi, director of the San Diego Museum of Art: I'd say Roppongi in La Jolla. Hove the atmosphere, the presentation, and the food. It's kind of bustling but intimate at the same time, which is hard to pull off. The decor is quite lovely in an understated way. The food is always sensitively and spectacialry prepared.

Chuck Valverde, resident sage at Wahrenbrock's Book House, downtown: Red Salis Inn on Shelter Island. It's an old establishment, happens to be located right where the San Diego river used to enter the bay, It's a nautical-themed place, and you can tie your yacht right up to the back dock and walk in past the lobster pit and have yourself a nice glass of wine and a great dinner.

LOPEN NANCEFFOW, weather anchor and environmental reporter, Channel 10: I would say Samurai in Solana Beach. It's a really good sushi bar that's been around for many years. It's very large for a sushi bar, not terribly upscale, though sushi is never cheap. It's a happening place, and it has that atmosphere of sitting at a bar, meeting other people.

**Greg Cook**, *Magic 102.5 cohost*: I would say George's at the Cove. I was there one night when the sunset was so incredible that people gave it a round of applause.

Chris. Cantore, 91% cohor: Ono Sushi in Hillcrest. It was started by two local gays. One of the pays went to San Diego State. Scott, who owns the place, built it from dirt up. He even crafted all the furniture himself. He's a local Mission Beach guy done good. His first place was Longboards, right down on Mission Boaleward. Then he oppend the place in Hillcrest and is competing with all the big looys. It's between cassual and upscale. Vou can make it as ince night, or you can roll in in smalls. That's what I like about the place. It's the best sushi in town, but it's very important that you have Scott or Paul cut your for

CATOL LeBeaus, newscatter, Channel 10. Kemo Sabe in Hallcreet. It's kind of Asian fusion, and I think it's wonderful. It's comfortably upscale, not the least bit stuffy. And the combinations of cooking styles and flavors they've come up with is so unique. They'll have a chicken dish, and they will somethow weave a fried banana into it along with mango salsa...just the wildest, most fun combinations of flavors.

Jung Ho Palk, conductor, San Diego Sympheny: Vignola, on Sixth Avenue, downtown. The chef is ribrice Foigin and the Maltre D' in his wife, Margaer. It is a beautiful, elegant little French restaurant with a gorgeous mahogany bar rumored to have once belonged to Joan Crawford. The atmiosphere is instinate. The wait staff is a perfect balance between friendly, knowledgebble, and invisible. It's a great place to bring your paramour or suprone you want to pamper just a bit. The food is lighter than traditional Fernech fare and always electable. At least once thing I've had each time I've gone has redefined food for me, and I'm a hard sell. Last time it was figs.

plants, giant palm tree, a big wall-size menu, and a full view out over the ocean. Ulys, a toolmaker from Connecticut, and his wife Leslie have run the place since they bought it "on impulse" last year. Best time: sunset. Best choices: rasta chicken salad (with romaine, jerk chicken, scallions, potatoes, and pineapple) for \$5.50. All-day breakfast (two eggs, two bacon or sausage, potatoes, and toast) for \$4.75. Quarter-

pound "cove burgers" for \$4.25, and best of all, fish and chips: Three pieces of fish, lots of fries, big pot of fartar sauce, and a proper bottle of Premium Malt Ale Fish'n Chips Vinegar, \$5.50. A

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# MOST SEDUCTIVE ONLINE LUNCH MENUS

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, **University Heights** (619) 298-8440

adamsavenuegrill@home.com

If the written word can seduce, prepare to get laid. The weekly e-mail come-on from the Adam's Avenue Grill is up there in evocative-land with the J. Peterman catalog. Each edition starts with cozy family chat re: staff and art exhibits: "A hearty welcome to our newest manager, Tania Doggett. After 11 years of hotel-restaurant experience in England, we have the

pleasure of her charming accent and quick wit." Then the actual dishes have you drooling over your mouse pad: "Spicy Red Pork and Bean Chili. Pork shoulder is browned and simmered in beef broth, a cup of fresh brewed coffee, Red Turtle beans, fennel, red onions, garlic, cumin, cayenne, and fresh jalapeños; served with honey-sweetened corn

mash...\$12.95. Great when balanced with an Arrogant Bastard Ale...\$3.50 a pint." Or: "Leek & Mushroom Soba Noodles with Tofu Blocks: Japanese miso broth infuses sautéed leeks, shallots, ginger, garlic, and crushed red pepper, then seasoned with five spice, lite soy, and rice wine Served with simmered spinach and fresh soba noodles...\$10.95 Balanced beautifully with Thornton Viognier...\$6.25 a glass." If only they could e-mail the actual dishes.



Hare Krishna Temple 1030 Grand Avenue, (858) 483-0941

Hare Krishnas throw these free party-like vegetarian feasts at their P.B. temple because they want you on their home turf. Guys in bare feet and sarongs with knotted ponytails on their otherwise bald skulls don't look nearly so avoidable when they're all around you, giving you free grub. And it is a breathtaking temple, with hand-painted and sculpted walls and pillars and some of the most inspired religious paintings in San Diego hanging on its walls. The biggest tenplus course feast and best dinner theater (chanting. singing) happens each Sunday at 7:30 p.m. You don't have to chant or join to eat the excellent chow. Here's a sampling: batterfried veggies (broccoli, cauliflower); zucchini fritters; curried potatoes; peas and spinach in ghee sauce;





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Mission Valley



Local Lobster Season Starts October 4!



# Good Eatin

halavah; lentils and rice; stewed tomatoes; rice pudding.

# BEST RESTAURANT FOR ROMANCE

The Sky Room La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla (858) 454-0771

A restaurant is romantic if it offers privacy, a setting that's conducive to romance, and service that's attentive but unobtrusive. The Sky Room at La Valencia Hotel meets all of these criteria. The room on the tenth floor holds 12 tables, each with an unobstructed, 270-degree view of the ocean. If you want a window table, be sure to ask for it. Tell the maître d' when making the reservation if the special occasion is a marriage proposal, an anniversary, a birthday. Each will bring with it a dessert appropriate for the occasion. Should you prefer some special food preparation, mention it. The room boasts a small terrace where you may drink champagne as the sun sets. To make special arrangements, call ahead and ask for Fernando Rodriguez.



#### **BEST UPSCALE PRIVATE DINING** ROOM

Pamplemousse Grill 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach (858) 792-9090

In the early 1900s, private dining rooms were the rage for romantic evenings. All this came to an end after World War I. Now, private dining rooms are in demand again for festive occasions. Few are more sought after than the one at Pamplemousse

> 858.539.7635 At the Bahia Resort Hotel 998 West Mission Bay Drive

Grill. Reservations must be made well in advance, and the room, which seats up to 50, won't dwarf a party of 20. The Pamplemousse Grill's dining room is occupied three or four times a week. Among its other amenities are special gold-and-ochre plates, an antique armoire, a mirrored wall, and a 20-foot painting depicting cows to underline the theme of French provincial food. The menu is devised for each group based on requests You may bring in your own entertainment. Service is always impeccable.

#### **BEST IN-KITCHEN** DINING

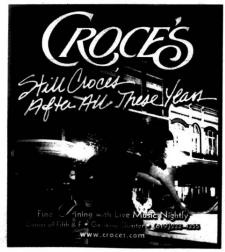
Chef's Table in Sally's Kitchen Sally's Restaurant, Hyatt Regency Hotel. One Market Place, Downtown (619) 687-6080

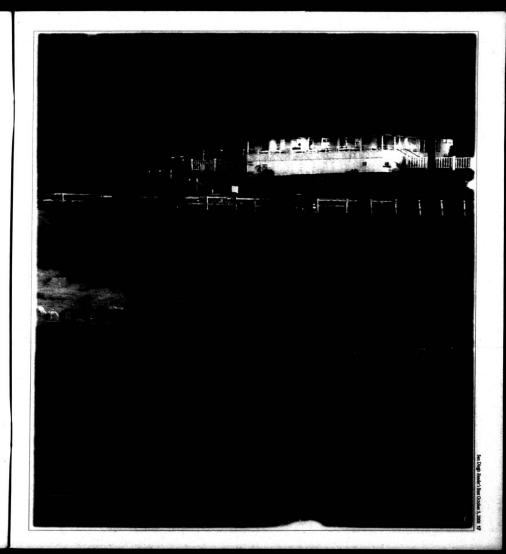
Dining at Sally's private kitchen has little to do with Norman Rockwell paintings and less with homespun American food. Glass-enclosed and seating only 6 to 12 people, it offers a five-course meal starting at \$65, which does not include tax, tip, or wine. Considering the high quality of the food, the variety of the dishes, the excellence of the preparation, and the entire experience. the evening for your family and friends is a bargain. Though menus vary according to individual taste, the meal often begins with Sally's seafood selection, a platter of cold lobster, crab legs, oysters, clams, mussels, and shrimp with a trio of three sauces. This is followed by a choice of soup, either butternut squash topped with Maryland blue lump crab and caramelized pecans, or chilled gazpacho garnished with shrimp. Two entrées are served. The fish course may be the swordfish or salmon with caviar buerre blanc, and the meat may be stuffed tenderloin or



Buy one entrée and get the second one\* FREE - Plus a bottle of wine







# Good Eatin

pecan-crusted rack of lamb. Dessert onsists of Sally's sampler, two or three kinds of crème brûlée, lava cake, and fried banana. For prenuptial dinners, this can't be beat. Advance reservations are required.

# BEST APPETIZER LIST

Roppongi 875 Prospect Street, La Jolla (858) 551-5252

What could be more delectable than to make a meal from small amounts of different tastes and textures that never tire your palate? Roppongi defines itself as Asian

Fusion, which means that it offers dishes from China, Japan, Korea, and Indonesia Its appetizer list, called Asian Tapas, is the best in the city, 27 items, enough to keep you enchanted for nights on end. Among its offerings are barbecued mini lamb chops in hoisin sauce; beef satay; spicy Kung Pao calamari steaks; Chinese pot stickers filled with shrimp and scallops;

Indonesian tiger shrimp skewers; Mongolian shredded duck quesadilla; seared ahi and crab napolean; crispy buttermilk onion rings; dumplings with chicken and porcini mushrooms; house-smoked salmon roll with cucumber, cream cheese, and avocado. A half-dozen vegetarian items are designated with stars on the menu. The restaurant setting is also enchanting,

though it tends to get very noisy when crowded. Arrive early to avoid waiting for a

#### **BEST FUSION**

Octopus Garden 314 Fifth Avenue Downtown (619) 233-1653

For those food adventurers in restless search for the new and the stimulating. Octopus Garden, a Japanese and Continental restaurant, is just the ticket. The accomplished chef. Taka Satate (formerly with Taka Restaurant), has opened arestaurant where the food is as sophisticated as the surroundings. An expert at preparing sushi and sashimi, which are unique as well as gorgeous, he is also a French saucier. This means that if you order either the fish or meat dishes, or even the special eel roll, they are accompanied by a delicate French sauce. The hot appe tizer list is especially appealing with its softshell crab with mango salsa, monkfish marinated in cognac, or Cajun king crab legs. Octopus Garden has facilities for large parties; the ser vice is impeccable, and the desserts are continental.

**BEST FAMILY** 

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# RESTAURANT Those who live in southeast Restaurant, which describes erican," is located there.



# Good Eatin'

But this family restaurant is worth the drive no matter where you reside. Tomatoes serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner, is open daily from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and not only gives you lots of good taste and flavor, but lots of food for your dollar. Top price for a dinner entrée with soup or salad is \$12.95 for salmon. Breakfast omelets are an especially good buy, served with choice of potatoes, fried green tomatoes, hush puppies, plus choice of biscuit, English muffin, or toast (\$6.95 and \$7.95). Sandwiches — the most popular are meatloaf melt with cheddar cheese, mahi-mahi filet, and a true vegetarian gar den burger - are also available. Homestyle entrées include meatloaf, liver and onions, corned beef and cabbage.

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There's also soup served in an edible bread bowl, pastas, seafood, and chicken dishes. Best of all is the atmosphere - very loving with personal service.

# BEST ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SEAFOOD

Torreyana Grille Hilton La Jolla, 10950 North Torrey Pines Road. La Jolla (858) 558-1500

There are other all-you-can-eat seafood buffets offered around the city, but none can compare to Torreyana's preparation, presentations, and quality. There are cold salads, many with seafood; three or four types of fish; shrimp and scallops; crab

legs that are fresh, not frozen; a variety of vegetables; occasionally sushi and sashimi Menus change weekly, so it's impossible to list specific fish dishes. There's also a carving station with beef, pork, chicken. For \$11 more than the fixed price (\$28.95), you may have a 11/2 pound fresh lobster. The setting is elegant, and an adjoining full bar will provide you with any wine or cocktail you desire. The experience, Friday nights only, is memorable

#### **BEST LOUNGE**

Four Seasons Lobby Lounge Four Seasons Resort, Aviara, 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad (760) 603-6800

If you're searching for an inexpensive retreat or a destination point for your guests, don't overlook the Lobby Lounge at the Four Seasons Hotel in Carlsbad. It overlooks the Batiquitos Lagoon with the Pacific in the distance, and the floral arrangements are stunning. Everywhere vou cast your eyes - on the walls, on tables, in the corners of the rooms, you will see works of art. Vases, paintings, sculptures that will fascinate you. Traditional English tea is served daily from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and offers finger andwiches, pastries, and scones with Devonshire cream. (Forget the calories! You will work them off walking around the grounds.) A harpist plays at tea time. From 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. and to midnight Thursday to Saturday, you may enjoy champagne, wine, imported beers, every manner of drink that a full bar can offer The appetizer list includes such tasty snacks as assorted breads with spinach



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# Good Eatin

artichoke spread, roasted chicken quesadillas, and miniature pizzas. Music and live entertainment starts at 5:00 p.m. and may be provided by a piano player, guitarist, or various combos. Do make

# BEST PLACE TO TAKE RICH AUNT AGATHA TO LUNCH

Gourmet Delicatessen in the Westgate 1055 Second Avenue, Downtown (619) 557-3698

Place reeks of gentility. Your feet sink into deep pink carpets, chandeliers clank above you, you sit on gold-braided chairs at tables covered by flowery linen tablecloths. surrounded by specialty olive oils and expensive wines, giant potted palms and well-heeled little old ladies complaining about the burns on the street outside. But guess what? You can feed the old gal for five bucks with things like Hawaiian chicken salad or Greek salad. Best bet: home made soup du jour with half-sandwich (and they're big), \$4.75.

#### **BEST PIZZA**

Sorrentino's Pizza and Deli 4726 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Clairemont (858) 483-1811

In 1979, New York restaurateurs Victor and Vita Sorrentino moved to San Diego and opened Sorrentino's a year later. Why Pizza? "I'm Neapolitan," answers Victor, and Neepolitans make pizzas in their homes daily." The yeast dough is prepared twice daily, and the pizzas are baked when the dough is at its peak, otherwise it loses its elasticity. For a treat, try the summer vegetarian pizza. It features pesto sauce topped with fontina cheese, crimini mushrooms, roasted peppers, broccoli, walnuts, and mozzarella. The Sicilian pizza is twice raised (which makes the crust thick) and overed with fresh tomatoes, parmesan and mozzarella. It's a current by-the-slice best seller. All pizzas are available to go or

#### BEST CALIFORNIA CUISINE

Napa Valley Grille 502 Horton Plaza, Downtown (619) 238-5440

Napa Valley Grille has its own wine bar. two outdoor patios, a private dining room, and a large central dining room. Restaurants come and go in this plaza, but Napa Valley Grille caught on imme diately. Among the tempting dishes pre pared there are the Harvest Platter with grilled radicchio wrapped in pancetta; risotto with shrimp and scallops, which is large enough for an entrée; goatcheese ravioli topped with grilled slices of chicken; monkfish with beans; filet mignon with scrambled eggs. Or, you may have a salad and skip to the desserts: pear galette; mixed fresh berries presented in a martini glass; and their goat-cheese cheesecake, which can accommodate two.

#### **BEST OPEN-24-HOURS-A-DAY** RESTAURANT Tyler's Taste of Texas

576 North Second Street El Cajon (619) 444-9295 7868 El Cajon Boulevard, La Mesa (619) 466-9295

Tyler's Taste of Texas is a haven for insomniacs and those who dream of "Oinker" pork sandwiches, which are so huge you can hardly sink your teeth into them. The Texas breakfast (available at anytime) offers ham, sausage, bacon, three eggs, biscuits, gravy, hash browns, and muffins for \$8.95. Eat the entire breakfast, and you won't need more food for another 24 hours! Tyler's is noted for its barbecued short ribs. barbecued chicken, and BBQ sandwich es. Their pies are famous, but they fly out the door so quickly that your best bet is to special-order.

#### **BEST CHINESE** SEAFOOD

Lucky Star Chinese Seafood Restaurant 3893 54th Street, Rolando (619) 229-8228

For those of you who are mourning the loss of the Golden Star Chinese Seafood Restaurant in Hillcrest, take heart. The family has moved to a large site in East San Diego. It's not as cozy as the original, but the menu offers a wide variety of fish and seafood that compensates for the vast dining hall. Among the best hets are the lobster salad (call in advance to order), prepared with a secret sauce; one-and-a-half pound



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#### BEST HOTEL DESSERTS

The Dining Room at L'Auberge Del Mar 1540 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar (858) 259-1515

Unless you're staying at the hotel, you don't feel comfortable walking in and ordering dessert only. One hotel that not only welcomes you but encourages desserts only diners is L'Auberge in Del Mar. You can walk around downtown Del Mar and then come into the "Dining Boom" — the name of the resturant — for dessert, served until 9:00 p.m. Every night executive chef Tom Atkins prepares a half-dozen desserts. There's a fresh fruit cobbler; a

flourless chocolate cake; a variety of sorbets; and best of all, fresh butterscotch pudding served in a tall glass and topped with whipped cream.

#### BEST GOURMET AFGHAN CUISINE Chopahn Authentic Afghan

Cuisine 8935 Towne Centre Drive, University City (858) 677-0100

Located in the corner of a small shopping mall is a beautiful Afghan restaurant. In its food preparation as well as its physical surroundings it is one of the hidden treasures of this city. The dinner menu is several pages, and you may make a meal from the enticing appetizers: aushak, steamed dumplings filled with leeks, topped with meat sauce and vogurt; fried pastries filled with ground beef and chick peas; bulanee, turnovers stuffed with ground beef, potatoes, and herbs; and batter-dipped sautéed potatoes covered with meat sauce. The soup, called aush, and filled with noodles and vegetables, is a meal in itself. Chopahn specializes in lamb in the form of kabobs, but the most appealing is the lamb chop loin, marinated in herbs and served with howend basmit rice. Or select the combination kabob with lamb and chicken dinner for two, which includes wine and dessert (baklava pastry or pudding with almonds), for \$39.95. Exciting meals for vegetarians include pumpkin with yogurt, eggplant, cauliflower, and spinach and rice dishes.

#### BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR DOG FOR LUNCH

Cafe Zinc 132 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach (858) 793-5436

Of course, the pooch should be a little sophisticated. Preferably an Afghan. Even better, two Afghans on a leather leash. We're talking Cedrox Design District here. Solana Beach, But as long as they resist the temptation to lift their legs against the Mercedes or Suburbans parked beyond the low stone wall, or to race inside the converted house that is the Cade Zinc, all mutts are welcome. The best part of the place is right outside, under the pepper trees and climbing roses and white umbrellas. The table legs are havy enough to anchor

any leash; they're made of rusty iron. And their cavernous undersides seem to be made to let sleeping dogs lie. The restaurant is clearly conscious of the possibility; in the middle of the garden stands a sculpture of a dog on its hind legs tipping over a table with a coffeepot on top. Turns out it's a fountain. And for all its North County cool, the place is nice and cheep. Around \$5 to \$7 for breakfast. Bring your own dog bowl for scrass or water.

#### BEST ITALIAN SEAFOOD

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino del Mar, Del Mar (858) 509-9293

The owner, Giorgio, spent a year in Italy studying seafood preparation. The menu offers antipasti, soup, risotto dishes, 9 salads, 15 varieties of pasta, 10 entrées. The problem is not what to eat but how to limit yourself, You can't afford to miss the eupertu di gamberoni, a stew of langostino and rock shrimp in a fresh tomato broth. Or start with the beara-and-pasta soup and advance to warm spinach salad with walnuts and apples. The gnocchi (potato dumplings) are made on the premises

# Palomino... An experience for the palate, the eyes and the soul.



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eat with your head.

# Good Eatin

and dissolve in your mouth, although the ravioli stuffed with smoked salmon may prove the highlight of your meal. Roasted sea scallops and tiger shrimp over penne pasta is mouthwatering, but if you can go on eating, don't overlook the roasted rack of lamb. The interior seats 30, but the heated patio is equally attractive. Arrive early to avoid a wait. Especially in the summer, lines form

#### BEST MURDER AND A MEAL

The Mystery Cafe Imperial House Restaurant. 505 Kalmia Street, Park West (619) 544-1600

Since 1990, comic murder mysteries and delicious four-course meals have been served up every weekend by the suspects themselves at this popular restaurant. More interactive than anything on a computer terminal, patrons participate in the dastardly doings and ask questions as the evening progresses before being invited to guess whodunit About \$50 will cover dinner and the

show, but tips and drinks are extra. Vegetarian and special diets are happily accommodated.

#### **BEST VEGETARIAN** RESTAURANT

Jyoti Bihanga 3351 Adams Avenue Normal Heights (619) 282-4116

The eastern Indian influence is low-key in this plainly decorated Normal Heights eatery, where meat is murder and tofu is the ingredient of choice in many dinners and entrées. Photos hang on the wall showing a spiritual swami who demonstrates the power of his will by lifting a trailerload of weights. A different curried dish is offered every few days, along with garden burritos, rotating soup selection, and a Saturday all-vou-can-eat brunch. Entrée and din ner prices range from \$5 to \$12.

#### BEST ALICE-STYLE DINER

Rudford's 2900 El Cajon Boulevard. North Park (619) 282-8423

It was a sad day for greasy-spoon lovers when Topsy's diner near Hillcrest closed last summer and its campy '60s Vegas-style marquee fell to the wrecking ball. Luckily, up the street, Rudford's remains open 24 hours a day with its own retro chrome-and-vinyl decor and testy truckstop waitresses. The all-American menu of artery-clogging and fat-filled diner food includes grilled tuna and cheese (\$5.25), specialty burgers (from \$5.50), chicken-fried steaks with coun try gravy (\$6.55 lunch/\$7.55 dinner). and assorted pies, pudding, and ice

#### **BEST SOUP-AND-**SALAD BUFFET

Souplantation 9158 Fletcher Parkway, La Mesa (619) 462-4232

Though this budget chain of all-youcan-eateries has closed several San Diego locations, its surviving outlets are entrenched in their respective neighborhoods and always filled to capacity for dinner. The La Mesa branch is one of the few that some

tarian chili soup, as well as the usual bottomless salad bar, freshly prepared pasta, baked potatoes, and muffins. Lunch and dinner, \$6.69 and \$7.99.

# BEST SOUTH BAY CHINESE RESTAURANT

386 East H Street, Chula Vista (619) 585-1111 Only in San Diego County would a

Chinese restaurant's signature dish be served Mexican-style. China China, in the Terra Nova Plaza, looks like just another shopping-mall restaurant from the outside, but the ambience inside is peaceful and serene. They have a long menu with several unique specials, but the one you shouldn't miss is the Mandarin Basket (\$12.95). which consists of shrimp, chicken, and eef stir-fried with vegetables in a garlic gravy and served in an edible tor tilla basket. The meats are chunky and plentiful, and they're generous with the garlic. Make sure to eat the basket - it soaks up all the best gravy! The dinner includes their homemade fried rice, egg rolls, and a wonton soup



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Owners and proprietors John and Paula Freatas opened the first Pasta Pronto on Via De La Valle 13 years ago and have enjoyed a flow of regulars. Now a second location in Solana Beach offers more of the same. Eating there is like being at home, cooked for and served by a talent ed family member. The fare includes pasta dishes and salads such as farfalle

d beef tenderloin tossed ort wine. Patrons can stas with sauces such as pesto. Breakfast id omelet specials. The spherry, and peach nto's glory. Pasta e tarts to order for spece range, \$7 to \$10, tarts

iHi

Bay Drive.

imp and vegetable tem ipe of the items - a oval of carrot — and quality of the still-hot precision of the kitchen. nder of the will: whatev

er \$40 worth of sashimi will bring. First out, two small pieces of cooked salmon sweet and fatty, sitting in a little pool of broth, tiny strips of ginger and lime mix ing with the taste of shallots - cool and lelightful. Then the platter: two long strips of salmon resting on scent-lending lime wedges, four squares of tuna, four strips of mackerel. (If you are the sort

who judges a sushi restaurant by either its tuna or its salmon, you may enjoy the debate as to which is superior.) On one side, a hollowed-out lemon rind holding two chewy, briny giant clams, and on top of them, two rich, buttery sea urchins. In the center, their noses pointed toward the ceiling, two large shrimp heads, their just removed, still-pulsing tails a few inches away. The shrimp meat is gelatinous and delicate in flavor. Shortly after the empty platter is removed, the shrimp heads make a second appearance — cooked now, and yielding intense sweetness

# BEST JAMAICAN

Fargo's Bar-B-Q/Jamaican Cuising 6171 Imperial Avenue, Encanto (619) 262-0201

It's in a drab row of shops against a clay cliff with a trailer park on top. Inside, with the spicy meaty smells and the huge brick and iron fire pit, is Jacinth Williams lacinth says he was a friend of Bob Marley's and of just about all the "royal ty" from the island whose name amaica — means "hibiscus flower." Ask for national dishes like curried goat and vam (\$7.50 for a "small" serving, \$9.50 for a large). Or the "jerk chicken," which



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# Good Eatin

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Rudford's 2900 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park (619) 282-8423

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On any day of the week, you can get a cup of strong, steaming Yorkshire tea served in a real china tea service and combined with cucumber sandwiches miniature pastries, and tiny scones with jam and Devonshire cream. Other offer ings include fish and chips, bangers and mash, cheese and onion pie. Victoria Station also houses a British pub and serves thick yeasty brews. A wee shop attached to the restaurant sells imported chocolates and sponge cake. Open seven days a week, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Price range: \$4 to \$10.

## AND FRUIT TARTS Cafe Pasta Pronto

117 West Plaza, Solana Beach (858) 481-0634 2673 Via De La Valle, Del Mar (858) 481-6017

Owners and proprietors John and Paula Freatas opened the first Pasta Pronto on Via De La Valle 13 years ago and have enjoyed a flow of regulars. Now a second location in Solana Beach offers more of the same. Eating there is like being at home, cooked for and served by a talent ed family member. The fare includes pasta dishes and salads such as farfalle

salad with tuna and beef tenderloin tossed with penne and port wine. Patrons can mix and match pastas with sauces such as fresh tomato and pesto. Breakfast includes quiche and omelet specials. The mango, papaya, raspberry, and peach tarts are Pasta Pronto's glory. Pasta Pronto will prepare tarts to order for spe cial occasions. Price range, \$7 to \$10, tarts \$22 each.

#### **BEST SUSHI**

Sushi Ota 4529 Mission Bay Drive, Pacific Beach (858) 270-5670

Begin with the shrimp and vegetable tempura. Both the shape of the items - a long, symmetrical oval of carrot - and the close, clinging quality of the still-hot batter hint at the precision of the kitchen. After that, a surrender of the will: whatev er \$40 worth of sashimi will bring. First out, two small pieces of cooked salmon, sweet and fatty, sitting in a little pool of broth, tiny strips of ginger and lime mix ing with the taste of shallots - cool and delightful. Then the platter: two long strips of salmon resting on scent-lending lime wedges, four squares of tuna, four strips of mackerel. (If you are the sort

who judges a sushi restaurant by either its tuna or its salmon, you may enjoy the debate as to which is superior.) On one side, a hollowed-out lemon rind holding two chewy, briny giant clams, and on top of them, two rich, buttery sea urchins. In the center, their noses pointed toward the ceiling, two large shrimp heads, their just removed, still-pulsing tails a few inches away. The shrimp meat is gelatinous and delicate in flavor. Shortly after the empty platter is removed, the shrimp heads make a second appearance - cooked now, and yielding intense sweetness.

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1271 Prospect Street, La Jolla

Proprietor Charles Adams has carved a

candy store and stocked it with interest

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cheeses and vegetable paté, a pan-seared

foie gras, or a roasted half chicken accom-

panied by cellar offerings from France.

Italy, Australia, or Napa Valley, Wines

can be ordered by the taste, glass, bottle.

or flight and start at \$3. Dinner entrées

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# BEST PLACE TO EAT WITH YOUR COUNTY SUPERVISOR

Greg's Corner County Administration Building, Fourth floor. 1600 Pacific Highway, Downtown (619) 233-9605

Everything is politically correct (muted mustard colors, rattan walls) and you're surrounded by rumple-suited buck-

The BEST

**Spinach** 

**Enchiladas** 

in Town!

passers. But the view is great and the food is, well, good. Every day's a differ ent entrée. Dishes such as honey BBQ pork chops, fried chicken in crab sauce, pasta primavera, chicken fajitas. All with two sides, all \$3.75, the highest price on the menu. Greg's opens at six in the morning. You can come up and get coffee and a \$2.49 two-egg breakfast, read your paper, and watch the sun rise. Remember, this is your building. You pay for it. You pay everybody who looks so important here. Don't be intimidated by the guards and important-looking people. Stride straight through to the elevator and hit 4

#### **BEST COUNTRY** MEAL

RD's Log Cabin 26650 San Felipe Road, Warner Springs (760) 782-2782

Best time to find RD's is at night. But it's lonely. The Great Southern Overland Stage Route of 1849 was likely way busier 150 years ago. As Ronnie Swainn the owner says, "everybody hauling west to this part of California used to come by right outside this door. The Indian trails, the Butterfield Stage, the gold prospectors, even soldiers in the Civil War. This was the I-5 of the wagon era." No more. Now the sounds are covotes and owls. So you feel relieved when you see a tin shack glowing there in the night under ghostly live oaks. And next to it, a lighted door and the sign "RD's Log Cabin." The menu is simple but, like the stagecoach passengers, you're grateful for anything at this point. Ask Ronnie about his hot steaming peset beans, a Diegueño Indian dish. "They're a great pick-me-up," he says. "You can live on these for weeks." The rest of the menu is basic, but generous. Cheeseburger, with fries or onion rings, \$6.50, hamburger around \$5, a Log Cabin Chili, \$5. Ronnie sometimes organizes concerts out back, under the live oaks. Otherwise, get him going about local characters. Mention "Shoot-Em-Up" Ted. That should take care of the evening right there.

#### BEST-DRESSED THAI EXPERIENCE

Swaddee Restaurant

1001 C Avenue (at Tenth and C), (619) 435-8110

The waitresses whisk around in elegant ankle-length pha sin - scarlet, indigo,

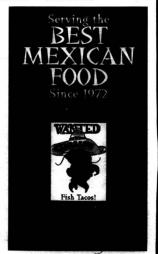
blue, green, saffron skirts of cotton or silk laced with threads of gold. They wear traditional tight-neck tunic tops and look like the life-size female statues, standing in the jungle of fans and ferns and palms. What with the Thai classical music - a mahori ensemble of strings. gongs, and wooden xylophones - you could believe you're eating lotus buds beside the Chao Phraya River itself. You're in Tasna Pongsuwan's "Swaddee" ("Hello") restaurant, which somehow gets the Siamese atmosphere right, down to the mawn sam liam triangular cushions. Even the tables have crisp linens and fresh purple orchids flown in from Bangkok. So the food, especially the lunch specials, all \$6.95, feels cheap for the surroundings. The specials include soup or salad, spring roll, and steamed rice. Dishes include pad prik chicken with soft bamboo shoots and mushrooms; pad prik khing, pork with curry paste and green beans; pad Thai noodles (chicken or vegetarian); green chicken curry; red chicken curry; Drunken Noodles (stir-fry spicy chicken or vegetarian); and pad se ew noodles (beef, chicken, or pork). Nonspecials and evening prices are highcr. and it's worth a little extra (\$9.95) to have a coal-fired flaming boat of tom yung khung (hot prawn soup) to wake you up with a bang.

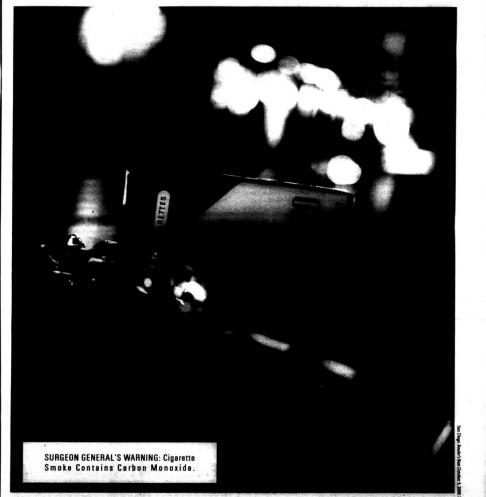


chicken enchiladas are pretty famous, too! HAPPY HOUR MON.-FRI. 3-6:30 PM

Our bottomless chips & salsa and







2851 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill (619) 231-8254

Pass south through Mexico and into Central America. As the weather gets hot ter, food seems to become milder. El Salvador is the land of sweet banana and bean breakfasts, pupusas — a kind of pita bread stuffed with things such as bacon. cheese, and loroco flowers, and sona de mondongo, a Salvadoran menudo (tripe) soup. Or yuca frita — fried sweet-potato like vuccas with thick bacon. You drink iugo de zanahoria -- carrot juice -- or strawberries in milk, for the thirst quenchingest drink in the world. It used to be you had to go to Los Angeles to find a real pupuseria. But for the past five years, Imperial Avenue has had El

Salvadoreño. Inside it's blue, white, and

clean, with lush pictures of Salvadoran mountains on the walls. Angela, one of the owners, says a group of Salvadoran families here decided to band together to make this happen. "We get Colombians, Hondurans, Costa Ricans, and Guatemalans as well as Salvadorans. This is their kind of food," she says. Try a breakfast of platano frito con frijoles y crema - fried plantain (banana) with beans and cream. Drink cebada, a rich pink barley drink with milk. Ask about San Diego Beach, in El Salvador. Like the food, it's gentle and beautiful. All items are under \$6.

## BEST PLACE TO CHEW CHICKEN NECKS

Kentucky Fried Buches 670 Avenida Constitución halfway between 1st and Baja California Streets, Tijuana

Chicken necks are not appreciated on this side of the line. But where

Constitución heads for the border and the street is filled with the drinkers and drifters and cops and loose women of Tijuana's zona norte, two brothers have built the business their father started on nothing but chicken necks. They have become one of the busiest fast-food places in town. You climb steps to their high counter. You notice hundreds of little log-shaped things dancing away in deep-fry oil. They're about four inches long and an inch wide. "We have been cooking chicken necks for 35 years," says Felipe, one of the brothers. "We go through 600 pounds of them every day We get them from America, America doesn't use chicken necks." Buches necks — are 25 cents each. Buy four for starters. Get a 50-cent bottle of Coke to wash it down. Bite in. It's kind of slipslidey, but once you get the flesh and the crispy outside together and pull it off the knuckly bone, a nice herbal, garlicky fried flavor comes through. Wrap in a tortilla Splat with their homemade salsa. Enjoy. "César Chávez ate here," says Felipe's brother Salvador, "So did Fernando

Valenzuela. We even had Charles Bronson and Cheech Marin."

### BEST BIRRIERIA (GOAT RESTAURANT)

El Rincón del Oso Location 47, Mercado Hidalgo, Calle Victoria, Zona Rio, Tijuana

When you eat goat, you want flavor! That means wild goat, if possible. The ones who have been free to roam and nibble everything. Tree bark and leaves and grass. Not just farm-fed food pellets. That's why you come here, to what locals say is the best birrieria — goat restaurant — in Tijuana. You have to get over the rows of skinned goat heads hanging in nearby butchers' shops. They're for taking home, boiling up, making soup with. But the smells inside "The Corner of the Bear" will make you forget that. Order goat ribs (around \$4.50). You'll be surprised how small they are. But also how much flavor they pack. Take spoonfuls of the liquids it comes in to

#### Good Eatin

round out the gamey taste. Wrap some of the meat into a hot corn tortilla, ladle juices in, add cilantro, lime, grated onions, and a splash of salsa. Slightly rich, like deer or buffalo. Great with cerveza. Red tables and long benches spread in rows beneath a giant green mural of a hacienda set in a green valley. Men (mostly) eat away, their hats dipping over the tables. Ladies in white pat corn tortillas into shape. A goat's head stares down from the wall.

### **BEST PLACE TO GET** A MEAL AT 4:30 A.M. DOWNTOWN

The Snack Galley, Greyhound Depot, open 24 hours 120 West Broadway, Downtown (619) 234-4522

Dead is not the word for downtown San Diego in that 90 minutes, 3:30 to 5:00 a.m. So it's 4:00 in the morning. You don't have to explain. You're here. You're hungry. Nothing is alive. Except the Greyhound Depot. At least the lights are on. Go inside. Past the sleeping bodies to where bollards (this is still Sailortown, U.S.A.) section off an area facing the

loading doors. It's the Snack Galley. And miracle! Somebody's there. He's cooking something! It's probably their famous (famous with late-late-nighters, anyway) breakfast sandwich: Bread stuffed with bacon, sausage or ham, egg, and cheese (\$2.29). Go for the sausage. It feels like you get more to munch. Squirt in the mayo and ketchup packs, and order a nice large coffee (\$1.24) to wake you up, sober you up, whatever. Go stand at the bollard counter, chew down, and - probably get philosophizing about life in the weird, honest fellowship of the beyond-night owls. Everybody has a problem. Why should you be different? You come out. dawn's breaking. Belly's full. World feels different. It wants to give you another

## BEST PLACE TO HAVE MAGIC WITH YOUR MEAL

The Gathering 902 West Washington Mission Hills (619) 260-0400

You came here for food. Instead, Dan the barman gives you a card. "Look at it. Don't show me." You look. Jack of hearts He takes it back, rips it up into four

Only \$9.99

pieces, gives you a corner piece, opens his hand. The rest of the card has gone Dan shuffles through his cards. "Now somewhere here...ah." He hauls out a card. The tack of hearts. Corner missing. But the rest is whole. Your corner fits the card perfectly. What can you say? Dan's the barman. Also the owner. Also a registered magician. When the spirit moves him, he serves food. drink, and magic all at the same time. Come for Sunday brunch, Come for the Mission Hills Omelet "Snow crab sautéed in butter with a hint of sherry and tarragon, with our dilled-Hollandaise sauce." \$6.95. Apart from the magic, the place has a vilmaybe it's Dan - a slight

#### BEST KOSHER RESTAURANT Shmoozers Kosher

ly heady atmosphere.

Dairy Restaurant 6366 El Cajon Boulevard. College Area (619) 583-1636

Orthodox lews who own restaurants have to decide whether they'll serve dairy or meat products. Can't do both. It's in Exodus: "Thou shalt not boil a kid in its mother's milk." Many vegans — vegetari ans who shun animal products like milk or eggs - find an ally here. Shmoozers promises "allan food, no meat, no animal fat, certified Kosher, 100% fresh ingredients. So you're stuck eating wobbly soy curd and soy milk? Uh-uh. Shmoozer' vegetable pizza, with olives, green peppers, mushrooms, onions, and tomato (\$16.50 for a 16-

inch pie, \$2.95 a slice)

Baked and breaded egg

tastes like the real thing



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CARLSBAD (760) 431-BREW

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OD (818) 753-BREW



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## Good Eatin

plant Parmesan, with marinara sauce and garlic bread (\$6.35), is delicious with kosher mozzarella cheese. (Problem for vegans, But Charles the owner can substitute "tofutti" cheese.) But here's why you come: the \$3.50 veggie burger -- "It's Zoglo's," says Charles. "The patties come frozen all the way from Nahariya, Israel." Tastes better than standard vegetable burgers - and the \$3.95 "California-style" falafel. It's garbanzo bean "meat" has a crisp outside that you crunch through to release terrific tastes of garlic and

## **BEST ENGLISH PUB**

Shakespeare Pub & Grille 3701 India Street, Midtown (619) 299-0230

Yes, English pubs seem to be proliferat-

well-ensconsed Shakespeare captures the British pub atmosphere. It's not just the soccer on the TV, the "Harp" and "Guinness" umbrellas outside, and the accents you hear around you. It is the 1940s wigginess of the bar and its fustian diamond leaded windows. You feel as if Winston were ready to come in puffing his cigar and demanding a pint. And they have interesting pints, like Fullers India Pale Ale and Newcastle Brown on tap, and around the walls, photos from Olde England, "Albion Street, Leeds c. 1900." "Deansgate, 1870." Come on Friday nights, when dart games are noisy and "chums" sit around the bar quaffing ale from their pewter mugs. Stay for the food. Not because it's that good. But it does haul your taste buds back to your last trip to Old Blighty. Fish and chips, shepherd's pic, bangers and mash. Best meal is the Sunday roast beef with roast potatoes and Yorkshire pudding. "A meal fit for a king!" says the menu. Most of it is

ing like King George's troops. But the

## BEST COURTHOUSE

South Bay Regional Center Inside South Bay County Regional Center, 500 Third Avenue, Chula Vista (619) 691-4599

"Gracious Guests: We are pleased that you chose our cafeteria to serve you." It's not what you expect in the dour halls of justice. But here in Chula Vista, Ben Riddell has created a little garden of catin'. Yes, you have to empty your pockets and take off your belt to get in through security. On a typical day, for \$3.97, Ben has roast pork or meat loaf or roast turkey or chicken pot pie or lemon chicken, each with potatoes, vegetables, and bread and butter. You might be chowing down among worried oups of litigants, but who could resist salad from the bar at 20 cents an ounce. a baked potato with sour cream and cheese for \$1.40, or a plate of spaghetti

with meat sauce and garlic bread for \$2.99? Ben sits at the cashier's desk, where an electronic voice reads out the prices. Ben is legally blind. He's from Algeria. He used to work for the United States Information Service in Rabat in Morocco. "I'd take out American propaganda - books, films - to Berber villages in the Atlas mountains," Now he checks out food bargains at places such as Albertsons and Super Saver. "Anywhere, so I can pass on the savings to my customers. I have many judges, lawyers, loyal clients," he says.

#### BEST PLACE FOR ROSE JUICE AND LEBANESE FOOD

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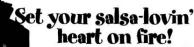
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## Good Eatin'

sold it in the summer heat on the streets of ancient Mediterranean cities such as Byblos and Tyre. Nouhad Salame, the wife of Joseph, who runs Phoenicia as a restaurant and bakery learned the art of making rose juice from rose petals back in Lebanon, up in the mountains where roses and cedars grow. She turns them into concentrates, which she pours into dark wine bottles and sells for \$8 each. "They make about ten glasses," she says. While you're there, sit down and order some food to go with the rose juice. A "Phoenicia Combination Special," including tabbouleh, hummus, bread, rice, grape roll, cabbage roll, kafta kabob, and baked eggplant (\$6,95) would go well, but their specialty is kibbeh neyeh, a special for two people of "cracked wheat blended with fresh lamb, onions, and our special seasoning; \$10.95." Kibbeh is the once-a-week meat dish for the otherwise vegetarian

Lebanese villagers. "In Lebanon, after church on Sunday - we're Christians we'd eat it, with meat — usually goat meat, and usually raw," says Joseph. Warning: order kibbeh neyeh a

#### BEST RESTAURANT FOR DANCING ON TABLES

The Russia House Restaurant 3200 Adams Avenue. Normal Heights (619) 584-6279

The new owners say things have calmed down since they took over from Marko, the wild, intellectual Georgian who loved folks getting up on tabletops and dancing on a Friday night (after a few vodkas, of course). But you'll still get drawn in. Start off with the borscht, the Russian soup of beet roots, cabbage leaves, onions, carrots, big chunks of potato, a couple of hunks of beef, and sour cream. Hum along with the soul-

ful voices of the Russian Army Choir singing "Kalinka." Music and posters help create the heady atmosphere, like the one that says "Let's Kill German Capitalism by May 1st. 1920!" Another says, "Big Game Hunting in the U.S.S.R. Contact the Metropole Hotel, Moscow." Sooner or later, you'll be cross-table talking. Maybe it starts over the khinkali - Georgian dumplings. They're dangerous. They have not just the meat stuffed in them, but also the gravy. If you chew into them wrong, you'll send a squirt right in your neighbor's eye. But don't worry. Toasts, not fists, will start flying. Georgians say they always start eating with three toasts - to the wittiest person at the table, to your parents, "and to your chair, because you never know when it

will give out under you."

#### **BEST CHEAP** CHICKEN LUNCH DOWNTOWN

Nobel's Chicken House 433 E Street, Downtown (619) 236-1081

Korean-run Nobel's, a fixture on E Street between Fourth and Fifth (right next to the famous Star Bar) offers wonderful value for the money. Take their lunch specials: \$2.29 buys a thigh, a leg, a wing, and fried rice; or two bar becued beef ribs and fried rice; or a ham hocks, lima beans, and rice combo. Really broke? A chile con carne with ham books and lima beans fills you for (small) \$1.21 or (large) \$1.87. Or buy chicken by the piece. Breasts are \$1.60 to \$1.80. Thighs start at \$1.15, legs at 85 cents, and wings at 65 cents



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## Good Fatin'

Fancy Korean? Kimchee's \$1.22. Coffee and tea start at 55 cents. Joan, a teacher, brings her colleagues once a week. "When we say, 'We're going to the Gaslamp for our weekly lunch, our friends are pretty darned impressed."

