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CONTINUED ON PAGE 32
Military Thanks

This is a comment of appreciation for the article “Soldiers’ Pay” (August 21). I just think it’s excellent. I think that we as a community need to stand behind our military men and women, and their families, especially. I just got back, as a reservist, from three to four months of active duty on the East Coast, and I really appreciate how important it is to make sure that things at home are taken care of. ‘cause then you can really focus on your job in the military. I just wanted to say thank you to Thomas Larson for this article. Thank you, and thank you for caring about the military men and women.

Becky Graul
Mission Valley

Burn, Don’t Marry

The large-print comparison between the pay of a policeman and a soldier is ludicrous: the soldier gets board, room, and medical care as well (“Soldiers’ Pay,” August 21). The difference in pay is much closer, but it’s not close enough for a soldier to marry at that stage.

The first-lowest ranks are strongly advised not to marry until they can move up in rank and pay. The salesmen may tell us that we can have it all, but it just isn’t true. Going deep into debt is a hard way to learn that.

E. Dixon

Stay Single

In response to “Soldiers’ Pay,” August 21.

My observations of the armed services today is there is not enough responsibility shown by the young people entering the service. Their pay and fringe benefits are not conducive to raising a family. An E-2 makes $1290 a month with a housing allowance of $831 and other benefits, not the least of which are medical, dental, optical, and drugs, which are worth at least $300 a month. This means that the take-home pay is more than $2400 a month, as taxes are paid only on the base pay.

An E-5 makes $1903 with a housing allowance of $1303 and other benefits of over $300 a month, which makes his take-home pay over $3500 a month.

In both cases the wages are well above the poverty level. The only thing that keeps members of the armed services in financial trouble is not showing enough responsibility to delay getting married and having children until they can afford them. There is no draft, so all are volunteers and should have some idea of what they are volunteering for.

W.M. McCormick
El Cajon

Also Wants Free Food

Re “Soldiers’ Pay,” August 21. I make the same take-home as a military member younger than myself (about 2k a month) in this city. This does not include housing, medical, commissary-priced essentials, or on-base gasoline supplemental monies. These things come from my take-home pay. Yet, I manage to live, day-to-day and very carefully, in San Diego. I don’t make a bunch of babies because I know I’ll have to take care of them. I have a two-income family to meet basic needs. I don’t have a fancy car, satellite cable (we have basic for reception only), new furniture (thrift store), and many other luxuries. Many months, I can’t even buy bread and milk until the next paycheck.

I am grateful to our military and believe they should be looked after and respected for their many sacrifices. However, soldiers who abuse the system by being irresponsible and often just stupid and selfish; who bring wives back from active duty until they can afford them. I am grateful to our military and believe they should be looked after and respected for their many sacrifices. However, soldiers who abuse the system by being irresponsible and often just stupid and selfish; who bring wives back from active duty until they can afford them.

E. Dixon


to continue on page 35
Rednecksville
By Don Bauder

With red ink splashing all over state and local government budgets, and services being slashed deeply, any California city that would pour a subsidy into a professional sports facility is probably doomed to becoming the laughingstock of the nation — deserving the name “Rednecksville.”

That’s especially true if the team really wants to insult the city into giving it a pass out and tries to sell it with blatant propaganda TV tape touting a proposal for a new stadium that “would be built by the Chargers without using tax-payer money.” Multifarious self-proclaimed civic leaders with an economic interest in pro-sports — a beer distributor, the project’s architect, bankers — praised the measure.

Stephen Weber, president of San Diego State University, gushed, “I would feel very disappointed in the community that I love if we are not capable of this challenge.” His numerous critics suspect he frets more about the Aztec football team than the deep cuts in academic spending at his institution, just as the San Diego establishment considers the subsidization of billions’ sports teams more important than improving education, upgrading the city’s rotting infrastructure, rebuilding the inadequate library system, digging out of the $1 billion pension hole, and the like.

The project is premised on several untruths. One is that there is something wrong with the current stadium, Qualcomm. Another is that with a new facility, the Chargers will be a better team; National Football League performance records belie that claim.

The major lie, of course, is one used twice before: the notion that this will be free to taxpayers. Shockingly, TV and radio stations, including public radio, spewed the lie on cue. But on Wednesday, the Chargers released some preliminary details, awash in devils.

Anyone could see there will be huge public costs — perhaps a billion dollars’ worth, according to former councilmember Bruce Henderson, who earlier tried to tell a naïve public that the claims of a “free” makeover of the football stadium in the mid-1990s, and then a “free” downtown baseball facility, were utterly fallacious. After promising to remain until 2020, the Chargers quickly wanted a new stadium. The Padres’ ballpark, which was supposed to pay for itself through taxes from surrounding development, will cost $15 million to $18 million a year, mainly for debt service.

For starters, the Chargers want the city to give them 60 acres of land at Qualcomm. Attorney Michael Aguirre estimates this land may be worth $200 million to $300 million. Then the city would issue $175 million of bonds. Since when is bonded debt, which must be serviced with annual interest payments, free? Depending on the level of interest rates and the maturity of those bonds, you can probably double that $175 million as a cost to the city.

Under current lease arrangements for Qualcomm, the Chargers have pledged to pay the city $150 million until 2020. Presumably, there would be no lease payments on a stadium purportedly financed by the team. The city should dodge some maintenance costs, but some of that $150 million would be lost. And it’s not clear who would pick up the $60 million-plus debt on the existing Qualcomm.

Also, the city would be responsible for infrastructure costs — bound to be a huge figure. In a normal housing project, the developer picks up key infrastructure and open-space costs. But if the city is stuck with the infrastructure tab as well as major costs of two parks at the site, “It could be a $500 million windfall” to the Chargers, says Henderson. All told, “The Chargers would use city assets to make the city a billion dollars poorer and the Chargers... continued on page 4

Contact Don Bauder at 619-881-2395
By Ernie Grimm

The gate below the dam at San Vicente Reservoir in Lakeside is closed when I arrive just before 10:00 o’clock on a late-April morning. The lake is closed to recreational fishing today. But I’m here to see fishing of a different kind, involving neither bait nor hook but electricity.

To the right of the gate, tucked under a grove of trees, stand the offices of San Diego City Lakes, a division of the city’s water department. Offices or any too strong a word for the collection of temporary trailer buildings where I meet Jim Brown, (then) San Diego City Lakes program director. “Why don’t you follow me up to the lake,” says Brown, a stocky man in his 50’s, dressed in blue jeans and a blue-and-white pullover emblazoned with the City Lakes logo. He hops in one of the white pickups parked outside the offices.

The narrow road to the lake climbs and winds up a steep hill to the west of the dam and terminates in an empty football-field-sized parking lot. On the east end of the lot, side-by-side boat-launch ramps slant down into a cove at the southwest corner of the lake. Next to a ramp, a floating dock stretches 100 yards out into the cove. The area is deserted except for a couple of black cots roosting on a nest of tangled reeds next to the dock, and a pair of white geese on the shore honking at Jim and me. Far out on the surface of the lake, just starting to ripple with a late-morning breeze, a strange-looking boat moves toward the ramp where we’re standing. “There’s Larry in the shock boat,” Brown says.

Larry Bottroff is a fisheries biologist for the City of San Diego; he works for City Lakes monitoring the breeding-fish populations. His chief tool on that job is the boat that puts into the cove, powered by an outboard motor, and scapes to a halt on the ramp in front of us. Bottroff, tall and lean with gray-blond hair flowing from beneath his cap and the tanned face of someone who spends his days outdoors, welcomes us aboard.

The shock boat is a flat-bottomed, rectangular aluminum craft reminiscent of the fan boats used in swamps and bayous, minus the fan. It’s 18 to 20 feet long and 5 feet wide. The only seat in the boat is on a raised platform at the rear, behind a steering console. In the middle of the boat, a couple dozen Florida largemouth bass swim in a type of open tank — about three feet by one foot — known as a livewell. Another raised platform, surrounded by a metal railing, occupies the front third of the boat. From each of the front corners of the boat a six-foot boom extends out over the water at a 45-degree angle to the center line of the boat. From the end of each boom, six cables hang down toward the water like the tentacles of a jellyfish. And they have a similar purpose — they are used to shock fish into temporary paralysis. But right now, the chains suspending the booms are pulled up so that the cables are not touching the water.

It’s on this forward platform that Matt Dupras, Bottroff’s assistant, stands as Bottroff steers the boat out toward the middle of the lake. Once we’re in the deep water — over 150 feet deep — a couple hundred yards behind the dam, he cuts the engine and leaves the boat to drift. Grabbing a clipboard from the top of the steering console, he moves forward to the livewell tank in the center. The clipboard he hands to Dupras, from a compartment on the side wall of the boat, he pulls a lacquered board with a ruler built into it and sets it across the top of the tank. On the board he lays a rusted pair of wire clippers and a hole punch, then reaches into the tank and pulls out a bass. The fish is green and black on the top and white on the belly. He lays it on the board and calls a measurement — in millimeters — to Dupras, who takes it down on the clipboard. “347.” Then, holding the fish in his left hand, Bottroff turns it bottom side up and, with the wire clippers, severs the right of two pelvic fins on the bottom of the fish about halfway between tip and tail. “What we do is” — he holds the fish toward me — “we cut this fin off. It doesn’t really affect the mobility of the fish. And, if you cut it at the origin, it never grows back. This distinguishes that it has been marked and this” — he punches a hole near the leading edge of the dorsal fin — “determines the year it was marked. The hole will grow back, but when it does, it will form scar tissue and have a big knot on it. And you can always identify it later on. So we know by the position of the hole what year the fish was marked.”

He measures, clips, and tosses a few more fish back into the lake until he holds one up for me to see, gesturing toward the stub of a pelvic fin with the clippers. “See, this fish is from a previous year,” he explains while looking for the hole-punch scar in the dorsal fin, “actually last year.” He points to a lump of opaque scar tissue on its dorsal fin. “That’s what the hole looks like when it heals.”

A few fish more and Bottroff pulls up the biggest one

continued on page 12
Rednecks (continued from page 1)

ers a billion dollars richer.”
Then there is the practi-
cality of it all. The Chargers propose to build 6000 housing units. There are only 4000 in all of Del Mar. The 6000 would all be crammed into that Mission Valley site, along with a shopping center (as if Mission Valley needed another one), hotel, and other commercial structures. “I don’t know that Mission Valley can handle that kind of density. Traffic is already a nightmare,” says Donna Frye, Sixth District councilmember. The stadium is in her district.

She is also concerned that the development would be on a flood plain and adjacent to a fuel tank that has leaked petroleum into the ground.

The whole plan hinges on the site being declared a re-development area. That means it must be considered blighted. “Where’s the blight?” asks Frye, taking a page from the ubiquitous “Where’s the beef?” TV ad of the mid-1980s. “I don’t know what a person could use or say to convince people that Mission Valley is blighted.”

One definition of continued on page 10
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“b light,” says the dictionary, “is “a person or thing that withers one’s hopes or ambitions.” In that sense, the Chargers team has certainly been a blight on the community in recent years. Maybe that could be the blight rationale.

The Chargers and their blind followers claim that the project won’t cost the taxpayers anything because it won’t hit the general fund. But money is money, and it’s fungible, or movable. What’s in one pot comes out of another. Any city money tossed at the football project will in time impact the general fund directly or indirectly.

Supporters of this proposed boondoggle are even hauling out the old falsehood that the stadium will stimulate surrounding development (as if Mission Valley needed more development). Smith College economist Andrew Zimbalist notes that in economics, there are few points on which independent researchers are virtually unanimous. One of them is that “There is no statistically significant positive correlation between sports-facility construction and economic development.” Some economists say there is a negative correlation, and that would be likely in this scheme. Traffic tie-ups would hurt existing businesses, particularly retailers.

This proposal is another example of the Chargers thumbing their noses at the city — like the moving of practices to pollution-plagued Carson in the Los Angeles area and continuing to raise ticket prices so that the amount raked in under the ticket guarantee escalated as the team’s performance plummeted. Under the original contract, the Chargers promised to use their best efforts to sell tickets. The way to get rid of the hated 60,000-seat guarantee is to fill the seats, and that means cutting prices, he says.

The city and Chargers have agreed to keep talking until May of 2004. That suits the city council just fine. City finances are teetering on the brink, and some council members are in deep legal trouble. The council would prefer to let this matter slide. So would the Chargers. Things are at a standstill in L.A., the destination the team obviously desires.

The city must go to court now to find a way to thwart this proposal, “which would be a financial disaster for the city and city treasury,” says Aguirre.

Think back to the mid-1990s. San Diego had an excellent stadium that was perfectly located in the county, with the largest parking area in all of pro sports. If this proposal goes through, both teams would be in locations that would be almost inaccessible for many people in the county. Great progress, huh?

With all these negatives, you would think this cockamamie football scheme could be dismissed out of hand, particularly when the Chargers obviously consider it a backup if L.A. doesn’t materialize. “I have a lot more faith in the public than to believe they will be sold another ‘free’ stadium,” says Frye.

But as Rodney D. Fort, economist at Washington State University and author of the textbook Sports Eco-
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Rednecks
continued from page 10

dynamics explains, sports-subsidized beggars are well organized and influential in any community. The team, fans, media, construction, concession industries, and others will pump for it. The mainstream media, with a big economic interest in pro sports, will slant the news. It has happened twice before in the last decade in San Diego. It could happen again.

Shocked fish
continued from page 3

so far: “471,” he calls to Dupras. It looks like an elongated football. I wonder how much it weighs. “We don’t weigh them,” he explains, “because we get so many weights [from the fishermen] during the course of the fishing season. But this is probably a four-, four-and-a-half-pound fish.”

“Matt’s dad,” Brown remarks, “caught one of the only three bass over 20 pounds ever caught in San Diego County. That was at Lake Hodges back in the late ’70s.” I wonder what a 20-pounder would look like on the measuring board. “It would be about here,” says Bottroff, putting his hand near the one-meter mark on the measuring board.

When the last fish is back in the lake, Bottroff returns to the steering wheel. In the quarter hour it took to measure, clip, and release all of the fish, the cool spring wind whipping up over the dam has pushed us northeast up the lake. Bottroff now drives the boat in the same direction for about 20 minutes until we reach a small, shallow cove on the north shore of the lake. Bottroff cuts the outboard and starts a tiny electric outboard to the right of it. Dupras adjusts the boom chains so that the cables hang down into the water. Then he picks up a fishnet mounted on a 12-foot pole. Larry starts a generator that is hidden from view in a cabinet under his seat. “When Matt steps on that pedal on the floor up there,” Larry explains, “that will start the current. A beeper will sound when the current is on. When you hear it, don’t touch the water. It won’t kill you, but you won’t like it, either.”

With that, Matt steps on the pedal, and while the annoying high-pitched beeper sounds, down in the water around the front of the boat, the white bellies of over-turned, paralyzed bass start to appear. Matt lets his foot off the pedal, scoops one up, and reaching the net back, deposits the bass in the livewell. There they float, slowly coming back to consciousness. He repeats this process, sometimes scooping two or three at a time. As Larry guides the boat into the tight nooks and shallows of the cove, Matt hits the pedal again, and a new crop of bass freeze and flip, their white undersides shining in the sunlight.

How close do the fish have to be to the boat?

“It depends on a few factors,” Bottroff answers. “When the water is colder, it increases the range a little bit, and the shock seems to last longer. Their size is another factor. The larger fish are more susceptible to the shock factor. The larger fish are longer. Their size is another factor. Their white undersides shine as the school becomes visible to it, and the shock seems to last longer. Their size is another factor. Larger fish are more susceptible to the shock because they have larger mass to absorb the electricity. It also depends upon the speed at which they’re traveling. The faster they’re swimming, particularly if they’re swim-

continued on page 14
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There’s a difference in surgeons. Our Board of Ophthalmology-certified doctors have been in practice in San Diego for over 20 years and have over 15 years reductive surgery experience. We are not a surgery mill. Our doctors will see you for your initial consultation, perform your surgery and see you for up to 12 months of unlimited follow-up visits. We offer ALL alternatives. Don’t risk your eyesight to the inexperienced. Regularly $2800 for both eyes.

We will beat any advertised price!

Just come in to any of our locations and we will beat any price on exams, contacts and glasses by 5%! We will not be undersold.

$10 Off Any Product or Service

Not valid with certain plans or insurances. One coupon per patient. Offers may not be combined. Contact lenses must include exam. Valid through 9-15-03. See office for details.

Eye Exam $39

Comprehensive optometric exam.

We provide total eye care

Whether you need LASIK surgery, contacts, glasses, or have medical problems, our staff consists of board-certified ophthalmologists and TVR-certified optometrists who are here to help you.

Above offers valid only with this ad. Ad must be presented at time of consultation and may not be combined with insurance or other offers. See office for details. Wavefront procedure available for extra charge.

CITY LIGHTS

Shocked fish

continued from page 12

ming away from the boat, the less effect it has on them. Generally, they’ll revive within five minutes.”

When no more white belies can be seen in this cove, Larry steers the boat along the shore into the far north-eastern corner of the lake, where Barona Creek, which has wound its way through the nearby reservation, spills into the lake. In this area the shocking not only nets largemouth bass, but red-eared sunfish — a round, flat fish so named because of a red spot just behind the eye. Along with the bass, channel and blue catfish, crappie, and seasonally stocked trout, the “red ears,” as Bottroff calls them, are one of the game fish anglers hope to hook in San Vicente. They were introduced into the lake five years ago. The Florida largemouth bass were introduced in San Diego city lakes in 1960 and, despite heavy fishing, were last stocked in 1972. “They’ve done very well here,” Brown boasts, “better than in their native Florida.”

After working this far corner of the lake for 20 minutes or so, the livewell is packed full of fish, many of whom are fully revived. Now and again, one of them wiggles and sets off a chain reaction of flailing and jumping. Sometimes, a panicked bass clears the top of the tank and lands flopping on the deck. Again, Bottroff steers the boat out into the middle of the lake, where he begins to measure, clip, and release them.

San Diego is the only municipality in the country that owns a shock boat. Brown explains why the city made the unusual investment. “It allows us to capture a sample, mark it, and return it to the lakes. Then, over the [fishing] season, Larry looks for those fish when anglers come in and keeps track of the marked fish he sees compared to those not marked. And from that he can project very accurate population data.”

Before we pull back up to the dock around 3:00 in the afternoon, Bottroff and Matt fill and empty the tank three more times. In all they’ve caught 200 fish today.

GRAND OPENING

FREE PHONES!* Motorola v60i

Motorola V120e

Kyocera 2333

GREAT DEALS!

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LG VX-6000 Camera Phone

Motorola V900

LG VX-4400

America’s Choice Plans

400 Minutes $39.99 • 500 Minutes $49.99

800 Minutes $59.99

Free Long Distance • Free Roaming

Unlimited Nights & Weekends • 1000 Mobile-to-Mobile

Pager Packages only $58.17

Package includes: Pager • Activation • One year of service, voice mail and maintenance • Tri-state coverage Guaranted lowest price

RECRYSTAL YOUR PAGER $29.95

Includes free activation and one year of service.

PAGER REPAIRS & ACTIVATIONS DONE HERE! Choice of 7 styles

One-Stop Shopping for All Your Cellular Needs!

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San Diego Digital

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*When activating a 1- or 2-year contract. Early termination penalties apply.
### Unlimited Mobile2Mobile

**ADDITIONAL LINES JUST $20**

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**UNLIMITED NIGHTS & WEEKENDS**

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**Free Long Distance & Free Roaming**

- **Plus every accessory FREE!**
  - Car Charger: $30 value
  - Belt Clip: $15 value
  - Neck Strap: $20 value
  - Leather Case: $20 value
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**$105 Value Package FREE!**

**$0 ACTIVATION FEE**

### BIGGEST DISCOUNTS

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*Requires activation on one- or two-year agreements. Verizon handset prices listed in the ad are on two-year individual plans $33.99 or higher. Free activation requires two-year Verizon plan. Sales tax applies to the retail value of the phone. Early termination fee may apply. Handset prices remain the same on one- or two-year agreements with all other carriers. Carrier rebates take 8 to 12 weeks. AT&T handset prices are listed on one- or two-year agreements at $39.99 or higher. **“When you add lines on America’s Choice Family SharePlans starting at $39.99 monthly access. Free access on additional lines only, each with new one- or two-year agreement. $20 each per month thereafter.**

---

*Se habla español*

**wirelessOne**

619 692.4466

**SPORTS ARENA**

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3555 Rosecrans Next to Rubio’s on the northeast corner of Midway & Rosecrans
2003 BMW 325i

 Lease for $299* month or 3.9% Financing†

*Lease at $299 per month for 36 months, 10,000 miles per year. $4,523.83 due at delivery including security deposit plus tax and license. 2 at this payment: #P79460, #P79409. Offered through BMWFS. †3.9% available up to 60 months. On approved credit. Offer expires 9/9/03.

2001 BMW 740iL
Orient/gray, automatic transmission, moonroof, cold weather package.
1 only at this sale price: $42,965.
Vin #DP17650

2002 BMW 325ia
Black/black, automatic transmission, sport package, premium package, xenon lights.
1 only at this sale price: $29,960.
Vin #KL65473

2001 BMW 740iL
Anthracite/grey, comfort seats, automatic transmission, convenience package.
1 only at this sale price: $46,860.
Vin #DP21800

2001 BMW M5
Carbon/black, GPS, CD stacker, steptronic, sport wheels.
1 only at this sale price: $53,665.
Vin #BZ97417

2001 BMW 330cia
Silver/black, automatic transmission, CD, premium package, sport package, xenon lights.
2.9% APR up to 48 months until 9/2/03.
1 only at this sale price: $32,965.
Vin #JU37413

2001 BMW 325ia
Black/black, automatic transmission, sport package, premium package, xenon lights.
1 only at this sale price: $29,960.
Vin #KL65473

2001 BMW 325ia
Black/black, automatic transmission, premium package, premium sound, CD, fold-down seats.
1 only at this sale price: $27,665.
Vin #ND46401

2002 BMW 325xia
Steel gray/black, automatic transmission, xenon lights, premium package, heated seats and more!
1 only at this sale price: $31,965.
Vin #PF68009

SPECIAL LEASE AND FINANCE RATES AVAILABLE.

Down payment requirements depend on customer credit qualifications. At lease end, customer may be responsible for excess mileage and/or excess wear and use charges. On leases, customer acquires no ownership rights in vehicle unless purchase option is exercised.
Now serving your needs with 2 locations!

### Mobile Direct

**America’s Choice Plans**

- 400 Minutes | Free Long Distance | $39.99
- 500 Minutes | Free Roaming | $49.99
- 800 Minutes | Unlimited Nights and Weekends | $59.99
- 1000 Mobile-to-Mobile

### FREE Offers

- **Motorola V120e**
  - Voice dialing
  - Web browser
  - 2-way text messaging

- **Kyocera 2235**
  - True backlight
  - Polyphonic ring tones
  - Web browser

- **Free After Rebate**
  - LG VX-10**
    - External caller ID
    - Get It Now Capable
    - Data capable

### Local Digital Choice Plans

- 500 Minutes Unlimited Nights & Weekends | $39.99
- 700 Minutes Unlimited Nights & Weekends | $49.99
- 1000 Minutes Unlimited Nights & Weekends | $59.99
- 1000 Mobile-to-Mobile

### Hot Phone, Cool Price!

**Samsung A530**

- Color screen
- Get It Now Capable
- Web browser

$79 after rebate

**Motorola T720**

- Full-color display
- Web browser
- Get It Now Capable

$99 after rebate

**LG VX-4400**

- High-resolution color display
- Get It Now Capable
- Camera 2000K/3XRT

$99 after rebate

**LG VX-6000**

- Color display
- Get It Now Capable
- Embedded camera 300K pixels

$99 after rebate

### Mobile Direct

7317 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. • S.D.
Located in the Ethan Allen Center

(888) 715-1842

- Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am-7 pm • Closed Sunday
- Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am-7 pm • Sunday 11 am-5 pm

1560 Leucadia Blvd.
Suite G • Encinitas Ranch

(760) 634-1443

- Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am-7 pm • Sunday 11 am-5 pm

### STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

**Hey, Matt:**

If I went to the store and bought a big chicken and a dozen eggs then brought them home and put the chicken on top of the eggs, I bet they’d break. So why doesn’t a mother chicken crush all her progeny before they can hatch? And what about ostriches or emus or other big birds?

— W.S., El Cajon

Birds don’t actually flop down on a nest of eggs. In fact, they don’t so much sit on eggs as lower themselves gently, fluffing out their feathers to trap warm air. They bear some of their own weight on their legs. Think squats at the gym, not the Simpsons hitting the sofa to watch TV. And generally the eggs end up under a bird’s wings, too hard for a bird to balance its chest on egg-shaped things. And anyway, eggshells are well-engineered containers that can withstand a surprising amount of pressure, except when placed in a grocery bag.

Mr. M.A.:

Where the heck did the phrase “going to hell in a handbasket” come from? It’s bad for business.

— Handbasket Makers of America

The original place people were inclined to go in a handbasket was heaven. According to The Dictionary of American Regional English, the expression “to go to heaven in a handbasket” was popular in the upper Midwest in the 19-teens. It meant to have it made, to have your future secured. With the advent of the 19-teens, the expression migrated to the East Coast and transformed itself into “to go to hell in a handbasket,” hell apparently being a more common destination for the average New Yorker.

To Whom It May Concern:

Why can the smell of popped popcorn be smelled farther away than any other food? Is there a fact behind this question, or is it just a phenomenon?

— J.S., San Diego

Oh, there are facts hidden everywhere. The place is crawling with them. They’re even in the smell of popcorn, along with a little buckstickness. For something to produce a smell, the odor molecules have to vaporize. The faster they are dispersed, the stronger the smell. And the warmer and moister the environment, the more the scent will linger. (Do air-fresher and pet-odor-sellers peak in August? We’ll get an elf on that question right away.) Given those facts, popcorn has a lot going for it, smellwise. Corn pops when water in the kernel turns to steam and explodes the seed coat. So there’s your sudden release of odors in a hot, damp environment. Popcorn is a crowd-pleasing stinkfest.

But maybe you’re thinking about popcorn scent in a movie theater or store. Long ago, chemists devised a fake popcorn odor that needs only heat to release it. Add a fan and a ventilation system and you have eager buyers. Chemists can fake pretty much any smell there is, and then somebody uses it to sell stuff. It’s all very sinister. Examples: a scratch-and-smell gangpowder ad; scented slot machines in Vegas that made people stay longer and spend more; male-scented shirts from collection agencies (increased-on-time payments 17 percent); fake-new-car smell in a bank’s car-loan brochures; and old-fashioned-home-cookin’ scent in anything microwavable. The topper might be the Chicago scent-development lab that tested smells to see which got men hottest. Sars de J-Lol! No! Cinnamon buns, by a landside. Pure erotica.

And the truth is now out about everybody’s favorite, that new-car smell. The real stuff is the scent of volatile chemicals wafting from fresh plastics: toluene, styrene, ethylene glycol butyl esters, benzene, acetone. . . . A smell to close a sale by. We recommend you drive your new car for the first 1000 miles with the A/C on and the doors open.

Dear Matthew:

Why do dogs cock their heads to the side when they are confused or intrigued? This is a serious question. A puppy did this to my wife recently when she spoke to him in a very high voice.

— Steve, San Diego

Maybe he was cocking his head so he wouldn’t bust out laughing, depending on how silly your wife sounded doing her voice reserved for babies, kittens, and puppies. The best dogologists themselves cock their heads to one side each time they hear this question. They too are confused and intrigued. Their most frequent guess is that the head-tilt changes the position of the dog’s ears relative to the source of the sound, helping the dog to zero in on the source more accurately.

Apparently even dogs can’t believe we sound so stupid when we talk to them. And of course when little Muffin tips her ootsie-cutesie fuzzy face to one side and stares up with those bright, expectant puppy eyes, we go all goofy and woolly and make a fuss because it’s just so danged cute. Then little Muffin knows she’s on to something, and the head-tilt goes into her repertoire of manipulations as a sure attention-getter. Both dog and cat experts say we Americans like to reward these adorable behaviors with lots of praise and attention. Bad owner! Bad! Bad!

Got a question you need answered? Get it straight from the hip. Write to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, P. O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or fax your questions to 619-231-0489, or e-mail to hey matt@cox.net via the Internet. A searchable archive of past columns is available at San DiegoReader.com.
Hey You!

Yes, You!

When Was Your Last Fun First Date?

If it’s been a while since you can remember having a blast and feeling comfortable on a first date, maybe it’s time to change your dating strategy! At It’s Just Lunch, we set up dates for busy professionals over lunch, brunch or drinks after work. The result are fun, relaxed and casual first dates. So why wait for that fun first date? Call It’s Just Lunch today!

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Dating for Busy Professionals® • 40 Locations Nationwide

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That’s no hidden fees, period. Reject your bank’s fakery. Go to any Washington Mutual Financial Center or call 1-800-788-7000 and switch to truly Free Checking today.
Poindexter Would Have Made a Fine Bookie

In the blue corner is the disgraced, desk-hugging admiral, who, not that long ago, was forced to resign as Reagan's National Security Adviser due to his part in the Iran-Contra Affair. Thereafter, the flag officer was convicted of conspiracy, obstruction of justice, defrauding the government, altering evidence, destroying evidence, lying to Congress, and basically escaping jail with the aid of good lawyers, good friends, and technicalities.

Ten years later he's back with a new government job, this time as director of the Pentagon's Information Awareness Office, whose mission is to, "imagine, develop, apply, integrate, demonstrate, and transition information technologies, components, and prototype closed-loop information systems." Which is government blab-blah-blah for tracking every breathing human being residing in the United States by way of his bank account, credit cards, merchant receipts, brokerage statements, pay stubs, medical records, parking tickets, library cards, bar bills, school transcripts, e-mail, telephone calls, Internet usage, utility bills, tax returns, and driver's licenses. In other words, collect and warehouse every piece of paper or digital code that is, or ever has been, connected to you.

That was no problem. What got him busted (Poindexter will leave government service on August 29) was this one good idea, his attempt to become a reputable bookie.

The idea was to create a Policy Analysis Market. It was a market that would have "allowed trading of futures contracts based on possible political developments in several Middle Eastern countries."

This is government talk for proposition bets. Poindexter's market would be an arena where one could legally buy or sell future contracts such as, "Will Yasser Arafat be assassinated before year's end? Will the Jordanian monarchy topple in the next three months? Will there be an attack on U.S. soil by year's end?"

If given a choice, and a choice was given, between being outraged at the Pentagon's plans for collecting every bite and lick of your private life or being outraged at the Pentagon's plans for running a sportsbook, national politicians and the American public came down hard on sportsbooks.

Using the model of a futures market as a predictor of future events has been around for a while. The template for this is the Iowa Election Markets, run by faculty at the University of Iowa, where the good admiral must have been sentenced before year's end! Will the Jordanian monarchy topple in the next three months? Will there be an attack on U.S. soil by year's end?"

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Here's the point: the Iowa Election Market has been more accurate than any professional pollster, and this is where Poindexter came in. Something about the market, as a whole, knowing more than the individual, the market being able to predict future events more astutely than anyone else.

It must have been one of those feet-on-the-desk moments when Poindexter conceived the following daydream. "We can start a futures market for less than one million bucks. We'll limit contracts to $100 in order to keep the action calm and see what happens. Maybe there's something to this random-pool-of-human-beings-motivated-by-profit stuff. What the hell? Maybe they'll know where Sad-dam is."

The good admiral must have been surprised at the shitstorm his tiny futures market provoked. As I recall, "Trading in death" was one of the favored charges leveled against him.

Of course, humans trade on death. Humans love to trade — on death or anything else. They'll trade on commodities, they'll trade on currencies, they'll trade on whether the movie Hulk will rake in $202.45 million in its first four weeks of release. They'll trade on whether Kobe Bryant is guilty or not. They'll trade on the Super Bowl will be between the Colts and the Jets. They'll trade on whether Saddam will outlive Bush or if bin Laden will outlive Sad-dam. They'll trade on whether J-Lo and Ben Affleck will marry before Demi Moore does. They'll trade on if the DOW closes above or below a certain number. They'll trade on which actor will win an Emmy for comedy. They'll trade on — anything.

One of the Internet's pioneers for these kinds of markets is tradesports.com, a Dublin, Ireland-based futures market backed by the country's largest bank. Most of their contracts are made up using a 0-to-100 method. That is, suppose the trading price for the San Diego Chargers winning the Super Bowl is 12. If the Bolts pull that off, then each contract acquired for the price of $12 will return to you a profit of $88.

I was being optimistic. Actually, today's tradesports figures show the Chargers' last contract sold for $2. If Adm. Poindexter is right, Charger fans are in for another long, long season.

The Sporting Box solicits your comments via the Internet: sportbox@ix.netcom.com.
Dear Aunt Trudy,

I wonder if you could settle a small dispute between my daughter and me. We both employ a cleaning lady, who’s I’ll call Sonya. I recently hired her on my daughter’s recommendation. For the first few weeks she worked for me, Sonya came every Tuesday at exactly 9:00 a.m. Last Tuesday she didn’t show up at 9:00, and by 9:30 I had to leave as I had an appointment. I was out most of the day. When I returned I had a phone message from Sonya saying she’d come at 9:35 a.m. and waited four hours for her to show up and let her in so she could work. When I called her back she said she wanted me to pay for that day. I said I was sorry we missed each other but didn’t intend to pay her for not working. We hadn’t ever made a formal arrangement about what time she was to show up on Tuesday mornings. I guess she assumed that I would be there all morning to let her in, and I assumed after a few weeks of her consistently arriving on the dot of 9:00 that she’d do that every week. She asked if she could come on Wednesday to work and I said fine, please be here by 9:00. That worked out and I paid her.

Evidently Sonya complained to my daughter when she worked for her, because later in the week my daughter phoned and said I should pay Sonya for that day when we missed each other. Sonya and I never had any arrangement about paying her in the event of a mix-up like this. What do you think is fair?

San Carlos Housewife

---

**SPECIAL PROCON OPAQUE DISPOSABLES**

$19 per pair

**EXAM PLUS 4 PAIR EW CONTACT LENSES**

$199

**EXTENDED OR DAILY WEAR OPTICA FW OR OPTIMA 38**

20% OFF ANY COMPLETE PAIR OF GLASSES

$89

**EYE EXAM AND GLASSES**

$89

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**CONTACT LENSES**

---

**Ask Aunt Trudy**

Dear Housewife,

I don’t think you can pay Sonya for a day of missed work due to mutual misunderstanding. She was able to make up the work the following day and get her money. If you feel comfortable giving her a key or leaving her one under a flowerpot, that would prevent repetitions of Tuesday’s misadventure. But since you had no prior agreement about her being paid in the event of a snafu, I think the best way to handle this is to tell her you’re very sorry it happened and to make sure it never happens again. If your daughter has a similar problem and chooses to pay Sonya for the missed day, that’s lovely, but I don’t feel she is right to demand that you shell out under these circumstances.

Dear Aunt Trudy,

Recently my father purchased tickets from a major airline over the phone using his credit card. When the tickets hadn’t arrived and the date of his trip was near, he called the airline and was told that those tickets had been traded in and used to pay for another pair of tickets to a different destination. He was told there was nothing that could be done, and if he wanted to make the trip he’d planned, he would just have to buy another pair of tickets. He was told he could get no refund. They were uninterested in the fact that he had his credit card statement as proof that that airline collected the money for the tickets from his credit card account. I bought another pair of tickets so that he and Mom wouldn’t have to cancel their vacation. He seemed embarrassed and annoyed and wanted to forget the whole thing. He cancelled his credit card and got a new one and considered the case closed. I, however, am outraged and think the airline owes him a refund and that they should investigate this. I would like to pursue this matter on his behalf. He says I can if I wish, but he thinks I won’t get anywhere as the airline worker was unfriendly and unhelpful. What do you say?

Furious North Park Son

---

**WRITE TO AUNT TRUDY**

Send to: Dear Aunt Trudy, Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92138-8580; call her at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at 619-881-2401; or e-mail to trudy@sdreader.com
Come in for Introductory Sale Price!

Audiovox 100-watt AM/FM Detachable-Face CD Player
• RCA output for amp

$66

Blaupunkt 200-watt AM/FM Detachable-Face CD/MP3 Player with Remote
• Front, rear and subwoofer outputs
• Refurbished with warranty

$109

Panasonic 200-watt AM/FM Detachable-Face CD/MP3 Player with Remote
• Front, rear and subwoofer outputs
• Refurbished with warranty

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Kenwood Top-of-the-Line AM/FM CD/MP3 Player

$179

Pioneer Top-of-the-Line CD-R and CD-RW

$199

Sony 200-watt AM/FM Super Graphics Motorized Black Out Panel CD/MP3 Player

$249

Jensen 6.5˝ 2-Way Speakers

$11.88 per pair

$38.88 per pair

Top-of-the-Line Component Sets

Top-of-the-Line Component Sets

$29

$69

Power Locks

Lightning Audio

$79

for 2 doors

Lightning Audio 450-watt Amp and Deep Bass 12˝ Woofer

$159

Lightning Audio PUNCH AMPS

Lightning Audio 300-watt 2/1 Channel Amp with Crossovers

$179

Installs

Top-of-the-Line 1500-watt RMS Mono Block Amp

Come in for Low Introductory Price!
FREE! $149.99
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Coverage is only available on our domestic GSM network and that of our roaming partners. See your representative for details. Coverage not available in all areas. Calls to any area not included in your plan may be subject to roaming charges. If you use the service more than what your plan allows, you may be charged overages. Calls made to certain countries, satellites, and networks may have different coverage levels. The carrier of last resort may accept the Mobile Tm family of products. Calls may be billed to the mobile phone number that made the call. Plans carry a one-year commitment. Following 30 days, call backs will incur a cost. For more details, call your local Wireless DAT.

BestBuys

Over the years, my husband Patrick has gotten bet-
ter at taming his temper. When we first married, per-ceived sprints would set his Irish blood boiling.

Daily Wear Contacts
$89 INCLUDES EXAM

Disposable Contacts
$119 6-Month Supply
INCLUDES EXAM

ColorBlends Disposable Lenses
$68* 6-Month Supply
INCL.

13 screw-mounted
versions of the same
($4.39–$5.99). These
ranged from big,
besy numbers with
a rubber center to
umbreous modern jobs,
sk and silver and
no bigger than coat
buttons. And when it
came to floor-mounted models, the
kind I could install and
forget, they pulled out all the stops: 25
vareties ($4.39–$8.79) in brass both new and
ancient, silvers, blacks, and grays.

I also found three new models to consider.
The bumper-hook ($8.59) functioned like a
dridop, but mounted high on the wall, and
cluded a knob that, when the door
opened, caught in the shape of a
second part. The clasp held the
door open, but released it
under pulling pressure — a
ci a
nti-modern
lehook.

Call for an Appointment

Call for an Appointment

Call for an Appointment

Contact Lens Problems?

We Have The Answer Or Your Money-Back!

Daily Wear Contacts
$89 INCLUDES EXAM

Disposable Contacts
$119 6-Month Supply
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ColorBlends Disposable Lenses
$68* 6-Month Supply
INCL.

13 screw-mounted
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($4.39–$5.99). These
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a rubber center to
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no bigger than coat
buttons. And when it
came to floor-mounted models, the
kind I could install and
forget, they pulled out all the stops: 25
vareties ($4.39–$8.79) in brass both new and
ancient, silvers, blacks, and grays.

I also found three new models to consider.
The bumper-hook ($8.59) functioned like a
dridop, but mounted high on the wall, and
cluded a knob that, when the door
opened, caught in the shape of a
second part. The clasp held the
door open, but released it
under pulling pressure — a
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<th>Product</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Flip-Down TV</strong></td>
<td>$198</td>
<td>Flip-down monitor, DVD or VCR, 2 wireless headphones</td>
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<td><strong>Headrest Monitors</strong></td>
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<td>Two headrest monitors, DVD or VCR, 2 wireless headphones</td>
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<td><strong>In-Dash System</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Clarion All-In-One</strong></td>
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<td>600-watt amp, Two 10˝ woofers, Box</td>
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<td><strong>Sony Bass</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Rockford Fosgate Bass</strong></td>
<td>$228</td>
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**San Diego Reader - August 28, 2003 - 25**
Rancho Bernardo — on Sunday afternoon, and cramming ourselves into a hot, stinky garage full of hardcore punk kids, a lot of them straight edge.

