You and I both know what saved me: My son. A gorgeous Botticelli-in-diapers on the day his father left for good. The reason I am a single mother is that, over long swaths of time, there’s a certain amount of grace in being a single mother. Something exquisite and beautiful, crammed with the experience of life and death itself.

(Story begins on page 30)
Mengele Choice

Matt Potter’s cover story, “Bad Blood” (July 28), should be required reading in every medical school in the nation. Certainly it’s not the first time that avarice and arrogance have triumphed over compassion and common sense, but it’s still deeply disturbing when physicians view poor minorities as little more than lab rats. That Northfield Labs would be willing to do anything to push their product to market is not surprising. Like most corporations, their only goal is profit, by any means necessary. But for UCSD to act as willing co-conspirator is unconscionable. We expect better from people who take an oath to first do no harm.

As for Dr. David Hoyt and his defense of the exception to informed consent policy, I’m reminded of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, of the experiments conducted in the 1930s by Dr. Cornelius Rhoads, and, of course, of the master of human experimentation, Dr. Joseph Mengele. Lest I be accused of hyperbole, I point out that in each case poor, powerless people were deprived of something that even God Himself refuses to deny, freedom of choice. Dr. Hoyt says that UCSD has the support of the community. I hope that the community proves him wrong by diverting any planned giving away from UCSD and choosing to donate to other organizations.

Kelly Johnson
via e-mail

Great Crooks

I would like to thank the Reader and, in particular, Mike Davis for writing a wonderful, inclusive report about the history of San Diego (“Welcome to the City of Crooks,” July 28). I thought it was great, and I would like to compliment him for writing a wonderful history of this bunch of damn crooks we’ve got here. And most of all, we’re Republicans. I wonder if anyone noticed that. And, particularly, we’ve still got a lot of them around here, and I hope someday we will manage to get rid of the whole damn bunch of crooks that we’ve got here.

I’d also like to thank Don Bauder for his wonderful reports in the Reader. I religiously read every one of the Reader’s reports by Don Bauder because I know they’re going to be truthful and honest, and I’m sorry that he had to leave but I understand that it was a good thing for him to leave that lousy rag that he left and work for some company that produces at least half of the truthful, objective reports.

Jack Frogue
North Clairemont

Idiot Pastor

I’m calling in response to the “Sheep and Goats” article (July 28). I’m calling because I was curious if the piece was meant to bash the Mormon religion or to show that Pastor Gabriel Carlin is an idiot and has no clue what he’s talking about and he’s a racist, hateful bastard. I’m not a Mormon, but I was offended, or not offended — I’m not sure yet. Just wondering what the purpose of the article was.

Name Withheld

Dissord Ecology

I recently visited beautiful San Diego on a business trip and picked up a copy of the Reader to find some interesting places to visit and things to do. A completely out-of-place article struck my attention. A very slandering article written about Mormons (“Sheep and Goats,” July 28). I firmly believe that people can worship any way they would like to. And if this Pastor Carlin is truly Christian, he wouldn’t be focusing his energy on fingering anyone’s religion. So my suggestion is to stick to things that make San Diego great instead of publishing articles that promote discord in a world that is full of it already.

Troy Brown
via e-mail

continued on page 80
Stadium Mess

By Don Bauder

It’s a sorry state of affairs when your ace in the hole is a black hole: possible bankruptcy.

That’s the situation with the City of San Diego: its best defense against another pillaging by the Chargers is the fact that the city is broke. San Diego is already a national laughingstock. Think what it will be if it gives a billion dollars’ worth of development rights to the Chargers, then goes bankrupt.

But will penury protect the city? In the past few years, there have been a few hopeful signs that major-league sports teams are no longer as rapacious as they were. Supposedly sensitive owners are putting up more of their own money for sports facilities. Alas, it’s not much more. Team owners are not sensitive people, except when fingerling their pocketbooks. And when you examine sports deals closely, there are a lot of concealed payoffs that the biased mainstream media don’t report.

Next year, the Chargers want voters to okay an urban village development plan that, the team claims, will pay for a $450 million stadium. It would include 6000 housing units, retailers, and a hotel. The footballers assert they will even plunk their own money into some of the infrastructure. The city would have to give the team 60 acres at the present Qualcomm site and pay for part of the infrastructure.

The city would be giving up $1 billion in development rights, says former councilmember Bruce Henderson, who fears that once again, the team is fleecing San Diego. First, in the late 1990s, it promised to stay if it got a 60,000-seat guarantee and a refurbishment of the stadium now called Qualcomm. It got both and then reneged on the agreement, wangling a deal that reduces its rent by $6 million a year and permits it to blow town in 2008. In return, it dropped the 60,000-seat guarantee, which was going to expire in two years anyway.

“The bottom line is that the Chargers have set themselves up,” says Henderson. “With their rent reduced, they can make lots of money staying at Qualcomm, which is an excellent stadium as is. Or if they get development rights free, they can make billions from the urban village, even after subtracting the cost of a new stadium. Or if they get a deal from Los Angeles, they can move. Don’t be surprised if right before the 2006 election, they insult the city so they can lose the election and bolt for L.A.”

Rodney Fort, economics professor at Washington State University and author of Sports Economics, says that since 2000, taxpayers have paid on average 63 percent of sports palace costs. “That’s better than what it was in the 1970s, when the public was putting in almost 100 percent,” he says. “More private money is going in, especially for [hockey and basketball] arenas.”

There have been some positive developments. In the late 1990s, Los Angeles was ready to put a heavy subsidy into the Staples Center, which is used for basketball and hockey. But its politicians decided to play hardball. In the end, the city put in only 3 percent. Now it refuses to pay for stadium subsidies, even infrastructure. Of course, it has an enlightened newspaper, the Los Angeles Times, which has been willing to put the city’s fiscal health ahead of its own narrow economic interest. Fort explains that newspapers profit from sports pages, special sections, and promotions, while radio and TV stations rake in bucks from game broadcasts, talk shows, and the like.

The San Francisco Giants lost four elections seeking subsidies, finally winning the fifth by promising to pay for everything but infrastructure. Government picked up 6 percent of the tab. Massachusetts kept refusing the pleas of the New England Patriots. Hartford, Connecticut, said it would give the team everything it wanted, but it was a cockamamie scheme that mercifully died. Finally, the Patriots paid 83 percent.

An arena for the Columbus Blue Jackets hockey team was built with zero public funds. The arena for the Dallas Mavericks and Stars was 30 percent taxpayer funded. The St. Louis Cardinal ballpark to open next year will be 22.6 percent funded by taxpayers.

Some governments are putting up stiff resistance. Minnesota and Florida state legislators won’t pick up the tabs for the Twins and Marlins, respectively. “The Twin Cities have continued on page 6

 Neal Obermeyer

Contact Don Bauder
at 619-881-2395 or don bauder@mac.com

Photos by Don Bauder
Touch One, Touch All
By Bruce Kauffman

When Michael Moore finally arrived at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on October 12 to rail against a second term for President Bush, he promised to devote the ticket proceeds to scholarships for the biggest hellraisers on the Cal State San Marcos campus.

The renegade documentarian (Fahrenheit 9/11) spoke to a crowd of some 10,000. He said he was still smarting from university president Karen S. Haynes’s veto a month before of the use of Cal State San Marcos money to pay for the reelection visit. Her reason: there would be no balancing — or pro-Bush — voice represented, and too little time to find one before Election Day.

The veto overturned the student government’s vote to use student activity fees to cover Moore’s appearance. Student leaders raised money and brought him here anyway.

Eight days after the anti-Bush tent revival in Del Mar, just after midnight on October 20, Jason Edwin Williams, a 23-year-old communications major and star 400-meter hurdler, was pulled over by university police for allegedly running a stop sign at Campus Way and Campus View Drive, just up the hill from his room at the University Village dorm complex.

Williams had to wonder why he was being pulled over. He felt certain he had come to a full stop at the intersection. After all, he said, he had seen the police car parked nearby.

Williams also could not help wondering if his race — he was one of fewer than 200 blacks among the more than 7000 students enrolled at the university — had something to do with it.

Police searched his car, a 2001 tan Honda Civic, showed him a steak knife and an open bottle of rum they allegedly found inside, charged him with felony possession of a weapon on a college campus, and carted him off to the Vista jail.

He was released some 19 hours later, about 7:30 at night, on a $15,000 bond. On October 27, he entered a not guilty plea in Superior Court in Vista to a misdemeanor charge of weapons possession — knocked down by prosecutors from a felony — and to the infraction of an open bottle of alcohol in a vehicle. He faced a year in jail and a fine of as much as $3201.

Over the next week, he talked with friends and teachers about the incident. One, Sharon Elise, a sociology professor and African American who counted herself among those who had endured racism over the years at the campus, urged him to speak out. And on November 4, he did. He accused the police of racial profiling and wondered aloud if a “blue-eyed white” would have gotten the same treatment.

At a forum sponsored by the African American Faculty and Staff Association, Williams told a rapt audience that overflowed Academic Hall 102, one of the largest lecture halls on campus, that the evening had started out in celebration as he joined his parents and a klatch of cousins and uncles and aunts at a Red Lobster restaurant to fete his grandmother on her 75th birthday.

He said he had stopped at the stop sign. He also said that little if anything is visible through the windows of his car even in the daytime because they are darkly tinted. So how, he asked, could police have seen a bottle of Malibu rum through the back window at night? Police said they found the rum on the floor behind the passenger seat.

Williams told a search, this justified a search, Williams said. He passed three field sobriety tests. He said he did not know that the bottle was in the car, that it probably had been left there by one of the cousins he’d shuttled about for the birthday party.

The search also yielded the knife from the open storage compartment on the driver’s side door — an EverSharp steak knife with a 5½-inch blade affixed to a black handle. “I never once thought that having a kitchen knife — a kitchen utensil, a steak knife — in my car was against the law," Williams said.

He told the crowd that the police were wrong in reporting that he said he used the knife “for protection.” Williams insisted that he never said any such thing. He said instead that the knife belonged to his mother, and he used it to pare apples and cut up other food he brought to campus.

Then he accused the police of brutalizing him. After putting him under arrest, Williams said, they patted him down, grabbing his right testicle so forcefully that he screamed. When they did it again on the left side, he said, “That’s when I went ballistic.”

“I speak the truth,” Williams told the crowd. When he was done, after about 40 minutes, the audience rose to its feet and gave him a sustained ovation.

 Asked at the time to respond, the university said race was not a factor in the incident and that police were “very confident” they had followed correct procedure.

The denials did not sit well with students.

On November 11, a Thursday morning, about 30 students marched across campus to deliver letters to the university police in protest of what they called racially motivated traffic stops and arrests. One letter called for police to make a formal apology and for people to pray for the police to change.

continued on page 8
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resisted for a long time," says Rob Baade, professor of economics at Lake Forest College, north of Chicago. "But once cities start kowtowing to team demands, it makes it more difficult for other cities to resist, because of the argument that a team will be less competitive."

There’s a wonderful Marin story; The team pulled out the usual ploy of threatening to move. The bras visited Las Vegas to hear Sin City’s pitch. The president of the Florida state senate shut them up: he said he wouldn’t “negotiate with terrorists.” If only San Diego pols had had such backbone.

There’s bad news too. Washington, D.C., wooed a team, owned by Major League Baseball, from Montreal. A tax-payer-financed stadium was part of the package. Suddenly, some politicians and citizen groups got spine: they argued that with schools and infrastructure in horrible shape, the private sector should pay a chunk. Indignantly, Major League Baseball said it was going elsewhere. Washington surrendered. The $600 million-plus stadium will probably be 90 percent funded by the government.

The Indianaples Colts will get a new $625 million stadium, and the team will put in a mere $100 million. At one point, the public’s portion was to be paid off through receipts from a downtown gambling casino. That was scrapped. Earlier, plans to have casinos pay off the cost of a stadium for the Chicago Bears were jettisoned. In the future, however, there will certainly be more financial ties between pro sports and gambling. As Dan Moldea’s book Interference shows, the original owners of National Football League teams came from organized crime and the gambling industry. Financial necessity will lead to more marriage vows.

Some recent developments were less promising than advertised. “When a stadium is said to be privately financed, you have to look at the details,” says Baade. The Dallas Cowboys advertised that they were putting up half of a proposed $650 million stadium. However, the Heartland Institute points out that while the governments would use new taxes to retire their part of the debt, the Cowboys were permitted to slap a tax on tickets and parking. The team gets 95 percent of the naming rights and also a loan from the league it doesn’t have to repay. The team’s subsidy could reach $1.2 billion, says Heartland.