#### BEST NORTH COUNTY VIEW WITH FOOD

2591 South Coast Highway. Cardiff (760) 436-5236

It's easy to assume that the best oceanfront views are to be had west of Highway 101, but Ki's, an informal juice bar and organic eatery situated across the road from the Charthouse in Cardiff, commands almost 180-degree lunch, you place your order downstairs. then (unless you're agoraphobic) climb to the second-floor dining room, where silverware, coffee, and water are selfserve (dinner service is a tad more formal). Enjoy the vista indoors next to the coffee bar, outdoors under a covered patio, or from railing-side seats facing west and north. Views of San Elijo Lagoon to the south and east are

# BEST MODERATE-PRICED DINING ROOM

Firenze Privato Firenze Trattoria 162 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas (760) 944-9000

Firenze Privato, a private dining room, is different than most because the cost tions are vast. It offers a full har, elegant touches such as marble and granite decor, a view of the outdoor fountain and palm trees, and its own manager, bartender, and wait staff. Selected items are printed just for your party. Since the banquet facility is removed from Firenze Trattoria, you may bring in your own DL musical group, or any form of entertainment. There's plenty of space for dancing, and the room car accommodate 75 people. A smaller crowd is equally comfortable. Reservations and menu selections should be made in advance. Special

Chris Cantore, 91X: D.Z. Akin's, because it's a and it's chesp. It's all about the lox and bagels there

lace, been there forever. Potatoes are a big pa ng with normal egg dishes. It's just really goo atmosphere is small and beachy — come is a

**Big Shot** 

## **BEST PLACE TO** RELIVE 1920S CHULA VISTA

Flamingo Cafe 396 Broadway (at C) Chula Vista (619) 691-1076

Back in 1925, when Chula Vista was miles and miles of vegetable fields, one building stood out like a mole on your hand: the new eatery they called the Flamingo Café. Until a few years ago, one of the original patrons was still coming in. One "newcomer" has been popping in seven days a week for 47 years. Why do they come? "Because it really is like fami ly," says Joanne Angel, the owner. "We

get a lot of people on fixed incomes. That's why we have special Sundowner meals - \$3.99, every night." They also have Depression-era plates at Depression-era prices: like chipped beef on toast (\$2.60), meatloaf sandwiches with fries (\$3.75), or half an egg-salad sandwich or grilled cheese sandwich with a cup of soup (\$1.99), Check out the pictures of old Chula Vista - and the clientele. Got arthritis? Ask for David. He has a uranium mine in Butte, Montana. For \$3 an hour go sit in it three times a day. "They reckon after ten days you're a spring chicken, ready to square dance!" If he takes to you, he might even tell you how to get there.

S Kanfrana, Bread & Cie bakery: There's a place Beach, a funky spot, it's called Dempsey's. It's right and. You can at there and watch the ocean and watch atta wating up from the night before, because it's right s public park and the beach. The food is good and the

are right there so you can take a shower when ting or sleep it off in the park. For upscale the Sunday buffet at the Four Seasons at the

pas, Athens Market restaurant: This is going to but the Waterfront (in Little Italy). It's funky, but at cheeseburgers in town. I could have one for a I don't do eggs.



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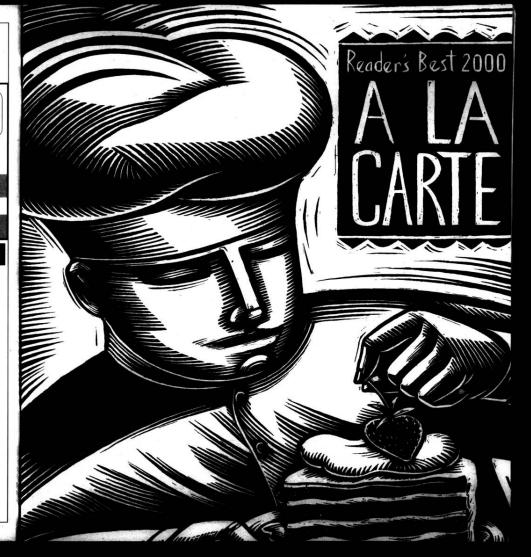
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## MANICOTTI

When In Rome 1108 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas (760) 944-1771

Here's a great recipe for manicotti: from eggs, flour, water, and salt prepare a thin batter for crepes. Heat a crepe pan, pour as little batter as possible so the crepes will be thin. When the edges of the pancake curl, flip the pan and place crepe on towel. Repeat until you have 12 to 25 crepes. Clean and wash fresh spinach, dip in hot water, rinse. Puree half of the spinach; chop the other half. Add ricotta cheese and nutmeg to spinach (both pureed and chopped) and fill crepes with mixture. Top with a marinara sauce plus a bechamel (white sauce). The too acidic. Bake in an oven at 350 degrees, 25 to 30 minutes, until sauce bubbles. If you find this too much work, it's all done for you by the owner of When In Rome, If you want to buy manicotti portions to take home, they keep well, frozen, up to two weeks. After that the flavor is still intact, but the ricotta cheese tends to become slightly watery.

**BEST TORTAS** La Torta 4864 Cass Street, Pacific Beach (858) 272-2077 8350 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa **Big Shot** 

Delana Bennett, Magic 102.5: Claire de Lune on University in North Park. It's new, and it's amazing. They have ent ment every weekend. I so there all of the time. They have the bes atmosphere in San Diego and great interior design. It is really re-laxed, and the entertainment is always good on Priday and Satur-day nights. They do poetry on Sunday nights.

Chuck Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House, dow Seventh Near B is a great coffee house. They've got a wide variety of coffee and, once upon a time, they had a great collection of out-of-town newspapers. They still have big racks of magaz The place has a very modern atmosphere, but it's laid back. You don't feel like you've got to drink your coffee and run. They've got outside and inside seating and it's popular, boy. Eight o'clock in the morning you have a hard time finding a place to sit.

Grea Cook, Maric 102.5: The Denny's on 24th Street, When the servers spill coffee on you, which invariably happens, they usually apologize. Sometimes it's in a heavy accent, which is hard to understand but they usually make the effort.

Douglas Organ, owner/chef of Laurel Restaurant & Bar in Park West and the WineSellar and Brasserie in Miramar: I go to Peet's in Hillcrest. That's where I buy most of my coffee. It's originally from the Bay Area. I think it's better than Starbucks. Their store is kind of set up for grab-and-go, but they also have a nice little patio, nice for people watching. It's Hillcrest. It's kind of fun. Linda Welby, Mix 95.7: I'm kind of hooked on Starbucks. But Java Joe's in OB is good too.

**BEST COFFEE HOUSE** 

Jeffrey Strauss, Pamplemousse in Solana Beach: Pannikin in Leucadia. It's in a big yellow house on the 101. It's a great coffee watering hole. The scene is good, the coffee's good. It's the

Mary Pappas, Athens Market restaurant: I make the best ee in town. It has to be made right and very few ple make it right. It's stone ground and it's light roasted. It's s like Turkish, which is very dark roasted. Greek coffee is very lightly roasted, and it's very smooth. It doesn't have bitt and bite like most coffee might have.

Chris Cantore, 91X: I like Twiggs in University Heigh It's on Park. I like the ambience and the fact that they suppo-The shop is right on the corner, and they have a room right next to it that can seat 100 people. They'll also have open-mic nights for poetry, for guitar, for showing films. The acting showcases

Carol LeBeau, Channel 10 News: I like the Living Ro La Jolla. It's got a lot of garage-sale antique furniture. Totally eclectic. They have really good coffee and pastries.

You take Mexican mainstays such as carne asada, machaca, chicken mole. refried beans, chiles relleno, and chorizo But forget the tortillas. Instead you encase the goodies in the soft, slightly sweet Mexican rolls known as teleras. The result is a torta, and you can't find a better one on either side of the border than those produced by the Rojas family at their two outlets. More commonplace components (turkey, ham, tuna, bacon) are also available, served with a chipotle mayonnaise that make the end result un

poco mas interesante than the ordinary gringo deli fare.

#### **BEST CHEESE**

Whole Foods Market 711 University Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 294-2800 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla (858) 642-6700

"Everybody knows the moon is made of cheese," croons Wallace to Gromit in

Nick Parks's A Grand Day Out. But upon arriving, he finds the tunar surface to be "like no cheese I've ever tasted," not even Wensleydale. Moon cheese is about the only sort Wallace couldn't find at the cheese counter of Whole Foods Market. He might try some Colson Bassett Stilton (\$13.99/lb.), some Gorgonzola Dolce Cadematari (\$11.99/lb.), or even 21month-old Zanetti Parmesan Reggiano Uri (\$15.99/lb.). Cheese clerk Matt gives an enthusiastic tour of the counter. "We strive to provide very high-end cheeses.

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#### BEST BAGUETTE

The French Pastry Shop 5550 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla (858) 454-9094

Why is it so easy to find perfect baguettes in Paris and so hard in San Diego? One exception is the staple bread produced at the French Pastry Shop. The crust is thin and golden and so firm that biting into the heel of one requires strong teeth. Inside the crust, it's a white, yeasty, slight ly salty cloud. In the 20-plus years the bakery has been in business, baguette

prices have climbed from 50 cents to almost \$2. But, hey — check out current ticket prices to Paris.

### BEST PLACE FOR SUPER-RICH GATEAUX

**Extraordinary Desserts** 2929 Fifth Avenue, Park West (619) 294-7001 Feels like Aladdin's cave, and owner

Karen Krasne is its genie. Her magic is her shamelessness. This lady goes all out, hitting your senses of smell, sight, taste, and guilt, all at once. Your eyes smack into fruit and glazed almonds sparkling like jewels in chocolate cakes as big as truck wheels. A giant wedge of dripping raspberry-chocolate cake (\$5.95), rising from a lake of red raspberry and maroon straw berry juices. Great slurps of chocolate icing do a pirouette on top, surrounding a bed of raspberries and climaxing in a crown of real gold leaf. But, like a Mother Confessor, Krasne says it's "all right" to eat this stuff. "Oh, I splurge," she says. "But I say when you get the urge to splurge, do it well. If these people didn't come here, they would go to the 7-Eleven and buy a Butterfinger. Believe me, every

good." Cordon Bleu-trained Krasne says she goes back to Paris each year to make sure what we're eating is the absolute latest sin. X-Desserts' other bonus: it's just a block from Balboa Park, where you can walk it off till you're ready for round two

## BEST SCALLOP BURRITO

El Zarape Mexican Restaurant 4642 Park Boulevard. University Heights (619) 692-1652

Never has a sack of food been so enticing. Plump scallops, tucked into a flour tortilla, luxuriate in a rich, creamy sauce. lust before your taste buds go under, submerged by this rich combination, a zip of acidity pulls them into paradise. This workingman's coquilles St. Jacques melds salsa fresca, a white sauce of cream and mayonnaise, cheese, and scallops into a symphony of taste. El Zarape has made many a disciple of the mollusk-based meal (\$4,50); enjoy yours while lounging out front in a wrought-iron patio chair or in the eclectic tile extravaganza of a dining room. After you finish, round out your meal with an order of chicken rolled tacos - also the best in town - heaped

#### BEST ITALIAN GROCERY

2061 India Street, Little Italy (619) 239-5367

This market and deli, owned and operated by the Brunetto family for 26 years, is small but full of culinary gems. The delicase shows off mozzarella di bufalo, mascarpone, sharp provolones, four types of prosciutto, homemade sausages. Nooks and crannies in the back of the store proffer more than 70 different cuts of pasta. Other shelves hold fig-flavored balsamic vinegar and salted capers and artichokelemon pesto and Italian sea salt and topgrade Arborio rice. This is the only Italian grocer in town with a liquor license, and the liqueur section includes hard-to-find limoncellos and anisette and grappas

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## A La Carte

ade without the sugar, right? Then you drop into a Polish café. "You want beer? This is beer." The guy's thrusting a bottle with a black-and-green label featuring a goat on its hind legs quaffing a glass of hops, "Okocim Beer, 1845," it says, For a label backwards. Has to be Micoko, right? Japanese? Wrong, "Okocim is a small "They make a lager and a porter. But you need to be careful with that dark one [porter]. It's very, very strong, Bittersweet. A molasses-type beer," He pointto the label: "8.1 percent alcohol," it says. Certainly there are stronger beers around Like San Diego's AleSmith Horny Devil

among expatriate Poles you get the right atmosphere and food thrown in. Try a grilled Polish sausage sandwich with grilled peppers, onion, and sauerkraut (\$4.99) with your half-liter bottle (\$4.95). Have another Okocim. Sing a few songs. Weep for all the women you left. Then call a cab.

#### **BEST SPITINIS**

Pete's Quality Meats 1742 / India Street, Little Italy (619) 234-1684

Sicily used to be known as the "Breadbasket of Europe." They exported grains all over the Mediterranean. Then came countless invasions, poverty, until their only export was people. And inter-

was spitini. What's spitini? "It's a Sunday hot dish back in Sicily," says Pete di Salvo, son-in-law of Pete, the owner of Pete's. Basically it's stuffed veal turned on a spit over a fire. According to Filippo, who cooks for Pete, it's "veal rolled around two cheeses, onions, tomatoes, pinenuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, bread crumbs, onions, and green peppers," all in a nine-inch Italian bun. When you chomp in, it tastes cheesy, herby, swimming in the sauce and onions. You'll get onion lash on your cheek and peppers and marinara all over your face. But that's part of the messy pleasure.

From the modest front of this expanded butcher's shop in Little Italy. you'd never guess that people come from afar for spitmi and other homemade specialties like Italian sausage sandwich. Customers swear the sausage meat is

herby and without gristle or fat. "Pete still grinds his sausage meat by hand," says Pete di Salvo. A spitini sandwich costs \$5.25. Italian sausage sandwich, \$3.85.

#### BEST EXOTIC MIXED-FRUIT STAND

Pedro's Fruit Cart Rio Suchiate and Rio Nazas outside Ministerio Público, Tijuana

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# A La Carte

lean them against the side of the nearest car, and make them wait while they grab a fresh-squeezed piña (pineapple) drink from Pedro (about 50 cents). But come for Pedro's mixed fruit and honey special For \$3 he'll skin whole mangoes, pears, prickly pears, bananas, apples, papayas, melons, or anything else you ask for, chop them into chunks, pile them in a bowl, lav down a snowy summit of cottage cheese, sprinkle raisins, whole Brazils, and other nuts, then - bliss! - glug golden honey over the whole thing. He'll add a plastic fork and half a dozen napkins to deal with the inevitable mess. It's heavy. You'll have to take it over to the maroon bench under the trees. You'll probably join half of Tijuana's legal bench there. And when you get down to the honeyed juices, what the heck, be prepared to lift, drink, stain your shirt. What can they do? Arrest you?

#### **BEST DUCK CONFIT** Laurel Restaurant

505 Laurel Street, Banker's Hill (619) 239-2222

In France, duck confit is prepared in the



duck fat, rendering it, and then placing the fat in a deep crock. The duck is pressed, and after a few days under pres sure, the duck is baked in a slow oven before it's returned to the crock of duck fat, where it remains marinated until ready to eat. In French restaurants such as Laurel, the process of preparation is not only modernized but referred to as "a ritual." The duck legs are cured for one day

in Kosher salt, chopped garlic, fresh shallots, and pepper; placed between two layers of parchment paper; and covered with a heavy weight. The legs are then submerged in commercial duck fat and baked at 250 degrees for three hours. The secret is to allow the duck to remain at room temperature while all the fat drips off. It's then placed with more duck fat in the refrigerator, where it remains for two

weeks or a month. When ready to serve. it's put into a hot pan, skinned down to get the skin crispy, and baked at 400 degrees for five minutes. The duck is served with a sauce of roasted pearl onions, wild mushrooms, and fava beans. This vegetable ragout is the perfect coment to the fork-tender, flavorful duck. Confit is well done, never bloody or gamy. It's a treat because it's Southern French with California flair (\$19).

#### BEST PLACE FOR MARLIN TACOS

Mariscos Los Angulo Paseo de los Héroes #4449. Tijuana 011-526-634-6027

Best marlin tacos? Ask around (Tijuana) town, and you'll get a thousand answers. But if atmosphere helps your taste buds, Mariscos Los Angulo is it. Promenade down TI's swank, tree-lined Paseo de los Héroes (not to be confused with Niños Héroes) until a gigantic thatch-roofed palapa stops you in your tracks. At first you think Pacific Islands But no It's Sinaloa style. The Angulo family, who built it, come from Culiacán. Inside, with the high-arched palm-frond ceiling and thickets of ficus trees underneath, you feel

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as if you're eating in an urban forest. You sit at tables swathed in stylish yellow-onpurple tablecloths, and order - what else? Taco de marlin a las brasas. Ember cooked marlin taco, about \$2. It will look simple, but it's far from plain. The marlin is smoked in Ensenada. Here they mix it with tomato, onion, celery, hot poblano peppers, then mash it all together and charbroil it in a corn tortilla. The result? The smoky, corny, slightly charry taste, with fumaroles of flavor curling back through your nostrils. It will transport you south to warmer climes. Squeeze limon it. Order a Tecate beer (\$2) with it. Try this around 3:00 in the afternoon. That's when Tijuana eats lunch.

## BEST SMOTHERED CHICKEN

Huffman's Bar-B-Oue 5039 Imperial Avenue, Valencia Park (619) 264-3115

Muhammad Ali ate here. So did Jesse Jackson, Roger Hedgecock, George Stevens, Sheriff Bill Kolender, Susar Golding, Tom Bradley, Archie Moore,

Jim Brown... Their photos, with owner Brooks Huffman, line the walls to prove it. They, too, came in for the most scrumptious smothered-fried chicken in town. For \$6.85, you get three large pieces of chicken with a rich aroma and a dark, burned, seasoned flavor in a sea of gravy, along with collard greens, yellow peppers red beans and rice, or other sides. Your MO: take a piece of the chicken, add a mouthful of gravy, cram in a forkload of collard greens, top off with red beans, then unwrap your two squares of white bread from their grease-proof paper and start sopping-up operations. Of course, Mississippi native Huffman created the whole soul gallery: chicken gizzards with green beans and macaroni salad (\$6.04): pork ribs and a side (\$6.95); or the mag nificent Louisiana Creole Gumbo, with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken, for \$8.40. Brooks died earlier this year, but his wife Bobbi is carrying on the business

# BEST PLACE TO CATCH YOUR FISH FOR DINNER

Vien Dong Supermarket 4 5382 University Avenue, Rolando (619) 583-3838

Your eyes are swimming: you're sur-

rounded by fish looking out at you while schooling in their tanks, waiting to be chosen for your dinner. This supermarket has grown with the fortunes of the Tran family, who escaped from Vietnam in 1979. Now it's a window on what the rest of us burger-addicts are missing. Vien Dong ("Far East") hits you with new gas tronomic possibilities. How many of these have you bought at your local supermarket recently? - skatewing; par rot fish; live tilapia; live catfish; pig's ears; pig's blood; duck eggs; duck's feet; balut (egg with half-developed chick inside); durian (huge, prickly, smelly-but-tasty fruit from Thailand); frozen milky fleshed markok fruit: Beer Lao, from Vientiane, Laos; and basil-seed drink with honey, which looks like skeins of tadpole eggs, but good for cooling your intestines and delicious! Come weekends, people set up stalls outside and squash sugarcane into drinks and cook Asian delicacies.

#### **BEST FALAFEL**

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park (619) 688-0717

Mama's deli, just south of El Cajon Boulevard, is an old Craftsman shack hanging over the sidewalk, with just

enough room inside for the person placing his order. Next door is a low-slung, trellised patio with a half-dozen plastic tables and chairs. Duck in there so you can have it fresh and warm. One of the guys'll bring it over to you. What you get is sajj bread, fresh off the pregnant griddle you see behind the counter. They lay out that toasted, fluffy wrap and spread on the sesame-seed sauce, called tahini, push onto that spiced-up croquettes made of chickpea mash, toss on a handful of salad and tomato, and lay in some cool, zesty pickle slices. They hand roll that baby tight and dress it in a paper cone, just for you, the next convert. What are you waiting for, hot sauce?

#### **BEST BETCHA-CAN'T-**TELL-IT'S-A-VEGGIE BURGER

Island Burgers 240 South Melrose Drive, Vista (760) 631-1535

Sometimes you want a hamburger that's not really a hamburger, but you don't want to be served by a Hare Krishna, hear the word "tofu," or have to listen to Enya. At Island Burgers, the menu is full of variations on real beef burgers, like the Hawaiian, with pineapple and terivaki

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## BEST EGG CREAM SODA

D.Z. Akin's 6930 Alvarado Road, College Area (619) 265-0218

An egg cream is a soda containing neither egg nor cream, which was once more popular on the East Coast than any botfled brand of soda. Egg cream stands used to abound the way upscale coffeehouses do now. Eventually, bottled sodas proved more cost-efficient than preparing individual egg creams from milk, chocolate syrup, and carbonated water. Where to find an egg cream, which may soon become an endangered species? At D.Z. Akin's, you can order yours with low-fat milk and low-fat chocolate syrup. Egg creams are considered by some connois seurs as the perfect accompaniment to

**Big Shot** 

Charles Kaufman, owner of Bread & Cie bakery: Bronx Pizza on Washington, between Mission Hills and Hillcrest. New Yorkers are the only ones who know what good pizza is. Plus, the guys there are all well-trained to be slightly rude and speak with a Bronx accent, which makes your pizza taste better. All the old boxing photos on

Chuck Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House: Best Pizza is CRUCK Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House: Best Pizza si Lido's on Broadway in Lernon Grove. It's a Nepolitan-style pizza, very thin crust, lots of cheese. They're great people, too. For years, they're sponsored all the Little League teams and baseball, soccer, and football teams, So Friday night, after a game, it can be a little noisy with all of the kids.

the walls kind of get your appetite going, too

Jeffrey Strauss, owner/chef of Pamplemousse in Solana Beach: Bronx Pizza. It's the only pizza place out there. It's the closest thing to New York-style pizza out there. The pizza's great, the crust is great, the guys behind the counter are great.

BEST PIZZA

I love that place. It's got a great old-Italian-neig

Linda Welby, Mix 95.7: Best pizza would have to be Espresso ean Beach on Sunset Cliffs. All of their pizzas are really

Greg Cook, Magic 102.5: Leucadia Pizza's Thai Chicken Pizza

Chris Cantore, 91X: Hands down, Bronx Pizza, for eat-in or take out. I wouldn't mess with the surly guys behind the counter. "Whaddaya wani?!" You've got to love ordering pizzas from a guy

Carol LeBeau, Channel 10 News: I love Sammy's barbecued

any lunch. Even if you're ordering a soup and a sandwich, it's the egg cream that settles your stomach.

#### **BEST ADULT RICE** KRISPIE TREAT

Bread & Cie 350 University Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 683-9322

Charles Kaufman's mother raised her three children as if they were members of royalty. They attended private schools, often had a live-in French cook, and some summers they rented a yacht to sail the Mediterranean. Nothing but gourmet food ever touched their lips, and therein lay the problem. The stuff Charles loved was at his friends' houses, where he could gorge

himself on Twinkies and Ding Dongs. The latter two he could buy in grocery stores from his allowance. However, his favorite, Rice Krispie treats, could be obtained only from his friends' mothers or their housekeepers. Soon, Charles began to gain weight. His mother never knew why. As a grown man Kaufman is now trim and nattily attired in his bakery, Bread & Cie. Recently, however, he

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# A La Carte

added his childhood delights to his bakery menu. Ding Dongs are now called roule's and the Rice Krispie treats will be sold out unless you arrive early. They are prepared from Rice Krispies, marsh mallows, butter, plus roasted pistachios, toasted sliced almonds, white chocolate chips, and a bit of Cointreau.

## BEST CREME BRULEE

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights (619) 298-8440

When Julia Child visited San Diego recently, she announced that crème brûlée was a faddish food that didn't appeal to her. Yet it remains an after-dinner favorite with diners because it's smooth, creamy, slides down with ease vet never leaves you feeling bloated. Crème brûlée is richer than custard, and the crusty top is often achieved by using a blowtorch to caramelize the sugar Restaurants vie for different ways to enhance this dish - it's equally good for breakfast or lunch - but the Adams Avenue Grill has come up with a winner The chef-owner, Tim Klepeis, who tries to enhance his dishes with fresh herbs. ouldn't find a use for lavender until he thought of heating lavender buds with cream. After the cream cools, it's passed through a fine sieve and combined with egg yolks and sugar. The result is a lavender crème brûlée that is subtle, with a unique, light flavor. Fresh lavender leaves decorate the top of the baked cream.

### SUPERMARKET-TAKEOUT

Ionathan's Courmet Supermarket 7611 Fay Avenue, La Jolla

Some people have stopped cooking since Jonathan's Supermarket opened its take-out gourmet hot-and-cold food counter. Weather often determines what's cooked and prepared on a given day - light dishes for a warm day, robust ones for cold. Five different kinds of chicken breasts are offered, as well as freshly baked salmon and freerange turkey breasts. King crab salad is always available, as are cooked vegetables in season, pasta, potato salads, and two freshly cooked soups. You may eat your food at tables outside or at a soonto-be-completed café indoors. The best feature about Jonathan's takeout is they'll prepare any food you request within 24 to 48 hours. Beef Wellington (roast beef in a crust) and complete turkey dinners are in constant demand Catering services available

#### **BEST STROMBOLI**

4726 Clairemont Mesa Roulevard Clairemont (858) 483-1811

Why is the word stromboli familiar and yet hard to associate with food? The answer to the first is that it's an island off Sicily and it was the place where Ingrid Bergman met her destiny, filming a movie of the same name with director Roberto Rosselini, Stromboli, the food item, is at least 100 years old and originated with the island fishermen. Jumping off their boats, hungry from a day of net-hauling, they would grill at open fires the fresh catch of the day, roll it in flat bread, and then bake the rolledup loaves in stone ovens. Italian immigrants brought stromboli to New York. Philadelphia, and Boston. In these cities, they were prepared with pizza dough, filled with cold cuts, rolled, and baked in

pizza ovens. Sorrentino's is the place to dine in or take out strombolis. One is vegetarian and filled with mozzarella and fortena cheeses, sliced roma tomatoes, broccoli, and roasted tomatoes. The other contains two cheeses, pepperoni, sausage, onions, and peppers. They're rolled and then baked for 20 minutes and served with marinara sauce, which you may use for dipping or to pour over the roll. It's lighter than pizza and makes a perfect meal before a movie. Cold, it's a delight ful snack (both types cost \$7.25).

#### BEST LAMB CHOPS

Trattoria Positano 142 University Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 294-6995

> When you read a menu, and the lamb chops are listed as New Zealand lamb, you know you're getting a better product. Whether it's the feed or the care, New Zealand lamb is more tender, more flavorful, less stringy and chewy than other lamb. Of course, the way it's prepared counts too. Katefina Di Lucca knows her way around New Zealand lamb. She uses 16 to 18 ounces for each serving, braises it in a hot pan, and then bakes the rack for seven to ten minutes.

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#### BEST CASSOULET

2265 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach (619) 223-2700 Open Thursday, Friday, Saturday

If you remember the Oscar-winning musical Gigi, you will recall that the heroine drops in to taste her grandmother's cassoulet prepared with, among other ingredients, goose. In America we would call it casserole, but the ingredients are so numerous and the preparation so arduous that few attempt it at home. The Belgian Lion creates a memorable cassoulet. Its recipe runs to two and a half pages. The dish consists of lamb, pork, sausage, beans, onions, carrots, celery, herbs d' Provence, garlic. No salt is used because the sausage is salty. If duck confit is available, it's placed in the crock. Cassoulet should never be dry, and the chef has to keep adding liquid. It's a labor-intensive dish, not quite appropri ate for Southern California quickie meals But, especially during cold weather, it's a robust, lusty treat.

## BEST LEMON CHICKEN

Athens Market 109 West F Street, Downtown (619) 234-1955

Say the words "lemon chicken" and diners think of the Chinese version, in which the breast of chicken is breaded, deepfried, and doused with a lemon sauce. The Greek version is more pungent, and no one does a better job than the Athens Market. A marinade is prepared from freshly squeezed lemon and olive oil plus oregano, salt, and pepper. Potatoes are quartered, dried, and placed at the bot

tom of a baking pan. Chicken is cut into pieces. Although the skin is left on, all the fat is removed. The fowl goes into the same marinade that held the potatoes and when coated is arranged on top of the potatoes. A glass of water with a few oons of tomato purée is the only liquid that goes into the pan. Baked at 350 for one and a half hours, the result is crispy chicken with a subtle lemon flavor enhanced by roasted potatoes. It's on the menu at Athens Market nightly.

#### **BEST MEXICAN** SOUPS

La Especial Norte 664 North Highway 101, Leucadia (760) 942-1040

Though it boasts neither a gorgeous interior nor superior service, people line up outside on Friday nights to sample the chicken soup. You can dine in or take out one of a dozen soups whose recipes come from every region in Mexico. There's Tlapeño soup with chipotle chiles, avail able in profusion in Tijuana but difficult to find in San Diego. Sopa de pescados, fish soup, is filling and hearty. Pancho Villa bean soup purports to make you a better lover. Portions are vast, but pensive and flavorful. Arrive early so that the soup of your choice is available. Ask about the degree of spiciness — "medium" to them may be very hot to you.

## BEST WEDDING CAKE

Just Fabulous Pastries 4564 Alvarado Canyon Road, Suite A. Grantville (619) 285-1220 www.justfab.com

San Diego is blessed with able bakers, But for wedding cakes, none can compare to Fabulous Pastries, each of whose cakes is a work of art. The baker/owner, Beryl, uses an icing called fondant, which drapes the cakes as if it were a piece of fabric: the fondant is then decorated with handcrafted flowers, leaves, ribbons, seashells, gold leafing. Beryl even has a press that can produce "lace" made from fondant.

At least nine different cakes are available; the simplest is a white cake with a thin layer of apricot jam, filled with chocolate and coffee buttercream. In terms of inspiring awe, the cake is less important than the decorations. Clients must meet with the baker to decide every aspect of the design. Prices run from \$3 per person on up; the average is \$6.75 per

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## A La Carte

## BEST CRAB

Ruth's Chris Steak 11582 El Camino Real, Del Mar (858) 755-1454

The way to judge a good

crab cake is to break it with your fork and see whether 95 percent of it is crab and not bread or other fillers. At Ruth's Chris Steak House in Del Mar, they use colossal lump crab meat at \$19 a pound, mixed with back fin crab meat at \$12 a pound. Two crab cakes constitute a portion, but each cake is three ounces, so one cake is plenty for one person. Only a half teaspoon of cracker meal is added, plus a dollop of mayonnaise. Once the cakes are formed, they are haked rather than deepfried. The result is a non greasy fat-free cake. Two cakes cost \$16.95, which is a lot for a couple of crab cakes, but if you're capable of eating both of them, they constitute a meal.

# BEST JAPANESE-STYLE FONDUE

Shabu Shabu Jin Sang 7614 Fay Avenue, La Iolla (858) 456-4545

Shabu Shabu is a soup-like dish that can be cooked in the kitchen or at your table. For the at-the-table version, burners are placed under the table and covered with a hot plate. After the preliminary courses, a pot is placed before you along with a tray of fresh vegetables and raw chicken, beef or seafood price or preference deter mine whether you pick

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#### **BEST DONUT**

Donut Touch 6755 Mira Mesa Boulevard. Sorrento Mesa (858) 455-9150

It seems as if nothing is untouched by the upscale virus - look what they did to coffee (and if anyone were to rebel and order a plain cuppa joe in protest that would be sillier - self-consciousness in what started this whole thing). Fourwheel-drives have suffered a similar fate. being prettified and luxurized and renamed SUVs. But the real advances have been gastronomic, as if everything the boomers ate while growing up needed to

olive oil, pizza, bread, booze, ice cream Donuts resist the gourmet touch. They are not fashion food; they are dough boiled in fat. But there is a differ ence among donuts, and not merely of freshness, though that is crucial. The

donuts at Donut Touch are fantastic dense pastry, perfect crust, toppings. Though the raised variety is far from dense, it is more substantial than most other raised, more flavorful, more trans porting to that average guy's paradise.

#### BEST GELATO

Gelato Vero Caffe 3753 India Street, Little Italy (619) 295-9269

Gelato Vero Caffe's gelato (Italian ice (ream) is denser, creamier, and tastier than all-American ice cream. Even "gourmet" ice creams don't come close to the bliss of Gelato Vero's Vanilla Bean, Mocha Rum, Spumoni, Tiramisu, or Gianduia (chocolate hazelnut). Gelato is made fresh weekly on the premises along with sorbetto Italian fruit ice such as mango, raspberry coconut). Of the five dozen flavors (36 gelato, 24 sorbetto) 12 are available daily For cups, prices range \$2.25 to 4.50; one gallon is \$22; 1.5 gallon \$33.

#### BEST MOLE

El Agave Tequileria 2304 San Diego Avenue, (619) 220-0692

Say the word "mole" in reference to Mexican food, and what comes to mind is thick chocolate sauce replete with chiles placed over chicken. El Agave in Old Town offers four types of mole, derived from old recipes, some from the 19th Century, Chapas mole: Prepared from ground-roasted peanuts, it employs three kinds of chiles, which are cooked in a hot pan and puréed. Regarded as an old Indian recipe, it is found mainly in Guatemala and is best served on shrimp Mole verde from Oaxaca employs fresh tomatillo sauce, chile de agua, chile serrano, epazote, herbs, roasted pumpkin seeds. The ingredients are mashed into a paste and place over pork or chile. Mole negro de Oaxaca is spicy and adored by those who prefer their chiles at incendiary level. Pasillas, mulatos, anchos, and chipotles are mixed with fried bananas, sesame seeds, peanuts, almonds, raisins, tomatillos, oregano, peppers, and cloves It's almost black in color and goes well with pork or chicken. Agado en natas is pared from boiled cream combined with

chile quajillo and chile pulla. This is a 19th-century recipe best with chicken. These four moles are available nightly

#### BEST SOLE

as its new

Food and Restaurant Editor

Send all press releases, tips, and story ideas to Ms. Wise at

the Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186

Fax: 619-881-2401 • E-mail: naomi@sdreader.com

815 Fifth Avenue Downtown (619) 702-7228

For the 20 years that Mario Valerio was the manager of Anthony's Star of the Sea Room, the fresh petrale sole was one of its most distinguished offerings. When a new chef decided to modernize the menu, the sole was dropped. Valerio moved on to become the manager of de'Medici, an Italian restaurant offering many fish and seafood dishes. Some of his old customers discovered him there and asked. "Can you make us petrale sole?" Valerio buys three and a half pounds of fresh sole, has the head but not the tail cut off, then the fish is filleted and then butterflied (cut flat so it can be stuffed). The stuffing consists of lobster (fresh when available), crab, and shrimp meat. The fish is then closed to resemble its natural state, baked for 35 minutes. and finished with a lemon-butter glaze. This dish sells out almost every night; to prevent disappointment, order it 24 hours in advance.

## A La Carte

## BEST CHOPPED SALAD

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla (858) 454-1315

If you think there's nothing to creating a chopped salad except chopping fresh vegetables and adding lettuce, think again. At Sante, some of the vegetables, such as string beans and fresh artichoke hearts and mushrooms, are boiled briefly in three parts water and five parts red wine vinegar. After they are blanched and cooled, each of these vegetables is placed in a separate container filled with extra virgin olive oil. They are kept in the oil for at least two weeks. At the moment of preparation, romaine lettuce; Boston lettuce; radicchio; arugula; yellow, red, and green peppers; plus uncooked zucchini and yellow squash are cubed very fine. These are tossed with pickled beets and the marinated mushrooms, artichoke hearts, and string beans that have been removed from their olive oil bath. At the last minute, chopped fresh toma toes are added, and the whole is tossed with made-on-the-premises Italian dressing. The combination of fresh and arinated vegetables and the variety of lettuces will set your palate dancing.

#### **BEST FRITTI**

2171 Avenida de la Playa,

Offered both at lunch and dinner, other fritti combine oysters and patty and smelt (a tiny silvery fish); calamari

### BEST FOIE GRAS Tapenade

7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla (858) 551-7500

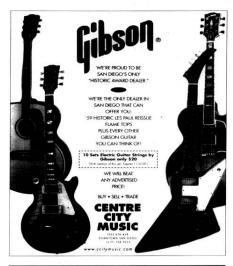
Foie gras is a taste that you acquire. It's a goose liver, strong in flavor, but never gamy, and there are as many recipes for foie gras as there are chefs. Jean-Michel Diot at Tapenade does a foie gras napoleon that's more seductive than the best dessert. The goose livers come from a Hudson Valley farm (in New York). Each portion is five or six ounces and is poached in duck stock and port wine. When the liver is cool, it's cut into slices about a quarter of an inch thick. A napoleon consists of a series of layers. In this case, a confit of vellow onions is assembled; they are cooked in duck fat. The onions are placed at the bottom of the pan followed by thin slices of green apples and then the goose livers. This is repeated twice. Before serving, the portion is sprinkled with sugar and caramelized with a torch. This isn't liver and onions.

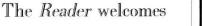
#### **BEST MANDARIN** PORK China Inn

877 Hornblend Street, Pacific Beach (858) 483-6680

The secret to the excellence of the mandarin pork at China Inn is that Andy Kam, the owner, uses pork loin. This is a boneless piece, analogous to a filet mignon. Every bit of fat is trimmed from the loin, which is then cut into strips of three-quarters of an inch. These slices are pounded with a cleaver and then placed in a marinade of red wine and sov sauce for 45 minutes. When removed from the marinade, the pork is dipped into a mixture of beaten egg white and cornstarch. In a wok, oil is heated to a high temperature, and minced onions, garlic, soy sauce, vinegar, and a few teaspoons of tomato sauce are added, along with brown sugar. When the mixture grows thick, the pork loin is placed inside the sauce for no more than one and a half minutes.

Each order contains about one pound of meat, which is always tender and mouthwatering. The cost is \$8.75. Some diners call this dish barbecued pork, but its authentic name is Mandarin pork. Regulars have been dining here 20 years, and for good reason





Barbarella Bistro Naomi La Jolla (858) 454-7373

Take the top of a fern, called a fiddlehead. Dip it in a batter made of flour mixed with cornstarch, cayenne, corian der. Add some beer to make the batter. rise. Dip the fiddlehead in the batter and deep-fry in peanut oil. The taste of the fiddlehead is slightly bitter but refresh ing. And when coupled with deep-fried shrimp, the combination is remarkable. The dish is called a fiddlehead-andshrimp fritti, and it's prepared as a special at Barbarella Bistro in La Jolla

pan squash (baby squash); asparagus or squid with fennel; or fried oysters with the vegetable of the day. Fritti are presented in silver bistro cups (like the ones they used in ice cream parlors) and served with made-on-the-premises aioli.





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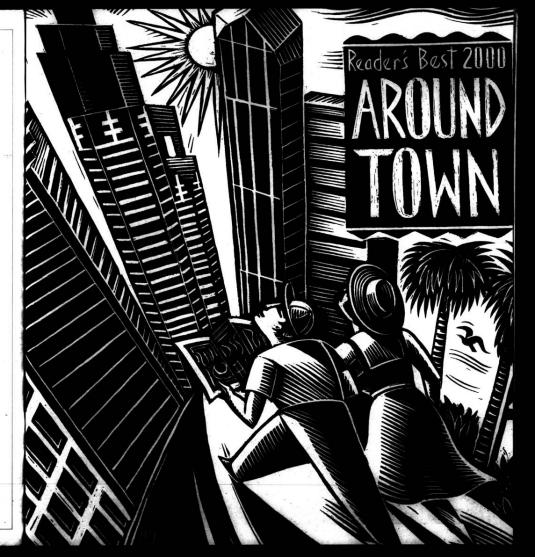
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White House. It's now 4:18 p.m. But swift: the #91 departs at 4:28 p.m. (get the all-day \$2.50 ticket) to Del Obispo Coast Highway and First, the #29 at 6:48 to the Golden West Transportation Center in Huntington Beach, the #29 again at Dock 9 at 7:53 to Beach and Crescent, the #460 (driver might allow you to buy just a 25-cent transfer; otherwise, argh! \$3.35) all the way to Fifth and Spring. Scuzzy downtown L.A.! You've arrived! It's 9:57 p.m. Eleven hours, 18 minutes. And you've only spent, uh, \$9.35. That's a savings of \$1.65 on the Coaster/Metrolinki \$3.65 on the Greyhound! \$240.65 on a cab! Downside: you feel like you've traveled

to China, in a container. Upside: at least you feel like you've traveled.

## **BEST GARBAGE**

Don't laugh, it's really an inspiring, thought-provoking place. First of all, its immensity is impressive. It takes five minutes to get from the gate to where you can dump your load of old building materials and tree branches. In the mean time you drive through a vast lunar landscape that wasn't formed by God and nature, but by man and machines, Buried under the scraped, angular surface is the

waste of urban society. At the dumping

site, always in a different spot from the last time you visited, enormous bulldozers, which make the earth shake beneath your feet, bury San Diego's garbage under the soil. Until the stench drives you away, you can sit and contemplate image of the earth taking back what she has given us. Or, you can just watch big machines push around mountains of

#### BEST BED AND **BREAKFAST AND** DANCING

Bonni Marie's B&B 1000 Eighth Street, Coronado (619) 435-2200

Until two years ago, the city said you had to dance. That was if you wanted to stay at Bonni Marie's B&B. For 14 years the diminutive dance teacher fought for the right to open her Coronado Victorian

House as a bed and breakfast. But, for "only-in-Coronado" reasons, longtime residents and the council fought her. Finally, they arrived at a compromise: if she made guests' stays at the house officially "extended dance classes," which required their presence overnight, they could stay, and she could charge them. In other words, you stayed, you danced. By law. The odd thing is, people did. And since January 1998, when the council finally caved and designated her house a "bed and breakfast," plain and simple, 90 percent of her guests still take the dance

"Most executives have never had the time to learn dancing," she says. "Nor have newlyweds. But when I show them how easy it is, I see an emotional uplift, a light between husband and wife. I see it every time. Dancing is good for the heart

Bonni Marie, who's Armenian Lebanese, will also give cooking lessons, and even lead you on fitness walks along the beach that wags say make local Navy SEALs sit up and take notice. Prices start at \$250 a night - including the dance

#### BEST PLACE TO READ OLD NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

Geisel Library UCSD campus, La Jolla (858) 534-3336

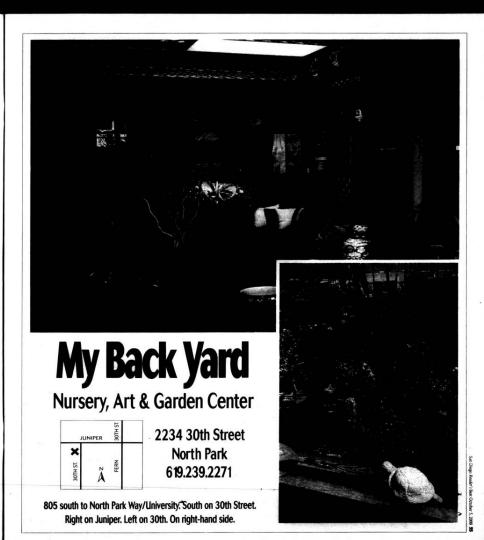
The downtown public library has an extensive collection of local and national offerings. But you have to read the microfilm on cranky old machines in a room inhabited by grizzled old guys. The periodicals room at UCSD's central library couldn't be more of a contrast The room is clean and quiet, the filmreading machines look fresh and new. and you retrieve what you need out of well-organized file drawers (rather than filling out a form and getting a librarian to fetch it for you). And it's all open to the general public.

### **BEST PLACE TO** BRING OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS

Cabrillo National Monument 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive. Point Loma (619) 557-5450 www.nps.gov/cabr

If there is the sightseeing equivalent of a fast-food outlet-gourmet restaurant in San Diego, it's the Cabrillo National Monument. With its vistas of bay, mountains, islands, Mexico, and endless ocean, the monument dedicated to explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo offers a feast for tourists and local residents. For the conutive who can afford one stop, the hilltop memorial is a filling introduction to San Diego. A living map unfolds on all sides. For the leisurely traveler, the stop may serve as the appetizer of orientation at vacation's start or the dessert of summary at journey's end. For visitors who want more than a view, the monument at Point Loma's southern tip contains tidepools, coastal sage scrub, hiking trails, a historic lighthouse, World War II bunkers, and a lookout for gray whales. A museum highlights the expedition of Cabrillo, believed to be Portuguese, who sailed under Spain's flag







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#### BEST BAJA CALIFORNIA WINERY

Chateau Camou Valle de Guadalupe, (20 miles inland from Ensenada) 011-526-177-2221

Robert Mondayi has used his celebrity status to act as a sort of unofficial American Wine Ambassador. So it was with great anticipation that the people at Chateau Camou awaited his visit. He ended up lingering for hours, and before he left, he paid the owners this compliment: "You make your wine the way I make Opus One." The remark was aimed at the technical parallels between the two wineries — the vineyard density, the trellising, the presses. This technical prowess has produced some noteworthy wines. Try the rich Fume Blanc, the Cabernetbacked Zinfandel, and if you can find it, the Bordeaux-style Gran Vino Tinto, selling for around \$11.99, \$10.99, and \$22.99 respectively, at the Wine Bank downtown. The WineSellar in Mira Mesa carries the Fume Blanc for \$11.99 (call for availability).