Straight edge means they’re punks who aren’t into drinking or drugs, and usually not sex or cigarettes either. The message in their music is usually super-political too, tattoos, were wearing the traditional straight-edge loincloths around their waists. It’s like a cut T-shirt shaped like a square covering one’s private regions in the front and back. As these kids are rather political, the loincloths are meant to desexualize them. It’s a way of saying that they don’t accept standard gender roles, nor the objectification of them. It usually means they’re not into sex either.

We made it to the show pretty late and only caught the last band, Detrimental Greed. Chaotic Mess, Tank Rampage, and Waco Fuck had played earlier, and apparently one of them had been making homophobic and misogynistic comments because the lead singer of Detrimental Greed said that one of the other bands sucked and that homophobia is not cool. He said this just before explaining that their first song was a feminist number. It was a good thing that he explained it because, through his screeching and shouting, you couldn’t understand a word.

After the song, the guitarist mentioned the other band again, saying that the lead singer smelled like dog poo.

It was kind of cool to see that sort of reaction, that at the core of their philosophy is acceptance and tolerance of all types of people. Considering that most of these kids choose to marginalize themselves by their dress, by their dyed hair and facial piercings, it makes sense.

The music was good, traditional hardcore, though not really innovative or different from the kind of suburban garage hardcore that’s been going on for the past ten years or so. Though a lot of these punk kids were working a serious style, I do have to say that some of them were badly dressed. Some skinny guys just shouldn’t wear tight clothes, nor cut them too high above their knees. Bernard pointed out that one of the kids could use a tag team from Queer Eye for the Straight Punk.

So that was Sunday afternoon, which came at the tail end of Saturday night, a night that had been much wilder. I wanted to go somewhere different on Saturday night, so

**Crasher**

**UTTER SUBURBIA — RANCHO BERNARDO**

by Daniel Ridge

**Bernard is my kind of partier. The one bad thing about our relationship is that we encourage each other’s worst vices. Or maybe that’s the good thing. We never say no to each other and we never stop. That’s why any given night with Bernard usually ends up lasting well into the morning, even weekdays. How many times have I stumbled out of his apartment knowing I’ll only be getting a few hours of sleep before work, scolding myself, wondering what I’m doing. But it’s never with regret. That’s also ing what I’m doing. But it’s work, scolding myself, wondering what I’m doing. But it’s never with regret. That’s also

**The guitarist mentioned the other band again, saying that the lead singer smelled like dog poo.**

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Crasher

my friends and I decided to catch a couple of bands at the California Club, where I had never been before. Unfortunately, we missed a girl band but got to see one later that night at Scolari's Office, where two girls were playing a pair of drums beneath red lighting.

Bernard had called earlier and told me about a party he wanted to crash, but it wasn't starting till after two. Funny thing was, at the bar, the girl in the band told everyone to go to the same party that Bernard had mentioned, a party in Hillcrest off Washington and Third Avenue.

After hanging out for a while at Bernard's place, we headed over to the party. There was no mistake we were at the right house. Rockers and indie kids in their early to mid-20s poured down the porch, out onto the lawn and driveway, kicking bottles on the sidewalk. Somebody said it was somebody's birthday party. They asked me if I knew the birthday boy, and I answered, "Only by sight." But I knew enough people scattered about that it didn't matter much.

A steamy dance party was going on in the living room. Supersexual indie kids were groping and grinding, all hot and sweaty. Though the porch was crowded too, it was much cooler than inside. For some reason, a guy I know (who would probably prefer to remain nameless) took hold of the garden hose and doused someone on the porch with cold water. A bunch of people got wet too and went in. My friend with the hose ended up drenched himself, which is probably what he wanted anyway.

Most of the time when I go out with my friends, we've got one eye cocked for a hookup, or at least somebody new. It's fun flirting sometimes, or being hit on, and it's even better when someone's after you trying to get your number or give you theirs. Bernard had it easy Saturday night. He must have been sending out the signal without even knowing it, because at that party some girl ended up on his lap without him having to do a thing.

When we first got to the party we lost Bernard in the crowd. Later on, he appeared again with some girl he had just met. He had a big, drunk grin on his face, and the girl seemed into it too. He said they were ready to go back to his place, but the rest of us weren't ready yet. We had all come in one car. Two of my friends were competing for the same guy, and neither of them had gotten any action yet. They wanted to stay and see how it might play out — a little friendly rivalry. They told him to wait ten more minutes, but as soon as we turned, Bernard and the girl were gone. We just shrugged and stayed on the porch a while longer. Then we walked over to La Posta for burritos.

It wasn't till I got home, sometime around five, that I checked the messages on my cell phone. Three of them were from Bernard. He and this girl were walking home and wanted us to give them a ride back, pick them up on our way. The third message was rather desperate as he realized how far they had to walk. She probably wasn't too stoked, but the next day Bernard said that things had worked out. I showed up at his apartment on Sunday around four to pick him up for the hardcore show, and he was still in bed, all the blankets disheveled, clothes strewn about, and Bernard there with the same dumb grin on his face, which lasted all day.

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“A lot of these spaceships are in clouds, and I personally have seen one not

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Rose Gilbert lives in Lakeside, in a home filled with the grandmotherly comfort of overstuffed chairs and family pictures on the walls. The largest picture is of her two adult daughters. Her husband has been dead about 12 years. She likes to garden and read. “I read only good stuff,” she told me. “Facts. I don’t read fiction at all because it’s a waste of time.”

She seemed eager to get to the facts. “I was taking care of the ladies when it happened.” She had turned her home into a board-and-care residence for six elderly women. “I also had a live-in boyfriend for, like, four years. He was here at the time too.”

May 1, 1985 was the date. “At night, I tossed and turned to look at the clock, a digital clock, and it said 3:10, never been that exhausted in my life. I was up — I got up early because I knew what it is, but something really strange. He drug himself up to go to work, and as I was getting up to go I saw my pillow at the foot of the bed, and in front of the armoire was a little brown bear, and we never had children here the night before or any time prior.”

You had never seen it before? “Never. And I picked it up, and I don’t know, it was like an energy from it or something, and I threw it to John, and he didn’t want it either. He threw it back and we played hot potato with the dumb bear. And I said, ‘Well, I gotta go fix breakfast, and I’ll just give this bear to Helen Leonard.’ She was one of the ladies I had at the time. So I went up and I went directly to Helen Leonard’s room, which was at the end of the hallway, and I gave her the bear, and she looked at it and frowned at me. I mean, she actually gave me a dirty look. And I said, ‘Oh well, she takes anything, she’ll take the bear.' So I left it with her and I started breakfast. I was making bacon and eggs, and you know, bacon is noisy.

And in the living room, Helen Johnson said, ‘Rose, something really weird happened last night.’ I said, ‘What? I can’t hear you.' So I shut it off, and I went in the living room and said, ‘Start over again.’ I was ready to hear, knew something had happened.

She says, ‘Well, I was coming down the hall last night to have a cup of coffee’ — which she did, like, three or four times a night — and I saw this pink glow through the patio door, and I went and stood by the door, but I really didn’t see anything, except a rose glow, a rose glow in the sky. So she watched that for a while. I asked her how long, and she said, ‘I don’t know, maybe about three minutes, and then I went and had my coffee.’ So that was what she had to tell me.

Then I get back to frying my bacon, and I heard a heavy-duty thunk on the wall — bang! — and I went and looked and there’s the brown bear. Helen Leonard had taken the bear and thrown it into the opposite wall. This was a stuffed toy? ‘Yeah, like a little stuffed bear about that big [she held her hands about eight inches apart]. And she hit the wall with it. And I said, ‘I guess she doesn’t want the bear.’

So anyway, I thought, ‘Boy, this is getting stranger and stranger.’ So I take that stupid bear and I brought it downstairs and I put it in a manila envelope and I left it there.

And John headed to work. He didn’t know nothing, of course. He said, ‘I didn’t hear nothing, I didn’t see nothing.’ Well, I don’t know either, because I had no idea what might have happened at that point. The rest of the day was really strange. I did everything I usually did. I went in the garden and tried to work, and all of a sudden, finding myself standing there, just standing there, wondering what had happened! For two weeks it was like that. I couldn’t get it out of my mind. I didn’t know what it was. I kept bugging John; I told my kids.

Years before, Rose had studied with two hypnotists named Bill and Carol. She had taken classes from them, and she had learned that things “can be brought up.” So she sought them out, hoping they could help her. “Well, I’m going crazy here. This is driving me nuts. So I went to Carol and told her, ‘I don’t know what happened, but I need to know!’ So she hypnotized me. She taped it. Two tapes. She always kept one for herself and gave me one. When I got all done I said, ‘Are you sure that I was hypnotized?’ I mean, the things that came out were so far out, I was not sure it was reality. She says, ‘Oh yeah, I could tell by your breathing.’ She knew. So I have the tape. I could either give it to you or tell you the story.”

Why don’t you tell me the story. “Okay. It lasted about an hour and ten minutes. The trip, or whatever it was. The thing I remember, when I started to talk about it on tape, was that I saw these two beings come in. They were hooded with a kind of grayish white robe. Real thick material. But you couldn’t see their faces or their hands.” How tall were they? “Not that tall. They were maybe five ten.

Then they asked me to come with them. And I didn’t want to. I was terrified. I didn’t know what the heck was going on. And they insisted and insisted,
and pretty soon that worked, and I picked up my pillow and I put it in front of me and I walked across the bed. I didn’t get out of bed or go around, but I walked directly across the bed to them. So I get to the foot of the bed and each one took an elbow, and my pillow dropped straight out in front of me, and that’s how the pillow got there.

“When they picked me up I started to cry. Well, in hypnosis even the tears started to come down. Because they weren’t human, they were metal. And when they picked me up, all my weight was on my elbows and that hurt like hell. I’m resting on metal, and I’m crying. Well, they realized that somehow, and the pain went away, and we took off. I don’t know how we went through the door — and I can show you where — I think we went all abreast, we would have had to, and I think right through the wall. So we went out, and they weren’t walking, they were gliding. They were off the floor, and so was I when they picked me up.”

Were you afraid? “At that point, I wasn’t anything anymore. I wasn’t afraid. No emotion. It was, like, ‘Yep, I’m going.’ I had lost the fear. I guess they took that away. So off we went, and then, as we headed up I saw the rose glow; I saw the glow from the craft. And that was indeed rose. It was a real bright, bright color. And we went up in it, the door opened.” You saw the craft? Can you describe it? “Well, just a craft, like a big saucer. As soon as I had got hypnotized, I went in the back yard and I tried to remember the size and we figured around 36 feet.

“So I went in. They took me straight to a cylinder. And as I was going in, I was aware of other people in cylinders along the wall, and I was also aware of whoever was running the show. They were white-garbed, like they were wearing lab coats. There were three, maybe four, of them on one side.” What did
I don't know if I was made not to see or what, but that didn't register. To me, it was a humanoid-type, you know.

"The cylinders were small, and they bring you directly — at least they brought me — directly to it, they opened the door, and it was all like a big Plexiglas container. And just a little seat. They turn you in there. It's obvious you sit down. And then I looked up and this thing, like a telephone cord, came down, with a magnetic thing that causes it to go up and down and whatever. There was also a little rail around the edge. It's to keep people from falling into the screen. There was this big screen in the middle. So when it took off you could see the earth there, you know, as you went up. And the funny part is that we were put in capsules. This is the part I don't understand and never figured out. But I was watching and wondering and thinking all this time, you know, and once you took off, all the colors would change. It would change from rose to other colors."

Did you have a sense that the craft was taking off? "The only sense I had was that I could see that we were leaving, but I couldn't really feel anything." But you saw the earth! "You saw the earth down there. The higher you go, the more you saw. Cities, with lights. We went up really high, but we never went to any mother ship or anything like that, because we went up and then we came back. It was like an hour and ten minutes, apparently. And these other people, the ones I could see, there was this one woman in a black nightgown and she had long black hair. Then there was teenagers, and I suspect they had probably been in a car. Two of them were picked up. And a guy that looked like he was ready to go fishing. Those are the only ones I could really see. And, uh, it's just like I'm watching it now. Thinking about, will I get home? Will I see my kids again? Will I see everybody again? Yet, I kind of felt I would. I wondered about the
thing on my head. And I wondered a lot of things. I wondered why we were in a capsule. Because, to me, that was antiquated. From what I had read about different ships, they’re not like that.

You had read things about this before?” “Oh yeah, I had studied it for some time.” What do you mean, you had studied it?” Different books and things about experiences. I’d read a lot. But it was all old stuff. There was only one other book that had this same kind of capsule that the person was in, and that was called The Andreason Affair. It was a lady on the East Coast that is still in contact, but when she first started out, that’s what she was in.”

When you were in the capsule, did you at that time think it was antiquated? “Yes, I did, because I had read different things about ships people were taken in, and they were taken in large ships and they were examined and all that, and this didn’t seem to be anything like that. To be in a capsule means you have to be taken care of specially. It just wasn’t new. Anyway, when I was being removed to go back home again, these same two came and wanted to take me out, and I was the first one to leave, it seemed like, because the others were all there. And I said, ‘Well, I want to talk to somebody’ — ‘course I didn’t say this, I was thinking it — and I wasn’t going to leave until I talked with someone. So these two guys went off and they got this other guy. Well, this big guy comes in, and he was gorgeous, you know? Really nice-looking man. I had asked them to bring me somebody that I could talk to so I could find out the purpose of this, because I realized we hadn’t gone to any mother ship. Why did we just go out there and come back, you know? I was all ready for something more exciting.

“He said, ‘Do you know anything about the rapture?’ I said, ‘The Bible rapture?’ He said, ‘Yeah.’ And I said, ‘Yeah, I read about that in the Bible. In the end times, Jesus would take people off the earth,’ ‘the remnants’ they called them.’ Right then and there I was shown a picture of the earth — I suppose the end times, because it was all in flames. Fire, fire, fire. And I started to cry. It was like a really depressing thought that this was going to happen to our earth, you know? I cried and sobbed, and finally he took it all away.

“And in its place was another picture of a sphere, a big round sphere up high in the sky somewhere. I could see the water and the fish and the soil and the deer and whatever else and people and homes, and I surmised at the time that it might be about four and half miles around. Then it was taken away, and those two pictures were...
And I asked him about the sphere, and he said, ‘Well’ — he didn’t get into the end-time thing, because that was pretty obvious — during that period they would be taking people and that’s what the rapture, and they’re all just waiting. They’re helping at this particular time to keep the earth in balance. But he said that there’s just so much that they can do. They will be there to sort of pick up the pieces, you know. To pick up what’s left, and that’s what the remnant is, the rapture, and they will put certain people in spaceships and some they will put in these spheres, and he said there will be a training period, to retrain the thought of our population. Like we war, we’re a warring bunch of people. We’re killing each other, and it’s just so unlike other races. They may kill others, but they don’t kill their own. So anyway, that was the whole thing, to retrain the minds so that they would not do that again. And then to put them back on earth, you know, after the cleansing.

You felt they wanted to communicate this with you? ‘Yeah. This particular way they will remove the people. And I just kind of homed in on ‘Gee, that’s the way Jesus was taken too.’ I mean, you know, people don’t just go flying around! Not when you are on earth and are part of this earth. It says He was taken up in a cloud. A lot of these spaceships are in clouds, and I personally have seen one not far from here that was in a cloud. Two and a half hours I watched it. It was just gigantic. And I knew, but I could not see the spaceship. All I could see was the cloud. All of a sudden it was gone, just like that. Clouds don’t dissipate that quickly.

‘Then I got back. I was taken back and dumped unceremoniously in bed. I was pretty tired after going through all that, so I looked at the time and it was 4:10. So when I was hypnotized, I relived it all to the exact minute.’

What about the bear? ‘For some reason, it never got discussed. But I talked to my boyfriend about it a lot, bringing it up and bringing it up, and he said, ‘For God’s sake, go to the encyclopedia. Check it out.’ So I went to the encyclopedia and I checked all that out and there was the Big Bear and the Little Bear, which is Ursa Major and Ursa Minor, and I said, ‘Well, maybe that’s it. Maybe the little bear is a sign of where they came from.’ That’s it all I’ve come up with. But I’ve gone to some UFO conventions and been on some panels, and I’ve taken the bear, and there were some ladies that said, ‘Wow! This bear has some heal-
ing power. You ought to use it for healing. But I've never used it for anything. I stuck it back in the bag and put it in the closet. And at this time I don't even know where it is. "You never had scientists look at it?" I started to take it completely apart, but I took it apart to the point where there was a weird shell in there. Nothing like the nuts I've seen. "You didn't have anyone analyze it?" Well, I just didn't want it out of my sight. People take things, and you never get them back.

When you were in the capsule, did you think they were doing any kind of experiment on you? "The only thing I thought they might be doing is putting information in. I didn't think they would be taking much out [she laughed], but with the little cap, the more I thought about it, they were actually putting something there that would be utilized later on."

When I asked Rose if she felt she had been chosen for a reason, she said, "No, not especially." But then she told me about two childhood experiences, at the ages of five and nine, in which she had somehow lost time, didn't know what happened to her. Three years ago, at the urging of a friend, she was hypnotized again and discovered that those were earlier abductions. "I was whisked up, and then I was shown a lot of really neat stuff. The history of the earth in the beginning, and on through quite a ways into the future. It was fascinating. I couldn't even begin to talk about it or explain, but it was beautiful, really incredible. I can't even tell you who was on board that time. All I can tell you is that I was taken from room to room as I was shown different things about the history of the earth."

In the course of our conversation I'd learned that Rose had been interested in UFOs for some time, even before her experience in 1985. She confirmed that she had been going to UFO conventions "for a long, long time. When did you start attending?" "In the '70s. I can't afford to go to all of that. It's expensive. I went to two in San Diego." So you've had an interest in these things for quite a while? "Oh, I've always had an interest. I'll tell you when it started. In 1958 I was working at the University of North Dakota, typing theses for professors, and one of them was debunking UFOs. I was reading his stuff and I was freaking out. Whoa, this is really good stuff! It was about abduction cases, and that piqued my interest. I had never had any inkling about anything like that. I had a deep inner wanting to know about all of that, but I was never put in front of it, you know. And then I started reading different things. I didn't try that hard at the time. I was only 18. It was only after I was married that I started to really get into it."

"How have your family and friends reacted to this?" My folks were really good. I told my mom and dad right away. Who else do you going to talk to? They shook their heads, but they believed me. And then the harder part was your friends. They think you've gone over the hill. So I never really discussed it, except with friends from the UFO society. What about your daughters? "Well, they know, but I won't get into it with them."

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It sounds like Star Trek, and it is, a lot of it is, but things that people have seen on Star Trek were channeled to them.”

I met John Vasquez at the Chevron station on Sweetwater Road in National City, his place of employment. We sat at a table in a large, busy office with three executive-sized desks. The others in the room, including his boss, seemed to know his story and understand why I was there, and their friendly nonchalance made me think they had grown used to John’s being interviewed. Indeed, I was not his first contact with the media; he has appeared on television and radio and has even come out, the guy in front of me said, “What’s that up there?” Curiosity got the best of me, you know, so I looked up. I said, ‘What? What? All I see is stars.’ And the guy turned around and pointed to the right-hand side and said, ‘Watch that.’ Okay, it was just a star. Then, all of a sudden, it just kept moving. It just gradually came across the sky. It moved away, and came back. Strange sight. It was really weird. It’s like it had a purpose. Kind of gliding across.

“That’s when we were told to stand at attention. We were not supposed to move. But I kind of glanced up, and it was gone. That’s when the captain started walking out of the building. He walked up to this podium, and he was starting a speech about their friendly nonchalant to them.”
things like that. Then I heard this rushing noise. Well, I'm not supposed to move, but I kind of leaned backward and I could see this bright light coming down this dirt, and I thought it was a jeep or a truck, right? But I saw some of Charlie Company's men breaking out, running. And others were standing still. So what is it? I kind of leaned forward to take a look at this thing. By now it's really close to us. At tree-line level, right? And I thought, 'It's gotta be a truck. It's so high.' And I was going to say something to the guy standing in front of me. But he was asleep.

Asleep? Lying on the ground? "No, no. Standing up. His eyes were closed and he was looking downward. I was going to say something to this guy, right? I leaned backwards, and I don't know what happened, but I guess I became unconscious. I don't know how long, but when I came to, I was looking at my feet. My boots. And I couldn't move. My partner, the guy standing next to me, was running, and I noticed that a lot of the other guys were standing still and others were running. They were running toward the tree line and others were sort of diving under a two-foot-high crawl space under the barracks.

They were running away from the light? "Yeah, they were all running. Some were still in standing formation. I told my buddy to come back and help me 'cause I couldn't move. I guess I was scared, or something. And he came back and pulled me from where I was standing. I jumped, and I started to run, right? And I'm asking him, 'What's going on?' He screamed back at me, 'Take cover, take cover!' So we started running. And I wanted to see the captain, where he was, and we both ran to where the captain was. He was behind his podium. He was asleep. And I yelled. I know he could have heard me. Everybody standing there could have heard me. I yelled real loud and he didn't wake up. Sound asleep."

"He's got a whole company of guys running every which way, and he's standing there sound asleep!" "He's got people standing there in formation, and others are running, diving underneath barracks. When I looked at my partner, Allen, he was turned around, looking at something. His face was all pale. His eyes were bulging out. His jaw was wide open. I grabbed him and shook him hard and said, 'Don't look at it! Run! Take cover!' So we started to run."

How many guys were running? "Maybe 20 percent. The others were just frozen. Each company had 300 guys, and there were four companies — Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta companies. And after dinner, you've the kitchen crew, supply. About 1300 in all."

John and Allen
eventually got underneath a barrack with Jones, Hacket, and Martinez. They started arguing and cursing at each other, afraid and not knowing what to do. They thought it was a Russian invasion. As they were discussing how to get their M-16s and live ammunition, they heard loud screaming coming from the men who were still in formation. They were high-pitched screams, and the men were calling out, "Mommy!"

In his book, *Incident* at Fort Benning (Santa Barbara: Timeless Voyager Press, 2000), co-authored with Bruce Stephen Holmes, John says that "out of nowhere, a huge luminous ball of light appeared lighting up the entire building. The light was so intense, you could see the beams of the wooden building from the other side. It moved very slowly around the building as if searching for someone or something. It moved smoothly like a large balloon gliding or floating."

John and the others were still in the crawl space under the barrack, and as the light approached, they retreated into the center of the building for cover. But the light stopped at the front of the building they were under, and everything was lit as if it were daylight.

John heard a female voice say, “It’s okay, don’t be afraid…come out.” When he asked his buddies if anyone else heard it, no one responded, and they began to crawl away from him. Then he felt a pressure on the left side of his forehead, and once again the voice summoned him.

"I needed to go out there," John said. "The light was so intense I had to look down at the ground in order to keep my bearings. Even my cap could not protect my eyes from the intensity of the light. I crossed over a concrete section and finally reached the grass where I stood up. When I turned to the left, the light covered me completely. I detected a small figure scurrying on my left and then tapped or touched my left shoulder and I went down. I heard Hacket call out my name. It looked like he was reaching for me, so I reached for him and that was all I remember."

John didn’t remember any of this until April 19, 1989. He had a horrific nightmare, and it was so real he was convinced it was more than a dream. The next morning he began to focus on it, and slowly the events of that July night came back to him. Eventually, he was hypnotized and interrogated by Budd Hopkins, a well-known abduction investigator (whose name seems to surface in many of these cases), and this enabled John to recover what had happened during the time he was unconscious. In his book he
I looked to the side as I was being lifted into the light high up in the black sky. There were many of us going up at the same time. We had a sort-of blanket or cover over us as we went up. We were all being lifted into the bright light...this doorway in the sky. What happened next, as I remember, was that two beings approached me from my left, hurriedly completed some task, turned in unison, and quickly left. I don’t know why they left so quickly, but at the same time, I was ordered to keep my eyes closed.

Then I heard the same female voice that spoke to me while in the crawl space under the building. She asked, “Do you remember?”

I responded, “Remember what?” I felt her deep concern while I was receiving a physical examination. When the examination appeared to be complete, I opened my eyes. I immediately fixed my gaze on a small insignia on the wall. Under the insignia was a symbol that looked like a heartbeat or vital sign. The room was a large curved dome that seemed to go around in a circle. It was filled with rows of people laying on metal-looking, floating tables or slabs. Two beings stood on either side of each slab. They appeared to be examining each person much the same way a doctor conducts a physical examination. This was all I remember before she said, “Go to sleep!” And I did.

When I became conscious again, I was looking at a male being. I didn’t want to look in his eyes because he frightened me. I even told him that he was scaring me and I didn’t want to look at him. His almond-shaped eyes scared me. He demanded that I look into his eyes even though I didn’t want to… He explained that it would be helpful if I would cooperate. When I looked into his eyes, three images came to me as if I was watching a big television screen. The first one was a picture of myself standing by the ocean looking up into a blue sky. The second image was a planet that I assumed was earth being destroyed. The land and the oceans were going up into the atmosphere followed by eruptions of orange volcanic clouds. The last image was of the face of a humanoid. It was pasty white with no eyebrows, no eyelashes, a head-dressing of some sort, small mouth, and a straight nose. The eyes looked like liquid mercury. Then I lost consciousness for an
When I became aware again, I was standing back in formation at the base with everyone else. However, Allen and I were now standing in the fourth line of the formation. I was absolutely positive that before this bizarre incident occurred we were standing at attention in the second line.

When I looked across, I could see Sergeant T with his parade uniform on…all neat and pressed except that he had urinated in his pants. The Sergeant looked down at his wet pants, cursed, and walked away. At that time, Drill Sergeant N ordered us to go back to our barracks.

The Captain never gave his speech! I decided to check the time. My watch recorded 7:40 PM. I asked someone else what time they had and the response was 3:30 AM! Another soldier had 4:45 AM! All the watches had been stopped at different times.

At the barracks most of the soldiers became disoriented, some began vomiting, others were unable to keep their balance, literally falling down on the ground. On the way to the barracks, I fell down but managed to get up again.

This is just the beginning of John's story. The next several weeks were filled with confusing incidents — troops chasing each other over a restricted area, fighting with live ammunition, experiencing a time-space warp, encountering a giant eel, and battling another UFO, which fired light balls that burned human skin.

When order was finally restored, John and the other soldiers were sitting in a big circle waiting for directions. What were you told to do? I asked him. "Well, we were ordered to go back to the barracks and give all the M-16s back. And within a week we had this female lieutenant come around our First Battalion post. We were saying, 'What's she doing around here?' She was a little petite woman about five feet tall. She had about six drill sergeants that we'd never seen before. These guys were like ex-football players. Every place she went, they were there. Nobody messed with them. We didn't know who she was and what she was all about until a day or two later. We got the word she was a psychiatrist. And she was talking to everybody."

Individually? "Yeah. That night we heard a scream. I told Hacket, 'Go see what's going on in the captain's building.' He went over there, right? Came back and said there's two drill sergeants — those big guys — and that female lieutenant, and they’ve got Sergeant Turner on the couch, laying down, screaming.

"Nobody wanted to talk with her. You were afraid of her?" "She was a psychiatrist. And she was talking to everybody."

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psychiatrist. What’s this all about, you know? I saw someone walking with her, and she turned around and said, ‘Leave.’ He just left. The same guy I had been hanging out with the whole month, real close, and he just turns around and walks off without saying anything! I saluted, right? And all of a sudden she grabs my left hand. She pulled it closer, and she said, ‘I’m going to hate myself for doing this,’ and I got a sharp jab right here [he pointed to the side of his hand]. Then I’m under. Drug-induced hypnosis. Asking me all kinds of questions about my background, my family, and everything. And then she said, ‘You’re going to forget all of this, everything. The only way to help yourself is to let go of the memory of past events.’ She had her fingers on my head, at my temples, and continued to tell me I was going to forget everything. It hurt. And when I came to, I couldn’t remember who she was or how I got into that room. She said, ‘Continue on, soldier.’"

So John continued on, eventually being discharged from the military in 1979. He didn’t remember anything until his nightmare in 1989. As things came back to him, through concentrating on images and seeking psychological counseling and submitting to hypnosis, he pieced the story together.

Prior to 1989, had you read any of the UFO literature? Did you have any interest in this sort of thing? ‘No, never.”

Naturally, he wanted to confirm the story. But that proved difficult. His psychologist suggested he begin with Congressman Cunningham, which he did. When he received documentation of his military experience, he proceeded to the Department of Defense and the military's Aerospace Medical Laboratories. At that point, he was referred to a psychiatrist for treatment.

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After we get to when you were a teenager, tell me more about the first experience. What happened? “They let me run around the ship.” The ship? “It was a round craft. Not too big. You know, it was like magic. You’d be in this little craft and then you’d go somewhere else, and then you’d be in a bigger place. And then all you would see is a room, a cold-looking room. Steel, blush-looking. It was interesting that furniture could sort of move for you. And they would do examinations, and it didn’t seem to bother me then.”

What kind of examinations? “Just physical. Everything. It didn’t seem to bother me then.” Are you talking about the first time in the park? “I’m sure that wasn’t the first time, but that was the first time I consciously remember going with them.” You had a sense of already knowing them? “Yeah.”

Could you communicate with them? “Just mental. But they do have a language. They taught me to read. Sort of an oriental-looking language. To this day I pick up a magazine and I go from the back to the front. [She demonstrated by taking a magazine from the coffee table.]”

“They seem to always do an examination. What kind of examination? “Well, they can make you go out, so I didn’t pay too much attention. They just looked you over everywhere. I think when you’re young they put you out. But I remember real clearly that I was getting examined and they were telling me about hair. ‘You know why you people have hair.’ And on and on. It was really interesting. I can’t remember all the things about it. I think we had some heavy-duty conversations. “And when I was 14 they got a little more personal, and there was the…uh…they were making test-tube babies, I guess. They were farming ova, and then I didn’t like them too much. They were taking my eggs. I would carry these little children for a few months.” In your uterus? “Yes. In fact, I wasn’t having sexual relationships. I stayed with a girlfriend a lot, and the neighbors told her, ‘Well, look at her, she’s pregnant, of course she’s pregnant.’ But I only carried them for a while, but I have to say that I miscarried all the time.”

You were conscious of this? “When I was with them, I knew. But when I came back I would forget it.” They were fertilizing your eggs somehow. Were they doing this in test tubes, or was this through some kind of sexual activity? “No, it wasn’t sexual activity.” Did you know why they were doing this? “I believed that they were dying out. That they had...
come from a history very much like ours, and they needed children that could live in a different environment. I had always assumed that maybe they were going to live on earth. I'm not sure if that was possible.” Did this seem experimental? “Yes, because the children didn't last very long. One thing, they didn't get the nurturing that they needed. They're slow learners. They don't have the same sort of emotional makeup that humans do. They're not totally devoid of feelings, but they don't react the same way. They're much more scientific, much more curious. They used to frustrate me, because this was what they told me: until they all get it, they don't get it. They did learn that for babies to survive, they needed to have affection, nurturing, needed to be touched and have that kind of connection. They clone themselves, I think. It’s much more mechanical. And they did learn. They did start bringing people up.

“I had a sense of having a close relationship with my first daughter. They don't consider themselves daughters. But they were interested. And I got to name her.” The first one that came from you?” “Yeah, I named her Xandra. Where I got that name, I have no idea.” You said “her.” You sensed that these beings were male or female? “Yes, they definitely had male and female energy.”

Were other humans there? “Oh, yeah. There were so many different groups that were working on different levels at different times. I’ve come to believe there’s probably thousands. At the time, I would see people. As I got older, I would comfort people in this ship, or this big room. Sometimes they would have big rooms.
where there were a lot of people in various stages of physical experimentation, surgery, or just fear. Once in a while they could just freak out. And I know at times they brought me there to comfort. A woman was freaking out because they were taking her baby, you know.

"And I can remember a lot of this stuff came pouring out of me when — remember in the news when they started doing the surrogate parenting? I got very upset, railing at everybody, saying, 'This isn't right!' And then finally it clicked and the story came to me. That's how you remember a lot of those types of... the real emotional parts.

You have an experience, but then your life carries on and you're not consciously aware of the experience, but then something happens that opens a door in your memory? "That's right. And sometimes you don't feel good. And then there were a few odd incidents of missing time. But because they were so good at manipulating time you wouldn't miss much of it. When you speak of not feeling well, what do you mean? "You're really disoriented, really kind of not all there. I remember feeling really weird once, like I wasn't in my body. It disorients you, is what it does."

"But it's not until later that you put it together? "Yeah.

"I remember the last time I felt impregnated was only ten years ago, and I'm 60. By that time I had no attachment to them, and I can remember being taken there..." Taken where? "Taken to the spaceship. That's where they live. They have little scout ships that come down, but they also have this big mother ship. And I think that's their home. I don't know that they have a planet. They were from Zeta Retculi. It's a planet that has two suns, in a different place. Different solar system. They are the ones who are doing most of the experimenting. They're a curious people. They're neutral. "Neutral? "You know, there are some people here who are positive beings, and some people who live on the earth that are very negative. But these beings were considered neutral. They weren't angels or devils."

"Did you believe that your eggs were making a lot of beings? "Twenty-three. Somehow I kept count. I was journaling at the time. One day I looked at where I was and it was like I was getting a gold watch for my good work. The ones that were alive showed up. And they were all little people, and there were a few of them that had little whiffs of hair sticking up, and they looked at each other. I looked at one of them and said, "Oh, you've got my hair!" and you know, we enjoyed it. It was a pleasurable thing. Not too chatty, not too talky. But they were curious about me and I was curious about them. Some of them I connected with on a heart level more than I did with others."

"Do you have grandchildren? "I doubt that."

"Tell me more about what the ETs looked like. "They had big round heads, slender bodies, slender fingers, four fingers — well, three fingers and a thumb. But there were lots of different types. It's foggy, but I know there are Lizard People. There are Dinosaur People. I was always aware they had sunglasses on. And they wore bodysuits. It's a highly advanced material, hard to cut, hard to move. They didn't wear
costumes or anything. I have seen emblems on them.

Did you tell your husband about these experiences? Not my first husband. I did tell my second husband. “I didn’t tell your first husband?” “I tested him.” How long were you married to him?

“About five years. I was married to him. I didn’t like it.”

Did you tell your first husband? He knew I was lying. Nobody’s ever thought I lied. I’m not a liar. They look at me, like, well, maybe you’re crazy. Very patronizing. My husband teased me, but he was never mean to anybody.

“I didn’t say too much to anybody.” So you were divorced from your first husband, and then you remarried. You did talk to this person? “Yes. He didn’t think I was lying. Nobody’s ever thought I lied. I’m not a liar. They look at me, like, well, maybe you’re crazy. Very patronizing.”

Especially my family. It just scared the hell out of them. It tends to run through bloodlines. I saw my son taken.

What were they doing with him? “They were doing something medical.” As his mother, how did you feel about that? “I didn’t like it. That’s when I really started getting freaky about the whole thing. Then I realized my daughter was being taken, and it made me angry. She has a lot of the symptoms.” Such as? “She used to have nightlights, but now she has lights on constantly. Sometimes she sleeps sitting up.”

Did he acknowledge it? “No. I got to edge it.” Did he acknowledge edge it? “No. I got to where I was like protecting people, because they were all so horrified. Especially my family. It just scared the hell out of them. It tends to run through bloodlines. I saw my son taken.”

Did he acknowledge it? “No. I got to where I was like protecting people, because they were all so horrified. Especially my family. It just scared the hell out of them. It tends to run through bloodlines. I saw my son taken.”

Attention, Ladies:

Are you experiencing itching, burning and/or irritation commonly associated with a yeast infection? Dr. Drosman is currently seeking women ages 18 and older to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for Vulvovaginal Candidiasis (yeast infection).

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Study-related exams (e.g., pregnancy, Pap smear)
- Investigational medication

Eligible participants will also receive study-related medical care including health assessments and study medication at no charge.

To learn more about this investigational study, please call:
GENESIS CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
DR. STEVEN DROSMAN • 619-542-0560

OUTPATIENT SCHIZOPHRENIA STUDY

Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital is currently enrolling subjects in a new clinical research trial for people suffering from Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective disorders. Eligible patients will receive medical care at no cost and will be reimbursed for time and travel expenses. Please call if you:

- Are between ages 18 and 55
- Have not been hospitalized during the last six months
- Have been stable on anti-psychotic medications for the past three months
- Are between ages 18 and 55
- Have no substance abuse or dependence for one year

For more information, call Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital’s Clinical Research department at (858) 715-8709.

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DR. LEE HARBACH
4033 THIRD AVE.
SUITE 400
SAN DIEGO, CA 92103

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Attention, Ladies:

Are you experiencing itching, burning and/or irritation commonly associated with a yeast infection? Dr. Drosman is currently seeking women ages 18 and older to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for Vulvovaginal Candidiasis (yeast infection).

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Study-related exams (e.g., physical exams)
- Lab tests (e.g., pregnancy, Pap smear)
- Investigational medication

Eligible participants will also receive study-related medical care including health assessments and study medication at no charge.

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If you are bothered by Overactive Bladder, this may be something you want to consider...

Clinical Research Associates® is currently recruiting male and female volunteers for participation in a research study for individuals with Overactive Bladder.

Symptoms may include:
- Frequent urination
- Urinary leakage
- Difficulty in controlling the urge to urinate
- A need to urinate too often

If you are 18 years of age or older and have experienced any of these symptoms for at least six months, you may be interested in learning more about this research study. The purpose of this research study is to further evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication designed to control bladder symptoms as described above. All qualified participants will receive study-related medical care including health assessments and study medication at no charge.

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Potential study volunteers should call:
1-888-494-1112

ClinicalTrials.com
Be informed.
book called Zetatalk, which purports to tell their side of things, and in it, they were claiming that next May all hell was going to break loose. And it felt like a big, fat lie to me, a manipulation. They do that sometimes. So I really called them, and the next night I went through the disorientation, the weird stuff. I called them on it. I said, "I want to see you!" And they responded! You were abducted? "I was gone. I encountered them and we talked about it. There's a place where you can go, like a court. It wasn't necessarily their spaceship. It sounds like Star Trek, and it is, a lot of it is, but things that people have seen on Star Trek were channeled to them." So things on Star Trek are pretty accurate? "Yep. And there are some creatures in science fiction movies like StarGate, that's what some of them look like. So it's seeping into our consciousness in different ways. I do think that in the next 20 years we'll accept it."

Do you have any sense of the future? Do you think they are trying to take over this planet? "No, I don't feel that. I don't. They're trying to make a stronger breed of people that can live in different places. I think they're kind of content, too, to live in their spaceship cities." You say they're from a planet, but they live in these… "Their planet was destroyed." How was it destroyed? "Like we're doing. You know, polluting, poisoning. They were materialistic and egotistical. They poisoned their planet. They are now trying to reclaim their humanity. The reason earth is so interesting to so many different ETs is because we have all the genes from so many different beings. In our case they took different types of ape men. It isn't like we crawled out of the ocean. They take something and then they increase their intelligence. Evolution is partially true. It's evolution with help. All of us are probably a mixture of different kinds of ETs and primates."

"There really is a protection over the earth right now that we won't have much longer if we start going into space. What's the protection? It's a federation. It

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**RESEARCH STUDIES**

### Wanted: HEALTHY MALES aged 20-50 years with hair loss or baldness for a study of the effects of light therapy on hair-loss reduction, regrowth and maintenance.

This randomized study involves the use of low-intensity light treatments using the Folgen 1000 scalp therapy device. After a 2-week baseline study, subjects will be treated for either a 9-week period or a 24-week period, possibly followed by at least 6 months of once-a-month treatments.

For more information please contact:
M. K. Batra, M.D.
Toll-free: 866-949-4247 (HAIR)

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### Are You Suffering from a Urinary Tract Infection?

Women's Health Care is conducting a research study evaluating the effectiveness of an investigational medication for the treatment of Urinary Tract Infections. The duration of the study is 6 weeks.

If you are a female 18 years of age or older and have had the following symptoms within the last 2 days, you may qualify:
- Frequent urge to urinate
- Burning or pain during urination
- Pressure in the lower abdomen

All study-related exams, tests, labs and a new investigational formulation of a currently marketed antibiotic will be provided at no cost. Monetary compensation for time and convenience may be provided.

Please call (858) 505-8672 or visit us online at www.womenwellness.net/research for more information about this study.

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### High Cholesterol?

Are you Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban and at least 18 years of age? Hispanics (descendants of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba or other Spanish-speaking countries in South and Central America) are needed for a research study of an investigational medication for high cholesterol.

Qualifed participants will receive at no cost:
- Study-related physical exam
- Study-related medication
- Diet counseling
- Study-related laboratory tests

For information, please call: 858-626-5678

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### Want to Know if Having Genital Warts Makes You Feel Imitated?