A proposed billion-dollar subsidy to the New York Jets was knocked down by two state politicians this year. Pols showed that New York City residents had consistently opposed the proposal, partly because the New York Times editorialized that the billions for owners should go to critical public services. But the Jets will be back, because other teams have their hands out.

The New York Yankees and Mets are claiming they will build their own stadiums, with the government kicking in some things as parking. But FieldofSchemes.com says that the teams will collectively get more than $900 million from city and state funds, rent rebates, bond subsidies, property tax savings, and the like. If you add in the $451 million that the Nets, a basketball team moving from New Jersey to Brooklyn, want in city and state funds, New York governments could be on the hook for more than $1.3 billion.

Fort is not optimistic that what he calls “the stadium mess” will improve. Politicians can’t resist a stadium subsidy: teams, the business establishment, labor unions, and the construction industry lobby heavily. The media (with some exceptions) are generally biased for the public subsidy that is in their economic interest. “There is little hope that direct democracy can curb the stadium mess,” he says.

Knowing that the city is broke and services will be slashed and taxes raised, San Diegoans may still vote a billion-dollar gift for their beloved Chargers, who will take the money and laugh all the way to the goal line. ■
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Touch one, touch all
continued from page 3

Jason Williams joined the crowd. As the route took them past his dorm room, he pointed out the cover of his compact disc, *The Handler*, displayed in the window. A rap artist, Williams has been selling the albums for $10 apiece out of his backpack and the trunk of his car. He said he wants to convey a positive and uplifting message to his black contemporaries. “I feel that I’m the next Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the next Malcolm X,” he said, “because I am a messenger.”

On Monday, November 22, nearly 300 students walked out of class, descended on the plaza at the foot of University Hall, and denounced the campus police for alleged racial profiling. Scores fell to their knees and clasped their hands atop their heads in the posture of suspects about to be arrested.

One after another they took to a microphone in front of a banner that read, “Free Jason Williams. Touch one, touch all.” The protesters called for an economic boycott of the campus, urging people to spend not a dime at such places as the Starbucks at the Kellogg Library across the way. They said the boycott should last until all the charges against Williams are dismissed.

“If one person does not have social justice,” said student Heidi Doyle, “I should not have it.” Noted Williams, “I am preparing to spend a year in the penitentiary.”

Six days later, on November 28, university president Haynes asked distinguished writing and literature professor Susie Lan Cassell and former Cal State Fresno police chief Lynn Button to conduct an independent inquiry into the Williams case. She also indicated she would convene an in-house task force to examine the role of the police.

On November 30, the police went into damage control, holding their own public forum at the Clarke Field House to assure a skeptical crowd they would thoroughly investigate any formal complaints about officers in the department.

Four weeks later, on December 28, Williams filed a statement at the Vista Courthouse. In it, he swore that police had stopped him illegally, told him he did not “belong here,” searched his car without his consent, roughed him up, and then falsified their arrest report. By February 4, investigators Cassell and Button had completed their work. The university released 4 pages of what’s thought to be a 25-page report. It concluded that in the Williams arrest, campus police had acted “within the policies and procedures established.”

Nonetheless, the investigators called for a study of arrests by race, a community forum to oversee the police “to ward against race inequity,” and the training of officers to be more sensitive to cultural diversity.

By early May, with graduation approaching at Cal State San Marcos, Michael Moore had still not been heard from as to his scholarship awards. Reminded of this by a reporter, Moore swiftly moved into action, put up a website inviting nominations, and declared, “It’s not easy to take on the establishment, but when students do so for the right reasons, they should be rewarded.”

On May 13, just two days before commencement, Moore announced the awards. He gave out six scholarships worth $15,000, tripling both the number of recipients and the amount of cash. Among the winners: Jason Edwin Williams, $2500 richer and now with the money he said he needs to finish college.

According to Moore, the student had “tirelessly pursued justice,” battled racial profiling, and represented “exactly the type of student who belongs at CSUSM.”

In a newspaper interview later, Williams said, “I stand for that citizen who is tired of being mistreated.”

At the end of May, with the campus quiet and in between semesters, the in-house task force issued a report that urged the campus police to be more community oriented in their patrols. But it rejected the idea of forming a citizens’ review board to oversee the department. Instead, the task force leaned toward forming a panel — drawn from the region, the faculty, and the student body — that would only offer the police advice. Williams’s trial is scheduled to begin on September 2 at the Vista Courthouse.
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Illustration by Rick Geary

Matt:
Why is Canada so special?

Lucky for us, Canadians seem to spend most of their free time answering survey questions. Maybe we can find some clues in statistics from public and private agencies clearly obsessed with the same question as GZ. Here’s a quick scan of the Canadian brain: 45 percent of Canadians have never had a cavity, maybe because 30 percent floss daily; 34 percent say their marriages are most like Marge and Homer Simpson’s; 20 percent believe aliens regularly visit Earth; 58 percent of Canadian e-mail users still have more trust in the postal service; and 71 percent would welcome more tax audits by the country’s internal revenue service. A whopping 40 percent of Canadians own vibrators, a third more than the world average. A survey of Toronto college freshmen found that 78 percent of them use the expression “eh” (as in, “Nice day, eh?”) made internationally famous by the Mackenzie Brothers and SCTV, even though nearly 100 percent called it uneducated hick talk. Seems they’re proud that “eh” is as typically Canadian as hockey and beer.

This figure is dropping fast, but when last asked, 57 percent of Canadians considered the U.S. their country’s best friend. Amazing loyalty when you consider that 37 percent of Canadians consider George Bush the greatest threat to their own national security, second only to worldwide organized crime. So what do we give them in return? A mere 14 percent of Americans call Canada our best friend. There’s something poignant about all that unrequited geopolitical love. But in the end, as Grandma would say, it’s all about attitude. A recent U.S.-conducted survey of Canadians shows that 94 percent believe the rest of the world likes them a lot. I defy you to dislike a grimy, hand-shakey bunch with strong teeth and an outlook like that. Yay, Canada.

Heymatt:
On the day of the tsunami, did the world population go up or down. I trust it didn’t stay the same.

— Joel Fentin, the net

Trust misplaced, Joel. The most recent total (estimated, of course) for the 11 countries with tsunami-related deaths is 200,000 (though not all died on the day of the event). The U.S. Census Bureau’s world population clock estimates there is a net gain worldwide of 202,419 people per day. Spooky but true.

The Endless Yard
Once again, Matthew Alice opens a worm can best left closed and suffers the consequences.

“The whole nine yards” debate will not die, and why I figured we could play Dr. Kervorkian to this particular bit of common knowledge I really don’t know. We even heard from one Lyle Davidson, saying we had the joke all wrong, giving us the corrected version, and saying it had nothing to do with the expression. The only conclusion we’ve drawn so far is that Scottish jokes are really, really unfunny, no matter which version you hear.

Phil Croye of netland sent an e-mail similar to this received from George Weisz of Carlsbad: “The expression goes back to WWII. The fighter airplanes were equipped with six or eight .50 caliber machine guns mounted in the wings. Each had a canister attached containing a prepackaged belt of ammunition measuring 27 feet long, NINE YARDS! When questioned by his crew chief upon landing after a busy mission about how much ammo he had used, the pilot would report, “The whole nine yards!” meaning he had [given it] all he had.

We’re still looking, so this isn’t the final word, but we’ve yet to find a military ammo specialist who will confirm that nine yards was a standard length for cartridge belts for the popular M2 .50 caliber Browning (used on land, sea, and air) or any other machine gun. The first thing they point out is that a yard isn’t a relevant measure. The belts as well as the drums or canisters that held them were measured in rounds, a much more useful figure. Of all the guesses, this is my personal fave. The military, especially in wartime, contributes mightily to casual speech and adds borrowed words and phrases from foreign countries as well. And the machine-gun story is at least plausible, requiring no imagination stretching or abandoning of credulity. It just isn’t supported (so far) by the facts.

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Before we move into football (the NFL preseason kicks off on Saturday), the media would like to award its Sportsman of the Year trophy. Regulars will recall that the trophy is a handsome 18-inch-tall bronze statue depicting a solitary professional athlete standing in an Iowa cornfield, weathered cap clutched tight by callused left hand, manly right hand extending outward to receive a check for ten million dollars. The trophy is awarded every August 1 to commemorate the Battle of Ijutland.

This year’s recipient is Barry Bonds. In addition to the statue, the Box would like to express regret for the unkind innuendoes that have appeared in this space concerning his use of steroids, head size, and unrelenting pig-like selfishness. They made me do it.

On Monday, Bonds announced he would not play this year, which, for those of us who love him and follow his good works hour-to-hour, was a nasty disappointment, but not a surprise. Bonds was merely closing the circle on a perfect season — by far, the most productive baseball season of his professional career.

As you may recall, back in March, Barry was cornered, he was treed, he was dinner. His lifelong buddy and personal trainer, Greg Anderson, among others, had been indicted on 42 counts of money-launders and providing drugs to well-known athletes. Attorney General John Ashcroft announced the indictments, live, on national TV. A grand jury was empanelled and testimony began. Bonds as a steroid user was leaked, or, more accurately, waterfelled to the press. Even a mistress turned up to rat-out Bonds, reportedly testifying that she told him he began using steroids in 2000.

On March 17, Baseball, in the form of Mark McGuire, Sammy Sosa, Joe Canseco, Rafael Palmeiro, Bud Selig, Donald Fehr, Sandy Alderson, and Kevin Towers, came to Capitol Hill and revealed themselves to be guilty, corrupt, stupid, and arrogant. For the first time, all eyes turned to Barry Bonds.

One of America’s great myths is the power of the press. Journalists cherish that myth for obvious reasons. The actual fact is, writing a story that changes anything — from getting a pothole filled to helping an innocent man get out of jail — happens once every lifetime home-run records, be 45 million dollars richer, and retire to the life of Living Icon.

He had help. I mean, how do you figure the government dropping 40 of 42 counts against his trainer and others, plus writing into its plea agreements the dispensation that no one had to cooperate with the government, thereby assuring Bonds of an uncomplicated future? That was a bases-loaded, bottom-of-the-ninth-inning home run for Barry Bonds and that’s why he’s Sportsman of the Year.

But, every long once in awhile, critical mass happens and the media herd stampedes, all together and all toward the same story. The power of the press is actually the power of the stampede.

Being the all-time home-run champion is a record like no other in sports. The 2005 season was set to start in two weeks and every time Bonds came to the plate, you can be assured that the stampede would scream, “Steroids!”

Every time Bonds hit a home run, the stampede would generate stories about the home run, about his possible steroid use, wondering if that home run was the result of steroids, observing that Babe Ruth did not use steroids, nor Hank Aaron, nor Warren Harding. A version would be printed in major newspapers every single day.

Bonds would start this year with 703 home runs, 11 behind Ruth, 52 behind Aaron. Passing Ruth was a lock for 2005. Bonds needs 49 home runs to tie Aaron, 30 to pass become The Man. As each milestone came up, the stampede would intensify. Hundreds, then thousands of media-empowered slugs would follow Bonds AT ALL TIMES, calling out the same questions, “Will you take a steroid test right now?” “Do you think you deserve to beat Babe Ruth’s record?”

Suddenly, corporations, reporters, private detectives, lawyers, prosecutors are looking into everything Bonds has ever done or said. Every acquaintance, friend, relative, every woman he’s slept with, will consider selling him out in return for a small check or an appearance on Fox News. No human being born of woman can withstand that kind of pressure. He was over, I thought.

Instead, he’s triumphed by deciding not to play baseball. Now, maybe Bonds didn’t have a choice, in which case his ginpy knee is the best injury an athlete ever had. Not playing this year stopped all the stories and scattered the stampede. Bonds can come back next year and hit 27 home runs, return the following year and hit 27 home runs, own the single season and lifetime home-run records, be 45 million dollars richer, and retire to the life of Living Icon.