#### BEST SAN DIEGO COUNTY WINERY

Shadow Mountain Vineyards 34680 Highway 79 South, Warner Springs (760) 782-0778 Proprietor Alexander McGeary is 10

years into his 25-year project to hammer out a wine industry high on the eastern side of Mount Palomar, and things are progressing. Though frost — a threat at 3500 feet - reduced the harvest of his star white varietal, Viognier, two years in a row, he is rebounding by releasing a two-vintage bottling. Some of the wine has been in-barrel for 18 months, some for 10. The extra time in wood should prove an interesting addition to what was already a rich and aromatic Viognier, which should sell at around \$18. Available now, a dry Muscat (\$9), a Grenache Rosé (\$8), and a Barbera (\$15). McGeary's \$10 Carrignane is a fine wine bargain. The tasting room, open Wednesday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., has been relocated to the winery, and a picnic area has been arranged near the original Old Gus vinevard, planted in 1948. In its rehabilitation and expansion, you might glimpse the history and future of San Diego wine.

#### BEST STRIP MALL FOR BACHELORS

Strip mall next to Chevy Chase Apartments Intersection of Spring Street and Broadway, Spring Valley

Let's say you're a single male in the Chevy Chase, an unremarkable enough apartment complex, except for its location next to a strip mall apparently designed for the single young male. If you're feeling flush, start your day at IHOP: buttermilk pancakes \$4.29 (short stack \$3.29), plus \$1.99 for bacon or pork sausage; \$1.29 for a never-empty pot of coffee. Get your daily paper outside. If not, go next door and get stuff for breakfast (and other meals) at Say-A-Lot Foods: \$3.99 for a 34.5 oz. can of McDaniel's all-purpose coffee; \$.79 for a box of Captain Choco cereal; \$1.19 for 12-packs of beef or chicken ramen noodles; \$1.79 for an 18 oz. bag of Snack King Cheese Puffs: \$4.99 for a 56 oz. iar of Peter Pan peanut butter; \$.99 for a 32 oz. jar of concord grape jelly; \$3.99 for 20 premade burger patties. Next, a Laundromat, for when you start to notice your smell. Dinner Option #1: 99-cent Chinese: fried rice, lo mein, pepper steak, etc. Next door, a coffee shop: now serving espresso and cappuccino. Dinner Option #2: Chef Vito's Pizza: \$9.50 for a medium cheese. Dinner Option #3: Mi Burrito: \$2.64 for a carne asada burrito. Watering Hole: Manny's Cocktails and Pool: Sunday Special on Bloody Marys: \$1.50 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; \$3.50 for a shot of Wild Turkey bourbon. Get the occasional haircut at the Hair Mechanics: \$9 for a standard men's haircut. If you're drinking at home: Viking Liquor: \$7.39 for a fifth of Popov Vodka. And Wendy's, way back at the other end by IHOP, is open late with its 99-cent menu.

#### BEST FOOTBALL BEACH

Coronado Municipal Beach Along Ocean Boulevard

About a century ago, Mars. Kettner, Spreckels, and company were hard at it, trying to carey a proper city out of the canyon-riddled southwest corner of the country. Part of that attempt involved a plan to turn our tidewater harbor into a commercial port. Dredging was undertaken, and when it came time to figure out a place to dump all that lovely bottom-ofthe-harbor sand, the southern shore of Coronado was selected. As it turned out. LA, got the railhead and the commercial port, and we got the Navy. We also got a wide, level, and breathtakingly pristine

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# BEST PLACE TO SPOT SD'S FLOCK OF WILD PARROTS

Robb Field, Ocean Beach

America's finest city? Mexican red-headed Amazons think so. The parrots are voting with their wings. It started four decades ago, when about 100 of these luminousgreen birds with scarlet crests and redand-blue wing stripes escaped from their cages in O.B. A good samaritan resident, who'd been rescuing them from Tijuana markets, had a fire at her home. Firemen on the scene opened the cages to save the birds. Instead of heading south, the Amazons saw they had a year-round food supply in O.B. and Point Loma, mainly fruit from palm trees and nuts from pinecones in the fall. The flock has thrived, as have half a dozen huge (threefoot-long) blue-and-gold macaws. No surprise. They're highly intelligent: some Amazons are rated as bright as a twoyear-old child. Best place to see them? According to exotic bird veterinarian Jeffrey Jenkins, the pine trees at Robb Field (by the San Diego River), Early morning or dusk you may catch up to 20 of them coming in to land. Bring earplugs: each parrot belts out one squawk per wing beat. The pine trees turn vivid green as they settle in to crack the cones for a dinner of pine nuts. Best time of year: spring or fall.



# PUT A SPELL ON YOUR LOVER

El Paraiso soda fountain Avenida Niños Héroes, between 1st and 2nd Streets, Tijuana

You're pulling daisy petals. "She loves me, she loves me not." You can do better. You can come to El Paraiso. The place is a veritable repository of herbal and folk remedies. What you're looking for is, uh, one of the dead hummingbirds laid out in the display case. Pilar, who works here, says people have always believed these colibri (\$3 each) are powerful. "You put one of these in your pocket when you're going out to persuade somebody to love you. People believe they will help, as an

Hummingbirds go deep into this area's mythology. Aztec legend says the god of music and poetry took the form of a hummingbird. The Aztec sun and war

god's name was Huitzilopochtli, "the Hummingbird of the Left," or south. meaning spirit world. Hummingbirds maybe because of the way they hover, hum, and seem to whisper into flowers' ears - have always been seen as messengers of the gods. Ancient Peruvians carved an image of a hummingbird on the Nazca plain so large that it can only be recognized at about 1000 feet in the air. Still not convinced of their power? It beats pulling up daisies.

#### **BEST DAYLILIES**

Buena Creek Gardens 418 Buena Creek Road. San Marcos

This is not only the best source of daylilies in San Diego County; it's one of the best in the United States. Owner Steve

and early June, a stroll through the fields provides an education in color. The lilies bloom at other times of the year too, and there's so much else going on at Buena Creek (interesting new plants, a magical shade garden, secret pathways) that it feels Edenic year-round.

## BEST PLACE TO PARTAKE IN A BUDDHIST TEA CEREMONY

Wellspring Tea Room 4538 Park Boulevard University Heights (619) 298-2800

Outside, it's University Heights. Inside you're thinking, "Taipei?" It's a world of rattan mats, Asian zithers, palapa roofs, blond-wood furniture, books on Buddhism, live bamboo, gurgling water fountains, gongs, several smiling Buddhas, groups of Chinese ladies, and the nun, Venerable Man Guei. This is the Wellspring Tea Room, part of the Buddha's Light Bookstore, part of the Hsi Fang temple of the Taiwan-based Fo Guang Shan International Buddhist Order. But what you're here for is simple. To understand the act of preparing, pouring, and appreciating tea. Order a fresh fruit tea. The tea-maker will be giving blessings and chanting prayers to take the ego away from the act. It will come on an oval bamboo tray, the tea in a glass pot. Now, try to look at the patient Man Guei She'll walk you through the whole formal act, reminding you that tea ceremonies were a Chinese, not a Japanese, invention. "Be mindful," she'll warn. "Think of your connections to everything in your cup.



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Think of where this tea came from. Of the farmer preparing the earth. Of the fecundity in that earth. Of planting the orange seeds, and mandarin and passion fruit and apple and pineapple seeds. Of the sun warming them and radiating the energy to grow. Of the seeds responding, thrusting."

BEST PLACE TO FIND OUT HOW TO BECOME A BULLFIGHTER (IF YOU'RE A WOMAN)

Mount Signal Cafe 1201 West Highway 98, ten miles west of Calexico (760) 357-1379

Women matadors are infrequent, partly because that's how the male matadors like it. But if you're determined to become a matador, and you're a woman, talk to Guillermina de Jesús. She runs the Mount Signal Cafe on lonely West Highway 98, ten miles out of Calexico, "My mom, Maria de Jesús, was a bullfighter," she says. The café is plastered with bullfighting pictures. "She was known as 'Manolita.' Momstarted when she was 17. She was part of the only female bullfighting team ever. Six women. My mom used to stick the handerillas in over the horns Guillermina realized early she didn't have the stomach for it herself, especially after her mom died four years ago. But she knows all the bullfighters who gathered here each Mexicali seabeing a woman 20 years ago when her nom started, and it still is. But Guillermina could point you in the right direction - south - if you really were determined. She says it's time. Since her mom died, there hasn't been an all-woman team anywhere in the Americas.

#### **BEST HACIENDA** IN THE COUNTY Rancho Guajome, Vista (760) 724-4082

Plenty of Spanish hacienda relics remain in San Diego County. Rancho Guajome ("Frog pond") is still out there. The suburban world hasn't closed in and made it look like a caged bear. You can just see houses lipping

the surrounding hills, but that's it. Guajome's valley looks as it did in the 1850s, when Cave Johnson Couts, an Anglo on the make, brought his Mexican bride Ysidora Bandini out from Old Town to be queen of its 2200 acres and its 7000-square-foot, 28room adobe casa and private chapel. The two turned the rancho into the social and cultural center of the North County. Folks said their grand fiestas attracted the social elite from the entire state. At the same time, Couts's harshness toward his Indian workers is legendary to this day. It helped inspire Helen Hunt Jackson to write Ramona. Now, the county has done a sensitive restoration. The 150-year-old courtyard's climbing rose thrives. Carriages left behind sit in the barn. And the frog





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Around IOWn

## BEST FROZEN-IN-TIME MAIN STREET

Lakeside

It's the perfect Wild West street scene. Movie producers have been using it as a location ever since May 25, 1911, when Pauline Bush starred in Allan Dwan's one-reeler, A Daughter of Liberty. The TV series Renegade was shot here It just looks the part. Okay Cross that with Victorian mountain spa town." With its lux rious 80-room Lakeside Inn (circa 1887), a Hotel Del look alike, the town was also known as "the Coronado of the Hills." The Inn has long since burned down, but the rest has staved much as it was. The 1896 Presbyterian church, the 1900 Neal house, the 1905 Ross house, the 1911 Town Hall (now the Manhattan Playhouse), the 1912 women's club (now a

coffeehouse), the 1919 Texaco gas station, the verandas over the sidewalks, all looking small beneath a backdrop of towering granite moun tains. Oddly, the arrival of the San Vicente Freeway (67) has allowed Maine Avenue to remain as quiet as it must have been 93 years ago - maybe quieter: On April 21, 1907, just a block over, Barney Oldfield roared his "Green Dragon" racer one mile around Lakeside's lake in 51.8 seconds, smashing the

mile-a-minute barrier.

They made a movie o

that too, in 1913. On

location, of course.

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#### BEST PLACE TO CRAM FOR YOUR EXAMS

The Living Room 5900 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 286-8434

Sick of hoarse whispering in the library? Falling asleep dredge something new out of Aristophanes' Lysistrata? Pick up your books! Leave the library! Depart the campus! Head for the most productive studygarden this side of Elysian Fields. There are four Living Rooms in the county, but the first and best is the one in College Area. Inside, it's low-ceilinged, woody, with Persian carpets on the floor, chunky ancient tables, and lots of art and real antiques. The patio sits under sheltering trees, quaint lights, protective hedges, rosy well-worn tiles, wrought-iron bistro tables with gray marble tops, long tables with benches. Pick one of these, under the bigleaf fig tree from India. Get a coffee \$1.55 house (50 cent refills), \$2.80 Turkish - and spread out your textbooks. Now you're learning: Atmosphere is everything. "We used to hang out in places like this after school in Zurich," says Ralph Koenig, the Swiss owner. "I thought people might appreciate it here." (Open 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., seven days.)

#### BEST FREE HARBOR TOUR

San Diego-Coronado Ferry San Diego Harbor Excursion Dock, 1050 North Harbor Drive, bottom of Broadway (619) 522-6575

The bad news is you have to do this at the start or the end of the day. The good news, San Diego Bay is at her most beautiful then. What's more, this cruiser really cruises, even though, officially, it's a commuter ferry to Coronado. In the morning you cross over to North Island Naval Air Station and tie up near the old naval headquarters. Matelot and civilian workers jump on and off. Then you putter in the shadow of the awesome aircraft carriers, past Millionaires' Row, till you arrive at the ferry landing. Totally free. Why? Coronado's transit management associa tion is trying to get cars off the crowded isle; they want to encourage commuters to use the boat, not the bridge. Grants subsidize certain "commuter" ferry runs across the bay. Free for you and your bike too.

Turn up at the ferry landing (bottom of Broadway), climb aboard, and ask for the "green commuter ticket." That gives you the return afternoon trip. In the morning, these special departure times from San Diego are 5:45, 6:45, 7:20, and 8:20 (8:20 doesn't Call at raval base). Free afternoon returns leave Coronado at 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30. The 6:30 skips the base, but catches the best of the sunset.

#### BEST MARKET SQUARE IN TJ Mercado Hidalgo

Calle Victoria, Rio District, Tijuana

Just when you thought all of Tijuana's Zona Rio was turning into San Diego-style shopping strips, Mercado Hidalgo saves the day. You don't think of traditional cen tral Mexican market squares and Tijuana in the same breath, but Mercado Hidalgo has become just that. Open-front shops around a town-square-like space bulge with foods and spices and piñatas and clay dishes and fresh cheeses and papayas and bananas and strange fruits, such as cherimoyas, and zapotes. People strip down eight-foot stalks of sugarcane, while others de-spine cactus paddles that look like green beavers' tails. Scattered through it all are regional restaurants like El Rincón del Oso, where goat meat is the thing. You can even take home grinning, skinned goatheads to boil up for soup. The fruit shops have six different kinds of bananas and sweet edible cactus fruit (tuna) brought up from Zacatecas. The zinger is, in the middle of the square, sparkling clean public restrooms, and, built on top, a blue domed chapel for the Virgin of Guadalupe, the patroness of the market.

## BEST PLACE TO PLAY PETANQUE

Morley Field Balboa Park (858) 488-6710

It's your call: You can play bowls the English way, on manicured greens wearing formal whites; like the Italians, with woodhearted bocce bowls in long sand pits; or like the French, anywhere there's a patch of open durt. French bowls are smaller, baschall-sized I-bib. Is etce blaik. Pétanque is the name (meaning, in Provençal, "feet together") that Jules Noir gave it when he invented the game in 1907. Make that "reinvented." People have been playing some sort of pétanque since Greek and Roman times. In San Diego, a bunch of Frenchmen started playing it on a patch at Mortey Field in 1980. What draws them —

#### Around IOWn

and now many locals — is a combo of the game, the companionship, the food, the wine, and, incidentally, the exercise. You soon discover you're either a placeur or a stream. A placer or a shooter. Placers try to get their ball nearest the jack. Shooters fling theirs in the air and knock enemy balls away. Pétanque is more about convivaility. Kids, men, women, rich, poor, champs, chumps—they all play this game. Old guys too. Some old players too stiff to bend down use magnets on strings to retrieve their boules. You couldn't do that with boxec. First and third Sundays.

## BEST SIDEWALK PASTIME

This you play heads-down because you're looking for something. You're an archaeologist of the fourth millennium, and you're looking for signs dating this coastal town they called San Diego. Ah! At around 4648 North Avenue, you see this imprint in the ancient concrete. "De Boer & Johnston, 9/10." De Boer and Johnston must have laid down this actual piece of sidewalk in September 1910. But wait - now you're in Coronado, walking where Ocean Boulevard meets Loma. Your feet scrape and reveal the imprint "J. F. Over, contrac tor, 1898." Huh! You have to stand and ponder. What famous feet have actually walked over Over's concrete since he poured it? Teddy Roosevelt's? The Prince of Wales's? Charles Lindbergh's? Your own great grandma's? Be warned. This search for the oldest sidewalk imprint can take over your life. You'll be banging into lampposts, bus stops, and little old ladies, so wear a helmet. Eighteen ninety-eight is

#### BEST PLACE TO LIVE IF YOU'RE ALLERGIC TO THE 21ST CENTURY The Last Resort, Potrero

(619) 478-5610

Ask for Harriett Molloy, self-confessed canary from the mines of the industrial age, "who founded this refuge 20 years ago in "the cleanest air I could find." "The winds of Potrero blow east and west," she says. "They come off the ocean or the desert. They don't blow up from the industries of Mexican Tecate. So far, we can breathe pollution-free." Molloy suffers from what her Chicago doctor labeled "Multiple Chemical Sensitivities." Her

property, only half-humorously labeled The Last Resort," nestles beneath clusters of century-old olive and California live oal trees. As soon as you enter her house, you notice all wood is bare, unvarnished. The floors are all tile. There's no wall-to-wall ynthetic carpet. No gas heating or cooking. All energy is electrical. Where there is paint, Molloy says it's nontoxic. It's been given weeks to breathe out its fumes. "This is a difficult life," she warns. "Everything we get is secondhand. Building timber. clothes, TVs, beds, because we need them to have lost their toxicity." Even new mag azines hang out in the sun clipped to line to be "outgassed." But this, she says, is all our futures. "The rest of you just don't know it vet." If you do know it. Molloy rents cabins and trailers on her mountain property to the seriously allergic

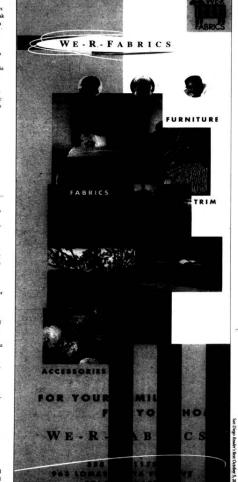
#### BEST BAJA TRAILER PARK Estero Beach Resort, Ensenada

The fabulously '50s Estero Beach Resort a sage and seafoam concrete dream marriage between Aztec beauty and American efficiency - stands in sharp contrast to the messy, half-finished look of some portions of Ensenada. Everything is landscaped and regular; even the coastline has been straightened into tasteful rock walls, which rise straight out of the water. There is a pinkish. '80s-style addition, but it fails to muffle the echo of a bygone era that pervades the place. Nestled next to that resort, tucked in against the coast, stands the prettiest trailer park you could wish for - broad red brick streets cut by narrow walkways, everything tidy and wellgroomed, everything at right angles. The trailers themselves are mostly older, full of the solid optimistic, semi-adventuresome glory that was the early American trailer home. Sixty-five thousand dollars puts you on the water, in a house so large that the original trailer seems almost an afterthought, while \$6500 gets you a modest little starter. A few stand alone, most have been added onto - supporches. extra bedrooms, painted wood siding. If a man had the means, the temptation to disappear into this Mexican slice of Americana would be almost irresistible

## BEST 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Coronado, Orange Avenue 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Why Coronado? Because the town's small enough and the parade's big enough. And the grassy median's a perfect picnic spot.



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#### Around IOWn

And the Navy and the SEALs and the amphib people can roll their heavy stuff right out the gate and into the parade. So you get a marine M-1 tank swinging its turret over your head, or a Vietnam-era HC3 twin-blade chopper bulging along the street with its rotors folded back like fly wings. But alongside these you get the Coronado Public Library's float of Peter Pan, Wendy, Tinkerbell, and Never-Never Land; Coronado High School kids in cars they converted from gasoline to electricity; the Glorietta Bay Inn with an evocation of tent city 1900; the Naval Amphibious Sailor of the Year: Gamewardens of Vietnam - a little head-scratching there - the local mayor: congressmen; even some guy parading the red '62 topless GT he just wants to sell. It's like a visual reminder of our local and national memory. And afterward: medieval contests, picnic concerts, mock wars, and fireworks.

But the heart and soul's here on Orange: families, young couples, teens, and kids. Five year-olds Scottish-dancing their way down the avenue to pipes playing "Will Ye No Come Back Again?" Grandpas who stand up, doff their hats, and salute every time a military unit goes by.

#### BEST PLACE TO PICK UP SCUTTLEBUTT IN SAN DIEGO

The Turf Supper Club 1116 25th Street, Golden Hill (619) 234-6363

Up on Golden Hill, this curious, eclectic, cell phone-and-cocktail-and-steak place attracts graphic artists, dot-com dreamers, loft artists, teachers, ponytailed accountants, coulda-been stage stars, and entry-level Qualcomm types. They meet, mix, and cheerfully exchange the most malicious gossip in town while they down their Chernobyls and slice into their steak. (The Chernobyl Cocktail: Stolichnaya, Kahlua, Tuaca, and Metaxa shaken and served up, with a twist of lemon. "Prepare for a complete meltdown," \$5.25.) If it's down and dirty and delicious, you'll hear it here first. This is a reborn bar in a green building near the cross of 25th and C that first opened in 1950. At night, from the outside, it looks like one of those places you saw in foggy '40s New York movies. Places you went to meet your mistress, where nobody knew you. The cook-your-own open grill ("Sur & Turf." steak and seafood kabob. \$6.75)

generates great gossip, behind the protective hissing of your steak or next to the jukebox playing #2116: Big Sandy and his Fly-Rite Boys singing "Juiced."

#### BEST PLACE TO HITCH A YACHT-RIDE ACROSS THE PACIFIC

Downwind Marine 2804 Cañon Street, Point Loma (619) 224-2733 www.downwindmarine.com

Every year, around the fourth of November, Chris Frost throws a party. He calls it his "Cruisers Kick-Off Party." Skippers turn up looking for crew, as the cruising season's about to get underway, and wanna-be crew members arrive with placards or hat signs reading "New Zealand!" "Hawaii!" "Mexico!" "Tahiti!" "Bali!" Because that's where they want to sail to this season. It's like singles night at Hooters. From November through January, cruisers call in to seek Frost's help with everything from wind generators to hand-operated washing machines to finding crew. "April's a good month too, if you're sailing west," says Frost's assistant Gigi Johnson, who has crewed all over the Pacific. "The seasonal storms are pretty well over by then." She says Downwind holds regular seminars on all aspects of ocean cruising, and, if you miss the Cruisers Kick-off Party, there's always Downwind's regular donuts and coffee get-togethers Wednesday mornings around 10:00.

To crew, you don't need experience, but you do have to be fit, adaptable, and ready to learn. Johnson also warns: get to know your skipper. He or she may be charming on shore and then turn into a Captain Bligh as soon as you weigh anchor. Or worse, prove to be a neophyte.

#### BEST GROTTO

Lourdes Grotto Saint Therese Catholic Church, 6016 Camino Rico, Del Cerro (619) 582-3716

The address is a little misleading. The mission-style church stands on the corner of Navajo and College, but you enter off Camino Rico, behind the church. Park in front and walk past the three giant date palms, past the mature roebushes, through the Spanish-style areade that stretches between a side door of the church on the left and the rectory on the right. Follow the red tile path to the grottest the between the right carbing to at the base of the hill. The arching

#### Around IOWN

structure is 15 feet tall, 15 feet wide at the base. It's made of smooth-faced stones; four- by four-foot stones make up the bottom course. In a scooped-out section in the top right of the back wall stands an unpolished statue of the Virgin Mary. A small waterfall trickles from her feet down to a shallow pool. Next to the pool a carved likeness of St. Bernadette Soubirous kneels. The scene is a represen tation of the events of February 11, 1858, when Mary appeared to Bernadette, a peasant girl, near Lourdes in southwestern France. The story was immortalized in the Academy Award-winning movie The Song of Bernadette. During summer time evenings, the prevailing west breeze carries the fragrance of rose and jasmine, and the setting sun shines through the arcade, illuminating the grotto

#### BEST CENTRAL MEXICAN TOWN PLAZA ON THE BORDER

Parque Miguel Hidalgo Tecate

Okay, we've all heard it. Tijuana isn't the

real Mexico. For that, say the oh-so purists, you've got to go "deep down into the heartland..." Baloney! All you've got to do is take 94 a little past Barrett Junction to the two Tecates. Dump the wagon in American Tecate and walk down the hill into its bigger sister-city. Mexican Tecate. Three little blocks and suddenly you're in the cutest Mexican town square you're likely to see between here and Guadalajara. Tecate's Parque Miguel Hidalgo has it all. A café, tall ustling sycamore trees, statues, a gazebo in the middle, ice cream sellers, amorous couples, kids running round, and on undays, bands or folk dancers in swirling skirts performing in the gazebo bandstand. Sit at the Cafe TKT (get it?) and slurp down their wonderful garlic soup, dunk the great chunks of crisp Mexican bread in, and - it would be boorish to drink anything else - glug back on a caguama (large bottle, literally "sea turtle") of Tecate beer.

#### BEST PLACE TO LEARN CAMBODIAN CHESS Trieu Chau Restaurant

Trieu Chau Restaurant 4653 University Avenue, City Heights (619) 280-4204

This is the ritual: come around nine in the morning and sit in the back on the salmon-colored Formica benches, where all the Cambodians gather. Donut-shop owners, teachers, retired soldiers, shift workers. Some read newspapers, everybody talks Cambodian politics, most order the breakfast they've eaten all their lives, a kind of H-shaped fried croissant with coffee poured over condensed milk. Maps of Kampuchea decorate the walls, as well as long-distance telephone ads. "Cambodia: \$10 for 33 minutes." The menu has a large drawing of famed Angkor Wat on it. But when Kathy - a Chinese-Cambodian - comes to take your order, just say, "Djak kvai coffay dok ko." "Fried bread with Cambodian coffee." Or you might have the dish most Khmers (Cambodians) eat in the evenings, "if the nights are calm and there is no war," as one customer puts it: pan fried noodles with broccoli, beef or shrimp, and gravy ("Koitiow bahat sai kho"). Don't ask for it with chicken, which Khmers consider tasteless. Now take an interest in the noisy chess game. Pieces include seashells, wooden domes and conical-hatted kings. It's quick. It's complicated. But they'll happily teach you, and maybe they'll teach you how to sit cross-legged on the bench too. Plus, you'll pick up some language. It's a great way to dip into the Khmers' ancient. sophisticated, and wounded culture.

## BEST HANGOUT FOR WANNA-BE SURFERS

Pipe's Cafe 121 Liverpool Drive, Cardiff (760) 632-0056

Get to Pipe's for breakfast, late enough so it seems like you've been on dawn patrol, • i.e., out surfing early. Don't shave. Leave your hair wet from the shower. Park round the corner on San Elijo so it looks like you've trudged up from the beach a few blocks away. Wear baggy shorts, a Billabong T-shirt, flip-flops. Clothes must look like they've been wadded up in your car for a week. And for god's sake, don't study the autographed surf photos and posters too closely - you'll look like the pretender you are. If you're desperate for a conversation-starter, this one about a surfboard hanging on the west wall will do: "Hey, isn't that the stick Machado rode in What Now?" On small days (i.e., small surf) most of the clientele might be locals with their kids. If you want to mingle with da boyz, wait for a day when the surf is overhead. Local heroes Rob Machado and Taylor Knox are regular Big boyz like Kelly and Shane D. show up



when they're in town. Even Da Bull's been seen plowing into a stack of pancakes with the commitment that made him a legend at giant Makaha. Take a tip from him: You gotta be hungry as only a three-hour session in overhead surf will make you. Don't bother laying into that Bacon Scramble if you don't mean it. They'll sniff you out as sure as if you paddled out at big Pipe's on a twin-fin. And don't order anything from the "lite" menu. Sit inside or on the patio. You'll overhear the surf talk either place. You can read the U-T (sports section only), but a dog-eared Surfer mag is better. Don't be intimidated. That guy going off about his deep barrels and sick air is probably wet from the shower too. He's just got the act down.

#### **BEST DUCK** FEEDING

Lake Murray. San Carlos

Though wild, the ducks at this lake just north of 1-8 in San Carlos are well cared for. One middle-aged man comes every day with a duffel bag full of chicken

feed, and he can tell you most of the ducks' names, including several former pets dropped off by owners who became horrified when their cuddly peeper turned into a hungry, crap-squirting quacker. Several varieties are here: teal. canvasbacks, mallard, and the beautiful crested wood duck. The turkey-looking Muscovy ducks, with swollen red growths on their face, are bold and friendly and will eat cracked corn out of your hand. Never feed bread to ducks, as this swells in their stomachs and can kill them. Watch out for the huge, honking geese with the bulging beaks. They can

## BEST STREET PERFORMANCES The Prado, Balboa Park

Big Brother is everywhere, so even street performers have to be licensed by the city. On any summer day, along the walkways of Balboa Park, throngs of diverse show-biz startups compete every few yards for your attention and your tips, every one of them carrying signed permission from the city to do so. This makes for a nearly professional caliber of jugglers, palm readers, body artists, magicians, and troubadours who've

worked out their own social hierarchy and staked their turfs on what sometimes seems to be every single available patch of park. Bonus: the amazing rockstacking guy, who used to exhibit his talent at Seaport Village, was spotted oper ating just to the north of the Japanese garden one recent weekend.

## BEST PLACE TO JUMP THE FENCE West end of Tecate

Where's the best place to jump the border fence? Where there is no border fence. Not that we're encouraging any one to break the law. But in case you're asked in a quiz: the answer is right above the western end of Tecate, just north of the Rancho La Puerta spa, where the border fence simply gives out. All you have between you and el Norte is a tree overed mountain, Cerro Cuchumá. This is California before we came before they divided it into Upper and Lower. Warning: armed bandits operate nightly. Warning: snakes and scorpions operate nightly. Warning: Border Patrol body-heat and movement sensors planted widely. Warning: if none of these get you, the mesquite bushes with their lethal prickles surely will.

#### **BEST PLACE** TO FIND GUESTS FOR "THE JERRY SPRINGER SHOW" The Del Mar Fair

Try the Fun Zone at the Del Mar Fair

after 10:00 p.m. No shortage here of delinquent brats hopped up on Godknows-what seeking out dangerous cheap thrills, wearing T-shirts that read "No Fear," or "Metallica." All of them under the guidance and care of bleary-eved carny-ride operators or ring-toss barkers Clinton!" or "Let Go, Let God." You can distinguish the potential lerry guests from the carnies because the latter wear their baseball caps bill-forward. True, this motherlode of wayward, dysfunctional, trailer-park desperadoes is available only a few short weeks in the summer, but Jerry should be able to supply himself with enough dizzy, amusing panelists from the wading end of the gene pool for a whole season of TV fun.

## **BEST LOCAL WRITER**

Robert Wade is a lifelong San Diegan. He writes the "Spadework" column in the

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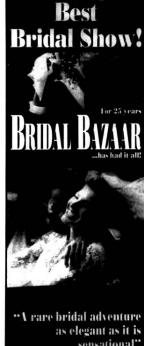
# BEST PLACE TO TAKE A STROLL DOWN LOVERS' LANE

Seaport Village

Want to take a walk with your love? You might enjoy the seaside in La Jolla, the Rose Garden of Balboa Park, or the quaint shopping district of Coronado. But the best love jaunt is through Seaport Village and Embarcadero Park. Hugging the edge of the

## Around IOWn

Union-Tribune book review section once a month or so, the local mystery reader's guide to whatever is any damned good to read or not among the onslaught of suspense fiction published every month. Wade has authored or coauthored (with the late William Miller) some 46 novels over the past 50 years. All but 4 of his books are out of print. In 1993 Harper Perennial had the wisdom to reissue Shoot to Kill, Uneasy Street, Calamity Fair, and Murder Charge all under the pseudonym Wade Miller. In October 1998, his novel, Fatal Step was serialized in these pages and his first, the 1946 novel Deadly Weapon, was published here in late 1999. Under the name Whit Masterson, Wade and Miller wrote Touch of Fvil. which became the classic noir film with Orson Welles and Charlton Heston, Seck out and find The Death of Me Yet, Guilty Bystander, or anything you can by this writer, among the first American novelists to elevate the genre crime



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## Around IOWn

bay, the walkway offers views of Coronado Bridge, Coronado itself, the bay, and Point Loma beyond. A wide path runs from South Embarcadero Park northwest past the convention center, to the tuna harbor (or all the way to the Star of India and beyond for the in-shape couple). In between, narrow paths weave through the galleries, ice-cream parlors, cookie shops sweets are always good for romance and koi ponds of Seaport Village, while vachts bob in the Marriott Marina, Street performers and artists along the path add a Bohemian air. In the summertime, as the sun drops behind Point Loma and the and breeze blows off the water, there's no more romantic spot to walk in San Diego.

#### **BEST VIEW** OF THE BAY

First Street Bridge, Park West

We've been to the Top of the Hyatt and to Cabrillo National Monument. We've even tood on the rooftop helipad of the Symphony Towers. All afford sweeping views of the bay, but none afford the best. That honor goes to the First Street Bridge. which carries its namesake thoroughfare

across a canyon between Nutmeg and Olive Streets in the Park West area. The view, looking southwest down the canyor over Harbor Island to the tip of Point Loma beyond, is not a wide view. In fact, it's quite narrow, and that's what makes it great. You don't see any ugly dockyards, tops of buildings, vacant lots, or the mile of tarmac at Lindbergh Field — though every few minutes an airliner glides across the view on its landing approach. Instead, you see gray Navy ships and white-sailed pleasure craft sailing in and out against the blue backdrop of the bay, framed in the foreground by the lush greenery on either side of the canyon. Much more romantic than looking down on parking lots and

#### BEST PLACE TO SEE A 1300-POUND FISH

Sauidco 1730 Kettner Boulevard, (619) 238-0909

One thousand three hundred and seventysix pounds, to be exact — and there's a 1294-pounder, to boot. You wouldn't believe the size of the aquarium this fishing-supply store has. Only kidding — the fish aren't alive; in fact, they're not exactly

dead either. Okay, they're not 1300 pounds and they're not even fish. They're fiberglass reproductions of two fish: the all-tackle world-record blue marlin (the 1376-pounder) and the largest mounted black marlin in the United States. A Souidco employee explained that female molds were done of the actual fish and used to make the fiberglass reproductions Even if they're not real, they're amazing to look at. It's hard to imagine someone pulling such beasts from the ocean with a fishing rod. Stroll in and have a look. It's free and the Squidco people will be happy to tell you about these fish and the 20 other mounted marlin, bass, sailfish, and

#### BEST VESTIGE OF OLD BAJA

Yearning for the laid-back Baja that Earl Stanley Gardner used to describe in the 30s? It's alive and well - just. Best and nearest place: Popotla, a jerry-built squatters' fishing village on a rocky point five nutes south of Rosarito (the nontoll road). It's right after the studios Fox built to film Titanic. The movie's millions never trickled down: you bump along a dusty track to this collection of rickety stilt

ouses and restaurants. Choose Pedro's place, Mariscos El Locochon, first on the left, Pedro García Barcelo runs it. Yellow fishing boats with names like Elisa and Isabel are tied to the blue poles by the tables. Choose a wiggling fish. He chops its head off and cooks it in oil in a "wok." which is actually an upturned tractor's plowing disk. The only sounds: gulls fight ing to catch fish guts he tosses to them. and the crash of the blue waves. Electricity iffy, so come by day.

## **BEST PLANT EXPERT**

No one knows more about the subtleties of making things grow in San Diego County than Pat Welsh. Born in England, she settled in Del Mar 46 years ago, and in 1992 she poured her years of local gardening experience into Pat Welsh's Southern California Gardening, a month-by-month guide to planting, pruning, propagating, watering, and otherwise tending to an impressive number of the fruits, vegetables, and ornamental plants that grow here. Witty, opinionated, and crammed with everything from botanical principles to detailed, practical tips, this book serves as a Bible for legions of local gardeners.

## Around IOWn

hearing Welsh talk, something she does often at various local forums. Her passion for gardening makes you want to run home and get your fingers in the dirt.

#### BEST (SURVIVING) SPACE-BASED RELIGION

Unarius Academy of Science 145 South Magnolia Avenue, (619) 444-7062

Their interstellar doctrine and prophecy are not a religion, say the Unarians, but a mandate from the star people to teach humankind connective and higher spiritual understanding. The nonprofit, taxexempt educational foundation has a huge cache of videos and books by Unarius cofounder Ruth Norman, calling herself "Archangel Uriel" and spreading word of the spaceship from the planet Myton, which will arrive in 2001 and land on a submerged Atlantis, in the Bermuda Triangle. If their space brethren miss the star-bus, let's hope the Unarians don't take it as hard as the Heaven's Gate

## OF HOW FAR WE HAVEN'T COME WITH MEXICO

Border Field State Park West end of Monument Road (619) 575-3613

August 18, 1971, first lady Pat Nixon came to Border Field State Park and its low bluff overlooking the ocean, declar ing it an international "Friendship Park." Wrote the San Diego Union, "372 acres were dedicated, and the fence between the two countries was cut for a while in a spontaneous gesture of

friendship.

Thanks to Richard and Pat, the two neighboring peoples finally had a mixing place next to Mexico's last lighthouse and most northerly bullring. Hot dogs and tacos. Rock 'n' roll and mariachi music. Even five years ago, you could walk the beach into either country, and there were enough holes in the single fence for musicians and taco vendors to crawl through. Sundays were big bi-national family picnic days. No longer. The iron wall now runs through it and on out to sea; even Mexican crabs can't mix with American crabs. Nice



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# BEST NEIGHBORHOOD NEON SIGN

The Boulevard West end of El Cajon Boulevard

To the casual observer, the revival and refurbishment of the neon neighborhood signs - Kensington, Hillcrest, Normal Heights, (soon) Little Italy, et al. - looks like an effort to reestablish the neighborhood community feeling that existed in the decades before malls, shopping centers, strip malls, discount superstores, and the like sucked the financial life out of citywide Main Streets. They seem to be encouraging people to do out of pride and civic responsibility what they used to do out of necessity - think local, stay local, shop local. Such an effort harkens back to the '50s, before the really bad architecture started cropping up in San Diego, to an era before highways, an era when cruising provided an evening's entertainment. And no sign makes us harken like the Boulevard. just east of the Washington/Park Boulevard/Normal Street hub. The

stylish font, the subtitle ("Gateway to Mid-City"), the three lanes on either side all make us nostalgic for an era we never really knew. The Boulevard is not quite a neighborhood, but it is a Main

#### BEST PLACE TO CONTEMPLATE HUMAN CAPACITY FOR UGLINESS

City Operations Building 1222 First Avenue, Downtown

There is a tendency in modern buildings to look as though the concept models upon which they are based wer constructed from Legos, a childlike blockiness and friendliness that lacks any air of substance and gravitas — fun buildings, play buildings. That the new courthouse downtown should have such a look brings a smile to the face, but that smile quickly fades at the sight of what stands, or squats, behind the jail: the City Operations Building. Former city planner Mike Stepner once told a Reader reporter that the building - a gray, slit-windowed square atop a tan solidified-lava-esque pedastal, as if the place had been vomited from hell itself - was the original inspiration for

the Orchids & Onions Architecture Awards here in San Diego. Something had to be said. The founders of the awards likened it to architecture inspired by Hitler's bunker. The place has a totalitarian, unapproachable air to it, an unattractive quality for a government building in a nation that is supposed to be a democracy. One begins to sympathize with government workers (a curious feeling), to wonder at the envy they must feel for the criminals next door, squirreled away in their cheerful confines.

## BEST PLACE TO WATCH THE 747s LAND

Windsock Bar and Grill 2904 Pacific Highway, Midtown (619) 297-0866

Ever seen one of those wasps with long legs that dangle as they fly? The British Airways 747-400 coming in over the parking building on Laurel looks just like one when you watch from the balconv at the Windsock Bar and Grill at the limsair terminal. This is as close as you can get. The sight's awesome. She seems to float forever, a ridiculous foot

above the tarmac...then choik! choik! Blue smoke billows up from 16 wheels. "Oh my God! What a lady! Bee-vootiful!" shouts one of the regular 747watchers, thumping the metal rail with his fist. That's how enthusiastic these plane freaks get here on the balcony. Order a \$3.50 vodka-tonic in a martini glass so you can toast "The Lady" as she comes in (around 4:30 to 5:00 p.m., daily). Also watch for VIPs taxiing right up to limsair in their private jets.

#### BEST SHIPWRECK

The Monte Carlo, off southern end of Coronado Shores

Okay, she's not Titanic. But you don't have to dive three miles down to find her either. The concrete-hulled Monte Carlo was one of the gambling ships that anchored off California during the 1930s. A convenient three miles beyond Point Loma, her lights glittered the temptations of duty-free liquor and gambling heaven, loose women and rentable cabins to every red-blooded San Diegan who walked the Embarcadero, just a 20-minute launch ride away. But by the night of December 31, 1936, the Good Lord had had enough. A storm rolled in. The

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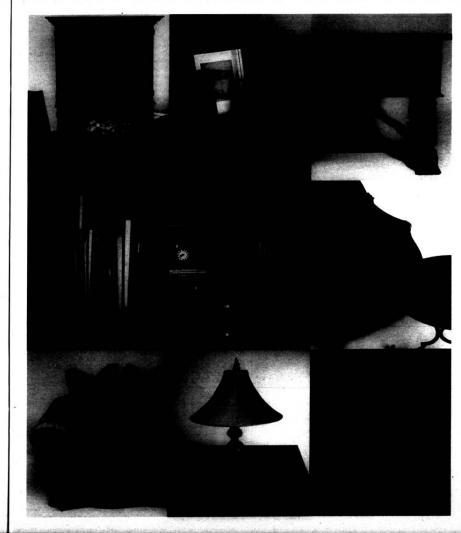
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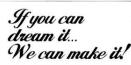


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## Around IOWn

Monte Carlo's anchors lost their grip and the vessel of sin drifted onto Coronado's beach. Next day kids dived for the silver dollars stuck below in the slot machines. They missed most.

She still sits right below the southernmost condo of Coronado Shores, near the Hotel Del. Wait for a full moon, at low tide. Winter's best when sands are low. Thar she'll be, her full 300 feet sticking out of the water, hid-

## STUDY GRAFFITI

**Barrio Logan** 

Some people admire the elaborate mural-sized geometric designs of former guerrilla tagger Saki, others prefer the primitive kinetic power of a simple bathroom-wall limerick. Sponsored graffiti - wall naintings commissioned by civic groups and property holders - is often quite beautiful if rarely inspired. Examples can be found in Balboa Park and at the San Ysidro border crossing. The hit-and-run taggers who work under cover of night used to produce awesome temporary masterpieces on the now-razed Home Depot building on University and on various Golden Hill fences, particular ly around upper Broadway. The best place to drive around and see graffiti is on the mainland end of the Coronado Bridge in Barrio Logan, a full-scale neighborhood gallery offering all types of public art.

## BEST PLACE TO RELIVE THE LIFE OF A WORLD WAR II

Camp Talega on Camp Pendleton (760) 725-5569

Clint Eastwood recognized it: the feel of the Lost Legion about this place. That's why he shot Heartbreak Ridge here. Camp Talega, hidden in the northwest hills of Camp Pendleton. ntially unchanged since they whipped it together in 1942, post-Pear Harbor. The rows of half-cylindrical Quonset huts haven't been replaced. cross — the old chapel — is still there

preparing equipment for thousands of training groups that visit Pendleton every year. But during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm. troops spent their last nights on home ground here, hearts pounding, staring at the curved corrugated ceiling, won dering if they'd ever come back. At dusk, when a Marine starts lowering the flag and the color sergeant sounds his trumpet, a chorus of coyote howls - aa-oooooooo! - breaks out in the surrounding hills. Guided tours can be arranged by calling (760) 725-5569.

## BEST PLACE TO FALL OFF THE WEIGHT WATCHERS WAGON

Del Mar Fair

Tired of calculating points? Tired of counting out 41 nonfat pretzel sticks for an afternoon snack? Tired of measuring every pitiful bite of food in the hopes of losing half a pound? Ready to tuck into some real food? Soul food? Food that drips with fat and calories and flavor? Go to the fair. The Del Mar Fair. Walk through the O'Brien Gate and enter a bulimic's paradise. Even the vegetables are deep-fat fried. Start with some Australian batter-fried potatoes swimming in ranch dressing. Work your way through a mountainous ice cream sundae. Inhale a cinnamon roll dripping with cream cheese frosting. Don't ask the burly guy pumping out corn dogs how many points are in the Polish sausages. "You want points?" he'll say. "I got your points right here."

# BEST PLACE TO MEET MEXICAN

Many Baja-goers say Americans are most likely to get pulled over on the road that runs along the border from the San Ysidro crossing to Playas. The speed limit marked on the pavement is 60 kilometers per hour, but all the locals do twice that. Do you keep up with them or do you obey the traffic laws and stick out even more with your clean car and California plates? There's no right answer. Either way you're a target to be pulled over and hear "Three violations, amigo: \$150." But don't be alarmed, that's just the opening of negotiations. After all, the barter



## Around IOWn

system is alive and well in Mexico Thirty dollars is usually enough to effect a happy parting.

#### BEST GHOST

The Lady in White Vallecito Stage Denot County Highway S2, south of Scissors Crossing

Some say she comes at night. Others say you first hear the horses snorting outside the door. But the Lady in White has haunted many a visitor to the Vallecito stage depot on the Great Southern Overland Route of 1849. The salt grass sod hut stands as isolated today as the evening the Lady in White staggered in off one of the Butterfield stagecoaches 140 years ago, History books say she looked very frail, sick from bad food and the stress of traveling, all the way from Tipton, Missouri, In the dark little adobe alcove off the kitchen, she lay down and soon expired on the dirt floor. In her white dress they found papers and the name of-her betrothed, a gold prospector she was set to marry up in Sacramento.

Aficionados of the Butterfield stagecoach route, including artist Mariorie Reed who illustrated four books about it, say in the silence of the desert night at Vallecito you hear horses' snorts and a lady's sighs.