Women's Health Care at Frost Street is conducting a research study evaluating the effectiveness of an investigational medication for the treatment of genital warts. If you are 16 years of age or older and suffer with genital warts you may qualify for this study.

Qualified participants will receive study related medical care and study medication at no cost, with compensation for time and travel up to $300. If you have been diagnosed with 2 or more genital warts and have not been treated recently, please call (858) 505-8672 or visit us online at www.womenwellness.net/research for more information about this study.
RESEARCH ON BLADDER PROBLEMS

MEN Wanted! We would like to talk with men who have a spouse or significant other with bladder problems.

Does your spouse or significant other urinate frequently during the day or night? Does your spouse or significant other experience the sudden need to urinate? Do these symptoms affect your life?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a brief discussion group (1½-2 hours) about the effects of these bladder problems.

Participants will receive $50 for their time. All participants will also be entered into a raffle to win an additional $50.

Please call Marasi Mwencha at MEDTAP International, Inc., toll-free at 1-877-954-4252 or Jenat Engle at the Center for Urological Research at 619-460-0595 for more information.

RESEARCH STUDIES

Inhaled Insulin Research

- Are you between the ages of 18 and 80?
- Do you have TYPE 2 DIABETES and use Glucovance or two oral medications to treat your diabetes?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a study using an investigational inhaled insulin. If you currently smoke or have done so within the last 6 months, you are not eligible to participate.

Study-related care is provided at no cost to qualified participants.

For information, please call: 858-626-5678
The Whittier Institute for Diabetes

Depression

can interfere with your life.

Have you tried Prozac®, Zoloft®, or Celexa®? Do you still feel hopeless and continue to suffer from sadness, poor sleep, lack of concentration and motivation?

This research study, conducted by a well-known pharmaceutical company, allows you to try an investigational medication being studied for depression for a limited number of qualified participants.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

* You receive up to $450 for your participation.
* You receive no-cost research study-related medication and medical care.
* No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

HealthQuest
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(858) 571-1188
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Anxiety

Is your present medication letting you down?

Are you taking Paxil®, Zoloft, Celexa or a similar medication for anxiety? Are you still worried or anxious? Do others tell you that you worry needlessly or too much?

If so, you may qualify to take part in a clinical trial that allows you to take an investigational medication in conjunction with your present anxiety medication.

This important research study is conducted by HealthQuest Clinical Trials, in partnership with a well-known pharmaceutical company. Every study conducted by HealthQuest is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first. Enrollment is limited.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

* You receive up to $500 depending on your level of involvement.
* You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
* No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

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empathize with their plight. I know that from a soul level I volunteered to be born to my mother, you know. I volunteered to be born for this project. I think I participated in a universal experiment."

* * *

Were Rose and John and R.F. really abducted by extraterrestrial aliens? I put this question to Mel Podell, a scientist by training and profession, who has worked as a aerospace chemist, has been a member of the Mutual UFO Network, and is the current director of the San Diego section. Podell, a retired aerospace chemist, has had an interest in UFOs for most of his life, having seen a UFO in Charlotte, North Carolina, when he was a teenager. Although he has had no personal experience with abduction, he definitely believes in the possibility. "Many of these abductions," he told me, "can be ascribed to hallucinations, nightmares, psychological conditions, but since there have been so many of them worldwide, I believe that a certain number are genuine. I like to think they are for a reason, to obtain knowledge, that maybe it's going to help the universe. I don't know. Maybe they have cosmological meaning."

Podell, a scientist by training and profession, seemed the right person to query about something that had been troubling me: Doesn't it seem odd, I asked him, that beings who are so advanced in terms of physics that they can travel at the speed of light, and who have such power that they can manipulate time and induce amnesia, are nevertheless conducting extremely primitive biological experiments on humans? If they have the ability to get here, why can't they figure out a way to reproduce themselves without resorting to stealing a woman's ovum?

Podell agreed this sounded like an inconsistency, and he said the point has been made many times. "However," he continued, "some individuals are strong in one area and weak in other areas, and to me, in my mind, it's possible that a civilization could be strong in one area and weak in another area. You can have an Einstein, but I hear he couldn't even do his taxes. It may sound strange, but to me it's a possibility."

Before we finished our conversation Podell said, "One doesn't know all the answers. I just try to keep an open mind myself." I, too, try to keep an open mind. Reality is infinitely more complex, layered with more mysteries, than any of us comprehend. But keeping an open mind, it seems to me, means being open to the complexity of the mind itself, being willing to acknowledge the potential power not just of outer space but of inner space. Within every person are great depths, often unconscious, and in these depths live needs and desires with power enough to shape perceptions and interpret experiences. Unresolved pain and desire for healing, jagged brokenness and hunger for wholeness, unbearable loneliness and yearning for community, undeniable mortality and longing for transcendence — these things and more create a highly combustible fuel that can rocket a person well beyond the gravitational pull of the "normal."

Near the end of his life, Carl Jung became fascinated with UFO sightings. He believed they possessed significance and merit considerable reflection. According to Anthony Stevens, Jung "concluded that UFOs were a modern myth, a compensation by the collective unconscious for our rational scepticism and our need for symbols of wholeness in a deeply divided world" (On Jung, Penguin, 1991). By "myth" Jung did not mean to trivialize the matter but rather to invest it with great significance. Myths are necessary for psychological health, Jung believed; we create them to help us understand ourselves and find a necessary meaning for our existence. Is it insignificant, for example, that UFOs and the spaceships seen by abductees are circular in shape, the ancient symbol of wholeness? And is it consequent that the abductors are extraterrestrial, from a transcendent realm? Is it not possible that the experiences of Rose and John and R.F. are truly real — real in the sense of being actual, concrete manifestations of a deeply religious longing in the human heart? Stephen Spielberg has been so fascinated with abduction stories that he produced the recently aired TV series "Tales." In an interview with the New York Times, he spoke of his obsession: "It's the whole idea of what does it mean to be abducted. I think it's really a giving over to a superior power, the kind that takes responsibility away from us and takes over our lives."

A friend of mine says abduction stories simply come from our desire for narrative, an inherent need we all have for "and then this happened." She may be right. But I would take it a step further: if we want to see ourselves as part of a narrative, it may be because a story implies a beginning and an end and a coherent connection of the events in between — and all this implies meaning. Is my life part of something larger than the daily this-and-so-ness I must grind my way through? Is it going anywhere?

So Rose is drawn to tales of UFOs and abductions, reading books and attending conferences and talking with fellow believers. This becomes an interpretative myth, a narrative in which she finds herself. It is surprising that one night she is taken up into a great light — a rose light! Rose becomes herself, as it were, and that helps her become more than...
herself. As she rises, the light changes “from rose to other colors.” Rose both discovers herself and transcends herself.

And is it coincidental that R.F. was first abducted at the age of five — at the time her parents were divorcing? Who can doubt that she would want to run from family fragmentation into symbolic wholeness, from the pain of this world to salvation from the heavens? Who can doubt that the violation of her body from an abusive father could readily be incorporated into a meaningful myth, a story in which she surrenders to omnipotent powers and in which the violation of her body serves cosmic purposes of healing? When, toward the end of our conversation, R.F. told me of her sexual abuse, her sentences broke, became fragmented, as if they couldn’t carry the load of meaning that she herself understood.

I’m not suggesting that the stories of abduction, for Rose and R.F., are evidences of lost sanity. Quite the contrary, I think the stories are a means of maintaining sanity in a confusing and painful world. They provide a mythological framework, a way to cope with the often unbearable weight of being human.

But what about John Vasquez? His story seems different from Rose’s or R.F.’s. It doesn’t as much provide an explanation as call for an explanation; it doesn’t sew things together as much as tear them apart. Certainly, the incident at Fort Benning has provided John with an identity, even given him a minor notoriety. Perhaps it is nothing more than this; perhaps he, too, is finding meaning in a larger myth. But in his case this seems a less satisfactory answer. His confusion is utterly convincing. As you talk to him, you get the feeling he would be relieved to learn that the Army had put something in the gravy that night.

What happened? Was he part of some sort of psychological testing? Or was he part of some unexplained collision of worlds during that summer of 1977? As Mel Podell said, “One doesn’t know all the answers.”

— Donald McCullough

CHRONIC SHOULDER PAIN

A clinical research study is currently recruiting for patient participation.

If you are one of thousands suffering from chronic shoulder pain for at least 6 months but less than 5 years, are over the age of 35, and have failed to obtain adequate or sustained pain relief from standard physical therapy, oral medications, and steroid injections, then you may want to consider participating in this clinical study.

A new treatment for chronic shoulder pain is currently being investigated. This product has been approved for another related pain indication, and would involve an injection into the joint space of the shoulder. If you are interested in learning more about participating in this clinical research study and the availability of a doctor in your area, please call The Damluji Research Center at (760) 421-0288 (North County) or (619) 293-0644 (San Diego).

INTERESTED IN RESEARCH?

For Information call (858) 642-1432

Dr. Henry and Associates are currently screening potential veteran and non-veteran study subjects that are:

- Diabetic
- Pre-diabetic
- Overweight
- Family History of Diabetes

You will receive this medical screening at no cost. Compensation will be provided to qualified participants who enroll in a research study after screening.

VA San Diego Healthcare System
La Jolla, Ca

“I’ve tried antidepressants, but they’re not working.”

You are not alone.

10%-30% of people who suffer from depression fail to respond to drug therapy. If you have taken a medication for depression for six weeks or more and still feel depressed, you may have Treatment-Resistant Depression.

The physicians at PCSD~Feighner Research are now conducting a study of an investigational drug for Treatment-Resistant Depression. If you are between the ages of 18 and 65, you may qualify to participate in this study. Study participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and study medication, provided at no cost to you.

Please call us for more information about this important study.

There is no obligation to participate.

PCSD~Feighner Research Institute
877-FOR-INFO
(877-367-4636)
Frustrated With Yeast Infections?

Now you can do something about them.

We are seeking RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS who:
- Are experiencing vaginal itching, burning or irritation
- Do not have chronic/recurring yeast infections
- Are not pregnant or nursing

Volunteers receive compensation for time and travel, study-related medical care, and study medications.

Women’s Health Care
A Medical Corporation
8010 Frost Street, Suite 301, San Diego, CA 92123

To see if you qualify for this unique study please call 858-505-8672 or log onto www.womenwellness.net/research for more information.

RESEARCH STUDIES

BIPOLAR?

We’re looking for men and women diagnosed with Bipolar I Disorder. Volunteers at least 18 years of age are needed to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational use of a marketed drug for the treatment of Bipolar Disorder, also known as Manic Depression. Patients suffering from Bipolar Disorder must be currently experiencing a major depressive episode. All necessary office visits, medical evaluations, and study medications will be provided at no cost to qualified patients.

For more information about this study, please contact:

AFFILIATED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(619) 688-6565

San Diego Reader August 28, 2003
Sleep Research

Do you normally sleep 9 hours or more a night in order to feel refreshed and ready to take on the day?
OR
Do you normally sleep 6 hours or less a night and have no problem with drowsiness during the day?

If you answered yes to one of these questions and are a healthy adult between the ages of 18 and 59 with no history of alcohol or drug abuse or psychiatric disorders, you may be eligible.

Volunteers will be compensated financially.

Contact 619-553-8410 for more information.

Brain Imaging
Researchers at UCSD and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in La Jolla are interested in the effects of sleep deprivation on the brain.

For more information, visit: www.longshortsleepers.com

Irritable Bowel Syndrome?

We are conducting a clinical research study for women who suffer from severe diarrhea-predominant Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, have suffered from severe diarrhea-predominant IBS symptoms for at least 6 months, and have failed conventional IBS therapy. All office visits, medical evaluations, and investigational medications related to this study will be provided at no cost to patients.

For more Information about this study, please contact: MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH Annie at (619) 521-2884

Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective disorder?

Do you have a diagnosis of Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective disorder?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication. Study participants will receive compensation for time and travel.

For more information, please call Optimum Health Services 619-667-4567

San Diego Reader, August 28, 2003 59
**Wish You Could Release Your Worries?**

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I always expect to feel big and strong and secure when I have a loaded gun in my hand, but I never do.

More Life Than a Shriners’ Convention

York wants Walters dead. Over a year ago, York went undercover as a Mexican laborer to track a friend’s brother who had disappeared while crossing the border. Among the “wirecutters” (the men who smuggle migrants across), York stumbled onto Walters business dealings — drugs, slave trade, big-game hunts with human prey — and was almost killed himself. He survived to tell the story, which found its way to the pages of the Reader. Now York’s gone underground again, hiding out in Baja as “Fernando Cruz” — thanks to his friend Emilio’s condo project, which was always in need of another security guard.

After two more attempts on his life — and two innocent men dead — York called in favors, beginning with his Baja buddy Pescado. Would that get him closer to Walters? Probably not, but York had a few leads: Walters owned hotels in Ensenada, and that 80-foot Hatteras had to be in a slip somewhere. How do you hide a yacht that size?

CHAPTER 9

The house was dark and quiet. From the old road I couldn’t see much because of the adobe wall and the giant, banyan-like “monkey’s paw” that embraced the roof and the east and north walls. It protected the place from the sun and kept it cool during the day. It was also beautiful and fragrant in a tomcat sort of way. At night, even in a light breeze, the branches would rake the house, imitating the sounds in my dreams of small men trying to get inside with bayonets and fingernails.

I parked the bike in a stand of banana plants at the El Indio fishing village that was made up of five shacks in a grove of wild olive trees. Outside the shacks were junk cars that I’d actually seen running once in a while and aluminum tubs that served as bathing facilities for everyone in the village. A few hens and roosters waddled and clucked, fluttered and squawked; a mongrel bitch and her half pit-bull pups chased the birds. Children, all named Camerana, chased both of them. I said hello to Ernesto, the old padrón of the village, and he smiled at me out of a face of cracked, brown leather. His mustache, two brushstrokes of yellow white, lifted and exposed three teeth he was proud to call his own. Ernesto Camerana was grandfather and great-grandfather to the children. I gestured to the bike and he nodded. It was okay to leave it there. Ernesto returned his attention to the lobster trap he was repairing.

Walking along the beach, my sneakers and Paz’s navy blue pants got soaked to the shin in the high tide. Sundown surfers called to each other from the cliff above me out to their friends in the water. Stones sifted and sucked beneath my feet with a ponderous, powerful clacking. I walked the length of the cliff beneath the K-38 gravel lot and then pulled myself up with handfuls of ice plants. Emerging at the top, a dozen yards perhaps from Rancho Paz, I took a few deep breaths.

The house peered blankly back at me from darkened picture windows: dim mirrors framed the last of the sunlight glinting off the ocean. There didn’t seem to be anybody inside. Pescado’s camper was parked next to his trailer off to the left. A single light burned inside. I rose from the ice plants and started to walk toward Pescado’s place when a feral yap-
pointed at me. The other, the .45 and it was to be holding a piece of Pescado's silhouette. In the jaundiced light onto a swinging door of Pescado's: "What can I do?" He handed me the .45. I took it and noticed there was no clip in it. "You're not going to shoot anybody with this. It's empty and the safety is on." Pescado sat on the couch and moved a paperback romance novel he was reading to one side. "I pushed a button and the thing came out. I don't know how to work those fucking things." "Where is the thing that came out, the magazine?" "Here." He pulled it out of his pocket and handed it to me. "Thanks." I always expect to feel big and strong and secure when I have a loaded gun in my hand, but I never do. "How you doing, Avion?" "Okay. You see anybody around tonight?" "Just you." "I figure I got a little time. If the guy that shot Sufi was sent by Walters — and I'm pretty sure he was — there's no way they could know yet that they got him and not me." Pescado nodded. "Yeah. I guess so. He seemed unhappy. "What's the matter?" "Nothing. This shit has been following me. It makes me nervous. And I miss that puto gringo, Sufi." "Yes," I looked around Pescado's trailer. It was neat and homey. Some kind of caldo de pescado was cooking on the stove, paperback books by Barbara Cartland and Danielle Steel, Sidney Sheldon and Stephen King were arranged by author on a shelf. The bed/couch was made with old wool Mexican blankets, the kind you used to get for five bucks without the Day-Glo colors and polyester threads, the kind that outlasted their owners. A television set with dust on the screen stared back at us grayly. On top of it was a picture of Pescado's mother in Mexico City. She looked heavy and pretty and happy.

He also had the copy of the Reader from two weeks ago on his small kitchen table. "Look, Avion, or should I call you…?"

Just past Canta Mar I became convinced that the yellow '71 Chevy Nova in my rear-view mirror was following me.

"Avion's okay." "I been thinking about this guy Walters and his trip with the alambristas, the wire-cutters. I can't believe it, man." "You think it isn't true?" "No. I believe you, but I want to do something, you know? This guy should be put away. This guy should have a live snake shoved up his ass. He should have his head…" "I want to find him and kill him." Pescado looked at me and said nothing. He got up and grabbed a bottle of San Matias from a cabinet. He brought over two glasses. "Well then, I want to help you." He poured two shots. No salt or lime. "What can I do?" The tequila smelled seductive, perfume-like. The flower of the maguey. I wanted it. I lifted it and clinked glasses with Pescado. We both drank. The stuff set a warm fire sliding down my throat and into my gut. It burned for a moment and then just smoldered nicely. "I want to ask you about the marina." "What about it?" Pescado wheezed and poured himself another. I put my hand over my glass and shook my head. "They got a waiting list for slips there? Boat owners wanting to get in?" "Yeah," he sipped this one. "I want to find a big Hatteras. Eighty feet. Can you get a list of boats clocked to moor at the marina when it opens?" "Easy. But I can tell you there's nothing like an 80-foot slip there. Not for a few years maybe. If ever." "You worked on boats up north, where would you go if you were a yacht like that and wanted to keep a low profile?" "Cabo San Lucas maybe." "Closer." "Sea of Cortez." "Closer. This side of Baja." "Well, there's a marina going up in Ensenada finally. They got the big breakwater now. A lot less competition. No red tape, just straight payoffs to the harbormaster. They got facilities I hear, you know, for big boats like that. They're set up for the big fishing boats already and norteamericanos with, you know, monster yachts. They refuse there and can tie up in bad weather. They had a drug bust down there a few months ago. An American, I heard. A lot of dope used to go through there. Now, after that bust, I don't think so. Anyway, it's going to be a tourist. Legitimate. Why?" I got up and stretched. "I don't know. I got an idea." I put the .45 in my pants and walked outside. "Well, I want to help you fuck this guy, Walters." "Maybe you already have." "You need any more help, let me know."
“Thanks for the drink, Pescado. I’ll let you know.”

Pescado waved the bottle at me and poured another for himself. I patted the sleeping Chorizo on the head and walked to the house. It was still silent and beautiful and scary looking in the dark, perched over the ocean like that. Too big and brooding with secrets.

It was only marginally less nerve-wracking going in with a loaded gun.

The next morning I dressed in the best sporty stuff I could find in Emilio’s closet. I put on a dusty rose imitation Lacoste shirt with the alligator — I hate those things, but it would be in character for the role I wanted to play — white baggy pants with cuffs and a crease, a pair of nicely broken-in toppers, and an old brown leather bomber jacket with ripped lining. As an afterthought I grabbed a white polyester baseball cap with the words AMERICAS CUP written on it. I stuffed it in the pocket of the jacket.

Ernesto Camerana was still sitting where he had been last night. He was repairing the same lobster trap or another one like it with coat hangers. I nodded to him, winked at his five-year-old great-granddaughter, who batted her eyelashes at me from behind a dirty hand and I unstrapped the helmet from the bike. I kick-started the motor, and chickens and dogs launched themselves from the bushes barking, squawking, and running into each other.

I headed south on the old road and sang Jackie Wilson’s “Lonely Teardrops.” With the visor down, the acoustics inside the helmet were such that I sounded truly boss.

Just past Canta Mar I became convinced that the yellow ’71 Chevy Nova in my rear-view mirror was following me. I pulled into the parking lot of a dusty liquor store and bought a bottle of Penafiel lemon soda. The Nova sat there in its own dust cloud. No one got out of it.

My instincts told me that Lieutenant Roberto Maradon was driving that car. It was a piece of shit, exactly the kind of thing he would drive. He was sitting a hundred yards south and would be expecting me to continue down the old road or get on the toll road just past where he was. Instead, I hopped on the bike, fired it up, and took the dirt trail beneath the toll road overpass. I headed straight inland leaving behind an ochre cloud of clay dust that rose into the morning summer sky like an offering. At the top of a hill, I stopped and looked back.

The Chevy was fol-
lowing me, all right. I waved at Maradon and headed east. I climbed steep hills and followed winding cow trails until I reached the inland paved road. Looking back and down once more I saw the Nova with steam pouring out of its radiator and mixing with the dust to coat the windshield with mud. I waved again and accelerated south. In ten minutes I had a 20-kilometer lead on the wily Mexican crime fighter.

I followed the two-lane road at a reasonable 65 miles per hour and watched for potholes. It curved gracefully through olive groves and high pasture peppered with cattle, donkeys, and occasionally, horses. The ranch houses and outbuildings, the old junked cars and flatbed trucks on blocks, bleached and distressed looking, were the only indications of Baja’s economic reality. To the east, great rust-colored buttes jutted into the sky and to the west the blinding expanse of the Pacific stretched below me. Crows circled in pairs overhead, and for a time I kept pace with a red-tailed hawk as he glided a few dozen yards off my right searching the canyons for mice. Pelicans patrolled the shoreline way below me, and in yet another patch of sky, gulls wheeled like a drill team above the whitecaps. I smelled skunk for a couple of miles, and I frightened a few lizards sunning themselves on the asphalt. A lot of people consider Baja a barren desert, but there was more life here than at a Shriners’ convention.

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a barren desert, but there was more life here than at a Shriners’ convention. In two hours I passed less than a dozen vehicles. The approach to Ensenada is straight down. The road curved in tight hairpins, and I rode the clutch and brakes in second gear. There were no embankment fences separating me from the sheer 2000-foot arroyos, only crosses of wood or wrought iron hung with garlands of dried flowers to commemorate the motorists and truckers who died there.

I smelled Ensenada before I saw it. It smells like fish and diesel fuel. The Todos Santos Islands came into view first and then Cabo Punta Banda and the rock breakwater. A hundred or so boats were anchored in the harbor, and even from this height I could tell that none of them were anything like an 80-foot Hatteras.

On the Avenue Juárez I bought gas at a Pemex station and worked the tension out of my hands, wrists, and neck. I asked myself why, if I was so keen on avoiding death, I took a motorcycle down those mountain roads? The answer was that I didn’t have a car. My ass still shook with the vibrations of a 750-cubic-centimeter four-stroke engine.

My first stop was the El Morro Hotel on Boulevard Lazaro Cardenas. I strapped the helmet to the bike and locked it under the seat. I pulled Emilio’s America’s Cup cap out of the jacket pocket and put it on. I removed the jacket and tossed it jauntily over my shoulder as I walked into the hotel bar. The weight of the .45 in the inside jacket pocket tugged me on the back like someone trying to get my attention.

I ordered some shrimp and ceviche at the bar and drank a Carta Blanca. I hate Carta Blanca, but it’s cheap and I was down to $112. I didn’t know when I’d see any more money. The hotel itself is a pink, three-story monument to the bad taste of American tourists and Eugene Walters, who owned it. It belonged in a third-rate section of Miami Beach or maybe the outskirts of Las Vegas. Plastic palm trees framed the entrance to both lobby and bar, and a framed placard on a tripod held an eight-by-ten glossy photo of the entertainer, DON DEFRIO, APPEARING NIGHTLY. Don smiled smarmily from gapped teeth beneath a trim mustache. The sign didn’t tell me if Don played piano, juggled, or had a trained flea act.

Scars just below his eyebrows but above his eyelids told me he had done a lot of boxing at one time. Being the only patron in the bar at 11:30 in the morning made it easy to strike up a conversation with the barman. He was short, heavyset, 50ish with long sideburns, and friendly. His name was Pablo. I introduced myself as Luis and asked him if Gene Walters still owned the hotel. “Yes,” he said. “Of course, Señor Fuentes, the manager, runs the place, but as far as I know Señor Walters is still the owner. His partner, the American woman, I believe passed away last year.”

“Is that right? Does Gene ever come by?”

“I have not seen him for at least a year.” Pablo was washing the back bar mirror with a newspaper and a spray bottle of blue fluid that smelled like ammonia.

“I was wondering if he still had that boat of his. I’m in the market. I
tried to buy it from him last year, but his partner wouldn’t sell it. Maybe I could take it off his hands for him.”

Pablo shrugged. “I couldn’t help you. Excuse me.” He left the bar and walked across the lobby to the front desk, said something to the clerk, and returned to the newspaper and the mirror. “You are from San Diego?”

“You are from San Diego,” I said sipping my beer.

“Nice place to live?”

“If you’re a car.”

We were joined by a Mexican man in a tan three-piece suit. He had a gold tie and a yellow gardenia in his lapel. His hair was solid white and his eyes were hard, though he was smiling. Scars just below his eyebrows but above his eyelids told me he had done a lot of boxing at one time. “Pablo,” he said in a gargling, low voice. “Bring up two cases of the Santo Thomas white wine and chill them before lunch.”

“Yes, Señor Fuentes. A waiter was pouring tequila and triple sec straight from the bottle into the mouth of a sixteenish-looking freckle-faced girl.

“Fuentes took it. Obviously Pablo had summoned him after my inquiries about Walters. “Luis was interested in contacting Mr. Walters about his yacht.”

“‘That’s right. He had an 80-footer, the Ponce de Leon, I believe it was called. I’d certainly like to get my hands on it if he’s selling.’”

“Well, Mr. Aparicio. Mr. Walters is in Europe, I believe. I don’t know how to contact him, but if you have a card I will give him your information when he calls the first of every month.’”

So he calls the first of every month but Fuentes doesn’t know if he’s calling from Europe or not? It’s possible, I suppose. “Unfortunately I do not have any cards with me at the moment, but I’ll try to buy it from him from San Diego.”

“L.A.,” I said nurturing my beer.

“A paper and the mirror. and returned to the news-

something to the clerk, to the front desk, said

walked across the lobby for him. “ He left the bar and

left the bar and walked across the lobby to the front desk, said something to the clerk, and returned to the newspaper and the mirror. “You are from San Diego?”

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call down from Los Angeles." I picked up some El Morro matches with the phone number on it and made a show of putting them in my pants pocket.

"In the meantime, do you have any idea where he's mooring her? I was hoping to get another look."

"I'm sure I don't know anything about that. I believe he owned a boat at one time, but he never discussed it with me. I never saw it. An 80-foot Hatteras, you say?" Fuentes shrugged and looked around the room as if it might be in one of the corners under a booth. I hadn't said it was a Hatteras. I just smiled back at him. He shook my hand and said, "Yes, call anytime and leave your number. Maybe Mr. Walters will give you a call."

"Fine. Thank you. Nice meeting you."

"Mucho gusto."

I finished my shrimp, left half the beer and ceviche, and tipped Pablo a dollar. He smiled and waved as I went out. I headed for the docks. Tourists were everywhere. It was a Thursday, and in a day or two, for the Fourth of July weekend, there would be hundreds more of them. I walked past Hussong's, and though it was only noon, there were a couple dozen high school–age kids in there. In the window a waiter was pouring tequila and triple sec straight from the bottle into the mouth of a sixteenish-looking freckle-faced girl who tilted her head back as far as it would go. The waiter then wrapped her
head in a towel while two other waiters stood by. One of them sounded an air horn that nearly deafened me, and the other rang a fire bell. The first waiter took the girl’s towelled head in his hands and shook it as if it were a set of maracas. A couple more of those, and she wouldn’t look at booze for another five years.

I hit the Hotel La Pinta, the Villa Marina, a bar at Juanito’s Landing, and the Riviera del Pacifico. No one knew anything about a Hatteras that big in these waters. I took cards from three American retirees who claimed they could get me a deal on a cruiser that size for 1 to 1.5 million dollars back in the States or down in Cabo San Lucas. I nodded, interested, as if that were pretty damned reasonable. For all I knew it was. The last place I tried was called the Tortuga. It was near the Estero Beach launching ramp and just a few blocks from the Estero Beach Hotel. The new marina was going in there, and the Tortuga was hoping to cater to American yachtsmen. The place was still under construction mostly, but the bar was open. A few yacht club burgers hung on the walls. English, Welsh, French, Australian, Canadian, and American clubs were rep-
resisted along with stuffed marlin and bad whale art. A tortoise shell the size of a Cadillac radiator was suspended over the back bar, and slow-turning Casablanca-like fans with plywood blades revolved lazily overhead.

The bartender was a very scrubbed-looking Mexican in his early 20s. He wore a white pressed shirt and bow tie and black pants that were a little too big. He was unfamiliar with the concept of ice, shot glasses, and speed pourers on the bottles, and his attempts at making two rum and Cokes for the men sitting with their backs to me were no more successful than his attempt at growing a mustache. One drink was all rum, the other all Coke and ice. When he handed the second drink to one of the men, I heard, “Shit howdy! If I wanted a goddamned Coke. There ain’t enough rum in here a goddamned Coke. There ain’t enough rum in here a goddamned Coke.”

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of them in complete confusion. He had no clue as to what he might have done wrong. A voice from one of the tables I thought were empty spoke up. It was a woman's voice, gentle and low and tired sounding. She spoke in Spanish, and her tone seemed calculated to put the bartender at his ease.

“That's all right, Jaime. I'll take that drink. They don't realize they're being horses' asses.”

The bartender picked up the drink and started to bring it to her. She sat with her back to a sunny window so her face was in shadow. She smoked a cigarette and had a book open in front of her on the table and an empty glass with a stir straw in it.

“Whadjoo say, Mo? Whadjoo say to that little hustler?” Toupee pivoted his head and called out to her.

“I said you two have had enough, and I'm dying of thirst over here.” The bartender conferred with her. She explained the misunderstanding, and he went back behind the bar and put ice in a glass for Kettenburg, poured some of the one drink into it, added the Coke from Toupee's glass, and stood back smiling triumphantly.

He turned his attention to me, and I ordered a Carta Blanca. It was my third one that day.

“Watch that kid, buddy.” Toupee warned me. “He's a goddamned thief.”

“I don’t think so,” I said in Spanish and winked at the kid. “I don’t think...”
he’s a thief any more than you two are really horses’ asses.”

The kid looked surprised, started to smile, then stopped.

Toupee and Kettunberg looked disgusted.

They’d had about enough Mexican gobbledygook and were hoping for some good old honest American out of me.

From the shadows, the woman Toupee had called Mo chuckled. It was a very pleasant chuckle.

“What are you laffin’ at, Mo? Whadee say?”

She told him what I said. They both rounded on me, and Kettunberg tried to get up off his barstool again. When he couldn’t quite manage it, he just sort of inflated his chest. “You call me and my friend horses’ asses, Pancho?”

“No. I did.” Mo, of the gentle, throaty chuckle, got up from her table with her book and her drink in one hand. She put out her cigarette and walked out of the shadows toward the sunlight around the bar. Her hair was light brown with blond streaks from the sun. It was tied up and away from her face. She walked with an erect grace on very shapely, sun-tanned legs. They were also streaked with dirty engine oil. Somehow, on her, it looked like some exotic and fascinating body...
decoration. She wore flip-flop sandals, bathing suit bottoms, and a black, greasy, stained T-shirt that said “Blue Dolphin Marina.” She wore sunglasses, and I could see her face was daubed with black oil. She had high cheekbones and a flawless curve of a jawline. Her nostrils were twin flared commas, and her smile revealed the charming imperfection of a slightly jagged overbite. Her figure was trim, sleek, muscled. I smelled her musk, flower scent and absent-mindedly set my beer bottle in my lap as if to cool it down. My lap, not the beer bottle.

Toupee pulled out a barstool for her. It was an automatic action I could see any man doing for her wherever she went. “You called us that, Mo?” He sounded like he would stand still to be called navel lint by her if that’s what she wanted to call him.

She put a hand on his shoulder. Her hand was nearly completely black with engine oil but, like the rest of her, nicely proportioned. With the full glow of her smile fixed at him she said, “C’mon, Jimbo. This kid doesn’t deserve all your abuse. He didn’t understand what you wanted. Jaime’s trying to please you.”

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La Jolla News August 21, 2003 73
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sitting, the world was a damned fine place and all the people in it good and fair.

It would be.

She put her book and drink down on the bar. I could see that her reading matter consisted of The Care and Repair of Small Marine Diesels by Chris Thompson. She took off her sunglasses revealing shrewd fawn’s eyes bracketed by laugh lines like feathers on either side of her face. Her eyes were brown and large, pretty and intelligent. She set down the shades and put her other hand on Kettenburg’s shoulder. “This man,” she looked in my direction, “was just repeating what I said.”

“Oh,” Kettenburg replied. Whatever she said was okay with him, too, if she was going to put her hand on him and everything.

She looked at me again, and I brought my beer bottle up from my lap, tried to set it on the bar, and knocked it over. In Spanish she said, “This is Jackson and this,” indicating Toupee, “is Jim.”

In English I said, “Luis. Pleased to meet you. And you’re…?”

“Yes, Moanna Westman. She made her first name rhyme with Joe-Anna rather than Jonah. “You speak English.”

“Yep. I helped Jaime mop up Carta Blanca with a bar rag and cocktail napkins. “Oh, Well, Luis… Can I ask you something?”

“Sure. Anything. Anything at all. I thought. She looked at my America’s Cup cap and shifted her weight. She tucked her oil-blackened hands under her arms and bit her lower lip. Jimbo and Jack seemed disappointed that she was no longer touching them. I sympathized.

“Well…ah…would you possibly have a piston ring expander that I could borrow?”

—John Brizolara

Next week: On Mo’s boat...
How about immediate education for military enlistees on how to live in the real world? I've known military people in their 30s and 40s who simply cannot live in the civilian world because they cannot handle taking care of themselves. When I take into account all the monetary perks the military provides beyond a paycheck, I don't really care to hear the whining.

P.S.: Can I go and get free food and stuff too?

Name Withheld

Roughly 50 percent of the armed forces is E-4 and below, and those soldiers' pay ranges from $1064 to $1749. What it comes down to is that there is no money to provide beyond a paycheck. Monetary perks the military provides is not really appreciated. It is definitely a topic that needs more attention.

— Editor
a job interview, but I had no way to blow-dry my hair because we had no electricity. There were no jobs for someone with only a high school education. I got so desperate that I applied for a job cleaning fish. I also spent every weekend trying to sell Avon door-to-door. I ran out of gas on the highway on the way to a job interview, but I had no money to buy gas. We tried to budget, but it was useless because some emergency would come up and our entire budget would be blown for months (example: an exterminator cost at least $100, a car breaking down can cost hundreds).

My point is that it is ridiculous to say that the financial problems in the military are from lack of budgeting. The real problem is that the military does not pay enough money. Being married to an officer with a master’s degree in financial and tax planning has shown me that. I have a master’s degree and worked as a teacher for several years, and during those years we did very well financially. But as soon as we had a baby and I stayed home, we were struggling again — and this is on a major’s salary! We aren’t starving, but I feel that we should be able to afford a lot more, given that we both have master’s degrees and he is a major with 18 years in the Marine Corps. And yet — we live in a little condo with no yard. Both of our vehicles are over five years old. I buy my clothes at Target. We don’t go out to eat. If we are living like this as a field grade officer, you cannot tell me that the problems of the enlisted ranks are because of lack of budgeting! I know that we are very financially skilled and we are very savvy with our money, and we still have financial problems — because of the lack of income. It is very annoying to me that our civilian counterparts are making three times as much money for designing cell phones, while my husband is over in Iraq risking his life.

K. Snyder

Age Or Die

“Crasher” columnist Daniel Ridge, 25, follows two Portland bands, Bronwyn and the Key, down to the state portion of Black’s Beach (August 21). In 90-degree heat, he keeps everything on, even his shirt, while two Bronwyn girls swim naked. Afraid to emulate his brave peers, he whines about seeing old nudists. Who’s having more fun?

All too soon, when Ridge passes 30, he’ll become the object of snobbish scorn, silent or not, from younger persons. Life will offer him an unappealing menu — to age or to die. Let’s hope he’ll be brave enough to deal with it.

Tortuga Bi Liberty for Senior Unlimited Nudes
San Francisco
Ambivalence?
Why was it that in the column where teenagers spoke out about religion (“Everyone Works in Hell,” August 14), those who represented Islam and Catholicism were devout followers of their own religions, whereas the boy selected to speak for Jews was not only not a committed Jew but by Jewish law is not even Jewish? The other kids spoke of their devotion; he predicted future nonobservance of Jewish ritual (obviously, the future world will mirror his own behavior). There are plenty of committed, observant Jewish teenagers, although some of them attend Jewish schools, who could have better represented our faith. I find it additionally interesting that the person putting this column together has a Jewish surname: Feldstein. Does her choice of Jewish student perhaps reflect her own ambivalence towards her own heritage?

S. Bezansky
Pacific Beach

Stephanie Feldstein responds:
Michael Miller’s views are his own. It was never intended that he or any of the other interviewees act as representatives of their faiths.

Accentuate The Positive
It is truly unfortunate that Stephanie Feldstein (“Everyone Works in Hell,” August 14) could not find a better representative of Judaism than Michael Miller. There was not one nice thing that he had to say, nor did he have any uplifting experiences that he could relate. It was difficult to determine exactly the point of her article, other than Judaism has failed Michael. I also find fault with the editors who then highlight the nativism with the quote on the first page of the article. Is there a hidden agenda that we should be aware of?

There are literally thousands of young active members of the San Diego Jewish community who could have answered these questions of spirituality in a much more positive vein. I invite Stephanie to visit any of the youth groups in the area to experience the warmth, joy, and beauty our kids find in being Jewish.

Eric Whinston
Sabre Springs

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Likes Scott Peters
For many years I have respected the written opinions of Don Bauder, especially when they differed from the editorial position of the Union-Tribune, where he was the financial editor. Soon when he began writing articles for the Reader after his retirement from the U-T, I was very pleased. But his article in the August 14 issue titled “A Stalled Recall” (“City Lights”) shocked me.

The theme of the article is that San Diego City Councilman Scott Peters has a “cozy relationship with developers” because he has accepted their financial contribution for his election fund and hasn’t changed his approval of a proposed condominium project in the Bird Rock area of La Jolla. The project had previously been approved by all levels of government, but when the La Jolla Town Council rescinded its approval, three people asked Peters to also withdraw his approval. When he didn’t, they filed recall papers against him.

I live in the University City Village, a senior community of about a thousand residents, which is also in Councilman Peters’s district. Three years ago the owner announced his plans for a major renovation of the 40-year-old village, and I was asked to represent the residents as the owner sought approval of the University City Planning Group, the San Diego Planning Commission, and the city council. Mark Steele, the architect for the La Jolla project, is also the architect for the proposed University City Village expansion. This experience gave me the opportunity to observe Councilman Peters and his staff in action on a major redevelopment. The impression I got was totally different from the one Mr. Bauder gives of Peters being “cozy” with developers. To me, Peters is a hands-on type of guy who gives straight answers to even provocative questions. The same member of his staff attends each monthly meeting of the University City Planning Group, giving a clear report on city council activities which could affect University City, and she stays until the meeting is over, which is often close to midnight.

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If I were an anarchist I would vote to recall Governor Davis, because I predict if it happens there will be a proliferation of recalls against elected office holders at all levels of government in California.

Another if: If I had the opportunity to talk with Mr. Bauder, I’d ask him if any thought is being given to changing the financial system so it would no longer be necessary to have growth in order to have prosperity.

Bill Gorman
University City

Don Bauder responds: It's true that economics measures a society's success by growth. But that's a problem of economics, not of society. Quality of life is more important than quantity of life. And quality of life is consistent with prosperity.

John Brizzolara. I was just a young man when my parents told me to get a trolley to San Ysidro — by Request. They said if I did, my life would change. I don't appreciate the comment since my parents came to this country looking for a better life. We all worked hard and suffered in this country to make it through. We have become assets to this country as have many other Mexican-Americans. And I say "Mexican-Americans" because we became citizens of the United States. I admire my parents and also admire all the people who left their homes and loved ones to come and succeed as Mexican-Americans. Because we do not forget where we come from, we do go back and share our wealth with our people, los Mexicanos.