The Vegas Line

| NFL Future Bets 2005–2006 League MVP |
| Player | Odds | Player | Odds |
| Peyton Manning | 4 to 1 | Tom Brady | 7 to 1 |
| Donovan McNabb | 10 to 1 | Daunte Culpepper | 12 to 1 |
| Kerry Collins | 15 to 1 | Corey Dillon | 15 to 1 |
| Byran Leetch | 15 to 1 | Tomlinson | 15 to 1 |
| Terrel Owens | 15 to 1 | Shaun Alexander | 18 to 1 |
| Ben Ruettiger | 20 to 1 | Marc Bulger | 20 to 1 |
| Jamal Lewis | 20 to 1 | Tiki Barber | 20 to 1 |
| Matt Hasselbeck | 25 to 1 | Jake Delhomme | 25 to 1 |
| Clinton Portis | 30 to 1 | Edgerrin James | 30 to 1 |
| Julius Jones | 35 to 1 | LaMont Jordan | 35 to 1 |
| Marvin Harrison | 40 to 1 | Ahman Green | 50 to 1 |

The Sporting Box wants your comments via the Internet: sportbox@ix.netcom.com.
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—Laura W. (Designer) *actual IJL client

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: nondenominational
Address: 9919 Carroll Centre Road, San Diego, 858.549-7729
Founded locally: 1984
Senior pastor: Barry Minkow
Congregation size: 1300
Staff size: 17
Sunday school enrollment: 300
Annual budget: $4 million
Weekly giving: $30,000–40,000
 Singles program: yes
Dress: casual
Diversity: diverse
Worship times: Saturday, 5:15 p.m.; Sunday, 8:15, 9:45, and 11:15 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1.5 hours
Website: www.cbcsandiego.com

“It isn’t often that you find a pastor who has been in prison and been divorced but has a real heart for people. He isn’t judgmental at all. If you are struggling with sin, this is a great church to attend because you won’t be judged,” said Blaine Morgan, a church volunteer, about Pastor Barry Minkow. “We don’t condone sin here, but we value the process of forgiveness and change.”

There are many people who serve here: who are ex-convicts,” added Fumi Tanaka, a congregant. “This really is a great place for people who need to be restored.” Tanaka said several of the church staff served prison time including small-groups director Frank Wooters, David, the men’s ministry leader, and senior pastor Barry Minkow. Frank Wooters’s biography on the church’s website states, “my 20s I was running in the wrong direction with the wrong crowd, in and out of jail. I was running in a world of violence and self-destruction.”

Barry Minkow’s criminal past and subsequent life change has received national press. Minkow, who was the youngest person ever to take a company public at 20 years old, was convicted of fraud in 1987. Minkow served seven years in federal prison and was ordered to pay back $26 million to investors. In prison, Minkow changed his life and says he felt God’s call to enter the ministry. Minkow was hired as senior pastor of Community Bible Church in 1997. In addition to his role as senior pastor, Minkow assists the FBI in busting fraud scams. In January, Minkow released a book about his life, Cleansing Up: One Man’s Redeemptive Journey through the Inductive World of Corporate Crime.

Hawaiian shirts, jeans, and shorts reflect the casual attire of the 200-plus congregants who attended the Saturday-evening service. Community Bible Church meets in a converted office building in Kearny Mesa. The black industrial pipes and low ceiling serve as a reminder of the building’s past. In the front of the sanctuary, a large wooden cross is flanked by two 10-foot projection screens. An 11-piece band led the congregation in “modern, contemporary worship” as described by worship pastor Leroy Patton. “A lot of our songs are guitar-driven pop-rock songs. I only pick songs that are easy for people to sing. We don’t play things that are difficult for people to catch on,” explained Pastor Patton after the service. Common praise songs such as “Be Transformed” and “You Are Holy” were led by Patton as he played a cajon, a wooden-box percussion instrument with South American roots.

Pastor Barry Minkow’s sermon began with a movie clip from Flight of the Phoenix. In the clip, Liddle (Scott Campbell) encourages Frank Towns (Owen Deed) to continue to help rebuild a crashed airplane even if it meant the crash survivors would die. “I think a man only needs one thing in life,” said Liddle. “He just needs someone to love. If you can’t give him that, then give him something to hope for. And if you can’t give that him, just give him something to die for.” Pastor Minkow connected the film clip with John 3:16.

“The world only offers people pseudo-love,” said Minkow. “They offer us something so we will be happy. They give us happy hour because they know we are miserable at work until 4 p.m. and will be miserable when we go home.”

Minkow preached that only Jesus can offer people everlasting happiness because of his love for us. “God created people so that he could express his love to us.” Pastor Minkow ended his message with a prayer for people to accept Jesus. A piano played softly as Minkow explained the steps for someone to become a Christian.

As Pastor Minkow delivered his message, he roamed half-way down the center aisle and side-to-side in the front of the sanctuary. Minkow’s sermon included frequent stories and humor. Pastor Minkow mentioned several people by name in his message, he put his hand on people’s shoulders as he preached, and he invited a woman to stand and recite John 3:16 and kissed her on the cheek when she finished.

After service, Pastor Minkow greeted people as they left the building. People gathered around booths set up for different church ministries and a snack table with Krispy Krème donuts, juice, and coffee.

In Minkow’s sermon, he spoke about what happens to people after they die. “The Bible tells us that [Christians] will not perish. Buddha and Muhammad both died and did not resurrect. Only Jesus died and rose from the dead, so I’m going to believe in the words of Jesus,” said Minkow. “It is the people who fear death who are the ones who aren’t prepared.”

Minkow believes non-Christians will be sent to hell. “People say, ‘My god would never send anyone to hell. ’ Well, you are worshiping the god in your own image and not the God of the Bible.” —Drew E. Goodmanson

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Dear Saffron,

A friend became pregnant with her first child and wanted to know if I had any old maternity clothes she could use. I did and brought over lots of stuff for her — maternity clothes I’d acquired during two pregnancies. We are the same size so she took all the clothes, four shopping bags full. A few weeks after she had her baby, I found out I was pregnant with my third child. I was thrilled and called to get the clothes back. To my surprise, she never returned my call. At first I thought, “Okay, she’s a new mother and is overwhelmed.” But a couple of months went by, with me calling several times a week. I never heard from her. I got mad. I either needed the clothes back or to buy some new ones because my waistline was expanding. I left her an angry phone message saying she should at least have the decency to return my call and let me know whether I could get the clothes back or not. No response. A week later I got a check in the mail from her for $300. No note, no explanation. I lent her clothes worth a lot more than that. Also, why couldn’t she just call back? When I handed the clothes over to her I never explicitly stated that I’d need them back but I do think I used the word “borrow” a couple of times as in, “Yes, you can borrow the clothes.” Don’t you think she owes me more money, or the clothes back?

EXPECTING IN LINDA VISTA

Dear Expecting,

Sorry you’re bereft of your tent dresses and stretch-panel pants. But this is why it’s essential to get things straight right at the start when you’re being generous with your belongings...about whether the bestowal is a gift or a loan. You thought “this is a loan” and your former friend seems to have assumed “these are now mine.” After she gave birth she probably passed the clothes on to someone else with a bun in the oven, or took them to Goodwill. Now she’s too embarrassed to say so. It seems sad for the friendship to be wrecked by this misunderstanding, and I hope you eventually make up. Since you didn’t make it clear that you wanted your outfits returned, I don’t agree that she owes you further compensation. $300 is good chunk of change. Of course, it would have been nice if she checked with you before she got rid of the clothes, but at this point that’s (no pun intended) spilt milk.

Dear Saffron,

My wife and I are celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary. We planned a fun weekend in Las Vegas for the occasion. I told an old friend about this when he asked what we were doing for our anniversary. He had lots of questions and I was touched that he took such an interest. Now he tells me that he booked himself and his wife into the same hotel for the same weekend, and even got tickets to the same show. I should mention that this is not the first time he has tagged along on plans of ours without asking. I don’t mind, as this guy is my very old friend, but my wife is upset. She was expecting a private romantic getaway and thinks it’s terrible of him to do this without consulting us. She suggests I tell him to forget it. I understand her view, but don’t have the heart. It will kill him if I do that. Help!

EL CAJON ROMEO

Dear Romeo,

First, promise your wife that you will never again tell this man about your plans unless it’s regarding some activity where you both don’t mind if he shows up. You said this isn’t the first time this has happened (and perhaps that’s why your wife is so pissed off), so make it the last. Then you have to decide what is worse: disappointing her or breaking his heart? I don’t envy you. If your wife can stand to have him horn in this one final time, then get down on your knees and thank her, enjoy yourselves, and consider it a good deed you and your wife can do as a team. If she is absolutely going to leave you or have a breakdown if this guy goes on your anniversary trip, then you have to explain to him that you had something more intimate in mind and you hope he under stands that it would be best if someone shifted plans.
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“**I'm very good with a stitch-ripper, I'm very particular.**”

When I moved here from Boston years ago,” says Elizabeth Huller-Eisemann, “I brought ten goldfish with me on the plane. Or rather, they were supposed to be in cargo. They actually missed the flight, and they had to stay in their little bags for 23 hours. They all survived. Most of them lived another five years; one of them is still alive — he’s mine. When I got here, I wanted my license plate to be GDLFSH.” Now, Goldfish is her brand, the name she has given to her line of customized jean jackets.

“I went to art school 30 years ago,” she says, “but I had never sewn or worked with fabric. But one day, I got bored, and I wanted to decorate my bed. I bought pillows and fabric. I cut out pieces of the fabric and glued them onto the pillows with fabric glue. I had this fabulous fringe left over, so I decided to make a jacket. I glued the fringe on, and everywhere I went, people thought the jacket was fabulous. They told me I should make more of them. So I bought a good used sewing machine. But I still didn’t know how to sew.”

The project went on hold until “I moved in with my husband and lined all his shelves with shelf paper — clear plastic with a white grid pattern on it. I thought, ‘This stuff would make fabulous backpacks. So I taught myself to sew on plastic, which was challenging. Plastic doesn’t bend. I used multicolored ribbon for the straps.” After the backpack, a jacket seemed like a pain. I have a tool that cuts the button in half so you can pull it apart. My stepson is 17. I pay him to de-button the jackets, and even though he’s an athlete, he hates it. Once the jacket is stripped of buttons (and whatever else she doesn’t want), Huller-Eisemann tries to let the fabrics dictate the design. “I bought a white antique beaded collar, and it was my guide for the rest of the jacket. I used white velvet for the base of the collar and the cuffs. I started with big cuffs, but the velvet was too bulky; so I made them shorter. I’m very good with a stitch-ripper; I’m very particular. If something doesn’t look right, I take it out and redo it.”

She takes pride in the details. “All the buttons I sew on have backer buttons. If a jacket has a black motif, then all the thread in the inside is black; if it’s pink, then the thread is pink. Some things are designed to be fixed to the jacket with heat, but I sew them on. I spend anywhere from 3 to 15 hours on a jacket, depending on the details. Sewing on the buttons takes over an hour. Then I have them dry-cleaned to make sure everything can make it through.” She sells some jackets out-of-town, but locally they are available exclusively at Matti D for $250.

Huller-Eisemann’s latest creation is a racing jacket. “I love buttons, ribbons, and patches. One day, I found a rhinestone zipper; I didn’t know what to do with it, but I thought it was great. Then, a little later, I was in a fabric store and saw some silver quilted satin. It was like a light went on. I thought, ‘Racing jacket; silver sleeves and rhinestone zipper.’ I went home and started to play with the idea. I cut the collar, button placket, and sleeves off a jean jacket, then added the sleeves, zipper, and patches. I grew up with my family selling Goodyear tires, so that’s why I use the Goodyear patches.”

The result was a hit. “Everybody wanted one, but I couldn’t afford to manufacture them quickly enough. So, I had a prototype manufactured by a company in L.A. I liked it, and I bought 100. I add the patches and other details. A woman saw one at the Del Mar Nationals, which is a horse show, and she wanted it for the Baja races in June. Her husband’s company makes Deutsch shock absorbers, so she wanted it with a Deutsch patch, a peace sign patch, and a BF Goodrich patch. Goodrich was sponsoring the races. I started researching the Indy 500 race, and I found there was a lot of interest in trading pins. I bought a bunch at a flea market, and I’m going to add those to the jackets.”

Huller-Eisemann’s Goldfish brand jackets are also sold at the Del Mar Nationals and at a women’s boutique set up next to the Indy 500. They retail for between $400 and $500. Her website is www.goldfishdesign.biz. Contact her at 760-233-0051 or at info@goldfishdesign.biz.

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago
At the other extreme, you find the “mod-
ern country-western nightclub,” like the
Alamo in Clairemont. There’s a bowling
alley that runs the length of the hall,
which advertises a special of three games
for a dollar and a quarter — after mid-
night only.

Walking into the nightclub is some-
how like walking into a beating heart, à la
Fantastic Voyage. It isn’t the heat and
noise of the hundred-odd occupants, but
the red lights casting their glow over the
plump red booths and pink walls, turn-
ing every blonde to strawberry, giving
every skin the hectic flush so popular in
porno flicks.

— “LOST IN THE CORN PINE AGAIN,”
Anne Hutchinson, August 7, 1975

Twenty-Five Years Ago
I look at the names of the horses. If there
are two French names, I pick the two
French names. If there’s two Spanish
names, I pick them — if they sound
right. You match the names together. Like
a horse by the name of Wind. What goes
with Wind? Flyer. I’d pick Flyer. Wind-
Flyer — they match. It works for me a
lot.