#### **BEST CHILDREN'S** LIBRARY

La Mesa Branch San Diego County Library 8055 University Avenue. (619) 469-2151

Thursday before Father's Day, 3:30 in

the afternoon, hordes of little Picassos concentrated on coloring and taping letters and cutouts onto a paper placemat for Pop's big day. Another Thursday afternoon at 3:30, Jerry Hager entertained a mob of children with a story mime reminiscent of

Throughout the year, La Mesa branch library on University Avenue has events for children on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and at 3:30 p.m. A Dr. Seuss storytime, Green Eggs and Ham, complete with a man dressed like the Cat in

the Hat and props: a sugar cookie with white frosting and green Jell-O in the center. Yes, kids, green eggs do taste good! Puppet shows, crafts, singalongs, a ventriloquist show, a visit from Winnie the Pooh ... every Thursday there are two different events to enter-



Mary Pappas, Athens Market restaurant: To Coronado, the Hotel Del. It has a lot of class. It's Old-World. It's a spot where, many, many years ago, kings and queens visited. If it was good enough for the kings and queens of Europe, it's good enough for

Charles Kaufman, Bread & Cie bakery: There's a bar next to the Greyfround Bus Terminal down on Broadway. I take guest there because it's a cool place, and it's not the San Diego that you would think. I'm tired of reinforcing the stereotypes about this town. One of the wonderful things about San Diego is how truly diverse it is. We've got conservatives, liberals, all different ethnic sions. I take my guests because it displays that part of San Diego. After that I'll go to Il Fornaio on Coron ado, right there on the bay. There's an outdoor patio, and you can sit there with your guests and watch the boats go by.

George Hauer, George's at the Cove restaurant: I like to take them on a walk through La Jolla. You can start at Win-dansea and you walk north right on the beach until you reach come up to the road and walk along through Scripps Park to the Cove. Then up Cave Street, and you can take your guests along the walk way above what's called "The Clam." It's a jumping spot. It's illegal, but the kids still sometimes do it. You autiful view of the Shores from there. Then, go back lown and come into town and walk down Prospect St then down Girard. From there, you go over by the high school, and you hook up with the bike trail and come back around to Windansea. It would probably be a three-hour walk, but you'll show your guests some of the best scenery and best shops in

Charles Elster, KPBS Radio: We have a little tradition with out-of-town guests. After we pick them up at the airport, we go over and debrief or blow off some steam at the Fish Market on the Embarcadero between Seaport Village. It's easy to get to from the airport, it's got a great view of the bay, and pretty good food. Ther aren't too many places where you can get some especially, has a nice ambience, and the bartenders

BEST SPOT TO TAKE OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS

Loren Nancarrow, Channel 10 News: Without a doubt, along the coast in La Jolla from the Cove up to La Jolla Shores It's great people-watching, it's great nature viewing, It's one of those rare places where nature and urban life sort of interface. There are very few places where you can see a big predator like a seal living happily in an urban setting. And you get to see lots of people from different countries. It's really international around there.

Delana Bennett, Magic 102.5: Puerto Nuevo is a wonder-ful place to take guess. They can have fresh lobster and a nice tate of Mexico. 14's a little city just south of Rosarito. All of the restaurants have mariachle playing, and fresh lobster with beam and a margarita will cost you about eight bucks. It's really a unique experience for out-of-towners.

Linda Walby, Aix 93.7: There are a couple of places. Pirst, I usually drive them along Sunset Cliffs to they can see the ocean and the cliffs and all that. Then, up through Fort Rose-crans cemetery and out to Cabrillo Monument to see the view, After that, we go to Coronado. Even just going over the bridge my guests like. That tour usually sells them on San Diego.

Chuck Valverds, Wahrenbock's Book Hause, downtown Assuming my gests haven't been here before, or even if they have and it's been a long while. I like to start them at Cabrillo National Monument to talk about the city and what the scope of it is and what the dimensions of it are. Because from there you see Mexico, you can set be ocean and the attractiventy to the bay. If you look back you can see La folls, and you can set all the infland area. On a clear dip'it is a truly spectually view. From there, you go to the zoo and Tijuans and all the rist.

Around IOWN

tain the munchkins. There's plenty of parking for those minivans too.

## BEST (AND CHEAPEST) PLACE TO RECORD YOUR BREAKTHROUGH

Plaza Santa Cecilia, Tijuana

You've got this ballad. It came to you in

the shower. You know it's a hit. How to get it recorded? Pick up your tape recorder and take the trolley to San Ysidro. Walk across to Plaza Santa Cecilia, at the bottom of Revolución. Look around you. Your band awaits you Ready, willing, adaptable. Mariachis. Start asking around. If you're lucky, you'll find Gregorio Luna, 70 years old, part of a romántico trio that plays every night, and his two partners, Jesús Góngora, guitarrista, and Jorge Avalos, the requinto (small guitar) player. If not ask, say, a bassist, guitarist, violinist, perhaps a trumpeter to help you with your

song. Fix a price, say 30 bucks (if that hurts, just remember studio prices), find a quiet spot, and start singing your doodle to them. They may not get the English, but they're quick on the uptake of your tune. Sooner than you can say "Elvis Presley" in Spanish, you've got

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wind. Any breeze over 20 knots and you're probably stuck out there for days. Neighbors aren't the slick white corporate gin-palace types you see in marinas near Lindbergh Field. Wrecks, old mine layers, a barge built like a castle, salvaged vessels. It's actually the bay's Rotten Row. But folks who ride it out at the A-8 say they wouldn't change it for anything.

#### BEST PLACE TO SEE GOD

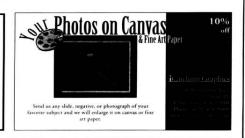
Most Precious Blood Church Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament 1245 Fourth Avenue. Chula Vista (619) 422-2100

Down in adoration falling, This great sacrament we hail. Over ancient forms of worship Newer rites of grace prevail. Faith will tell us Christ is present When our human senses fail. - from the Pange Lingua Gloriosi, by St. Thomas Aquinas

An amazing idea: God, seeking to rescue man from himself, took the form of man. A still more amazing idea: Before he died, he instituted a ritual whereby bread and wine actually become His body and blood, physical nourishment for the soul. It's more than some sort of holy cannibalism, it's eating God. Catholics believe that when a priest repeats Christ's words,

"This is my body, which shall be given up for you," and elevates the wafer, they are looking at God Himself. That's why churches became so grandiose they were literally houses for God. But the grandiosity was for our benefit, a reminder of the glory of the creator. God humbled Himself to become man, and does not disdain a humble house. What He wants is reverence and love, and reunion with his creatures. To that end, the blessed sacrament is displayed 24 hours a day in the tiny chapel at Most Precious Blood.







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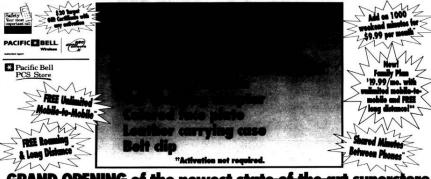


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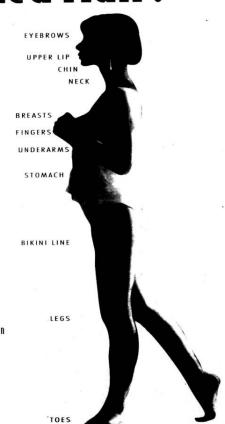
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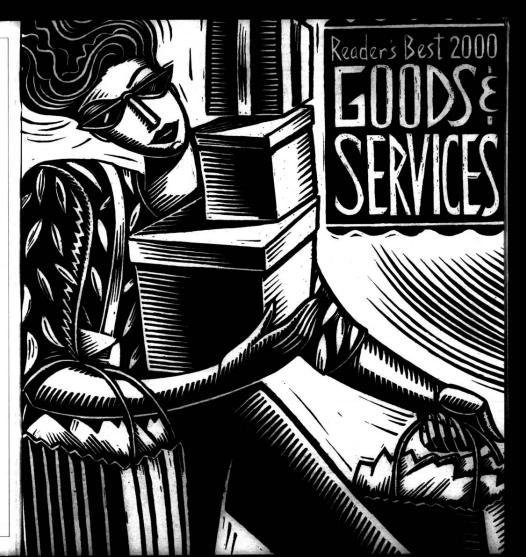
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#### BEST NEIGHBORHOOD **BICYCLE SHOP**

Threshold Bicycles 3461 Ingraham Street. Crown Point (858) 270-1820

Parking on Ingraham can be a drag, but people come from all over the county to get their bikes repaired here. Owner Jim Richardson and two other mechanics talk straight and do an honest job. This is also a good place to buy children's bicycles, ensive adult tandems, beach cruisers, battery-powered adult tricycles - everything short of the highest-tech professional models. The store isn't huge, but somehow Richardson manages to cram in baskets and handlebars of every shape and size, motocross components, racks, wheels, horns, and almost every other bike-related accessory imaginable.

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Instead, Jim Davis recommends green lacewings for all-around pest control in the garden. The lacewings attack almost anything that moves, including the thrips that have been hurting local avocados. The lacewings don't work against the giant whitefly, but Davis, the county's only breeder of beneficial insects, is working on something that will. In the meantime, he sells lacewings in lots of 5000 via mailorder, along with mealybug destroyers, decollate snails, common lady bugs (for their diehard devotees), and a host of predacious mites and beneficial parasites.

#### **BEST COMPUTER GAME STORE**

Software and Such 4411 Mercury Street. Kearny Mesa (858) 627-9700

The facilities aren't much to look at, and the selection of games at first glance may not appear abundant. But this place seems to have every

game that might interest any serious gamer. Often you can find them used, for a significant discount, Prices for the new releases are more or less competitive with those at big electronics stores. The staff members tend to be opinionated and knowledgeable, and a display board announces what they're all playing at any given time. The customers, too, are savvy; sometimes they settle down in the chairs at the back of the store and talk strategy for hours.

#### **BEST NURSERY**

Walter Andersen's 3642 Enterprise Street. Midway District (619) 224-8271

Founded in 1928, the business has moved several times over the years, but the two-acre site next to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot has served as its home for 30 years. (The grid of queen palms in front were moved from the previous location on Rosecrans.) The 8000-square-foot gardening store would merit a visit

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for its houseplants, seeds, insecticides, fall bulbs, miscellany. But an even stronger magnet are the outdoor departments. You can usually find 50 varieties of trees in the tree department. Every other section cacti and succulents, water plants. perennials, roses, azaleas, bedding plants, palms - seems stuffed not only with old favorites, but surprises too. It can be overwhelming, but the customer-service desk dispels most confusion. At the helm is Walter Andersen (son of the founder). His wife and son and daughter and other relatives contribute to the family atmosphere

#### BEST PLACE TO BUY STEMWARE

The Wine Bank 363 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp Quarter (800) 940-WINE

There are restaurants that serve

wine in glasses so small that a standard pour will fill them to the brim. As a result, there are people who presume that they have been cheated if they are presented with a larger glass that is only half-full, though the pour remains the same. At the other extreme, there are those who like to drink from glasses so large that a standard pour appears as hardly more than a puddle at the bottom of the bowl. These long-stemmed big-bowlers have a point - a wine glass ought to be largely empty, the better to collect the aromas that constitute a good chunk of the sensual pleasure a wine has to offer — but such glasses often cost in the neighbor hood of \$75. A happy medium is the Reidel Vinum series: not as fragile and enormous as the big bowls, not as thick and undersized as the brimfuls - elegant and functional. (A simple balloon glass will suffice, but the more careful shaping of the Vinum will help a lesser wine and give a better wine the venue it needs to shine.) The

ular model - runs \$15.99 per stem at the Wine Bank.

#### **BEST TOY STORE**

Zany Brainy 1530 Camino de la Reina. Mission Valley (619) 291-9500 5485 Grossmont Center Drive.

La Mesa (619) 466-6751 10661 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa (858) 547-8700

Stone Cold Steve Austin, the Rock, Mankind - oh, and let us not forget the little girls - Chyna. These steroid stars are being foisted on our children as the new millennium's superheroes, complete with T-shirts, bed sheets, pillow dolls, and action figures. If you'd like to avoid the chokehold these personalities can put on bedazzled young ones, pop into Zany Brainy. This store focuses on creativity and learning, featuring such sections as

Models shown. Individual results may vary.

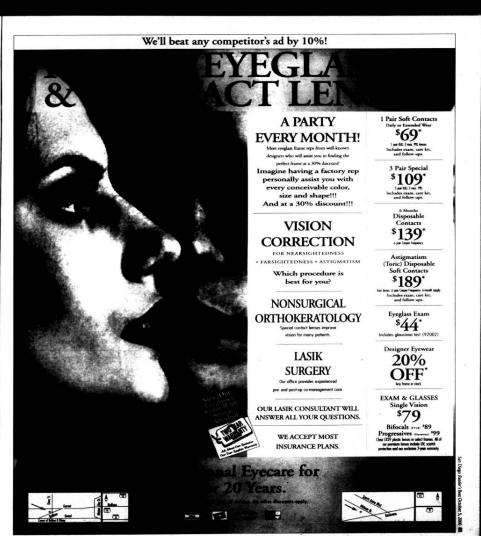
Young Builders, Let's Pretend, Words and Music, and Puzzles. The boon of the store is that it not only offers tip-top educational toys, but also sets out display toys kids can play with: Brio trains, Lego and Duplo tables, and Rockenbok, all stuffed with pieces to keep the kiddies entertained while you shop. Even if you're not there to buy, you're welcome to attend the free playshops. Events are geared toward different age groups: craft time and activities for preschoolers, Math Club or MLB Card Game League for bigger kids. Toys in general are competitively priced, some cost a hair more.

#### **BEST RECYCLED** ART

Cecil Ogles's Recycle Flyers

Cecil Ogles turns old aluminum cans into art with his Recycle Flyers. He displays and sells canconstituted seaplanes, tail-draggers, helicopters, blimps, and (recently) submarines three times a year

Vinum Bordeaux - the most popone body, make it the  $\displaystyle BEST$  it can be. LIPOSUCTION s the safest, most effective way to lose fat and inches from the abdomen, hips, buttocks, thighs and knees, as well as the face and neck. Performed in the office under local anesthesia. Quick results with minimal postoperative discomfort. Complimentary consultation with Dr. Kern. **BOTOX** Diminish the appearance of worty lines, frown lines and crow's feet in just a few minutes with minimal discomfort and no prolonged recovery period. COLLAGEN **POWER PEEL** , acne scars and fine wrinkles, and improves your skin's overall ess aggressive alternative to laser resurfacing and chemical peels e Center for Cosmetic Surgery Carmel Valley-Scripps Medical Building • 12395 El Camino Real, Suite 115 • 858-259-9858 Vista-2023 West Vista Way, Suite J • 760-758-2100 To learn more and see actual patient results, visit our Web site at www.doctorkern.com.



#### Goods & Services

through the Alpine Art Association; occasionally, on the first and third weekends of the month, in front of the Sports Museum in Balboa Park; and sporadically on the second and fourth weekends of the month in Mission Bay at the corner of Ingraham and Vacation Isle. The colors of his creations vary according to the cans - from Budweiser and Coca-Cola to Tecate, Heineken, and Arizona Tea. "Coors Light. MGD, and Diet Coke are probably my best-sellers," says Ogles. "But I've learned a peculiar thing. Ladies will come up and say, 'Oh, my husband drinks Budweiser,' and so I'll reach up to get one. By the time I've reached it, they say, Till take this other one. It's pretty.' They go for aesthetics." Prices range from \$40 to \$128 for planes; you can pick up a Budweiser blimp for \$60.

#### BEST PLACE TO SAVE \$27 PER CARTON OF CIGARETTES

Mercado la Voz del Pueblo Plaza Santa Cecilia (near 1st and Revolución), Tijuana

No one's perfect: You're a smoker. Okay, you just indulge when you're out, when you've got that drink. But when the cheroot costs more

#### **Big Shot**

Loren Nancerrow, Chanel 20 New There's a little flower stand near my house on Ranche Seath & Road in Recinita. It is the kind of flower shop that's unique to Southern California. It's para lean-to dackt, out by a family. There are shorey a cougle of bottom hanging out in there and a more and a dad. They've got wender-fully fresh flowers that thiskip probably come from the flower start every morning. Auphody from contride of Southern California wood be amanded at how little you pay for Governs in a place like wood of the manded at how little you pay for Governs in a place like

Charles Kaufman, Bread & Cie bakery: The best place to buy flowers is the Hillcrest Farmer's Market on Sundays between 9:00 and 1:00, and the flowers are great. The prices are cheap, and they have a great variety.

Charles Elster, co-host of "A Way with Words" on KPBS Radio: I buy them at Kensington Florist. It's a mom-and-pop operation, very friendly service, very much a nice part of our neighborhood.

Don Bacigalupi, San Diego Museum of Art: FloraStyle in Hillcrest. It's on Fifth just south of University. It doesn't feel like a flower shop. It feels like you'r walking into a great party, and all the decorations are there, and you have to pick what you want and take it with you.

George Hauer, owner of George's at the Cove restaurant in La Jolla: Bloomers in La Jolla. It's owned by a young woman named Bridget. She's owned the company for seven or eight years now. She's got a couple of locations, and she delivers to businesses, she sells to people on the street, and she delivers to people's homes.

### BEST PLACE TO BUY FLOWERS

She's a local girl from Windinger. Her flowers are wonderful, and she'll even come to your jumines and consult with you on what not of arrangements would look good there.

Doughter Cryptes, Land Research of the gold do Wedshie and Remerci III uses to raid an encapetitation to excellently, two the gold and encapetitation to excellently, they're up in Hillcree. But for a time, life, were right access the terms from us, and they did all of our Cristman decreasions and everything. Ills with ensuring the probability is into most modern and providing the most modern than traditional, but it's not worky and one'd that III and an inter-site to it.

Marry Pappens, Athens Market restaurant: Wholesale Flower off of Morens Boulevard. I go there all the time. They do nice ar augments, very inexpensive, very fresh, very nice flowers. And you can make your own arrangements for almost nothing.

Linda Wellby, Air \$27.1 to to the present flower place. It's called Floral Pentation to Nisagas in Cocon Beach. They do the greatest arrangements. When I order flowers for people I ask them to put some contain in them, and they come out amazing. Most arrangement you get some datales and some pink things and you feel like put's seen in before, but with Floral Fantalia, you are, "Twe new seen anything like this before." Especially if you ask for some exotics, You'll get the most unusual flowers arranged beautifully.

Carol Lallents, Channel 10 News: Potts by Patt. If you want a nice, losse, not overly sculpted arrangement for someone, they do a really nice job of it.

than the martini you're glugging, what's the world coming te? Yons is charging, 36 bucks for a carton of Marlboros, Uncle Sam adds his percentage. Total, \$38.78. Or — let's see — five quirleys (as cowboys call cigs) for a dollar. You'd just about pay less flying round-trip to Cuba and bringing back a hundred puros. But wait! The Voice of the People is

here to help out. At La Voz del Pueblo, a mercado in Tijuana's Plaza Santa Cecilia (just off 1st Street at the bottom of Revolución), you can pick up a carton for, like, five clams. Five cucumbers! Five rutabagas! Actually, Faros ovalados ("Lighthouse" ovals) come in cartons of 12 packs, each with 18 cigarettes, and cost 48 pesos when

last we checked. Tiggers ("Tiggers") with 12 18-cig packs cost 53 pesos (about 55-50). That's a saving of, oh. \$33; say, 700 percent per carton. If you cross the river to the border-crossing side of Tijuana, expect to pay up to double.) But be be warned. These frajos aren't filtered. These aren't lite. These are fastburning, full-strength lung dusters.

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ASK ABOUT

ASK



"Café Rojas" organic coffee at Whole Foods Markets,

or under the "Trader Joe's" label at Trader loe's. or under the "Café Canopy" label online at www.certifiedshadecoffee.com

Eleven years ago Karen Cebreros faced a crisis. She had an enlarged

heart condition, cardiomyopathy. Some instinct took her down to Peru, where curanderas, herbs, and the destressed life in the mountains brought her back to health. She's been thanking them ever since by finding markets for their organic coffees. She buys direct

from the farmers, so they don't get screwed by middlemen. And. unlike Starbucks, she doesn't allow deforestation. She insists farmers who sell to her grow coffee the traditional, slow, non-pesticidal way, under shade trees, mixed with other crops that farmers need to feed their families

(and also enrich the soil for the coffee bushes). Cebreros says rebels, cocaine growers, and middlemen chased her out of Colombia. But her Elan Organic Coffees, based in modest offices downtown on F Street, has now helped organize co-ops, main ly in Peru, Guatemala, and Mexico's Chianas region And the farmers are thriving. What can you do? Drink! Toast her, organically! Yes, it's more expensive. You'll pay about \$12 a pound, 10 cents a cup.

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get 25. So why would

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you buy from her?

worms still in their earth, with their cast-

ings, and their eggs," she says. "Worms adapt

better when their envi-

ronment goes right

along with them. You take a handful of [loose] worms and put them around a rose-

glers. Buy a pound

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treatment includes

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#### Goods & Services

bush, nine times out of ten you're going to lose most of them. If you take them in their worm bedding, they're going to survive." Happy worms, she says, are productive worms. "I was the first in the nation to try this approach. It works." Nurseries like Andersen's, Simpson's in Jamul, and Grangetto's in Fallbrook, Encintas, Valley Center, and Escondido appear to agree. All stock Sharon's worms.

#### BEST PLACE FOR RECYCLED GUITARS

Freedom Guitar 6334 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 265-0577

We've all had a rock 'n' roll fantasy
— or jazz or whatever. Most of us
drummed on the kitchen floor as
kids, played air guitar with our



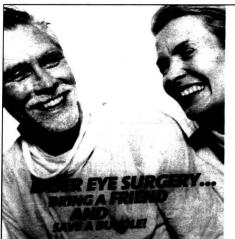
friends to some rock anthem as teens, or sang in the car. Some of us went so far as to purchase that drum kit or beginner guitar or bass and amp. The best place in San Diego for used music equipment, to see these used fantasies hanging on the wall, stacked to the roof, and spilled to the back, all for resule, is Freedom Guitar. Freedom's got that old gear: amp heads, cabinets, combox bases

and guitars galore; drum pieces and kits, and all sorts of percussion twizzle twaddle; PAs, mics, stands, lights, and every flavor of stagy accoutrement; plus songbooks for all breeds of copycat, for beginners and beaters. They've also got stuff for pros, the pretty, primo collector stuff. Of course, that's hung higher or buried deeper, away from the paws of fantasy browsers.

## BEST ALTERNATIVE SHOP

Hot Topic Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley (619) 542-8450 Other locations in National City, El Cajon, Carlsbad, Escondido www.hottopic.com

This store brings rave, goth, punk, and retro attire together like a museum of the underground. The manager of this Mission Valley Center store, Jammie Daniels, says, "Most people are shopping to prepare to go somewhere." That means martini shirts to complete the Las Vegas experience and glowsticks and pink fur to float under mixed rave tunes. About a fifth of the store is dedicated to insanely cheap shirts, gifts, and soon-to-be popular, or once-popular, or maybe-never-popular stuff. While you're digging around in the displays, pierced and tattooed



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the

Daniels explained the company's policy of employing experts in alternative culture. These employees are always smiling and never stuck up about their wildly trendy wear. The shop markets local music and encourages employees to introduce products from the local scene.

## BEST PLACE TO GET A POKEMON FIX

Comic Gallery 4224 Balboa Avenue. Clairemont Mesa (858) 483-4853

Actually, Pokémon is passé, and pint-sized sources working undercover in county grade schools report that X-Men will be the next merchandising and Halloween costume phenom. For over a decade, trends connected to cartoons and pop culture have been fully represented and

exploited at this cluttered but organized Clairemont store. They carry comic books, toys, art prints, trading cards, expensive resin model kits, and science fiction and horror novels

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ucts that make everyday

Wilimek likes working

there because the things

they sell "are what I would want to see in my house," he said. "We are

not boutiquey; we get

select merchandise in

small quantities, and if

tions, because it is probably the last time you are

you get it, congratula-

going to see it." Many

items have a high

turnover, some stick

around. Most are low-

priced for the young

urban folk.

the thousands of prod-

tain sold by I Irban

living a carnival.

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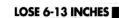
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#### **BEST PET SHOP** FOR BIRDS

Our Feathered Friends 4420 Rainier Avenue, Grantville (619) 280-5134

Birds are delicate creatures, often temperature-sensitive and requiring more care and attention than other pets. So it follows that if a bird is to be bred and sold as a retail commodity, the retailer must be attentive and not throw some popular birds in a corner cage next to the rabbits and salamanders. The staff at Our Feathered Friends is highly informed about food, health upkeep, training, and breeding: they even know which paints are too toxic to use on birdcages. Cockatiels run from \$49.95 for a common gray to \$89.95 for a whitefaced gray, with both adults and handfed babies available. Lovebirds fly off the shelves on Valentine's Day, \$39.95 for a peach-faced bird and up to \$69.95 for more exotic colors.

#### **BEST ACCORDION** SHOP

Ferino's Music 736 Robinson Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 296-6455

The sign outside Ferino's in Hillcrest doesn't mention accordions, but inside the tiny shop a couple dozen of them -some for sale, some in for repair - rest in cases on the floor. Fred Ferino grew up in Italy and Yugoslavia playing accordion and helping his father repair them. In San Diego since 1978, he's become known as the only source of primo Italian accordions, such as Elio Gabbanelli. and of repairs that often require rare or improvised parts. Walls here are lined with glass jars containing washers, screws, reeds, and other accordion hardware, some of which belonged to his dad.

Ferino speaks five languages, but his English is thickly accented. Once a year, Ferino and his wife make a pilgrimage to Castelfidardo, Italy, where the best accordions are made. He brings back three or four instruments. Some are chromatic-scale models

with piano-like keyboards used in polkas, pop, and jazz. Others are diatonic-scale accordions with Native-American detailing and three rows of buttons instead of keys, popular with players of Mexican ranchera music. Ferino recently released a CD of his own music.

## BEST PLACE TO FIND FUNKY OLD STUFF

Uncle Richard's Antiques 2207 Fern Street, Golden Hill (619) 563-1655

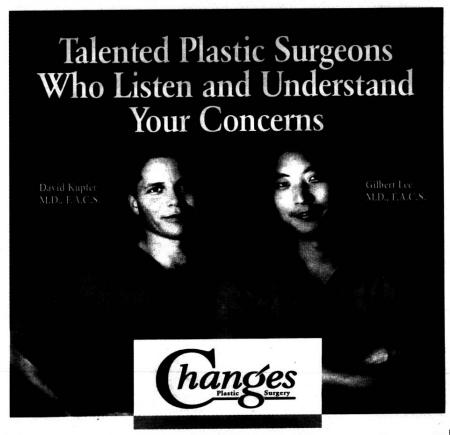
Tell him he isn't a people person and antique proprietor Richard Nichols would reluctantly agree. His German grandfather lost his leg in a train accident and clomped around on a wooden peg leg. Via ancestral osmosis, a no-nonsense attitude permeates the artifacts and antiques throughout the cramped quarters. An old Indian headdress, Mexican pottery circa 1940, mounted heads of game animals, a chrome Swami fortune-teller machine-cum-napkin dispenser, weighty Deco light fixtures, the immense upper half of a Holstein cow rendered in fiberglass. His taste has a masculine bent, items you could imagine lying around the study of H.G. Wells or Charles Darwin. People tell him this a lot, though 90 percent of his customers are women.

Nichols has been a collector since 1957, when he scoured the El Cajon swap meet at the Aero Drive-In. The rise of antique malls has squeezed out the flow of the fun objects he prefers, but he has a source these days, somewhere "out of the county." His prices aren't thrift store, but he's in no rush; he's confident you'll never see these things anywhere else.

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE** THRIFT SHOP

St. Paul's Thrift Shop 3505 Fifth Avenue, Park West (619) 298-3098

Nothing is more pleasing to the thrift shopper than spending a Saturday morning wandering through aisles of knickknacks, fingering dusty racks of clothing, calculating how much you're saving, laughing to



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vourself at anybody who pays full price for anything. San Diego is blessed with an abundance of second-hand and thrift stores, from one-room boutiques to supermar

ket-sized jobs. Of the former type, St. Paul's Thrift Shop on Fifth Avenue in the Park West area is a gem. The merchandise, largely donated by St. Paul's Episcopal parishioners, is often high-end Italian suits and antique chairs can be had for a song

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### **BEST MEGA** THRIFT SHOP

Skill Centers of America **Thrift Store** 6195 University Avenue Rolando (619) 286-9090

This thrift store's storefront gives no indication of how huge and overflowing with other people's chandise fills three floors: shoes and women's clothes on the top level, men's wear on the second

> electronics, barely used exercise equip ment, and Apple He omputers; and they the local market for used crutches. Lots of bikes and camping equipment down here oo. Prices are low, pants around \$2.50; shirts \$1.99. A pair of Florsheim Imperial wingtips in perfect for \$10. That's a sav-

## BEST BOOKSTORE

Wahrenbrock's **Book House** 726 Broadway, Downtown (619) 232-0132

The musty smell, the

fluorescent lights, the industrial brown carpeting, the cozy-bordering-on-cramped spaces, struggling to remain free of books. Books in stacks, books in boxes, books on shelves of every kind: wood, glass, cabinets, stained, painted, blond, tall, short, fat, thin, elegant, homemade - a maze of shelves, ushering you into new regions, new departments, new discoveries. The Broadway storefront is narrow, but it rises three stories, the stairs lined with Harvard Classics, the complete

stuff the place is. Pre-owned merfloor. The shop's basement features stacks of prehistoric

> eem to have cornered condition sold recently ings of \$290.

economical buzz of the works of Voltaire, and

If you'd go to the ends of the earth to find a vaccine

this is

vour chance.

This past August 1,504 people from all walks of life and of all ages went to Alaska and bicycled 510 miles over six days from Fairbanks all the way to Anchorage, and all in the name of finding a vac cine for AIDS.

It was the first ever Pallotta TeamWorks Alaska AIDS Vaccine Ride. No words can really describe the depth of the experience, but in the weeks that followed the event, the riders tried, with letters, phone calls, and e-mails to us, to put it into words out of a sense of preservation as well as pride They began to tell their story Like Edmund Hillary come back m Everest, or Neil Armstrong

Next August, we're going back to Alaska. And on the next two

pages you can learn about two new AIDS Vaccine Rides we're launching - one across Montana, and one from an experience elusive to these things we call words - an expe rience capable of capture only

#### Alaska in Wonderland

If you've never seen Alaska, then your eyes haven't really leed. The Alaska route is the most specticular course we've ever developed. The mountains so beautiful they out learn to. We literally sleep next to glaciens, and ride through controls of breathfailing grams in the modifie of the Alaska Range. Through happen you great grains and big sky. As one dist year's not start to glaciens and big sky. As one dist year's not seen said of the pourtey. The well ready superior the most beautiful moments of my existence."



They represent an allout assault on the AIDS epidemic. They are rides, they are rides, they are rides, they are rides, and they are rides, and they are rides, and they are rides are rides and they are rides are about ordinary ottoma frides are about ordinary ottoma frides are about ordinary ottoma thing more challenging than they may have ever attempted before, in the name of a rare kind of the they are rides and they are rides

ALLOITA TEAMWORKS **18 VACCINE RIDES** 

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We think if you're going to have a real peak experience.

it ought to include some peaks.

#### The Montana Ride

Adoctiona is the northernmost cap of the limited States Rockies he limited States Rockies A region of snow-capped summits, turbulent rivers, and spectacular glacula valleys—and leyenot the competer, its eastern two thirds is dramatic high praine. The route is orgether, its eastern two thirds is dramatic high praine. The route is porture per feet, salt mig at the foot ending of Yellowstone Park, home to some of the most beautiful sommeting in a country, and commissing in a gateway to America's legendary gateway to America's legendary



#### I don't know if I can actually do this...

Then you'll fit right in. Most niders have never done anything like this before in their flees. Many don't even own a bike when they register. They range in age from 17 to 70 something. Men and women alike. They range in age from 17 to 70 something. Men and women alike. They range in age from 17 to 70 something. Men and women alike ready to not be distance when they first register. But they will be. And so will you. As some anyour register on a you register on syou register of post post of the property of

#### Will I have to fend for myself in the wild?

myself in the wild?

No. You't be supported by us 
Pailottal TransWorks. We created and 
produce the AIDSKides\* and the 
Breast Cancer 3-Days\*— among the 
Breast Cancer 3-Days\*— among the 
concert fundasses in the world. We 
have taken over 7-0,000 people 
along millions of miles of road 
cordingreat of Alaskia AIDS Vaccine 
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# What will the experience be like? Will I meet new friends?

So many riders in last year's Alassa AIDS viaccine Ride returned like explorers who have seen the minacious and been discovered a group of ordinary people transformed by kindness into a city of sinderd souls. A foreamed of when they were children. An ideal world—where children. An ideal world—where children. An ideal world—where children. An ideal world—where should getting a proper forest more proper for the proper world in forest or cheering a slower rider up a hill.



July 30 - August 5, 2001

PALLOTTA TEAMWORKS
AIDS VACCINE RIDES
(888) 553-4567 vaccineride.org

Pallotta TeamWorks. | Impossible.dreams.

# Can I ride from Montreal to Maine for the 34 million people in the world with AIDS?

I Can

#### The Canada: U.S. Ride

This is Paliotta TeamWorks' first international event 2,000 people will podal their courage and onal opening ceremonies in historic Montreat, the second argest French-speaking of France, and head for the U.S. bonder. We II nde together year of the properties of their courage of the properties of the U.S. bonder. We III nde together year of the properties of the U.S. bonder. We III nde together year of the properties of the



#### Why a vaccine? Aren't there great drugs available now?

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Expers now so whe epidemic will be worse than the Black Rague. 34 million people around the world now have HV — 31 million of them are the powers of the world sown have HV — 31 million of them are the powers of the world sown American Millione drugs cost \$12,000 a year. Millione will be committed. The proposeds control medical quickening research teams: the UCA AUSS institute, the Aaron Damond AUSS Research control for medical quickening research teams: the UCA AUSS institute, the Aaron Damond AUSS Research control for medical quickening control for the War. The Control of the Millione drugs of the Millio



Probably the fastest way to sign up, or get further information on one or all of the Maccine Riddes, in a sign of the Maccine Riddes, naveled the Maccine Riddes, naveled the Maccine Riddes www.vaccinende org. You can sto register over the Johns of www.vaccinende org. You can sto register over the Johns of registration materials and a fullcolor brockure with everything you need to know within 24 or seen weeks, so it's important to call now to reserve your space. As so make Guide and Fasht, and a call filed Guide and Fasht, and a call filed Guide and Fasht, and a call filed from our staff welcoming you. Call or log on now.



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400 m

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MDSTACTM

#### Goods & Services

other such sets. It's a place to get lost in for a few hours, to browse, to discover, and to do your part to keep this creaking, tottering civilization going.

#### **BEST HAT SHOP**

The Village Hat Shop 853 West Harbor Drive, Seaport Village (619) 233-7236 3821 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 683-5533 www.villagehatshop.com

Fred Belinsky, owner of the Village Hat Shop, travels the world for hats, from Ecuador to Korea. He buys from huge manufacturers like Stetson, and from a guy who sells Viking helmets. He will stretch a hat to fit your head, size it down, shrink it, change the trim. Other stores may have more men's hats or more women's or more ball caps, but nobody has his breadth of selection, which includes several grades of the finest lids for Southern California - Panama hats. The Panamas start at \$42 and go up fast, but they are beautiful to behold, and make most men look a little better, a little more like men looked before they started wearing ball caps with blazers.

#### BEST AUTO-WRECKING YARD Ecology Auto Wrecking

Over 50 auto-wrecking yards do

business in San Diego. Most are

located close to the border and spe-

Ecology Auto Wrecking 1180 Heritage Road, Otay Mesa (619) 661-4538

cialize in two or three makes. For their vast inventory, "the best" designation goes to Ecology Auto Wrecking, off Otay Valley Road. They charge a dollar for admission most yards are free - but it's worth it. They've got off-street parking and two yards - one with acres of imports and, on the other side of the street, domestic autos Roach coaches sell drinks, carne asada, and sandwiches near the entrances of both vards. Inside, vehicles rest on three-high stacks of old tire rims, the easier to wrench parts off undercarriages. The cars in the two yards' several acres are semi-organized into rows by make. Each hood stands open to invite knuckle-busting. Bonus points for adequate elbow room between cars and no weeds or brush. Price for a headrest to a '73 VW blucket seat: \$4.50 (a steal)

#### BEST GLASSBLOWING Garry Cohen

TOO SHY?

Volunteers are needed for a Social Anxiety Disorder Study.

This study is sponsored by a well-known pha Qualified volunteers will receive:

> Study-related lab tests Regular visits with a board-certified psychiatrist

20307 Beech Lane, Escondido (760) 745-7020

> Feighner Research Institute

It's awe-inspiring to watch Garry Cohen create intricate vases and bottles. First, he places his steel blowpipe into an open furnace and winds a small gather of glass onto his pipe. Small amounts of air are puffed into the pipe to expand the glass into a small bubble while it cools. Shaping is achieved with gravity and the use of a steel marver plate. After the preliminary shaping, more air is puffed into the glass until the desired shape is achieved. No two pieces are exactly the same. Cohen does special orders and commissions.

## BEST LEATHER CLOTHES

San Diego Leather Jacket Factory 1121 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista (800) 232-6626

Ladies' leather chaps (\$145), goatskin bomber jackets (\$99,95), black cowhide pants (\$145), and toddlers' motorcycle jackets (\$49,95) are just some of the clothes made from animal skins at this huge discount warehouse. They offer a solid ten-year guarantee for stitching and zippers on American-made jackets, but imported cowskin only carries a 90-day warranty against defects. Quality is top-drawer and prices are near wholesale, even on smale, even or enar wholesale, even on smale, even seed.

#### BEST USED VINYL

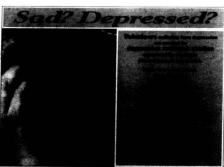
Off the Record 3849 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 298-4755 www.offtherecordvinyl.com

One of San Diego's oldest record stores, Off the Record is one of the few that carries records, a commodity scarcer nowadays than Phil Collins's hair. When the store's SDSU location closed, many of their vinyl treasures ended up in Hillcrest or as part of the website inventory. Off the Record can now be counted on as a source for hundreds of thousands of rare albums, and they'll search for any nylon disc ever pressed if you provide them enough information and can afford collector's prices.

# BEST PLACE TO REJUVENATE STRESSED-OUT SOLES

The Computerized Cobbler 13 Horton Plaza, Downtown (619) 231-3736

The shop sits on the exterior of Horton Plaza, fronting First Avenue at F Street. Businessmen on lunch breaks come in with the day's paper and kick up their féet while their shoes are repaired. The aroma of glue is in the air; in the back of the store, Chris Ashley, the owner, is prying off soles, sanding, gluing, and stitching, For \$39.95, a full sole can be fixed on a men's shoe in about 45



# Wake up with your makeup





#### Permanent Cosmetic Makeup

Wouldn't it be lovely to rise and really shine?
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with permanent makeup.
Performed by the best artists
with complete medical safety,
permanent eyeliner, eyebrows and lip color
can make mornings a pleasure.
Call MPi for a complimentary consultation
and learn how to wake up beautifully.



sin Diego Reader's Best October 5, 2000

Diego Reader's Best

### Goods & Services

minutes, \$15.95 for a women's half-sole. Routine heel replacement takes only ten minutes and costs \$9.95 for men, \$8.95 or less for women. Compare that to spending anywhere from \$150 to \$350 on a new pair of quality shoes down the street at Nordstrom.

### BEST FLOWER PIT STOP

Flowers for You 70th Street and El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 460-8980

Sitting at the stoplight at the intersection of 70th and El Cajon, the place jumps out at you. It's a corner flower stand, like many in the city, but even at a distance you can see a difference. Instead of a few dozen bouquets and bunches of undersized roses, Flowers for You has rows of Carnations, roses, lilies, and orchids. On the corner of this busy intersection, accessible from all four directions, it's a perfect place to pick up flowers for a loved one on your way home. Try the stargazer lilies — the streaky pink-and-white blooms are spectacular — or the long-stemmed red roses or the dendrobium orchids, with 15 to 20 little blooms on each stem. A standard mixed-flower bouquet is \$9.99.

# BEST USED-CD

Music Trader 6663 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 462-2274

This growing chain has over a dozen locations: P.B., Miramar, Poway, El Cajon, Chula Vista, Santee, and elsewhere. The collegearea shop has the most knowledgeable (and most tattooed) staffers and the best selection of everything from rock to country, hiphop to folk, rap to soundtracks.

The local-music section is fully stocked with titles they carry on consignment and listening stations are available for those who prefer to play before they pay. Most used discs run \$8.95, trades are accepted, and your 13th CD is free.

# BEST PLACE FOR PARENTS TO GO BROKE

FAO Schwarz 514 Horton Plaza, Downtown (619) 702-7500

The remote-control sailboat (\$119.99) can be launched and operated in almost any pool or lake. A working fire engine model (\$79) measures \$21 inches long and comes with a siren, flashing headlights, and a \$60-degree turning ladder. An electric toothbrush called the 60 Second Time Maching fun for kids, if only because they'll be laughing at how much their folks paid for a toothbrush.

### BEST CLASSIC-CAR DEALER

Classic Showcase 913 Rancheros Drive, San Marcos (760) 747-9947

The cars bought and sold by Classic Showase are vehicles rarely seen outside gearhead fantasies and James Bond movies. Their showroom is open by appointment only, and European wheels are their specialty, eight employees work on several restorations at any given time. A fully rebuilt Jaguar or Roadster can run up to \$100,000, and they usually have at least 50 cars ready to ship anywhere in the world, from manufacturers such as Ferrari, Alfa-Romeo, BMW, Maerarai, Mercedes, and Rolls-Royce.

# BEST STYLE IN THE CITY

Admit it, you long for a more stylish life; something akin to Carrie's in HBO's Sex and the City. But so far away from Manhattan boutiques, what's a

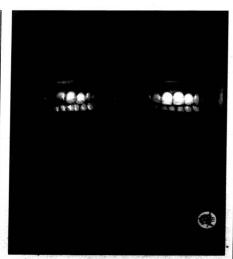
# Planning a trip? Plan for your health!

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- Required and recommended immunizations
- Yellow fever immunization site
- International Certificate of Vaccination
- State Department consular information sheets, public announcements and travel warnings
- Travel-related supplies
- · Emergency medical assistance and evacuation insurance



2423 Camino del Rio S., Suite 211 San Diego, CA 92108 For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (619) 293-3963, or toll-free 1(888) 499-PASS (7277). Lora Santillan, R.N., B.S.N., Director I. Michael Susrez, M.D., Medical Director







# Goods & Services

San Diego girl to do? Improvise! Here's a head-to-toe primer on how to achieve Carrie and Co.'s look. First, ditch the lip liner. Go to your nearest drugstore, drop 99 cents, and walk out with Wet 'N Wild's Liquid Lip Color. (It's the equivalent of Chanel's \$30 product!) A pair of Ray Ban smoked aviators are de rigueur, and Sunglass & Optical Warehouse (3450 Kurtz, 619-291-4810) is the place Discount priced at \$99, this accessory is a worthy investment. Next, clad your upper half in one of many offerings from L.A. Rack. Starting at \$10.70, you can't go wrong with a body-hugging ethnic print or bright solid. (Located in the Gaslamp, Pacific Beach, and National City, 619-338-0553 for more info.) Now hit the Gap for a pair of slim-fitting, dark denim jeans for \$48. Avoid boot-cut or flare; you'll want to cuff them to show off your shapely ankles. This brings us to shoes: don't scrimp here! If you pay less, it'll show. If you can afford the Manolo's at Neiman Marcus, you're ahead of the game. But for those less fortunate, less flush gals,

**Free** 

**Mind & Body** 

**Fitness Class** 

Membership includes two high-tech cross-training centers equipped with: = Cross-trainers = Trealmils = Free Weights = Netpuble Internet Lifesycles = Cybes Systems = Fit.inxx Interactive Workout System

ased Pilates I and more

onvalley.ymca.org

Concept II Rowing Ergometer
 LifeCircuit Machines
 Hammer Strength

check out the shoes at Gaslamp Soles (528 Fifth Avenue, 619-232-3015.) The selection (which includes Ralph, Calvin, and Isaac) is reasonable. Choose an open-toed slingback or a strappy heel. To complete the look, you'll want the ubiquitous name necklace. Have one custom-made in gold or silver at Aguliar's Jewelry (1139 Sixth Avenue, 619-232-2993). Prices vary according to name, weight, and size desired, but an average necklace (five letters) runs around \$25 for silver, \$75 for gold. Ask for Carol. Now you're equipped to take on the city. Finding "Mr. Big" is up to

### BEST PLACE TO PAMPER YOUR FEET

Primo Salon and Day Spa Grossmont Center (619) 465-9323 Other locations in Chula Vista, Mission Valley, Fashion Valley, Poway, Carmel Mountain. University Towne Centre

Feet are such unloved parts of the body

They suffer the abuse of miles and hundreds of pounds. Cheapo pedicure places abound, but the results wear off early. Treat yourself to the luxuries of Primo Salon and Day Spa in Grossmon Center. They offer a regular pedicure for \$40, but go for the \$45 spa pedicure, which includes a paraffin wax. It's an hour of pure indulgence for the old dogs. First, a mini jacuzzi for your feet in your own private room. Then, cuticles are removed, nails clipped, and feet scrubbed. Next a massage followed by a mud mask, and then the paraffin wax. The wax, which contains Vitamin E and essential oils, forces the moisture deep into the skin. After ten minutes of relaxation, the wax is peeled off and the nails are painted.