NAME WITHHELD

Trolley Talk Critique
My letter is in regard to "T.G.I.F." (August 7) — a romantic moment on the trolley to San Ysidro — by John Brizzolara. I was just a little offended at how he went a bit far out with all his ref-

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Don't know why you consider printing Kim Oakley's letter (August 14). I understand what she meant by not feeling compassion for Reina (“Reina's Story," August 7), but she made it seem that the U.S. does so much for illegal immigrants and not for American citizens. If we start analyzing what goes where, believe me, Kim Oakley won't even comment on the illegal immigrants coming to California! I don't appreciate the comment since my parents came to this country looking for a better life. We all worked hard and suffered in this country to make it through. We have become assets to this country as have many other Mexican-Americans. And I say "Mexican-Americans" because we became citizens of the United States. I admire my parents and also admire all the people who left their homes and loved ones to come and succeed as Mexican-Americans. Because we do not forget where we come from, we do go back and share our wealth with our people, los Mexicanos.

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Stickball, at least one version of it, is a city sport — baseball on asphalt, with some quirky rules and minimal equipment. The bat is a replacement handle for a mop or shovel, cut down. Nobody wears a glove. The bases are chalk marks drawn on the pavement.

Obstacles like fire hydrants and parking meters are part of the playing field. Hitters are allowed (and actually try) to play the ball off them. Balconies and awnings are playable, too, but hitting the ball onto a roof isn’t a homer; it’s an automatic out.

The cradle of urban stickball civilization is New York City, where immigrants’ kids popularized the game in the early 20th Century. When they moved, the game went with them, and other stickball centers got established in New Jersey, Florida, and Puerto Rico. Local players credit a man named Bobby Ortiz with bringing stickball here when he arrived from the Bronx in 1975. But it wasn’t until 20 years later that San Diego was able to put together a traveling tournament team.

In 1995, the San Diego Knights competed in the annual Memorial Day tournament back East. With Ortiz as one of their players, they were extraordinarily successful, taking second place. When of their players, they were extraordinarily successful, taking second place. When they returned to San Diego, they were humbled by this aspect of the game. “A father and son, neither of whom had ever played stickball, came out to our practice yesterday,” said Strickland. The son, a 12-year-old, pounded the ball every time. “The dad touched the ball three times out of 100 tries.”

The official ball is pink rubber, the size of a racquetball. “For the tournament we ‘import’ them from the East Coast. The ball has a lot of bounce and a lot of velocity.” Well-hit, it can go 100 miles an hour. As a result, trying to catch it — especially without a glove — is another humbling experience. “You need soft hands to play this game; they’re able to absorb the energy. I have what they call bricks for hands. Fly balls bounce right out of them.”

When new people attempt stickball, they are often humbled by this aspect of the game. “A father and son, neither of whom had ever played stickball, came out to our practice yesterday,” said Strickland. The son, a 12-year-old, pounded the ball every time. “The dad touched the ball three times out of 100 tries.”

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Warm Water Temperatures, approaching 70 degrees over the past several weeks, won't last much longer. As fall approaches, shorter and days and increasingly oblique solar radiation will mean that less and less energy will be supplied to the ocean waters offshore. These waters will soon be shedding more thermal energy than they receive, thereby keeping the coastal area comfortably balmy for several weeks after the end of the summer vacation season. So, we go out on the beach after Labor Day — the water's only a bit cooler, and the beaches are relatively uncrowded.

Towering Thunderheads have been seen recently as a result of a surge of moisture east from mountains east of mountain in recent weeks. Afternoon rain showers have already dampened Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Mount Laguna on several occasions, with more of the same expected at times during the next two or three weeks. Usually this kind of activity ceases by sunset, and clearing skies usher in a cloud-free night. The marked contrast between the sunny but bland weather along the coast and the more lively and unpredictable mountain weather is one illustration of San Diego County's geography of contrast. Jasmine's Thin, Sweet Odor wafts on the breeze this time of year, especially throughout the old, well-vegetated neighborhood of San Diego. The exotic odor is produced by the flowers of true jasmines (genus jasminum), as opposed to the so-called "star jasmine" (genus Trachelospermum), which blooms in the late spring and early summer.

Grocery Runs at the month's end are most likely to occur near midnight this Friday night through Sunday night, August 29-31. This timing corresponds to 1 to 2 hours after highest nocturnal tide, 2 to 5 days after the date of the new moon. At this time, the very grunion tend to spawn on wide, gently sloping beaches like Silver Strand Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Del Mar. California law allows the taking of grunion in summer by those possessing a state fishing license. The grunion must be caught by the hands only and should be eaten fresh since they have a short shelf life.

Camp With The Stars, an all-day, all-night, all-weekend star!
party at William Heise County Park (4945 Heise Park Road), Au-
gust 29 and 30. San Diego As-
tronomers Association hosts

Kumeyaay Campground presents

Enjoy a Campfire
day, August 31. Hikes begin at

“Introduction to Blue Sky,” Sun-

uralist Laurann Martin presents
Blue Sky Ecological Reserve. Nat-

Mary Glass leads “Still Cool in the
viewing in meadow on Friday;
night; some storm viewing until
sundown on Saturday, followed by
8 p.m. slide show and stargazing
with interpretation.

Telescopes provided; you’re
encouraged to bring telescopes
and binoculars. Day-use fee: $2.

619-668-3275. (FULL DISC.

The Urban Art Trail is the
Thread running through East Vil-
geyard; two Warehouse Dance for
San Diego from late 1800s to late 1900s,
in the campground at Two Father
on the north of Lake Poway Road.

“The coolest thing this summer!
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Martha Wild calls, Cobblestone
Cobblestone for Contras,

Rozmai Dance Company performs
Seasons,”

Sufi dancing, Monday, Septem-
ber 29 and 30. San Diego As-
tronomers Association hosts star

tation and history, Saturday, Au-

Ancient Art of Storytelling,

Ancient Art of Storytelling,

2748. Free. Dress warm and bring a

2:15 p.m. at Solana Beach Coaster

Moderate 1.5-hour walk starts at

Sunrise Park. Participants will hear
what it was once as much like to live along the shores of the lake Hodges river

campfire program at amphitheater,
Saturday, August 30, 7:45 p.m. Find

Turtle and Tortoise Show at Casa
del Prado, August 30 and 31 (see Special)


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WINERIES

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

the wood dance floor on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, including September 3, at Ellis Lodge (1193 Windsor Road). Lessons: 7:30 p.m., during the season to 10 p.m. Free. 619-222-2536. (ENCHANTED)

F I L M

“Muslims,” offering a look at what it means to be a Muslim in the 21st century, screens for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, Thursday, August 28, 7:30 and 8 p.m. For information, call 619-644-1945. (MUSLIM VILLAGE)

“Respire,” directed by Emanuele Crialese, screens for Italian film series Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). $2. 619-237-0601. In Italian with English subtitles. (ITALIAN)


Fun With Fats, cooking class sorting out the “good, the bad, and the ugly fats,” Thursday, August 28, 6:45 p.m., at Wood Wellness (13715 Camino de la Tierra). $10. Registration: 619-938-1800. (LAGUNA)

Garbage into Gold, improve your soil and save money in the yard and garden after back-yard composting workshop, Saturday, August 30, 8 a.m., at Ridgehaven “Green Haven” Compost Garden (9601 Ridgetown Court). Composting methods, soil conditioning. Free. Registration: 619-684-7000. (KENNY MESA)

Know Your Ducks, Barbara Moore presents eyes-on tips for birders from beginner to intermediate levels to enjoy migrating birds, Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m. to noon, at Chula Vista Nature Center (1000 Gunpowder Point Drive). $15. Bring lunch. Registration: 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Handicapping Seminar by Daily Racing Form publisher and chairman Steven Crist, Saturday, August 30, 7:30 p.m., at Earth Song Bookstore (1440 Camino Del Mar). Crist will also sign Betting on Myself: Adventures of a Horseplayer and Publisher. Free. 619-755-4254. (DEL MAR)

Women’s Health Issues discussed by Neva Whiteham, M.D., for Carlsbad Newcomers, Wednesday, September 3, 9:45 a.m., in Heritage Hall at Magee Park (at Carlsbad Boulevard and Beech Street). Free. 760-729-5989. (CARLSBAD)

Political Activist and current Gray Davis advisor Midge Costanza talks about the recall and its implications for the democratic process when North County Coalition for Peace and Justice meets, Wednesday, September 3, at Pilgrim United Church of Christ (2000 Chestnut Street). Social at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. 619-756-2654. Free. (CARLSBAD)

“Capitalist Democratic Republics — The Future of Global Governments?” It’s the topic, Wednesday, September 3, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

What’s the Status of Domestic Violence in your community? San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis and San Diego City Attorney Casey Coats address the question, Wednesday, September 3, 5 p.m., in room 303 of the County Administration Building (1600 Pacific Highway). RSVP: 619-515-6526. Free. (DOWNOWN)

Tour the Night Sky during “The Sky Tonight” planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, September 3. After show, view real sky through telescopes set up by Fleet Center staff and San Diego Astronomy Association (weather permitting). 619-238-1233. $6.75 general. (BALBOA PARK)

“African Art of the Baule,” African art specialist and guest curator Barbara Blackman leads tour of “Partners of the Soul: African Art of the Baule,” for Insight Gallery series, Thursday, September 4, 6-6 p.m. (Sunday and Saturday, 7-7 p.m.) at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (DOWNTOWN)

History Alive! Lemon Grove Historical Society series begins when Kumeyaay healer and teacher Jane Dumas discusses traditional uses of native plants in medicine, purification, and religious observances, Thursday, September 4. Group meets at 1:30 p.m. at Lemon Grove Library (8073 Broadway). $2. 619-460-4533. (LEMON GROVE)

“Bioluminescence: A Glowing Past and a Bright Future” — Michael Latz from Scripps Institution of Oceanoaphy explains how basic research of jellyfish, fireflies, and other organisms has led to applications in cell biology and biomedicine. Lecture starts at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, at San Diego Natural History Museum (1777 El Prado). Free. 619-255-0203. (BALERBA PARK)

Write Your Book Now! Four-week writers’ intensive workshop led by Vessa Rinehart, starting Thursday, September 4, 7:30 p.m., at Intuitive Insights Center (6405 Genesee Street, suite 200). Fee: $35 per class, or $120 if paid in full on first night. 858-715-9445. (CLAREMONT)

“Navigating the Roadmap to Peace” discussed by SDPSU visiting Israeli professor Moshe Ma’oz for Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies. Lecture begins at 6 p.m. on Monday, September 8, in third-floor auditorium at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5821. (HILLCREST)

Timely Tips for Fall Gardeners are promised when UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Association hosts this series of talks, Saturday, September 13, features “Garden Tool Selection, Care, and Sharpening,” Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon; “Proper Pruning"... (continued)

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Summer in the Park, the Mar Dels take the stage for University Heights Concert series on Friday, August 29, 6 p.m. at Trolley Barn Park (1900 block of Adams Ave- nue). Free. 619-297-3166. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

TGIF Jazz in the Parks, the series concludes with a concert by Earl Thomas, Friday, August 29, 6 p.m., at Calavera Hills Park (299230, at Carlsbad Village Drive). Shuttle service available. Free. 760-434-2904. (CARLSBAD)

Bird Park Summer Concerts, the U.S. Navy Jazz Ensemble performs- tradional tunes, Saturday, August 30, 6:30 p.m., at Bird Park (northeast corner of Morse Field, at corner of 28th Street and Per- shing Drive). Free. 619-392-4130. Free. (BALBOA PARK)

Summer Concerts in the Garden, the Chris Klach Jazz Quintet per- forms Saturday, August 30, 7:30 p.m., at La Jolla Community (320 11th Avenue). Among the acts will be appearance by James W. Huston — author of Secret Justice, Fallout, Balance of Power — September 2, 6:30 p.m., in Turrentine Room at Escondido Public Library (239 South Kalmina Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

The Sophisticats play rock and roll on Sunday, August 31, in Spreckels Park (at 7th and Orange Avenue). On Monday, September 1, the Coronado Community Band takes the stage. Concerts start at 6 p.m. Free. 619-435-9260. (CORONADO)

Brothers Blues Tribute Show presented for Target Summer Concert in the Park Series, Sunday, August 31, 5:30 p.m., at Lake Poway recreation area, 14444 Lake Poway Road, Blues Doctors perform, with Rufus Reid Blues Band. Non-Poway residents pay $4 be- fore 5 p.m., zero after. 858-679- 5466. (POWAY)

La Jolla Concerts by the Sea conclude for the season with big- band jazz by the US Navy Band Southwest Fleet Jazz Ensemble, Sunday August 31, 2 p.m., in Scripps Park at La Jolla Cove (at foot of Girard Avenue). 858-454-1600. (LA JOLLA)

Chula Vista Community Park. '70s, Saturday, August 30, 6 p.m., at Chula Vista Community Park. (CHULA VISTA)

August 30, 8 p.m., the Fire House (2997 Glasgow, at Carlsbad Village Drive). 619-392-4130. Free. (CHULA VISTA)

Earl Thomas, Friday, August 29, 8 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CORONADO)

The First Tuesday Local Au- thor Series continues with an ap- pearance by James W. Huston — author of Secret Justice, Fallout, Balance of Power — September 2, 6:30 p.m., in Turrentine Room at Escondido Public Library (239 South Kalmina Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

Canadian Fantasy Author Charles de Lint visits Mysterious Galaxy Books to sign and discuss Spirits in the Wire, Tuesday, September 2, 7 p.m. Find Galaxy at 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard; 858-268-4747. Free. (CLARKSON)

The Mark Jackson Band per- forms for San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club, Thursday, September 2, 7, p.m., Round Table Pizza (1161 East Washington Street, at A). Free. 760-726-8380. (ENCINITAS)

First Wednesdays, series begins with Ric Henry in Concert: Broad- way in the Afternoon, in Sep- tember 3, 4 p.m., in Center Theater at California Center for the Arts, Es- condido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Program includes songs from Phantom of the Opera, Pippin, 1776, Les Miserables, Secret Garden, and West Side Story. Tick- ets are free, available on a first- come, first-served basis. 808-988- 4253. (ESCONDIDO)


Poetry Unlimited, Wednesday, September 3, 6:30 p.m., at Trolley Barn (320 11th Avenue). Program includes reading by Christopher Rich signs Secret Justice, Fallout, Balance of Power — September 2, 6:30 p.m., in Turrentine Room at Escondido Public Library (239 South Kalmina Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

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Trailer Park Troubadours at the Firehouse, August 30 (see In Person)

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... Join the Party! The 3rd annual Julian Bluegrass Festival runs September 20 and 21 at Frank Lane Park. Bands include Bluegrass Etc., Silverado Bluegrass Band, Virtual Strangers, Ronnie Bowman and his band, Ken Perl- man and William Coulter, Steve Spurgin, the Walden Dahl Band.

GETAWAYS
Both days feature jamming, food, music workshops, and music-related vendors’ booths. The festival runs from about 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Tickets: $16 on Saturday ($14 in advance), $15 Sunday ($13 in advance). 877-894-0008 or 909-679-0831. Bring ice chests, chairs, blankets, dawn-till-dusk pets or glass bottles. [LA JUNIPER]

**Sports**

**Football Preseason Games Conclude** for the San Diego Chargers with a game against the San Francisco 49ers in Qualcomm Stadium, Friday, August 29, 7 p.m. Broadcast on KFMB. Tickets: 877-CHARGERS. [MISSION VALLEY]

**The Boys of Summer** are in town as the Padres are in town for games against the Astros, August 29-31, at 5:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 1:05 p.m. on Sunday.

**Getting Out**

**La Jolla Sea Caves Tour**

Explore the caves from a kayak with Terry Sanet. Call for fees and exciting the tour no experience required. Every Wednesday & Sunday through Labor Day. 858-298-3744.

**Adrenaline Water Sports**


868 San Diego Reader, August 2003

The Padres return to Qualcomm Stadium to host the Arizona Diamondbacks at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 2, and at 2:05 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3.

All of the games — except on September 3 — broadcast on Channel 4. Listen to games in English on KOGO 600 AM and in Spanish on XEMO 860 AM. Tickets: 56 to $32, available by calling 877-374-2784. [MISSION VALLEY]

Rev it Up and Go, twin late-model sportstman, street stocks, pony stocks, factory stocks, and legends racing on Saturday, August 30, at Cajon Speedway. First race: 6:45 p.m., following qualifying runs at 5 p.m.

The 3/8-mile track is located next to Gillespie Field. Take I-8 to Highway 67, take Bradely exit. Turn left, drive two blocks to Wing Street, then right one block to track entrance. Adult admission: $9 (west side) and $10 (east side); $3 for those 6 to 12; free for kids under 6 with an adult. 619-448-8900. [EL CAJON]

**Snorkel with the Sharks** and Sunday, August 30 and 31, 9 to 10 a.m., hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum. Sharks in question are (harmless) leopard sharks, smooth hound sharks, and guitarfish. $30. Reservations: 858-534-7336. [LA JOLLA SHORES]

**Little Stickleback Tournament**, teams from New York, New Jersey, and Florida compete against California stickleback teams; balconies, signs, and parking meters add to the fun. Tournament runs Saturday through Monday, August 30 through September 1, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. India and Columbia Streets closed to traffic between Hancock and Date for play. Free. 619-298-9323. [LITTLE ITALY]

Up for Waterkins? Convair Water Ski Club provides three ski boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding 8 to 11 a.m. on Sundays year-round and Thursdays from 5 p.m. to dusk (during summer). Instruction on request. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach, guests of any skill level welcome. November: fee per run (about 15 minutes). Information: 800-699-2466, press pound sign, then mailbox number 456-838-8155. [SAN DIEGO]

**The Oceanside Labor Day Rough-Water Swim** takes place, for the 74th year, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., Monday, August 31, Oceanside Pier (found at the foot of Mission Boulevard): Registration starts at 7 a.m. 760-643-0919. [OCEANSIDE]

**The Horses Are on the Track** for the 2003 seaside racing season hosted by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club continues through Wednesday, September 10. Races every day except Tuesday, post time 2 p.m. except Fridays, when racing begins at 4 p.m. General admission is $8 general, free for those 17 and under. Find Del Mar Racetrack at San Diego County fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Boulevard and Via de la Valle. 858-735-1141. [DEL MAR]

**Gutierrez Cup Finals** at San Diego Polo Club, Sunday, August 31. Preliminary matches begin at 1:30 p.m., featured polo match starts at 5 p.m. General admission is $5, as is parking. The meet starts at 14555 El Camino Real. 858-481-9217. [RANCHO SANTA FE]

**The San Diego Quilt Show 2003**, over 300 quilts on display, wearable art, quilting bees, fashion shows, ex-hibits, vendors galore. August 29-31, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on September 1, in San Diego Convention Center. Guest artist: Cynthia England from Houston, Texas. Free admission 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Free 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. 619-296-3161. [ALOHA PARK]

**San Diego Quilt Show 2003** opens at the Harrah’s Rincon Center. August 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. Free. 619-443-6612. [ALAMO]

A Tribute to Julian’s Heritage is offered during Julian Art Guild’s fall show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Monday, August 29-September 1, in Julian Town Hall (219 Main Street). Free. 760-765-2399. [JULIAN]

Sculpting, Painting, Firing — demonstrations of the processes involved in creation of pottery offered during Mata Ortiz Pottery Show, August 29-31, at Bazaar del Mundo (2744 Callahan Street). Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free. 619-296-3161. [LINDA VISTA]

**The House of the Ukraine** presents lawn program with dance, music, and cultural costumes at International Cottages at 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 31. Free. 619-234-0739. [BALDIA PARK]

“Enemy Alien Files: Hidden Stories of World War II,” an exhibit on view September 1-24 at San Diego Public Library (820 E. Street), combines rare photographs, oral history excerpts, and documents that explore how wartime fears, anti-immigrant attitudes, and racism affected those against whom no charges of wrongdoing were ever brought. 619-236-5890. [DOWNTOWN]

**Truck-Bite Day** celebrated during San Diego Auto Swap, Monday, September 1, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Qualcomm Stadium. Vehicles on display and for sale, along with “slices of parts and reserve- ries.” Admission is $5 general, kids under 13 free. 888-484-9342. [MONTAUK]

“How to Live Happily Ever After...With Your Dog” teaches vital training secrets to prevent and manage unwanted dog behaviors. Participant learns basics of housebreaking, nutrition, preventing destructive behaviors, encouraging calmness, and interaction with people and other animals, how to communicate with their dogs.

Classes offered every Wednesday, 6 to 7:30 p.m. (San Diego Humane Society, 3800 Broadway Street). $10. Reservations: 619-299-7012. (UNDA VISTA)

**Cedros Gallery Nights**, art gal-leries on Cedros Avenue stay open until 8:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month, including September 4, Music, refreshments. Free. 858-793-6080. [BALBOA PARK]

“Tradition in New Forms” — an exhibit of woodblock prints by Hiroshi, Toshi Yoshida, and Saburo Suzuki is on display through Sunday, September 28, at Japanese Friendship Garden. Admission: $3 general, $2 for students, children 6 and under free. 619-232-2721. [BALDIA PARK]

“Movie Notes: Composing Mu-sic for Hollywood” is on display through September 28, in the first-floor browsing area of San Diego State University Library. Included: The sheet music and record al-
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A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond • By Jerry Schad

Rustic signs along some of Clairemount’s major streets call attention to one of the least designated open-space parks in San Diego: the 900-acre Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Using the park’s network of service roads and narrow footpaths, it’s possible to follow most of the six-mile length of the main Tecolote Canyon and to pace into several of its tributary “finger canyons.” By day you can spot hawks and ravens soaring on the strong coastal breeze blowing up the canyon. By night, you may hear the yapping of a coyote or the plaintive hoot of an owl, the creature for which this canyon was named.

The canyon’s pathways are used by both hikers and mountain bikers — though mountain biking is often “techno” due to the often excessively steep and rocky parts. Parts of the canyon are surprisingly beautiful, particularly when winter or spring rains bring forth a prolific growth of green grass and wildflowers. By now, most of the vegetation is panicking and dormant.

A good place to start is the Tecolote Canyon Natural Park visitors’ center at the far east end of Tecolote Road, east of Interstate 5, inland from Mission Bay. The wide dirt path heading east, initially smooth, becomes rougher as you approach the perimeter of the Tecolote Canyon Golf Course. There you’ll be struggling up and down some steep hills. A narrow side path left on the slopes perimeter the finger canyons. It eventually bends east on the slope overlooking the golf course’s clubhouse and descends into a tributary, currently harboring a sluggish stream. A hike upstream along this fine oak- and sycamore-dotted ravine to Genesee Avenue is well worth it if you reverse your steps upon reaching Genesee, your round-trip hike measures about five and one-half miles. A number of narrow trails traverse the upper portions of Tecolote Canyon. Babcock Avenue, a de facto mini freeway where it crosses the canyon, is a definite obstacle for those wishing to link the upper branches of the canyon with the lower canyon. North of Babcock Avenue, one path goes toward North Clairemont Park. A lesser path along a smaller tributary of Tecolote Canyon heads toward Mt. Etna Park.

FOR KIDS

Nature’s Shadows! performed by the San Diego Jewish Community Chorus will take place in police-escorted parades from Encinitas north to Ocean side, south to Del Mar, then back to start at Encinitas Civic Hall (305 South Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas Boulevard).

Wavecrest surfboard company will be on display 11 a.m., auction noon to 3 p.m. All events are free. 760-945-9994 (ECWAVEWAVES)

Sea Chantey Festival, Sunday, September 21, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on board the Star of India. Performers include: Tom Lewis, Ken Graydon, the Jackstraws, and others.

A Crazy Hunt is part gimmick car rally, part treasure hunt, with plenty of crazy antics thrown in for good measure. It’s a contest “consisting of gags and puzzles to chal- lenge” and entertain. Two-person minimum per team; maximum number per team depends upon how many can legally fit into the vehicle.

Events begin at 1 p.m. at Boll Weevil (9310 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard) on Sunday, September 21, 15 p.m. per team.

Inside Tecolote Canyon A Crazy Hunt

Inspiring Children to Become Involved with Music is the mission of the Heartstrings Foundation. The group hosts family event noon to 9:30 p.m., Sunday, September 30, at Wynola Pizza Express (4355 Highway 78). A variety of genres and instruments will be represented, artists perform mini-con- certs and answer questions, children may hold and play instruments. Free. 760-765-1004. (GIRLLIN)

To place your ad in the Wedding Guide, call 619-235-8200.

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MUSEUMS

(Art museums are listed in the Reader’s Guide to Art.)

Bancroft Ranch House Museum
houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1859, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago. A number of narrow trails traverse the upper parts of Tecolote Canyon. Babcock Avenue, a de facto mini freeway where it crosses the canyon, is a definite obstacle for those wishing to link the upper branches of the canyon with the lower canyon. North of Babcock Avenue, one path goes toward North Clairemont Park. A lesser path along a smaller tributary of Tecolote Canyon heads toward Mt. Etna Park.

California Surf Museum, “Early California Surfers, 1900-1940” honors Doc John Heath Hall, surf legend, recently published, telling stories of those pioneering surfers in photographs by Ball and text.

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, “LJ.”, Richards, and Peter John- son, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interpretive living museum dedicated to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Southwest Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the “Sweetwater Marsh,” and interact with computers exploring high tide marks affect the bay in the “Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay” exhibit.

Visitors meet a bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station at the center’s parking lot, between the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 619-409-5903. (ISLA VISTA)

Computer Museum of America, “Seacoast, Lands, and Telesynks: A His- tory of Cryptology” explores the de- velopment of cryptography and code breaking from ancient times to the present, focusing on the role of ma- chines and computers. The National Cryptologic Museum has the largest collection in the world of cryptology artifacts. 6220 San Diego Avenue. 619-298-0500. (ROXAS)

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San Diego, Gaslamp Museum of Historic Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg where displays highlight Wyatt located in building T-2002, at Ma-research library. The museum is aircraft are included, along with ern jets and helicopters currently Flying Leatherneck Museum, (DOWNTOWN) Hectotron, described as "a 1970s "millionaire calculator," and a Space Invaders, punch cards, a rare machines.

about the use of semaphore, punch card equipment, teletypes, and other messaging. Also on view, the M-209, the Nazis in World War II to secure 7317 El Cajon Blvd., Suite 104, La Mesa (619) 589-9919 commercials and voice-over.

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The scene within the “Paperweight” is calm, A small white house, a laughing man and wife, Deep snow. I turn it over in my palm And watch it snowing in another life, Another world, and from this scene learn what It is to stand apart. She serves him tea Once and forever, dressed from head to foot As she is always dressed. In this toy, history Sifts down through the glass snow, and we Wonder if her single deed tells much Or little of the way she loves, and whether She sees shadows in the sky. Beyond our touch, Beyond our lives, they laugh, and drink their tea. We look at them just as the winter night With its vast empty spaces barred to see. Our isolated little world of light, Covered with snow, and snow in clouds above it, And drifts and swirls too deep to understand. Still. I must try to think a little of it, With so much winter in my head and hand — Gjertrud Schnackenberg


America, concentrating on the util-itarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archae-ology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Heritage Walk Museum, the museum includes the restored Vic-torian House, the city’s original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park, at 321 North Broadway; 760-743-8207. (EXTENDED)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, it is lo-cated in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kinyer family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-8740. (ALP)

La Mesa Depot Museum, lo-cated in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include origi-nal telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1937 refrigera-tor car, restored 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-462-7726. (LMP)

Museum of History and Art, a Vietnam-era Stoner 63/63A 5.56mm machine gun and a small inflatable boat used during SEAL training are among items on display in “Hooyah! Naval Special Warfare in Coronado,” on view through Wednesday, September 3. Mantequines dressed in various SEAL uniforms, photographs, memorabilia, and equipment tell the story of these “extemned frag-men,” from their beginnings in the early 1940s through recent actions. Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Ho-tel del Coronado. Find the mu-seum at 11000 Orange Avenue. Call 619-435-7242 for further information. (COR)

Museum of Making Magic, the past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vin-tage instruments, hundreds of au-dio and video clips, and an inter-active stage. Find the museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5966. (CARLSBAD)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum is a couple of historical buildings, including the Verlage House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women’s clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to
Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photography, and a research library are also part of the complex. Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA) San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in San Diego Aerospace Museum, which is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8295. (BRAND PARK) San Diego County Sheriff’s Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff’s department is highlighted at the museum, which is located “just feet away” from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1830. The museum shows artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detention, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN) San Diego Model Railroad Museum, the museum celebrates American railroads with “the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit” in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the “San Diego County Relief Map” exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroad signaling, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroad and model railroad signaling. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (MARKSDON PARK) San Diego Natural History Museum, “Glows: Living Lights” explores the phenomenon of bioluminescence — an organism’s ability to produce its own light. The exhibit explains what bioluminescence is, how it happens, and the reasons organisms produce their own light. Closes Sunday, September 7. Follow the trail of how dogs and humans have related and how their roles have changed over time, “Dog’s Wolf, Myth, Hero, and Friend,” on exhibit through Tuesday, September 2. “Rare Places in a Rare Light.” The Wildlands Photography of Robert Turner” is on exhibit through Tuesday, September 2. Also on view “Natural Treasures: Past and Present” (ongoing). Current “giant-screen films” include Wolves and Ocean Oasis, exploring Mexico’s Sea of Cortez and the Baja California Desert. 619-222-8283. (LINDA IRWIN PARK) San Diego Zoological Society, the museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early home-steaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. Find the museum 561 South Vuclan Avenue, 760-632-9711 (tickets). Serra Museum, “Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum” is said to “remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum” on July 16, 1829. The exhibit includes a “vist back in time to 1929.” The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego’s history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It’s located at the site of the West Coast’s first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (MEDINA PARK)
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Gene laughed as though at a fond memory. "He hated my guts. I went to his house just with a moving van and took everything he owned on the presumption that it was lost. Then it went to his mother's house and we took everything. His mother was cooking
a turkey and we took the oven. The newspaper reported that it was loot. Then I went to his second career.
"It was a turkey for Christmas, but there were times when I could see things starting to go wrong and wondered if this was going to be the day I didn't take it home. I remember vividly the mob was going to kill him, and we all sat in the infor-
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trictions. As a writer, you can pretend to be the classic self-sufficient loner.
Is Emotion Enough?

Bring on the sac!

SummerFest’s “East Meets West II” went all the way into contemporary avant-garde pieces. All four pieces on the program fell into that category. As to being contemporary: Tan Dun’s Ghost Opera was composed in 1994, Chen Yi’s Ning dates from 2001, and both Philip Glass’s Suite from The Sound of a Voice and Franghiz Ali-Zadeh’s Sabah premiered this very year. As to being avant-garde: all four works decisively reject the basic aesthetics of Baroque, Classical, and Romantic music, doing so in order to open up new forms of expression that supposedly go beyond those earlier styles.

The Asian theme was also very much to the fore. Tan Dun and Chen Yi are Chinese, and their programmed works focused on Chinese subjects respectively, “The shamanistic ghost opera of Chinese peasant culture” and “The rape of Nanking” during the Japanese invasion of China. Ali-Zadeh is from Azerbaijan, a West Asian country in the Caucasus that was formerly part of the Soviet Union, and Sabah attempts to reproduce the atmosphere of Azerbaijani music on non-native instruments. Philip Glass, admitted only from Baltimore (although it is on the East Coast), fits the template because The Sound of a Voice is an opera based on a drama by Chinese-American playwright David Henry Hwang (author of M. Butterfly), which in turn is based on a Kabuki-like Japanese story of the tragic romance between a samurai and a witch. The program was also unified by the presence of the festival’s virtuoso pipa-player, Wu Man, in each of the works.

Chen Yi’s Ning (another name for the city of Nanking) is an expressionistic piece, the aim of which is to convey the horror of the massacre it commemorates. The scoring is for violin, cello, and pipa, the players at this performance being the great Cho-Liang Lin, the sensational Felix Fan, and the amazing Wu Man, all of them totally caught up in the emotions of the music. “Emotion” is the key word, for the composer’s overriding concern was to find musical sounds that would arouse in the listener the excruciating violence of the attack and the experience of numb grief and lamentation that ensued. Formal considerations seem to have played scarcely any part.

There can be no doubt that the emotion came through, loud and clear (especially in so intense a performance); there was none of that abstract remoteness that I criticized in Chinary Ung’s Spiroal at the previous concert. On the other hand, while feeling, humanity, and the experience of real life are to be welcomed in any piece of contemporary music (where for a half-century they have tended to be in short supply), the minds of people who listen to music seriously also yearn for the satisfactions of perceiving patterned forms and gradually internalizing large-scale structure.

In (for example) Beethoven’s “Serioso” Quartet, which was played at this season’s first SummerFest concert, we are presented with a broad range of emotional expressions (including violence and grief) arising out of the human condition, but these emotional experiences are given more profound meaning by being subsumed in the structural architecture of sonata form in the first movement, ABA structure in the second and third, thematic development, dramatic key relationships, a concluding rondo, and even (in the slow movement) a fugue. There is no end to what you can hear in this quartet, on endlessly repeated listenings.

Ning, in contrast, seems to have said so fully everything it wanted to say that there would be no point in hearing it again. Even within the work, the initial (violent) section became tedious because, in trying to overwhelm the listener with rough sounds and painful dissonances, it stayed fixed too long in the same place; and something like this might also be said of the laments that followed, deeply touching as they were.

In the Philip Glass Suite, the same musicians were joined by Marisela Sager, flute, and percussionist Steven Schick. Here too, of course, there were no thematic developments, no long-range drama based on key modulations, no complex forms that build an overall structure in the mind. That is not Glass’s way: his type of avant-gardism substitutes for those traditional procedures a willful simplicity, with motifs repeated over and over, childish harmonies, and a series of symmetrical rhythmic pulsos that never lead anywhere. There are no painful dissonances, no shocking dislocations, no relentlessly pursued theories of pitch-ordering. Most surprisingly, for avant-garde art, there is no obscurity; everything explains itself immediately; but in much of Glass’s music you wonder whether there is anything meaningful behind all the disarmingly simple devices, whether all the lucidity serves any purpose, and why the music goes on so interminably.

Some of this was to be heard in the work played at SummerFest, but the irritating qualities of Glass’s music were much attenuated. For one thing, this was a suite arranged from an opera, rather than the opera itself. I have not heard The Sound of a Voice, but I have heard (and seen) a great many Philip Glass operas (even a couple of them locally: Les Enfants Terribles and 1000 Airplanes on the Roof, the latter also with a libretto by David Henry Hwang), and I can tell you that they are stupendously incoherent, long-winded, and vacuous. Whatever this latest opera may be like, the economical five-movement Suite derived from it turned out to be quite lovely, in a pastoral way. The simplicity was refreshing, the tunes were pretty, the repetitious harmonies lulled the ear pleasantly, and the work was not long enough for the extremity of Glass’s style to get on one’s nerves.

What was most alluring about this music was its orchestration. The sounds of the violin, cello, and flute were blended in an exquisite manner that recalled 18th-century trio sonatas. The writing for the pipa was treated as a harmonious part of the ensemble, at once expressive and decorous. At one point, however, Glass gave the pipa a fiery solo of stupendous inventiveness, representing a scene in the opera in which the samurai practices his swordplay. The music had the bravura quality of a Pagagini violin caprice, although its language was exclusively that of the instrument’s Chinese-Japanese traditions. Anyone who may have doubted the pipa’s capabilities as a serious instrument must have had a decisive change of mind after Wu Man’s dazzling performance of this solo.

Steven Schick, the immensely versatile percussionist from the UCSD music department, was especially effective in making the listener aware of the subtlety, imagination, and flawless tact in Glass’s use of a number of (mainly unpitched) percussion instruments. Employed chiefly for rhythmic purposes (as opposed to Ung’s Spiral, where colorful decoration was all that counted), this array gave Schick the opportunity to demonstrate a breathtaking delicacy of execution, and a preternatural sensitivity to the texture and expressiveness of the composition at every moment. His physical gracefulness — the dancerlike body English with which he

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**GALLERIES**

"The Deep End," a show featuring "the witry and wry side" of Ed Abrams in his etchings, drawings, and surreal photomontages, opens with reception for artist Saturday, August 30, 4-8 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 78, at junction of Highway 79). Show closes Sunday, October 5. 760-765-1676. (SANTA YSABEL)

Issues of identity, biracial and religious, resistance, and migration explored in "Arab Anonymous/No Hay Moros," opening with reception, Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m., at Voz Alta (917 E Street), Show features work by Americans, Latin American's of Middle Eastern and Jewish backgrounds, and Canadians, on view through Sunday, October 5. 619-230-1896. (DOWNTOWN)

"Modern Abstractions, Cultural Refractions," this group show closes with reception Sunday, August 30, 4 to 7 p.m., at 101 Artists' Colony (25 East E Street). 760-632-9074. (ENCLAVE)

**URBAN IDENTITY**

This exhibit of paintings by John Abel, Wade Cline, Robert Goldman is on view through Friday, September 12, in Hyde Art Gallery, Grossmont College (8535 Normal College Drive). Meet artists during reception Tuesday, September 2, 7 p.m. 619-449-7729. (EL CAJON)

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info@theosophysandiego.org

Generically usually appearing in commercials for Colas, Carpans and Mosaiic.

Jeff has appeared in commercials for Visa, Casino and the VA Hospital.

You know his paintings, but there’s another dimension to Degas. The third.

Degas in Bronze
The Complete Sculptures
June 28 – September 28, 2003

This summer, the complete collection of 75 bronze sculptures by Degas is coming to the San Diego Museum of Art. In 2003 and 18 years after you had the chance to see all of Degas’ ballet dancers, horses, and ballerinas on the west coast this summer.

**DEGAS IN BRONZE: THE COMPLETE SCULPTURES**

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"Degas in Bronze: The Complete Sculptures" is organized by Joseph S. Chamberlain, International Arts, Museums, Exhibitions, from the collections of the Degas Family and the Andersons.

The local presentation of this exhibition is made possible in part by the generous support of:
CARPANS • Visa • American Express • The Ebell Club • The William F. Harrah Foundation • The Helen Hay Whitney Foundation • The Helen Diller Family Foundation • The San Diego Multi-Cultural Commission • The San Diego Community Foundation • The California Arts Council and supporters of the San Diego Museum of Art.
Back to the Land
“The places no longer safe are elsewhere.”

I used to think the one priceless thing money could buy was a quiet place to sleep. Then I lived in La Jolla Shores’ only modest apartment complex — and woke daily to the arrogant blasts of leaf blowers, new houses and condos hammered into shape, and waves of sun-blocked humanity eager for a day at the beach.

An employee at UCSD’s main library once observed, “This job’d be perfect if people didn’t check out the books.” Ditto the Shores.

The La Jolla Playhouse is staging two city-versus-country plays this summer. In The Country by Martin Crimp and Tom Donaghy’s Eden Lane, people go rural, fleeing civilization and its discontents. In Crimp’s pseudo-Pinteresque drama, Richard and Corrine attempt to hide from the truth; in Donaghy’s pseudo-Chekhovian comedy-drama, May, Philip, and family hope for shelter from the storm of 9/11. But as pastoral literature follow daily life: casual, rarely “dramatic.” And scenes unfold like long movie “takes.” The camera begins, middle, and cozy resolution. Instead, the dialogue is deliberately mundane, pass-the-salt.

A hundred years later, Eden Lane reverses the situation. Owing to 9/11 (which feels merely tacked onto the play for thematic heft), cities are cursed. The country’s the place. You can almost hear Chekhov’s people, offstage, screaming, “Go back!!” Like Chekhov, Donaghy uses extreme naturalism. Big events happen behind the scenes. Small objects, like the controversial window, suggest larger concerns. In keeping with the times, Donaghy hasn’t written a well-made play with a beginning, middle, and easy resolution. Instead, scenes unfold like long movie “takes.” The camera follows daily life: casual, rarely “dramatic.” And the dialogue is deliberately mundane, pass-the-salt.

Her new husband, Philip, is May’s opposite. Luck stalks this guy. He got rich publishing explanations of medical breakthroughs. He’s amiable, forgiving, and generous. But May’s convinced that not only will Philip start womanizing (he does flirt a bit), but also that her gay best friend and perennial houseguest, thirtyish Timothy, will abandon her, and that her 22-year-old daughter Ruby will “do something to ruin her beautiful life.”

Before the play begins, May’s already two for three. Timothy has wanderlust. And Ruby is pregnant, by a man her father’s age. Like her mother, Ruby sees through one-dimensional, neurotic blenders. She’s convinced that, though he doesn’t seem so, her “impregnator” will become just like her father.

Heavy symbolic angst brews when Alberta — the designer who isn’t “troubled” but “has trouble” — won’t permit a bedroom window. The structure can’t support it, she claims. Like Chekhov’s seagull — a forlorn symbol of the dream becomes an irritant, then a representative of Our World Today.