Hania Hamm, Hairdresser
—OFF THE CUFF: “HOW DO YOU PICK A WINNER?”
(Del Mar Racetrack),” Lin Jakary,
August 7, 1980

Twenty Years Ago
Hedgecock is the sort of person who
says, “Let’s go. I don’t know what’s out
there, but let’s go in that direction. I’m so
confident of my capabilities and skills
that whatever happens out there that
might involve public policy, I’ll make it
right.” He’s an intelligent person. He’s
fearless even now. I used to compare him
to Nixon, but I think that Nixon feared
how history was going to regard him, and
I don’t think Roger cares.

— “JACK DRR TAKES THE FLOOR,” Paul Krugner,
August 8, 1985

Fifteen Years Ago
The San Diego Trolley’s bayside line,
which started life in 1983 as a campaign
pledge by then-mayor Roger Hedgecock,
carried its first passengers six weeks ago.
But business has not been robust. Trolley
officials claim that up to 500 people ride
the new line each weekday, and 2000
climb aboard on Saturdays and Sundays.
Others contend that it isn’t uncommon
to see a mere five or six people riding
entire two-car trolleys designed to hold
up to 300 passengers. A recent inspection
of the bayside line during Friday after-
noon rush hour revealed ghost trains
plying the route; no more than ten peo-
ple waited at each of the large station
platforms.

—CITY LIGHTS: “A FINE LINE,” Matt Potter,
August 9, 1990

Ten Years Ago
Sherman funeral rites had their own
logic. When one of Rios’ best friends
was killed with more than two dozen
shots by a rival gang, 200 people showed
up for the burial. Rios remembers
Miguel’s body lowered into the grave as
hearing they were hav-
ing a half. ”

We were gonna go down to Logan
Heights because we heard they were hav-
ing a party of some kind, and
then that happened. We
were gonna go down to the
party and hang out. We
got there and people were
right. Y ou match the names together. Like

“TRAVELERS THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD,”
Jory Farr, August 2, 1995

Five Years Ago
Absolutely sterilized” jars is her primary
commandment; you wouldn’t want a
home-canned good to be your last meal.

“You have to be so aware that botu-
ism can happen. I wash my jars by hand,
not in the dishwasher, then hold them up
to the light to be sure I got every speck.
And you need to let them air-dry. Can
you imagine all the germs that are on
those jars? You wouldn’t want to

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in June I got a call about Patrick Henry High's grad-night event at Party Pals in Sorrento Valley, not far from where I live. I had three other parties to go to that night (tough life, huh?), but the grad-night event didn't start until 11:00 p.m.

I got to Party Pals around 1:30 a.m. There was a palm reader and kids getting henna tattoos. Several students had real tattoos.

I talked to Ryan Koerner, PR man for Party Pals. I asked Koerner how many grad nights they host each year, and he said 30 to 40. “We've done over 300 since we started 11 years ago.”

They have net climbing, wall climbing, cables that you attach a vest to and slide 300 feet down at high speed. I asked if the equipment was safe. “Everything is, but we’ve had a few minor injuries, as expected with any activity that is physical. But our staff is there to insure that the games are being used properly and safely.”

Koerner told me about an incident that occurred at another grad night. “Two guys were battling on the inflatable joust game. As you know, baggy pants are in style. The two guys were trying to knock each other down, and one of them lost his pants and...dropped the pole that was in his hands and covered the one that was in his pants.”

Insurance must be through the roof. “It costs us approximately $100,000 a year.”

I saw they had lots of food. There were Papa John’s pizzas and lots of chips and desserts. That stuff disappeared faster than the carrots and celery.

Outside there was a fire pit with students around it. Couples were in each other’s arms, and a few guys were telling jokes. I overheard one say he almost threw up on the trapeze. “Even though you are held by a cord, it’s still freaky when you lose your grip on the swing and start falling.” The trapeze was high up; it looked terrifying.

Some of the activities required helmets. One kid dissed his friend: “You’re used to wearing a helmet. You had to wear one all through your childhood.”

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Two girls walked by with henna tattoos on their lower backs. One guy said, “I bet in two years, they get real ones there.”

I walked over to the 300-foot cable line, and it looked just as scary climbing up the ladder to get to the top as it did sliding down the cable. I noticed a lot of kids were wearing shirts with college logos on them — UCLA, SDSU, UCSD. One guy was wearing an “ARMY” shirt.

Some students had their yearbooks with them. I overheard one guy say, “Why are you carrying that thing around with you?” His friend said, “I didn’t get all my friends to sign it at school, so I thought this would be easier. Now I don’t know where to put it, though.”

Inside the Party Pal building were blackjack and craps tables. None of the kids were playing craps, so I talked to the gentleman working that table. “You can’t tell me kids know how to play this game?” He laughed and said, “No. I usually have to explain it to them. They seem to have fun learning it.” He told me he graduated high school in 1966. We agreed that this grad night event was cooler than the ones we attended. He told me he’s had three kids graduate from Patrick Henry but still volunteers for grad night.

There were some video games and a pool table. In the middle of the room there was a dance floor. Occasionally a girl would drag her boyfriend out there.

During my grad night, my girlfriend and I had snuck out and spent the night at a hotel. I asked another parent-volunteer how they keep things like that from happening. “We have three buses, and the kids aren’t allowed to leave. This...
way, we don’t have to worry about them driving when they are tired at 5:30 in the morning. And, of course, alcohol is prohibited,” she told me.

I went out to watch the jousting. Two guys were standing on a log trying to knock each other off with inflatable lances. I overheard two kids bet a dollar on who would win. The guy who won that match won several in a row. He started getting cocky and challenging others around him. One girl took the challenge. She didn’t want to fight her. She said, “Don’t go for the head. That’s mean.”

I flipped through the Patrick Henry Grad Night program. They had a “Fantasy Island” theme, and a Red Bull promotion at midnight, which probably energized the kids through the night.

One couple started kissing by the fire. I later saw them kissing by one of the rock-climbing courses. I asked them if they felt uncomfortable being affectionate with each other with their teachers and parents around. The guy said, “No way, man. Maybe they can watch me and learn a few things.” His girlfriend laughed and said, “Hey, he’s going away to college. I need to get kisses from him now, while I still can.” The boyfriend told them they often held hands and kissed at school, but that a few years back, there was a rule forbidding it. “Nobody listened to it back then. I think they just didn’t want people making out in class.”

I asked if they will do the long-distance-relations-ship thing. They nodded yes. He said, “My family will still be here, so I’ll be coming back for all the holidays. And with e-mail and cell phones, we’ll probably talk every day.”

She looked at him and said, “If you hook up with any of those sorority girls, I’m going to beat your ass.”

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Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
by Barbarella

Children make the most desirable opponents in Scrabble as they are both easy to beat and fun to cheat. — Fran Lebowitz

These are tough letters,” I said, sliding my “Z” tile to the left of the “Y.” I was bluffing, of course, and hid my smile when it dawned on me that if I could get my word, crazy, over that red square, I’d earn a whopping 57 points. This wasn’t poker, but no matter the game, I always bluff. I am convinced this gives me a psychological advantage. Get them complacent and they’ll take bigger risks. Tell them you’re doing poorly and they’ll listen to your words before discovering the truth — you’re sweating them.

“You’re playing Scrabble against Barb?” Because he had been facing his computer, David had missed my silent maneuver and I engaged the bridge of the Manchu mustache. While he deliberated for what seemed like an eternity, I engaged the computer 70 points ahead. Finally, Nathan placed the tiles “C,” “A,” and “T” on the big board between us.

“Seven points, not bad!” Stroke their ego and they won’t forget before you have your chance to shine. He’d opened me up for the triple and I seized the opportunity, making a show of counting my points slowly, deliberately. It’s easy to get over being a sore loser. Being a good winner is another thing entirely. “Fifty seven!” Self-satisfaction was evident in my tone. “Wow, that’s even good for me. It’s your turn again.”

Two weeks before I opened this can of whoop-ass on Nathan, I played Scrabble with David’s two nieces at his parents’ house. We played teams, with the 8-year-old on my team and the 11-year-old on Ellen’s. It was supposed to be fun, a way to engage the girls. But Ellen and I are Scrabble adversaries, which made it impossible for me to let my guard down.

“No, no, that’s not a word,” I said. “Let’s check the dictionary.” Ellen verified that I was right — the word she and Becca had fabricated really didn’t exist. “It’s not a word,” I added, “you happen to lose.”

“I am,” Nathan sighed with relief and waited for my turn — I answered. Then, forcing myself to appear humble and understanding, I said, “You’re ahead, Nathan.” This wasn’t poker, but no matter the game, I always bluff. I am convinced this gives me a psychological advantage. Get them complacent and they’ll take bigger risks. Tell them you’re doing poorly and they’ll listen to your words before discovering the truth — you’re sweating them.


“No, no, I’m sure you’ll do fine,” I quickly interjected, before David had a chance to ruin my next play. “And if you happen to lose,” I added, “you shouldn’t feel bad because I probably play more often than you do.”

“Like every day on your tree,” David mumbled.

“What!” Nathan asked.

“Nothing, don’t listen to him,” I insisted. “It’s your turn.”

Nathan thoughtfully rubbed his recently grown Fu Manchu mustache. While he deliberated for what seemed like an eternity, I engaged the computer 70 points ahead. Finally, Nathan placed the tiles “C,” “A,” and “T” on the big board between us.


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Two weeks before I opened this can of whoop-ass on Nathan, I played Scrabble with David’s two nieces at his parents’ house. We played teams, with the 8-year-old on my team and the 11-year-old on Ellen’s. It was supposed to be fun, a way to engage the girls. But Ellen and I are Scrabble adversaries, which made it impossible for me to let my guard down.

“No, no, that’s not a word,” I said. “Let’s check the dictionary.” Ellen verified that I was right — the word she and Becca had fabricated really didn’t exist. “It’s not a word,” I added, “you happen to lose.”

“I am,” Nathan sighed with relief and waited for my turn — I answered. Then, forcing myself to appear humble and understanding, I said, “You’re ahead, Nathan.” This wasn’t poker, but no matter the game, I always bluff. I am convinced this gives me a psychological advantage. Get them complacent and they’ll take bigger risks. Tell them you’re doing poorly and they’ll listen to your words before discovering the truth — you’re sweating them.


“No, no, I’m sure you’ll do fine,” I quickly interjected, before David had a chance to ruin my next play. “And if you happen to lose,” I added, “you shouldn’t feel bad because I probably play more often than you do.”

“Like every day on your tree,” David mumbled.

“What!” Nathan asked.

“Nothing, don’t listen to him,” I insisted. “It’s your turn.”

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“I am,” Nathan sighed with relief and waited for my turn — I answered. Then, forcing myself to appear humble and understanding, I said, “You can play it anyway, I just thought it would be good if the girls could improve upon their vocabulary.” Another bluff.

Gauging my sincerity, Ellen said, “No, that’s okay, we’ll think of another word.” I sighed with relief and waited for my turn — I mean Carl’s and my turn. “We” won by a landslide.

It’s human nature to be competitive and, at least in our culture, it’s common to want to be the best at whatever it is you’re doing. If the spectrum of competitiveness were Kinsey’s scale of sexuality, I’d be a badass bull-dyke.

Despite my competitive nature, I’ve never earned first place in any of the many contests I’ve entered. But games are different; they offer me a chance to come out on top. To be the best at something, even if it that something is a simple game of Slap-Jack, which is a card-game turned wrestling match when I play against my sister Jenny.

Jenny is just as bad as I am when it comes to competition. We both play to win and she who loses does not go down gracefully. Handing us a deck of cards is like putting two captains on the bridge of the Starship Enterprise. In Slap-Jack, we each get half the deck and face each other Indian-style. We alternately toss a card face-up into a pile and when a jack appears, the first one to slap it gets all the cards stacked up beneath — the goal is to get the most cards.

If Jenny makes it to that jack first, she earns an immediate retributive slap to the back of her hand before she has a chance to lift it off the jack. And vice versa. The first hit is easy to justify because our hands are moving so fast to get that jack. But we work ourselves into slapping fits — I hit the jack, she hits my hand, I hit hers, and the cycle continues. To spare our dignity, Jenny and I keep to more civilized games of chance, like Sequence.

These days, my favorite game is Scrabble. I’ve become somewhat of a Scrabble geek worthy of a single digit.
of a place next to the nerds depicted in the Scrabble documentary, Word Wars. There’s no telling when or where you’ll come across one of these game geeks. Last summer, Dr. Michael Baden of HBO’s Autopsy and his lovely wife, Linda, dropped in to visit David’s parents and happened upon David and me playing Scrabble in the kitchen. Thirty minutes later, Michael was tossing down medical terms and it was clear that Linda had memorized every two- and three-letter word in the Official Scrabble Dictionary.