# BEST PAWNSHOP

Unique Pawnbrokers 3039 University Avenue, North Park (619) 294-3305

Owner Steve Hirschhorn boasts he has more floor space than competitors, and he fills it with a wider range of stuff,

including lawn mowers, large-screen TVs, collectible Barbies, leather jackets, coin collections, bicycles, video movies, tools, musical instruments, computers, and more. Customers sell him some items outright, but 40 or 50 folks a day walk in seeking a loan and offering their possessions as collateral. (They walk out with \$50 apiece, on average.) About 20 percent of them never repay the money, and their belongings go on sale after four months.

### **BEST PLACE** TO GET FIX-IT GUIDANCE

Dixieline Lumber & Home Centers Ten locations countywide

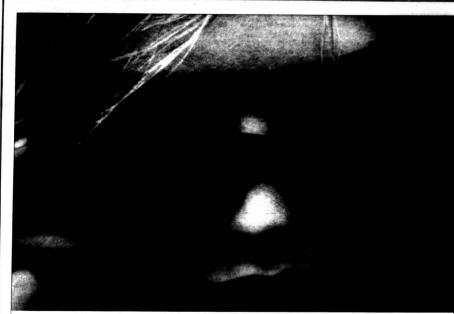
True story: a friend was having trouble installing a heater thermostat she had bought at Dixieline. She called one of the stores and asked for help. Got a salesman who went out onto the floor, broke open a new thermostat package, read the instructions, and talked her through the installation.











# We'll beat any competitor's prices on glasses, contacts and exams by 5%!

# **Full Service**

There is a difference in eye care providers. Unlike practices that offer only very limited services, we provide a full range of medical, optometric, and optical eye care options at "guaranteed" prices. We will help you select the very best option to meet your individual needs. Why consider a practice that only offers limited services?

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### BEST MOBILE MECHANIC

Doug Reed (619) 280-0372

Doug Reed's been diagnosing and repairing San Diego cars since 1966, and he's seen it all, which might explain his flyer's Honesty Pledge: "I want you to believe that when I tell you something is wrong with your car. I'm telling you the truth." If that isn't enough to make you swear off the dealer, dig this: Doug drives to you. And with a \$40 hourly minimum, he's often able to diagnose and repair that "something wrong"

you an assessment and help you figure out what to do next. This kind of troubleshooting is invaluable to the inexperienced - read: single female — who has neither the time for nor an interest in auto repair. "You have no idea how much psychological hand-holding I do," Reed says, guiding the otherwise intimidated through the jungle of what to ask, what to expect, and where to wreak recourse with rip-off artists (ever heard of the Bureau of Automotive Repair?). Doug's "nice guy" approach also generates loyalty and longevity. The guy who printed that flyer has been his customer since the '70s. "Buzz was a starving student who sometimes couldn't pay his bill, and I'd let him slide. Now he's the vice president of a company. The last time I worked on his car he dropped me a \$100 tip and a note: 'This is for all the times I couldn't pay." When's the last time you tipped your mechanic? I thought so.

within an hour. If he can't, he'll give

# BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR KIDS WHEN IT'S RAINING

Pirate's Cove 3106 Mission Boulevard Mission Beach (858) 539-7474

The natives are restless. Before you know it, they've stacked the ottoman on the coffee table and used couch

cushions to construct a precarious slide. You shudder as you gaze across the living room at Grandma Faye's crystal vase. Your eyes fall heavy on the gray drizzle outside the window. Will there be anything left for them to inherit? There will be if you whisk the kids off to Pirate's Cove. Toss the counter clerk a few doubloons (children under three, \$4.50; three and over, \$6.50) and send your kids down a slide into a cavelike corridor, up a rope ladder, and into a myriad assortment of climbing apparati and ball pits. You, of course, can take the stairs. The three levels of play areas accommodate crawlers to expert climbers. Your infant can sit in a pintsize ball pit while your seven-year-old gets lost in a maze of tubes, netting, and slides. They even rent knee pads for pumpkin's little kneesie-weesies.

# **BEST TI DENTIST**

Second floor, Madero building #1-204 Callejón El Travieso (Mischief Lane), off 2nd Street, between Revolución and Constitución 011-526-685-9086

Because he has this wonderful address. "Mischief Lane." Because he's been in practice in the same spot for 25 years. Because the local restaurant owners say he is the best. Because he has clean offices. Because he rips out all his instruments from

sealed, sterilized packages. Because he wears rubber gloves and a mask. Because he speaks good English. Because he's an orthodontist and a dental surgeon. Because he charges \$15 to glue back a tooth that's pulled off its post, \$25 for a filling, \$150 for a crown, \$100 to \$180 for a root canal. Because he's open on Sundays. Because between customers in the afternoon, he'll happily take his siesta in one of his own chairs. Because you can hear all of life going on outside his secondfloor windows, from meetings in Plaza Santa Cecilia to music from the nearby bars. Because he's a charming fellow who can tell you all about the old and new Tijuana as he drills and fills. And because it's only half a block from his office back to the action on Revolución.

### **BEST GOLF-**COURSE DEAL

**Torrey Pines Golf Course** (with city resident's card) 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla Reservations, (619) 570-1234 Pro shop. (858) 452-3226

Let's face it: golf is full of social climbers. 18 million ambitious folk who fork out \$600 million every year to play on any one of this nation's 13,000 courses, because, well, it gets you in contact with the Ruling Classes. But what if you just want to whack a ball? Main problem



# **BEST Laser Center in San Diego** BEST Price as voted by over 21,000 patients

Most Advanced Technology • Correction of Nearsightedness, Farsightedness and Astigmatism

-------

Dr. Kawesch...the clarity and brilliance I experience on a daily basis amazes me. Billy Ray Smith, Jr.

I did my homework and went to somebody I was very confident with. Dr. Kawesch, it will be easie those hard sliders nov

Wally Joyner

It's absolutely outstanding Randy Jones Hall of Fame Pitcher, SD Padres

Dr. K, Thanks for the magic! Hank Baver Former SD Charger, Sportscaster KFMB TV Channel 8





Investigator for FDA clinical trials.

· Board-certified ophthalmologist and a fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

· Member of the International Society of Refractive Surgeons, and a member of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons.

Dr. Kawesch has himself undergone the Radial Keratotomy and Excimer Laser procedures. His current vision is 20/20 without contacts!





Jagger and Kristi What a miracle! You changed my life in 30 seconds. My only regret is that I didn't

Brian Christie CNN Anchor





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# Chronic Low Back Pain?

VA/UCSD are conducting a research study using an investigational drug for low back pain problems.

We are looking for men and women ages 18-65 in good health except for low back pain.

### Benefits:

- Back Exam Medical Evaluations
- Lab Assessments Pain Assessment

### For more information, please call (858) 552-8585 x3830

Principal Investigator: J.H. Atkinson, M.D.
UC San Diego/San Diego VA Healthcare System
3350 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego, CA 92161

# Goods.& Services

is, green fees, Around San Diego County's 90 courses they average \$50 and reach over \$100. Which is why Torrey Pines is such a miracle. We're talking the Torrey Pines. The world-famous, two-course home of the Buick Invitational, an annual PGA event that attracts Tiger Woods and the tour's other top golfers. And it's a municipal — public — course! If you can show you're a bona fide San Diegan (that is, produce a license or a water bill showing your name) you can purchase a \$12 resident's card and get locals' rates. You can play it for \$24 during the week, \$26 weekends (for nonresidents, it's \$55 and \$60) You can rent a bag of clubs for \$35 (after 4:00 p.m., \$20), and carts cost \$30 (\$17 after 4:00 p.m.). The problem, of course, is that everybody wants to play Torrey Pines, so get a reservation. If you're going alone, show up early, put your name down with the starter, and hope he'll threesome with a threesome that needs a fourth. Play four days in a row and try to beat Tiger's 274, right? Bonus: your resident's card will get you on at Balboa Park — a nice course in its own right for \$19 (\$21 weekends): \$10.50 after 2:35 p.m. or \$6.50 for the nine-hole

### BEST SWIM SCHOOL FOR BABIES

Murray Callan Swim School 1012 Law Street, Pacific Beach (858) 273-7946

It's not just "toss 'em in the water and see what happens" at Murray Callan Swim School in P.B. These young men and women specialize in and are renowned for tender training. The big L-shaped pool, heated to 95 degrees for the comfort of the kiddies, lies behind a converted bungalow on a suburban side street. You pass through the home-cum-office and into the unexpected patio enclosure, filled with the delighted, squealing sounds of excited kids and, sometimes, the buzz-saw cry of a dissenter. (The trainers know how to handle them.) Founded over 50 years ago by Murray Callan, an ex-military entrepreneur, this swim school for tots has garnered the attention of media for "soft-touch" technique (Murray Callan: "We touch a baby like wet seaweed. It's body language that conveys the fluidness.") Enrollment is limited, requires dedication from parents as well as kids, and it's not cheap, \$99 for nine scheduled half-hour sessions.

### BEST SHORT-DISTANCE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

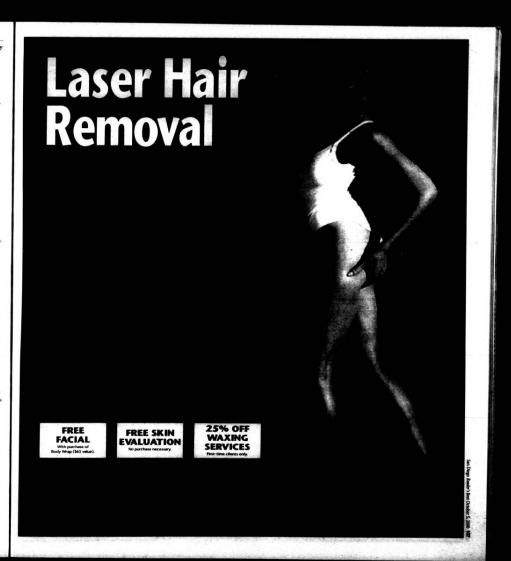
Green Limousine 3960 West Point Loma Boulevard, Suite H364, Point Loma (877) 3-Rickshaw www.areenlimousine.com

If man is the most efficient machine, then Green Limousine is the most efficient short-distance transportation service. It's a fascinating step into the centuries-old tradition of the rickshaw and probably the most intimate way to see parts of San Diego. The fun-loving runners, or "pullers" as they are called, act as local guides on these kingly smooth rides. They weave through traffic, race each other, jump - balancing their weight and yours on the two wheels. They can carry up to 600 pounds, run up to 10 miles a day, and are ready to go: a tremendous display of human endurance. They've drawn stares while serving the public during the Super Bowl, at the San Diego Zoo, Gaslamp, Balboa Park, and Coors Ampitheatre. This is the country's only rickshaw company, operating in San Diego for nine years. Unique bookings, advertising, and rides are all negotiable.

### BEST HOTEL FOR AN IN-TOWN VACATION

Hotel Parisi 1111 Prospect Street, La Jolla (858) 454-1511

Although it stands across from the splashier La Valencia Hotel, and a crowd of shoppers, diners, and gallery-goers congregates out front



at the granite "rolling ball" fountain to listen to live musicians on weekend evenings, the interior of the Hotel Parisi is discreet and tranquil. Taupe decor, Japanese rice-paper art, and a waterfall grace the lobby. Six suites offer ocean views. Inroom VCR and CD players as well as track-lit desks with data ports for your laptop make this a good spot for a working vacation, although super-smooth Egyptian-cotton bed sheets may persuade you to skip that 7:00 a.m. breakfast meeting.

# BEST DRY CLEANER

Glen Cleaners 3190 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights (619) 282-0241

Spot removal and enlightenment. All cleaning and pressing is done on the premises. They don't mash jacket lapels into a knife edge, they gen-

tly roll them. Sleeves are stuffed with tissue. Soft pleats flow. Shoulder seams are pressed to retain their human form. Give Glen an old dress or suit, a forgotten remnant from the back of the closet, and you will have new respect for the garment when you get it back. But be advised, they're closed on all Baha'i holy days. They provide a list for your convenience. On a side table in the shop lie Fabricare Institute pamphlets, flyers on Glen's wed ding-gown preservation service ("our specialty"), and booklets on the Baha'i faith ("The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens.") The small shop is sunny, the plastic plants never dusty, lace curtains hang in the window, and there's fresh candy in a dish on the

# BEST PLACE TO RENT SOME FLASHY WHEELS

Rent A Vette 1025 West Laurel, Midtown (619) 238-3883

Corvettes, Mercedes, Jaguars, and Porsches rent for \$299 per day; \$249 for two days; \$199 for three or more days. BMWs are \$159 per day. Makes you wonder how many businessmen pull out from nearby Dollar or Avis in their boxy little Neons and only then, regretfully, spot the Vette sign on their way to I-5.

### **BEST PLACE** TO GET LITTLE JOHNNY'S HAIR CUT

Kid's Hair Salon Grossmont Center. 5500 Grossmont Center Drive. La Mesa (619) 464-4466

Airplanes and clowns hang from the ceiling. Mickey Mouse adorns the wall border, and a children's video plays in the corner. What little tyke wouldn't enjoy having his mop chopped here at Kid's Hair Salon in Grossmont Center? A shampoo, cut, and dry for a child under ten costs \$10. Little Johnny

has his own basket of little toys next to him on his booster seat during the cut to help pass the time. The hair cutters are friendly, patient, reassuring. First-time cut recipients receive a First Haircut Certificate with a lock of their hair taped to it.

# **BEST SHOE SHINE**

Pontiac Seratto's Shoe Shine 138 Broadway, Downtown

"There's nobody within a five-mile radius who stays in business competing with me," says Pontiac Seratto, at his stand in front of a barbershop downtown, "because I give quality shoe-shining and spiritual therapy." With every pair of soles, Pontiac says, "I will treat them as if they were the only pair." And with every soul who needs it, "it's like the bartender: they tell me everything wrong: 'The kids have been bad this week. But I just tell them to be patient." His clientele might need spiritual healing more than most: they are "judges, attor-



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neys, the jurors, and the defendants themselves" from the two courthouses just down the street. "There are some days I could have court here," says Pontiac, who is on the job Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. While he devotes 15 minutes to shining each pair of shoes on average, finishing with a sealant that coats, soothes, and protects, "If you're gonna put it all in a nutshell, they come here more for the spiritual advice."

### REST RAII BONDSMAN

FI Caion Bail Bonds 118 Rea Avenue, El Cajon (619) 442-9998

When you're anxious to get a loved one out of the slammer, don't just dial the first bail bondsman vou see advertised on a bus-stop bench near the jail. Crime happens at all hours, so you need a 24-hour service. Several on-call to the right jail with the correct reams of paperwork in the shortest time. El Cajon Bail Bonds does it all, including state and federal bonds, and they accept credit cards. Rates start as low as 8 per cent of the set bail amount (compared to 10 percent elsewhere).

### **BEST AERIAL** TOURS

Golden State Flying Club Gillespie Field 1640 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon (619) 449-0611 or (619) 286-7434

side Santee, Golden State offers singleengine plane excursions that buzz San Diego's scenic deserts, mountains, or coastline. Up to three passengers at a time can fly, and whoever's in the copilot seat gets to turn and dip the plane. The pilot supervises, of course, and all are certified flight instructors, as that's one of the other things Golden State does. The cost is \$90 per half hour, \$152 for the full one-hour tour.

Housed at tiny Gillespie Field, just out

# CEMETERY

San Diego Pet Memorial Park 8995 Crestmar Point, Miramar (858) 271-4242 www.sandieaopetmemorial.com

Not just a pet cemetery but also a wildlife sanctuary where critters indigenous to San Diego run around the kitty crypts and doggie tombs. A one-time maintenance fee gets you a basic burial plot, and you can decide later whether to add a headstone. Services are performed with straight faces and customers who opt for cremation can have the remains placed in an urn and delivered to wherever people deliver powdered pets. Their online FAO contains this caveat: "Caskets are not used for horses because it is neither possible nor efficient."

### **BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR SURF-**BOARD FIXED Joe Roper Surfboard Repair 1460 Morena Boulevard,

Bay Park

(619) 275-0447

In the old days, when he practiced behind the old Gordon & Smith shop at the foot of P.B. Drive, tracking him down was a dice roll. His work area was in sight of the ocean, and, if the waves were good, the shaman was too busy dancing with the forces of nature — usually at Big Rock - to poultice your board's wounds. For the last dozen years or so. Roper's Surfboard Repair has been housed in a ramshackle indus trial building behind a used-car lot in Bay Park. And now Roper, 20 years and 50 pounds beyond his attack-dog prime, is a businessman. Several young guys up to their elbows in fiberglass dust move among the boards lined in triage along walls and on racks. Sure, anybody with some catalyst, a little filler, and a piece of 80-grade sandpaper can repair a ding. But Roper resurrected one local's favorite Rich Pavel fish after it took a deck-crunching tumble over the boulders at Bird Rock. He charged 80 bucks, but hey - four years later, yellowed with age, it's still watertight.

# Goods.& Services

# BEST PLACE TO BUY NEW JEANS AND T-SHIRTS

12 locations in San Diego Most Central: 3345 Sports Arena Boulevard Midway District (619) 223-8111

Levi's, check. Lee, there's a whole wall full. But the scoop is their in-store brand of jeans. Now there's a fine product. The black jeans (\$19.99), for example, are a good notch up from blue jeans on the totem pole of casual/dressy, plus they progress to a nice faded charcoal over time. The dorky name of this in-store brand is "High Sierra." Just take the namepatch off when you get home. Or don't tuck in your shirt, which is a better look any-

way, jeans-wise. Speaking of shirts. here's the scoop on them: They're almost always on sale. White, black, blue, lots of colors, all sizes in stock (\$14). The clientele isn't made up of the hippest people you've seen, but that includes you - while you're there.

# BEST PLACE TO BUY IMPORTED MEN'S SHOES Nordstrom Rack

Mission Valley Center. 1640 Camino del Rio North Mission Valley (619) 296-0143

Can't miss it, big yellow-orange building, visible from Camino de la Reina. Eccos, Birkenstocks, Dr. Martens...\$160 shoes for \$85, \$120 shoes for \$60. You get the idea. Too good to be true? Well, they call it the "rack" for a reason: the shoes are all thrown together in a --

there's no other word for it - rack: you must have patience to sift through They're organized by size, of course, but still, you've got to hunt and peck. And on weekends, elbow room is in short supply. Best bet: weekday after. noons. Or try weekday evenings: they're open until 9:00 p.m.

### **BEST PLACE TO** BUY CONTACT-LENS SOLUTION

Kobey's Swap Meet San Diego Sports Area Parking Lot, Midway District (619) 226-0650

This isn't a sure thing, but if you're lucky you could save about 400 percent. Go to the Kobey's Swap Meet (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), pay your dollar, Remember where you parked. If you're gonna look around at other stuff - and you

should - bring a hat. Okay, now set foot for savings. The guy we're looking for is usually in the second or third row, coming from the main entrance. He's not always there, which is why you should be open to browsing around. But if he is, he'll sell you a 4oz, bottle of Boston conditioning (or storing) solution, \$12 at the grocery store, three for \$5. We know what you're thinking: this stuff must be ten years old. Not so. Every container has a date stamped on it, and if you can't use three bottles by 10/2002, you have

### **BEST ART SUPPLY**

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# Goods & Services

elsewhere. Here, you'll find discount pricing on fine-art products and a range of mediums to choose from. Owner Jack B. Quick is a supporter of local artists and offers studio time, weekly drawing classes, and shows by local artists such as Reed Cardwell and Jeff Faeth Rhino's staff is made up of art students and professionals who can advise both beginners and advanced. All this and Silly Putty too! Rhino sells more of the sticky stuff than any other retailer in the

# BEST BASEBALL SCHOOL Valley Baseball School and

Softball Academy 11526 Sorrento Valley Road Suite P. Sorrento Valley (858) 792-2255

Many Valley Baseball students have gone on to play professional ball

easy to see why: the coaches and owners of the school encourage sportsmanship and love of the game. All instructors have spotless pedigrees and work well with children. The school is part of the American Youth Sports Foundation. Batting-cage rates are \$13 per half hour or \$22 per hour. Private lessons are \$35 for a single lesson or four lessons for \$100, but the school often offers off-season specials with six lessons for the price of four. Monday through

after their training here and it's

**BEST BOUTIOUE** FOR A NON-MALL BUYING EXPERIENCE

Thursday 3:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday

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Studio 1220 1220 Cleveland Avenue at Vermont, Uptown District (619) 220-7344

One more clone costume at the

department stores won't do --- you need variety and va-va-voom; an outfit that says sexy or snappy or slinky on sale (or at salelike prices). Heather Payne makes second-skin choices that include style. wearability, sass, and price. She's revamped the store, adding shoes to her inventory, so if you're spotting the same slides and slingbacks and strappy stuff this season, think twice. This shop is for all the senses: feel the fabrics; revel in the voluptuous colors - turquoise, tangerine, candy pink, kiwi green - sample the silky sway of that swoopy skirt, the soft wrap in a lycra-jersey-soft tank. For the edgier among you, Heather hovers on the hot side of fashion forward — some leather here, some fur there, something bold, brave, buxom, or baring. Separates run \$24 to \$42 on average, with a high end of \$54 for fulllength frock and a \$10 rack sporting tiny T-shirts and cropped pants. lewelry and scarves for accessorizing available (\$10 and up); shoes range from \$29 to \$69. Store hours seven days, noon to 7:00 p.m.

# **BEST PLACE TO** FIND WEDDING BELLS, BUNTING, AND A WITCH'S BROOM

Wright's Party Supplies 2611 Market Street, Grant Hill (619) 234-6461

There really was a Mr. Wright -George B. Wright, to be exact, but that was over 50 years ago. He owned a store located on Fifth and Island. canning jams, jellies and party punch. Meanwhile, Albert Morales emigrated from Mexico City to San Diego in the 1920s. He was 11. Several years he washed canning jars for Mr. Wright and didn't get paid. Times were tough, so he took IOUs, eventually bought out Mr. Wright, and in 1951 built the party-supply warehouse at its location on Market Street, east of downtown. Never did change the store name. Over the years. Morales phased out the iams and iellies and concentrated on cake decorating and party supplies, build ing up a clientele. He's 90 now, and up until a few months ago tended

store every day with his employees, some of whom have worked for Morales over 30 years. His prices still beat the pants off the chain party stores (he has no rent to pay) and his selection includes hard-to-find classics such as hand-painted Chinese paper lanterns (\$1.89 for a package of two) and 1950s-style Halloween decorations, for which hipster boutiques charge you dearly. Go there to buy some purple paper plates, come home with an abalone shell and starfish — perfect for the bathroom

# BEST SMOG CHECK

Hai's Auto Repair #2 4040 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest (619) 542-0922

ocated on a wedge-shaped lot on Park Roulevard that used to be a Shell station. Hai's is a diploma-mill for cars that need their credentials Tai Diep, the owner, is like a

Vietnamese Santa Claus. He's jolly, orking, and loves children. Angie, his wife, will fill out the paperwork and explain the state regtions while Tai tries to get you in and out. There is no autor double-talk, and they will do everything they can to keep you from visiting a state test center, where tests and repairs are more expensive. Angie explains. "You don't want to have a test and fail it. Then you will go on record with the state as a 'gross polluter' and you can only have your smog check at a state test center." You can have your car pretested to see if you are a gross polluter without any state record. Smog tests are \$19.95 and the DMV Certificate is \$8.25. The average wait is 20 to 30

# **BEST CHEAP** BARBER

Vince's Rarber Shon 2030 India Street, Little Italy (619) 239-0966

Vincenzo Bruno moved to San Diego

from Sicily in 1946 and has cut enough hair to send his children to college, see them become successful and buy some real estate. He still cuts hair to pass the time. This is not a place for trendy cuts. Mr. Bruno's expertise is traditional men's haircuts. The interior is basic, with fami ly photos and knicknacks lining his display case. He always has the daily newspaper, along with a thick assort ment of men's magazines. The price varies: He always says, "Oh, whatever you can pay" and then suggests \$5. Off-street parking is available next to the shop.

# BEST QUICK WATCH REPAIR Ipanema Watch Repair 1168 Rosecrans Street,

Roseville (619) 226-1615

When your watch needs a new battery cell, the worst place to go is the mall. Most mall jewelers don't replace watch batteries, and those who do charge anywhere from \$10

for cells on inexpensive watches to \$60 for expensive brands. Ipanema Watch Repair is friendly, reasonable, and fast. As the name suggests, Uillis (pronounced "Willis") Volpato, the owner, is from Brazil. He is courteous and knows all about watches, because that's all he does. He doesn't sell any other type of jewelry. He can replace your cell in two minutes and charges from \$4 to \$7, depending on the cell needed. He keeps a large stock of watch works, bands, and crystals on hand for other repairs. Ipanema stocks new watches, including Citizen, Longines, Michel Herbelin, and Boccia Titanium.

# **BEST DISCOUNT-FURNITURE STORE**

Cost Less Furniture 10720 Woodside Avenue, Santee (619) 258-8166

Located next to Yum Yum Donuts in a strip mall at the intersection of Woodside and Magnolia, Cost Less has genuinely cheap prices on gen-



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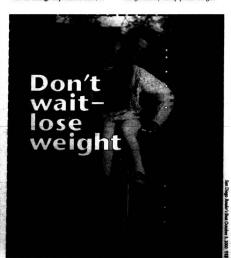
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# Services

uinely decent furniture. Instead of garish interiors stacked with tacky accessories, its four plain walls are covered with basics; mattresses, sofa sets, tables, and bedroom sets. You won't be pressured because there's no commissioned sales staff. Instead, you'll be greeted by John, the store's owner. A native San Diegan with more than 30 years' experience in all aspects of furniture. John is straighttalking, low-key, and helpful in finding what you prefer. On weekends, John is sometimes joined by his dad who has worked in furniture for more than 45 years. Bed sets run from as low as \$109 for a queen box and mattress to \$498 for a no-name set comparable to a \$1200 Sealy Posturepedic. Sofa and love seats start as low as \$278 for the set. Same-day delivery is available for instock items. Sofas are available in hoards of fabrics, and special orders take one to two weeks

# **BEST PLACE TO** TRADE IN YOUR "SHRINKING"

Denim Exchange 3095 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park (619) 521-1015

They buy and sell Levi's. Bring in the old pair - the ones that've been cinching your waist and barely restraining your rump - and ge cash for them, or double the cash value in store credit. The jeans sell for between \$5 and \$25; the latter is

the going rate for a perfect pair. Word has it that the occasional \$3 or \$4 pair can be had if you're willing to accept a small hole

# BEST PLACE TO RESCUE TORN CLOTHING

La Jolla Weaver 7531 Girard Avenue, La Jolla (858) 454-4847

The sight of owner An Phan's serene face will bring peace to your soul. Listen as she describes her methods: "For some material, I just take out every broken thread and replace it by sewing new thread 10 or 12 lines in on each side, so it will be connected to a thread that is not broken. This is called a French weave. If the hole is big, I have to cut material from inside the garment and weave it in on top. This is called a semi-weave. Prices are based on type of material and the size and number of holes. For a solid-colored sweater with one hole, the minimum is \$12. A solidcolored jacket or sports coat carries a \$24 minimum and goes up the scale depending on the weave."

# **BEST SOAP SHOP**

La Compagnie De Provence 3870 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 295-8322

With the advent of matrimony, a man ceases to be merely the object of his beloved's affection; to this pleasant relation comes the added status of being an object of her proprietary interest. When this happens, a man may find himself forced

\$50 Off Body Wrap and

to reassess what is at the heart of his masculinity - what things he may not surrender and still remain himself - and what are merely the trappings of a bachelor who doesn't feel the need to fuss over seeming trivialities, such as a facial soap that doesn't strip his skin like sandpaper. When our hero submits to caring for the face that his beloved beholds each morning, he may pay a visit to La Compagnie de Provence and surrender his visage to the gentle care of such soaps as mild milk, lettuce (for oily skin), luxurious 20 percent Shea butter, honey, vanilla, orange, olive, lilac with almond base, sage, coconut, tangerine, and even sea algae, among others. Though full of soaps, gels, conditioners, fragrances and the like, the place does not feel frilly; the bold Provençal colors noticeable on various bolts of fabric (also for sale) — give the place a vibrancy, a beauty not exclusively

### **BEST FURNITURE**

Metropolis 1003 University Avenue. Hillcrest (619) 220-0632

After you've fallen in love with Martha Stewart (good taste for the masses!), gone through a bitter breakup with Martha Stewart (controlling, antiseptic monster!), and learned to give Martha Stewart a grudging respect (brilliant businessvoman, makes domesticity profitable), you will still be enchanted by the comforting, grounding, reassuring quality of furniture. You will still browse the Pottery Barn cata-

log. You will still wander antique shops, just in case you find some thing you can't live without. And you will (or at least you should) pay regular visits to Metropolis. Though there are a few more modern pieces to be found (in particular, an undated metal office set that almost makes cold gray steel seem soft and inviting) within the store's three stories, much of the furniture in Metropolis finds the delicious mean between fussy, fragile antiquity and nondescript, dependable modernity. The pieces are overwhelmingly solid, yet display an attention to detail and elegance of line that distinguish them as excellent. The signature dining table - long, narrow, rustic in its plank construction yet sophisticated in its finish - is a fine representation of the spirit of the place, a happy, livable beauty.

# **BEST ANTIQUING**

Antique Row Adams Avenue Normal Heights/University Heights

Memories of the Row: A magnificent Craftsman gumwood built-in sidebar, torn out when a house was torn down, full of doors and drawers, beveled glass and blond-wood presence. A deeply aged but utterly solid stand-up writing desk, its broad expanse begging to bear the work of expansive genius. A bronze bust of Dante based on the Dore illustration, all piercing gaze and scowling genius. Coming off the 805 South onto Adams Avenue, the treasure hunter is welcomed by the mottled vellow sign that designates

# Goods.& Services

Adams Avenue Antique Row. To the east stands the unforgettably named Retreads - seemingly never without some sort of improbable yet attractive chair out front — and a prinkling of others, but the bulk of the booty lies to the west. Just past the Antique Row Café, it begins: Ouicksilver, Elie Hazou, the Antique Seller, Alouette, Clay's Classics which reupholsters old pieces in fabrics ranging from the whimsical to the sublime and displays them for passersby in the adjacent park. ing lot - and Zac's Attic. A little further on the left, a trio: Country Cousins, Upper Ten, Antique Cottage. Then on the right: Fifth Avenue Antiques, which, in an apparent nod to the Row, left Fifth Avenue for the space formerly occupied by the Frame Dame (she noved a few doors down). Resurrected Furniture and Dease Antiques sprout up on their own before the final cluster, a block or two before Texas Street: Gledhill's Vintage Furniture, Alessandria's, the Refindery, and Antoinette's. And if the search has still proven fruitless Persian Heritage and Rocky's lie just off the avenue on Park Boulevard.

### BEST WAY TO HAVE "I LOVE YOU" TOWED ACROSS THE SKY

Banner Joe's Aerial Advertising Gillespie Field, El Cajon (619) 222-4576

You actually want your feelings flying through the sky? Oh sure, there's something thrilling about rumpeting your love on a sign behind a World War II-era Stearman biplane, But you'd better be sure. "At 1000 feet up, your message can be seen for 114 miles on the ground," says Joe, who prefers his ast name not be used. He says 300,000 to 1 million people will seeour sentiments if he tows them up and down the beaches on a summe veekend. Or you could buzz the dience at Qualcomm, as loe did a

WILL YOU MARRY ME?" Fiftyfour thousand fans looked up and went "Aaahhh." 'Course, that turned out to be Albertsons saving they'd bought out Lucky's supermarkets. But Joe is most proud of the message he towed up to the Cuyamacas. "IIMMY: STAY PUT. HUG A TREE." A mom enlisted him to help find her lost kid. Jimmy saw it. Hugged a tree, and was found. In one way it's very low-tech. Joe sets the banner up on stakes at Gillespie, then flies through at 10 feet trailing a hook and whoosh! Your sign's on

its way, for between \$200 and \$300.

Or you could get Joe to sky-write.

year ago, with the message "LUCKY,

### BEST PLACE TO SLEEP OVER THE OCEAN

But that's \$1200.

Crystal Pier Hotel & Cottages 4500 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach (858) 483-6983

You can't afford the cruise? No wor-

ries! Listen to the waves below your

pillow! Feel the sway! You feel as if you're at sea when you stay in the blue-and-white Cape Cod-style cottages on Pacific Beach's Crystal Pier. The pier goes back to 1927. The cot tages to 1936. They're still charm-Everyone was all right, and they've strengthened the pier since

### **BEST PLACE TO** BUY BLUE SUEDE SHOES

Nordstrom, Fashion Valley. 6997 Friars Road. Mission Valley (619) 295-4441

You can get an Elvis haircut, an Elvis jacket, wear an Elvis smirk, pick up an Elvis "Blue Suede Shoes" lamp for \$37.99 on the 'Net or a Blue Suede Shoes plate for \$26.50. But a man can't find real blue suede shoes to wear as a living, walking tribute to

The King. A check of a cross-section of hip, warehouse, and just plain ol' department-store shoe departments turned up no blue suede shoes for men. Women never have this problem. In fact, blue suede is part of the official fall lineup. Then, when all tradition seemed lost, good old Nordstrom, Fashion Valley found the Real Thing. Sort of, Yes, says Pablo the salesman, we have one line of shoes For men Loafers Blue suede Composition soles, casual dress style Made in Memphis? Uh, no. Made in Italy, Ferragamo, Price? \$265.







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ing. Red geraniums dance in blue planter boxes. Rooms look out over the rollers below. The salt air comes pure into your windows. Open-deck patios make the ideal breakfast nook. Summer rates go from \$195 to \$250 for one bedroom and \$305 for two-bedrooms. Winter rates start the week of October 1, 2000: \$150 one-bedroom and \$250 twobedroom. Two problems: they require a three-night minimum, and in summer they're booked six months ahead. One family has been coming every year for 40 years. Then in winter, storms can give you a good rumbling night when the waves grow really big. Not to scare anyone, but in January 1953, two 40-ton ocean barges broke loose in wild surf and careened into the pier. They ripped out nine pilings and sent one cottage toppling into the waves below

Ticket to **Fitness** Free Week Pass\* Free Kickboxing\* Free Aerobics\* Free Spinning\*\* 7825 Fay Avenue, La Joli

# Goods & Services

# BEST TIES

Wear It Again Sam 3922 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest (619) 299-0185

Kristine Anderson first started noticing the trend 20 years ago. Men, mostly, business types, as well as those who plunged into the swing-dance craze started coming in and asking for ties. Not just any ties: They wanted the loud, wide, brash ties from the '40s. Straight out of The Maltese Falcon. They wanted to be Sam Spade or Mike Hammer or Bulldog Drummond or Damon Runyan, Walter Mitties, all, "It has never stopped," she says. "Except now there are so many collectors. the real classics are getting harder to come by." The ones she gets most requests for are, number one, Salvador Dalí ties, limp watches and all; number two, the "girlie ties," the big broad ties with dames slinking down the front, winking out at you between the lapels. "The other popular ones are the hand-painted '40s silk ties," Anderson says. The handpainteds go from \$10 to \$50. The girlie and Salvador Dalis from \$150 to \$500. Earlier ties, say from the '30s, are a little less popular, because even though they were the broadest. they were short. "Suits then had a higher lapels," says Anderson. Still they're way more popular than '60s ties. "By then the tie was this little one-inch-wide nothing." You can hear the disgust in her voice. "Made of polyester."

# **Big Shot**

**BEST PLACE TO BUY A GIFT** 

Charles Kaufman, Braud & Cir bakery Gallery & on Girard in La Jolla. The woman who owns it— her name is Ploasis—seems to have the psychic ability to read the mind of the person for whom I'm buying a gift. She always has an idea that assems to be perfect. It's bizarre. Ploasy knows better what my wife wants has I do. She's got a title bit of everything there I'd describe it as upicale electic. For example, she found an artist who diga lawes in metal and makes them into plans. So you've got a vecultypin laid with a metallic, reflective pasina. She also has great, off-bean little skid's books that went't the normal, moronic kid's books.

Linda. Welfry, Mr. 95.7: There's a great place in Publish Valley mall. Jost I can't think of the name of it. It's near the movie thems and a bookstore. They sell unque gifts. Things you wouldn't think of. Unique clocks, decurative things, Enicklandos for a home. But

Jeffrey Strauss, Pumplemouse in Solana Beach: I like to the the gifts I give into the kitchen and cooking. There's a kitchen place in the Flower Hill Mall called the Silver Skillet. They have great things there—great quality cooking utensils and cooking supplies.

Chescic Veliveredes, Webreshoot's Book House Illie unusual gifts so I go down to Sengov Village because them's attch when wide verieiry of frings to duty there. I've given people being from the Jibs of down then. The pools I've given them to have sever in their life flows a bits. I give them the kine and a bill of string, and they've abcolused with defounded. It's event efficient

Chris Cantore, 912:1 would say Music Trailer, What better way to express yourself than through music — plus, the used CDs are only \$4.99.

### BEST SEPTIC-SYSTEM BUILDER

Carl Denlinger, Alpine Drainage Systems Inc. P.O. Box 847, Alpine (619) 445-2150

You thought septic tanks belonged to the era of the pit privy? Wrong! With off-sewer housing creeping out beyond Alpine, Dulzura, Pine Valley, Descanso, and North County, who can afford to pay for sewage lines? That's where Carl Denlinger comes in. He's installing septic-tank systems for new rural houses at a rate of four a week. "It used to be you'd build your house and install a temporary septictank system while the sewer line caught up. That's just not happening any longer. Too expensive. And the sewage system is already over-extended." Not only that, but folks are finding septic tanks have two great blessings: properly used, they last 50 years, says Carl, and their installation cost

(\$3000 to \$5000) will soon more than pay for itself, while hooking up to sewage costs \$35 to \$45 a month forever. And, as with electricity, getting off the sewage grid will be great for coming droughts. "The average threebedroomed household puts out about 350 gallons of water a day," says Denlinger. Soon they'll be able to recycle and reclaim that wasted water on the spot — at a purity level acceptable to water authorities. "With the new over-designing [of septic systems| for longevity, outlet filters and individual treatment plants, it should soon be feasible."

# BEST PLACE FOR A ROOFTOP SUNSET BARBECUE

Seacoast Inn 800 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach (619) 424-7556 or (619) 424-5183

There is no better ocean view, period. Not if you like to see as much ocean as you can. The blue-andwhite stucco Seacoast Inn doesn't look remarkable, but it is, in two respects: It's right slap-dab on the ocean, and it's the last beachfront hotel this side of the border. But the best thing is that, unlike most hotel penthouses, this one doesn't cost the moon. As well as the usual sitting room, bedroom, and kitchen, you get a huge, open ocean-view deck and outside barbeque facilities, all for \$250 or \$300 weekends during winter months (\$50 more if you want to rent the master bedroom.) So, okay, the Seacoast isn't Hilton. And I.B. ain't La Jolla. But heck, the ocean's just as big and blue. The hotel often rents out the penthouse to families holding reunions or buddies getting together for a picnic. Five can put in \$50 each and you've got yourselves a primo party site. And up here with the Coronado

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# Goods &

Islands, Mexico, and Point Loma on your doorstep, people just lean on the balcony and go "Wow!" Best time is sunset: if you're ever going to see the green flash, this is the

# BEST TEMPORARY TATTOOS

Hot Topic Plaza Bonita, 3030 Plaza Bonita Road, National City (619) 472-8772 Mastodon 4638 Mission Roulevard Pacific Beach (858) 272-1188

You want it but you don't. Or at least you want to see how it looks before you're inked for life. You have two choices: At Hot Topic you can just buy a pack of transfers - \$2.99 mostly tribal abstract designs or butterflies or stars. Peel and stick. "People often come to try something

on before they really commit to a permanent tattoo," says Veronica. who manages the National City Hot Topic. Alternatively, go get henna'd. Mehendi, the intricate decorating of hands and feet, is an ancient art originally from Egypt and the Middle East. In India they do it to the bride and groom just before the wedding. Somewhere on her hands they include the groom's name. If he can't find it, she will rule the marriage. And as long as it's there, the bride doesn't have to lift a finger at home. It usually lasts a couple of weeks. At Mastodon they charge a dollar a minute (minimum halfhour). The most common designs, armbands and anklets, take half an hour. Full hands, probably 90

# BEST PLACE TO BUY YOUR POOL TABLE

Billiards and Barstools 330 Rancheros Drive, Suite 111. San Marcos (760) 471-9208

You have a rec room measuring at least 12 feet by 9 feet by 16 feet. And you think "Brunswick." That is, the brand your daddy always said was "it," because they're the biggest in the world, the oldest in the country (a young Swiss immigrant carriage-maker named John Brunswick built his first table in Cincinnati in 1845). Also because they grow their own forests in Wisconsin for the timber for their tables And Abe Lincoln Teddy Roosevelt, the Rockefellers, and Mark Twain all played on Brunswicks: there's a Brunswick "lewel" table at Camp David; and they go all the way to Italy and Brazil to get the slate that underlies the felt surface. And besides, Padres pitcher Trevor Hoffman bought one the other day. "Plus," says Ken Clark, the San Marcos shop's assistant manager, "we're the largest Brunswick dealer in the whole of the U.S.A." Clark says Brunswick insists on training every sales guy. "For instance, we don't use a spirit level when we're setting up a table. We use a machinist's

level. Just one sheet of paper under one end will shift it." That's interesting, but how much dinero? Bottom end starts at \$1800, delivered and set up. Top? They have an 1860 antique worth around \$120,000.

### BEST DELIVERED ORGANIC FOOD

Seabreeze Organic Farm 3909 Arroyo Sorrento Road, Carmel Valley (858) 481-0209 Also at Farmer's Markets in O.B., Encinitas, Del Mar,

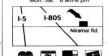
You stand at the supermarket veggie display. It looks too good to be true. It is too good to be true. All that pesticide to kill the bugs. All that fertilizer. All those hormones Enter Stephenie Caughlin, a futures trader in metals, currencies, and pork bellies, complete with the requisite Beamer. One day in 1988 she tossed it all in and started farming her two acres in

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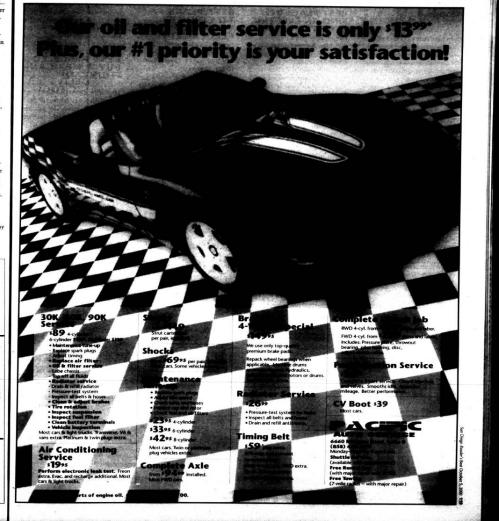
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Sorrento Valley - organically. That meant employing her 25year-old horse Creole to provide the manure, countless frogs (she dug them a frog-pond), lizards, ladybugs, lacewings, and wasps to eat insects, even the wild covotes and snakes to help keep down the lettuce-eating gophers. Of course, it costs more. "I could pay \$25 to herbicide one acre," she says. "Whereas it costs me \$800 in labor costs to weed it by hand." That includes pulling night patrol to pick off snails and slugs. Her business backbone is her weekly home-delivery deal: a large box. \$35, feeds three to four. A small box, \$25, feeds one to two. The "petite" box, for one, costs \$17. The boxes contain strawberries oranges, broccoli, onions, unheard-of kinds of lettuce in the salad mix. zucchini, carrots, tomatoes, celery, herbs, and always a flower bouquet. Ask about duck

# BEST PLACE TO FIND AN ELECTRIC SCOOTER

Millennial Motors 505 Mission Avenue (at Coast Highway), Oceanside (760) 722-2225

Michael's the general manager of Millennial Motors, and he claims to have more electric scooters to sell than anyone in the county. These are electric, battery-driven scooters. "The Currie Phat Phantom is the most popular right now," he says. "It goes 15 mph, has a 15-mile range, and recharges in four to five hours: \$550." Of course you can get them maybe \$50 cheaper at warehouse discount places, but with Michael, you've got an electric-scooter specialist with full-service shop-repair facilities. For seniors. Michael has electric bikes like the Currie "U.S. Pro" (20 mph. 20-mile range, four- to five-hour charge time, \$900). He says 60-some things love them because they can go on long rides and when they get tired, just press the button and let the motor take over

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BEST PLACE TO CONVERT YOUR CAR TO ELECTRICITY

California Electric Automobile Company 1055 G Street, Downtown (619) 232-0595

"After we're done, you can zip by the gas station and laugh. You'll never be dependent on them again." Of course, he's not alone in his crusade. This year already, the Big Boys are selling pure electric and hybrid gasoline-electric cars such as Toyota's RAV4 EV "Socket Rocket," (EV = Electric Vehicle -126 miles per charge, 6-8 hour recharge, around \$42,000), the hybrid Prins (around \$20,500) and Honda has its hybrid "Insight" (\$19,350), But Lucas says the difference between them and his conversions is simplicity, "Our electric cars are much simpler than the ones the big boys put out." If you want to go the whole hog and convert your car to electric drive, and if it has a standard

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transmission and front-wheel drive, he can get it off the gasoline habit for \$18,000. The conversion takes four to five weeks.