Eden Lane is deliberately Chekhovian, with one exception. Chekhov’s Russians live in the country — and hate it. They crave anything civilized — the women in Uncle Vanya, the most attractive man around: not for his physical qualities — he’s a gout-riddled old codger — but because he’s urban, he’s interesting.

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null
to negotiate between information and drama. Fortunately, the Old Globe actions save the show. As they did on Broadway, Bibi Stollman and Kevin Chamberlain play unmatchable roles, never less than vivid. blonde depicts the slow assemblage of West’s image (dressed like a bespangled linebacker, she made her body a billboard for liberation), and Susan Hilferty’s excellent costumes fashion the Glitter Gulch Look. Kathy Najimy is from San Diego — graduated from Crawford High, studied at the immortal Big Kitchen School of Comedy — and from Broadway, where she performed the women’s roles in blonde. Najimy does what she can with the fan (isn’t much elsewhere) and shines as West, tracing her growth with skill and up-knock. When Najimy made her first entrance, the opening-night crowd whooped and hollered. A woman seated near me looked at her neighbor with perturbation. The neighbor whispered, with pride, “She’s ours.” Worth a trip.

6th @ Penn Theatre, Simon Edson Centre for the Performing Arts, Balboa Park, through August 30; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 P.M. Sunday at 7:00 P.M., Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. 619-233-2355.

Eden Lane
Reviewed this issue.
LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, Mandell Weiss Center for the Performing Arts, UCSD, through September 14; Tuesday through Saturday at 8:00 P.M. Sunday at 7:00 P.M. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

An Evenin’ With Billie
6th @ Penn Theatre has made a home for the late Aldridge Players tribute to Billie Holiday. The show, which enjoyed a successful run at Caesar’s Cafe, will be performed late night into November. It’s the summer of 1958. We’re in a Las Vegas jazz club, where Holiday’s documenting her life and music before a live audience. She won’t sing until she feels a song. Throughout Act One she recalls horrors (sexual abuse) and heartaches (the man who was “greasin’ my run-away to hell”) and how they shaped her style. In Act Two, her music does the talking. Billie Holiday weighed 200 pounds. Anasa Johnson doesn’t — if you don’t count her heart. Backed by top-shelf musicians, she began opening night tentatively, nudging her way through initial efforts (imagine the audience in granite. Instead, the actors treat the spotlight with puzzlement. The neighbor whispered, with pride, “She’s ours.” Worth a trip.

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Hedwig and the Angry Inch

Most often an inaugurated show's a shadebookish, a modest comedy to get bugs out: Not the new Cygnet Theater's rendition of its actual rock concert, it's staged, and performed with professional polish. Hedwig — here Hans — had his gender mangled when a sex-change operation, from male to female, left an "angry inch" of his manhood.

The rock star Tommy Gnossis stole an "angry inch" of her manhood.

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320 SAN DIEGO Reader, August 28, 2003

Hedwig and the Angry Inch

The cloudy theater hosts “not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater,” as four cast members present a fast-paced comic retelling of “Black Widow of Rio,” Cordelia “Medea is a transvestite from Cape Town.”

Kirsten Brandt and David Tierney co-directed.

SLEDGEHAMMER THEATER, 3171 INDIAN STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPENENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-295-4999.

Nick and Zita’s Funny Fat Greek Wedding

Difficult enough. Years ago, however, compere and compete on Act2Twist. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a “challenge match” against players from the San Jose Fringe. Using suggestions from the audience, they played “Emotional Sympathy,” “Shake ’em up, Blinde,” “Listen,” and “Freeze Tag,” with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed, quick wit, rewarded one of the most refreshing parts of the context: people acknowledged failure, abundantly, then forgot it. It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comic.

Work a try.

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. AND CALIFORNIA BANK AND TRUST), LIGHTED PARKING AT THE GROSSMONT COMMUNITY CENTER, 1510 CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH OCTOBER 13; TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-4999.

Private Wars

Travelers Zoo’s, San Diego and Tijuana. Jennifer, to present James McIver’s one-act comedy about paranoid postwar conditions. Circa, 1945, 9 TH STREET (BETWEEN NINTH AND TENTH), DOWN TOWN, THROUGH SATURDAY, AUGUST 14; FURTHER THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-230-1890.

Rio Can Be Murder

Mystery Cafe preserves its most popular show: a whodunit involving business owners of a little interactive dinner theater’s offerings. It’s also, however, the funniest. Author Bruce Rowland’s "Rio de Janeiro’s Hotel Ipanema." It’s 1946. The war is over, though a German U-boat has been discovered loaded with toxic gas, and criminals are on the run. Speaking of which, the show takes place aboard the WWII U.S.S. , a harbor cruise, and a mystery to boot.

Work a try.

Mystery Cafe, Aboard the William D. Evans at the Bahia Del Sol, 4th & Benicia, MEASURE. THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-464-5524.

Romero and Juliet and Titus Andronicus

For their fifth annual Summer Shakespeare Festival, the THEATRE, 3554 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 54TH STREET, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21; TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 800-944-5939.

Private Lives

Where has Noel Coward been? I can’t remember the last Coward production in San Diego. And we’d benefit from regular doses of his pretension-defying sensibility. A Place in Time, a spectacular and compelling these plays are. An ingredient, in which “Medea is a informative Greek wedding, à la the Bard’s works in repertory. The Phoenician Women, Eridanus. Worth a try.

Hedwig’s a four alarm alert...the Rocky Horror of the new millennium — this show could run until 3001.”

Ethereal Greek wedding, à la the Bard’s works in repertory. The Phoenician Women, Eridanus. Worth a try.

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Ethereal Greek wedding, à la the Bard’s works in repertory. The Phoenician Women, Eridanus. Worth a try.
Pearls to good use. Their motto: “Re-making theater. And they put his presentation on Marty Burnett’s ingenious sources of creativity. Somewhere he remembers which), will forge a missing London: his first major showing out- the expression’s implied second half, or tapping you on the shoulder with imaginative surprises. He’s less successful with more frontal pieces like ‘The Green Hill.’ But under Matt Hargrave’s energetic direction, even the furniture wanted dead”; and mayflies on a first date (and Mary), will forge a missing London: his first major showing out- the expression’s implied second half, or tapping you on the shoulder with imaginative surprises. He’s less successful with more frontal pieces like ‘The Green Hill.’ But under Matt Hargrave’s energetic direction, even the furniture wanted dead”; and mayflies on a first date (and murder, British philanderer whom these three are a very lucky troika of actors (Jennifer Davey, Emily Eavis, andｓ), is a crackerjack magician. 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The San Diego Reader offers $25 for news tips published in Blurt. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 45, or e-mail your tip to freerangechicks@hotmail.com.

The Naugahyde must go.
That’s what deputy fire marshal Terry Baird told Casbah co-owner Tim Mays years ago.

“We cut off a sample,” said Baird about his official visit last week. “We took it outside and put a match to it. It burned.”

Baird said the Casbah has to have it replaced by September 4. He said he didn’t think there was a treatment that could make it permanent.

In general, nightclubs in California are much better regulated in fire safety than most places in the country,” said a local concert promoter. “I would agree with that,” said Baird.

“They’ve been really, really aggressive since Great White,” said SOMA owner Len Paul about the San Diego fire marshal’s visits to his all-age venue. He said he is “100 percent sure” they are triggered by concerns after the Rhode Island nightclub fire that killed 100 Great White fans in February. “They started coming by every fifth show. I spent two and a half hours with the fire marshal yesterday.”

Paul sold SOMA to L.A.-based promotion company Goldenvoice in 1998. Goldenvoice closed SOMA in 1999. Paul reopened it in its current location near the Sports Arena last summer. “From 1986 to 1998 I did not have one overcrowding violation,” said Paul about his two previous SOMA all-age nightspots. Paul admits he would prefer that the fire marshal team not come by so often. “They would come after me for picky little things. It is disconcerting to be put under the microscope like that. I mean, let’s face it, if they keep coming by, they are bound to find something eventually.” Fire marshal deputy Terry Baird said his department has only been to SOMA three times since it opened in its current location. “We hit all the clubs with same rotation. We don’t hit the same club over and over again.” Baird said his department is the best-funded fire safety agency in the county. “We look at 200 different public assembly businesses in 15 to 20 different neighborhoods. We are the only department with the budget to go out and regularly do this on a Friday and Saturday night.”

Baird said he gets time-and-a-half pay for working weekend nights. He said one surprise visit encouraged one Gaslamp area bar to change its liquor-serving methods. “This bartender would do this pyrotechnic display with 151 rum. And that was right after Rhode Island. They don’t do that anymore.” — Ken Leighton

“I strongly suggest the band (Against Me) change the venue of their San Diego show…SOMA is terrible. A lot of people in San Diego refuse to go there, not only because it’s an uncomfortable pain in the ass, but also because of the questionable ethics of Len Paul, a man many feel does not support the scene in any way and is driven entirely by personal gain. Contact me at kensmith@elvis.com and I’d be happy to help you arrange a show at a better venue,” writes Ken Smith at sandiegopunk.com. Ken Smith regularly contributes a column on local music to San Diego’s CityBeat, a weekly periodical that comes out on Wednesdays. He often uses sandiegopunk.com to promote his column. Two weeks ago he also used the website to try to organize a band boycott against SOMA.

SOMA and owner Len Paul took numerous digs on the website because of rumors connecting Paul with the abrupt closure of the new all-age venue off Miroamar.

The world famous Casbah backdrop, which has appeared in Rolling Stone and Spin magazines, was originally used for booths at a Farrell’s ice cream parlor. It has been part of the club since it opened at its Kettner and Laurel location nine years ago.

“We cut off a sample,” said Baird about his official visit last week. “We took it outside and put a match to it. It burned.”

Baird said the Casbah has to have it replaced by September 4. He said he didn’t think there was a treatment that could make it permanent.

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against SOMA. SOMA and owner Len Paul took numerous digs on the website because of rumors connecting Paul with the abrupt closure of the new all-age venue off Miroamar.

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San Diego Reader
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103
**Road, the Warehouse Project.** The venue was closed August 6 for failing to secure an entertainment permit.

Paul said he had "absolutely nothing to do" with calling the police on the Warehouse Project. Randall Jenkins of Jedidiah Clothing, which operates the Warehouse Project, said, "There is no proof that anyone from any other venue was involved in calling the police."

Explains Smith, 'The post was based on a conversation i’d had the night before about how upset we were that [Florida band] Against Me’s next stop in San Diego would be at SOMA.' Explains Smith. "At no time did I make any particular allegations against Len Paul...i merely offered to point Against Me in other directions. This is a band with strong sociopolitical beliefs, and it's not a good match for them to play at SOMA. Their core crowd avoids SOMA. They [the fans] tend to be a different type of music fan. I was acting independently and not in association with any publication. Nor do my personal feelings about anything taint my ability to be an objective journalist or represent any opinions other than my own.... I agree that SOMA is in many ways a boon to the local scene. The more venues, the healthier local music is."

As a general policy, free speech is very important to me,” said San Diego CityBeat editor David Rolland. "I'm glad my writers have opinions, and I encourage them to express them. Obviously, there are limits. If one of our writers behaves in a way that reflects badly on the paper or harms the paper, for example, we might have a problem with it, and we would deal with that on a case-by-case basis. None of what I’m saying necessarily relates to your story to Ken Smith and SOMA." He said Smith will still write for CityBeat.

"My general position is that the freelancers or full-time staffers can have whatever opinion they want," said San Diego CityBeat publisher Charles N. Grenenczer. "But it [Smith’s SOMA commentary] certainly is not the position of CityBeat."

--- Ken Leighton

**At Candyke Kane’s CD-release party for Whole Lotta Love, the blues singer served five homemade apple pies, slices of which she auctioned off from the stage with whipped cream and cocktail wienies. A few people at the August 15 show in Carlsbad didn’t perceive Kane as portraying an apple pie image and complained to organizers.**

The show, part of producer Bob Haygey’s TGIF Jazz in the Parks series, was held at Calavera Hills Park in Carlsbad.

Colleen Finnegan, community arts coordinator for the city of Carlsbad, admits there were some complaints about the Kane show. "We had two comments during the show, and we’ve had responses. There was over that people found it a little inappropriate," says Finnegan. "During the first half of her performance she spoke to the crowd a whole lot, and during the second act, after we’d had a chance to talk about what our audience generally appreciates and what we’d been assured by the producer… would be the understanding, she was totally cooperative and simply came out and sang a great set… There were a lot of people who said… that they really enjoyed the show… I don’t think there’s going to be even so much as a tempest in a teapot."

Asked what some audience members complained about, Finnegan says, “I’m not going to repeat every… You can get it from Candyke if you want to.”

"I’ve tried to play it clean in Carlsbad, so I was really surprised when this happened… I want to reach families… I don’t really think I offended the majority of people, but I think that one person that’s offended makes the most noise, and all the people that are having fun are sort of overridden by that person.”

--- Pat Sherman

---

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Laura Jane admitted, “It kind of conflicted with the Miracle Cloth woman’s idea of a good time with her kind of conflicted with the presentation is a jewel, a pearl of our contract to have sold $400 in that booth, not to mention product,” said Bob. “That was not part of our music in relation to the over powering our sales somebody behind us of our sales presentation. … You’ve got to be careful with where you put music in relation to vendors. … Each word of the presentation is a jewel, a pearl on a necklace.”

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VISCO ENTERTAINMENT
Too Young To Remember

“The kids ended up winning $500 and are supposed to be opening for a national act at 4th & B.”

The Fijis are three students from Ocean Knoll Elementary and one from Park Dale Elementary in Encinitas. They’ve been a band for two years. Singer/guitarist Michael Buccia-relli tells me, “We first did this for a talent show at school. We just played one song. But we had a different drummer then.”

What happened to him? Michael’s dad Bob pipes in, “They weren’t a band then. They just did it for the talent show.”

When I ask if they won the talent show, the kids all answer at once, explaining there were no winners (all, the days of political correctness). One contest Michael did win was a talent search at hundreds of malls across the country. Michael’s parents sent in a video of Michael playing guitar. He was one of the winners and got $7000 cash (which he’s saving for college) and a trip for his whole family to New York City. He also got to play at the Apollo Theater in New York City. His segment has aired three times now on Fox.

I watch the band tear into Tom Petty’s “Running Down a Dream” during a rehearsal. Michael sounds like Petty’s guitarist Mike Campbell. I’m getting into it, but I laugh when I think about the song and how it’s about driving. These kids are four years away from driving. And instead of borrowing Dad’s car, these kids are borrowing their dad’s gear.

Bob says, “I built the guitar Michael plays, as I have many of my own, from specialty parts.”

Queen guitarist Brian May started the same way, with an axe his dad built. I ask Bob about the Flat Out Liars, the band he’s in. “We’ve played gigs all over town. We’ve been together for about six years. We used to play more gigs, but now we all are older and have families.” His brother Jack plays drums in the band.

“Jack also owns Rhythm House Music in Solana Beach.”

Bob also tells me about the other Fijis’ parentage. “Nico’s [the bassist] dad Russ has played bass with local blues guitarist Blonde Bruce, and he owns Moonlight Music in Encinitas. Matty’s [one of the two percussionists] dad played drums growing up and is influential with Matty’s development. Rafal’s dad doesn’t have a musical background but makes up for it with his help and enthusiasm. He drives the Fijimobile — a Chevy Suburban with the band logo and phone number displayed on all sides.”

It’s a kick watching them jam in a room addition Bob made to his house. It is soundproofed so neighbors won’t complain. I see a Stevie Ray Vaughan DVD next to a “Simon Says” game. A Guitar Player magazine next to a few toy dinosaurs. It’s hard to think of them as kids when I hear one of them say, “Let’s try ‘Hoochie Coochie Man.’” They play other blues gems like “The Thrill Is Gone,” “The Sky Is Crying,” and “Still Rainin’” by Johnny Lang, the 25-year-old guitar whiz who became popular as a teenager playing rock and blues. The Fijis excitedly tell me they saw him in concert at Humphrey’s. Bob is there like a Little League coach teaching a player how to choke up on the bat. He’s showing one of the drummers how to keep a certain beat. He tells his son something about the distortion pedals. Between songs, Michael tells Nico he came into a part of the song early. Another time one of the drummers asked about whether he was playing something properly. It’s like watching an adult band.

Nico tells me he likes the bass break in “Crossroads,” the Robert Johnson song that Cream redid. Rafael says, “I like the drum solo in ‘Funk 49’ ” (the James Gang song done by fellow local Joe Walsh). Bob adds, “In the middle of it, Rafael and Matty do a drum solo together, both on the same kit, that is always a big hit at their shows.”

As far as Bob’s role goes, he says, “I’m their music coach, manager, agent, and sound man. I help them with the varied skills needed to play together as a band. It’s more than just music. It’s the dynamic exchange of ideas, the giving in for the greater good. The same as working together on any team. I also get a great deal of help from the other parents and family members. Everyone has really pitched in to help these kids get this far. They have the qualities that are necessary for success. They’re good kids, very talented, and they worked hard together to get where they are.”

And where are they? They have played for Little League games, the Roadhouse Grill in Encinitas, and three dates this year at the San Diego County Fair, and they were on the KUSI news August 20. They also played a battle of the bands at Fat Katz in Encinitas against 18 adult bands. Unlike the school talent show, this one had a winner, and it was the Fijis. (A few of the bands complained that they won because of the novelty aspect of their young ages.) Regarding that contest, Bob tells me, “The time was from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. We asked if we could let them start at 8, because it was a school night. So they bent the rules a bit. The kids ended up winning $500 and are supposed to be opening for a national act at 4th & B. We keep waiting for that, but it hasn’t happened yet.”

When they start to play Van Morrison’s “Wild Nights,” I can’t believe how great the bass line sounds. And it’s funny to see Nico, the smallest of the bunch, holding the biggest instrument. The band plays classics like “Johnny B. Goode,” “All Along the Watchtower,” “Twist and Shout,” and “Revolution.” Not only were they too young to remember when the Beatles released “Revo-
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olution,” they’re even too young to remember when Nike released the commercial that used the song “Revolution” ten years ago.

I ask them about learning songs, and Bob tells me, “I arrange and reconfigure the songs to their ability. I used to have to simplify or modify the parts more, but as they continue to improve, it is becoming less necessary. I will show them the basic chords, groove, parts to a song. But they also learn some on their own. Their parents also help at home, and so do their individual music teachers.”

When they take a break for sodas and tea, I hear them talk about a girl at school, their favorite ice cream, and local surfer/musician Rob Machado. I ask them what else they do besides music, and they tell me they hang out with friends and play sports (baseball, soccer, and one even plays lacrosse). I glance at a set list and see it’s not just oldies they play. The Fijis do more recent songs like Lenny Kravitz’s “Fly Away,” Nirvana’s “Smells Like Teen Spirit,” Green Day’s “Basketcase,” and Three Doors Down’s “Kryptonite.”

When I ask them their favorites, they all tell me they like AC/DC, Hendrix, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

I ask each band member what specific part they enjoy most from their set. Michael says, “I enjoy doing our original song, ‘Shut Up,’ especially playing the guitar solo.”

Right now, “Shut Up” is their only original, but it covers the territory that’s important to students: Every day at school / there’s so many rules / homework, backpack, I’m the mule / they want to stifle me / can’t stop this energy / mouth is shut but my mind is free / they didn’t want to hear from me / shut up / shut up, sit down, don’t say a word / shut up, should be seen, but never heard / shut up, don’t care what you have to say / it doesn’t even matter anyway.”

On the subject of girls, I jokingly ask Bob about the groupies. He says, “There are girls that follow the band and want autographs after many of the performances. It isn’t a big issue yet. Somehow I think that may change next year in junior high.” Because of the popularity of hip-hop among their age group, or boy bands like N’SYNC, I ask what fellow classmates have to say. They laugh, as two of them tell me almost simultaneously, “Kids at school sometimes say, ‘The Fijis suck.’ We don’t care. It’s not a big deal.”

I ask how they got the name. Michael says, “Moonlight Music had a music camp, and me and Nico were there playing for a few months. We needed a name, and we had a Fiji water bottle. We needed a name, and there it was.”

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**Jimmy Smith Band**
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**Sunday, September 20, 2003**
**Island Sounds Reggae Fest:**
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**Sunday, September 21, 2003**
**From Chick Corea & Origin**
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**Saturday, October 4, 2003**
**Rusted Root Lead Singer:**
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*Solo Acoustic Performance*
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Thursday, August 28

Tony Bennett
Tuesday, September 2

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Thursday, September 4

Air Supply/Christopher Cross
Friday, September 5

Lucinda Williams
with special guest Marc Ford
Tuesday, September 9

Lee Ritenour/
Mindi Abair
Thursday, September 8 • 7:30

The Neville Brothers
with special guests Marcia Ball
Friday, September 9 • 7:30

Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra
Sunday, September 10 • 7:30

Craig Chaquico/
Keiko Matsui
Thursday, September 15 • 7:30

John Hiatt &
The Goners/
The Robert Cray Band
(Clay opens on Abbeville and
Hiatt opens on Tuesday)
Mon. & Tues., September 19 & 20 • 7:30

Tower of Power
Friday, September 26 • 8:00

George Benson
Saturday, October 4 • 8:00

Jim Brickman
Wednesday, October 8 • 8:00

Tom Jones
Monday, October 13 • 8:00

Ottmar Liebert/
Luna Negra
Sunday, October 15 • 7:00

Kool & the Gang
Sunday, October 22 • 7:30

Keali'i Reichel
Friday, October 27 • 8:00

Tower of Power
Saturday, October 28 • 8:00
Padded Sticks and Wooden-Headed Mallets

It’s a highly complex, alien musical tradition that I shall not have time in this life to properly explore.

I received a pile of gamelan music from the world music distributor Rock Paper Scissors this other day; they almost always send me good stuff. These gamelan discs are part of a large project by Nonesuch Records in its Nonesuch Explorer Series. Nonesuch has been a pioneer in bringing world music to a larger audience; its original series was issued on vinyl between 1967 and 1984. Those readers of a certain age will remember when the world music section of record stores was a good deal more modest than they are today. Operations such as the Nonesuch series were instrumental in changing all that, and Nonesuch are today. Operations such as the revival of the Explorer Series in August 2002 with the release of 13 volumes of African music and its Nonesuch Explorer Series. It is more than possible that Debusky had actually played around with a small gamelan that the Paris Conservatory had acquired two years earlier. But nothing would have prepared Debussy for the performance by Java’s finest players. Of course, the five- and seven-note scale structures are exotic to the Western ear, along with the various timbres generated by the different kinds of padded mallets, and an entirely new concept of the sound characteristics of gamelan in his piece “Pagodes,” of one of three picturesque miniatures that make up Estampes (1903). At the time there was an extreme and ongoing fad of Orientalism that pervaded the arts in France, Japanese prints, for instance, were hugely popular at the time, and Debussy himself was especially keen on them. Any resemblance of Debussy’s lovely “Pagodes” to the gamelan would have come as news to a Javanese or Balinese musician or listener. Nor is a pagoda to be anywhere found in Java or Bali. But the Indonesians did share Debussy’s fascination with overtones. The largest gamelan in the gamelan ensemble, the gong-ageng, includes among its overtones all the notes that can be played on other instruments. The gong-ageng is considered by Indonesians to be the sacred source of all music, and ritual offerings of flowers and incense are regularly bestowed upon it.

Traditional gamelan is intriguing, beautiful music. But I find it difficult to get into because it’s a highly complex, alien musical tradition that I shall not have time in this life to properly explore. Which is why I’m delighted to report that a number of Western composers have taken up the magnificent sonorities of the gamelan and put them in the service of Western art music — experimental Western art music, to be sure, but a musical tradition that I find more approachable and an excellent way to engage the sound world of the gamelan.

This NM Classics disc features the work of the Dutch composer Ton de Leeuw and his compositions Gending, a Western homage to the gamelan, completed in 1975. It is fitting that a Dutch composer should give his attention to this music; it was composed during a time when Central Javanese music was enjoying considerable popularity in the Netherlands. The Dutch, who established their East Indian Company in Indonesia in 1602, did not have as much as a mind that they were bringing God and civilization to a heathen culture. It only took three centuries to turn that notion on its head.

Bali: Gamelan Semar Peregading: Gamelan of the Love God, Nonesuch Explorer Series (797120-2)
Java: The Jasminke Balinese Music, Nonesuch Explorer Series (7971702)
Ton De Leeuw, Ensemble Gending, NM Classics (92062)
In celebration of the 20th Annual Street Scene® 2003 Music Festival, Starbucks Coffee® and Street Scene® 2003 will each donate $5000 to the San Diego elementary school music education programs.

ADVANCE TICKETS NOW ON SALE! ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.STREET-SCENE.com • STREET SCENE HOTLINE 1-800-260-9985

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San Diego Reader August 28, 2003

Labor Day Weekend Parking Lot DVD Sale
Saturday and Sunday, August 30 & 31
Both Locations 10 am–5 pm
$9.99 each or 3 for $25

All of these titles (and more!) in stock. First come, first served. Sale price valid only on parking lot titles. No coupons accepted.

Mojo sez:
As always, it’s an extravaganza not to be missed!

Mojo sez: As always, it’s an extravaganza not to be missed!

Mojo sez: As always, it’s an extravaganza not to be missed!

Labor Day Weekend Special Event
Sunday, August 31
Doors Open 8 pm

WOW! A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF STEELEY DAN

www.TheSteelyDamned.com

Mojo sez: As always, it’s an extravaganza not to be missed!

Mojo sez: As always, it’s an extravaganza not to be missed!

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**FRIDAY**

**San Diego**

**Earth, Wind, and Fire** have always been a burr in George Clinton’s backside. The fountain of Parliament-Funkadelic, they called themselves “Earth, Hot Air, and No Fire” in one of its songs. But these bands are opposite sides of the same coin. EWF and Parliament both emerged during the ’70s era of funk, along with bands like the Ohio Players and Kool and the Gang. For a while, they all followed the map that had been set by James Brown nearly a decade earlier. But Clinton, and then Kool, began to make radical departures from the format and things got interesting. The roof was coming off soul, R&B, and the new funk, and George Clinton had a vested interest. He was a groundfloor investor in weirdness, and in short order Clinton became funk’s main player, dedicated as he said to “rescuing dance music from the blacks.” I spent an afternoon wandering about old George and what it was about EWF that made him mad. You play “September,” EWF’s thumping horn and vocals tribute, and you feel better about a lot of things. And there’s Philip Bailey’s lofty falsetto, accurate as a guided missile and all over sweet. What’s not to like? Not to say that I don’t like P-Funk — I do. But when Maurice White founded Earth, Wind, and Fire, his game plan was to hire first-rate jazz horns and turn them loose inside a strict architecture. In the process, he ignored the roots that Clinton had found so vital to the preservation of black culture: the funk. That’s what went missing, and that’s what probably irked Clinton. White and EWF drifted from funk and grafted African rhythms and pop melodies to their charts instead. It made for convincing music and, at the same time, of some the best jazz-rock going.

**TUESDAY**

**San Diego**

**BUD SHANK & PETE CHRISTIELE**

Legends of the jazz saxophone

September 3, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. / Tickets: $15

Food and beverages available

For tickets, please visit our website or buy at the door

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART
1450 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK, WWW.SDMARTS.ORG

**SUNDAY**

**San Diego**

**Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay**

**THE VIGILANCE PROGRAM**

**Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.**

**Upcoming Concerts**

**THIS WEEK’S CONCERTS**

**THURSDAY**

**The Righteous Brothers (395)**

Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.

**Earth, Wind & Fire (493)**

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m., 3005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-220-8497 or 619-445-5400.

**Oscar**

Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.

**Concerts by the Bay**

Tuesday, September 2, 8 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.

**EXTENSION 4001**

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**San Diego**

**SUNDAY**

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FRIDAY
DJ Icey
Dave Audé
Jason Gently
Pauli P

SATURDAY
Christopher Lawrence
The New Deal
Goober + Laville
Pauli P

SUNDAY
Diesel Boy
Mea
DJ Irene
Gray Area

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THURSDAY AUGUST 28

Jimmy Buffet & the Coral Reefer Band
September 23
Friday September 26
Two rock & roll giants! One stage! One night!
JAMES TAYLOR
Out and about Tour
THURSDAY OCTOBER 16
Friday October 17

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Under NEW Ownership
It's not really such a big jump from Angry Young Man to Cranky Old Guy — all it takes is time. Joe Jackson started the transition 25 years ago with Look Sharp!, a great album of hyperactive power pop. Its hit single "She Really Going Out With Him?" stands among the best of the new wave era. Jackson and his band were on a tear and released another great powerpop album just six months later. But partly to distance himself from comparisons to Elvis Costello, Jackson's next album, Beat Crazy, was all reggae. After that, it was an ever-changing band lineup and an ever-changing musical direction — from swing to jazz to orchestral music and other styles.

I remember seeing Jackson at the tail end of the '80s. For the song "Nineteen Forever," he put on a sequined jacket and pompadour wig to make fun of rockers who never changed. It was kind of funny but kind of not. A lot of people just wanted to hear "Step

OFF OF NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The Doobie Brothers (383)
Palomar Starlight Theatre, Thursday, September 25, 8 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-445-6002, x1139.

The White Stripes (399)
The Casbah, Friday, September 26, 8 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.

The Queen of the Stone Age (828)
RIMAC Arena, Friday, October 11, 8:15 p.m., 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600 or 619-220-8497.

The Queens of the Stone Age (828)
ClubMiami, Saturday, October 18, 8 p.m., 121 4th & B, downtown San Diego. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Joe Jackson's next album, Look Sharp!, six months later. But partly to distance him-

HoHoCociety

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to different levels. Her “One, two, I love you, so don’t bring me down” and other listless ramblings make her come across as a submissive version of Alanis Morissette, although her tendency to actually sing rather than shriek her disjunction is compelling.

The highlight of the CD is “Hyde Park,” a weightless pop melody that would otherwise collapse into the melodic blurting of Lisah’s bubbly vocals with solid electric guitars as she sings, “Five ten, we’ve missed breakfast again, are you even aware?” Edgy guitar riffs, Lisah’s high vocal range, and some interesting songwriting lures the listener even as the album rolls through the weaker tracks.

Once every in a while, Lisah slips something strange or obscure into her flirty delivery and really gets to the crux of her tendency to actually sing two, I love you, so don’t bring me down” and other listless ramblings make her come across as a submissive version of Alanis Morissette, although her tendency to actually sing rather than shriek her disjunction is compelling.

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6-8 PM • LATIN RHYTHMS WITH BOSSA NOSSA
9:30 PM-1:30 AM • GREAT DANCE MUSIC

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2 DAYS • 14 ARTISTS • 1 STAGE!
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5:30 PM-1:30 AM
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JONNY VIAU
MIKE REILLY
LEN RAINEY
BILLY WATSON
SUE PALMER
WITH DIDJAH MARIE
RUBY
FUZZY RANKIN
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31
5:30 PM-1:30 AM
BARBARA JAMERSON
HOLLY HOFMANN
JOSÉ MOLINA SERRANO
PATRICK YANDALL
REGGIE SMITH
TRINA STEWARD
CALVIN ROMANCE
DJ JOHN PHILLIPS

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CALVIN ROMANCE 6:30-10:30 PM
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FATTBURGER 9:30 PM-1 AM
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3:
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rock

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How’s My Driving: Surf’n’Shell

The Jackson 5: MGP’s Irish Pub and Grill, Careers

The Joe Jackson Band: 6th & B
Christina James & the Midnight Riders: MGP’s Irish Pub and Grill

JiveTime: The Cash progn

The Kickin’ Holiday Threesome: Blind Melons
King Dude: On The Rocks
Los Ingratos: Over the Border

The Lost Patrol: North Bar Sports & Spirits
Masa-Transit: Pal Joey’s
David Mead: 6th & B
Nemesis: Joe & Joe’s (La Mesa)

The Neon Beat: The Kensington Club
Osama Yo Mama: The Jumping Turtle Bar & Grill

Party Hard Sounds: Chancy’s

Rock N’ Roll: Blind Melons
Rockola: Humphrey’s
R.O.K: Second Wind (Santee)

The Steely Damned: Cunibal Bar
Super Funk Fantasy: Jimmy Love’s

The Leigh Taylor Band: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Tubby: On The Rocks

Two Way Street: Cunibal Bar
Viva Santsana: Humphrey’s

West of Memphis: Jolt’n Joe’s (Escondido)

The Zen Dogs: Surf’n’Shell

extension 4004

pop / top 40

8 Natural: Bahia Bella Cruise
DL Lounge: The Plum Loco Saloon

Jessie Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant

The 80’s Allstars: Rock Bottoms
Funkenstein: 5thh Qtr.
Karen Giorgi: The Inn at the Park
Leslie Gold: The Westgate Hotel
Leviticus: La Valencia Hotel

The Love Rangars: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
Makia: Viejas Casino

The New Breed Band: The Alley

The Orbitize: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Jack Pullack: Elraine’s Bistro & Sky Lounge
Risa: Princes Pub & Grille

Peter Robberecht/Pianoman: (425) Dakota Grill and Spirits
X-Cell: Jimmy Love’s

extension 4005

jazz / big band

The Archettes: Croc’s Jazz Bar

The B Side Players: (425) Belly Up Tavern

The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German American Societies

Blue Largo: (626) Tio Lee’s Lounge, Coyote Bar and Grill

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
John Cain: (760) Hotel del Coronado
Calima: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe
Emilio Camacho: Dizzy’s

The Jorge Camberos Quintet: Croc’s Jazz Bar

Gilbert Castaños: (675) Onyx
Kiko Cornelio: Dizzy’s

The Credit Union: Neirans Bar and Grill

Jo Dark: The German-American Societies

The David Patrone Quartet: Croc’s Jazz Bar, Martini Ranch (Gaslamp)

Andy Esparza: Dizzy’s

Donnie Fimmel & Co. East: Bistro 121

Larry Fogle: Mama’s Lounge

Joe Garrison: Dizzy’s

Clark Galt & Swing City Express: Viejas Casino

The Tim Gill Orchestra: Neimans Bar and Grill

The Cynthia Hammond Trio: La Costa Tournament of Champions Lounge

Bill Harris: Hotel del Coronado
Fred Heath & the Slidekiders: Baysen Bar & Grill

Daniel Jackson: Hotel del Coronado

Barbara Jameson: Hotel del Coronado

The Jazz Allstars: Jimmy Love’s

Lady Dottie & The Sliders: Bayou Bar & Grill

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

The Ledesma Brothers: The Latin Room, La Villa Losa Sports Bar & Grill

Joe Marillo: (647) Elraine’s Bistro & Sky Lounge

Masterpieces: Dick’s Last Resort, Jimmy Love’s

The Jared Mattson Trio: Me Espresso Cafe

Steve McVicker: Elraine’s Bistro & Sky Lounge

Jerry Malchina: Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shop Meyers Quartet: (603): Hotel del Coronado, Croc’s Jazz Bar

Dave Shilling’s Mystic: Jimmy Love’s

Mike Nelson: Lodge Torrey Pines

Steve O’Connor: South Park Bar & Grill

Prime: Belly Up Tavern, Croc’s Jazz Bar

Rick Rosas: The Beach House, Money’s Lounge, Elraine’s Bistro & Sky Lounge

The San Diego Concert Jazz Band: The Inn at the Park

Dave Scott: Croc’s Jazz Bar

The Ron Siegler Trio: The Doubletree Hotel (Del Mar)

Skytop: Mr. Joey’s Cantina

Steam: South Park Bar & Grill

Stella’s: The Wyndham Emerald Plaza

Joe Tarrantino: The Wyndham Emerald Plaza

Tibah: Dizzy’s

Trio du Jour: The Beach House

The Jaime Valle/Rob Magnuson Jazz Quartet: Turbo Moto, Coronado Island Marriott

Jason Wehbe: Mille Fleurs

Taya: Croc’s Jazz Bar

extension 4006

reggae / ska

The Devastators: (760) Winstons

DJ Cisco: The Plum Loco Saloon

DJ Russian: The Plum Loco Saloon

DJ Winston: The Plum Loco Saloon

Jack the Original: Blind Melons

Freddie McGregor: 6th & B

NZ Rough: Hemisrrey’s (Tavern) (PB)

Pau Hanna: 6th & B

Red Llama Dog: Winstons

Semita & Fulabuma: (760): The Beach House

Starshak: Blind Melons

Steve Statham & the Citizen X: Posse: 15th Qtr.

The Tribe of Kings: Martin Ranch (Gaslamp)

extension 4007

country

The California Rangers: McCabe’s Beach Club
Kernell & Millen: Don’t Ride The Cocktail Lounge

Christian Simmons: Second Wind (Escondido)

extension 4008

acoustic / folk

Berkeley Hart: (628): Croc’s Top Hat Bar and Grill

Steve Bremur: Barley Stone Pub (Downtown)

J.D. Bouchard: Princess Pub & Grill

Joe Bynum: Barley Stone Pub (Claremont)

The Celtic Ensemble: Triggers Tea and Coffee Company

Mary Dolan: (619): Starbucks (Kensington)

Javier Escovedo: The Cash

Jose Harris: MGP’s Irish Pub and Grill

The Hatchet Brothers: The Ould Soil, The Cash

The Justin Brothers: The Beach House

Cali Lowell: Shirley’s Kitchen

Sir Kippy Marks: Sazasats Bar and Grill

Martin Christopher: MGP Espresso Cafe

The Mike & Mike Show: Hemisreyy’s Tavern (PB)

Jim Moore: MGP’s Irish Pub and Grill

Tommy Price: Hemisrey’s Tavern (Carlsbad)

Ron’s Garage: Island Sports & Sports, MGP’s Irish Pub and Grill, Hotel del Coronado

Victoria Rose: Sazasats Bar and Grill

Gene Warren: The Ould Soil

extension 4009

blues / soul

Big Daddy & the Moneyskayers: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Boogiemen: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

Coupe de Ville: Loew’s Coronado Bay Hotel

Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters: (9202): Shooters Bar and Grill, Chateau Orleans, Baysa Bar and Grill

Fish & the Seaweed: Coyote Bar and Grill

Jump Jones: Tio Lee’s Lounge

The Latina Locek Band: Galaka

Michele Lundeon (9212): Patrick’s

The Bill Magee Blues Band: (947): Patrick’s Pit

Kymbreeea Maxine: Elraine’s Bistro & Sky Lounge

Nite Life: (947): Pal Joey’s

The Nude Blues: Bahia Bella Cruise

Ruby Blue: The Yacht Club

Nik Simon: Patrick’s II

J.J. Skydne: Downtown Cafe

The Small Town Heroes: Hemisrrey’s Tarent (Carlsbad)

The Jimmy Smith Band: Victor’s Restaurant & Bar

Smokin’ Gun: O’Connell’s Pub and Night Club

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love’s

Theo & the Zydce Pontrol: (9202): Coyote Bar and Grill

Billy Thompson (970): Coyote Bar and Grill

Johnny “V” Varmaza: Patrick’s II

extension 4101

evrything else

Shirley Allen: Red Fox Steakhouse

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze, Sammy’s

Sandy Dale Canodado: Cafe LaMaze

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

Circa: Buon Giorno Restaurant

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Julia de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel

Vicki Erigat: Edelweiss Restaurant

Kjell Holmes: (947): Edelweiss Restaurant

Gordon Kohl: (947): Edelweiss Restaurant

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Los Raynes del Ritmo: Mr. Joey’s Cantina

Frank Lookaita: The Westgate Hotel

Orquesta Salubrama: Sevilla

Eddie Ross New Directions: Red Fox Steakhouse
DJ EVENTS

If you would like to have your DJ event included, fax information to 619-891-2401, attention Scott Ellis, or e-mail s ellas@sdvoice.com by 5:00 p.m., Friday prior to publication. The listings are free.

BK Lounge: Fridays, hip-hop, dancehall, reggae, and R&B. 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Seventh Street, corner of Fifth Avenue and Market Street, Gaslamp. 619-236-1616. Information, 619-998-4336.

Bottoms Up: Fridays, good vibes, house, breaks, drum ‘n’ bass, hip-hop. 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Trivida, corner of Fourth Avenue and Island Street, Gaslamp. 619-232-6774.


Cafe C’N’Clear: Sundays, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., DJ Doctor Swing spins the best dance music from the ’40s, ’50s, and ’60s. 3175 India Street, uptown. Information, 619-272-2102; 619-465-5827.

Club 80s: Thursdays, Bryan D, P. Mckley, and Adam Z, spin ’80s music, new wave, synthpop, and new romantic at Shooters, 3815 30th Street (next to Pokez), downtown. 619-574-6774. First Friday of every month at the Hollywood Sign. 1530 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-2102; 619-465-5827.