I still think we should have challenged some of that forensic jargon, but I doubt that would have given us much of a chance. Because English is their second language, David’s parents chose to sip their coffee and observe the intent, single-minded creatures their guests, and son, had become. After kicking our asses and stifling their urge to gloat, Michael and Linda bid their hosts adieu and left me and David sulking.

Nathan swore he would practice and come back over to challenge me and win back his pride. While he was taking it in stride and sharing with me his plan for my ultimate Scrabble demise, I recited the two- and three-letter words in my head and tried to remember those terms I’d looked up in the Physician’s Desk Reference. If we teamed up, David and me against Michael and Linda, I might just be able to beat them. But if we lose again, I have a back-up plan — to challenge the good doctor to an old-fashioned game of cards and slap my way to victory.

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A Single Mother Alone in the World

“Single mother?” I’ve begun taking umbrage to the phrase. If you mean to call someone unmarried, you should simply say “unmarried” and assume responsibility straight out, instead of pussyfooting about with the word “single.” For unmarried mothers like me, the world is difficult enough to negotiate without people being deliberately obtuse about what they mean to say. Put your cards on the table, will you? Step into my shoes, if you can. If only because you might find it nice to step out of them again.

In return, I will share some shocking admissions, and a handful of observations made by other unmarried mothers — women who are out there, running around like savages, as I am.

I spend Saturdays with my son Pablo, assuming the fatherly role of reading the newspaper, while he spends the day playing video games. It sounds like a tedious way to spend my time, but listening to his running commentary, I find myself picking up nuggets of relationship-centered wisdom. And while Pablo is only six — and his advice can’t possibly be intentional — he’s pleased to have his mother sitting behind him as he plays Full Grizzly and Jet Ducks. He likes an audience. All the Finnamores do; it’s a creative asset, as well as a narcissistic character flaw.

While playing Jet Ducks, I notice that Pablo is only shooting the fastest specimens. I ask him why.

“I only like the most challenging ones,” he says, having shot 16 out of 20 ducks. That’s about what I shoot, too. He then switches games, advancing to Level One of Full Grizzly.

The next nugget I pick up gives me a clue as to what to tell family and friends when becoming romantically involved with another person:

“Go on reading the paper,” Pablo says. “I’ll let you know if I get to Level Two.”

Instead, Pablo’s star falls off the edge and into a black void, and “Game Over” appears on the screen, spelled out in large print. The same happens in real life, try as we might to ignore it.

“I ask him what he’ll do now.”

“I try again,” he says.

In Full Grizzly, a golden pot appears at the very top of the screen — Pablo is climbing up a very frail-looking tree to get to it. What happens if he does? I ask.

“I never got there before, so I don’t know,” he replies. “It’s just fun to try to get there.”

When Pablo’s done with his video games, I take a long nap. I plan another for tomorrow. Sleep seems to be the best remedy for whatever ails me — providing I am allowed to nap and putter around the house a bit, I can be fey and sporting; I can accept my life for what it is, instead of woolgathering and fashioning my single-motherhood into a sort of silent horror film.

Before I do, caller ID tells me that Pablo’s father is calling for him; magically, I can hand the phone over to him without uttering a syllable. We live in such a wonderfully exciting age!

I might mourn for my marriage from time to time, but I know that everything happens for a reason and that my ex and I couldn’t have lived together much longer without one of us getting hauled off to the asylum. Instead, Pablo’s father now lives in New York — a very nice state, which happens to be located 3000 miles away — and can only get here by airplane, giving me lots of advance notice between visits and a good deal of time without any interaction at all between us. This is what I call an “amicable divorce.” The courts call it “joint custody,” which causes me to laugh out loud, full and hearty.

I know that everything happens for a reason, lived together much longer without one of...
dead inside. And every time it happens, I can’t believe it’s back, this feeling.

It returns when I have a severe flu and still have to care for my son alone. It comes when I see a boy playing catch with his father and want to lie down on the concrete and weep. Instead, I keep walking, smile to passersby, pick up my son, make him dinner, read to him, and send him off to sleep. Afterward, I think I should have hugged that concrete after all. It would have been more honest.

Not long ago, I paid $3000 in biannual house taxes so that Pablo could live near a good school. I’m also paying for his food, housing, clothing, art classes, and after-school programs (which allow me to work) and making full medical and dental payments. Alone, on an unmarried mother’s single income. One income. One.

Things get a lot better every day. Unless, of course, they get dramatically worse. If the child-support check is late, I let it be. I resent having to beg for anything. I used to be on my ex like white on rice, saying how I needed the child-support money and needed it on time. “I want mah $200!” I’d say, quoting Tatum O’Neal in Paper Moon. I’d tell him it was a court order, that his son deserves it, and that, if he were even a shade of the man I thought I’d known, he would put it in the mail right now. Just so you know: When a man hears that, he waits two more days: Silence is best.

So I plunge into debt for our boy. Practically speaking, child support is a drop in the bucket — it doesn’t even pay for the summer camp I never got to go to. Which, of course, is why Pablo must be able to. All the kids from Wee Care go; Oliver and Ryan will be there. And they love Pablo at camp. He’s become a cult figure of sorts. They call him Pabbles. Paaah-bulls. It’s like a mafia name, and his father doesn’t know it.

and that my ex and I couldn’t have us getting hauled off to the asylum.

* * *

A year after the divorce, I convinced myself that a limited amount of e-mail and phone contact between my ex and me would be safe and healthy for our son. Of course, boredom and nostalgia played into my motivation, as did that Father-of-My-Child, Master-of-My-History attachment that contact only enhanced and made worse, more aggravating, and prone to cause hurt feelings. I did not look at behavior at this time, his or mine. I listened to words — a most dangerous tactic where he, or for that matter, anyone else, is concerned. Things were reminisced over. Blame was reassigned. Then would come a meltdown (mine), in which, just as during the divorce, I felt like hammered feces and thought myself the biggest idiot on the planet, next to him, of course.

Communicating with him on any level, I’ve learned, is potentially toxic. “You’ll be able to speak with him later,” a friend says. “Just not yet. You’re still developing the antibodies.”

Sleep is the only restorative that doesn’t come in a childproof bottle, and it has been my savior. People who allow me to sleep are my angels. I long ago decided that, at 3 a.m., I would rather take a Xanax and sleep than stay awake and remain drug-free. In the beginning, I changed my sheets every day. I had to start treating myself like the queen I was, because when you’ve become an unmarried mother, you feel like a beggar woman in rags. You think, perhaps it was your fault. That it was because you weren’t young or good enough that the father of your child left. That’s why you imagine him being perfectly happy, forever.

I found out later that they aren’t perfectly happy, the fathers who leave their children. That made things easier. But when Pablo first went to visit with his dad, I had no job lined up and didn’t know what to do with myself. I stared wildly around the house, as if I expected it to fall down at any minute — probably from the sheer filth of the place, the dirt that only I knew existed. It was taunting me, the dust, the dirt, the grime, and the piles of bills, magazines,
and newspapers. I started with the refrigerator and went from there. My roll-top desk was packed to the gills with detritus, so I cleaned that out. Realizing it was April 13, I decided that I might want to get my tax receipts in order, and did. Naturally, I filed for an extension, as I do every year. Another way to screw the government — I take every opportunity. I got the data to my Thai bookkeeper just in the nick of time. I foiled the system.

All the same, I still need the occasional kick in the ass. Spouses do that for you. I have no spouse; therefore, no one kicks me in the ass. Therefore, I also missed the county house-tax deadline. This year, I filed an appeal and hope to avoid a penalty. It was a very fine appeal, though, of course, the attached documentation was entirely falsified. Sainthood is not yet within grasp, but I can live with that.

* * *

Pablo gets tutored at his school at 7:30 on weekdays. We blast out of the house at 7:00 — I like beating the elementary school rush and seeing the sunrise with my son. Talk about what’s blooming, what’s dead. His tutoring adds an hour to my free time, and I like my free time, and I like having a bit more time to check, I get to wander and so forth. You can fill the emotional blanks.

For “not having a job that is interesting” or “boredom,” I do every year. Another way to screw the government — I take every opportunity. I got the data to my Thai bookkeeper just in the nick of time. I foiled the system. Therefore, I have no spouse; therefore, no one kicks me in the ass. Spouses do that for you. I have no spouse; therefore, no one kicks me in the ass. Spouses do that for you. I have no spouse; therefore, no one kicks me in the ass.

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while I’m not ready yet, I’ll admit; I’d admit to being a bit closer to ready. I could do it if I had a gun to my head and if somebody else typed the profile up for me. I’m not all that social; most writers aren’t. I hate children’s parties, which I see as hell on a stick. I shun forced interaction with a roomful of strangers, unless they are paying me personally and by the seat, and I get to just talk into a microphone. They, of course, get to say nothing. Otherwise, interaction feels the tiniest bit like dissection without anesthesia.

The biggest gift divorce imparts is the knowledge that I own my own experience. For example: If I can get a babysitter, I can rediscover the secret to being alone. I’ve done this. I’ve driven into San Francisco to have two drinks with eight friends. I’ve laughed until I’ve fallen down, not from drunkenness but from intense mirth, and a feeling of complete freedom:

Hangar One Mandarin Cosmopolitan in a large martini glass, Repeat once.

I am an ex-wife. I can live with that, now. I’m just fine, thank you very much — much smarter and harder to fool. I can sense that any sudden “Oh I need a man” obsession is yet another diversion from the novel I’m writing, or the floor I need to scrub again. It’s a way out.

Unfortunately, it was also the way in. I adore men, and yet, it was a man who turned me into a struggling and unmarried mother — instead of a happy wife, a mother, and a financially secure woman — in the first place. I don’t forget that for a second.

Woody Allen’s said that a wife is only yours for the length of your marriage, but an ex-wife is forever. So I get to be the witness and the torch-bearer, the dream lover, Madonna, and whore.

But I am kicking ass with this one good leg: That’s what it’s like to succeed as a single mother. It feels great; as though you’ve overcome polio to dance Swan Lake.

Yet, the anniversary of the divorce is always difficult and, every year, I’m surprised at the submerged feelings that surface. At some point you just have to say to yourself, “How much blood can I shed for this one, random man who can’t even run anymore?”

There, I laughed out loud just now. Which is how I get through: See how she runs…. I look at my life, I cry, I laugh, I lean ahead just slightly into the internal and welcome wind.

Yesterday, I realized that Pablo’s now the perfect size and age to help mama clean out her closet, which kind of dips back into the bedroom wall. So he slaved away while I gave directions from my bed, pointing with a yardstick. We made a large pile of clothing for the less fortunate. (Pablo sometimes slips up and calls them “the fortunate” — it’s very Jesus of him, I’d say.) And a pile of shoes and such.

When all was done, I was on the phone with my best friend, my son took a big wool coat out of a dress bag and brought it upstairs to me. I thought about how my ex had given me that coat; my first, real “East Coast” coat, ankle length and double-breasted, with a fur-lined hood. Without getting off the phone, I brought it back downstairs and flung it on the bed.

Hours later, when I entered the room again, I was shocked at how much the coat resembled a body, a large black feminine figure against the white sheets. The arms stretched out, the hood a head with hair around it, the long body inert. A dead woman with snow all around her.

That’s who I was: The wife. And that woman is gone. Ripples of remembrance of our courtship, the early years, wash over me. But it’s a small wave and I look at it from all sides now, without repression or analysis. There was much good in my marriage.

Some happiness before we actually wed, before Pablo was born. Some from the wedding, and some after. Unquestionably, Pablo is the greatest good of all, and worth a hundred bad marriages. The next small wave gives me a moment’s pause, and I ponder: It was five years ago that he left. The very next day was April Fool’s day. That fact alone may have saved me.

But no, you and I both know what saved me: My son. A gorgeous Botticellin— diapers on the day his father left for good. The reason I am a single mother, Pablo, is that, over long swaths of time, there’s a certain amount of grace in being a single mother. Something exquisite and beautiful, crammed with the experience of life and death itself.

* * *

Only last Sunday, one of Pablo’s Frogs died.

Greenie. He cried a bit, and we talked it over on a variety of spiritual and practical levels. Blame was not assigned. We buried the frog.

An hour later Pablo came to me and said, “Now that the Greenie’s dead, can I dig him up and cut him open?”

“Oh yes,” I said, “Yes, we can. But not let’s. Let’s just enjoy this crate of strawberries.”

And that’s what we did. Two people and one crate of strawberries. No one could stop us.

— Suzanne Finnmore

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THE POLICE OFFICER PUSHES HIS PRISONER, locked in a wheelchair, through the Emergency Room doors. The man, a well-dressed scuffler, sits with his head on his chest and says nothing as the officer checks in at the front desk. The officer then wheels the chair through Emergency Surgery and into an examination room in Emergency Medicine, where he locks the man to his bed.