# BEST PLACE TO BUY A MEXICAN FOUNTAIN

Estrella del Norte Mercado de Artisanías, 2nd Street, corner of Avenida Aldrete, Tijuana 011-526-685-3667

The best values are in the traditional Mexican designs, and they feel like real fountains, when they're as high as you and fill your garden with vague classicalromantic shapes and the hubbling of water. At the North Star, they have five-foot-high carved stone fountains from \$250. But the best value is the concrete fountains. A five-foot, four-layer conch-shell design costs \$140, a slightly smaller one \$110. A fantasy woodland fountain with a bear holding a fish is \$120. A two-foot

> Vacuuming, if done right, is Zen. Ask any homebody with a need convincing, go see Kerry Lee at La Iolla Sew and Vac. Lee runs a solid 43-yearold business, so his sales style has gone beyond hard-sell to show-and-tell. For Lee, it's about finding "the right unit for the home." You fess up about your floors, furniture, family, pets, and general goings-on about the house and the man is in his zone, calculating foot traffic to pile ratios. Where do you live? Is dust an issue? You know they have units with Hepa filters. You can vacuum atoms off your ottomans, Before you're done with his

# Goods.& Services

single dish is \$15. The biggest is a seven-foot monster with four dishes with ground-level pool surround blocks, for \$260. The stone fountains are carved in Guadalajara. The con-

crete ones are cast in Playas de Tijuana. They say the concrete will last just as long. The good news: you're saving up to \$5000 on San Diego County-sold fountains. The bad news: vou have to lug it back north yourself.

VĂCUUM-CLEANER SALESMAN La Iolla Sew &

Vacuum 520 Pearl Street, La Jolla (858) 459-6680

Miele. And if you still Q&A, he's got a

"durable, versatile unit" on a sample of your high-traffic floor ing and is center stage. Lee works fast and furious, spinning, afixing, reafixing, and adjusting gadgetry. He chokes the hose and kinks the cord, just as you do at

BEST PLACE TO SMELL

Cathedral 435 University Avenue Hillcrest (619) 296-4046

It's stocked with candles, holders,

baubles, and hand-painted Mexican Day of the Dead doohickeys, But it is the fragrance, wafting out the door, that hooks its fingers in the noses of passersby. The shop is small and well-cluttered, so the scents concentrate in one intense cloud about the space. The trick for candle-smelling

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shoppers is to get it right up the nose. Go ahead, stick the wax right up inside your nostril, no one's looking. Now, take a big whiff. What's that, patchouli? Nice. What about that, gardenia? Mnim.

# BEST SWAP-MEET DEALER

George's Liquidation Kobey's Swap Meet, Booth #T2-4 San Diego Sports Arena Parking Lot, Midway District (619) 226-0650

"We get stuff people don't even know they want until they see it." says Tom Gray at George's Liquidation. "Every week, there's new stock. We buy liquidation merchandise, brand new, like pet supplies from an out-of-business store we priced at two-thirds off retail. Used stuff always sells - LPs, books, generators and compressors, collectible dishes, pottery, and tools: We had a portable sandblast. ing machine with the gloves you slide your hands into and everything, that sold for \$500." Other stock is acquired at estate sales and by purchasing the contents of unpaid storage lockers. "They're auctioned to the highest bidder, and we can look inside the lockers

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so we bid based on what's visible. Sometimes we end up with treasure, sometimes it's trash, but it'll all sell eventually."

# BEST LOW-COST LAWN CARE

"The basic package would be mow-

Jensen Maintenance (619) 287-4034

ing and edging, trimming the bushes, fertilizing, weeding beds, and pulling crack weeds from the drive way and sidewalk," says owner Hans Jensen. The cost averages \$25 per visit, though additional labor, such as sprinkler repairs and trimming flowers and large bushes, can increase the cost, "We also do brush-fire prevention. Cleaning up a canyon or a dry field bed, that has to be done to fire-department specs. We'll clear dry dead bushes and foxtails, set up a fire break below a property line, and do weed abatement." This service can run up to \$300. Sometimes a customer needs 24-hour "emergency" response. "I had to get up out of bed and go solder a pipe that got cracked. But that's rare; you don't see too many lawn-related emergencies."

# BEST TRAFFIC SCHOOL

A Pizza For You — With Comedians 2 (800) 215-2337

"A Pizza For You - With Comedians 2" classes are held Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in Hotel Circle. That's traffic instruction with a comic touch and with pizza served up for lunch. Cost is \$35, which includes a certificate to prove your attendance to the court (careful of tomato sauce stains). "All the instructors are comedic and the classes are lighthearted and humorous," prospective students are told, though further inquiry reveals that most teachers are retired or active police officers. "But they're still funny," says an appointment operator. "They can tell you why cops always have a mustache and what excuse to use to get out of a ticket."

# BEST BASEBALL CARDS

CJ's Sports Cards & Memorabilia 5143 Waring Road, Allied Gardens (619) 229-2505

CI's Sports Cards specializes in Padres merchandise and is so connected to the team that players such as Tony Gwynn do autograph signings at their retail store. Other inperson sessions, featuring stars such as Pete Rose and Charger Lance Alworth, are common and the shop walls and showcases are filled with autographed photos, jerseys, signed balls, pennants, programs, and valuable trading cards. Shop specialties include helmets, cleats, jerseys, and

Rhino Linings

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autographed collectibles like baseballs (signed Tony Gwynn World Series Practice Ball, \$150) and bats (Louisville Slugger signed by Joe DiMaggio, \$2900). New and vintage football and basketball cards are also sold, individually or in packs and sometimes as a complete year's set. Collection appraisals can be done by one of the shop's buyers.

# BEST HEADSTONES Conti and Son Monument

Company 3871 Imperial Avenue, Mountain View (619) 264-2480

"We have to sell what they tell us is allowed," says the saleswoman at Conti and Son Monument Company, "All of them charge an installation fee, at least \$125 for someplace like Mt. Hope." A no-frills headstone for an adult grave costs about \$325 for a gray granite stone with lettering and an engraved design; \$800 will buy an upright monument, and larger markers can push the memorial cost past \$1000. Granite colors include Georgia gray, colonial rose, black, and imperial blue and, most expensive, blue pearl ("It has lots of sparkle"). Engraved graphics can be customized for clients with their own designs or pic tures. Stock designs include musical instruments, golf clubs, flowers, crosses, rosaries, a fishing boat, and a cowboy hat.

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### Goods & Services

# BEST CHIMNEY SWEEP

Chimneys-R-Us 4021 Swift Avenue, North Park (619) 280-4700

"When we sweep your chimney," says Michael Mullen, vice president of Chimneys-R-Us, "your white carpet stays white, there's no mess, and we're not smudged like Dick Van Dyke in Mary Poppins." Workers inspect, clean, rebuild, and repair all chimneys. fireplaces and woodburning appliances. "Safety inspections should be done every year - every other year if it's not used often. Soot is flammable and corrosive, and it's cheap insurance to do preventative maintenance Basic service starts at around \$119 for a twostory chimney and at \$109 for a one-story chimney. The cleaning takes from a half hour to 45 minutes "Some of the guys do dress up and have a top bat in the truck. We usually don't wear them unless the customer asks and a lot of customers do. But it gets kind of hot when you're on a roof in Ramona at noon, and the last thing you want to be doing is dancing

### BEST SAILING LESSONS San Diego Saili

San Diego Sailing Academy 1500 Quivira Way, Mission Bay (619) 223-6253

around with a top hat."

The San Diego Sailing

Academy offers professional sailing instruction for boat owners and those interested in running charter operations and in other sailing careers. Graduates receive American Sailing Association certificates necessary to sail professionally. Instructors are licensed by

the U.S. Coast Guard, and no more than two students at a time are included in each certification class. Three-day excursions start at \$1000. A five-day combination package, Basic Coastal Cruising/Bareboat Chartering Certification, costs \$1500 and

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includes training in piloting and sailing by using a chart, reading a hand-bearing compass, jibbing, steering in waves, anchoring, and how to dock using either a motor or under sail power. Seven-day excursions can run over \$2000, and the company also books corrotated to the company also beautiful the company also books corrotated to the company also beautiful the comp

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### **BEST PLACE TO** GREASE YOUR WHEELS

Skateboard Heaven 5020 West Point Loma Boulevard, Ocean Beach (619) 222-2696

Skaters don't have to walk into Skateboard Heaven to feel welcome. A four-foot mini-ramp in front of the store costs a dollar to skate all day and loitering is encouraged. Inside, every manner of board and accessory is for sale, but a main attraction is the classic skateboards on display: Hang Tens. Banana Boards, and even a Roller Derby #10 from the late '60s, one of the first production skateboards, with the original metal wheels. For retail stock, anything not on dis-

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play can be ordered. Top-of-theline longboards average around \$149, and custom completes (pick the components and they put it together) start at \$129. The shop also does repair work, and a skateboard park is located minutes away at Robb Field.

# **BEST TATTOO-ON** MAKEUP

MPI Clinic 6125 Cornerstone Court East, Suite 150, Sorrento Mesa (858) 452-2909

If you're considering having someone apply your eyeliner, eyebrows, or lip liner permanently with a tattoo gun ("micro-pigment implantation"), you want the best in medical sanitation and sterilization and artists who understand color coordination and a patient's individual needs. MPI's free consultations include before-andafter imaging, and their services are not just for the vain - medical pigmentation can also be used to hide scars from injuries, surgery, burns,

and cleft lip or palate.

### **BEST PLACE** TO BE PIERCED Mastodon

4638 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach (858) 272-1188

Unlike tattoo parlors that do pierc ing as a sideline, this shop specializes in poking holes in places where God did not think holes necessary. The individual stations are hospital-clean and very private. Some hole-pokers play meditation music and offer aromatherapy; others do their work to a rock 'n' roll beat. but all are certified in health and safety techniques.

### **BEST PLACE TO** DRESS YOUR KIDS LIKE ROYALTY

Reruns Children's Resale Shop 1015 C Avenue, Coronado (619) 435-5444

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC **Full-Service Auto Repair** 

The unique thing about Reruns is that, well, they're cheap and they're surrounded by rich folks. More admirals' grandkids grow up here than any place on the planet. Add dot-com newcomers and the wealthy Mexican families from Coronado Shores and Coronado Cays, and you have a supply of rich-kid stuff being consigned and resold, often for less than a Jackson. Plus, Mexican families dress their kids with more formality than typical Anglo families, so Reruns gets a number of bigdesigner items. For boys too but, of course, more for girls. On a recent visit, a purple flowery Lord and Taylor cotton jersey dress for a sixyear-old, \$20. A Ralph Lauren shirt dress in white linen with a sash, for a 12- to 14-year-old, \$25. Or a Mexican cotton sun dress bursting with tulips on a black background, with matching purse, for a 12-yearold, \$35. Or an ankle-length formal Sylvia White cream moray file rayon dress from El Salvador with a lace and pearl collar bib, \$40. "Of course my daughter wouldn't be seen dead in these," says Joan LaKarnafeaux-

uffler Corvice

# Goods.& Services

Collom, the owner. "She prefers black and casual."

### **BEST PLACE TO** BUY MEXICAN MUSIC

Art-Te Company 945 Broadway, Downtown (619) 232-7231

It says something that the major music stores are stocking some major Mexican and Latin American music stars. But Robert Highsmith, the bilingual walking encyclopedia of Art-

Te, says they're more expensive than little-guy aficionados like him. He believes they bow to record companies' pressure to keep the cost of CDs high. "But I decide what price I charge. The small stores can do that. Partly because we don't have to pay advertising bills like the chain stores do." His modest shop at Tenth and Broadway bulges with everything from Ricky Martin to the still-hot banda music, to Norteño

can find their 1972 hit "Contrabando" and 1989's "Corridos Prohibidos" (all songs about smuggling you-knowwhat from there to here). But even Highsmith has to charge higher prices for bigger stars. The normal \$12 CD

groups like Los Tigres del Norte. You

leaps to \$18 for the likes of Ricky Martin.

### **BEST FIELD GUIDE TO THE** UNDERWORLD

The San Diego-La Jolla Underwater Park Ecological Reserve by Judith Garfield www.judith.garfield.org

The sarcastic fringehead is not a member of a rock group; it's a local fish with a sour disposition, just one of the unique marine animals to be encountered in the San Diego-La Iolla Underwater Park Ecological

Reserve. But you don't need to don scuba gear to experience the reserve; you can see it through two books by the same name. Volume two, on La Jolla Shores and Canyon, just came out (a companion to volume one on La Iolla Cove) and covers a variety of diverse local marine life from striped sea slugs to octopuses to leopard sharks. Striking color photography reveals the beauty and complexity of plants and animals, and user-friendly write-ups include such facts as this: a bat ray can have a wingspan of six feet and exert 150 pounds of pressure with its jaw, "which makes crushing a clam shell as challenging as chewing Jell-O." Local naturalist Judith Garfield is the creator of these



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### **BEST PLACE TO** SCORE PRIMO SHEET MUSIC

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# **BEST COUNTER-CULTURE SHOP**

High Road Psychedelic Shop 1465 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach (858) 273-7501

Many '70s survivors find it comforting that High Times magazine, Zig-Zag rolling papers, bongs, and glass pipes are available at head shops, while the activities associated with these things are as illegal as ever. The High Road, with a second location on El Cajon Boulevard in the College Area, now caters to a nearly mainstream clientele of nostalgic heads, nouveau young hippies, and party animals. Even the drug-free and psychedelically impaired can find jewelry, incense, T-shirts, books, and back issues of Relix Magazine and Grateful

# BEST 18TH-CENTURY LANDSCAPE ARTIST IN THE COUNTY

Dennis Stern North Park (619) 283-5150

Dennis Stern should have been into body-building, like his dad, who ran Stern's Gym in North Park for 42





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years. Instead he became fascinated by the Old Masters around age five. "I'm self-trained," he says. He spent years studying the baroque and particularly rococo artists. Rococo is by definition 18th-century decorative art, "colorful, fragile, pastoral, with trivial subject matter," but that encyclopedia definition doesn't bother Stern. "I spent my youth trying to discover the techniques and the materials they used," he says. He never took to harsh, "degraded" modern art. Instead he fell in love with Rubens, Titian, Tiepolo (the king of Venetian rococo, who rocked early-18th-century Venice with his The Sacrifice of Abraham) The result of all this study is an 18th-centu ry San Diego painter who can paint - not fakes of these masters, he insists - copies using his own style, or other subjects, using the style of one of these painters. He recently completed a pastoral after François Boucher (a rococo giant of 18th-century France) in one frenzied night. It depicts a water mill with pastoral figures, forests, and pink-clouded sky. Look at a Boucher. Look at a Stern Hard to tell 250 years stand between the two. Although reticent

about quoting prices.

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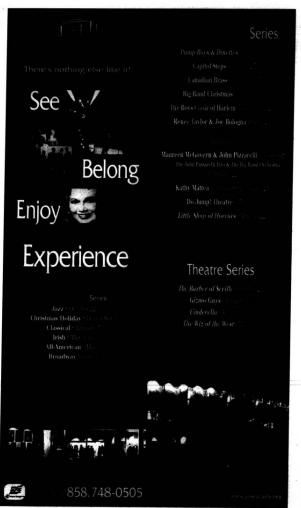












BEST CHEAP SEATS IN THE HOUSE Spreckels Theatre 121 Broadway,

Downtown (619) 235-9500

There's no finer place to enjoy a show than the balcony seats perched five stories above the Spreckels Theatre stage. Built in 1912, the Spreckels Theatre was in its day the largest stage outside of New York City. A private stairway entrance to the balconv leads up 170 steps to a wide hallway, then descends through a portal into the balcony below, down the steep est set of stairs outside of Europe. Despite the vertigo, which disables all sense of grace, the payoff is proximity to the domed theaterpalace ceiling embellished with paintings and back-lit statues of muses playing with dolphins. Little has been modernized up in the balcony; it has the original bouncy velvetcovered seats, illuminated etched-glass signs, and art deco carpeting. The view to the stage below is expansive and the acoustics

BEST CHAMBER-MUSIC BARGAIN

UCSD's Chamber Music Series (858) 534-4090

The drawback to these concerts of quartet and

trio music is Mandeville Auditorium, whose ugliness is matched by its variable acoustics (hint: sit in the back of the hall). But there is nothing slipshod about the artists who have appeared in this series. including again this season the Emerson String Quartet, Other artists on this year's programs (all of which, except one, take place on Friday evenings) include the Golub-Kaplan-Carr Trio, the Amadeus Trio, the Miami String Quartet, and the Quartet Sine Nomine One characteristic of these concerts is that, among the works by Haydn, Mozart. Beethoven, Brahms, and Schubert, almost every concert includes one 20th-century work.

# BEST MUSIC TO LAUGH ALONG WITH

San Diego Comic Opera Casa del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park (619) 239-8836

The Casa del Prado

Theatre is an intimate 19-row theater housed in a mission-style building on Village Place in Balboa Park. When their comic operas are staged, the orchestra and chorus often outnumber the audience. This year's "(Not-So) Great Gilbert & Sullivan Concert" treated patrons to some rarely heard comedic classics Upcoming San Diego



Julio Bocca with Ballet Argentino Thursday, November 2, 2000 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$16-\$46

Ensemble

It's Magic Saturday, November 4, 2000 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$24

Wednesday, November 15, 2000 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$30-\$60

Spoleto Festival USA Chamber Remember Shakti/John McLaughlin Friday, November 17, 2000 8:00 p.m. \* Concert Hall \$20-\$50

> "Annie," The National Tour Friday & Saturday, November 24-25, 2000 8:00 p.m & 2:00 p.m. • \$20-\$45

Denyce Graves, Mezzo Soprano Friday, December 1, 2000 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$20-\$50

> Deck the Halls: A Holiday Celebration Saturday, December 2, 2000 8:00 n.m. • Concert Hall \$10-\$15

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano

The Nutcracker Moscow Classical Ballet San Diego Symphony Friday-Sunday, December 15-17, 2000 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. oncert Hall \$20-\$50

Thursday, January 11, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$18-\$48

Spalding Gray Thursday & Friday, January 18-19, 2001

The Chieftains Saturday, January 20, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$21 -\$51 Tuesday & Wednesday, January 23-24, 2001

8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$15-\$42 Forever Fifties - Vol. V Saturday, January 27, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$18-\$36

Mark O'Connor Liberty! Music of the American Revolution Saturday, February 3, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$25-\$45

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Mummenschanz Sunday, February 25, 2001 2:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$20-\$35 Newport Folk Festival Presents Nanci Griffith Friday March 2 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$20-\$50

Carnaval Veracruzano! Saturday, March 3, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$10-\$32

Trinity Irish Dance Company Saturday, March 10, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$15-\$45

Friday, March 16, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$10-\$30

Susan Anton & The Big Band Beat Saturday, March 17, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$18-\$36

National Orchestra of Spain Raphael Frühbeck de Burgos, Music Director. Pepe Romero, Guitar Wednesday, March 21, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$25-\$70

Late Nite Catechism 2 Week Run Tuesdays-Sundays, March 20-April 1, 2001 Tuesday-Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:00 & 8:00 p.m Sunday, 2:00 & 7:30 p.m. Center Theater \$28-\$35

Michael Martin Murphey and the Sons of the San Joaquin Friday, April 6, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$20-\$32

Paul Taylor Dance Company Vednesday, April 18, 2001 ::00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$15-\$45

Thursday, April 19, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$22-\$46

"H.M.S." Pinafore Opera a Lá Carte aturday, April 28, 2001 :00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$22-\$49 The Los Angeles Philharmonic Sunday, April 29, 2001 7:30 p.m. • Concert Hall \$25-\$70

Marcus Roberts Trio Friday, May 11, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Center Theater \$42

Dianne Reeves "Celebrating Sarah Vaughn" Saturday, June 9, 2001 8:00 p.m. • Concert Hall \$20-\$35



### **BEST MOVIEGOING** EXPERIENCE

The Ken 4061 Adams Avenue. Kensington (619) 283-5909

Hard to single out a movie theater when they are more and more alike. A Frankensteinian composite has potential as a parlor game: the marquee, perhaps, of the Pacific Gaslamp, the staircase of the UA Horton Plaza, the snackbar of the Hillcrest (cookies by Bread and Cie, teas by Tazo), the restrooms of the AMC Fashion Valley, the seats of the AMC La Iolla, the sightlines of any of the new "stadium" (or med-school) auditoriums, topped off with the twinkling ceiling above the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Theater at the Museum of Photographic Arts. The recently renovated single-screen Star in Oceanside afforded a last glance into the Good Old Days of the "palace," but then the closing of it at summer's end took that away again. Still, the one theater — more dungeon than palace - that actually has seen the best old days, the one that has

**Big Shot** 

Charles Kaufman, Bread & Cie bakery. There's a place in Ocean Beach called Pacific Shores. It's a great bar. It's kind of late '60s fluorescent. Being in there is like being inside one of those paperweights, those shake-m-up-watch-the-snow-fall paper-

Don Bacigalupi, San Diego Museum of Art I like the bar at Cafe Japengo in UTC. It's a restaurant, sushi bar, and bar, and it's really tastefully designed, kind of Japanese, Pacific Rim, high-style, sleek, understated. Lots of really cool surfaces and materials. It's a very attractive place.

Chuck Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House, downtown: Manolo's Bar and Grill. It's between 7th and 8th on Broadway. It's a very old bar that's been recently rémod-eled. It has very limited hours. Mostly it's known for very good food at lunch. He only serves lunch. But then he has clientele. He doesn't stay open late. I think nine o'clock is tics Del Mar does a great job with their bar and a lot of g people hang out there. Downtown, Paul Dobson's bar at, because Paul is always there, and he's the greatest

BEST BAR

Linda Welby, Mir. 95.7: I would have to say Pacific Shores in OB. It's a cool bur. It's got a pool table in the back. You can go in OB. It is a good her. It's gat a poor table in the buck. You can go in three, and abooky will bother you. I used to be a place only local went to. But then it was written up in a magazine as a great hidden spot and they had a picture of Pec Nores. Then it became popular with outsiders as well. Another great one is the Library on Mission Gongts in the Allied Gordens area. It like to play pool, and they have a lot of tables. They have durt boards as well.

Che's Williams, Magic 102.5: A place called Bub's in Pacific Beach. It's just a little dive bar, but it's an awesome place to go and have a beer, and they're the only place in San Diego that I kn that serves Tater Tots, which are a far underrated food item. Beer and Tater Tots at Bub's; it's awesome

seen the greatest number of great movies pass across its screen, is without question the quinquagenarian Ken. And what do you really want from a theater anyway? Digital sound system, armrest cupholders. self-flush toilets? - or ghosts?

### **BEST PLACE** TO BUY USED CLASSICAL CDs The Wherehouse in La Jolla

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also tend to go out of print rather rapidly, a situation all collectors would like to circumvent. Tower Records usually has a copious supply of recent cutouts at reduced prices. But only the Wherehouse has capitalized on the fact (which was never true of LPs) that a used CD is likely to be in exactly the same mint condition as a new CD. This is particularly true of classical CDs, because the people who buy them - and sometimes decide to sell them - tend to be fairly meticulous in taking care of them. In any case, the Wherehouse gives its used CDs a visual inspection, to make sure there is no motor oil or bubble gum in evidence; and if you find your purchases defective nevertheless, or even if you just don't like them, you can bring them back for credit or a refund. It's a risk-free way to listen to artists or pieces you don't know. Since the varying selection is wide-ranging, you often make wonderful discoveries - and at halfprice or less.

# BEST YOUNG ACTOR

Bix Bettwy

For every role in San Diego theater, there are at least 50 available actors Thus even very good ones don't work as often as they'd like (which is one reason why so many are leaving for Los Angeles). Given these odds.

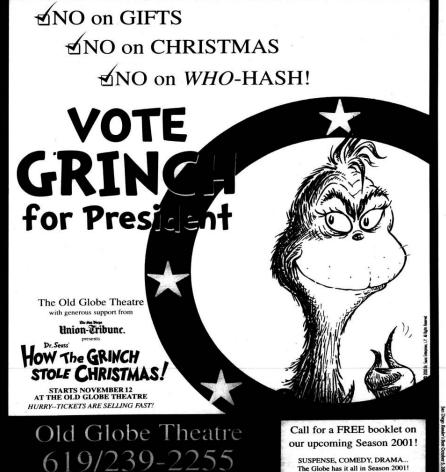
evebrows at the North Coast Rep's first rehearsal of Arcadia in March 1999. "Boy." he said for all to hear. "I haven't worked since January." The cast forgave him, though, since he was 13 at the time and was - and is - the busiest actor in San Diego (so busy that February 1999 must have felt like an eternity). Bettwy has performed in How the Grinch Stole Christmas and The Merry Wives of Windsor at the Old Globe, A Christmas Carol at the San Diego Rep, also at Lamb's Players, SDSU, North Coast Rep, and Starlight. He recently played "Boy," a role expanded for him, in Henry V at the Old Globe's festival stage. Bettwy has an impressive grade-point average and, in his spare time, plays piano, clarinet, and drums.

you can see why Bix Bettwy raised

### **BEST CROSSOVER** CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES

The brainchild of young cellist Felix Fan, Muzik3 — going into its fourth

year - has insisted on breaking down boundaries. There have been Beethoven and Debussy quartets and **Bach Brandenburg Concertos and** Brahms and Tchaikovsky string sextets on the weekend programs in March and April. But Fan has made an effort to program avant-garde



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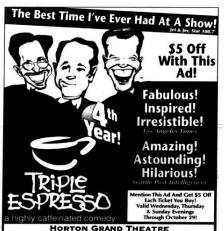
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modern music. Add to this serious jazz, mixtures of standard with electronic instruments, arrangements of classic pieces for half chamber-music ensemble and half jazz combo, improvisations... Unlike what happens in some chamber music series, the director of this one does not use the concerts as a showcase for his own talents: when he plays, he takes a back seat, in spite of being one of the best young cellists around.

# BEST PATRON OF THE ARTS

Jennifer Hankins

"As the San Diego Rep's board president," says actor Darla Cash,
"Jennifer single-handedly saved it
from capsizing more than once. She's
always been a shining example of
what to do with power, however large
or small it may appear." Jennifer
goes the mile and more," says a fellow
board member, "and does something
most do not: she has grown to deeply
and genuinely love the work that
goes way out on a limb, and she
works to increase the taste buds of
other board members for truly complex and demanding theatrics."

# BEST SMALL CONCERT HALL

Neurosciences Institute 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, • La Jolla

When Gerald Edelman created the Neurosciences Institute on Torrey Pines Mesa, he made sure that music would have a place there. The Institute's auditorium, while regularly used for scholarly symposia and lectures, is a 352-seat concert hall Handsome and comfortable, its design reflects the architectural principles applied by Tod Williams and Billie Tsien to the entire research facility. The architects' collaboration with acoustician Cyril Harris resulted in a hall of virtually perfect sound. The Institute has made the auditorium available, without charge, to several of San Diego's

nonprofit musical organizations. The Athenaeum has offered classical concerts and a jazz series; Mainly Mozart has made it one of their established venues. In September, a four-concert series organized by cellist Adrian Brendel featured chamber and vocal music by Mozart, Beethoven, and Gyorgy Kurtag.

# BEST THEATER SOUND DESIGN MAN

Jeff Ladman

Birds chirp outside your window, A dog barks, maybe 75 yards away. Firetrucks scream a mile off, leff Ladman can replicate this moment on a stage. Sound design is one of the least understood jobs in theater. Most people think it's just the flashy thunderstorms or street noises in the background. But sound is most concerned with how well you hear the play, from every inch of the stage, every seat in the house. Sound also includes music - score and background - and some of the best sound effects are like a tuba in an orchestra: more felt than heard. He's been called "an artist," "the Santa Claus of San Diego sound design," "a true sonic gnome," and "curator of the inkehox at Nunn's" (the local actors' bar on upper Fifth). He worked at the Old Globe for 12 years, he's enhanced productions of our most experimental theaters, and, says a fan, "he's given help to every sound designer who's ever sought him out.

### BEST VIDEO STORE

Kensington Video 4067 Adams Avenue, Kensington (619) 284-2477

It is only fitting that the county's most comprehensive selection of videos should be housed directly next door to the county's longest-operating (albeit somewhat sporadic) repertory movie theater, the Ken. Should you want to fill in some gaps in your knowledge of film history; should you wish to backtrack into Mike Leigh's television *course*;





It's our Silver Anniversary, a very special time for all of us here at the REP. As we look forward to a joyous season of celebration and this milestone year of great theatre, I would like to personally thank you, San Diego, for keeping the spirit and the heart of the Rep alive.

Twenty-five years ago we made it our mission to produce adventurous programming that explores key spiritual, political and social values vital to our time. We set out to produce works for an audience that reflect the dynamic diversity of traditions, ages, and economic means which comprise the population of San Diego. Our goal was to produce new works of writers and composers of unique vision from a broad range of disciplines and cultures. Our dream was to create an intercultural and multidisciplinary performing and visual arts center for the people of San Diego. a "Cultural Town Hall" for the place we call home.

After twenty-four seasons, we think it's safe to say. "Nicsion accomplished." Since 1976, the REP has presented an amazing 20 world. These challenging, fan works have been filled with an adventurous spirit that have given our audiences a one-of-a-kind experience that can't be found anywhere else.

Our Silver Anniversary Season promises to have all the excitement that our audiences have come to expect. We've kicked off the year that our audiences have come to expect. We've kicked off the year that the state which continues to electrify and inspire Following this popular hit, we are proud to present the world premier production of Mammifled Deer by the legendary Luis Valdez. For the holidays, we've added a magical Victorian circus twist to the beloved Dickens classics. A Christima Carrol.

In the new year we will bring to San Diego the internationally acclaimed comic thrilter from Ireland, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and the world premiere of Yehuda Hyman's inspirational comic journey, *The Mad Dancers*. We'll close the season with a Suprise Hit worthy of our 25th Anniversary celebration.

All in all, this is a season worth celebrating. With your continued support, we will stay true to our mission, reach for new goals, and of course, keep our dream of downtown's "Cultural Town Hall" alive and thriving.

Thank you and bravo, San Diego!

Sam Woodhouse Founding Artistic Director



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should Taste of Cherry or The Color of Paradise pique your interest in the Iranian cinema; should you have a sudden hankering for Heckle and leckle; should you need immediately to see a career highlight from whichever Hollywood legend dies tomorrow; should you finally have time for all 12 episodes of a Commando Cody serial -Kensington Video is always your best, if not your only, bet. You might turn to Tower (if closer) first. But you would not often have anything to gain by turning to Tower second.

# **BEST LONGEST-**RUNNING SHOW

Forever Plaid

On August 1, 2000, the longest-running show in San Diego history had performed 1537 times - almost twice as long as the old record, held by the San Diego Rep's Six Women with Brain Death - to over 400,000

people. It opened in November 1996 at the Theatre in Old Town. Come this November it will be the only production ever to play continuously for five years in San Diego. During that time, doing eight shows a week, there has been only one canceled performance: it happened last year, when all the Plaid pianists were either out-of-town or too ill to perform. Thirty-one actors have done the show. The longest tenure: Steve Gunderson played Sparky for three years. The Plaids have sung an estimated 500.512 notes since the show opened; they have taken 9,984,000 choreographed steps and completed 3,827,200 hand gestures.

# BEST MUSIC LECTURER

Nicholas Reveles

Of course, there are a lot of distinguished musicians and scholars who give talks about music for various organizations around town, not to speak of the university music departments. But Nicholas Reveles has the

advantages of being a superb pianist, having taught with distinction at USD, knowing the musical literature inside and out, and possessing a friendly and charming style of discourse that makes his insights easier to appreciate. His ability to illustrate his talks at the piano helps. He's a lover of Beethoven, a lover of opera (with two decades of lecturing about the operas of the San Diego Opera season), an expert on music for the dance (accompanying Baryshnikov's dance ensemble), an all-round musician, a lucid and literate speaker, and a stimulating conversationalist.

### **BEST THEATER PRODUCTION** MANAGER Mark Maltby

A production manager coordinates all aspects of a production - the budget included - from inception to execution. Forty-year-old Mark Maltby, UCSD Theatre's production manager, worked for Disney (on the Main Street Parade) and was PM for

the La Jolla Playhouse. He joined UCSD in 1989. He chairs production meetings, coordinates the "load in" of the set and the "strike," is present at technical rehearsals, and works most closely with heads of props, costumes, sets, and lighting. During a typical, 90-hour workweek, Maltby also pitches in when needed. "He's the best PM I have ever worked with in the hundred or so theaters I have worked for," says Walt Jones, drama department chairman at UCSD. "A skilled craftsman. Mark's the kindest person I have ever met, with a wonderful, nurturing way with students. Mark makes everything work. Plus, he can see trouble before it becomes trouble and solves it without it ever even coming up."

# BEST CONCERT PROGRAM ANNOTATOR

Eric Bromberger

Concertgoers ordinarily pay little attention to the quality of program annotations - except when they



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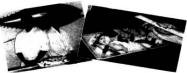
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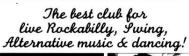
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# Stepping

find them irritating. One way these contributions to the audience's musical experience can go bad is by pedantically expatiating on technical issues beyond the average musiclover's understanding. Another way is by analyzing the structure of each work (and each movement) in such extreme detail that no one can remember anything while the music is actually being performed. Still another way is by focusing exclusively on sentimental details of the composer's life or by gushing about how wonderful the piece is without indicating why. Bromberger — whose program notes have aided San Diego audiences for many years (he writes for the La Jolla Chamber Music Society and for Mainly Mozart) consistently avoids all these pitfalls. His notes are intelligent without being overwhelming. They balance background information and analysis of the work's form and effect. He educates with wit, grace, and a sensitive human touch, never failing to enlighten - which is why his writing is equally in demand in Washington, Santa Fe, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. We're lucky to have

# BEST THEATER WITHOUT THE HYPERBOLE

Cassius Carter Centre Stage Balboa Park (619) 239-2255 (Box Office)

This is "theatre in the round," a sunken stage no larger than a small dance floor, ringed by a mere 225 seats. A sigh of relief, for there can be no helicopters swooping from the ceiling, no casts of hundreds mincing around in animal suits, no singing. The most extravagant special effects at the Cassius Carter are on the order of cigarette smoke and guns shooting blanks, both receiving full billing in the program, and a warning sign posted in the lobby. Productions at Cassius Carter are experimental in their simplicity, lack of gimmickry, and willingness to tackle unflattering images of contemporary human experience. The

1998 performance of Nixon's Nixon and, more recently, Old Wicked Songs are two fine examples of how this theater can broach provocative subject matter on a small scale.

# BEST CHORUS MASTER

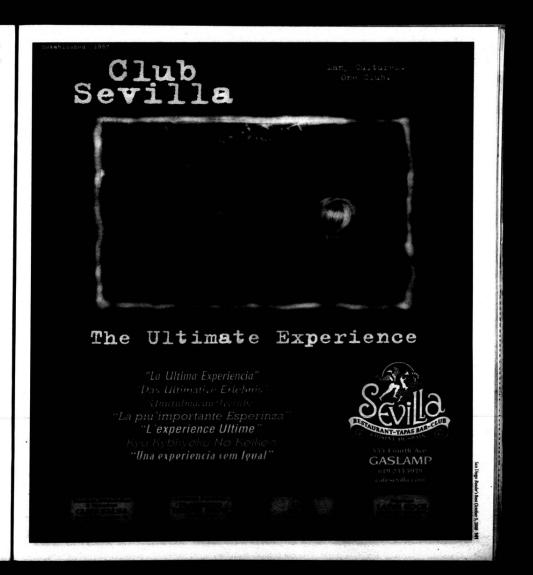
Timothy Todd Simmons San Diego Opera

No one is more "behind the scenes" than an opera company's chorus master (although at openings he sometimes takes a bow in a tux). But his role is a crucial one, for training and rehearsing the chorus makes a crucial contribution to the success of an operatic production. All those peasants or soldiers or boyars or gypsies, moving around the stage in their exotic costumes and acting up a storm, are at the same time singing their hearts out, and they have to be guided with firm musicianship to cone with music that is sometimes difficult. San Diego Opera's chorus master since 1997 has been Timothy Todd Simmons, and the quality of his work has been audible in the performances he has drawn from the singers of the chorus, time after time. He came originally from Indiana University, where he sang, played piano, studied choral conducting, conducted, coached singers, and accompanied vocal recitals. If you have attended San Diego Opera's productions of The Barber of Seville, Madama Butterfly, The Marriage of Figaro, Falstaff, Lohengrin, La Boheme, or numerous other operas, your pleasure has been enhanced by Simmons's expertise.

# BEST ACTOR'S RESOURCE

Actors Alliance of San Diego

The phone rings at the Actors Alliance. Gerry Maxwell answers. He hears this one a lot. "I gotta be in movies. What do I do?" "Any experience?" "None. But it's my life!" Actors Alliance of San Diego provides services for members and non-members. San Diegans probably know about the Alliance through its annual festival, which showcases actors, directors, and authors, But



it's busy all year round. The new office, a former thrift store at 3555 Adams Avenue, is staffed by experienced actors and offers rehearsal space, a library, and discount workshops taught by local artists. Sean Murray and Brendan Fox, among the most recent. The Audition Hotling— (619) 640-3333 — has information on auditions, job openings, and theater, related news.

### BEST LOCAL SCENE FOR FILM LOVERS

Cinema Society of San Diego (619) 280-1600 sdfilm@home.com

On average, the 800-plus members of the Cinema Society of San Diego see over 20 films during the September-through-April season held at the AMC La Jolla theaters. Often a writer, producer, director, or others associated with the film

attend the screenings and Cinema Society members have the opportunity to chat with them during Q&A sessions. Occasionally, cinema society president Andy Friedenberg takes film lovers to thematic dinner-and-a-movie packages, a yearly trip to the Reuben H. Fleet for a preview of the latest IMAX creation, and film festival junkets.

# BEST THEATER CARETAKER Richard Knight

over St. Cecilia's Playhouse from the San Diego Rep in 1992, part of the agreement was that the new proprictors would keep Richard Knight as caretaker. A soft-spoken man in his early '60s. Knight has taken care of the playhouse on Sixth Avenue at least since 1985. St. Cecilia's used to be a funeral home. Knight's "day room," also Stedgehammer's prop shop, is downstairs, where the home used to store caskets. Knight sweeps and mops and "keeps an eye on

When Sledgehammer Theatre took

things." Though there have been "attempts at break-ins," nothing has been stolen during Knight's tenure. For Sledgehammer's recent production of Ghas's Sonata, Knight worked crew voluntarily. In the show, actor Tim West based his character on Knight and made his first entrange from the door that leads to Knight's room.

## BEST FREE CONCERT EAVESDROPPING

Open Air Theatre San Diego State University

At SDSU, the Open Air Theatre is surrounded on three sides by grassy parks and benches, and wenue security does not discourage low-budget listeners from picnicking here. The cavesdropping ritual has become so popular that, at a recent lether Tull show, roaming vendors worked the bootleg crowd, selling T-shirts and munchies. Spots near the front entrance are so coveted that occasional arguments will break out

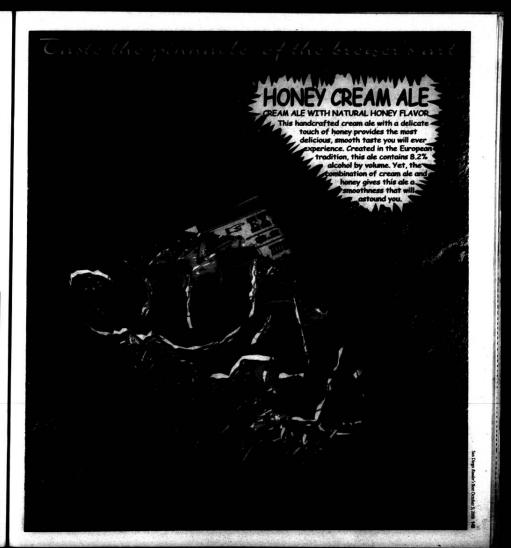
among fans jockeying for the best bench, especially since those nearest the gate at the end of the show are sometimes invited inside by gate security to watch the encore.

# BEST ARTS THEATER FOR THE DISABLED

PATH Theatre Co. San Marcos (760) 591-7848

The humble, unassuming PATH Theatre Co. began in 1979. Robert Cole, who is hearing-impaired, wanted to create opportunities for actors with disabilities in theater. television, and movies. His workshops led to the creation of a board. formed by Tom Bosley and other members of the TV show Happy Days (other supporters include Burt Reynolds, Gabe Kaplan, and Bree Walker). "They set out to convince the media to hire actors with disabilities, based on their ability," says a spokesperson, "for roles both as disabled persons and as able-bodied









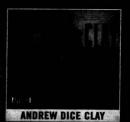
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persons." Along with producing shows, the San Marcos-based company provides classes for actors and a children's workshop. Due to popular demand, they've extended the runs of their last two shows.

# BEST SURVIVING VIDEO ARCADE

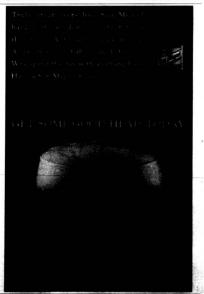
Wunderland Electric Castle 5871 University Ave, College Area (619) 582-5518

Home systems and the Internet have wiped out most public arcades, but the Wunderland chain has several locations where both vintage and current video machines run a nickel per play. Stalwarts like the Simpsons, Galaga, Ms. Pac Man, Tempest, Dragon's Lair, and Proger are sometimes worn-out looking or boused in generic replacement consoles, but the screens and operating electronics are kept in running condition. Pew outof-order signs remain up for long. Recent arcade favorites like Street Fighter and Aerosmith are coming through, and most locations also have pinball machines such as Twilight Zone, Judge Dredd, Bullwinkle, and the Addams Family.

### BEST PLACE TO SEE ACTORS AS PEOPLE

Old Globe Theatre Balboa Park (619) 231-1941

The play's the thing, all right; but you want more. Intermission's discussion leads to postplay plot analysis, and it's still not enough. If you haven't



the stomach to groupie by the stage door, consider the Globe's Forums, where patrons can stay in their seats after the curtain closes for a O&A with actors and directors. Education director Diane Sinor, who often moderates the forums, touts the informal discussions for diffusing theatergoers' emotions. The forums. held since 1987, are scheduled at least three times during a show's run and usually last about 20 minutes. Globe members' "Insights Seminars," scheduled the first Monday of a run, feature representatives from the acting, design, and technical departments and include a champagne reception for subscribers and members (they also last almost as long as the play itself). Regular forums are open to the public; Insights Seminars are free to members, \$5 for nonmembers.

# BEST SATURDAY WINE SOAKS

The San Diego Wine Company 5282 Eastgate Mall, Miramar (858) 535-1400
The WineSellar and Brasserie 9550 Waples Street, Mira Mesa (858) 450-9557
www.winesellar.com Vintage Wines 6904 Miramar Road, Miramar (658) 549-2112
www.vintagewinessd.com
The Wine Bank 363 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp Quarter (800) 940-WINE

Where you go to sip your Saturday away depends on what you're looking for, and when you're looking for it. For value and variety, it's the San Diego Wine Company. From 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., \$5 will get you pour-your-own samples of about a dozen wines from all over the map: some bargains, some gems, some both. The decor is spare, the tasting space can be crowded (there are no chairs), but there is plenty of good bread and wine. If you want chairs, tasteful decor, and excellent food, try the WineSellar and Brasserie, which holds Saturday lunch tastings starting at 11:30, usually costing \$15 to \$25 (lunch is an additional \$9.50 and makes the event a delightful afternoon date). Tastings are themed and

often off the beaten track: Pinot Grigios one week, Santa Barbara wineries the next. Reservations required. Vintage Wines does not hold its 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. tastings every Saturday (call for information or to request a newsletter), but when they do, the offerings are worthy: from such quality producers as Ridge, Ravenswood, and Rosenblum, Arrowood, DeLoach, and Marimar Torres. Prices dip as low as \$10, but usually hover around \$18. The tasting room is attractive and comfortable, the attendees well-versed. Reservations required. Finally, if you're looking to start off an evening downtown, descend the stairs at the Wine Bank and wend your way back to the rustic bar for their afternoon (3:00 p.m.) tastings. They are themed here as well, and prices bounce between \$10 and \$30.

### BEST THEATER SECTION IN LOCAL BOOKSTORES

D.G. Wills Books 7461 Girard Avenue, La Jolla (858) 456-1800

If you judged by San Diego's bookstores, you'd never know we had a theater scene. The corporate stores jam theater and poetry in dinky sections. They've got Shakespeare, Sophocles, and Tennessee Williams, and little else. UCSD used to have a mouthwatering selection of plays, criticism, and how-to acting and technical books, but it has dwindled. The place to go is D.G. Wills Books in La Jolla. The theater section, which has books behind the books, includes new and used texts, rare editions, and the most thorough collection of playscripts in the county.