Club Ice: Wednesdays, hop-hop and house music with DJ Skaline; Thursday, hip-hop, house, and trance featuring “Goliath,” a monster sound system. 420 E Street, downtown. 619-465-5827.


Clubhouse: Fridays and Saturdays, resident DJs Infinity, “The Pompeii Room: Thursdays, DJ Stiffy spins Latin, freestyle house, and in the party zone. Saturdays, Labor Day Jan 03. High school and college students attended. 776 Metcal Street, Escondido. 619-760-9391.

Glitter: Thursdays, hip-hop and house in North County. Full-color laser shows, hoisted patios, lounge areas; 18 and up. Neumon, 306 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 616-729-4331.

Heaven: Sundays, DJ Infinity, Golden Boy, DJ Garrett V., and more spin house, progressive, and trance. No cover. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Club Pure, 8125 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa. 619-538-7873.

Hi-Pi: Every third Saturday of the month, the best in imports, ’80s, and indie with DJs BCZAR!, Richard D, and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Rosemary Room, corner of Tenth and E Street (near the Fox). 619-232-7468.

Jumping Turtle Bar & Grill: Fridays, house, hip-hop, and R&B. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 3175 India Street, uptown. Information, 619-234-9211.

Kadan: Thursdays, Jillices, urban underground music. Saturdays, Karaoke Night, corner of Eighth and Exit Street, Tommy Boy, and more. Sundays, Develay, drum ‘n’ bass, 4606 30th Street, North Park. 619-648-2500.

Locals Only: Tuesdays, hip-hop, DJ Top 40, and house with DJs Antonio Aguilar and Blake Miller. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Local, 1065 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-234-4477.


Sushi Lounge: Fridays, DJ Styly spins Latin, freestyle, house, and hip-hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1408 Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

Rituale: Fridays, DJs Yosef, Matt Levine, Jen Sasser, and more spin hip-hop, breaks, house, progressive, trance, and rock. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Catamaran Resort, 999 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 619-488—1081.

The Room: Thursdays, Martini Lounge with DJ Maze and percussion by Andi. Fridays, Champagne Lounge with DJ Maze and Enigma, hip-hop and funk grooves. Saturdays, Margarita Lounge with DJ Maze and Lime, European grooves. All events until 2 a.m. El Porno Bar, 909 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 619-459-5910.

Sabbath: Saturdays, DJs Eric Hart, Adam Atom, and worldly guest DJs. Dark electro, gothic, darkwave, industrial, and fetish. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Shooters, 3183 30th Street, San Diego. 619-574-6774. Information, 619-743-1623.

DJ Events
**Labor Day Weekend**

**Dance Music**

- **Saturday Night Mix**: Saturdays, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Erima, Nick, and Big Daddy. No cover.
- **Moondoggies**: 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6530.
- **Sunset Bar**: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-2163.

**Kirt DeNiro’s**

- **North County**: 2777 Rosserelli Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-9651. Monday, 6:15 pm to 9 pm, Small Town Heroes.
- **Hollywood Star**: 1320 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 858-232-2102. Monday, 6:15 pm to 9 pm, Small Town Heroes.
- **Boomer’s**: 2777 Rosserelli Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-9651. Monday, 6:15 pm to 9 pm, Small Town Heroes.
- **Barefoot Bar and Grill**: 485 South Coast Highway (at D Street), Encinitas. 760-483-7844. Saturday, 4 pm to 7 pm, Small Town Heroes.

**Food and Drink**

- **La Costa Tournament of Champions Lounge**, La Costa Resort and Spa, Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad. 760-438-9111. Sunday, 7 pm to 9 pm, The Cyprus Hammond Trio, jazz.

**Saturday, August 30**

- **Sam’s**: 1320 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 858-232-2102. Monday, 6:15 pm to 9 pm, Small Town Heroes.

**North County**

- **The Alley**: 821 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-484-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Love Ringers, Top 40/pop. Wednesday, the New Breed Band, pop.
- **The Beach House**: 330 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-753-1321. Thursday and Sunday, Red Rose, jazz. Friday, The Dixie Lrokes, jazz. Saturday, the Justin Brothers, acoustic pop rock. Wednesday, Sonas & Polkafools, reggae.
- **Belly Up Tavern**: 143 South Grand Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-4922. Thursday and Friday, 9:15 pm, Isold Vibration, reggae. Saturday, 9:15 pm, Side-Players, Latin jazz. Sunday, 7:30 pm, Primo, Latin jazz.
- **Bistro 221**: 221 Grand Avenue, Encinitas. 760-737-3999. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Donna Fonzi & Co. East, jazz.
- **Boar Cross’n**: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2889. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.
- **The BookWorks/Pannikin Café**: 661 Grand Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-4922. Thursday and Friday, 9:15 pm, Isold Vibration, reggae. Saturday, 9:15 pm, Side-Players, Latin jazz. Sunday, 7:30 pm, Primo, Latin jazz.
- **Careers**: 11401 Bernardi Plaza Drive, Carlsbad. 858-566-1400. Friday and Saturday, the JackaH 3, rock.
- **Coyote Bar and Grill**: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4969. Thursday, 6 pm to 10 pm, Bonzeyd, rock. Friday, 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Fish & the Smokes, blues, funk. Saturday, 3 pm to 5:30 pm, Blue Large, 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Then & the Zombie Poet, blues. Sunday, 2 pm to 4:30 pm, Big Daddy & the Monклеbells, 5 pm to 9 pm, Billy Thompson, blues.
- **Doubletree Hotel**: 11915 El Camino Real, Del Mar. 858-481-8800. Sydney’s Bar & Grill, Thursday, 6 pm to 9 pm, The Ron Sigow Trios, jazz.
- **Hannessen’s Tavern** (Carlsbad): 2777 Rosserelli Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-9651. Friday, the Small Time Heroes, blues, Saturday, Tommy Price, acoustic. Sunday, Sandiafort, alternative.
- **Joe’s**: 717 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 760-743-7645. Friday and Saturday, West of Memphis, rock.
- **The Jumping Turtle Bar & Grill**: 2600 Capella Road, San Marcos. 760-471-1701. Friday, 9 pm, Fier Confessions, the JTS, Acts of Aggression, and the Chloe, alternative rock Thursday, 8 pm, Osama Ta Manna, rock.
- **La Costa Tournament of Champions Lounge, La Costa Resort and Spa, Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad. 760-438-9111. Friday and Saturday, the Justin Brothers, progressive piano, blues. Wednesday, the Justin Matthew Trio, jazz.
- **Martini Ranch**: 483 South Coast Highway (at D Street), Encinitas. 760-843-0101. Friday, DJ Frances, rock. Saturday, 9 pm to 11 pm, DJ Jalil and DJ Tone Capone, rock.
- **McCabe’s Beach Club**: 1415 South Tremont, Ocean Beach. 858-481-4664. Friday, the California Rangers, country.
- **The Metaphor Coffeehouse**: 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Thursday and Monday, Dixieland jazz. Friday, 8 pm, the Lee Taylor Band, rock and roll.
- **Mille Fleur’s**: 6009 Paseo Delicias, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Thursday, 6:15 pm to 9 pm, The Cajun Union, Friday, 9:30 pm, DJ Fab One and Habib, disco, house, hip-hop, Saturday, 9:30 pm, hip-hop/alternative, Sunday, 9:30 pm, rock on repeated. Monday, 8:30, the Tim Gill Trio, blues.
- **North Bar Sports & Spirits**: 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-3228. Saturday 8:30 pm, the Lost Patrel, classic rock.
- **Rancho Bernardo Inn**: 17550 Rancho Bernardo Rd., Rancho Bernardo. 858-742-1111. Saturday, 7 pm to 9 pm, Genoa Kirkland, alternative.
- **San Diegan Reader.com**

**CLUBS BY AREA**

- **Beaches**
- **North County**
- **San Diego**

**Las Vegas**

- **Oasis**: 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844.

**Dream Street Live presents**

**FORGET THE JONES’ OPERATIC HOT TUB ACTION THE INFANTS**

**Raven’s Lyric**

**College Night**

**Battled of the Bands**

**Summer Concert Series**

**Labor Day Weekend**

**Tribute to the King**

**KELLY STARR TRIBUTE TO THE KING IRAE LIFE SENATOR**

**South Padre Island**

**South Padre Island**

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**Summer Concert Series**

**Labor Day Weekend**

**Tribute to the King**

**South Padre Island**
The Ultimate Entertainment Venue!  
Upscale Billiards  
25 pool tables  
Sports Bar  
All the games on 4 giant screens + 30 TVs  
Sunday:  
All Draft Beers $2  
SS Pool All Day  
Monday & Tuesday:  
All Bottled Beers $2  
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Sports Bar  
25 pool tables  
Wednesday:  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
Nemesis  
1/2 Price Domestic Pitchers  
2/$ Off Premium Pitchers  
Live Music Friday & Saturday  
2 Stages – 2 Dance Floors  
Beer Gardens  
$10 cover  
Live Entertainment All Day  
Private Domain 12 pm  
Fish & The Seaweeds 1 pm  
The Disco Pimps 5 pm  
Uproot 6-10 pm  
located on the grounds of Paradise Point Resort & Spa  
Free Parking  
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San Diego Reader, August 28, 2003 127
Adult Night Skating at Our Newly Remodeled Rollerblade & Rollerskate Rink

SKATEWORLD
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NOW EVERY TUESDAY
ADULT NIGHT 7:30-10:30 PM
ADULT LEARN-TO-SKATE CLINIC $4
Conventional, Quad, Blade • Every Tuesday 7:30-7:15 pm
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No experience or age limit

Adults-Only Night! Come join the fun!

Admission – Adults-Only Night!
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Quality indoor & outdoor quad skates at great prices!

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Bartending Academy
1 to 2 week course
Weekend classes available
Job Placement Assistance
Call for information: 619-296-0600

Calendar

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buena
Avenue, Bay Park, 619-275-LIVE.
Music is alternative rock. Thursday,
Money Shot, Make-Out Boys,
Instituto’s, and Magdalena Friday,
Cage, Hard Edge, Nilist, and VooDoo
Temple.
Saturday, VIII Found, System
Drives, Endver, and Josh Tuesday,
The Brain Dead, Agency of Desire,
Dr. Church, Spectrums, and Acts
of Aggression.

California Club, 5522 El Cajon
Boulevard, San Diego, 619-224-2895.
Music is alternative rock. Friday,
Meat, Saturday, Cuba.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery,
3101 Mission Center Road, San Diego.
619-488-1120. Friday, the Boogstern, R&B.

Humphreys’, Half Moon Inn, 2241
Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island,
619-224-3575. The Backstage Lounge:
Thursday, 9:30 pm, Rockchick, classic
rock. Friday, 9:30 pm, Rossa Nova,
Latin rock, and Detroit Underground,
rock soul. Saturday, 5:30 pm, Blues
festival. Wednesday, Full Effect Band,
classic rock.

The Imperial House, 565 Kalina
Street, San Diego, 619-234-3525.
Friday and Saturday, Red Lyon,
contemporary keyboard.

The Inn Suites, 222 El Cajon
Boulevard, San Diego, 619-296-2101.
Wednesday, 8 pm to 10 pm, workshop/concert with the San Diego
Concert Jazz Band.

The Inn at the Park, 623 Spruce
Street, San Diego, 619-291-4999.
Thursday, 7 pm to 11 pm, Karen
Grgic, piano, vocals, open mike.

John’s Joe’s, 807 La Mesa
Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-466-2511.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nemo,
classic rock.

The Kensington Club, 4079
Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-284-
2848. Friday, Urge Cosa, the Stony
Ding Amigos, and Boondock. alternate.
Saturday, the Noise, Beat.

LeSaat’s Coffeehouse, 3343
Adams Avenue, Normal Heights,
619-282-0457. Thursday, 9 pm to
11 pm, the Bitty Bums, alternative.
Friday, 9 pm to 11 pm, Gregory Pau,
alternative. Saturday, 9 pm to 11 pm,
the Bums, alternative; Saturday;
9 pm to 10 pm, the Toys and
Riffluish, alternative.

O’Connell’s Pub and
Nightclub, 1130 Moreno
Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-276-5367.
Friday, Dizzy Gypsy, Saturday,
Smoker’s Gun Go, salsa.

The Odd Sol, 3373 Adams
Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-
6094. Friday, Dad, Saturday,
Smoker’s Gun Go, salsa.

Pal Joey’s, 3147 Waring
Road, Allied Gardens, 619-286-7335.
Friday, Mass Triniti, classic rock.
Saturday, Nite Life, blues.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2283 El
Cajon Boulevard, North Park,
619-297-1311. Thursday through
Saturday, and Wednesday, Shelly
Allen piano. Sunday through
Tuesday, Eddie Rose New Directions.

Rose O’Grady’s, 3462 Adams
Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-
7606. Friday and Saturday, live rock and blues.

Second Wind, 3545
Navajo Road, San Carlos, 619-465-1730.
Music starts at 7 pm. Thursday, Parade &
Hand in a Hurricane, punk. Friday and
Saturday, Cornerstone, classic rock.

Soma, 1350 Sports Arena
Boulevard, San Diego, 619-226-5044.
Music is alternative rock. Thursday,
7:30 pm, Sounry of the Year, Shutterfly,
F.O.L., the Center of Five, and Vida.
Friday, the Cheating Heavens, Merry
Road, the Illuminated, the Drags, and
Open 24 Hours. Saturday, A True Fist
Vando, Genevieve, Hens the Name,
Underache, 10 Hour Drive, and Off Truck.

South Park Bar & Grill, 1946
Fern Street, San Diego, 619-495-0896.
Saturday, 8 pm to 10 pm, Steve
O’Connor and Steam, jazz trio.

Great Place to Host
Birthday Party! Call to book:
Starbucks, 414 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-640-5230. Saturday, 7 to 9 pm, Mary Dolin, acoustic.

Tio Leo’s Lounge, 5802 Napa Street (at Moorea Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-3462. Thursday, Her Red Lincoln, rock/blues. Friday, Blue Large, blues. Saturday, Jumper Jones, string blues. Monday, 9 pm, tango. Tuesday, 6:30 pm, sydcoo blues.

Tutto Mare, 4865 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-188. Wednesday, 5:30 pm to 9 pm, the Janie Valle/Bob Magnuson Jazz Quartet.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 1990 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-6010. Sunday, 6 pm, the Celtic Ensemble. Wednesday, 6:30 pm, open mike.

DOWNTOWN
The Bayou Bar & Grill, 329 Market Street, downtown. 619-490-8747. All music is jazz. Thursday, 8 pm, and Friday, 9 pm, the Jaime Valle/Bob Magnuson Jazz Quartet.

Blarney Stone Pub, 301 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8159. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, Jive Wire.

Cafe 828, 828 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-8282. Thursday, live cabaret. Friday and Saturday, live jazz.

The Cashbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Thursday, The Dragons, John Doe, The Hatchet Brothers, Anya Marina, Gregory Page, and Javier Escovedo; Friday, Mudhoney, Flug, and Alfa Max; Saturday, Bucketlist Superfly; Sunday, forensic and the Hipsters.

Chevy’s Numero Uno, 1094 Main Street, downtown. 619-234-8937. Friday, Party Hard Sounds, rock.

Club Montage, 3028 Hancock Street, Barona Park. 619-418-8054. Call for club information.

Croce’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the David Pomeroy Jazz Quartet; Friday, Yerba; Saturday, Prime; Sunday, the Archtones.

Croce’s Top Hat Bar and Grille, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Friday, Berkley Hart, acoustic. Saturday, 8703, rock.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-3554. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm, Peter Robberecht/Pianoman, pop/Top 40.

Dick’s Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-3100. Thursday, Private Domain, rock and roll; Friday, the Fabulous Ultra Tones, rock; Saturday, Masterpiece, jazz, pop. Sunday, Hen’s Olive, rock.

Dizy’s, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 pm, James Hinton Sunday, Tiki, featuring Dee Garrison, Brett Anderson, Dave Millard, Andy Eparsa, Kiko Cornejo, and Emilio Camacho, Latin jazz.

5th St OTR, (formerly Buffalo Joe’s), 400 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday, Funkemster, pop/Top 40. Friday, call-cub call for information. Saturday, the Disco Pimp. Wednesday, Slave Statham & the Citizen X, porch, reggae.


Jimmy Love’s, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-393-1213. Thursday and Friday, 9:45 pm, Super Funk Fantasy, pop rock. Saturday, 9:45 pm, X-9, pop gr. Sunday, 9:30 pm to 11 pm, Masterpiece; jazz. Monday, 6:30 pm to 11 pm, the Jazz Allstars. Tuesday, Mympie, jazz, funk, R&B. Wednesday, 7:30 pm, the Soul Revue.

UPCOMING:
9/10 HURF • THE ENDING FOR SOPH 
9/11 AS I LAY DYING • A STATIC ILLUSION 
9/12 HOT MILL • 3/2 KINGS OF LEOM 
7514 Clarmont Mesa Blvd. 
345 Fourth Avenue, downtown.
619-231-4343. Thursday, the Jaime Valle/Bob Magnuson Jazz Quartet.

Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Thursday, The Dragons, John Doe, The Hatchet Brothers, Anya Marina, Gregory Page, and Javier Escovedo; Friday, Mudhoney, Flug, and Alfa Max; Saturday, Bucketlist Superfly; Sunday, forensic and the Hipsters.
San Diego Reader August 28, 2003

FAT KATZ WEDNESDAY BLUES JAM
(FORMERLY PARADISE GRILL)
1476 ENCINITAS BLVD.
Open Mic Mondays 8-11 pm hosted by Mickie Arnett
Now Featuring DIAMOND BLUE
Serious Blues for Serious Blues Jammers.
*Contact Mickie Arnett: 760-438-8772
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30
LORETO’S TACO SHOP
Sunday Night Showcase*
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29
Stage and PA provided.
Friday, blues. Thursday, downtown. 619-233-5979. Tuesday, Castellanos, 619-235-6699. Wednesday, the Tribe of Kings, reggae. Wednesday, the David Patrone Quartet, jazz.
SASSAFRAS BAR AND GRILL, 1367 India Street, downtown. 619-265-4745.
Friday, His Allstars, jazz, pop. Saturday, DJ Geoff, pop rock.
SEVILLA, 355 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Thursday, Otopeni and Colombo, Latin, Tuesday and Wednesday, salsa.
THE WESTGATE HOTEL, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-388-1818. The Plaza Bar: Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., from Ledora, piano and vocals. Monday, 8 p.m., Julie de la Hoz, guitar and vocals. Sunday, Julie & Fare.
The Wyndham Emerald Plaza, 400 West Broadway, downtown. 619-239-6300. The Sedale Lounge: Thursday and Wednesday, 5 p.m to 7:30 p.m, Joe Tarantino, jazz piano, solo. Friday, 5 p.m to 9 p.m, Stellina and Joe Tarantino, pop.
The Yacht Club, San Diego Marriott Hotel, 333 West Harbor Drive, downtown. 619-234-1300. Wednesday, Rudy Blu, blues vocalist.
SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO
Buen Giro Restaurante, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Thursday, Cervelo, Latin, Friday, 6:30 p.m, Jose Daro, variety. Saturday, the Orbits, 6th and 7th music.
The Butcher Shop, 336 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday through Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m to midnight, Ray Correa, supper club entertainment.
Cafe LaMazza, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, piano bar, featuring Sandy Chapel, Sammy Canzianidos, and Bennett Anderson.
Coronado Island Marriott (formerly Le Meridien), 2000 Second Street, Coronado. 619-435-3300. Friday, 6 p.m to 9 p.m, the Janie Valley/Rich Magnuson Jazz Quartet.
Di-mond Jim’s Nightclub, 773 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-436-7332. Thursday, DJ T and DJ Ron, rock. Friday and Saturday, the Evil Twins, rock.
Edelweiss Restaurant, 230 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-426-3512. Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m, German Kohl, Kjell Holmes, or Vicke Diqrait, European and ethnic accordion.
Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, 4:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tony Ladby, Latin jazz. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 pm, Barbara Jameson, jazz.
Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 5:30 pm, Ray Bes Alco. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 pm, Javy West.
Monday through Wednesday, 3:30 pm to 10:30 pm, John Cain. 
Prince of Wales, Thursday and Wednesday, 6 pm to 10 pm, the Shop 
Meyers Quartet. Friday through Sunday, 6:30 pm to 
10 pm, Daniel Jackson, jazz. 
Crown Room: Sunday, 9:30 pm to 
2:30 pm, Bill Harris, jazz. 
Sun Deck: Saturday and Sunday, 2 pm to 6 pm, Ron’s Garage, acoustic

Island Sports & Spirits, 204 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435- 
3846. Thursday, 9 pm, open blues 
jam. Friday, 8 pm, Bob Pack, 
jazz. Saturday, 4 pm, Bob Pack, 
reggae.

The following nightclubs have valuable coupons 
indicates North County.

The German-American 
Societ, 3017 South Milltown 
Avenue, El Cajon. 858-237-2183. 
Friday, 730 pm, the Bay Bree 
Z-Bever Big Band featuring Jo Dar. 
Mr. Joey’s Cantina, 9750 Murray 
Drive, La Mesa 619-466-2912. Friday, 
J.J. Slyde, jazz. Saturday, Los Reyes del 
Reno, Latin.

On the Rocks, 118 East Main 
Street, El Cajon. 619-570-3517. 
Friday, Tubby, rock. Sunday, King 
Club, rock.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia 
Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8530. Friday 
and Saturday, Z.O.K., classic rock.

Shirley’s Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon 
Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-466-9255. 
Wednesday, 6 pm to 7 pm, Cola 
Loray, acoustic.

Viejas Casino, 5600 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-443- 
5400. Friday, 9 pm, the Fabulous 
Poulricos, pop. Saturday, 9 pm, Mokai, 
pop. Sunday, 4 pm to 8 pm, Clark 
Gould & Swing City Express, swing.

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Los Principes • Orquesta Primo 
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San Diego Reader August 24, 2000 191

Online Club Coupons!
The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the Reader’s website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blind Melons</td>
<td>2 for 1 cover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brick By Brick</td>
<td>2 for 1 admission</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cafe Sevilla</td>
<td>$2 off Club VIP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Express</td>
<td>$25 off 2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>VIP Card</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canes’ Cantina</td>
<td>Free entrance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannibal Bar</td>
<td>$2 off admission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Montage</td>
<td>No cover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaster Saloon</td>
<td>$2 off pitcher of beer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croc’s 4th &amp; B</td>
<td>Free cover with dinner</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In Cahoots</td>
<td>$2 off admission</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>McCabe’s Beach Club</td>
<td>$2 off admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neiman</td>
<td>$1/2 off cover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.B. Bar &amp; Grill</td>
<td>$2 for 1 entrée</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricks II</td>
<td>$2 for 1 cover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Room</td>
<td>No cover with e-mail</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosie O’Grady’s</td>
<td>1/2 off Rosie Blaster</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Wind Navajo</td>
<td>No cover</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sham Rocks Shack</td>
<td>1/2 off cheeseburger combo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squid Joe’s</td>
<td>$2 off pitcher of beer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tio Leo’s Lounge</td>
<td>$1 off club admission</td>
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SanDiegoReader.com

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She Was Just 17

"When shall we three meet again? In thunder, lightning, or in rain?" It was actually sunny and sweltering when I met Kay and Provvidenza for an after-work dinner at Seven-17. With our crazy schedules, we Weird Sisters only manage to get all together about once a year. The last time was a rainy, thundery winter evening at Greystone, the nearby steakhouse, where bullying staffers treated our gal group like interlopers in Testosterone Country.

Fate had it that we should meet this time at a Greystone spin-off, co-owned by the latter’s former bartender, Frank Dick. When Dick left Greystone to open Seven-17, he took chefs Ron Bankston and Willie Cruss with him, so you’ll find many very similar dishes. (Bankston left last fall, and Cross now heads the kitchen). Since this is a newer restaurant, one that must pay Gaslamp rents from shallower pockets than Greystone’s, the ingredients aren’t quite as aristocratic (their steaks, while Prime, are wet-aged, not dry-aged). The vibes, however, are a great deal better. This is a steak-and-fish house that loves the ladies, too.

Tall, chic Kay in her tall, gorgeous shoes whirled through the restaurant’s rooms and called out, “This is the color!” She’d been desperately seeking just the right shade of paint to redo her apartment, and the shimmery rose-orange wash on these walls seemed to be it. In the barroom entry area, where she saw glory, all I saw were the heavy, dark booths of an old pasta palace — the space used to be Trattoria Portobello and hasn’t changed much. Kay’s crystal-blue eyes sparkled when she spotted the gleam of copper oxide in one of the paintings, and she dashed over to inspect it more closely.

Meanwhile, Provvi and I took our seats in the more contemporary adjacent dining room, with its wide-spaced, white-clothed tables and wall of windows looking onto Fourth Avenue. Dancing into the dining room at last, Kay was arrested en route by her discovery of a curtained-off semi-private room fitted with couches, huge pillows, and a large TV. “I’ve been thinking of going to that,” she said. “I’ve been thinking of going to that,” said Provvi. “That is the weekly Sex and the City viewing party in the couch room, where a random, mostly female, crowd shows up on Sunday evenings to nosh and hoot their way through the show.

Finally we settled down — to nibble on garlic-crusted soft sourdough bread and butter and peruse the lengthy menu. It offers a combination of California (French-Asian-Mex) cuisine, New Orleans influences, and such standard steakhouse fare as oysters both raw and “Rockefeller,” lobster bisque, shrimp cocktail, Caesar salad, steaks, and chops.

Our order played mix-and-match with the genres. We started with oysters on the half shell. That evening, they were an obscure Washington state variety with a strong, simple seawater flavor. (I later learned that chef Willie Cross prefers Blue Points but can’t always get them.) They came with a wimpy red cocktail sauce screaming for horseradish, the missing condiment in the assortment. A lobster bisque proved light and tomatoey, with good chunks of lobster meat at the bottom and just a little cream. Precisely following the style of nearby Cafe Sevilla, it’s served “en croute,” under a tarty pastry topping, which a server breaks to add a splash of sherry to the broth just at serving. Bad idea, that — we all felt that too much Harvey’s Bristol Cream spoiled the broth. It’s not the world’s most food-friendly sherry and would better be served in a separate jug to let diners add it or not after sampling the soup. Kay and I agreed that its acid sweetness changed the flavor to something resembling Campbell’s cream of tomato. (As for young Provvi, her mother is so serious a Sicilian cook, she’s never tasted canned soup and had no idea what we were talking about.)

My favorite starter was one of Cross’s creative dishes, pista-chio-crusted sea scallops with a light, sensual beurre blanc sauce. The组合 may be familiar, but it makes a highly appetizing appetizer.

There are two “tartares,” made with trendy ahi and old-fashioned steak. Both were fresh flowered and silky, with their contents chopped fine, and so finely picked over as to leave not one shred of sinew. The ahi mixture, a bit bland in a bashful Asian vinaigrette, was served with irresistible fresh-fried egg roll skins, sushi ginger, wasabi, and a crescent of Hass avocado slices at their sensual peak. The beef tartare, made from filet mignon, boasted a similar velvety suaveness, mingling with cubes of that perfect avocado, a little tomato salsa, and a touch of hot chile, and the perfect amount of salt. The beef tartare, made from filet mignon, boasted a similar velvety suaveness, mingling with cubes of that perfect avocado, a little tomato salsa, and a touch of hot chile, and the perfect amount of salt.

Less fierce than the classic rendition (which typically includes power flavors like capers, parsley,

with a lovely Chardonnay butter sauce. The combination may be familiar, but it makes a highly appetizing appetizer.

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August 28, 2003

Reader
San Diego
Farmer's Favorites

“Don’t worry if you can’t finish. Leftovers go to the animals, or else the compost heap.”

I like pets,” says Hank. “I thought I’d get me some cactus.”

“For pets?” I ask.

“Why not! Plants are people too.”

I swear, Hank’s going soft. Maybe it was that vegan epicure. We’re driving up Home Avenue. Strangely countrified area. Suddenly, Hank pulls off the road to a gravel space surrounded by young trees. Trees in pots, I realize as the dust settles. “City Farmers Nursery,” says a sign. There’s a building back there somewhere amongst the plants and potted trees. Whole place looks kind of wild.

To the right, another low building. Ooh. Nate’s Deli. A sheltered eating deck pushes the dust settles. “City Farmers Nursery,” says a sign. There’s a building back there somewhere amongst the plants and potted trees. Whole place looks kind of wild.

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Dirty Socks And Manure

“I got to be known as the Bad Wine Lady, because I was willing to talk about wine spoilage.”

Lisa Van de Water, while on a cross-country drive with her husband thirty years ago, visited the Napa Valley and discovered that she didn’t have to be “old, male, and French” to taste wine. Or, for that matter, to make it. In 1974, she left her job in chromosome research at the National Institutes of Health, moved to California, and got a job with Mondavi. A year later, she quit to start a wine lab—the Wine Lab. “I thought winemakers would bring me samples, I would test them and give answers, and the winemakers would go away,” she recalls. “But it didn’t work out that way. They started asking questions: ‘What do I do about my nasty wine?’” In a twinkling, a consultant was born. “Very soon, I got to be known as the Bad Wine Lady, because I was willing to talk about wine spoilage.”

When it comes to wine spoilage, there is plenty to talk about. Just about every brief biography of Andre Tchelistcheff, the Russian chemist-turned-California winemaker who helped revive the state’s wine industry after Prohibition, will tell you how much he did to improve winery sanitation. Listening to Van de Water, you begin to realize the importance of that achievement. It is axiomatic that you can’t make good wine from good grapes. Microscopic critters lurk along every step of the way, waiting to infect your precious juice.

Trouble may begin even before you even get to the winery. “I was visiting a winery in New Zealand with a friend,” recalls Van de Water, “and they had me smell a Chardonnay—it was sort of like, ‘Tell us about it.’ I said, ‘Well, this was fermenting when it came to the winery. It probably spent a good deal of time in transit’.”

“It started off the fermentation with Kloekera [the primary yeast found on grape skins] and still has a lot of the amyl acetate and ethyl acetate that Kloekera produces.” The two acetates yield aromas of banana and nail polish, respectively.

Much of the time, Van de Water’s assessment of a problem amounts to education about what not to do next year. If you’ve got too much Brettanomyces yeast in your wine—and nearly every winery making red wine carries some somewhere—start getting ready to hear terms like “Band-Aid” and “swaty horse” used to describe it. If Lactobacillus go to work on a wine’s secondary fermentation instead of Oenococcus, you may be stuck with the smell of geraniums. (At least, in this case, there is hope. “You can fine out small amounts of ethyl acetate with a combination of dry yeast and yeast hulls. It’s possible to reduce the aroma to the point where it’s a complexity”—as opposed to an outright flaw.)

In all three cases, pinpointing the problem depends almost entirely on the nose. (“A gas chromatograph scan is really expensive,” Van de Water points out.) It also depends on analysis and experience—you have to know what you’re smelling. “In 1974, a lovely wine writer— he’s a talented man—went to a winery and tasted the ’71 Reserve Pinot Noir. He thought it was very Burgundian, and he exclaimed, ‘My goodness! This is the most Burgundian Pinot Noir I’ve ever had from California. What did you do?’ Well, the winery owner was also a nice man, but he was a ‘When I founded the winery…’ type of guy. He said, ‘Oh, that’s from the touch of Brettanomyces that we had in that wine.’”

It seemed a plausible claim. Brettanomyces produces isovaleric acid, which yields a distinctive spoilage aroma detectable to barnyards and manure, and there is a famous line about great Burgundies smelling of the latter. “The wine writer didn’t know any better—this famous winery owner was telling him this—and so he wrote it up. When those of us who knew read it, we just said, ‘Oh, my goodness.’ It was the only wine from that winery in that era that didn’t have Brett. What it had was the bacteria Pedicoccus, which is very common in Burgundy.” (Pedicoccus is credited with a vegetal, dirty-sock aroma.)

So the evenings you’ve bought are the ones full of Pedicoccus, then you consider it a varietal characteristic or a got a de terroir or whatever, and you decide that that is Burgundian. So the Pedicoccus did make the wine more Burgundian than most California Pinot Noirs, but it didn’t have anything to do with Brett. But from then on, Brett was associated with Burgundy.

Van de Water can remember the first time she smelled Brettanomyces: 30 years ago, on a 1972 Gamay. Her smell memory—the ability to concentrate on seminars, classes, and what not to do next year. If you’ve got too much Brettanomyces, but it didn’t have anything to do with Brett. And then you consider it a varietal characteristic or a got a de terroir or whatever, and you decide that that is Burgundian. So the Pedicoccus did make the wine more Burgundian than most California Pinot Noirs, but it didn’t have anything to do with Brett. But from then on, Brett was associated with Burgundy.

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

NORTH COASTAL

The Armenian Cafe 1126 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. Long ago, Turkish conquerors brought Armenian food to Greece. At this large cottage with a sun deck overlooking Highway 101, some dishes (e.g., gyros) have traveled in the opposite direction, and the menu also translates the Armenian specialties to the more familiar Greek food vocabulary. The gyro meat and Mediterranean flavors are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Ambrose Martin, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naimo Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of nearly 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a moderate entree. Inexpensive: below $10; mid-range entrée. Unlimited反复 refills of water, coffee, tea; some dishes. 125% tax.

The Armenian Cafe

Inexpensive: 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. A sister restaurant to the venerable es-


Fidel's Carlsbad

Inexpensive: 5300 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-9993. A sister restaurant to the venerable es-

Fidel's Carlsbad

NORTH INLAND

Bernard'O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo Village Shopping Center, 858-487-7171. The restaurant is elegant in food, service, and ambiance. The cuisine is California-French, menus change seasonally. Best bets are rack of lamb, flat mignon, daily fresh fish, and crime brûlée. You’ll have a good expe-

Bernard'O Restaurant

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United Airlines Magazine

They say Argentine steaks are the best.
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— Channel 8, Unknown Eater

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Bar only - Not valid with any other offers. Expires 9-30-03.
Galeon (Escondido) 503 West Mission, Escondido, 760-746-3951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and longfin tuna (“spicy lobster,” in fishermen’s terms) are the house specialties, and are well treated. Also consider an intense little marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish), or the savory afondga soup (lump it up, too). Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive (standard plates) to moderate (seafood). — N.W. (6/02)

Island Boy Grille 10066 Pacific Heights Boulevard (south of Miramar Road), Escondido, 760-742-7070. It’s the last thing you’d expect to see here in Corporate Luncland; but Pau Macario’s Hawaiian food sanctuary is the real thing. Pua (“Flower”) serves genuine items like purple taro poi, seven-hour cooked fish-lau-lau (beef, pork, and fish slow-steamed in taro and banana leaves), rice delivered by the ice-cream scoops, potato salad delivered hot with shrimp and crab in it, and mahi mahi, lots of lovely flame-seared mahi mahi. Delivered in a standard polystyrene box, eat in or out. And hearty! The Waa Plate will include, say, two big pieces of mahi mahi, a pile of shredded kalua pig and cabbage, or kahuna shrimp, or teriyaki chicken, plus two scoops of rice, salad and any side dish. If you’re a really big huna, the Kanaka Plate will deliver three main entrees and three scoops of rice. Sparer decoration: eggshell blue walls with photos of real hula-dancing, and a longboard by Hawaiian Julian Cruz (it’s yours for $450). Warning only open 11 a.m. to around 2:30 p.m. Always crowded. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

La Tapatia 140 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family-owned favorite, in business since the 1930s. You’ll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. The most celebrated dish is the “chese crisp,” a large tostada covered one-third in ground beef, one-third in beef chunks, and one-third in beans, with cheese, avacodo puree, and sour cream over all. Many preparations (grilled seafoods, etc.) are healthy, and veggies taste fresh. Seasonings are rather detuned, but there’s a saltshaker around. (Or you can BYO-Butter and they’ll melt it for you.)

Sand Crab Cafe 222 Micro Place (at Oppen, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbe (honest, that’s his name) owns this fun, funky dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primordial, preschool- — E.B. (3/02)

Tong Szechuan 609 North Broadway Blvd., at Albertson’s Shopping Center, Escondido, 760-480-9438. The “New Style Favorites” of North County Chinese restaurants feature fresh fruits. Tong’s has several variants, mainly cornstarch-battered fried proteins in honey-based sweet-and-sour sauce, lightened with loads of seasonal fruit chunks — pineapple, papaya, pear, etc. They’re tasty dishes. For the rest, the freshman specializes (hot-and-sour soup, kung pao, moo la, etc.) are better than the old “Chinese-American” standards on the menu. Lunches are big, bargain-priced, and popular. In this quiet, pretty room, you may overhear northern or western Chinese dialects at nearby tables. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive (lunch) to low-moderate. — N.W. (5/01)
Rio Can Be Murder
Mystery Cruise
WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS FROM JULY 9-28 AUGUST 9,
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• Cruise Mission Bay on the elegant William D. Evans
• Four-course meal, choice of Entrée
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• Hilarious interactive murder-mystery cruise
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Japanese Grill • Sake Bar Patio (PB location)

Order ahead for grilled whole catfish, usually a huge shareable plate, or lan-hots-pot). The meat-and-seafood combination lan is great. Less expensive, but also interesting, is the Pho Hung Special Broken Rice” piled on with shredded pork, steamed egg, fried tofu, a choice of meats, and a sweet fish sauce. Don’t leave without a Vietnamese coffee, which drops into its own condensed milk as you take it to your table. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.R. (1982)

THE BEACHES
China Inn 877 Humboldt Street (be-between Garnet and Grand Avenues), Pacific Beach, 858-436-6680. At least 118 items appear on the menu, which offers Mandarin and Szechuan specialties and includes sweet-and-spicy shrimp, Mandarin pork ribs, duck in orange sauce, and shrimp in garlic sauce. Simple setting; outstanding food. The diner is always preferable when Andy Kam, the chef/owner, is there. Ask his advice about dishes. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. In-expensive to moderate. — E.W.

The Fishery 1040 Cas-street (at Opal Street), Pacific Beach, 858-222-9985. Half fish market, half fish restaurant — you can buy fresh raw seafood (much of it rather steeply priced). Or you can get cooked seafood ranging from the casual to the elaborate. The menu includes fish and chips, sandwiches, chowders, crab cakes, raw oysters, sushi and sashimi, fusion-style fish entrees and simple shellfish extravaganzas. Short but smart list of sake. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Prices are mainly moderate but they cover the waterfront, from inexpensive (lunch specials, fish and chips) to downright exorbitant (Maine lobster or live King crab).


Harbor’s Edge Iberation Harbor Is-land Resort, 1840 Harbor Island Drive (across from airport), Harbor Island, 619-291-2901. The restaurant has a stunning bay view and contemporary interior. Good California cuisine includes fish, chicken, pasta. For inexpensive, try the Bakery (adjacent to the dining room) where sandwiches and pastries are served. Open daily, breakfast, lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. Moderate to expensive. — E.W.

The Mission Cafe And Coffee House 1795 Mission Boulevard (at San Jose Place), Mission Beach, 858-488-9061. Gourmet and Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pancakes, and roast beef hash with rose-mary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins, available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive — E.W.

O’Quig’s Bar & Grill 5803 Santa Mon-ica Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-1101. A splendid ocean view, a good sushi bar, greasy-saltad, and fresh fish are the main attractions here. Friendly service. Long flight of stairs to the dining room, with an elevator for wheelchair access. Open daily. Moderate to expensive. — E.W.

Society Billiards Cafe 1016 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979 (7666). Okay, this is a pool joint, but a classy one with sidewalk seating and a decent kitchen. It has the normal ap-petizers — buffalo wings, nachos, potato skins — but also dishes like chicken fajitas and veggie dip, and good salads like teriyaki chicken with French bread or pita. The French con-nection continues: Marc, the chef, is French and throws a mean Greek, Thai, or New York pizza, or 17 other vari-eties. His moose-gut chicken wrap goes great with one of the many als. And the great thing is, you can come late the kitchen’s open till 1:30 p.m. every night. Lunch, dinner. Inexpensive. — E.R. (5891)

The Surfside 4527 Mission Boule-vard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it’s a “scene” here — for good reason. You’ll find beer-buts, sushi and “Califor-nia coastal cuisine,” i.e., fun and fla-vorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half price during weeknight Happy Hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it’ll put you at the

5 OFF BUFFET TO GO
Lunch $5.95 • Dinner $9.95 per box

Lunch $6.95 • Dinner $9.95

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Locally owned and operated for over 12 years

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7550 Fay Ave. (across from Vons), La Jolla • 858-454-5013

Enjoy the morning sunshine from our new, larger brick patio. We have some new additions to our menu, along with our old favorites to start your day off right!