“We caught him inside a department store where we’ve had around $125,000 in burglaries lately,” the officer says. “His modus operandi fits the pattern. The burglar hides in the store just before closing, under a bed or something, then when everybody’s gone, he’ll get up, get the stuff he wants, no more than he can run with, throw a chair through a window, and break out. It takes us a few minutes to get there, wherever we are, so he might get away. But this guy set off a silent alarm there, wherever we are, so he might get caught.”

The officer unlocks the cuffs and, stiff-armed, helps the prisoner with his coat. “I want to take off my coat,” the man says. “The coat is off, he locks the man to his bed again. “What did you bring him to the ER for?” the nurse asks.

“Says he’s sick. Says he passed out.” The nurse says. “His modus operandi fits the pattern. The burglar hides in the store just before closing, under a bed or something, then when everybody’s gone, he’ll get up, get the stuff he wants, no more than he can run with, throw a chair through a window, and break out. It takes us a few minutes to get there, wherever we are, so he might get away. But this guy set off a silent alarm there, wherever we are, so he might get caught.”

The prisoner’s chains rattle and the officer ducks into the room. “I want to bring the guy here if he says he’s sick. I know you’re obligated by law to bring in are frauds. ‘Chest pains’ and ‘fainting.’ I know you’re obligated by law to bring the guy here if he says he’s sick. Oh, well, it buys him some time, and he gets a free checkup. Besides,” she adds, “we might find something.”

The Emergency Room at University Hospital greets its patients with the neutrality of a business office. They walk or roll or are carried through its pneumatic glass doors into the familiar atmosphere of nothing special: forms to sign and phones and IBM cash registers going tacka-tack. The doctors are rarely dressed in surgical white; they wear, instead, striped shirts, bow ties, Wallabees. The centrifuge in the back room, with its little vials of blood spinning out and around, whirs constantly, but it could as easily be the sound of a vacuum cleaner or \textit{Star Trek} on a faraway television, and the sound blends easily with the hum of small talk.

The walls are white. Not a clinical white, but working white, trimmed with hard, bright red, violet, and orange at the doors and counters. If you were to wake up here, staring at the tiny holes in the ceiling tile and wondering where you were, you might simply think you were in a freshly painted room. You’d probably never guess that the only hint of a smell was wet cast plaster.

You might think you hadn’t been noticed. But someone sees you from the corner of their eye and asks if there’s anything they can do.

The ambulance radio announces a fight victim coming in. Two minutes later the victim rolls through the door, his jean jacket and clothing stuffed on the rack below the gurney. Except for his eyes, which he opens and closes slowly, halfway, he doesn’t move. His friend, in jeans and jacket, with a wine

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onto an examination table. A pulpy blue wound covers his forehead and he moves his body sluggishly. While they inventory his personal belongings, nurses and staff try to coax his name, his cooperation, any response from him. He doesn’t talk, only opens and closes his eyes.

When the doctor comes, he asks the man what has happened. The man moves his lips, but no sound comes out. “Have you been taking any drugs?” the doctor asks, then turns to the man’s friend, watching from the doorway. “Has he done any drugs tonight?”

“Just a couple of brews. Maybe a quart...” The doctor turns back to the table. “Put your tongue out. Okay, now show me all your teeth.”

The friend walks around to the head of the exam table. “Say something, man.” No answer. “Hey, is he going to be all right?”

“What happened to him?” the doctor asks. “These guys jumped him in Horton Plaza. Two big guys, man, for no reason. I can’t believe this — he’s a healthy dude.

The doctor returns to his patient. “Can you lift your feet? Good. It’s important that you answer the questions, all right?” The doctor presses his fingers around the forehead wound. “This hurt? This?!” Suddenly the man lurches upright, shouting. “Hey, man, hey, man,” groping in the air.

“What’s the matter with him?” his friend utters, aghast. “Man, he’s a healthy dude.”

One of the nurses pushes him toward the door. “You’ll have to wait outside. We’ll let you know how he’s doing.”

The friend looks around the exam room, peering in occasionally, asking incessantly about his companion. “Please go to the waiting room,” the nurses say, “we’ll let you know.”

The friend puts on his dark glasses and slouches out. “Man, talking to these nurses is like talking to a brick wall.”

University Hospital is the closest thing San Diego has to a county facility. Police cases — fights, auto accidents, city ambulances — uniformly come here for emergency treatment, as do drug overdoses, the indigent, MediCal patients, and any other rejects from private emergency facilities. According to one licensed vocational nurse, who got his training in Vietnam and has worked at several local hospitals, the University Hospital Emergency Room will “treat anyone,” while some hospitals “just want to know who has your insurance.”

As a result of this policy, he says, the UC hospital is in trouble because it can’t collect its bills. But what counts is that it’s got “the best staff around.”

The intern calls down the hall to the psychiatrist.

“Doctor. Richard’s back.”

“Tell him I’m sorry, but I can’t see him.”

Richard’s eyes protrude nervously. He stands by the door, his neck craning forward, a green T-shirt showing beneath his open jacket. He responds to the news in a staccato hiss, “You just don’t care. I need help. I’m not kidding, if something doesn’t change, I’m going to kill myself. You people are supposed to be here to help. You won’t do anything, you just don’t care.” His eyes peer dryly down the hall at the intern.

The intern begins to
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interrupt, fitting his state-ments into chinks in Richard’s bug-eyed rant. “Richard, we can’t help you. You’ve got to help yourself. You’re not psychotic. You think you’re going to spite me by doing your-self in. If you want to do it, you won’t tell me, you’ll do it.”

Richard, tired of hear-ing this sort of thing, turns away and drags his tired eyes out the door. Maybe he would, maybe he wouldn’t.

The intern, shaking his head, stops at a counter where a few people have gathered, watching. “What do you do for that?” someone remarks. “He wants you to do psychiatric surgery?”

“I wonder if he’ll do it,” someone else says. The intern shrugs.

One doctor lowers his magazine. “If he does, I hope he leaves the hospital first.”

“He would, I hope,” someone else says. The intern shrugs.

The doctors at their desks, studying the staff behind the counter, all ignore her. She persists, more volubly. “You really needed that room.”

Finally one of the doc-tors breaks down. “Mrs. Grier, would you wait out front please.”

“No, I won’t wait out front. If I were a doctor and

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San Diego Reader, August 4, 2005
you were sick, I wouldn’t crucify you. You’re cruel.”

The doctor goes around behind her chair and tries to wheel Mrs. Grier away. She locks the brakes.

“Now come on, Mrs. Grier, let’s not be childish.”

“Let’s not anyone be childish,” she says. “I have a right to be treated like any- one else. I want to see the doctor.”

“Let’s not anybody be childish, “ she says. “I have a right to see the doctor. I don’t want to see you. He’s with another patient. What he’s doing is important to them, too. He can’t see you now.”

“Then you can call the police. I’m not leaving.”

A few minutes later, one of the hospital security guards rolls Mrs. Grier to a nearby phone, where she’s been promised a chance to talk to an administrative head.

“Call the police,” she cries into the phone. “I don’t care. I can’t stand the pain. It hurts. In my head. In my lungs, in my back, in my legs, I just want to be admitted.”

The crowd around the desk half-listens to the familiar scene. “I don’t believe how much time she spends around here,” one doctor says. “She’s not very well-adjusted to her disease.”

Finally, somebody upstairs agrees to admit her, and two doctors laboriously help her into a bed; service, according to their colleagues, above and beyond the call of duty. Within half an hour, she’s been released.

As she wheels herself out of the Emergency Room, she stops a few feet from the drinking fountain and, petulantly, asks the nurse to get her some water.

The nurse fills a paper cup and gives it to her. “It’s okay,” she says. “She just needs a lot of attention.”

Conversation in the ER is like anywhere else highly trained people are gathered, pressing their verbal capacities against the limits of their work, waiting to see what gets through, what comes back. For patients, it’s a matter of answering a few questions, and otherwise expressing whatever comes to mind:

“Hey, knock off the noise.”

“I want to go home.”

“Let’s move.”

“She got any clothes on?”

The conversation is detached, matter-of-fact. Without any context, caught phrases feel like bits of cold tape spliced from the cutting-room floor.

“Does anyone want to talk to Border Patrol?”

“That place full of jive people. We don’t need to come back unless this flares up. Okay? Okay?”

“Uh, okay,” the drunk sniffs.

Moments stretch into hours, the noises pale, and talk turns to just about anything. A comic yelp comes from one of the exam rooms.

“What’s the matter?” a nurse asks.

“I’m having trouble taking down somebody’s pants,” the doctor calls.

She ambles off. “Oh, I’m good at that.”

The man has been in a fight. He has a three-day beard, a rude purple eye, and a broken hand, which the doctor finishes wrapping. “I really think we ought to check this out further, maybe admit you,” the doctor says. The man grunts his complaint. The doctor leaves and goes to his desk, where he consults one of his books.

“It’s an odd break,” he tells one of his colleagues.

“What’s the usual mechanism of injury?”

“Direct blow to the thumb.” After thinking it over, the doctor says, “Well, let him get dressed for now, but don’t let him leave. Orthopedics might want to take a look at him tonight — if they can do it, we’ll put him in.”

The man gets dressed, slipping on an ornate black patch over his offensive eye, and waddles around the ER, waiting.

“I wonder where he got that patch,” the doctor says.

“He says he’s been injured there before,” a nurse replies. “I don’t know where you’d get a patch like that.”

Walking off, the doctor says, “He probably knows the guy who makes Hathaway shirts.”

The nurse nods her head as she finishes writing in the man’s red chart folder, then picks up another red folder and glances over at the Mexican patient it signifies. Thick bandages cover a nasty dog bite and fresh stitches. He stands with a border patrolman.

The patrolman shakes his head. “This fellow has no money or people, either from Oaxaca, walked across the border. CHP saw him walking down the street, his hand dripping blood. Good thing he got across the border, because he’d be out of luck for treatment in Mexico. He’s got to come back here for treatment in a few days. They want me to keep him, but shoot, if I do, I have to charge him with something. We’ll probably give him a reentry visa and send him down to Tijuana meanwhile.”

The man stands beside the patrolman, silent, uninvolved, apparently feeling no pain. “He’d have probably ended up in LA, flop- ping with sixteen other guys in a two-room apartment. Not too healthy. LA spent $8 million on aliens’ hospi- tal bills last year. They’ll never see that money.”

“Four or five hundred fellows like him get over every night. They’ll take any job they can get, any money.”

He asks the man how many years of schooling he’s had.

“Cuatro.”

“Four,” the patrolman repeats.

On a slow night, it’s not so hard to grab a breather. There’s time for a smoke in the custodial room, standing next to somebody’s tray of half-eaten and no-longer-steaming dinner. There, on the desk, a paper-bound novel lies open, broken from the many interruptions pressed into its back — Venus on the Half-Shell, it’s called.

Paradoxically, some patient complains that “business” is slow. “You ought to see this place under a full moon,” a receptionist tells me. “It really does make a difference.”

Another woman sits on her bed at the open door to her exam room, waiting. “It’s just this persistent cough,” she says. “They started to send me upstairs. If they’d done that, I’d be home now.”

“This way you’re ringside for the action,” the nurse tells her.

The woman gazes into the still corridor, across the idle counters. On one of them sits a copy of Physicians’ Magazine. Its cover shows a frontal view of a boy baby’s tummy and genitals, pink, robust. “Great,” the woman says, “that’s just what I need.”

On the far side of the corridor, another doctor holds an X-ray up to the light and calls to another. “Say, Gary, take a look at this — it’s really very interesting.”

It usually doesn’t take long for something to happen.

The Mexican cook sits on the examination table, soaking his hand in a bowl of sudsy water. He rolls his eyes at the ceiling and shakes his head, talking to himself in Calo, barrio slang, “Ah, I’m a dumb tortilla.”

“Let me see that finger,” the nurse asks.

He takes his hand from the bowl and holds up the finger, shiny red where a sliver is missing. “Sixteen years I’ve worked in kitchens, and never an accident,” he laughs. “They didn’t find this missing piece. Some customer back at the restaurant is probably eating part of my finger right now.”

Waiting.

One intern says, “This is easy work. You have a day on, and a day off.” Interns, during the year before they become a resident, do block study, a month or two at a time, in the various hospi- tal departments, such as orthopedics or urology. The ER is one of those blocks.

“There’s a lot of work when it’s there. Still, this is the easiest month.” Perhaps it’s because there’s no chance to follow every patient through a complete recovery. And the ER only functions when the doors are banging open. A lot of the time, “there’s just not that much to do.”