### BEST PRIMO CONCERT SEATS

The Wherehouse Records Ticketmaster outlet 4585 College Avenue, College Area (619) 286-5011

The only way to get good tickets before the scalpers is to buy them as they go on sale. If you've tried to order on the phone and been aban-



on Toast seats. Few know about this small Ticketmaster outlet near SDSU. Their savvy ticket clerks, fingers flying with wizard skill, can bring up rows of the best available seats and the waiting lines are never long. That may change after everyone reads

# **BEST LOCAL** THEATER COMPOSER

Michael Roth

If you go to the theater you know Michael Roth's music, for not a season goes by in Southern California when

he does not provide the scores for a wide array of stage productions. The La Jolla Playhouse and Costa Mesa's South Coast Rep are two theaters where Roth's musical inventiveness deepens the stage action, creates mood, underlines dramatic emotion,

> meaning. Roth can give plays everything from classical to pop, with every imaginable tradition of musical thought. At the same time, he has his own distinct voice, so that every Roth theatrical score is recognizably his. He is a great writer of tunes, a master of expressive harmony, and a connoisseur of instrumental colors and textures. He is especially terrific at devising songs that sit well for the voice and stick in the memory. Next time you go to a play with a Roth score. pay closer attention to the music, and you may be surprised how rewarding it can be just



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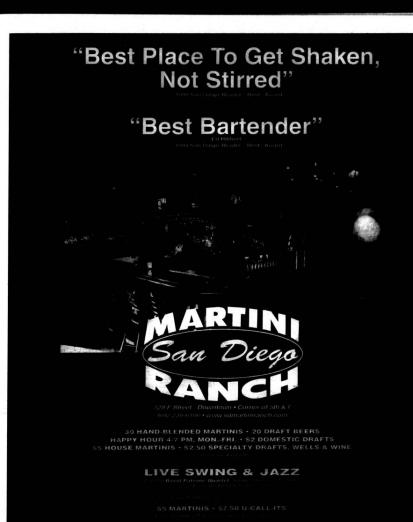
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### **BEST DVD** AND LASERDISC RENTALS

Video Town 1300 East Valley Parkway, Escondido (760) 741-5711

Most stores that carry DVD movies prefer highturnaround retail sales over space-and-cashflow consuming rentals This Escondido sh easy to spot with " ple paint job, offers and it-card holders a remain selection of old releases and brand new DVDs (from 99 cents to \$2.99 per day) without requiring any club membership. The laserdisc selection includes obscure foreign movies and spe-



### **BEST WAY TO HEAR EARLY MUSIC**

The San Diego Early Music Society (619) 291-8246

For two decades, this group has brought performers of this music to San Diego. This is music not only for aficionados, but also for any music lover eager to hear something new: new because it is old. The five or six concerts of the society's series take place mainly in the sanctuary of La Iolla's St. James by-the-Sea, although an occasional group will perform in nearby Sherwood Auditorium (such will be the case with the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, which opens the 2000 season in October with an all-Bach program). In addition, the Early Music Society co-sponsors a six-con-



cert series at the San Diego Museum of Art, featuring excellent local performers of early music.

### **BEST DANCE** TROUPE

Eveoke Dance Theatre 644 Seventh Avenue, (619) 238-1153

Call them dance/theater or text/movement/music pieces: each is distinctly Evenke: plural voices and signs, charged with energy and whirling motion, committed to social action. Artistic director Gina Angelique recently reprised her 1996 creation, Anne Frank: Soul of a Young Girl at the Lyceum. The production remains one of the year's best. As a voice read from Anne Frank's diary.

the cast, trapped in an attic, hiding from the Nazis, acted out feelings of confinement, puzzlement, and horror. The stage became a kaleidoscope of unforgettable sounds and images. Christopher Hall, as daring a scenic designer as Angelique is a director, made at least one-third of the Lyceum audience sit in wood-slatted stalls. We, too, felt Frank's claustrophobia; we, too, fell silent when footsteps sounded below.

# **BEST ROLE-PLAY** GAMING

Game Empire 7510 Hazard Center Drive. Suite 417, Mission Valley (619) 574-6740

Face off in a 2000-square-foot meeting room at Game Empire. The shop up front opened in 1994 and sells game supplies and merchandise. Some interactive adventures are played out with miniature figurines (Warhammer Fantasy), others are board games (Bloodbowl) or played with dice (Cyberpunk) or decks of

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★ Buddy Guy ★ Joan Osborne ★ Patti Smith ★ Ziggy Marley & The Melody Makers ★ Big Bad Voodoo Daddy ★ Erykah Badu

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Pulse ★ Steve Poltz ★ Common Sense ★ No Doubt ★ Jurassic 5

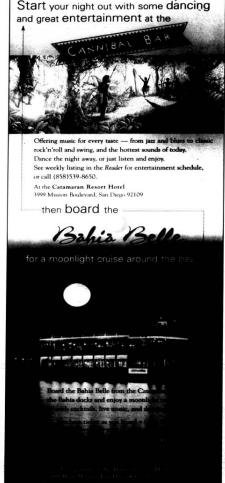




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# Stepping () Ut

specialized cards (Pokémon and Middle Earth). Lessons are offered so players can join in the tournaments and league competitions set up with miniature acres of buildings, medieval settings, and figurines. The war room walls are lined with books, dungeon-master guides, maps, and model kits. Popular games such as BattleTech and Dungeons and Dragons are a constant, as are somewhat controversial ones like Magic the Gathering.

### BEST BAR WHERE IT'S OKAY TO SMOKE WHILE YOU DRINK

Aqua Bar Atlantis Restaurant 1880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island (619) 297-1673

Bar owners are not about to risk legal reprisal by allowing smokers to light up while drinking, so the next best thing is to have an outdoor patio that is part of the bar. The smoking lounge at Aqua Bar overlooks the inside stage like a balcony as live bands play, and overlooks the dance floor when DIs are the main attraction. A full menu is served outdoors; dinners cost \$12 to \$21. Dishes include yeal chops (\$21,95) and rib-eye steak (\$19,95) plus pastas and seafood spacks. The har's satellite-TV feeds can't be seen from the patio, but there is an ocean view on the right side and a marina on the left, and one can catch glimpses through the tobacco clouds of distant Coronado and the downtown skyline.

### BEST CLUELESS KARAOKE

Outdoor Karaoke Just south of the San Ysidro pedestrian border crossing

Pedestrians taking the Tijuana footbridge across the border must walk a gauntlet of entrepreneurs. On weekend nights on the south side of the footbridge, wanna-be singers croak through concert-size speakers in the outdoor plaza karaoke stage. Drunken sailors, under-21 partyers, and passersby take turns grabbing the mike and singing along to lyrics that scroll on a video screen. A half dozen books list available songs, categorized alphabetically by performer or title or by the song's subject and style — "Current Love," "Hoary Metal," and "Rap and Hip-Hop." Nearby sidewalk cantinas have dollar drinks, and by midnight the crowd is thinned down to diehard drunks doing the two songs that DIs say are most requested — The Doors' "Roadhouse Blues" and Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody."

# BEST JUKEBOX SELECTION

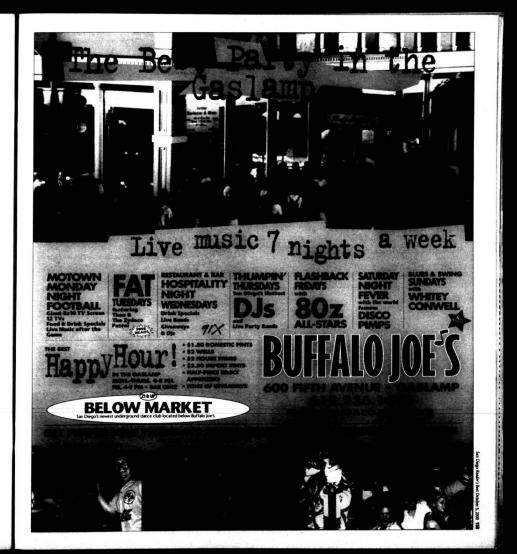
The Live Wire 2103 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park (619) 291-7450

He's played in a band called Carnivorous Lunar Activity and tended bar in a red jumpsuit, so it's no surprise that Sam Chammas knows rock and roll. His Live Wire bar on El Cajon Boulevard is a mauve-colored box from outside; inside, it's hardwood floors, a pool table, candle wall sconces, motorcycle racing on TV, and a jukebox lineup that kills. Under the glass, flip-cards display covers from CDs by Al Green, the Sex Pistols, Bow Wow Wow, X, Moby, Fear, and Iggy. Local bands are represented: fluf, Tanner, Rocket from the Crypt, the Dragons, and Deadbolt. Some basic old school black and white: the Godfather of Soul and the Chairman of the Board. The jukebox at the Turf Club in Golden Hill (co-owned by Chammas) has cool martini music, and Live Wire patrons are anxious to see what spins in the jukebox at Chammas's new club on Fern Street in North Park, in the building that formerly housed the Whistle Stop bar and Club I.D.

### BEST UNDISCOVERED BEACH CLUB

Calypso Café 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas (760) 632-8252

Up at Calypso on Old Highway 101 in Leucadia, the scene is faithful to



the feel of this coastal strip of sandwich and surfboard shops, Lou's Records, and a coffeehouse in an old train station. Calypso resides in a yellow wood building expanded to a deck covered by a canvas roof. Owner Gilles Knafo was born in Morocco, where his family ran a club in Casablanca. At Calypso, locals feed from a Mediterranean menu including breast of roasted chicken, gnocchi Raquel, and four variations on mussels, but it's the piano bar that adds the right flavors. The Cheap Leis, Latin A Go-Go, swing queen Candye Kane, and boogie woogie pianist Sue Palmer are among players who make appearances here. Jack ("Peaceful. Easy Feeling") Tempchin, who lives in Encinitas, has also played Calypso.

### BEST COFFEE-HOUSE VENUE FOR TRAVELING MINSTRELS

Twiggs Coffee & Tea 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights (619) 296-0616 www.twiggs.org

Besides home-baked treats and coffee straight-up, the small performance space adjacent to Twigg's Coffeehouse, dubbed "The Green Room," hosts local musicians along with several national touring artists. One musician appearing at Twigg's during his tour through California was acoustic guitar virtuoso Richard Smith. The popular "Open Mic" night every Wednesday at Twiggs is a kinder, gentler version of the "Gong Show," where local musicians sign up to perform ten-minute sets. The month's music schedule can be found on Twigg's website.

# BEST BELLY DANCING

Urban Tribal Dance Company Gargoyle Gallery 1845 India Street (at Fir), Little Italy (619) 234-1344

Exotic and hypnotic, the Urban

Tribal Dance Company dresses in folkloric costumes of full skirts and pantaloons, turbans, scads of jewelry, and tribal face paint. This improvisational group of seven derives their energy from the drums, the audience, and each other. Developed in San Francisco in the early '80s, urban tribal belly dancing is an American hybrid of East Indian, flamenco, and traditional belly dance. Watch the dancers whirl and wend, leaving mere mortals spellbound. The ensemble performs monthly at the Gargoyle Gallery and is available for private parties For booking and class information. call troupe director Heather Stants at (619) 696-3788.

# BEST BARSIDE MUNCHIES

Village Bar at City Deli 535 University Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 295-2747

City Deli's new liquor license was fought by nearby bars who feared the competition of another bar/restaurant in Hillcrest. The Deli prevailed and its front counter area has been remodeled into the Village Bar. Opening in October 1999 and no longer limited to beer and wine, the bar offers happy-hour specials including draft beer for \$2 and \$2.50 well drinks. The munchies come cheap with a half-price happy-hour menu from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday. Full dinners are available from \$9.95 and specialty dishes such as knishes (\$3.95) and calamari steak (\$5.95) can be delivered right to your bar stool.

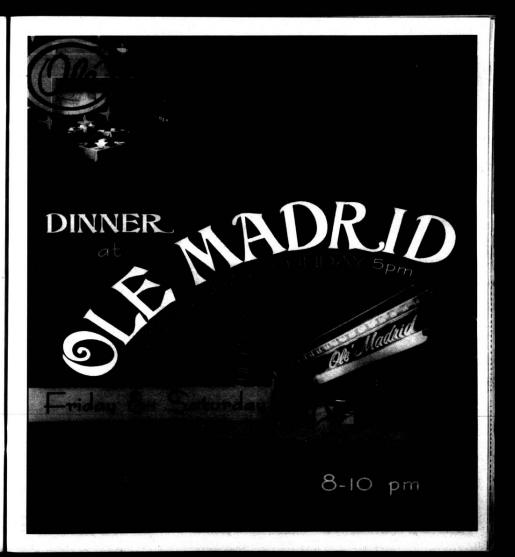
### BEST PLACE TO BUY BEER BY THE YARD

O'Hungry's 2547 San Diego Avenue, Old Town (619) 298-0133

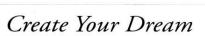
Beware! O'Hungry's in Old Town has these three-foot-long trumpetshaped "yard of ale" glasses with bobbles at the end, and they're going to make a mess of your dress. Or your shirt. These glasses have been a



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challenge to English beer drinkers since the 1600s. A yard has always contained 42 to 48 ounces of beer. That's three pints. Even half a yard feels like it'll never end. They come in vertical wooden holders. If you're a purist you take the glass out of its cradle, hold it up like a trombone, and try not to panic when the golden sparkling river starts to roll. Best part comes when you're three-quarters down and the bubbles catch the light as they scurry toward you. Worst part is when you underestimate the bowl at the far end, tip, and - tidal wave! There goes the shirt. Here comes the applause. Another novice sits dripping in O'Hungry's. A yard of Bud costs \$7.45. Half a yard, \$5.45. But if you drop one and break it, or start swinging it like a shilelagh, O'Hungry's rules say you pay: \$30 for the broken yard; \$20 for the half-yard.

### **BEST LOCAL** E-MAIL ZINE

mendozab@iuno.com

Local-scene historian and musician Bart Mendoza likes to keep track of all things San Diegan. This includes making note whenever any magazine in the world mentions a local group and putting together obscure collec tions of trivia about events - Abba's 1976 appearance at the zoo, a taping for the Mike Douglas Show, Elvis's 1956 shows at the long-gone San Diego Arena, and Jimi Hendrix's gig at Balboa Stadium in September 1968. An e-mail request to be added to Mendoza's zine list will get you upcoming editions of FYL

### BEST NEW OLD BAR

**Bar Dynamite** 1808 West Washington, Midtown (619) 295-8743

This place was a real grotto. No, a bunker, down there at the bottom of Washington Street by the I-5 overpass. There was a bad old

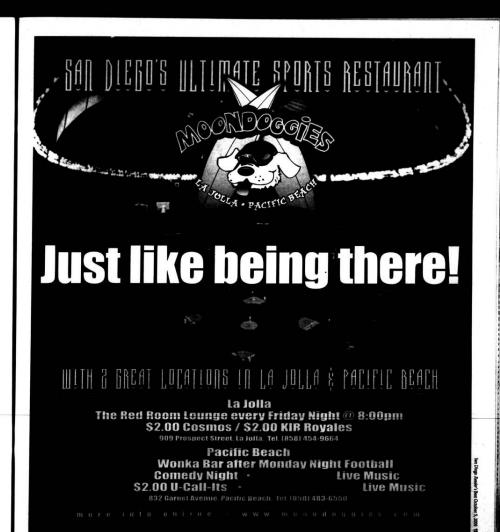
painting of an exploded dynamite stick over the door. Wedged between a Mexican take-out joint and a liquor mart, it's a grungy little room with a fun-house pool table. Cheap, bad beer. Listless, dusty old barflies. That was the Dynamite Bar, a couple years back. Well, it's back from the ether. Bar Dynamite, same address, is something else. Resurfaced with a new look, sound, and patronage. From the brick red and black paint, frosted plateglass windows, and bamboo grass out front, through the palm fronds, new retro interior, and hipster herd of sheep...er, clientele, Bar Dynamite is revamped and revitalized, lending cocktail flavor to the area. We suggest Friday night for the DJ spinning bebop.

# BEST DATE FOR REVEALING THE ARTIST WITHIN

Ceramic Café

Grossmont Center 5500 Grossmont Center Drive La Mesa (619) 466-4800 Del Mar Highlands Town Center 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar (858) 259-9958

Show her that you can produce more than hot air and commissions, that there is more to you than beer and football. Forget the dull monotony of dinner, drinks, and dancing, during which time you will clumsily string words ogether in an effort to convince her that you're interesting. Head to Ceramic Café, where you can maintain an intense silence as you strive to express yourself through brushstrokes. Select a piece of unfinished pottery - decorator rooster, \$28; oversized coffee cup, \$20; trout plate, \$26; other items ranging from \$6 to \$60 - and start splashing colors about. The place provides paint, brushes, stencils, sponges, and, if you're desperate, idea books. The price includes the paint, the glazing, and the firing. There is no time limit, so take as long as you like. Once fired, your ceramic pieces are food-, dishwasher- and microwave-safe. Pick up



your finished piece in four days (maybe on your second date), then head to Starbucks for a dime off on a cup of coffee in your customized his and hers coffee cups.

### BEST HISPANIC HEADBANGER BANDS

Club Sevilla Rock en Español, Monday nights 555 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp Quarter (619) 233-5979

Where can one find imported hard rockers with the kitsch and clothes of '80s hair bands like Warrant, Ratt, and Poison? Clab Sevilla serves up a metal mis stirred with salse ach Monday for a diverse crowd of dancers and drinkers. Bands such as Genal Humano and Liquido are more Metallica than Motley Crue, but the atmosphere and fashion, both on-

stage and off, is freeze-framed somewhere around 1985 with red leather pants, pink miniskirts, poodle haircuts on boys, and fur-trimmed boots. Munchies from Cafe Sevilla include tapas and paella. Admission is \$5.

# BEST MIDNIGHT

Babcock and Story Bar at the Hotel Del Coronado 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado (619) 435-6611

For years the Del's owners were in denial about their view of the ocean and Point Loma. They stuck tennis courts between their beachside cafes, restaurants, bars, and the beach. Now the courts are gone, a green lawn leads the eye to the blue ocean, and the restaurants under the striped canopies make this place look like one of the oceanfront hotels of Cannes or Nice. The Babcock and Story Bar, named after the partners who built the hotel in 1888, was shifted seaward in the recent renovations. The original

Pennsylvania cherrywood of the bar only fit half the new area. So the owners went back to the same Pennsylvania cherrywood forest the builders had used 100 years ago and carved out the second half. Suddenly, this is a place to come after midnight. Be ready to pay \$5.3 for a beer, or \$6.47 for a well drink, then take it out

### BEST BEATLEMANIAC BASH BeatleFair

to the wicker chairs outside.

Info Hotline, (619) 687-3687

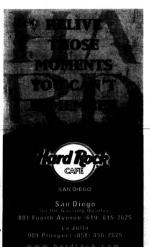
The main attraction of BeatleFair, a summertime Fab Four convention thrown by San Diego fan club Come Together, is the vendor room full of rare memorabilia. Vintage trading-card sets sell for \$150, Beatles dolls run \$200 per moptop, and boodeg videos and CDs are displayed and sold along with autographed guitars, limited-edition photo prints, and the occasional Wings gold record or Lennon lithograph. Live bands play including

oldies acts like Rockola, Beatles tribute clones, and performances by Beatles discovery Joey Molland (Badfinger), former Wings guitarist Laurence Juber Gordon Waller (Peter & Gordon), and Billy Hinsche (Dino, Desi & Billy). Others who don't perform but who've met a Beatle or two turn up as "special guests," such as concert promoter Sam Leach (Lennon once called him "The pulse of the Mersey beat") and Mark Hudson (producer of Starr's "Vertigo Man"). Tickets usually run \$10 to \$12.

### BEST NON-THREATENING BIKER BAR

Kelly's Pub 6344 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 286-0400

Located next to Inkers Tattoo Co., this SDSU-area dive is the watering hole fol local bikers who don't mind four-wheelers and rice-rocket riders slumming in their midst. Parking is scarce, but the dress code is casual — up to and including toplessness — and the









place has that reek of leather, marinated or deep-fried in beer. It's often worth a visit to browse the lineup of A-class hogs out front. (Check out Inkers' lobby also, where owner Hammer sometimes parks his primo

### **BEST PLACE TO EAT AND BOWL**

Aztec Bowl Coffee Shop 4356 30th Street, North Park (619) 283-3135

We've heard how the Aztec Bowl has come back from the brink of extinc tion, making bowling cool for the alternate club crowd. We've heard about "Cosmic Bowl" nights with DJs and funky music and dancing and the intimate booths of the Turquoise Room. Some folks even pick up the bowling ball and roll it. But what you don't hear about is the food. Mary the manager points out that food prices have hardly gone up since the early

'90s. You can settle back into the '50sstyle booths and order up a drink and comfort food (till 11:00 p.m.). Fish and chips (\$4.25), everybody's favorite, the bacon cheeseburger (\$3.85) or chili fries (\$3.85), or egg sandwich and fries \$2.75 Thursdays. Fridays, and Saturdays, you're going to have some kind of rave going. DIs or live bands - like Latin jazz or samba or rockabilly. But the call of the kingpins is why you're here. Just for them, you'll fork out \$1.25 for a game (\$2.75 peak hours) and \$1 for shoes (\$2 peak

# BEST BAR FOR LOCALS TO ACT LIKE TOURISTS

Top of the Hyatt One Market Place, Downtown (619) 232-1234

"The highest waterfront bar on the West Coast," Harbor Drive's 40th-floor cocktail lounge - commonly known as "Top of the Hyatt" - offers floorto-ceiling panoramic coastline views down to Mexico, up to La Iolla.

across the bay or across the room (recent renovations increased viewing space by 50 percent; the bar now seats 130 possibilities). Prime-time crunches come in two shifts: around sunset and again after 10:00 p.m., when on a recent Friday every stool and banquette was filled: from tourists in shorts to conventioneers with necklace-badges to locals on the loose. Ladies-who-lunch types sat on stools next to twentysomethings in tight tops, sharing a tasty crab dip surrounded by fresh slices of sourdough. By evening's end, the gals were greeted by gentlemen out-of-towners, who picked up the tab. After a treat like that, who cares if the hotel doesn't validate your parking? The bar opens at noon and stays that way until 1:30 a.m. Appetizers served 4:00 p.m. to midnight. Elevators to the top accessible from the lobby floor.

### BEST STAGE PRESENCE

Collage Menage www.collagemenage.com

Nobody's going to accuse them of

being musically adventurous like Pink Floyd or relevant like Springsteen. But this all-original group with a nearly ten-year local history, fronted by identical twins Fritz and Hans Jensen, does have a different hat they wear for each song. They go through a colorful costume collection as they play, most handmade by the bandmembers and themed to match their songs. They also offer a "sound-and-video synched hi-tech multimedia presentation" (homemade videos shown on a TV the singer controls with a remote). Collage Menage plays weekly at Etta's Place in the College Area and elsewhere.

### **BEST PLACE TO** SIP AGED TEQUILA Real Del Mar

Kilometer 191/2. Ensenada Toll Road (800) 803-6038

This golf course and resort boasts a romantic view of the ocean from its restaurant and bar. Try one of the 100 percent blue agave tequilas made by Herradura or Chinaco or the Sauza Tres Generaciones in the

black bottle. Most stan dard margarita-grade tequilas get their bite (and their hangoverinducing high-sugar content) from cane juice added during the fermentation process. A tequila distilled exclusively from agave cactus will taste slightly nutty and should be smooth enough to drink straight or over ice. Ask the bartender for a recommendation.





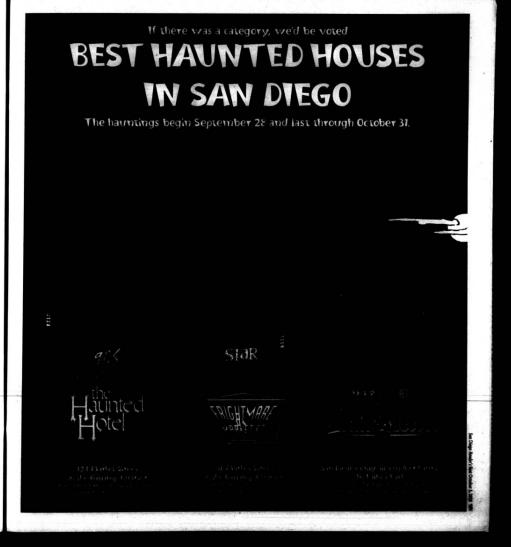
Live Music - Beer Garden Authentic German Food - Crafts Raffles - Shooting Gallery

1017 S. Mollison, El Cajon (north of Chase) For more info call: 619.442.6637



Cruise Parties 1050 North Harbor Drive Downtown (619) 331-4262

When you board this late-night (11:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.) harbor cruise you'll notice three different decks: on the



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geroneases, eroneases, g It's not too early to think ahead to the holidays.

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224 1 Shotten Island Drive San Diego (619) 224-3577

# Stepping

Indiana. "One of my big pitches is to get local entertainers to take control main floor and out on the deck, house music of their own thing." With the club pretty much rules. But and the label up and running, Perrin those who make it is ramping up the action. So far this down to the loweryear. Webster's has released solid level lounge will find CDs by trumpeter Gilbert the '80s Karaoke Castellanos: saxmen Steve Chamber, It's both Feierabend, Gary Scott, and Gary frightening and fasci-LeFebyre; and pianist Joe Garrison Next up is a second spoken-word nating: matronly 30ish women in spandex album by Perrin himself. His last singing Pat Benatar effort, Beat.itude, sounded more songs...balding techies New Age than Beat, but this time out beating their chests Perrin has enlisted crack guitarist with testosterone-Larry Mitchell (Tracy Chapman, fueled abandon while Billy Squier). Out of the Cool will croaking out "Born in include Perrin's versions of a the USA." With ID. Bukowski short story, as well as a \$20, 21 and up. Tours piece by San Francisco street poet run during summer Bob Kaufman, who has been called months "the Rimbaud of American poetry."

cians during his undergrad years at

Notre Dame, in South Bend,

### **BEST PLACE TO** FRIEND OF **GET THE BLUES** SAN DIEGO **Blind Melons** JAZZ 710 Garnet Avenue

Chuck Perrin (858) 270-7467

picture window on the

sidewalk, San Diego's

homegrown talent has

a place to call home

primarily benefit

The label and the club

musicians, not Perrin,

a '60s idealist who first

ran a coffeehouse and

recorded local musi-

This beachfront bar has supplanted In a town that's not famous for supporting Croce's as the city's premier showjazz, Chuck Perrin has case for local blues talent and super given local jazz players star national and international acts. and their fans a boost. Guitarist Walter Trout, nearly a sta-Since forming his dium draw overseas, chose BM to Webster's Last Word play after spirited bidding from rival label in 1965 Perrin clubs, and the popular Barney Roach has released 16 CDs by open-mike iam attracts a stage full of San Diego players, On the best local players (nearly always a April 17, Perrin sellout, buy tix early). The club is opened Dizzy's, an allusually overheated and some jockeyages jazz club and pering is needed to find seats where the formance space in the stage is visible, but the blues aren't Walter Keller Building supposed to be about comfort and downtown. In this homey space, with its soaring beamed ceiling, brick walls, and

Pacific Beach

(858) 483-7844

# SHUFFLEBOARD

Landlord Jim's 1546 Broadway, Downtown (619) 233-9998

The bar's only sign is a blue neon outline of a glass with "Cocktails" written in pink across it. Eleven blocks east of the Gaslamp, this is Landlord Jim's, where locals come to gab, knock back a Bud, and have a game of shuffleboard. Landlord Jim died a couple of years back, but his shuffleboard is a grand old game from 15th-century England. Back then they used to slide a "groat," a large coin worth about four pence. But the game died in the 1960s and has since been hard to find in pubs. Landlord lim's 22-foot-long wooden table is sprinkled with sawdust. That makes the perfect pitch for the heavy discs you slide down to try to get

# BEST MEN-IN-**BLACK-FISHNETS**

2770 Fifth Avenue, Park West (619) 295-7900

The theme is what attracts the crowds at this popular establishment, and the theme is drag strips no, not racing cars. Seems there's almost always been a big drag show somewhere in town. The legendary Dreamgirls Review headquartered at the Brass Rail for years before moving on, but the new stars of the fishnet-and-stubble circuit are the humorous boy/girls of Lips. For what are probably sociological reasons, most Lips acts perform grotesque parodies, unlike Dreamgirls' sleek tributes of yore Funny stuff, though, as long as "funny" to you is a 300-pound Madonna

# BEST PLACE TO CUT YOUR OWN RECORD

Studio West 11021 Via Frontera Rancho Bernardo (858) 592-9497 www.studiowest.com

Founded nearly 30 years ago, this studio boasts clients such as blink-182 and the Brian Setzer Orchestra. The 6000-square- foot facility has room for a full orchestra in Studio A. which comes with two large isobooths and a Midi-Forte-equipped Yamaha C-7 grand piano. Studio B is mainly for vocal dubs, though it's suitable for small bands to record or do instrumental overdubs and

"To those who yearn for sunshine, surf. palm trees and bare-skinned hard bodies, I give you an early Christmas present: Tsunami Beach Club. The Gaslamp's disco inferno is a tropical-theme dance club that brings to mind not only San Diego's beach scene after dark, but that of Honolulu or Lahaina or Miami Beach."

-David L. Coddon Assistant Editor NTGHT & DAY



Tsunami offers private limousine service for bachelorette parties, birthdays, office parties, etc Call (619) 231-WAVE • 802 6th Avenue (On F Street between 5th & 6th) in the Gaslamp

Check out the Parrot Grill Duelling Piano Bar upstairs from Tsunami, Wed.-Sat.

ADR/looping. Any source can be copied to CD, and Studio West can create a dupe master, which has everything a manufacturer will need to reproduce your music to disc. The gourmet coffee in the musician's lounge is free.

### BEST HIPPIE THROW **BACK BAND** Rockola

These longtime locals have a groovy repertoire, more comprehensive than a com plete collection of Nuggets LPs. As dependable as a stocked jukebox, they back up visiting '60s icons like Badfinger's Joey Molland or headline with their own list of eclectic (often excruciating) radio staples like "Seasons in the Sun," "The Night Chicago Died," and Donovan's "Mellow Yellow"

### **BEST CURE** FOR DISCO FEVER Fever at 'Canes

3105 Ocean Front Walk. Mission Beach (619) 979-9999

Every Saturday night at 'Canes, Metropolis Productions throws a flashback-filled '70s disco party. Parking near the roller coaster is free; and there's a roofton deck with trance DIs as well as a separate hip-hop

room, just in case those polyester types doing the "YMCA" dance get too irritating. The club usually sells out early, partly thanks to \$1 drink specials from 9:00 to 10:00 p.m. Nicotine addicts can shake their booties on a smoking patio that overlooks the beach.

# **BEST BAR FOR** MARIACHIS

El Tenampa 1911 1st Street, Tijuana next to Hotel Imperial

Where do mariachis go after they've played all day? To this bar, not far from their gathering point at Plaza Arguello (also known as Plaza Santa Cecilia). Let's be clear. This place is scuzzville. Not a pretty sight. In the big-hall gloom you make out eight pool tables, a far-off urinal that you don't want to get too close to, a few drunks holding up what must be the longest bar since, well, the Long Bar, and dozens of hatted gents standing around talking, playing pool, or tun ing up their instruments. These are mostly strollers, not the smart, uniformed groups you see in the Zona Rio. They patronize El Tenampa because, first, they can store their instruments here while they play pool (or overnight). Second, a caguama (literally, sea turtle; figuratively, large bottle) of Tecate beer costs 15 pesos (\$1.50). If you turn up and ask for a song, you'll have an embarrassment of riches and good prices. But don't push it. They come here to relax, which means to get away from ungrateful gringos. Other nefarious characters make it into the gloom too, so be careful. This is not Revolución.

### **BEST WANNA-BE** TRIBUTE BAND Pink Froyd

They may not look anything like Pink Floyd, nor does their budget allow for giant flying pigs or a wall of Styrofoam bricks, but it takes musicianship to play a daring set list of rarely covered Floyd classics, and the bandmembers are up to the challenge. They don't just mimic the band's studio work note-for-note

but allow for progressive jams (mainly keyboard), much like the real Floyd's early sound.

### **BEST DEADHEAD** DIVE

Winstons 1921 Bacon Street. Ocean Beach (619) 222-6822

Winstons abandoned its weekly Grateful Dead nights and instead tried booking reggae, funk, and even hardcore acts. Now realizing the deadicated disciples of Jerry are a more dependable and thirsty crowd than Rastafarians and rappers, they've allowed Mondays to slide back into the hands of tie-dye circuit jam groups like the Electric Waste Band and Price of Dope.

### **BEST OF THE** BOUNCERS

Staff Pro Security 411 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley (619) 294-3990

The big guys in yellow jackets used to be considered the enemy by many concertgoers, when a few headcrushing security guards earned a reputation as thugs. Staff Pro, most visible as the oldest and largest in the local business, faced several lawsuits for assault and negligence. New training stresses "customer relations" to avoid physical confrontations, and the company filled out its force with guards possessing more human and less gorilla-like physiques. This makes the "customers," even the ones sneaking a joint, much more relaxed.

# **BEST NIGHTCLUB MEN'S ROOM**

345 B Street, Downtown (619) 231-4343

Men don't like to be pampered. We like our wood unsanded, our underwear scratchy; we prefer barbers over hairdressers, and don't put those froufrou little pieces of fruit anywhere near our drinks. Two notable exceptions are cars and bathrooms.

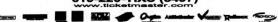


**SATURDAY OCTOBER 28, 2000** Sábado 28 de Octubre del 2000

4:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Reserved Seating \$28.00 For Group Discounts (20+): 619-224-4171 EXT. 311 Tickets available at the Arena Box Office and all TicketMaster Outlets Reservaciones \$28.00 dils. Descuentos a grupos (20 personas o más) Boletos en la taquilla del Sports Arena y en todas las sucursales de TicketMaster

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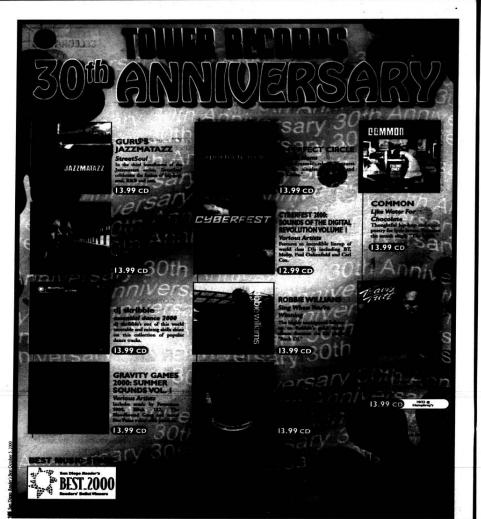


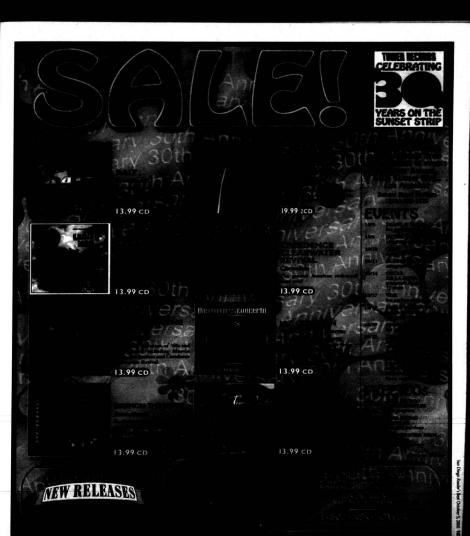


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# **BEST MOD BAR** The Cashah

2501 Kettner Boulevard. Midtown (619) 232-4355

Rows of old metal scooters park in front of this Midtown club when certain '60s-sounding pop rockers are on the bill. One such draw: The Shambles, whose original songs and covers (the Kinks, the Zombies) reflect their Anglophilia. They attract a crowd of smartly dressed retromods, who count the Who's Quadrophenia as the greatest artistic expression since the Mona Lisa - or at least since Status Quo's Pictures of Matchstick Men.

# **BEST CD GRAPHICS**

Starina at the Sun 4 Loudspeaker Records/Slamm Magazine/91X

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the world, Arthur Murray

**Big Shot** 

They have a wild array of concerts — has-beens from your Chuck Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House, dos The Belly Up is awfully good. And Java Joe's in Ocean Beach is very intimate and has a variety of groups. One night might not be your cup of tea, the next night you'd be all over it. You

Jeffrey Strauss, Pample

Belly Up. It's always great. They get great bands in there. The rtable. The way it's si ted upstairs/do place is comfortable. The way it's situated upstairs/downstairs really unique for San Diego. And the best part about the ambience is you could be there in jeans and a T-shirt and feel as comfortable as in a sport coat and a tie. Everyone fits in there

**BEST BARROOM** 

the word to describe it.

Here's a universal truth (widely accepted myth?): the more you drink, the better you shoot pool. It's a confidence thing - who cares if it's the boozy, false kind? You got game! So it stands to reason that the drunkest lot are shooting the best pool. And the drunkest bunch of

sharpshooters in San Diego are Board Room. Swilling schooners, challengers wait for their names to be called off the chalkboard, above This is barroom pool, on one squat little table in aged disrepair, shot with cues crooked as a lame dog's leg. Winners hold break, and challengers buy the rack. Step right up for a spoonful of humility. The Board Room is an afterthought of a

BEST PLACE TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC

Carol Le Beau, Channel 10 News: Croce's Jazz Bar. It's com-fortable, and I like the style of music. It's not too dark, it's not too light, and it's not too loud. You actually can carry on a conversatio

Lee "Hacksaw" Hamilton, XTRA 690 sports-talk radio host, former radio voice of the Chargers: Any one of the blues plac down in the Gaslamp. Croce's is probably the best. It has a youn

upscale, yuppie crowd, nice service, great bands, and a ton of am biance. There's an exciting atmosphere in that place. Electric is

POOL

The Board Room 2237 First Avenue. Banker's Hill (619) 544-1173

hanging around the pool table at the the din of the blaring jukebox. Good selection in the jukebox, by the way. joint, tucked in a corner, wedged

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Volume #4 of this local band compi-

lation has some fabulous selections,

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Coronado Bridge in the background

while planes go down near the

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where. Rowdy fans could, while being deafened by decibels, vent or exercise or get whatever it is that people get out of smashing into sweaty shirtless guys baring bad tattoos. There's been a sea change since the recent deaths overseas at a Pearl Jam concert, and

vor)! About 100 advanced and begin ner salsaholics can be found working on their old moves, adding fresh moves, and meeting new dance partners. Upon entering you are hit with the sultry pulsing sounds of Latin music and the sight of women in

his Old rown restaurant is regenuary for its gigantic margaritas. One local news station took issue with how little difference they found between the medium and large versions other than perception (different shaped glasses) and price. For the record, the Casa says their small glasses hold 17 ounces

(\$4.25), the medium is 27 ounces. (\$5.75), and their large aquarium size tops off with 32 ounces (for \$6.75) of traditional and strawberry margaritas. Banana and mango also available

BEST NON-STARBUCKS COFFEE SHOP

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idays there

Daily Grind Coffee House & 6695 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 697-0750

The backlash against the kudzu-like spread of generic coffeehouse chains has enabled eclectic mom-and-pop caffeine shops like this to thrive, especially near colleges, where quality caffeine is most needed and appreciated. Open at 6:00 a.m. every day, this converted house, where Montezuma meets El Cajon, no longer has latenight hours (they close at 4:00), but specialty coffees like Rocket Fuel (double espresso w/steamed milk and foam, \$3.25) and Vietnamese (double espresso with sweetened condensed

# **NEW WHARF'S** FirePit Patio



"BEST" **LIVE MUSIC & DANCING** 

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The San Diego Reader's Best 2000 didn't have as a category "Best Live Music & Dancing on an Outdoor Patio." But if it did, the Wharf's FirePit Patio would have been voted "Best" hands down.

LIVE ROCK 'N BLUES Fridays & Saturdays

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New Wharf Bar & Restaurant 925 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos (750) 744-8888 (Just east of Restaurant Row) newwharf.com

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Hey, Singles! It's not too early to think about **Eve 20** The True Millennium Sunday, December 31, 2000

Quality Resort Mission Valley 875 Hotel Circle South Featuring a wonderful buffet dinner, dancing from 8 pm-1 am, complimentary champagne toast and party favors!
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Please call Darlena's Turning Point after November 25 for reservations.

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Every Sunday 7-11 nm Holiday Inn on the Bay 1355 N. Harbor Drive at Ash • 619.232.3861

Dorlene's Turning Point 858.259.6166 www.singlesinsandiego.com

which men like tricked out, shiny, and as personalized as the smell of an unwashed mustache. 4th & B patrons are treated to a pristine men's room, individual urinals (no group trough!), and there's often a nattily attired bathroom attendant on duty For a modest tip, he'll set you up with hair gel, a comb, cologne, and an all-you-can-gargle/eat buffet of mouthwash shots and breath mints.

### **BEST MOD BAR** The Casbah

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ence is you could be there in jeans and a T-shirt and feel as comfortable as in a sport coat and a tie. Everyone fits in there

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rgeons in the state of California. Dr. Yaghouti performs all of the surgeries himself

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The Board Room 2237 First Avenue, Banker's Hill (619) 544-1173

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Studios worldwide: USA . Canada

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# Australia . Germany . South Africa . Egypt

# Stepping

between a Laundromat and a taco shop. This funky little plaza makes an evening: throw in your laundry, grab some rolled tacos, and go watch the regulars at the Board Room take barroom pool to a "higher" level. It's like going to school...with sharks. See Sondra behind the bar a schoonerful of false confidence.

### **BEST MOSH PITS**

Coors Amphitheatre 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista (619) 671-3600 www.coorsamp.com

Spontaneous moshing used to be ignored at Soma, Velvet, and else where. Rowdy fans could, while being deafened by decibels, vent or exercise or get whatever it is that people get out of smashing into sweaty shirtless guys baring bad tattoos. There's been a sea change since the recent deaths overseas at a Pearl Jam concert, and

most venues now break down mosh pits as soon as they form. The diplomatic security crew at Coors monitors and controls moshers, establishing defined and enforced perimeters for the pits, which patrons have to voluntarily enter (some shows have "pit passes"), making this the safest place to sucker-punch a skinhead.

### **BEST VENUE FOR** SALSAHOLICS

Davis Dance School 8303 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard #205, Kearny Mesa (858) 467-0557 www.sdsalsa.com

Davis Dance School's bimonthly salsa dance parties from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., following an hour lesson at 7:30 p.m., are the site for salsa with sabor (flavor)! About 100 advanced and begin ner salsaholics can be found working on their old moves, adding fresh moves, and meeting new dance partners. Upon entering you are hit with the sultry pulsing sounds of Latin music and the sight of women in

seductive outfits being spun by partners in dark attire. If you're fortunate. you can catch a dance and the intricate footwork of former Latin competitive dancer and owner, Michael Snyder — muy caliente! Sundays there are practice sessions and Latin workshops, with visits from Latin dance coaches. You can work on other Latin dances, ballroom, and swing during weekday evening lessons.

# **BEST MEGA** MARGARITAS

Casa De Bandini 2754 Calhoun Street, Old Town (619) 297-8211

With indoor and outdoor dining and a traveling mariachi band, this Old Town restaurant is legendary for its gigantic margaritas. One local news station took issue with how little difference they found between the medium and large versions other than per ception (different shaped glasses) and price. For the record, the Casa says their small glasses hold 17 ounces

(\$4,25), the medium is 27 ounces (\$5.75), and their large aquarium size tops off with 32 ounces (for \$6.75) of traditional and strawberry margaritas. Banana and mango also available.

# BEST NON-STARBUCKS **COFFEE SHOP**

Daily Grind Coffee House & Cafe 6695 El Cajon Boulevard. College Area (619) 697-0750

The backlash against the kudzu-like spread of generic coffeehouse chains has enabled eclectic mom-and-pop caffeine shops like this to thrive, especially near colleges, where quality caffeine is most needed and appreciated. Open at 6:00 a.m. every day, this converted house, where Montezuma meets El Cajon, no longer has latenight hours (they close at 4:00), but specialty coffees like Rocket Fuel (double espresso w/steamed milk and foam, \$3.25) and Vietnamese (double espresso with sweetened condensed



# 'BEST LIVE MUSIC & DANCING on an outdoor patio

The Sen Diego Reader's Best 2000 didn't have as a category "Best Live Music & Dancing on an Outdoor Patio." But if it did, the Wharf's FirePit Patio would have been voted "Best" hands down.

# LIVE ROCK 'N BLUES Fridays & Saturdays

7 PM - 11 PM

New Wharf Bar & Restaurant 925 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos (760) 744-8888 (Just east of Restaurant Row) newwharf.com

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Hey, Singles! It's not too early to think about New Year's Eve 2000 The True Millennium Sunday, December 31, 2000

Quality Resort Mission Valley 875 Hotel Circle South Featuring a wonderful buffet dinner, dancing from 8 pm-1 am, complimentary champagne toast and party favors! 0 Limited to the first 400 people. Please call Darlena's Turning Point after November 25 for reservations.

The BEST Singles Dance Parties!

Every Tuesday 7:11 pm 94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue • 858.560.6771

Every Sunday 7-11 pm Holiday Inn on the Bay

1355 N. Harbor Drive at Ash • 619.232.3861 Darlene's Turning Point 858 259 6166 www.singlesinsandiego.com

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2nd Session: 8:30-11 pm - Adm. \$2

Both Sessions 6:30-11 pm - Adm, **\$4**• DJ • State-of-the-Art Sound System • Game Room/Party Room

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## Stepping

milk and shredded chocolate, \$3.25) can provide all the jittery jolt you need for an all-night study session. Bonus: breakfasts here are fantastic.

#### BEST NEW 18-AND-UP DANCE CLUB

7200 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area (619) 501-8368

The owners of Venus wanted to be open when nearby SDSU let out for summer last May, but delays caused them to just miss their target date. Despite this students who can't get into nearby clubs, such as the Boulevard and Etta's Place, have gravitated toward Venus's purple neon sign, entering to find DI Randorn Micpumping techno, hip-hop, and industrial beats. The crowd grows larger each week, in part since there are so few 18-plus clubs in the county.

## BEST PARTY FOR BABY-BOOMER SINGLES

Darlena's Turning Point at 94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa (858) 259-6166

www.singlesinsandiego.com

More than a hundred singles show up each Tuesday for this dance party geared toward thirtysomethings. Guests shell out \$10 to meet and greet at a buffet for the first hour and a half and then everyone dances to '70s rock, R&B smokers, and pelvie-grind ballads by the likes of lourney and Lionel Ritchie. California casual attire is encouraged; door prizes and flowers are placed on every table to insure that nobody dwells on how alone and desperate they might feel.