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French Toast
Lox Benedict
Bacon and Nut Pancakes

Old Favorites
Eggs Benedict
Spinach & Brie Omelette
Almond Potato Pancakes

$5 OFF BREAKFAST
Valid with minimum $10 purchase. Not valid with any other specials/discounts. Maximum of 2 coupons per table.
Mon-Sat. 7 a.m.-12 p.m. Expires 9/28/03.
San Diego

Access chancy; long, crowded waits unless most likely to be present. Disabled access: bar seat for an early dinner Wednesday—amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a table in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate.

Sushi Ota
452 Mission Bay Drive (at Bunker Hill Street), Pacific Beach, 619-276-6670. This spacious, well-decorated spot in the heart of the Gaslamp Quarter is most likely to be present. Disabled access: bar seat for an early dinner Wednesday—amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a table in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate.

Sushi Cafe
1116 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-244-8633. At this cory's sushi (Japanese since 1986, "revitalized" in 1998), if you do gourmet, it's your own fault. Every night an adjacent room at my house, and the word "Phoenicia" written in bright red. Next to their dusty corn-shuckers, horse collars, railroad lanterns, ancient egg-beaters, six-foot Okies, the 1930s. Dulzura
619-468-9591. Think of equal or greater value and 2 beverages. Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid through 9/11/03.

Aura Cafe
710 Market Street (at 47th Street), Chollas View, 619-527-1917. The owners — and most of the staff — are unusually friendly. They shine on simple dishes, not to mention the dim sum buffet in the back room. Inexpensive.

Effin's Pub And Grill
4614 H.C. Lion Street, College Avenue, 619-239-8800. Or if you arrive early, steak and eggs or home-cut fries, thick slices of meat loaf, lamb chops, well-marinated in garlic and olive oil, burgers, chicken breasts, or perfectBLT's. Inexpensive. 

Karmeens
8434 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 385-514-8892. Enjoy the glorious sweetness to stand up to items featuring a cedar tree (the symbol on the menu) and the word "Phoenicia" written in bright red. Next to their dusty corn-shuckers, horse collars, railroad lanterns, ancient egg-beaters, six-foot Okies, the 1930s. Dulzura
619-468-9591. Think of equal or greater value and 2 beverages. Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid through 9/11/03.

Smalls
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619-468-9591. Think of equal or greater value and 2 beverages. Not valid with any other offers or specials. Valid through 9/11/03.
boule. Soups receive lavish attention, and sometimes live up to their billing — the blood orange and roasted butternut squash soup is delicious, dark and complex. The generous, marvelous lavender iced tea/lemonade ride or balloon shaped lemons that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwich (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the cafe or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (9/01)

Italian Feast for 2

- Linguine with Shrimp - Chicken Fettuccine
- Eggplant Rollatini and more!

Any two entrées. Includes: soup or salad, garlic bread and dessert (homemade tiramisu).

Family-run, only the freshest ingredients—nothing pre-cooked!

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Get FREE French Fries with the purchase of a Jayburger!
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Bring $20 and get one bottle of house wine
One coupon per table. Expires 9/6/03.
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San Diego Reader’s Best 2003

Ybor Pass 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-2759. The room is very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods. The chef is a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the portoelves in the region). Dinner features kababs, tandirs, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly familiar, like something you’d swallow and eschew at a costume party. Among the don’t-miss items is the outstanding aushak (onion ravioli) and mantis (ground-meat ravioli) — both with zesty yogurt sauces — and zardJosh shahzad, a spicy lamb and-spinach stew. Save room for the small desserts. Can be noisy inside; sidewalk patio. Private dining rooms; parties allowed. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (9/02)

Lahaina Beach House

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Valid through 9/18/03.

The Best Beach Bar in San Diego

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Enjoy our lively Happy Hour Specials

Mon.-Thurs. 4:30-7:00 pm. Dine-in only.

Happy Hour Specials

20% Off Sushi
Includes sushi roll, sushi nigiri, or hand roll. Dine-in or carry-out.
Not valid with other offers.
Expires 9/11/03.

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20% Off Sushi
Includes sushi roll, sushi nigiri, or hand roll. Dine-in or carry-out.
Not valid with other offers.
Expires 9/11/03.
French bread and butter — all at a dinner grand gestured to every diner and to dispense the soup. Must-flavor's great, and it is served promptly. San Diego Gaslamp, 619-702-4455. Don't look for chicken or steak in a bowl with black tilapia) or, as a great filler, the Cabo Mae-Starbucks meets Taco Bell (oops, sorry with a little help (okay, a lot) from Ru-Italy, 619-595-1618. This miracle expensive.

Fifth Avenue (at Market Street), and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. Expensive.

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Fifth Avenue (at Market Street), and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. Expensive.
The meal is printed in Spanish and English, and the maître d' speaks perfect English. First-come-first-served is available for high quality. Open daily, noon to midnight. Continuous service. Inexpensive to moderate, except for lobster. — E.W.

### Multiple Locations

**Baja**

- **Buca Di Bepo** 753 South Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Miramar, 858-538-2832. Spiced, sizzling-Southern Italian cooking in a dining room seating 300 people. Food is simple (one sauce fits all), portions huge, and roaring-loud ambiance is child- and teenager-friendly. Go for plain lasagna, not gourmet dinners. Meals travel the best. Dinner nightly, lunch Sundays. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (12/01)

- **Bulla’s East** 2401 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. About 175 kilos of fish are broiled on La Jolla (858-459-2768), and 1404 Camino del Mar Del (858-755-1660). Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very Shiite. For example, dark, woody, plashy red broth. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with a bun and horseradish than any eateries in San Diego. The "Pe- cine" cut’s volume, their smallest, fills you ploppy, with its baked potato and salad. But just one, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It hangs ten over the edge. Or go bonkers and order the 32-mence cut — just to watch your neighbors’ eyes bug out. Not flash? Try the "Bully Burgers." French Dip sandwich, or clamshell sandwich. Lonely! Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. The price ranges. — E.B. (2003)

- **El Pollo Loco** 2759 Main, Logan Heights, 619-585-9597. Additional locations in College Area, Midway, Carmel Mountain, Chula Vista, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, City of Pio, Poway, and more. This Mexican-style chicken chain offers healthier, tastier, fast food. The flame-broiled poultry has crisp, really seasoned, very salty skin; the flesh can vary from barely done to overly done, but usually is just right. The bird (or any assortment of its parts) comes with sage gravy, tortillas, and a choice of side dishes that includes rich, sweet black beans, crisp and clean coleus, great smoky-shy macaroni, and passable mashed potatoes. Help yourself to salads (there are four varieties), chopped onions, lemons, chalupas, hot peppers. But stick with the chicken — the taqueria-style choices are barely better than Taco Bell. Check for daily specials, wherein a small amount of cash will buy a huge amount of highly palatable poultry. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (2003)

- **Papa’s Chicken & Biscuits** 2335 Highland Avenue (at 24th street), National City, 619-477-3605, 2210 E. Plaza Boulevard, (across from El Cajon Avenue), Plaza City, 619-470-3002, 3489 Santoro Road (at Aero Drive), 858-573-0013; Metropolitan Center, 1737 Euclid Avenue (north of Federal Boulevard), Chollas Creek, 619-527-8636, and 6905 El Cajon Boulevard (at College Avenue), 619-246-3322. This is one of the national chicken chains firmly attached to a regional American identity. Wherever you go, you find Papa’s, you’re eating Louisiana flavors. But some flavors travel better than others in fast-food translations: The spicy, crisp fried chicken and and the deep-fried beignets are fine as can be. The etouffee (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. The gumbo is weird — flavors aren’t bad, but it’s more like a Creole roux, with net rice instead of liquid (where’s the soup?). Dry rice and jambalayas are nasty and dry. Food quality varies subtly from branch to branch, so does the attitude of the counter-persons. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — N.W. (2002)

### Restaurant Coupons and Menus at San Diego Reader

No coupon offer indicates menu only. — Indicates at least one North County location.

Abbey Cafe

- **2 for Sunday brunch buffet**
- **Alambres Mexican Grill** Free soup
- **Anthony’s Fish Grotto** Free cup of chowder
- **Ashoka** 50% off lunch or dinner
- **Asmara** Dinner or lunch for $2.13
- **Atoll at the Catamaran** Free entrée
- **Baja Prime rib feast $16.95**
- **The Barbecue Pit** **BBQ beef dinner $6.99**
- **Beach House Brewery** Free entrée
- **Berta’s Latin American Restaurant** Free entrée
- **Big Jim’s Bar-B-Q** Free cobbler
- **The Boathouse** 2 for 1 lunch or brunch
- **Broken Yolk Cafe** 50% off breakfast or lunch
- **Cafe 828** 50% off second entrée
- **Cafe Milano** Tiramisu
- **Caffe Veloce** Gelato
- **Calypso Cafe** Free appetizer
- **Cane’s Cataño** 1/2 off entrée
- **Case Sanchez** Free appetizer
- **Chateau Orleans** 2 for 1 Cajun/Creole entrée
- **Chiba Japanese Food & Sushi** Chicken 50% off 2nd entrée
- **China’s Paradise** 50% off delivery orders
- **Chrono Smoothies** Free soda/wheatgrass shot
- **Coaster Saloon**
- **Cody’s Chattanooga mimosa**
- **Costa Brava** 2 for 1 tapas lunch
- **Dancing Dog Deli** $1 off egg scrambles
- **Don’ts Delights**
- **El Callejon**
- **Ev’s Cochina & Cantina** Free nachos
- **The Field** Free dessert
- **Fifth & Hawthorn** Free dessert
- **The Filling Station** Free appetizer
- **The Fishery**
- **The French Gourmet** 50% off dinner
- **The French Gourmet El Arrano**
- **Galata** 1/2 off bottle of wine
- **Ginza-Sushi** Sushi dinner for two $15.95
- **Goody’s** Free low-carb dessert
- **Great Moon Buffet**
- **Greek Village** Free saganaki
- **Gringo’s** 20% off Sunday champagne brunch
- **Hanaoka** 20% off all sushi rolls
- **Hard Rock Cafe** Free dessert
- **Hardy Lounge** 20% off entire bill
- **Hornblower Cruises** $5 off dinner or brunch
- **Il Forno** Free 4-course birthday dinner
- **Il Forno Handmade 2-pound burger lunch**
- **Jay’s Gourmet Cafe** 15% off entire bill
- **Jay’s Jaybuckers** Free Jaybucker’s
- **Jewel Box** 2 for 1 menu item
- **King & I** 20% off entire bill
- **Kit’s** $6.95 breakfast special
- **La Rana Beach House** Free breakfast
- **Le Petit Calypso** Free appetizer
- **L’Escale** 25% off dinner
- **Lips Restaurant** 50% off dinner
- **Lotus Thai** 3-course dinner $9.95
- **Marrakesh** 10% off lunch
- **Meijo Japanese Cuisine** 50% off sushi
- **Mooyoodgies La Jolla** Free salmon
- **Mooyoodgies Pacific Beach** 50% off lunch
- **Neiman’s**
- **Numero Uno Pizza** $3 off large pizza
- **Nutter’s**
- **Ocean Beach grille** Free appetizer with lunch
- **Octopus Garden** 2 for 1 lunch or dinner
- **Old Town Mexican Cafe**
- **Old El Barrio**
- **Pad Thai** Free tea
- **Paradise Yogurt** Free topping
- **Passage to India** 50% off dinner
- **Pasta Espresso** Free veggie
- **Pizza Nova** $5 off
- **Pride of Italy** Feast for 2 $19.95
- **Rain Max** $5 off hip-hop sushi
- **Rock Bottom** Free appetizer
- **Rockin’ Baja** $5 off Big Bucket for 2
- **Rosie & Joe’s** Free chips & salsa
- **Rosie O’Grady’s**
- **Saskia’s** 2 for 1 entrée
- **Sassafras** Free dessert
- **Seas’ Restaurant**
- **Sevilla** $10 off Salsa Dinner show for 2
- **Shanghai** $15 off Mongolian BBQ dinner
- **Squid Joe’s**
- **Star of India** 50% off entrée
- **Su Casa** 25% off entire check
- **The Surfside** 1/2-price appetizer
- **Tamales Ancira** Free tamale
- **Taste of India** Dinner for 2 $29.95
- **Taste of Italy** 1/2 off entrée
- **Taste of Szechuan** 30% off entrée
- **Thai Table**
- **Thai Table II** Free appetizer
- **Tio Leo’s**
- **Todai** 10% off lunch or dinner
- **Toshi San** 50% off dinner
- **Wild Note Cafe**
- **Yann’s Bistro** Free gourmet dessert
- **Zip & Zack’s Filling Station** Free appetizer
Think Negative
The flouting of the fictional illusion has been honestly come by.

Rather too much has been made of American Splendor, although a fair amount could be made of it legitimately. Making too much is just the American Way. It is not the American Splendor way. Suggested posture: the slouch; gesture: the shrug. At the very least the film makes do as a chewable bone thrown to the fans of Ghost World, with a protagonist closely related to the latter’s Steve Buscemi in his marginal existence, his menial job, his obliviousness or out-out resistance to fashion, his esoteric record collection, his affinity for comics, his congenital negativity.

One difference, of course, is that the present protagonist is an actual living person, one Harvey Pekar, a 365-days-a-year sourpuss, sorehead, hypochondriac, who began as a fan of the comics and wound up as a character in them and a collaborator on them. Another difference from the Buscemi character is that this one, center-stage the entire time, must carry the whole load by himself. And even though Paul Giamatti, the very epitome of a supporting player, relishes his chance at a lead, he’s a bit of a one-note, a bit of a stickler about always staying “in character.” The danger of him thus seeming to be putting on an act is that he seems to be insinuating that Pekar too is putting on an act. Our respect for the man teeters in the balance.

In covering the complete biographical arc at one sitting, the film inevitably deviates from the amorphous daily minutiae in which the comic books (so I gather) wallow. It comes to resemble instead a conventional American success story — however modest or ironic or parodic a one — with a suspiciously rosy ending after a climactic battle against cancer. The tastiest chewing on this bone remains the minutiæ: the calculated risk, for instance, of getting into the shorter checkout line at the market when the customer ahead of you is a Jewish granny who can be counted on to haggle; or the unfortunate timing of the nodule on our hero’s vocal cords, coinciding with his first wife’s walk-out and reducing his heartfelt plea to a feeble squeak. This, and much else, is very funny stuff. Well, pretty funny stuff. Hmph.

The infiltration of the action with other likenesses of the hero — the real Harvey Pekar behind the scenes and in voice-over, the real Pekar in archival clips from the Letterman show (major exception: his ill-tempered meltdown on the air must be re-enacted by Giamatti and a silhouetted stand-in for Letterman), along with assorted comic-book incarnations of Pekar — feels not so much artistically bold and daring and liberated as artistically casual, capricious, slovenly. Maybe, in smaller concentrations, there’s something bold...
and daring and liberated inherent in those very qualities, and they certainly suit the protagonist. In any event, the technique seems well justified — Gi-amati, after all, can be seen as just another "artistic" rendition of the real person, a live-action, three-dimen-sional supplement to the comic-book versions — and it even provides a kind of corroboration: you might think that the bespectacled robot-voiced nerd at the V.A. was laying it on a little thick until you encounter the actual man in the flesh.

This flouting of the fictional illu-sion has been honestly come by. The married team of co-writers and co-directors, Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini, started out as docu-mentarians, just as did the director of Ghost World, Terry Zwigoff, whose best-known documentary, just as did the director of American Splendor, happened to be a portrait of R. Crumb. These two films travel in intersecting circles. But perhaps the strongest connection between them, and my strongest feeling about both of them overall, has to do with how ap-proachable, how touchable, their eccentricity, and how many areas of existence are still unapproached and untouched on screen. With whom would you rather sit down over a cup of tea and talk about the state of the world — Harvey Pekar or Neo? Joyce Brabner or Lara Croft?

Plainly, it only partially, the title of Claude Lelouch’s And Now Ladies and Gentlemen echoes that of his 1974 And Now My Love. The film as a whole echoes the other more faintly: two destined lovers on distant paths, a debonair British jewel thief and a soul-ful French cabaret singer, each as gaunt and haunted as the other, each afflicted with a malady of the brain, crossing paths at last in Fez, Morocco, where one will seek the remedy of modern medicine while the other will go for a miracle cure at the desert tomb of Lalla Chafia, dead this century and a half.

It would be possible and even rea-sonable (if you are not Harvey Pekar) to stress the positive. The whole-heatedness of the romanticism. The tasteful chasteness with regard to the carnal aspects of amour. The connoisseurship of the workings of fate and chance. The rich, resplendent, yet never gaudy palette, an asset under-scored by the occasional fade to black-and-white, as if turning down the color knob on an antique TV. The glamour of the far-flung locales. The wind-whipped excitement of the yacht at sea, a nice break from such vehicles of choice as the racing car, the motor-cycle, the plane, the snow ski. The quotability of the script: “Doctors are for illnesses that go away on their own,” or, if only as a cornerstone credo here: the absurdity of the dream scenes is little different from that of the wak-ing ones. And the incessant chansons of the leading lady, rife with references to Lelouch’s past, amount almost to a Chinese torture. I often feel, after leaving a Lelouch film, that the world outside appears transformed. Never before have I felt so much that I was “hear-ing voices.” (Pleasant though Patricia Kaas’s might be.) Which is another way of saying that the visual side of the argument has tended to get shunted down.

Costa-Gavras’s Amen, I notice, has already come out on DVD, barely the wink of an eye after it finished its run at Hazard Center. (Had it already come out before?) Common knowl-edge tells us that the window between a theatrical run and a DVD release is rapidly closing. Common sense tells us that this can only increase the likeli-hood, particularly with the “alternative” cinema, that if a local theater doesn’t snap up a film soon after its premiere in New York and Los Angeles, the film will never open at all. I have assembled no evidence to substantiate that sus-picion, but the mere thought that a film such as Amen might not appear here causes me to break out in a cold sweat.

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and asterisks by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

**American Splendor** — Reviewed this issue. With Paul Giamatti, Hope Davis, James Urbaniak, and Harvey Pekar, co-written and co-directed by Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini.

**And Now Ladies and Gentlemen** — Reviewed this issue. With Jeremy Irons,
Sensationally funny!  “WILDLY UNCONVENTIONAL, SENSATIONALLY FUNNY AND A BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENT. IT RENEWS YOUR FAITH IN THE VITALITY OF THE MOVIE MEDIUM.” — ROBERT KALDORF, THE NEW YORK TIMES

Exhilarating! “EXHILARATING! A ONE-OF-A-KIND MARVEL!” — PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

Hilarious! “HILARIOUS, HARVEY IS EXTRAORDINARY...SO IS THE MOVIE.” — MATT WOLL, NEW YORK TIMES

Wonderful! “PAUL Giamatti...HOPE DAVIS AMERICAN SPLENDOR	

Ordinary Life Is Pretty Complex Stuff

If this is a review, then it serves as a reminder to never let the constant rush and stress of life get in the way of the simple pleasures. Life is short, and it's important to take time to appreciate the little things in life, like spending time with loved ones, enjoying a good meal, or simply taking a walk in nature. Remember, life is a journey, and it's up to us to make the most of it. 

And New Ladies and Gentlemen

abduction, on the other hand, is altogether something else. It's too dangerous, too dangerous, later, through a mien of jellyfish. And, although a little didactic, the eternal child- rearing issue — how much permissiveness? — admit no easy answer. (Apart, anyway, from the all- consuming, all-factoring power of fatherlove.) Visually, the churchy, shimmering, undulating strangeness of the subaqueous universe is exactly what will give the capabilities and limitations of computer animation, and yet at the same time the shapes and color of the fish are a little too akin to your standard bathtub Rubber Ducky. (Ideal, one would suppose, for the ancillary “merchandising” on the toy-store shelves.) But rather than squeak like Rubber Duckies, they — the two main ones — speak with the overfamiliar and overshadowing voices of Albert Brooks and, as his volunteer helper in his search for his son, Ellen DeGeneres. (The latter does, however, earn a laugh in her efforts to combine, as in a sizable role, running her plain English through their wrapped- tape-recorder cadence and modulation.) In the end, the film succumbs to the common blockbuster altruism of piling climax upon climax and not knowing when or how to quit. 2003.

© CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASSLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; SWEETWATER 9

Finding Nemo — Computer-animated fish story from the Pixar team (Andrew Stanton, director), by way of Disney, about a neurotically fretful clown fish by the name of Marlin (“Clown fish are no funnier than any other fish”), whose only surviving offspring, a normally inquisitive fingernail named Nemo, gets caught by a scala diver and imprisoned in an aquarium in a Sydney dentists office. At the very outset, the toss-up-off justification (or “character motivation”) for the parent’s anxieties will not make you forget the death of Bambis mother or Simbas father, but it will, unluckily, make you think of those. Nemos abduction, on the other hand, is absolutely harshest. The gruesome tissue damage, later, through a mien of jellyfish. And, although a little didactic, the eternal child-rearing issue — how much permissiveness? — admit no easy answer. (Apart, anyway, from the all-consuming, all-factoring power of fatherlove.) Visually, the churchy, shimmering, undulating strangeness of the subaqueous universe is exactly what will give the capabilities and limitations of computer animation, and yet at the same time the shapes and colors of the fish are a little too akin to your standard bathtub Rubber Ducky. (Ideal, one would suppose, for the ancillary “merchandising” on the toy-store shelves.) But rather than squeak like Rubber Duckies, they — the two main ones — speak with the overfamiliar and overshadowing voices of Albert Brooks and, as his volunteer helper in his search for his son, Ellen DeGeneres. (The latter does, however, earn a laugh in her efforts to combine, as in a sizable role, running her plain English through their wrapped-tape-recorder cadence and modulation.) In the end, the film succumbs to the common blockbuster altruism of piling climax upon climax and not knowing when or how to quit. 2003.
The Holy Land — Visited by impure thoughts, a yeshiva student in Tel Aviv drops in at the Love Boat strip club, and within five minutes has fallen head over heels for “Sasha,” a Ukrainian hooker. Tawdry tale with earnest intent, including a nod at Midlife politics. The movie’s actors consistently come up short. Oren Rehany, Tcheliot Semel, Saul Stein, written and directed by Eitan Giloin. 2001.

(NO CENTER 7, FROM 8/29)

I Shot Andy Warhol — This could be about no one but Valerie Solanas, the militant lesbian, founder of the one-member Society for Cutting Up Men (S.C.U.M.) and author of its “manifesto,” would-be playwright, part-time panhandler and streetwalker, full-time filmmaker, who in 1968 pumped a couple of slugs at point-blank range into the then King of Pop-symbol of male oppression to Solanas alone. The first feature film of British documentarian Mary Harron so diminishes its cast of characters (when it can bother to mention them) that one begins to wonder whether, as Warhol “superstar” Candy Darling, but at least gets the surface: “I did my Kim Novak for him, and he was very impressed.” Other personas familiar, forgotten, or unheard-of are even less individualized. With Martha Plimpton, Loluhea Burris. 1996.

(MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS, 8/29, 5:15 P.M.; 8/30, 7 P.M.)

The Italian Job — High-tech tale of betrayal and revenge, lighthearted to the point of self-consciously silly and callous (Charlize Theron does, at least, haul off and sock the man who murdered her father: that sure felt good!), mechanically directed by F. Gary Gray. As remakes go, it has the advantage of coming from an unremembered source, Peter Collinson’s 1969 British heist thriller. By the same token, it has the disadvantage of coming from a source unremembered for good reason. Mark Wahlberg, the star, is perhaps at a little too disadvantage here than in the last year’s remake of the well-remembered Chandale (new title: The Truth About Charlie), insofar as he’s a shade less pale a copy of Michael Caine than of Cary Grant. With Edward Norton, Jason Stathom, Seth Green, Moe Duf, and Donald Sutherland. 2003.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCHANTS & FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 9; GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14; LA Jolla 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANDOL THE REY 16; SWEETWATER 9; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 8/29)

Lara Croft, Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life — The video-game adventurers, back in action. Here she is, punching computer-generated sharks on the snout and hitching a ride on its dorsal fin, and here, sliding in slow-motion down the face of a cliff on a rope, upside down, while picking off foes with a bow and arrow. The crooked, two-gun-slinging heroine of the first film becomes a computer-generated 3-D heroine of the second. No interpretation of a stud has ever been more literally erotic. With Ciaran Hinds, Noah Taylor, Dyon Houson, directed by Jan De Bont. 2003.

(FASHION VALLEY 18; GALLAPLUM 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 19: VOGUE)

The Lives of Dentists —... Tart, terrific social comedy...a bonbon spiked with delicious wit and malice...Kate Hudson is a firecracker.

(TWEET)

The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen — Yet another comic-book movie (“graphic-novel” movie, anyway), with no relation to the 1990 British horror comedy, The League of Gentlemen. The present gent, and one lady, are assuredly out of the ordinary, a Dream Team of Victorian fictional characters assembled to save the Empire from early termination: a senior citizen Alan Quatermain, a kung-fu Captain Nemo, an adult Tom Sawyer, a senior-citizen Allan Quatermain, a kung-fu Hunter is not that of the Mad Scientist, nor the nose-breathing of the roguishlyoke of a Diane Johnson novel), a light, witty, civilized diversion about Americans abroad, living the high life and the heady life in present-day Paris. A lot has changed since civilized

THE BEST IS BACK! SEE IT AGAIN
John Blood, Boston Metro
JUST ABOUT AS MUCH FUN AS A SUMMER MOVIE CAN BE FAST-PACED, FUNNY AND FILLED WITH A TALENTED CAST...
MARK WALHBERG
THE ITALIAN JOB Movie

FINALLY! A SMART, SEXY COMEDY... “A BLAST WITH A GLORIOUS CAST!”
Chris Jones, ASSOCIATED PRESS

“Tart...Terrific”
“A tart, terrific social comedy...a bonbon spiked with delicious wit and malice...Kate Hudson is a firecracker.”
—Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

“Deliriously Stylish”
“A deliciously stylish new comedy from Merchant Ivory.”
—ELLE

“Romantic”
“A hip, contemporary romantic comedy...an all-star cast, an array of stylish personalities...sunny, surprising...delightful!”
—The New York Observer

Kate Hudson
Academy Award-Nominated Star of “Cold山er”, “The & The Secret Lives Of Dentists
CAMPBELL SCOTT
HOPE DAVIS...“RUNNING ON EMPTY”

Le Divorce — From James Ivory (by way of a Diane Johnson novel), a light, witty, civilized diversion about Americans abroad, living the high life and the heady life in present-day Paris. A lot has changed since Henry James and Edith Wharton were writing about this sort of thing: sooner to bed and quicker on the trigger. But a lot hasn’t: old world and old money in present-day Paris. A lot has changed since the continuity is plain to see. The characters here — even more than there — are numerous (the cast list alphabetically instead of hierarchically), the storylines loosely tangled, and the character observations random and wide-ranging. The primary focus is on a pair of So-Gal sisters with a heap of blond hair between them, one of whom (Naomi Watts) is a struggling poet going through a marital split, in mid-pregnancy, from her aristocratic, while the other (Kate Hudson, whose faces of resemblance to her real-life mother, Goldie Hawn, can be a handicap) occupies herself, first, as the mistress of a middle-aged right-wing mouthpiece (Thierry Lhermitte) who happens to be the...
Uncle of her errant brother-in-law, and the right-winger. And the most engaging, if wig) who long ago had a fling herself with the caricature. The jokes, in any event, are so

DON’T MISS THE RIDE OF THE SUMMER! Winner of audience awards everywhere!

“Wonderful and inspirational”

“There’s magic in it”!

The best movies of the summer!

Discotopia, by Mike Nance Kudrow, Damon Wayans, Jane Krakowski, HILLCREST CINEMAS; PARKWAY PLAZA 18, (HAZARD CENTER 7)

Large, besides playing the lead, co-wrote and decomposing-before-your-very-eyes) DELIGHTFUL COTT FOR SOPHISTICATED ESCAPE MATURE AUDIENCES LOOKING EVIN KUDROW, THE NEW YORK TIMES, LOS ANGELES TIMES READER.COM www.paramountclassics.com/andnow

...and decomposing-before-your-very-eyes) DELIGHTFUL COTT FOR SOPHISTICATED ESCAPE MATURE AUDIENCES LOOKING EVIN KUDROW, THE NEW YORK TIMES, LOS ANGELES TIMES READER.COM www.paramountclassics.com/andnow

“Currently resides in Los Angeles with his lawyer, his uncle of her errant brother-in-law, and the right-winger. And the most engaging, if wig) who long ago had a fling herself with the caricature. The jokes, in any event, are so

“currently resides in Los Angeles with his uncle of her errant brother-in-law, and the right-winger. And the most engaging, if wig) who long ago had a fling herself with the caricature. The jokes, in any event, are so...
character’s surname is Waite.) Sort of a High Noon without a time limit. Yet you very soon realize that the movie is so safely and securely entrenched in its period and idiom (“Let’s rustle up some grub,” somebody actually says) that there will be no ruinous intrusions of technology, apart perhaps from a smidge of slow-motion in the action scenes: no Chinese martial-arts maneuvers to build a bridge to the younger generation, no computer-manipulated rotations of the Earth’s axis, no science-fictional weaponry, no bullets followed in flight or freeze-framed an inch from their target. You can just sit back and relax. You had better. The poky pacing of the movie, the peculiar proportioning of its time, ought not to be underestimated as a contribution to the genre, even if this can be directly traced to the filmmaker’s self-importance and genre, even if this can be directly traced to the filmmaker’s self-importance and pompousness. The film does an acceptable film category, if not quite a genre, for the big shootout is generously proportioned and the filmmaker’s self-importance and pompousness. The film does an acceptable film category, if not quite a genre, for the big shootout is generously proportioned and the filmmaker’s self-importance and pompousness.
Call 444-FLILM or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

**CENTRAL CLAIREMONT**

Town Square 14
4805 Clairemont Drive (888-257-1204)
Dirty Dancing (Fri-Thur. 7:05, 9:30; Mon. 2:30, 4:35, 7:10, 9:25; Tue-Thur. 4:15, 7:10, 9:45; Fri-Sat. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50, 11:50; Sun. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30) D: Game Over (Fri-Thur. 7:05, 9:30; Mon. 2:30, 4:35, 7:10, 9:25; Tue-Thur. 4:15, 7:10, 9:45; Fri-Sat. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50, 11:50; Sun. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30) D: Game Over (Fri-Thur. 7:05, 9:30; Mon. 2:30, 4:35, 7:10, 9:25; Tue-Thur. 4:15, 7:10, 9:45; Fri-Sat. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50, 11:50; Sun. 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30)

**DOWNTOWN**

Gaslamp 15
705 Fifth Avenue (619-225-6608)
American Wedding (Fri-Thur. 7:00, 9:40, 11:20; Mon. 2:00, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40; Tue-Thur. 7:00, 9:40; Fri-Sat. 12:00, 3:25, 5:45, 7:30, 9:30; Mon. 12:00, 2:05, 4:15, 6:05, 8:15; Tue-Thur. 11:00, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10; Fri-Sat. 12:00, 3:25, 5:45, 7:30, 9:30; Mon. 12:00, 2:05, 4:15, 6:05, 8:15; Tue-Thur. 11:00, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10)

**EAST COUNTY**

El Cajon
408 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon (619-401-4365)
Jeepers Creepers 2, The Italian Job. The Medallion; Marci X, Freddy vs. Jason. Uptown Girls; Open Range; T.Draw Eddie Andy, Le Crime de Lumiè¢re; Pirates of the Caribbean; The Curse of the Black Pearl; S.W.A.T.; The Secret Lives of Dentists (Fri-Thur. 8:30, 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30); Jeppers Creepers 2 (Fri-Sat. 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30; Sun. 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30)

**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

**CENTRAL CLAIREMONT**

**TOWN SQUARE 14**

**CINERAMA CINEMAS**

**HORSEPTON PLAZA**

**LA JOLLA**

**LA JOLLA 12**

**CENTRAL**

**UPTOWN GIRLS**

**UPTOWN GIRLS**

**GREAT LAKES 7**

**MIRA MESA**

**DOWNTOWN**

**CINERAMA CINEMAS**

**TRIUMPH**

**PROMISELAND THEATRE**

**RANCHO DEL REY**

**SAN DIEGO READER August 28, 2003**

**SOUTH BAY**

**CHULA VISTA**

**CHULA VISTA**

**PACIFIC BEACH**

**SOUTH BAY**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**CHULA VISTA 10**

**BROOKLYN BEACH**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**BROOKLYN BEACH**

**BROOKLYN BEACH**

**EAST COAST**

**EL CAJON**

**EL CAJON 18**

**EAST COAST**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**SAN DIEGO READER August 28, 2003**
French criminal, jailed on a traffic violation, offers a hundred million to whoever will spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). Even the training sequences, spring him) and the scale of the action (a private jet set down on the Sixth Avenue Bridge), etc.). 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28 Days Later — In the violent prologue, a ski-masked commando team of animal-rights activists storms the Cambridge Primate Research Center to liberate the experimental chimps, heedless of the attendant’s warnings (“You’ve no ideal!”) that the chimps have been “infected” with rage. Sure enough, the chimps do not exactly embrace their liberators. Twenty-eight days later...A stark-naked patient (Cillian Murphy) awakens from a coma to find himself in a completely deserted hospital and a depopulated nation but for roving bands of blood-lusting zombies and isolated pockets of hungrily-downed humans. Forget the superficial likeness to Night of the Living Dead and its sequels. The tradition of English literature here invoked encompasses the futuristic survival tales of John Wyndham, John Christopher, and (more pretentiously, less eventually) J.G. Ballard. The prevailing standards of gratuitous gross-out, however, tend to obliterate the tone of civility that gave those tales much of their inner tension and conviction. Director Danny Boyle (Shallow Grave, Trainspotting, etc.) is perhaps all too eager to surrender himself to the New World Order. Still, the last-man-on-earth images of a post-apocalyptic London (ankle-deep litter, overturned bus, an eerie absence of people alive or dead) are highly evocative, even if what they evoke is not so much a dread of the future as a nostalgia for the Golden Age of the genre. And the narrative incidents are grippingly plausible, at least up until the messy— in both logic and choreography— climax. It’s all done on the cheap, which these days doesn’t mean black-and-white photography, a location on a ranch outside Oxnard, and a lead actor of the caliber of a Richard Carlson or a John Agar. It means digital video. It means fuzziness. It means there was something, in the first place, to ruin. With Naomi Harris, Brendan Gleeson, Christopher Eccleston. 2003. SPONSORED BY: PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE OR ONLINE FOR THE FOLLOWING THEATERS

Winged Migration — PBS-y nature documentary, French-made, following avian flight routes and disabusing you, along the way, of all that free-as-a-bird baloney. Being a bird looks like killing hard work. And getting picked out of the sky by duck hunters is an occupational hazard observed with a stoidal no-comment. With its strict focus on migration, the film inevitably turns monotonous; it can switch from one species of bird to another, but it cannot build or develop. It can only spread. And it’s as low on solid information as it is high on visual beauty. A wonder, however, is the film’s strict adherence to the documentary, as a genre, may prove to be the last bastion of top-grade cinematography, the final line of resistance to video, the one sanctuary where it still matters How Things Look. “No special effects,” we’re advised in a printed prologue, “were used in the filming of the birds.” Which is remarkable in itself. But does it rule out any digital cutting-and-pasting to transplant the filmed birds from one backdrop to another? An irreverent drawback to the magic of computers is that something we would like to view with awe and wonder, we are obliged to view instead with doubt and suspicion. The wide eye of innocence has been forever narrowed. Directed by Jacques Perrin, Jacques Cluzaud, and Michel Debats. 2002. SPONSORED BY: PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE OR ONLINE FOR THE FOLLOWING THEATERS

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Ads must arrive at our P.O. Box by 7 am, Monday. If not received by that deadline, your ad will not be run.

Deadline: Business classifieds are accepted until 6 pm, Tuesday, two days prior to the issue. Call Friday for early placement discounts. Ads may be placed by phone using a credit card (619-235-8200) or in person (1703 India Street, Downtown). Hours are 9-5 pm, Monday through Friday, and until 6 pm Tuesday.

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CUSTODIAN (La Jolla), Full-time, benefits. Day/evenings/weekends. Daily’s Restaurant in La Jolla. Call 858-434-4010.

CAREGIVERS/CNA/CHHA Direct Care Staff. Must have fingerprint background check. Call or apply in person 10am-5pm Monday-Friday: 2333 1st Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101. Or call for an appointment: 619-231-0151 or 760-434-4333.


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DATA ENTRY. Day and night positions. Sprout's, 5555 La Jolla Village Dr., San Diego. 858-715-1111.

DATA ENTRY PROCESSING CLERK. Mobil TeleSystems Wireless is seeking a Con- tact/Processing Clerk to work at our corporate office in Carlsbad. Must have excellent attention to detail, positive attitude, and computer proficiency. Full-time. 8am-5pm, $9-$10/hour plus excellent benefits and 401(k). Mandatory and random drug testing. Fax resumes to 858-755-1738 or e-mail to jobs@mswireless.com.

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DELIVERY DRIVER. Pizza Deli, 5737 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-279-7187. Full-time, 8am-5pm. $9-$10/hour plus excellent benefits and 401(k). Temporary position. Fax resume, Cookies by Design: 858-455-7627. Good pay plus benefits. Apply 9am-2pm Monday-Friday, 8:30-5pm Saturday. Fax resumes to 858-393-3010.

DOMESTIC CLEANER. Tomra Pacific, Inc., an established leader in the recycling industry, is seeking a Domestic Cleaner to join our San Diego team. Requires experience shopping of all truck, using front loaders and tennis and Curb 6S truck. Must be willing to work for a climbing company. Must be able to DMV printout when you apply in person at 8am-5pm at TOMRA Recycling Center, 4436 University Avenue.

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DRIVER, DELIVERY. Pizza Deli, 5737 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-279-7187. Full-time, 8am-5pm. $9-$10/hour plus excellent benefits and 401(k). Temporary position. Fax resume, Cookies by Design: 858-455-7627. Good pay plus benefits. Apply 9am-2pm Monday-Friday, 8:30-5pm Saturday. Fax resumes to 858-393-3010.

DRIVER, FAMILY CAREGIVERS. aides: Staffing@tristaff, or call 858-597-6556.

DRIVER, HOME HEALTH. Certified H-6 Monday-Friday to: 544 Vernon Way, San Diego, CA 92154. Fax: 619-671-5198.

DRIVER, VENDING COMPANY. Full-time, 8am-5pm. $12/hour plus benefits. Fax resume, DMV printout when you apply in person at San Diego’s Apex Wearhouse: 6225 Market St., San Diego, CA 92111. Fax: 619-275-3943.

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**Fax:** (619) 233-7907  **Phone:** (619) 235-8200
**Walk-in:** 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

**We must have the following information. Please print.**

**Name**
**Address**
**City**  **Zip**
**Phone (day) ( )**  **Phone (evening) ( )**

**Signature**
To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)

E-mail:
Choose One:  □ Woman seeking a man  □ Shared interests  □ Man seeking a woman  □ Friends

**Reader Matches Voice Mailbox** ........... $ FREE
**Headlines** ........... $12 each line ........... $ FREE
**First 25 words of printed ad** ........... $ FREE
**Additional words** ........... $1.20 each ........... $ FREE
**Late fee/walk-in fee** ........... $20.00 ........... $ FREE

**TOTAL** ........... $

**No cancellations. No refunds. Make check or money order payable to San Diego Reader.** To order using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

**Card number**
**Expiration date**

**Signature**

**SPORTS AND GAMES GROUP** for singles.
**FREE** Tennis, volleyball, walking, rollerblading, scrabble, chess, cards, and more. All ages and skill levels. All匹配es answered. (619) 233-7049

**M Atches**

**WOMEN SEEKING MEN**

**VERY ATTRACTIONAL, Mexican, sexy, nice legs, wants to meet very attractive, 4’-6” 49, healthy, honest, financially secure, non-smoker, no drugs, for friendship, possible relationship. (619) 224-0714
**DATE TO DINE,** 65, Interests are computers, bridge and dancing. Perfect for last second Labor Day, flies. Perfect for last second Labor Day, East Coast. (619) 224-0714

**SEA ANGEL** for a nominal charge. You may respond to a Reader Matches advertisement. As age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.

**San Diego Reader** from this page, click on “Matches.”
**Call 1-900-844-6282**

The cost is $1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years of age. No credit cards or cell phones.