Four doctors are playing Hearts at one of the desks, exercising small strategies,
shot, and his foul blood is now erupting through the soft tissue of his esophagus. He’s been bleeding for a week and hasn’t done anything about it; he’s wanted to be on his own. Now he has to be fed intravenously, the yellow fluid dripping sluggishly through the needle into his arm, and since the pain isn’t great enough to make him unconscious, has to answer questions and face the supposed irritated doctors who could have done something a week ago; now, maybe not.

The lines on the man’s EKG readout look like torn cardboard. “We’ve got to have blood,” one doctor states, and someone goes to call the blood bank. “Fix a spot, and let’s get him over to Emergency Surgery.”

Within moments the man and his tubes have been wheeled across the hall to surgery, leaving tracks on the shiny linoleum. The nurses begin their pre-op protocol, preparing instruments and injections, checking vital functions, fluid levels, everything. They hurry back and forth between the patient and supply counter, where their conversations cross.

“…some of the parties at nursing school. We’d be drinking grain…”

“Well, I have to make it this patient’s not doing too well for some reason,” one says.

“You drink that way for twenty-five years…”

The police radio sputters and calls. “PD Ambulance to University ER. We have a bad G-I bleeder, pulse picking up a nurse, then a police attendant, carrying a portable EKG machine. The nurse has been taken off the siren. They’re not supposed to use it in two blocks. If they use it up too close to the door…”

Within a few minutes…"
exciting, don’t I?"

The man on his back coughs, bringing up fresh volumes of dark, sticky blood, which a nurse at his head sucks out of his mouth with a vacuum hose.

“We’re going to have to scope him,” a doctor says, and preparation began to run a scope down the man’s esophagus in order to see, with the aid of a small light, the location of the varices, the bleeding ulcers, caused by the backup of blood from his rotten liver. First, the doctors open the man’s arm and run an IV line through a main vein into his chest to monitor his heartbeat.

The man, still conscious, begins to cough.

“That’s okay, sir, you just bring it up, I’ll get it out,” the nurse at his head tells him.

Then, uncontrollably, he vomits blood onto the bed, followed by gut-racking coughs, bringing up fresh volumes of dark, sticky blood, which a nurse at his head sucks out of his mouth with a vacuum hose.

“Can somebody talk to the blood bank?” a volunteer calls into the room.

“What?” one of the doctors answers.

“About the blood.” “Jesus.”

As the nurses and doctors work around the man, somehow not getting in each other’s way, another gurney rolls through the ER doors, across the corridor and into a room painted working white.

Nurses and a doctor drift away from the G-I bleeder to attend to the new patient, washing their hands against the doorway, then turns back to the activity in the room with enthusiasm.

“If there anything else we have to do?” he asks.

She shakes her head slowly. “We don’t have to do anything.”

— Mark Woelber

This story first appeared in the Reader on March 6, 1975.
In early 1983 an FBI investigator interviewed a former J. David employee — a prominent San Diego Democrat. The FBI wanted to find out whether Dominelli was running a Ponzi scheme. The former employee didn’t know, but he was sure of one thing: “They’re buying the mayor’s job. They’re corrupting the place and they’re doing it in the name of good government.”

The FBI widened its investigation into J. David’s activities, looking into the support that Hoover and Dominelli were giving Roger Hedgecock.

For an investigator or prosecutor, a case on the financing of a political campaign is usually extremely frustrating. On the one hand, the public wants untainted politicians, so there are strict laws on campaign financing. But on the other, in many states and localities it’s impossible to win an election without breaking those laws. It’s like college football: You can’t have a winning team without violating the rigid recruiting rules. So everybody cheats — and the public looks the other way. Occasionally, a school gets caught, and then every other school, although doing the same thing, heals scorn on the offender.

San Diego has very unrealistic campaign financing laws. A city ordinance limits contributions to $250 per person and bans businesses, partnerships, unions, or political action committees (PACs) from donating. Thus, local political fund-raisers complain, the law blocks politicians’ access to the very groups that are set up to dispense money. By contrast, the state of California permits unlimited political donations from corporations and other organizations; most contributions are acceptable if they’re disclosed. The San Diego Law is so severe that “it’s almost unworkable,” says a pro who has managed three major campaigns in the city. Furthermore, people are confused. They can write a check on their business for someone running for U.S. Senate or the California legislature, but they can’t do that in a San Diego city election. Obviously, if someone wants to give $1000 to a candidate, he simply finds three other people to say they gave the other $250 increments. Often it’s the donor’s spouse or children. As a state investigator wryly noted, San Diego juveniles manifest amazing interest in local political elections.

Nancy Hoover had publicly stated she wanted to be a power broker in San Diego politics. She and George Mitrovich had been close to Roger Hedgecock and Thomas Shepard, a Hedgecock ally and political consultant, since their days in Del Mar. Hedgecock, a specialist in environmental law, had been Del Mar attorney while Hoover served on the council.

Hedgecock is a bit of a political enigma. He is intelligent, articulate, charismatic, and persuasive, with an uncanny feel for public sentiment and particular support among minorities, such as blacks and gays. He has never been defeated for political office. He looks a little like Abraham Lincoln and acts the same way — rough-hewn and solicitous of the little people’s concerns.

Throughout his career Hedgecock has been a maverick. Nominally a Republican,
he is liberal on environmental questions but relatively con-
servative on fiscal ones. This gives him a huge constituency, be-
cause San Diego’s liberals and conservatives, generally speaking, are united on one point: They don’t want their
city to become another Los Angeles. Conservatives greatly
outnumber liberals, but even many conservatives would
prefer slow economic growth
to seeing their city bulldozed,
coated with concrete, and
plastered with tacky homes.

Pete Wilson, San Diego
democrat from 1971 to 1983
and now a Republican U.S.
senator, was the first to pull
thousands of voters together a left-right coal-
ition of voters who would
sacrifice economic growth to
avoid clogged highways,
industrial and vehicular pol-
lution, and a rapid popula-
tion increase. These voters
tend to favor nonpolluting
industries such as high tech
and tourism, development
of the inner city, growth
moratoria in individual com-
unities, and limits on indus-
trial expansion. Since South-
ern California — San Diego
in particular — faces major
term-long water problems, the
growth-management position makes sense eco-
nomically. It’s not just a mat-
ter of improving the quality of life.

The establishment is split
on the question. Retail-
ers, the construction indus-
try, lending institutions, and
others who profit from rapid
economic expansion vehe-
mently oppose the no-
growthers and slow-
growthers. But some quin-
tessentially proestablishment,
wealthy movers and shak-
ers — especially longtime
San Diegans — prefer slow
growth. Historically the
Chamber of Commerce has
had to walk a fine line between the
two establishment factions.

Politicians are divided
on the issue, too. As a rule,
the more conservative politi-
cians favor fast growth, and
the liberals want to slow it
down. But the politician favor-
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In boxes, making room for new models.

August 4-9
Central Sewing
4115 Illinois St., 1101 N. Second St.
619-282-8503 619-447-3244
Monday-Friday 9-6 Saturday 10-4 Closed Sundays

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In boxes, making room for new models.

TV Stands
Large selection
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100% Financing OAC
OPEN 7 DAYS
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Sunday 11-5
619-276-2797

San Diego Reader, August 1, 2006
I sleep, I wake up, I sleep, I wake up...

A new study of an investigational medication for insomnia may help put you to sleep.

- Restless sleep disrupts the normal rhythms of the body.
- When poor sleep becomes a regular problem it can affect your health.
- If you wake up tired or feel sleepy during the day, you are not sleeping well at night!

If you have chronic problems falling and/or staying asleep, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

Qualified participants:
- Will receive up to $2450 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Anxiety

doesn’t just stress your mind. We know it can …

- Decrease your immune response
- Decrease your physical and mental functioning
- Increase fats in the bloodstream
- Be mistaken for medical conditions
- Interfere with sleep

If you are between the ages of 18 and 64, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

Qualified participants:
- Will receive up to $500 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Depression

Loss of interest or pleasure? Sadness or hopelessness? Sleep disturbance? Are you or someone you know over the age of 18 and suffering from Depression? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for Depression.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
- You will receive up to $1000 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Schizophrenia

can tear families apart.

Do you or a loved one have Schizophrenia? Tried Haldol®, Prolixin®, Zyprexa®, Seroquel® or Risperdal®? Still feel hopeless, have side effects or continue to suffer from troubling thoughts or voices?

We are caring, experienced professionals funded by a well-known pharmaceutical company to conduct an inpatient and outpatient research study for qualified people with schizophrenia.

If your loved one participates, there is no cost...instead:
- They receive up to $1285 for time and travel.
- They receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.
Tired of HEAVY PERIODS??
...But Don’t Want Hormones!!!!!

A 12-month research study is underway to evaluate a non-hormonal, investigational oral medication for women with heavy periods. If your periods leave you frightened and embarrassed by how much you bleed, and you want an alternative to hormones, this study may interest you.

Participants must be:
1) Healthy females, 18-49 years of age, with regular cycles every 21 to 35 days for the past 6 months
2) Have a normal pelvic exam (fibroids are OK) and Pap smear
3) Not presently taking or willing to stop birth control pills 2 months prior to study entrance

Participants receive at no cost:
1) Examination and consultation by a board-certified OB-GYN
2) Study-related medications
3) Study-related laboratory tests, pelvic ultrasound, Pap smears, and EKG
4) Compensation

Interested, please call:
619-521-2841
MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
Offices in Mission Valley and Santee
Robert Semo, M.D. William Kolrun, M.D.
the campaign himself? Do

that is rich enough to fund

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Hedgecock's supporters began

huge food fortune. And

Carlson, like O'Connor

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double meaning: It stood for

double chin clearly had a

No Fat Mayors. Carlson's

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Hedgecock's monetary ties

had started investigating

FBI investigators already

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before there would be offi-

it was just a matter of time

First, he apologized to the

and the revelations about

Then, he charged the

sion was getting

fire — just as his reelection

Hedgecock was under heavy

first time in his political life,

come out. Suddenly, for the

been "memorialized" in writ-

ments and contracts that had

continued to receive inter-

by way of a defense

he would cite loan agree-

ments and contracts that had

been "memorialized" in writ-

only after the news had

come out. Suddenly, for the

first time in his political life,

Hedgecock was under heavy

fire — just as his reelection

campaign was getting

underway.

Some of the major politi-

cians in town, such as O'Con-

cerned, decided they did not

want to get into the primary

race, even though Hedge-

cock appeared vulnerable.

Richard Carlson, a former

TV newscaster and savings

and loan executive — and a

political novice — then

jumped in with considerable

establishment support. Rightly

or wrongly, he was perceived

as the candidate of the estab-

ishment pro-growthers. Carl-

son had one physical liabil-

ity: obesity. The slow-

growthers, wanting to play up

his savings-and-loan back-
ground and establishment

backing, were quick to turn

this liability to their advan-
tage. All over San Diego

posters appeared featuring

Carlson's profile with a big

X through it and the words

No Fat Mayors. Carlson's
double chin clearly had a
double meaning: It stood for

the pro-growthers establish-

ment members who backed

him.

The public soon learned

that Carlson, like O'Con-

before him, had a rich

spouse — an heiress to a

huge food fortune. And

Hedgecock's supporters began

asking voters: "What's the

difference between a candi-
date that takes money from

questionable people and one

that is rich enough to fund

the campaign himself? Do

you have to be rich to be

mayor of San Diego?"

Political pros suspected it

was just a matter of time

before there would be offi-
cial charges against Hedge-
cock. FBI investigators already

had information on the finan-
cial relationship between

Hedgecock and J. David. A
criminal grand jury and Cal-

ifornia's Fair Political Prac-
tices Commission (FPPC)

had started investigating

Hedgecock's monetary ties

to Hoover and Dominelli

and other aspects of his cam-
paign financing. The district

attorney did not have time

before the primary to get an

indictment, so he filed a civil

suit charging that Hoover

and Dominelli illegally fun-
ned $357,000 into Hedge-
cock's 1983 campaign. The

DA felt he would be criti-
cized if he sat on this evi-
dence until after the primary

vote. Hedgecock supporters

saw it another way: They

charged that the DA was try-
ing to get the mayor defeated

in his reelection bid.

Hedgecock's defense

strategy was three-pronged.

First, he apologized to the

voters for his early slay-

footed handling of his finances

and the revelations about

them. Then, he charged the

San Diego Reader August 4, 2005 9

INSOMNIA is a serious

condition. People with

insomnia often experience:

• Difficulty falling asleep

• Waking up frequently

during the night and

trouble returning to sleep

• Waking up too early in

the morning

• Unrefreshing sleep

If you or someone you love is suffering from

insomnia, and between the ages of 18 and 64,

you may be interested in learning about a

research study of an investigational medication

for insomnia.