## BEST GAY BAR FOR HETEROSEXUALS

The Alibi 1403 University Avenue, Hillcrest (619) 295-0881

"If this wasn't Hillcrest, you'd never think this is a gay bar," says one bartender (name withheld by request) at the Alibi. "A lot of business people who work nearby come here for lunch or when they get off because it's the one place in the neighborhood where they can drink and not be automatically pegged for their sexual preference." The decor is Naugahyde and wormwood and on weekends the crowd is mixed between men and women with a few "either/or." "We have every kind of customer. Nobody is hitting on each other so nobody really knows. That's why it's the Alibi '

#### BEST PLACE TO POP OFF A FEW PISTOL CAPS

Magnolia Indoor Range 8516 Magnolia Avenue, Suite 201, Santee (619) 596-4099

The facade of this shooting range looks like a strip-mall storefront. Once inside, however, after showing ID, being over 21, and signing their term sheet, shooters can rent space in a computerized target gallery with individual stations for \$8.50 per half hour. The facility offers firearm supplies and on-site training in gun handling and safety, and they rent everything from eye protection and headphones to human-shaped target sheets and heavy-duty weaponry.

#### BEST TOUR EVEN THE TOURISTS DON'T KNOW ABOUT

Old Globe Theatre Backstage Tour (619) 231-1941

You can see the offices, the costume shop, the lighting booth, and the elaborate rigging that keeps the curtains open and the sets upright. The tours are led by volunteer docents who know backstage anecdotes and celebrity gossip and can answer technical questions. Tours are held every Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 art. (or by appointment for large groups), and the cost is \$3 for adults and \$1 for seniors, students, and military.



#### BEST FREE (AND UNDERRATED) MUSEUM

The Timken Museum of Art 1500 El Prado, Balboa Park (619) 239-5548 www.gort.ucsd.edu/sj/timken

The product of the Putnam sisters' taste and generosity, the museum's works are organized by "national schools." Half the space is dedicated to religious art: the Spaniard Murillo's 17th-century crucifixion hangs near 14th- and 15th-century Italian triptychs and altarpieces, followed by a roomful of Russian iconography dating from the 1300s. The other half houses American, French, and Dutch/Flemish paintings. Roam into the American section to view the Timken's newest masterpiece and recent acquisition, John Peto's In the Library (1900), which moves center stage later this year. Travel next door to the French room for classic portraiture, where

lifesize messieurs and mesdemoiselles from the 18th Century might reach out to shake your hand; then wander toward the Dutch Master's Saint Bartholmew, where you'll note, at tour's end, that Rembrandt's in very fine company. Here's the kicker: it's free. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

#### BEST HALF-DAY SALTWATER FISHING BOAT

Half-Day on Fisherman III H&M Landing, 2803 Emerson Street, Point Loma (619) 222-1144

Sport fishing companies rank pretty much the same. Their prices are much the same (\$29 seems to be the going rate). Their boats look the same. They all take off on their half-day fishing trips at 6:30 in the morning, and 1:00 in the afternoon. H&M gets the nod here because of two things: they're the oldest in San

Coast (they've been doing this since 1935). Two, well, there's something about their at-sea breakfasts. You're breathing the early-morning salt air. chugging out toward the open sea. watching the pelicans, white egrets, herons, cormorants, sea lions breaking the glassy blue surface, when a waft of bacon crosses your nostrils. Now fresh-brewed coffee. It's like few morning experiences. You pay a dollar for the coffee (and all-morning refills). The sandwich is just the regular egg, bacon, sausage, cheese, mayo, and toast combo, but it tastes like heaven out on the water. Warning: Get this breakfast bliss over before you hit the full oceanic swells at Point Loma. Also: \$29 doesn't include \$7 to rent a rod. \$6.80 for a fishing license, \$2 to \$5 for each fish cleaned, money for the jacknot - passenger with most fish wins -

Diego and, they claim, on the West

## BEST PLACE TO GET ON TRACK

cash for food and drink from the

galley, and \$10 to \$15 tip.

San Diego Model Railroad Museum Casa de Balboa, lower level, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619) 696-0199

One of the world's largest running train displays is chugging along right in the middle of Balboa Park. The San Diego Model Railroad Museum has seen over a million visitors since opening to the public in 1982. Four huge scale-model displays fill up the gallery's 24,000 square feet, re-creating down to the smallest detail actual southwestern rail lines: the Cabrillo

Southwestern (O-scale, 1/48 actual size), the San Diego/Arizona Eastern (HO-scale, 1/87 actual size), Tehachapi Pass (HO-scale), and the Pacific Desert Lines (N-scale, 1/160 actual size). Kids can play with a running Lionel layout and full-sized railroad artifacts are on display, including a track crossing signal and a working semaphore. Admission is \$4 adults, children under 15 are free, and everyone gets in free on the first Tuesday of each month.

### BEST ROMANTIC

Cinderella Carriage Company Podium in front of Harbor House restaurant, Seaport Village (619) 239-8080

The horse-drawn white carriages do daily runs from noon to 11:00 p.m. throughout Seaport Village and the Gaslamp District, each led by a single draft horse and carrying from two to nine passengers. Drivers wear formal attire and prices start at \$45 per half hour. "A lot of wedding proposals happen and then we can show up at the wedding too." Carriages can be hired for tours, romantic rides, special events, weddings, and parties. To appear at a wedding in Balboa Park, the cost is \$250, while getting a horse and buggy to someplace like Del Mar runs up to \$550: "It takes a pretty big truck and an even bigger trailer to baul a borse and a nine-person carriage!" Nine different carriages are available, and the company has been running in San Diego with no horse-powered competition for nearly 20 years.



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#### Oktoberfest 1s Here Again!!

Through October 20
Our traditional German-style menu will be served for lunch and dinner.
(In addition to our regular menu.)

Oktoberfest Celebration Beer Festival

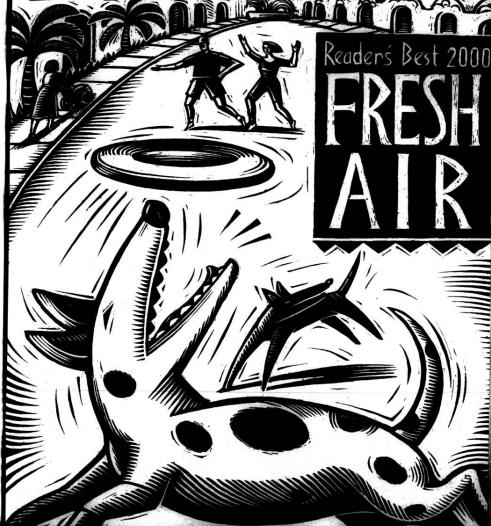
Sunday, October 15 • 12-6 pm
Join Hand and 8 local microbreweries for a day to enjoy German-style
beers and Oktoberfest food. Tickets sold at the door. A portion of the
proceeds to benefit the San Diego Braille Institute.

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Billed as the longest pier on the West Coast, this 34-year-old landmark is narrow and not pretty, but devout fishing takes place along its third-of-a-milelong expanse. Many of the anglers are regulars; some feed their families with what they catch, which can include yellowfail, barracuda, and leopard sharks. but more often runs to queen fish. perch, and mackerel. From October to March, people also lower nets in an attempt to trap lobsters. Everything has to meet minimum-size limits, of course, but you don't need a fishing license. You don't even need to own gear. The Ocean Beach Pier Bait Shop sells anchovies, sould, and mackerel and rents poles (\$10.95 for the day). When the fish aren't biting, you can recharge at the cafe next to the bait shop. The cafe seems unintentionally stuck in the '60s. but the views are timeless.

#### BEST WALK FOR HOUSE-GAWKING Camino de la Costa, La Jolla

Some neighborhoods have grander, even more expensive manisons. But what's mice about a stroil along Camino de la Costa (particularly the stretch between La Canada and Palomar Streets) is the density of the megabucks dwellings. Cape Cod concoctions adorned with supplies and fixes weathersupes cam in

Big Shot

Charles Elster, KPBS Radio: It's going to sound kind of parochial, but I do all of my walking around my neighborhood in Kensington. It's beautiful. You can easily do three or four miles and see a lot of nice houses in a variety of architectural styles.

Mary Pappas, Athers Market restaurant: Up and down the steps of the Convention Center. It does good for your batt. You go up and down the steps, and you see the marina with all the boats and the bay in the background. The view is wonderful. The whole scene is wonderful. Another great one is to walk along Harbor Drive from my house downtown all the way to the airport and back. It do that a lot, and it's an excellent walk. You stop at the Sheraton, have a cup of coffee, and then come back.

Don Bacigalupi, San Diego Museum of Art: I really like walking around the Prado in Balboa Park near all of the museums. I would say the Laurel Street Bridge and the Prado makes a great walk.

Chuck Valverde, Wahrentwock's Book House, downtown: To see the urban wildlife—the Gaslamp. I like to do it around 7:00 in the evening on a Friday or a Saturday. It's an exciting time to be down there. You've got well-dressed people walking around and music coming out of down and windows, which makes it more exciting.

**Linda Welby,** Mix 95.7:1 always walk on Dog Beach. But I also like West Mission Bay.

Delana Bennett, Magic 102.5: Balboa Park, definitely. Along the Prado.

Chris Williams, Magic 102.5:1 like the cliffs in La Jolla above Black's Beach. There are a lot of fat nude men to look at.

Chris Cantore, 91X: The boardwalk in Mission Beach. There's so much eye candy that I get dizzy, fall on the ground, and pee on myself.

Carol LeBeaus, Channel 10 News Coronado on the ocean side, valking on the hard-packed and from North Beach all the way to the Del. I love the ocean breezes, and that's the prettiest, widest beach in San Diego, When the tide is out, it's a fabulous walk. And if we're in the mood, we'll take it right up onto the boardwalk and walk in front of the high-rise towers. When we have a day when we don't have anything planned and some-body asks, "What do you want to odo" we look at each other and say, "Coronadol" And we jump in the car and head down there for a walk.

**BEST IN-TOWN WALK** 

Donna Fype, Misson Bay environmental activist, selfe of Harry's Sarf Shap owner, Skip Fyre: I like to well a round Mission Bay, in all of the different spots. One that stands out is the De Anna trailer park area. There's a certain feel about that place that I really like. It's a kind of closeness, a sense of community, which is hard to find anywhere else these days. And around the perimeter of it there are a lot of birds that gather at the water's edge.

Douglas Organ, Laurel Restaurant & Bar and the Wine-Sellar and Brasserie: My neighborhood in Mission Hills. It has a terrific, eclecite mits of people and architecture. There are only two ways in and out of Mission Hills, either from Old Town or from Hillcrest, so it tends to stay relatively quite. People aren't driving through it for no reason. And it's interesting to walk through it looking at the different styles of architecture.

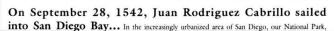
Charles Kaufman, Bread & Cie bakery. Up and down the fruit and vegetable aisle at Ranch 99 market in Clairemont Mesa. And through the fresh-fish department, too. They have a wonderful assortment of Asian fruits and vegetables. I love looking at the produce and esting it too. I particularly recommend the pomelo, which, when I lived in Jakarta, we called jeruk Jalf. You can see the most bizare varieties of fish in the fish section. And there are live lobsters and eels and crabs in aquarium tanks.

next to bulging Mediterranean villas. They, in turn, abut Santa Fe adobes, elegant haciendas, modernist retreats. Some of the waterfront palaces hide their opulence, but on the inland side of the street, most flaunt it.

#### **BEST SNORKELING**

La Jolla Cove, La Jolla

The 533-acre Ecological Reserve that runs from Scripps Institution of Oceanography south to Alligator Head is the only one of its kind hereabouts. Protection has made the sea life abundant. Fish commonly sighted above the sandy bottoms and rocky reefs and amidst the kelp beds include garibaldi, California sheechead, giant kelpfish.



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Iembership options: • Friend: \$35 (includes basic benefits listed above)

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and a choice of either the park book Cabrillo National Monument or the video In Search of Cabrillo 
\* Also available: \* Sustaining: \$100 \* Business: \$500 \* Benefactor \$1000

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#### **BEST URBAN** MOUNTAIN-BIKING TRAILS

Mission Trails Regional Park One Father Junipero Serra Trail. Mission Corge (619) 668-3275

One of the largest open-space urban parks in the continental United States. the Mission Trails Regional Park uniquely allows mountain bikers. Its 41 miles of hiking trails and 23 miles of mountain-bike trails have cool, easy rides on pavement to technically difficult, blazing hot dirt and 1000-foot descents with plenty of single track and rocks upon which to split your face. Probably the biggest danger is heat exhaustion and injury. "If you get hurt and you don't have a cell phone, there are almost 6000 acres, and you may be there a while," says the park's newest ranger, Luanne Barrett. High altitudes provide spectacular 360-degree views including the ocean, mountains, free ways, city, and Miramar pilots as they land and take off. The park is not over run with bikers, but "don't scream

around corners where you can't see people," Barrett says. Rattlesnakes are a danger, but 98 percent of bites are from people harassing the snakes. "Only 2 percent are an 'Oops, I stuck my hand or foot where I wasn't supposed to." Two hundred years ago, the Spanish used Native-American labor to build the Mission Dam - its broken remains are still there. Later the northern section of the park was a military defense training range. Ranger Rick Thompson is the mountain-bike guru in the park.

#### **BEST PLACE FOR A** CYCLIST TO BE RUN DOWN LIKE A DOG ON THE ROAD

Highway 78 from Ramona to the San Pasqual Valley

Pedaling north on Pine Street from Highway 67 in Ramona, it looks like it's going to be a nice ride. Once you pass EPS Lumber and Alamo Self Storage, you're out into rolling meadows on a smooth, wide shoulder. A half mile or so past Haverford Road, the white line defining your bike lane starts cheating toward the right edge of the pavement The road itself narrows and begins its serpentine descent down the mountain. At this point they should've slapped up a big "No bicycles beyond this point" sign and been done with it. Instead they decided to see how close they could paint the white line to the edge of the asphalt without leaving it. At mile 4, the road steepens and switches back. You can't squeeze a bike tire between the white line and the road's edge. SUVs barrel by, nearly grazing your left shoulder. The blast of breeze in their wake

threatens to send you hundreds of feet down the sheer cliff to your right onto the tumbles of boulders below. For long stretches there's not even a guardrail between you and screaming oblivion. There are a couple of turnouts where you can stop. At six and a half miles, when you're this close to pulling an Evel Knievel into the abyss just to end it, you round a bend and the valley floor can be seen past the sides of the gorge. The road straightens, and in another mile you're safe on the valley floor.

#### BEST BORDER HIKE (U.S. SIDE)

Blue Angels Peak, near Jacumba

A peak labeled "Blue Angels" on government topographic maps of the California/Baja border region happens to be the highest point in California within six miles of the international border. The neak's craggy, viewful summit lies just outside San Diego County in western Imperial County on land in the public domain. South and a little west of the peak, on a flat patch of ground, lies International Boundary Marker 231, a ten-foot steel obelisk, the 231st marker east from the first one near Brownsville, Texas, Blue Angels peak is accessible by dirt-road driving and then hiking, the mix determined by just how well your vehicle can negotiate bad roads. Exit Interstate 8 at In-Ko-Pah Park Road (east of Jacumba), turn sharply right and go .2 mile along the frontage road. then turn left on an ascending dirt road. Your ordinary car may make it only .8 mile up this road - if so, the remainder of the distance involves hiking a round-trip distance of five miles. A four-wheel-drive vehicle will get you farther on wheels. Navigational matters are simplified by the obvious visibility of the peak itself. Nonetheless, a topographic map or a sketch map of the area issued by the Bureau of Land Management will help. Call (760) 337-4400 for more information.

#### BEST BORDER HIKE (MEXICO)

Chichi de la India Pea Between Tecate and Mexicali

The south-of-the-border volcanic peak variously known as Chichi de la moi. and Cerro Teta de la India looks pleasingly just as it should from vantage points in far East County. Getting to the 5460-foot summit requires a rambling trip on Mexican paved and dirt roads, plus a short but vigorous stretch of hik ing. The view from the summit is worth it: stretches of pinyon-pine-studded plateau roll out from the base of the mountain, while desert sands shimmer in the sunlight below a mile-high escarpment. The dirt-road driving starts at the town of La Rumorosa, midway between Tecate and Mexicali on Mexico Highway 2. Follow the route (or at least one of the routes) that leads south from La Rumorosa toward Parque Nacional Constitución de 1857 — better known as Laguna Hanson. After seven miles you should be passing near Chichi, which lies just east of (behind) a mesa like mountain called Cerro la Plasta. Side roads lead east, closer to Chichi's base, where you can start hiking. It's slow going at times on cinder-like rock fragments that have slid down from the





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### Fresh Air

rhyolite plug forming the chichi's nipple, but the final scramble up the nipple's solid west face is quick and fun.

#### BEST DRY LAKE

Borrego Sink Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

Where does the water that falls on Borrego Springs and the Borrego Valley go? Most of it sinks quickly into the desert sand. In times of rare

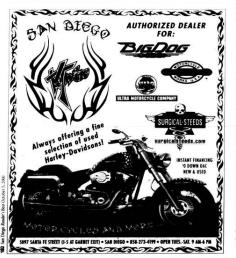
mile oval expanse of bottomland known as the Borrego Sink. Only very fine particles of sediment can remain suspended in the sluggish floodwaters that manage to reach the Borrego Sink. On drying, the surface of the sink fragments into millions of irregularly shaped polygons - utterly symbolic of drought and desolation. The western edge of Borrego Sink lies just one mile northeast of La Casa del Zorro resort, which is located very near the intersection of Borrego

flood, the excess does not reach the

ocean or even the Salton Sea: rather it

spreads over a one-half-mile by one-





Springs Road and Yaqui Pass Road. You can boof it across the flat desert floor from the intersection, or visit the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park visitor center to pick up a topograph ic man that will show varous dirt roads leading toward the sink. The visitor center's phone number is (760) 767-4205

#### **BEST HIKE IN** THE OAKS

Less than 1 percent of San Diego County's land area is covered by native trees, and much of that tiny fraction consists of narrow strips of oak woodland tracing the narrow watercourses. Fallbrook has some ter rific examples of coast live-oak woodland in its parks, plus a trail along Rainbow Creek that visits what surely must be one of the most densely shaded hollows in the county dark and gloomy even at noon. The Rainbow Creek trail departs from a bridge on Willow Glen Road, 1.3 miles north of Mission Road, Hike .9 mile downstream on the trail to reach the aforementioned spooky grove of live oaks. Call the Fallbrook Land Conservancy, (760) 728-0889, for more information.

#### **BEST HIKE IN** THE SAGE

Coastal sage-scrub, perhaps the least impressive-looking natural vegetation type in the county in summer and fall, brightens up in vivid shades of green with every wet season, usually starting in November or December. Within two weeks of the first substantial rainfall the dry-as-dust summer-dormant branches of California sagebrush, black sage, and other low-growing plants start sending out new aromatic leaves. Their spicy fragrances float on breezes moving up the coastal canyons and across hillsides untouched by the bulldozer's blade. The 2.9-mile, looping interpretive trail around Lake Poway gives visitors a chance to get acquainted with sage-scrub and three other vegetation types growing near the lake shore. The trail and the recre ation area at the lake are open seven days a week, sunrise to sunset, at the east end of Lake Poway Road. Call (858) 679-5466.

#### **BEST HIKE IN** THE CHAPARRAL

"Chaparral" is the name given to the

Agua Tibia Wilderness

assemblage of tough, drought-resistant, deep-rooted, intricately branched shrubs that cling to coastal and foothill slopes throughout Central and Southern California. As with much of our local natural vegetation, chaparral's charms become apparent only after periods of sustained rainfall. By March ceanothus (wild lilac) will be in bloom, spreading plumes of while and blue over the hillsides. Out Temecula way, in a northern portion of the Cleveland National Forest, lies the Agua Tibia Wilderness, 16,000 acres of hillsides covered by growths of chaparral so dense that trails there must be cleared of overgrowth almost every year. Two of these trails, named Dripping Springs and Wild Horse, swing up into the chaparral from Dripping Springs Campground, ten miles east of Interstate 15 at Temecula. In the spring of any wet year, wildflowers associated with the chaparral plant community burgeon shamelessly here. Call Cleveland National Forest, (760) 788-0250 for more information

#### **BEST BEACH HIKE**

Between Scripps Pier and Torrey Pines State Preserve Beaches are for hiking as well as swim-

ming and sunbathing, and for that purpose none is better in our county than the four-plus-mile stretch between Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Torrey Pines State Reserve. For most of this length, sharp cliffs rise behind the beach and hide the outside urban world's sight and sound. Sunny fall and winter days are perfect for this hike, particularly around the time of new and full moon, when the afternoon tide sinks to nearly its lowest possible level, exposing both tidepools and broad, gently shelving expanses of wet sand. Nude bathing is a longaccepted, though not legal, custom along the midsection (Black's Beach) of the hike; not as much nudity occurs during the fall/winter off-season. The northernmost mile of the hike has per haps the most impressive scenery. There the breakers run up over the sand and rocks toward the base of the Torrey Pines cliffs, the tallest bluffs in western San Diego County.

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#### Fresh Air

#### **BEST HIKE** TO AN OASIS

Mount Laguna

"Oasis" is both the name of, and an apt

description of, of an idyllic spot high in the Laguna Mountains overlooking the broad, glaring expanse of the Anza-Borrego desert. It's a restful place. bathed in warm breezes from below and graced with spring water gushing out of the ground and rushing out of sight down a steep canyon to the desert sands A lone bigleaf maple tree stands here, displaced from its natural range to the north. Several bay laurel trees, uncommon in San Diego County but more at home in wetter areas up north, grow nearby. The short, unmarked trail to Oasis Spring originates on Sunrise Highway at mile 26.7, but you'll have to find parking off the pavement in one or another roadside turnout nearby. Call Cleveland National Forest, (619) 445-6235, for more information.

#### **BEST COUNTRY** BIKE RIDE

The gently curving county highways of Palomar Mountain are ever rising, ever descending, and almost never flat Bicycle riders who come here fill their lungs again and again with cooldraughts of fresh air on the ascents, and get a nice break for their efforts on the

259-5340

exhilarating descents, which range from carefree coasting to cautious braking. For a relatively easy ride, try covering the 7-mile, one-way stretch between Palomar Mountain State Park and Palomar Observatory - or double the distance by riding the round trip. The real Palomar challenge, though, is a 27mile loop route involving a 3000-foot ascent of South Grade Road, followed by a descent on East Grade Road, with Highway 76 as the connection between the two. This direction on the loop takes advantage of a short, steep ascent on the first part, and a much longer descent with little need for brake work after nearly all the work is done. Be sure to ride as early in the morning as possible to take advantage of both the freshest air and the lessened auto traffic.

#### BEST VIEW OF UNTOUCHED NATURE IN TIJUANA

East of the town, west of the Rodriguez Dam

Mention Tijuana River, and people think trash-strewn polluted concrete canal near the border. But there's another Tijuana River, clean and pristine, and nearer than people think. Follow Boulevard Insurgentes up to the head of the Tijuana valley, turn right at Monte de los Olivos Cemetery, ease down the dirt road past the last of the maquiladoras and the end of the concrete canalization. Above, to the left, the beginnings of the mountains, and the Rodriguez Dam. In front of you, the river's last

few soda cans, car parts, and cardboard boxes, but they're concealed by great swathes of ten-foot bull rushes with fox tails, trees, and native bushes among the chuckling, clear waters. Wildlife teems here too. Mass flights of birds with bellclear chirps sweep into the trees. Hawks hover. But better hurry. "It's been like this for thousands of years," says green activist Silverio de la Mora Ceballos. but the way Tijuana grows, it may not

#### BEST PLACE TO PLAY PICKUP SOCCER

Pantoia Park

Between Kettner and State on G Street Lunch Hour, Monday through Thursday

This game has been going on for over nine years. The players come and go, but the game goes on. The playing area is not huge, but it's ample, though you do have to play around a few trees and the occasional bum who won't wake up and move out of the way. The group gathers at 12:10 and plays until 1:00 Games range from three-on-three to ten-on-ten, though six-on-six seems the average. Player skill varies from excellent to absolute beginner. The latter, by the way, is welcomed and encouraged. but skilled, experienced players make up the bulk of the regulars. The lawenforcement community is heavily represented: three county marshals and three assistant D.A.s from the court houses on Broadway play along with two federal prosecutors. Several other lawyers, a graphic designer, a writer, a

few building engineers, and a couple of park-maintenance workers round out the group of regulars. Most walk or ride bikes to the park. A few drive in from as far away as La Jolla. The play is spirited, even aggressive at times, but tempers

#### **BEST PUMPKIN** PICKING

**Bates Nut Farm** 15954 Woods Valley Road, Valley Center (760) 749-3333

Around Halloween, Bates Nut Farm is the ultimate pumpkin-picking experience. After the \$1 havride, the busloads of kids who visit can tumble over piles of basketball-sized pumpkins, each \$2.75. Then, hurry over to the large pumpkins, the Big Macs, some of which are beyond beach-ball size, to select a Big Mama, and then load it into the provided wheelbarrow. Last year, Big Macs were \$.30 a pound early in the season. Ghost pumpkins, with white skin and orange inside, were \$2.75 (they're better eating, Bates people say, than orange pumpkins - sweeter). On the way to the candy-and-nut shop, stop to look at the farm's livestock Then go into the store, with its rows of barrels filled with pecans, walnuts, and

## BEST VIEW OF THE SALTON SEA

Desert Tower In-Ko-Pah Park Road. five miles east of Jacumba (619) 766-4612





1930 Bacon Street

Fax: 619.223.1092

You get no idea of the vast size of the "Bigges Puddle in the West" the Salton Sea — until you see it from above. That means either hiring a plane or driving east to Jane Knap's place. Jane on the edge of the gorge, just before the plateau tumbles 3000 feet into the Imperial Valley. Leave Interstate 8 at In Ko-Pah Park Road, curl under the freeway, head half a mile east. The strange-looking tower rises up, like some light house or prison watch tower. Little has changed since realtor Bert Vaughn built the monu and '23. In the silence you'll hear every foot crunch. Go in, notice antiques and collectibles for sale in the circular shop, pay Jane \$1 per person, pass through the snug fireside living room, and climb the 57 steps and four floors to the "hurricane deck" (and the winds do howl) Cast your eyes far over the distant dog-boneshaped Salton Sea. And the Imperial Valley. And the Chocolate Mountains, And, hey Mexico. It's almost like a NASA space-shuttle view

Fresh Air

#### BEST PLACE TO FEEL LIKE YOU'RE IN AN ESCHER DRAWING

But be warned; haze, the burning season, and pol

lution can obliterate the view. Avoid summer.

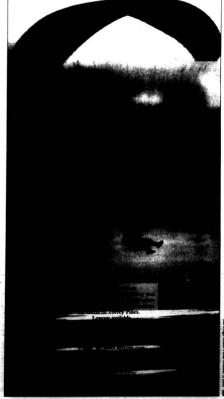
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#### BEST BAYSIDE WALK Chula Vista Marina

Ocean breezes in your hair, a grassy park on one side, a sandy beach on the other, restaurants and picnic tables handy, and a breathtaking view of the San Diego skyline. And you have it all to yourself. The Chula Vista Marina is described most weekdays, and even on summer weekends there's plenty of room to wander around, fly a kite, have a picnic, or ride your bike without being shoulder-toshoulder with everyone else in town. This is a working marina, with hundreds of boats in the water and a huge launch ing area nearby. Chula Vista, in the last two years, has added a children's playground and a new restaurant (Bob's on the Bay), and once the nearby SDG&E plant is torn down (supposedly by 2002), there'll be nothing to obstruct the

view. Only twice a year does the marina

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get crowded: Founder's Day in June, when the tall ships come for a visit, and the Christmas Boat Parade in December Take I-5 to J Street exit, turn toward the bay and follow signs.

#### BEST EXERCISE-WALK WITH A BABY

Midtown/Mission Hills Area 3.2 Miles

Get a jogging stroller or a baby backpack and get ready to hike. Park on the west side of San Diego Avenue where it veers from India Street, across from the Mobil station (no meters on this side). Begin by walking north to Washington Street and cross to the east side of San Diego Avenue, Traverse Washington and head toward Old Town on San Diego Avenue. After a block and a half. the avenue bends left again and California Street forks off to the right Start walking uphill on California Street (warning: this hill is steep). At the top of the hill, turn right on Henry Street and keep going uphill until you reach Alameda Terrace, where you'll turn left.

Your uphill efforts are now rewarded with an easy level walk through a neighborhood most of us wish we could live in: Mission Hills. Turn right on Alameda Place and continue until you reach Sunset and turn right. Walk all the way to the merge with Fort Stockton and keep heading east on Fort Stockton until you reach Goldfinch Street. Turn right on Goldfinch, cross Washington and University and turn right on Sutter. Turn left on Kite Street and take it all the way to where it meets Upas Street, where you'll turn right. To keep the downhill gradual, turn left on Union and right on Thorn. Turn left on Columbia and right on Sassafras. Turn right on India and head back to your car.

#### BEST PLACE TO SPOT A MOUNTAIN LION

Paso Picacho Campground SR 79

The California Department of Fish and Game estimates 4000 to 6000 mountain lions roam California, with at

least 150 of them ringing San Diego in the Cuyamacas, Lagunas, Palomar, Volcan Mountain area - even in the desert fringes of Anza-Borrego, if the bighorn sheep are on the move. But mostly the lion goes where the deer go. He weighs from 60 to 120 pounds and needs to eat a deer a week (or the equivalent). Biologist Larry Sitton, a 30-year lion-tracking veteran, says if he had to choose a spot to see one, it'd be Paso Picacho campground on Highway 79. "But take care," warns Sitton. "There have been more close calls in the Cuyamacas than any place in the state." A bird-watcher was killed near Cuyamaca Peak in 1994, so don't go alone. Carry a big stick. Don't speak softly. "Yell and scream, if you meet one," says Fish and Game warden Zeke Awbrey. "Stand your ground. Look big. Throw rocks." If you have dogs, let go of the leash. Better the lion eat them than you. Call Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, (760) 765-0755, for more information

#### BEST PLACE TO LEARN CACTUS FARMING

Granjas Familiares "División del Norte" Colonia Las Torres, Rinconada Dos, Tijuana

An hour east of downtown Tijuana, where the paved streets turn into rutted roads, and the houses run out and the mountain heaves up toward the sky, Don Gabino Moreno Santana tends his cactus fields. "I sell about 50 to 60 cases on nopales (cattus paddles) every week," He fingers a green shoot. "These are the ones," he says. "They grow quickly." It's a bumpy ride up, but here in the mountain lands above Tijuana, people are country-generous. And Don Gabino, who is president of the Granjas Familiares (Enmily Farms) land associa-Familiares (Enmily Farms) land associa-Familiares (Enmily Farms) land associa-

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### Fresh Air

tion, is happy to pass on knowledge. "You can plop these in - just stick them in welldrained ground," he says, "and they'll grow They produce the prickly paddles that you defang then chop up to add to your Mexican salad, or grill and mix with your scrambled eggs, or stuff with cheese and fry, or turn into a salsa, or use as a traditional poultice for bruises or dressing for a wound. Then there are the fruit, the prickly pear (tuna). As Don Gabino will tell you. these cactus keep on giving: they're a great source of Vitamin C and fiber too.

BEST PLACE TO CATCH GRUNION

Beaches from imperial Beach to Oceanside To find out where grunion are running, call Fish and Game at (858) 467-4201 Legal in March and from June through August. They must be left alone April/May.

Grunion are six-inch fishes that beach themselves to have out-ofwater sex right before your eyes — but only at night - and then flon back to sea, each leaving in the sand 1600 to 3600 orange eggs. They do this only under the full or new moon at high spring tide so the waves will retreat, leave the eggs buried in peace for two weeks, then wake the hatchlings 15 nights later. These fish are good for eating (usually rolled in corn flour and fried),

but the rules are: one, you gotta have a license if you're 16 or older go to Big 5 or Kmart, It's eight bucks, but the fine for fishing without it is 700 bucks. Two, catch them with your hands only. No nets. No digging holes for them to flop into. You're giving them an even break, right? Three, take only what you can use What's most fun? Actually, watching the sex. She digs in, head up, lays her eggs, then a bunch of randy males come and, well, you have to see it. Next most fun Helping them hatch: Take two teaspoonsfuls of fertilized eggs, keep in container of damp cool sand 10 to 15 days; add teaspoonful of sand and eggs to one cup of seawater, shake gently, watch eggs hatch into quarter-inch fishlets.

BEST PLACE FOR AN OCEAN SWIM

Return to ocean.

Del Mar or La Jolla Shores

Del Mar boasts no drownings in 20 years but has bigger surf. La Iolla Shores has a rocky point, Point La Jolla, that protects the beach, but not so many lifeguards per head of swimmers (in summer anyway). Del Mar has 13 or 14 lifeguards looking out for 5000 to 7000 beachgoers on an aver age summer day; La Jolla Shores has 15 lifeguards and sometimes 30,000 people. Del Mar boasts two trucks, a car, two ATVs. and, on weekends two surf boats, all towers open, and 6 guards at headquarters. La Jolla

Shores has two patrol

ski rescue craft, and a

vehicles, one ATV, a jet

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844 W. Mission Bay Drive San Diego 858.488.4642 San Diego Reader's Best Octob

#### Fresh Air

225-hp 22-foot Boston Whaler surf rescue boat (shared with Mission Beach, and Ocean Beach). The beach with the record of most rescues in one day is Mission Beach: On July 3, 1997, they saved 274 people. According to Brant Bass, a lieutenant with the San Diego Lifeguard Service, Ocean Beach and Mission Beach are also well-watched. Both he and Del Mar's Susan Doerr-York agree: winter is when you have to watch out. In summer, swells average 4 to 6 feet. In winter, they can grow to 15 to 20 feet. Winter surf digs holes that cause rip currents. And instead of over a dozen lifeguards, La Jolla Shores and Del Mar have maybe 3 each.

#### BEST NORTHERN CALIFORNIA EXPERIENCE IN CALIFORNIA

Palomar Mountain

Sooner or later you'll start missing the seasons. Winter, summer, spring, fall. New arrivals talk of nothing else. But fear not! Just north of Lake Henshaw stands a 5000-foot-high chunk of rock that somehow got misplaced from the northwest. Mount Palomar brought with it an ecosystem that makes its uplands feel like a different country. Up where S6 meets S7, and the general store and Mother's Kitchen form the nucleus of the "village," ask about statepark forest walks. Forests of fir, cedar, oak, pine intersperse with natural meadows. Watch for deer, bobcats, a couple of black bear who live up there. Even the people are different. They're rugged, quirky, don't think much of us "flatlanders." Half the oaks were plant ed by Kumeyaay 1000 years ago to har vest the acorns for food. You'll find

ing for mullet haircuts. Those are the "shlong" cuts - short on morteros where they ground dips into rocks to grind acorn kernels into paste. Some of their ancient trees are alive: one 1000-year-old measures nearly 35 feet around its trunk. But beware those seasons you long for. Snow can come as early as October. If in doubt, call on left Morningstar in Mother's Kitchen, (760) 742-4233. He knows the wrinkles. And if you manage to camp up there, you'll

**BEST PLACE TO** DISPLAY YOUR TENNIS PROWESS The Challenge Court,

bright and close.

see why the scientists chose Palomar to

build their observatories. The stars are

Balboa Tennis Club 2221 Morley Field Drive, Balboa Park (619) 295-9278

This is for the brave, the blusterers, the big-mouths. Go to Balboa Tennis Club's reservations desk, hand over \$5, and say "I want a Challenge Court slip." "Y-You mean for Court 9?" stutters the reserva tion person. You nod. He hands you the slip as if you'd committed to bungee-

jumping from the park viaduct. Especially if this is around 5:00 p.m. Hour of the Hot Shots. You mosey up to Court 9. It's surrounded by bleachers, like Center Court Wimbledon. You pin your slip on the board, challenging the winner of the present game. They must accept your challenge. So many people want to show their tennis cojones that you'll probably have to play doubles. And rules state if you win twice. you sit down. Then again, this summer, Kent Sligh, the club's director, ratcheted up the odds. Now there's - aaargh!! -"Court Eight: The Ultimate Challenge." The champ stays on the court for as long as he can beat back challengers. The bad news is you could get injured by the 100 mph balls," says Kent, trying not to laugh. The good news? "You'll probably only have to do this one time.

**BEST PARASAILING** San Diego Parasailing

Adventures 1641 Ouivira Road, Mission Bay (619) 223-4386

Mixing the mechanics of sailing and the physics of hang gliding, parasailing car-

ries boaters aloft into the wind, flying across the ocean water in saltwatersoaked bursts. Parasailing Adventures offers ocean excursions that last about one hour, for up to six people at a time (per Coast Guard regulation). Each passenger gets a turn as honorary captain, taking the helm long enough to fly the craft. Departures take place every 90 minutes at a cost of \$59.95 per person. Parasailing is limited to summer runs that sometimes stretch into October. pending weather and demand. Passengers wear life jackets, and each craft has a captain and crew aboard. They run the vessel and do all the work while allowing the passengers to feel as if they're taking part in the procedures and operations. Advance reservations are recommended, especially for larger parties and holiday weekends. The same marina also offers jet-ski and kavak

rentale

and the zoo Runs weekends and holidays



#### Big Shot

Charles Kaufman, Bread & Cie bakery: The country walk that I like is in Tecolote Canyon. You start that at the baseball field near the San Diego Racquet Club. You walk through it along the canyon bottom, past the golf course, and you can keep going for miles and miles and miles if you want.

Chuck Valverde, Wahrenbrock's Book House, downton like Green Valley Falls in the Cuyamacas. You've got year-round waterfalls up there and big pine trees and oaks. It's in the state nediately adjacent to Lake Cuyamaca.

Chris Cantore, 91X: The Lakeside rodeo because I like look-

top, long in the back. They go by other names too: hockey hair, the Iroc cut, the Mississippi mud flap, Kentucky waterfall, neck warmer. Oh, they kill me. They're classic. Even I had one at one

Donna Frye, environmental activist: My favorite country wall is out by Chollas Creek. It's not exactly in the country, but it's a little piece of country in the middle of an urban area. There's a small creek that runs through the bottom of a canyon. The hillsides are covered with native plants and there's a lot of wildlife around. The creek forms little pools, and I've seen ducks sitting in them that I've never seen anywhere else. It reminds me of the canyons I used to play in as a kid growing up in San Diego.

**BEST COUNTRY WALK** 

#### Fresh Air

Balboa Park Railroad is a fun, inexpen sive cure to childhood boredom. The scaled-down version of a Santa Fe locomotive pulls a dozen tiny passenger cars - big enough for Mom and Dad - on a clickety-clackety open-car ride over "bridges," through tunnels, and round numerous bends. It has the look and feel of the Real Thing. The side-to-side rocking, the wind in the kiddies' hair, and the bon voyage waves from folks watching you from the carousel will put some spring in Junior's step, and at \$1.25 a ride, his college fund will stay intact.

#### BEST SKYDIVING

Air Adventures Skydiving Inc. 1590 Continental Street. (800) 992-7003 www.airadventures.com

Most Air Adventures customers say they've never flung themselves from a plane at 13,000 feet and are seeking a once-in-a-lifetime thrill. Tandem leaps are popular, where an instructor remain harnessed to your side after you exit the plane and does most of the work. A \$195

fee includes a 30-minute training class covering important hand signals and how to arch your body. Jumpers experience about one minute of freefall at 120 mph while hurtling toward a drop field in Otay Mesa. The Accelerated Freefall skydive runs \$295 for the first jump, preceded by four to five hours of class instruction. Two instructors freefall alongside you, to check the tumble and make sure you deploy your chute successfully. Static-line jumps cost \$160, including instruction, with the parachute cord attached to the plane and automatically deploying a few seconds after your

#### **BEST WARGAMES**

Velocity Paintball Park San Vicente Road and Warnock Drive, Ramona (858) 513-2778

Paintball battles - stalking and shooting opponents with paint-loaded waterguns - used to be common but are no longer staged indoors anywhere in San Diego. Velocity Paintball maintains its field in Ramona where outdoor walk-on warplay takes place Saturday and Sunday. For \$35 per person, players get the necessary gear - a mask, gun, tank,

and hopper. Paint ammo is sold sepa rately and two players can get by if they split a case. Players must sign a waiver acknowledging game rules and Velocity's nonliability in case of injury or equipment damage. The battle rages all day from around 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Though water soluble and nontoxic, the colorful ammo will cause stains. so players should wear ld clothes and shoes (cleats are recomi ended)

#### **BEST BATTING CAGE** Fun-4-All

950 Industrial Bowlevard. Chula Vista (619) 427-1840

Fun-4-All has ten individual batting cages, and most can be rented on a walkin basis, though weekends are sometimes busy enough to require a phone reservation. A 15-minute session costs \$8, a half-hour runs \$14, and for \$25 you can spend a whole hour swatting at balls. Reservations made 24 hours in advance earn discount rates. The balls (either baseballs or softballs) are lobbed by a machine at different speeds and angles, which the batter can set. Players can feed four tokens for 20 pitches or can rent the pitcher for the whole session. The arcade

is open 10:00 a m to 10:00 n m weekdays (to midnight on weekends) and also features 18 holes of miniature golf (\$4 to \$5). Go-cart tickets are \$3.75 for those over the height limit, \$1.50 for those under the limit if riding with an adult.

#### BEST WHALE-WATCH

Helgren's Sportfishing Trips 315 Harbor Drive South, Oceanside (760) 722-2133

Whale-watch cruises run from Decembe through March. Most are 1/4 day runs, 1/2 day runs, and twilight trips, though Helgren's also books multiday custom charters. The boats go five miles out of the harbor, heading south toward the pier, and the whales to watch for are 40foot-long, 30-ton gray whales who pass near the shore on their annual migration. "There's usually at least one spotted," says a sales clerk, "and sometimes three or four or a mother with her babies." Cost varies according to season and demand and can run from \$15 to as little as \$8 per person with groups of 25 or more passengers. Helgren's also has a fish and tackle store, which handles everything from fishing licenses to gear and boat rentals.

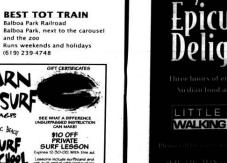












**Surf Report** Best Alternative: Agent 22

Highway 52

**B-Side Players** 

Best Acoustic: Lisa Sanders

Best Jazz: Peter Sprague

Best Blues: **Candye Kane** 

Best Ska/Reggae: **Buck-O-Nine** 

Best Local Musician: **Steve Poltz** 

Best Hair Salon: Primo Hair Design

Best Bread Bakery: **Bread & Cie** 350 University Avenue, Hillcresi 619-683-9322

Best Sunday Brunch: **Hotel Del** 

Coronado 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado 619-435-6611

**Taste of Thai** 

619-291-7525

858-793-9695 Bost Vietnamese Restaurant:

Phuong Trang

La Provence 714 4th Avenue, Gaslams 619-544-0661

**Desserts** Best French Restaurant:

Best Dessert: Extraordinary 2929 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest 619-294-7001

Best Gourmet Pizza: Sammy's California Woodfired Pizza

5 Locations Co. 619-230-8888

Best Spanish Restaurant:

Sevilla

619-233-5979

Zone

619-298-7302

3975 5th Avenue

Ichiban

**Old Town** 

619-297-4330

858-755-2277

Filippi's

10 Locations Countywide

Grotto

619-232-5094

**Mexican Cafe** 

2489 San Diego Avenue

**Fish Market** 

Rest Sushi Bar-

619-298-3155

555 4th Avenue, Gaslamo

Best Vegetarian

The Vegetarian

2949 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest

Best Steakhouse:

**Ruth's Chris** 

Steakhouse

Best Indian Restaurant:

**Bombay Exotic Cuisine of India** 

1449 University Avenue, Hillcrest 619-299-7203

1441 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-270-5755

Best Mexican Restaurant:

Best Seafood Restaurant:

640 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach

Best Italian Restaurant:

Best Music Store: Tower Records

3601 Sports Arena Boulevard Sports Arena 619-224-3333 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla 858-452-2566

Best Happy Hour The Brigantine

Best Microbrewery: **Karl Strauss Brewery** 

4 Locations Co. 619-234-2739

Bike USA 619-461-9680

Best Jewelry Store: Ben Bridge Jeweler

8 Locations Countywide 619-291-7572

Best Wine Store: Trader Joe's 5 Locations Countywide 858-546-8629

Best Health Food Store: Henry's Marketplace

Best Fitness Club: 24 Hour Fitness

1-800-432-6348

Best Sports Bar: Seau's Restaurant Mission Valley Shopping Center 619-291-7328

Best Nightclub: Belly Up

143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach 858-481-9022

Best Place to Dance: Belly Up

143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach 858-481-9022

Best Bed & Breakfast: **Butterfield Bed & Breakfast** 

Best Car Wash: Body Beautiful Car Wash

5 Locations Countywide 619-563-1424

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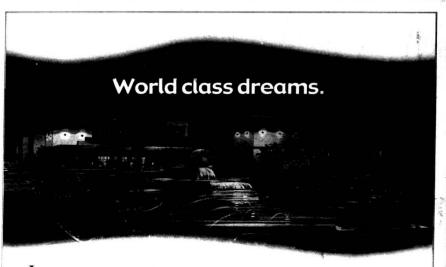
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