Call and enter the number at the end of the ad to hear the advertiser’s introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the day to reply. The channel will appear on your phone bill as “Dating.”

### Questions:
- 619-235-8200 #416

### Send an e-mail

Send an e-mail address now on the Web. You may search 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 listen to intros online.

SanDiegoReader.com

This page, click on “Matches.”

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**ATTRACTION LOOKING, 42-year-old male, 5’9”, 160 lbs., likes sailing, hiking, dancing. Male, 44-47, looking for a meaningful relationship.**  
**DISTINGUISHED, HANDSOME, 5’10”, 170 lbs., an artist, working in the computer field, looking for an older woman who wants a committed relationship.**  
**PREFERS NURSING, 35, 5’10”, 140 lbs., loves to travel, music, dancing, hiking, cycling, cooking, hiking, travel, music, dancing, hiking. Has two children.**  

**ADVENTURER, Builder/Developer, 46, 6’2”, 200 lbs., looking for a mature woman, 50-60, who is comfortable with my wild side. I am 46, 6’2”, 200 lbs., looking for a mature woman, 50-60, who is comfortable with my wild side.**

---

**JOIN US IN THE EIGHT ON A DATE SKYBOX. $75 TUES., SEPT. 9.**

**JOIN OUR COCKTAIL BUFFET/SOCIAL MIXER THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 80708.**

**KARL STRAUSS, CARLSBAD - 6:30PM.**

**RED, WHITE AND BLUE II 858-536-8788.**

**80694.**

**59. (9/3)**

**ATTRACTIVE, GREEN-EYED, 39, looking for a female for friendship, or relationship.**

**INTEGRITY, MARRIAGE, 33, 5’11”, 150 lbs., looking for a serious, committed, loving, non-smoker, solvent, attractive, romantic, spiritual, single white male.**

**BALANCED, UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, 36, 5’9”, 165 lbs., looking for a non-smoker, solvent, loving, attractive, spiritual, single, serious white female.**

**SINGLE WHITE CHRISTIAN WOMAN, 40, looking for a serious, committed, loving, non-smoker, solvent, attractive, spiritual, single, serious white female.**

**MATCHES MEN SEEKING WOMEN**

**HANDBEES, TALL, WHITE, divorced father of two, looking for a committed relationship.**

**YOU ARE WONDERFUL, LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL PERSON.**

**TALL, LEAN, DYNAMIC, fast, fast, fast, seek woman for fast-paced, fast-paced, fast-paced woman.**

**GOOD WITH DOG HEART, 35, 5’10”, 150 lbs., looking for a committed, loving, non-smoker, solvent, attractive, spiritual, single, serious white female.**

**GOOD WITH DOG HEART, 35, 5’10”, 150 lbs., looking for a committed, loving, non-smoker, solvent, attractive, spiritual, single, serious white female.**

**SINGLE, SENSITIVE MANSION, 37, 5’10”. Please be mature, normal, down to earth, not into slave labor.**
Looking for a serious relationship. I’m 5’7” tall, blunt, good humor, decent bookworm, slightly musically adventurous, surfer-kind attitude. (菇菇) (967)

5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and binding. (962)

8. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt. (962)

32. The prize for winning the Reader Crossword will be a Reader T-shirt. (962)

54. Olive of the funny pages (962)

96. “Tennis, ____?” (2) (962)

103. “_____, ____!” (Julia Louis-Dreyfus sitcom) (962)

242. Good-looking, athletic, Herculean, sculpted, beautiful, Didn’t get into the冲洗, but ... (962)

450. Friendship, possible relationship, long term? Developing intuition, finding love! (9/3)

581. “____?” (9/10)

636. “____, ____!” (9/10)

704. “____, ____!” (9/10)

865. “____, ____!” (9/10)

935. “____, ____!” (9/10)

1023. “____, ____!” (9/10)

1246. “____, ____!” (9/10)

1513. “____, ____!” (9/10)

1726. “____, ____!” (9/10)

1939. “____, ____!” (9/10)

2152. “____, ____!” (9/10)

2365. “____, ____!” (9/10)

2578. “____, ____!” (9/10)

2791. “____, ____!” (9/10)

2904. “____, ____!” (9/10)

3117. “____, ____!” (9/10)

3330. “____, ____!” (9/10)

3543. “____, ____!” (9/10)

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3969. “____, ____!” (9/10)

4182. “____, ____!” (9/10)

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8868. “____, ____!” (9/10)

9081. “____, ____!” (9/10)

9294. “____, ____!” (9/10)

9507. “____, ____!” (9/10)

9720. “____, ____!” (9/10)

To: Human Resources
Subject: Job Application

I am writing to apply for the position of [Job Title] at [Company Name]. I have [Number of Years] years of experience in [Related Industry] and believe that my skills and qualifications make me a strong candidate for this role.

My background includes [Detailed Experience]. I am confident in my ability to [Describe Key Skills and Accomplishments]. I am committed to [Describe Commitment to Company/Industry].

I am available for interviews at your earliest convenience. Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
CALL THE FREE ROOMMATE HOTLINE! 234-2145

Soon after advertisers place their ads, their spoken introductions are heard on the Roosto hotline. This lets you hear listings before they’re printed. Call 24 hours/day & choose option two. Select two listings by gender, price and area. Listings updated daily.

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San Diego, CA 92109
Call before 10am, 858-453-8683; 619-235-2415.


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2950 Clairemont Drive. 619-275-3661.

$1095. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with view, balcony facing Balboa Park. $1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious apartment in San Diego Historic, 2-story building. $1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious apartment in San Diego Historic, 2-story building. $1815. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1200, pets OK. 42nd Street. Very large unit, view of the park. View. $1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $925. 1 bedrooms built 1924, remodeled. $1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1050-$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1495, cable included. $1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1395, cable included. $1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Vacation. $1795. $1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1495, cable included.

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**CARLSBAD.** $1850. 760-944-6046.

**CARLSBAD.** Brand new gated community. Refrigerator, 1 bath upstairs duplex. Utilities paid. 3058.

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**CARDIFF.** 7476. $2200. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Garage. Appliances. Community pool, spa, on-site laundry facilities, off-street parking. Pet Ok. 656-4514 or a_tproman@sdic.com.


**CARMEL VALLEY.** $1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downtown, near 54, I-805. No pets, please. See and come again! 619-243-4000 x0.


**CITY HEIGHTS/AZALEA PARK.** $1375. 619-993-7271.


**CITY HEIGHTS/AZALEA PARK.** $935. Newly painted 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1000 security deposit. 659 Sea Vale Street (cross Tecolote Canyon Rd). Drive #1. Call toll free: 888-400-6315.

**CITY HEIGHTS/AZALEA PARK.** $875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with 1-car garage in back of house. Large bedrooms. Large enclosed redwood patio. Pets on approval. Drive by: 3615 Ruette de la Roche, Carlsbad. 619-297-3899.

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19 475-61, 1 bedroom, 1 bath home. Rustic design, price, beaches. Contact and call for rent. 619-282-6893.

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DOWNTOWN. New! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 700 square feet. All appliances, parking, air conditioning. Close to trolley, lots of nearby retail/entertainment. 619-204-8100. $1150 plus $300 deposit. 12/1 move-in. 1530 2nd Avenue, Suite 300. (619) 238-5275.

DOWNTOWN. Nice! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. 1000 square feet. Beautifully remodeled with new kitchens and bathrooms. $1350 with $300 deposit. Located next to the Convention Center! 2 blocks to the Gaslamp. 1000 Kettner Blvd. 619-299-3154.

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DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Luxurious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 925 A Street. 619-531-0826. www.downtowngaslamp.com/rent/2037.

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**$1,295**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
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- Updated kitchen and bath
- Large backyard
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

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**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2059 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
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- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2087 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2110 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

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2133 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

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2150 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2169 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

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2188 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

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2207 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2226 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2245 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- Newly remodeled
- Central air conditioning
- No pets or smokers

Ready, 858-870-1296.

**FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM IN ENCINITAS**

2264 West Valley Parkway

**$1,375**

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
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- No pets or smokers

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LA JOLLA. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Metropolitan Living & close to UCSD! washer/dryer hookups, all utilities included. Avail. 9/1. 760-454-7509.

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LA JOLLA. $1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great condo complex. washer/dryer included. Avail. 9/1. 760-452-5071.

LA JOLLA. $1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pet friendly. washer/dryer hookups. Avail. 9/1. 760-452-5071.

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MISSION VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, near all. 619-743-3285.

MISSION VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with stove, refrigerator, off-street parking and on-site laundry. 2605 Madison Avenue #4. Agent 619-261-2827.

MISSION VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, paved porch road, $36,000. Also, 27A fruit acres, freehold, owner selling. $65,000.

MISSION VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, paved porch road, $36,000. Also, 27A fruit acres, freehold, owner selling. $65,000.

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$8 CLASSIFIEDS

24-hour Internet or fax for parties. See form on page 153.

RHYTHM GUITARIST, 26 years old, seeking

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24-hour Internet or fax for parties. See form on page 153.

RHYTHM GUITARIST, 26 years old, seeking
boats, and Jetski's. 12 Sale—every item is on sale! Save on kite and board packages. Discounts on kites and boards in stock and reduced. Windsport, 844 West Mission Bay Drive, 760-207-7426.

KAYAKS FACTORY DIRECT. 3 Kayaks, 2 fishing, $1495; fish 'n' dives, $495-$595; triple, $995. Must sell. 858-752-4914.

KAYAKS, Sit-On-Tops, canoes. Also blem items included for $3000. Must sell. 858-752-4914.

SAN DIEGO NAVY DAY—every item is on sale! Save big on Def. Prime, Pho Linh, Air Flux accessories. Yamaha on-sale 30% off. Discounts on kites and board packages. Save on kites and boards in stock and reduced. Windsport, 844 West Mission Bay Drive, 760-207-7426.

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Fishing, $995; fish 'n' dives, $495-$595; triple, $995. Must sell. 858-752-4914.

Call now! 858-488-5599.

GOLF CLUBS, irons, driver, 3 wood, putter, $50. Ladies' prolines. New and used golf clubs and accessories. 619.871-0810.

VOCALIST, has studio, CD, website. Gerry, 619-463-8134.

GOLF RESORT. Sign up NLT September 4. 619-280-5449.

SAN DIEGO NAVY DAY—every item is on sale! Save big on Def. Prime, Pho Linh, Air Flux accessories. Yamaha on-sale 30% off. Discounts on kites and board packages. Save on kites and boards in stock and reduced. Windsport, 844 West Mission Bay Drive, 760-207-7426.

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GOLF RESORT. Sign up NLT September 4. 61-9-280-5449.

SAN DIEGO NAVY DAY—every item is on sale! Save big on Def. Prime, Pho Linh, Air Flux accessories. Yamaha on-sale 30% off. Discounts on kites and board packages. Save on kites and boards in stock and reduced. Windsport, 844 West Mission Bay Drive, 760-207-7426.

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GOLF RESORT. Sign up NLT September 4. 619-280-5449.
196
San Diego
August 28, 2003

SURFBOARD. ples trifin custom. Ridden five times. No

SURFBOARD, blue foam, $250. Mike, 760-434-9703.

tom, clear deck, $375. 760-943-1092.

$495. 619-227-7873.

5'10" fun board for beginning boards, $270 each. New leash, 858-205-5673.

for $750, sacrifice $500 firm. 760-230-

tail, excellent condition, $650/best.

FREE TOWING 5'9" Freeline Designs, cus-

7'6" Old School G&S egg single fin, $300.

fins, very new, $200. 6'3" Wynn thruster, trifin, rebuilt, great beginner board, $220.

9' Cane Garden fish, side

9' Craig trifin, noseguard, 7'4", 21" width, Tony Sta-

9' trifin Native by Rocky's, 7'9" Freeline Designs, cus-

9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices!

WANT TO GO WAKEBOARDING? See website: www.

WET SUIT, WETSUITS, BOOGIE BOARDS. Skateboards,

AQUARIUM, wetsuits, boogie boards.

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AQUARIUM, BIRD.

Aquatic

BUY/SELL/TRADE

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29 gallon with stand, filters,

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AQUARIUMS AND PONDS!

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AQUARIUM, AQUARIUMS AND PONDS!

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Ferrets. Most vehicles. Expires 9/15/03.

FREE 1/2-HR. INSPECTION

5784 Miramar Rd. • 858-866-1615

Fill scratches and dents for as low as $59.*

Includes: grind valves, pressure-check head, check all seals, replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket, replace intake manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 9/11/03.

Bumper to Bumper 30K/60K/90K Factory Services $99. Excl. 100K

• 60,000-MILE MAJOR SERVICE '229'

Includes: timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

Valve Jobs starting at $49.95*

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

C.V. Joint Boot special $39*

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

Half-shafts & Axles $99*

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

Timing Belts $69*

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

Bumper Pad $29.95*

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

Up to 40% off on select filters. Expires 9/15/03.

FREE 1/2-HR. INSPECTION

Includes timing belt; clutch, clutch slave & clutch fork, all clutch related; radiator, all radiator parts; install and adjust belt; check all seals; replace intake manifold gasket, replace exhaust manifold gasket. Most cars. *With coupon. Expires 11/15/03.

LIFETIME WARRANTY**

Features: Lifetime Parts & Labor Warranty. All repairs in-shop labor included. Any part of vehicle covered. Expires 11/15/03.

Head Gasket B lown? CRACKED BLOCKS? New Ceramic Seal

• Easy to install
• Avoid costly repairs
• 6-month/60,000-mile warranty

If it doesn’t work, price is good.

Discount Auto Body & Paint—858-569-1350

Quality Without Compromise

Good
• Sand for adhesion
• Includes all finish & non-paintable surfaces
• Chemical de-waxing
• 2 coats of paint
• Multiple colors to choose from

Better
• “Good” features plus
• Extra coat of paint
• Dual-action machine sanding
• Integrated clear coat
• Color of your choice (from our list)

$149.95

$299.95

$499.95

Most cars

Most cars

Most cars

Better“Good” features plus
• Extra coat of paint
• Dual-action machine sanding
• Integrated clear coat
• Color of your choice (from our list)
**Automotive**

**QUALITY, AFFORDABLE AUTO SERVICE**

- **Smog Check**
  - RECHECK $13.75
  - $20 Check engine done here.
  - **Tune-Up** $24.95-$34.95
  - Most cars. Some models slightly higher.
  - **Alignment** $29
  - Alignment marking front and rear axles.
  - **Brakes** $95
  - Inspect and replace brake pads.
  - $69-$129.

**FREE SHUTTLE**
- 10-mile radius.
- Major port. 20-mile radius.

**HANMI AUTOCENTER**
- 7639 Carroll Road, Ste. A
- (858) 635-2211

**Specializing in all JAPANESE AUTOS!**
- **Install new spark plugs**
- **Change engine oil**
- **Change oil filter**
- **Adjust idle to factory specs**
- **Check ignition system & timing**
- **Lubricate chassis**
- **Change & filter fuel filter**
- **Rotate 4 tires**
- **Check suspension**
- All services done same day. Some trucks & large vehicles possible with higher Timing Belt replacement extra. Required if most cars.

**30,000 • 60,000 • 90,000 FACTORY-RECOMMENDED SERVICES**

**East County’s**

**MAINTENANCE**

**$139.99**
- 4 cyl.
- $149.99
- 6 cyl.
- $159.99
- 8 cyl.
- $169.99

**ENGINE OIL CHANGE**

**$39.99**
- 4 cyl.
- $49.99
- 6 cyl.
- $59.99
- 8 cyl.
- $69.99

**LUBRICATE CHAIN**

**$19.99**
- Most cars.
- Impacts & belt tension.
- Clean chain terminal.
- Change & filter intake system.
- Adjust & adjust brakes
- Inspect & check brakes, shoes, lines & drum.
- Inspect & check radiator cap.

**CHASSIS LUBE**

**$24.99**
- 4 cyl.
- $34.99
- 6 cyl.
- $44.99
- 8 cyl.
- $54.99

**Engine Oil Change & Filter w/ Drains & Repairs**

**$199.99**
- 4 cyl.
- $299.99
- 6 cyl.
- $399.99
- 8 cyl.
- $499.99

**Radiator CLEAN**

**$29.99**
- $39.99
- $49.99
- $59.99

**SPEEDY TUNE & BRAKE**

**FREE TOWING**
- (With major repairs)

**12,000-MILE/12-MONTH WARRANTY!**
- Call for details.

**TRANSMISSION SERVICE**

**$59.99**
- $99.99
- $129.99
- $199.99
- $299.99
- $329.99
- $399.99
- $529.99
- $699.99
- $999.99

**COMPLETE AXLE**

**$79**
- Plus labor.

**SPORTS AUTOS**

- **Sports Auto Tdy & Inc.**
- 5050 Kettner Blvd., Ste. J
- Phone: (858) 246-3432
- Fax: (858) 246-4338

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**SUN VALLEY BICYCLES**
- lakeside, 2 new 10-speeds, bmx complete, 2 for $200. 619-997-3210.

**BICYCLES**

- $375.
- $495.
- $595.
- $995.
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### Approved Repair Facility

**“Your Dealership Alternative”**

#### 30K/60K/90K/120K Factory-Scheduled Service

- Maintenance turn-up
- Replace spark plugs
- Replace fuel filter
- Replace oil and filter
- Drain & fill cooling system
- Set idle and timing
- Clean battery terminals
- Lubricate
- Top off all fluids
- Pressure-test cooling system
- Inspect and adjust brakes
- Rotate tires
- Inspect the following:
  - Brake pads, brake drum lining, ball joints & dust covers, drive shaft boots, steering linkage, transmission fluid, differential fluid, steering gearbox, ball joints, sway bars, and bolts and nuts, suspension
- Tires, wheels, and full-size tire extras
- Double plug system extra. Platinum or Kromax plug extras. (Contact shop for details.)

#### 5K/10K/15K Maintenance Service

- Oil change + Oil filter
- Fluids change
- Inspect the following:
  - Brake pads, brake drum lining, ball joints & dust covers, drive shaft boots, steering linkage, transmission fluid, differential fluid, steering gearbox, ball joints, sway bars, and bolts and nuts, suspension

#### 12-month/12,000-mile warranty

- All repairs.
- All offers may not be combined with any other discounts.
- Visit our website: www.suspensionplus.net

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### TIMING BELT SPECIAL

**$59.95**

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<th>0-60,000/90,000/120,000 miles Replacement Recommended</th>
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<td><em>Worn belts may break due to age and mileage and cause internal engine damage. Parts extra. Most-4 cyl. RWD cars and light trucks. With coupon and additional (Call for your price quote).</em></td>
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### Manager's Special

**$69**

- Oil + filter service
- Brake Pad & Disc "Free" Rear Wheel Bearing Flush
- Cooling system drain/flush
- Front brake fluid replacement
- Tire rotation + Battery service
- Disc/brake cost extra.

### Computerized Alignment

**54.95**

- 4-wheel alignment
- 2-wheel alignment
- Fully computerized

### Summer Air Conditioning Special R-134

**$69**

- AC performance check
- Inspect hoses, lines, condenser, compressor, fittings & filter
- Freon & recharge system
- 12-syllable system. Call for details.

### Complimentary Rental Vehicle

**Customer Convenience Program**

- Take a complimentary rental vehicle with any service of $19 or more. Call ahead to reserve rental. Drop off your vehicle for service and pick up the complimentary rental vehicle.

### FREE Brake Inspection

- No obligation.

### Approved Repair Facility

**“Your Dealership Alternative”**

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### Timing Belt Special

**$59.95**

- 0-60,000/90,000/120,000 miles Replacement Recommended
- Worn belts may break due to age and mileage and cause internal engine damage. Parts extra. Most-4 cyl. RWD cars and light trucks. With coupon and additional (Call for your price quote).

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### Approved Repair Facility

**“Your Dealership Alternative”**

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#### 30, 60, 90K MILE SERVICE

**$139.95**

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### Complete Axles

**As low as $99.95**

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### New Radiator

**$159.95**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recharge Air Conditioning Air Conditioning System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$79.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CV Boot Special

**$49.95**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CV Boot &amp; Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$99.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Air Filter

**$39.95**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 Months/3000 miles Check Oil System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$39.95</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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### Brass
diagram
SAN DIEGO READER CLASSIFIEDS

**Want Ads**

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of ads posted and not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online.

**GARAGE SALES**

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!

**ANTIGUITY & COLLECTIBLES**

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!

**AUTOMOTIVE**

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!
SAN DIEGO. Garage sale. 8am-3pm, Saturday, 8/30. Women’s clothing, jewelry, furniture, household items. 327 North Alcasia Ave. Phone: 619-454-3590.

SOLANA BEACH. Moving. 9am-2pm, Saturday, 8/30. Items like linens, camp gear, books, miscellaneous. 517 Farringdon St. Phone: 760-250-1725.

SOLANA BEACH. Moving sale. Saturday/Sunday, 8/30-8/31. Saturday 8am-noon, Sunday 1pm-5pm. Items like linen, camp gear, books, miscellaneous. 1330 Pacific Ave. Phone: 760-603-0006.

SOLANA BEACH. Moving. Saturday, 8/30. Items like lamps, chairs, table, HP printer/fax, lamps. 12647 Pinelot Rd. Phone: 760-603-0006.

SOLANA BEACH. Moving. Saturday/Sunday, 8/30-8/31. Items like linens, camp gear, books, miscellaneous. 5789 Sea Forest Dr. Phone: 760-250-1725.


SOLANA BEACH. Moving. Saturday, 8/30. Items like linens, camp gear, books, miscellaneous. 5789 Sea Forest Dr. Phone: 760-250-1725.

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SOLANA BEACH. Moving sale. Saturday, 8/30. Items like linens, camp gear, books, miscellaneous. 1330 Pacific Ave. Phone: 760-603-0006.

SAN DIEGO: Amazing moving sale. 7am-4pm. 80 items. Furniture, toys, computers, miscellaneous household items, clothing for all ages. 10130 Hooper

VISTA: Moving sale 9am-3pm. Saturday & Sunday. $600+ in quality household goods, antiques, books, garden tools, compost bins. 1163 La Tortea Drive

F O R S A L E

San Diego Reader has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can be placed in print daily.

AIR CONDITIONER, Frigidaire Easy Breeze, 3-speed, 2.5 to 3 rooms. $25. 858-280-2194

AIR CONDITIONER, Rheem, 3.5 ton, 1/2 ton. 10 seer, costs 1500 square ft. $58, weights approximately 700lbs. 3 months. Best offer. 858- 326-1646


APPLIANCES, Pick up only. Reasonable. Must sell & 760-856-9673 or 858-506-5802. 858-505-3922

BEDROOM FURNITURE, beautiful, must sell, $259/best. 619-721-1122

BEDROOM SET, Cherrywood, 5-piece, new, in plastic. Hurry! Call now! 858-483-0442.

BEDROOM SET, Cherrywood. 6-drawer dresser, nightstand, mirror, $250. 858-488-9144.

BEDROOM SET, solid wood, complete set, new in package. Can deliver. Credit Cards accepted. Please call. 619-238-5713. North County. 858-706-4046

BEDROOM SET, 4-piece set. Brand new, in plastic. Call now! 858-824-0442.

BEDROOM SET, solid cherry wood, 5-piece, new, in plastic. Hurry! Call now! 858-721-9034.


BEDROOM SET, Cherrywood, 4-drawer dresser, mirror, $299. In excellent condition. 858-952-1747.


Bedroom set. Cherry wood 5-piece, new, in plastic. $300. 858-271-6854.


BEDROOM SET, Cherrywood, 4-drawer dresser, mirror, $299. In excellent condition. 858-952-1747.

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Great game and gently used furniture. Consign with us at 3545-3547 Oak St., San Diego, CA 92103. 619-686-5094.

**NEW & USED FURNITURE**

619-364-6564. Consigned high quality by Consign with us. Great condition. We have something for everyone! Located at 3545-3547 Oak St., San Diego, CA 92103. 619-686-5094.

**Couch**

with dark wood legs. Great condition.

**Couch & Love Seat**

In CORDUROY. Send in for a quote.

**Desk**

Queen Anne mahogany, circa 1800.

**Carpet Sale**

300 sq ft. $800.00. 619-364-6564.

**Smoking**

No smoking in the showroom. Thank you.

**Test Drive**

Ask about our test drive program.

**Home Inspection**

For more information, call 619-364-6564.

**Finance**

Easy financing available. Ask about our 0% APR financing.

**Serving San Diego 23 Years**

**California Motor Works & Tires**

**Our Service is Guaranteed 12 Months/12,000 Miles Nationwide!**

**Super Saver**

**Oil Change**

$11.95 BASIC

$18.95 PREMIUM

$24.95 PREMIUM PLUS

**Smog Check**

$18.95 (Reg.

$25 OFF when you use this coupon. Plus $2.25 plus tax for transaxle test. No other offers apply.

**Brake Service**

$25 OFF.

**Air Conditioning System Check**

$19.95

**Transmission Service**

$69.95 Most cars.

**Coolant Service**

$39.95 Includes 5 quarts of coolant. Most cars.

**A/C Service Special**

$19.95 10-12,939 miles, R134A. Inquire about our free A/C system analysis.

**Axle Special**

$99.95 Most cars. Per axle. Parts and labor.

**Dining Room Set**

Solid cherry wood table with 5 leaves and 8 matching chairs. Seats ten. Excellent condition. Includes 8-500.

**Dining Room**

Quickly. Florence, hand-carved, solid cherry, 60" table, 4 leaves. Item 20073. 42" x 36" table, $175. 42" x 60" table, $495. Must sell 315. Call 619-

**Dining Table**

Beautiful, elegant, fine French style, cherry, round, 42" diameter, 2 leaves expand to 60". Item 20073. Must sell $175. Call 619-364-6564.

**Dining Chairs**

42" diameter, hand-carved, cherry, round table, 42" - 60". Item 20073. Must sell $175. Call 619-364-6564.

**Foreign & Domestic**

Full Maintenance & Repair Service.

We Do Overhaul.

Brakes, Carburetor.

Electrical.

Shocks, Struts, Tires, Alignment, Balance,

Smog and More.

**Call About Your Student, Military and Senior Discounts**

**Smog Check**

$16.95

**Oil Change**

$159.99

**Transmission Service**

$69.95

**Coolant Service**

$39.95

**Engine Diagnostic**

$39.95

**Pre-Purchase Full Vehicle Inspection**

$69.95

**Brake Special**

$99.95

**Fuel Injection and Induction Service**

$39.95

**A/C Service Special**

$19.95

**Axle Special**

$99.95

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$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 153.


FIREWOOD. Several cords of eucalyptus available, take some or all. Free. 619-483-9365.

FREEZE-DRIED VEGETABLES, 3 lbs., 300g, 21 per box. 608-703-0308.

GLASS DOORS. Bifold, etched glass, unfinished. 619-359-7031.

DENTAL EQUIPMENT. Portable x-ray machine, motorized chair, $600. 619-565-7835.

18" STAND-UP MIRROR, brand new, used once. 619-299-0039.

WATERFRONT. 14' aluminum sailboat, 33 hp. 619-483-9365.

PLATINUM. 18X18, includes installation! Subscribe to NFL Network for 2 years, includes HBO. 619-565-7835.

PURCHASED ON LIQUIDATION. 10'x14'x8' shed, metal frame, $300. 619-565-7835.

AIR CONDITIONING. Ductless mini splits, under $600. 619-359-7031.

FURNITURE. All styles, all brands, all conditions! All furniture in mint condition! Must sell! 619-516-3256.

BARSTOOLS. Set of 6, $150. 619-516-3256.

PAINTING SERVICE. All interior, exterior, and kitchen items, 2 room minimum. 619-516-3256.

KITCHEN. 46" by 30" island, 2-drawer wooden frame and black screen, rectangle, graphite oversize driver, #5, $45/best. 619-359-7031.

WINTERIZATION. New, asking $150. 619-421-5996.

SHELVING. Many types and sizes. 619-359-7031.

FURNITURE. Many types and sizes. 619-359-7031.


BAR STOOLS. 6 of them, $200. 619-414-3314.

DINING TABLE. 42" round table, 2 chairs. 619-359-7031.

DRESSER. With mirror, 2 nightstands, cherry stained veneer, look new, $25 each. 619-359-7031.

FILE CABINETS. Three, 2-drawer wooden frame, $30. 619-299-0039.

ROLLING SHELVES. 3 sets, each 18" wide x 48" deep. 619-359-7031.

U-BAR. Stainless steel, $150. 619-359-7031.

RECEIVER. Samsung, $50. 619-359-7031.

SHEET METAL. 24" x 70" x 3/4". 619-359-7031.

BED FRAME. Black and silver headboard, metal frame, $75. 619-359-7031.

DRESSER. 6 drawers with mirror, 2 nightstands, 2 end tables. 619-359-7031.

DECK. Lovely raise deck with 4 rubber tires, $200. 619-359-7031.

SWING OR BIFOLD, UNFINISHED. 36"x80", $125. 858-270-0318.

BEDROOM SET. Queen bed, dresser, mirror, nightstand. 619-359-7031.

DINING ROOM SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.

LAMINATE FLOORING. Mohawk carpet, Con-sole. 619-359-7031.

EUCALYPTUS. Several cords of eucalyptus logs at factory-direct prices. Sofas, beds, country plaid, good condition, $250. 858-414-3314.

BAR STOOLS. Set of 6, $200. 619-414-3314.

RECEIVER. Samsung, $50. 619-359-7031.

DINING ROOM SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.

OUTDOOR SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.

DINING ROOM SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.

BAR STOOLS. Set of 6, $200. 619-414-3314.

HANGERS. In bulk, 1000 lbs. 619-414-3314.

FILE CABINETS. 3 sets, each 2-drawer wooden frame, $30. 619-299-0039.

BAR STOOLS. Set of 6, $200. 619-414-3314.

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DINING ROOM SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.

OUTDOOR SET. 7 piece, high end. 619-359-7031.
FUTON, black metal frame, approximately 7’ long. New. Paid $200, asking $100/bid. Army 858-578-9431.

FUTON, metal frame, great shape. $25. 619-422-5737.

ICE CREAM MAKER, new, small kitchen size, includes instructions/recipe booklet. $45/bid. 619-234-7354.

JEWELRY.

KITCHEN SINK.

VINTAGE 1980s Bedroom set including dresser, double bed, maple nightstand, 2 pulls, 1 chest. $125/each. 619-425-3942.

LAMP.

MOTORHOMES

Lawn mower, 9”, gas, rear bagger, self-propelled, really nice, with 1000+ hours. $158. 669-779-1442.

Lawn mower 20”, McLaren, 7 blades, commercial is亩-profilfl, really nice, been used very little, 3000 hours. $280. 669-779-4700.

Lawn mowers, 18”, gas, rear bagger, self-propelled, really nice, one left, $150. 669-779-4700.

Lawn mowers, 10”, walk behind, $35. 669-402-7105.

Lawn mowers, 14”, push, $25. 669-402-7105.

Lawn mowers, 6”, hand push, $15. 669-402-7105.

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$59

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59

$59

And $2.00 transfer fee.

From

$95

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Lawn Care

No smoking.

Lawn Care

No smoking.

Lawn Care

No smoking.

Lawn Care

No smoking.

 сезоно.

yard clean-up.

Lawn Care

No smoking.

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Free retest with our repair
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Best price, best service by appointment only
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(619) 587-2455

**Fuel Induction Service**
Best carb, best price by appointment only
7AM-9PM, Mon-Fri, 8AM-8PM Sat.
(619) 587-2455

**A/C Check-Up**
Most cars, $19.99
Check for leaks, evacuate & recharge systems
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**Computer Engine Diagnostic**
$35
Diagnose engine light, check engine, driveability problems, and battery problems. Most cars
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Save $10 when you service your vehicle with us
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$59.98
Includes Turbo, TH-350
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Your Complete Automotive Service Center

**TUNE-UP SPECIAL**
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**LEAD STORY**

— When Steven Potter (Potter Tech) and Gay Ben-Ary (University of Western Aus-
tralia, Perth) have created a robotic “arm” that makes a painter’s rudimentary brush strokes at
Ben-Ary’s lab, directed over the Internet by its “brain” (composed of 50,000 rat neurons in a petri
dish) in Potter’s lab, according to a July report from BBC News. According to Pottery, the brain is not yet
classically “intelligent” but does “adapt” (i.e., experience less chaos) and thus strokes more
smoothly over time.

**People Different From Us**

— In August, St. Louis, Mo., school-board member Rockelle Moore sent Mayor Francis Slay an open letter criticizing his school-clos-
ing management reforms and advising him that because of his obstinacy, she had placed a curse on
him. According to a report in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Moore’s curse was modeled after
Deuteronomy 28:21, in which Moses told the Israelites what would happen if they strayed from God: “The Lord shall make the pestilence
come unto Francis Slay.” When a former
comptroller later told reporters he thought Moore had “mental problems,” Moore allegedly threaten-
ed to kill him.

**More Things to Worry About**

— The 2003 veddicenter of Alberton Forker Senior High School in New Orleans failed (for the
second time) the state’s mandated end-of-grade tests and she cannot graduate until she passes (August).
— Workers tearing down the reactors at the old Hanford Wash., nuclear reservation discov-
dered dozens of radioactive nests of mud dauber wasps, but so far no wasp had mutated into a
monster (August). — The district attorney of Watauga County, N.C., frustrated at the light
sentences judges hand down for metham-
phetamine producers, announced that he will begin to charge defendants instead (via a recent
anti-terrorism law) with manufacturing a “nuclear” (or chemical) weapon (August).

**Chicles Come to Life**

— New York City’s new page anti-terrorism preparedness manual, produced by a con-
sortium of 20 government agencies and released in July, contains such advice as: If you encounter
radiation, go outside and into a wooden building) or go inside (if you’re outside a building); Do not
accept packages from strangers; If you find your-
self holding a mysterious substance, put it down. Also offered is the familiar advice from a gener-
ation age: If you can’t get out of a building, (“Duck”) under a sturdy table or desk.”

— In March, in Lisbon, Ohio, after William Neville, 30, allegedly reserved discovery discov-
dered that a young woman had taken out a stay-away order against him, police chased the man out of her house, down the street through the Lisbon Cemetery, until he acciden-
tally ran over his dog with his car. — The St. Petersburg Times reported in July that Pinellas County (Fla.) judge Richard Luce was
being investigated for loss of his job in May and thus becoming un-suited to sentence con-
vinced attempted-murderer Tam Thane Vu. Luce became angry when he surmised that Vu’s mother
had raised her hand, and he then threatened her
forehead in reaction to the verdict, but the
mother said she was merely having an adverse reac-
tion to her hair.

**Our Civilization in Decline**

— In McNairy County, Tenn., in August, father Steven Joseph Yurick, 33, was convicted of pro-
ducing child pornography on the website he runs in order to support the model career of his
13-year-old daughter. Authorities found no
explicitly erotic photos on the site, and the girl said she enthusiastically posed wearing scanty
clothing so she earnestly wants to be a fashion model. — A Brisbane, Australia, model-
aging agency run by Darrell Featherstone uses his eight-year-old daughter Morgan as a fashion model, forcing Morgan to wear up and dressing her to appear to an adult.

**Below the Fold**

— Robin William, a 19-year-old veteran prosecutor who recently resigned after being charged with DUI, said her main defense would be that, at the time of
his arrest, police did not tell her that she had
driven under the influence to an attorney (Orlando, Fla., August). — An accountant was charged with embezzling
$170,000 from his employer (a union local), and
explained that he gave it all to his female assistant
for three years’ worth of oral sex (New York City).

**No Longer Weird**

— Adding to the list of stories that were for-
merly weird but which now occur with such fre-
quency that they must be retired from cir-culation: (65) Parents who on a hot day leave their
unattended kids in the car (accidentally or for what they believe is a brief period), resulting in
death, as happens usually to underachieving peo-
ple but which also happened in August to Uni-
versity of California at Berkeley student Mark J.,
who allegedly advertised himself (on Inmate.com) as "enjoying" “being silly and funny” and who has "many qualities which make [him] unique.

**Least Justifiable Homicides**

— Victor Robinson was charged with murder in April after he alleged that police
brough up his eight-month-old son to stop him
from crying so that he wouldn’t go “to a punk.” — In May, in Rockville, Md., a
12-year-old girl acknowledged at a hearing that she had fatally stabbed her 15-year-old brother
during a dispute over whose turn it was to use
the phone.

**In the Past Month**

— Three teenagers with paintball guns terror-
ized kids on a playground until they fired into the air and at random. — An accountant was charged with
embezzling $170,000 from his employer (a union local), and explained that he gave it all to his female assistant
for three years’ worth of oral sex (New York City).

**Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85581, San Diego, CA 92186 or to newsweekly@aol.com

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**RAW TEXT END**

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What's for Dinner?

Certain phrases drive me crazy, every day, one or more of my children ask me, “What's for dinner?” Simple question. It could be 10:00 a.m. It could be 10:00 in the afternoon. “What’s for dinner?”

My stomach tightens. A slow burn starts in my belly. There is no right answer to this question. No matter what I plan to fix for dinner, someone will be disappointed. Last Thursday morning, my second daughter, Angela, asked, “What’s for dinner?”

“Why are you asking?” I said. “We haven’t even had lunch yet.”

“I’m just curious,” she answered.

Spathe and meatballs, I told her.

“Yay,” Angela said as she raised both hands in the air. She ran from the kitchen into the living room. “Lucy, we’re having spaghetti and meatballs for dinner tonight.”

“Yay,” Lucy echoed Angela. “What are we having for dinner?”

“Spathe and meatballs,” I told her.

“The meatballs?” Rebecca complained, walking out of her room and down the stairs. “Mo-o-o-om,” she whined, “do we have to have spaghetti and meatballs? It makes me throw up.”

“It doesn’t make you throw up,” I told Rebecca.

“It did once."

“About three years ago and you didn’t throw up because you had spaghetti and meatballs. You had the stomach flu and just happened to eat spaghetti and meatballs while you got sick.”

“But I still hate it.”

“You can always have Cheesier."

The rule in our house is if you don’t prepare for dinner, you can have Cheesier. Cheesier are a relatively healthy food. You eat them with milk. Johnny, who is a particularly picky eater, eats Cheesier for dinner about five nights a week.

“I can have Honey Nut Cheesier!”

“Okay.”

“Okay?”

“I won’t have dinner,” Rebecca said.

“Okay.”

Even Jack gets in on the daily dinner debate. Mike and I have tried to explain to the kids that there are a few foods that we don’t get tired of. For me, it’s spaghetti and meatballs. For Jack, it’s spaghetti and meatballs. And for the kids, it’s spaghetti and meatballs.

Ben has been known to put the hatch up to keep them from eating spaghetti and meatballs. He loves music. He likes to play CDs on our stereo. He ruins virtually every CD he gets his hands on by scratching it or tossing it across the room when he’s done listening. “I just want to listen to two more country CDs,” Ben said.

“No right now. I’m talking to Daddy."

“NO, DON’T TALK TO DADDY."

“What’s for dinner?”

“No. I’m just going to sit on the step. You may not talk to me that way.”

“DON’T WANNA SIT ON THE STEP."

“Just a minute, Sweetie,” I told Jack. I picked Ben up and carried him over the step that leads from our foyer into the living room. “Sit right here until I say you can get up.”

Ben crossed his arms, stuck out his bottom lip, and glared at me like an angry gorilla.

“What’s for dinner?” Jack asked again.

“Have you eaten today?” I asked Jack.

“No. I mean, I had a donut on the way in. But that was at 6:30. I haven’t eaten anything since.”

“How can you work all day without eating?”

This is a conversation Jack and I have had many times.

“I don’t know. I just get in the zone, and I keep thinking I’ll stop and get something to eat. Then the phone rings or I move on to something else, and pretty soon, it’s time to go home.”

“We’re having spaghetti and meatballs.”

Silence on Jack’s end. I knew what Jack was thinking. He was trying to decide if he should stop somewhere on the way home and get something to eat. Say, ten McDonald’s nuggets and a large Coke. Or some popcorn chicken at KFC.

“Sorry it’s not pizza. Or shrimp Newburg in puff-pastry shells.”

“That’s okay,” Jack said. “Is there beer food?"

“I can make garlic bread if you want something else.”

“Okay.”

“Are you going to stop and get something?”

“No. I should be home in about 45 minutes.”

Thursday night for dinner, Jack, Angela, Lucy, and Ben ate spaghetti and meatballs and garlic bread. I ate just meatballs. Rebecca settled for spaghetti with butter and salt.

As the girls ate the last bits of dinner, Angela asked, “What’s for dessert?”
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