For more information or to schedule an

interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

BIPOLAR?

We're looking for men and

women diagnosed with

bipolar 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 or to schedule an

interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

Generalized Anxiety

Disorder (GAD)?

Millions suffer with General Anxiety

Disorder (GAD) — constant worry, fear, and tension,

often without an apparent cause. This

constant anxiety can interfere with daily life

and be harmful to one's well-being.

Medical researchers are enrolling men and

women in a research study evaluating an

investigational drug for GAD.

Participants must be 18 years or older and

diagnosed with General Anxiety Disorder.

Participants receive supervised medical care

and medical tests related to the clinical

research study, investigational study drug

and compensation for time and travel.

For more information or to schedule an

interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

Look Familiar?

It was 2:15 the last time you looked. That seems like ages

ago. Time is at a standstill and all you can do is lie in bed,

staring into the darkness. By tomorrow you’ll be so
tired that you’ll fall asleep at your desk, but chances are you

won’t sleep tomorrow night either.

We are currently conducting a research study of an

investigational medicine for insomnia associated with

Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD). Participants will

receive study-related exams and study medication at no

charge. Qualified participants may be compensated.

Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 64

and the study requires 8 office visits.

For more information or to schedule an

interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

• Waking up frequently

during the night and

trouble returning to sleep

• Waking up too early in

the morning

• Unrefreshing sleep

For more information or to schedule an

interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

• Waking up frequently

during the night and

trouble returning to sleep

• Waking up too early in

the morning

• Unrefreshing sleep
Is That Vaginal Infection Back Again???

...Time For A Different Approach...Research Study

A 9-month clinical research study of an investigational medication is underway for women with recurrent bacterial infections of the vagina. Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) causes a foul-smelling, creamy and often irritating discharge that can recur even when diagnosed. If you are a woman who is frustrated with numerous doctor visits and medications that only help for a short period of time, you may be interested.

To possibly qualify:
1) Females, 18-45 years of age
2) Recently treated for BV or with symptoms at present
3) Have had at least 2 documented episodes of BV in past 12 months

Qualified participants receive at no cost:
1) Study-related exam and consultation with a board-certified OB-GYN
2) Pap smear, cultures and study medication
3) Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, call Laurel at: 619-521-2830

MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
Robert Semo, M.D.  William Koltun, M.D.

A research study is being conducted to evaluate an investigational drug for the signs and symptoms of insomnia.

Qualified participants will receive study drug and study-related physician visits at no cost. If you would like more information or think you may be eligible for the study, please contact the physician’s office below.

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
1-877-92-SLEEP  1-877-927-5337
Healthy Volunteers may help us to advance medical research.

Radiant Research is seeking healthy volunteers to participate in clinical research studies.

To qualify you must:
• be a man or woman 18 to 45 years old
• be a non-smoker
• be able to make some overnight clinic stays

You may be compensated up to $3,200 for your time and travel.

Call Mon-Fri for more information
866.818.3253
9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200, San Diego, CA
www.radiantresearch.com

PROFIL INSTITUTE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES

Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational insulin taken under the tongue.

Participants must:
• be 19-70 years of age
• have a diagnosis of Type 1 diabetes for at least 5 years
• not be currently using an insulin pump
• not have other major health problems

Profil provides:
• Study-related medical care at no charge
• Compensation of up to $430 (5 visits, no overnight stays)
• Shuttle service from the H Street trolley in Chula Vista, if needed

If interested, please call
(866) 308-7427 (toll-free)
or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com
855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400
Chula Vista, CA 91911-1350

BIPOLAR DISORDER
DEPRESSION
SCHIZOPHRENIA

Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling subjects into inpatient and outpatient studies. Eligible participants will receive all study-related care at no cost, and will be reimbursed for time and travel.

For more information, please call the Clinical Research Department at (858) 694-8350.

SHARP
Mesa Vista Hospital

Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes?

If so, you may be interested in a clinical research study.

Eligible subjects will:
• Be 30-75 years of age
• Be controlling Type 2 diabetes with diet and exercise or with a single oral medication
• Have stable body weight within the past 6 months
• Have no major health problems

Qualified participants may receive:
• Volunteer stipend up to $1250
• Study-related physical exams, lab tests and EKGs at no charge
• Study-related care from our experienced physicians, nurses, and research staff

For more information please call toll-free: 1-866-308-7427 or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com

Profil Institute for Clinical Research
855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400 • Chula Vista, CA 91911
Dominelli, and Shepard on one count of conspiracy and 14 counts of perjury for their roles in Hedgecock's 1983 campaign. Although some of the counts were later dropped, all the defendants remained under indictment. All pleaded not guilty.

The grand jury charged that Hoover and J. David illegally pumped $357,000 into Hedgecock's campaign through the Shepard consulting firm, that county employees were working on Hedgecock's campaign during work hours, and that a number of donations had come in illegally. The indictment listed 57 overt acts in furtherance of the conspiracy, including Hoover's financial help in Hedgecock's home-remodeling project. Hedgecock was cited on 12 perjury counts for incorrect filing of campaign contribution, income, and loan disclosure statements, as well as on the conspiracy charge. Conviction on any of these counts would lead, under California law, to Hedgecock's removal from office. (Once the indictment came in, the DA dropped his civil suit.)

Hedgecock didn't appear before the grand jury, but five days before the indictment he submitted a lengthy letter (not sworn testimony) explaining his position on the major counts. Miller refused to pass along the letter to the grand jury, however, saying that exculpatory evidence had already been presented, and Hedgecock's material was basically argumentative rhetoric, not new evidence.

That was all the ammunition Hedgecock needed for his TV appearances on the day of the indictment. "The district attorney is the one who has embarrassed San Diego, not me," he railed. Without even reading the indictment, Hedgecock stated, "I am not surprised because I have known for a week that the district attorney kept from the grand jury evidence submitted by me that conclusively demonstrates nothing was done wrong by me or by my campaign committee."

Miller, a competent if colorless lawyer, denied Hedgecock's assertions, yet lacked the charisma and forcefulness of the media-savvy mayor. Some powerful San Diegans such as Senator Wilson said there was no evidence. "The mayor's charges are all of a piece, to make judgments based upon whatever happens, the electoral process can have time to react and the people can make judgments based upon merits and not upon where all of us stand procedurally," Pancer also noted that Alfred O'Brien, the former J. David employee who had testified that he and Mitro维奇 had had a critical lunch with Hedgecock about Hoover, "was a political opponent of the mayor's." Pancer asserted that O'Brien's statement was "proved to be untrue" by other testimony. And what was the testimony that disproved O'Brien's statement? It was none other than Mitro维奇's testimony.

And what did Mitro维奇's testimony disprove? His words, after a fashion, speak for themselves. According to the transcripts, Mitro维奇 was asked by the DA's
attorney, “Mr. Mitrovich, the question is, did you at any time tell Roger Hedgecock that he would have to make some form of peace or change his behavior with regard to Nancy Hoover in order to get her support in his quest for the office of mayor?”

Mitrovich replied, “I don’t rule out the possibility that I encouraged him to effect whatever reconciliation, in terms of his relationship, but I cannot answer the question in terms of specifics, because I do not recall. I don’t think — I mean, it is altogether possible that I would have said, ‘I think your relationship with Nancy is something you need, to the effect of a reconciliation, but I can’t answer the question any more specifically than that because I do not recall. And I just barely recall the possibility that there was a luncheon at the Hilton involving Al O’Brien, Roger Hedgecock, and myself.”

The DA’s lawyer pressed on, reminding Mitrovich that he normally had “a marvelous recall of people and events and things.” He suggested that “a conversation with a county supervisor who wants to be mayor about the need to mend fences with a major financial supporter might be something you’d recall.”

Mitrovich allowed that he “might” have phoned Hedgecock for a luncheon date with O’Brien and himself, but he just didn’t think financing entered into any discussion. “I am not — I know what I know. I do not know what I do not know. And I am not — again, obviously if you have discussed this with Mr. O’Brien, if Mr. O’Brien has a particular memory of that luncheon and what the purpose of that luncheon was, maybe then in discussing it with him. But I don’t have a specific recollection of those things being discussed. That isn’t like me. That is not the point of my involvement in politics.”

Among the documents introduced at the hearing was the letter on Dominelli’s character that Hedgecock had sent to officials in Great Britain when J. David was trying to get a listing on the London International Financial Futures Exchange (LIFFE). The letter had said, “San Diego is indeed fortunate to have Mr. Dominelli and his company headquartered in our city.” It was introduced into evidence because Hedgecock was insisting that he had no relationship whatsoever with J. David or with Dominelli — he knew only Hoover. Pancer noted, “A letter of recommendation written on behalf of J. David is of the type prepared on a routine basis for hundreds of businesses in San Diego, and the issuance of such a letter does not depend on their having supported the mayor.” When Hedgecock was asked to produce some examples of other such letters, he said he would not, because it might compromise the people about whom he had written them.

The grand jury transcripts also revealed that on February 12, the day before the J. David bankruptcy, Hedgecock’s aides met “to clean up [Hedgecock’s] loan with Nancy Hoover,” as one of the mayor’s insiders put it.
The transcripts also record testimony that Shep-
ard and Hedgecock had
reached an oral understand-
ing about a computerized mail-
ing list on January 1, 1982. The
understanding was not put
in writing until nine months
later — on stationery that had
not existed at the time the
document was dated. Assis-
tant District Attorney Richard
Huffman called the contract
“a pure fabrication,” but Shep-
ard said it properly memo-
rialized the understanding.
Two of Shepard’s aides
testified that Shepard had
instructed them to tell inves-
tigators, falsely, that they were
volunteers rather than paid
assistants. They also said
Shepard had offered to pay
for their lawyers. Shepard
refused to appear before the
grand jury and to comment
to the press.
But all these details gen-
erally got buried as Hedge-
cock kept hammering suc-
cessfully at the vendetta theme
and repeating that his offenses
were minor and “technical”
in nature.
Hedgecock’s final test
was on October 16, when the
Fair Political Practices
Commission announced its
findings. It filed a record $1.2
million suit against Hedge-
cock, Shepard, Hoover,
Dominelli, and two other
associates, charging that
Hoofer and Dominelli fun-
neled funds to Hedgecock
during the campaign. The
FPFCCited 400 violations of
campaign and financial dis-
losure requirements. Hedge-
cock was named in 45 of 30
causes of action. If found
guilty, his liability could be
$974,662. It was the most
comprehensive action taken
by the FPPC in its ten-year
history — the largest amount
of money sought and the
largest number of alleged
violations and causes of action.
The staff had spent 3000
hours on the case.
But once again, Hedge-
cock was prepared. He
charged that the FPPC was
playing politics: It could have
taken administrative action
and simply imposed a fine,
but it opted for legal action
to try to embarrass him before
the election. As it happened,
then-chairman of the FPPC
Daniel Stanford was a San
Diego Republican who had
opposed Hedgecock in his
1983 primary fight. “We all
know who Dan Stanford is.
Dan Stanford did not want
me to be mayor,” said Hedge-
cock. But there were five peo-
ple on the FPPC board, and
they had voted unanimously
on the charges.
In any case, Hedgecock
claimed, the violations were
only a “rehash” of the grand
jury charges, and he had
answered some of them when
he had filed 15 amendments
to his disclosure reports ear-
lier in the year, when his
involvement with J. David
first became public.
Stanford, in town to give
a speech about the FPPC’s
findings, allowed that there
were some “technical” vio-
lations, but “there are major,
serious violations [that] dis-
close a pattern which occurred
[in] the campaign of attempts
to evade and violate the local
San Diego campaign ordi-
inance.” And he insisted that
“the fact that I may not have
endorsed Roger Hedgecock
for mayor had absolutely
nothing to do with this
lawsuit.
Several weeks later
Mickey Ziffren, another FPPC
commissioner, said she was
“appalled” that Stanford had
come to San Diego to dis-
tuss details of the FPPC case
prior to the election. His
speech represented “the most
blatant political act ever per-
formed by a chairman of the
commission,” she stated.
As debate about the
imbroglio raged, Hoover
claimed that she had been
invested” the $357,000 in
Shepard’s firm, a statement
that brought laughs from
politically knowledgeable
San Diegans. For $350,000
one could buy all the polit-
ical

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ical consulting firms in San Diego several times over. "For $25,000 the political consulting firms would throw their grandmothers in the deal," says a La Jolla civic leader. Political consulting firms usually have little in the way of assets and nothing in the way of profits.

But, on the other hand, "I guess the defense could argue that since Hoover’s other investments proved she was a twit at investing, this was just another example," commented an attorney for the DA.

Hedgecock adopted a similar defense. As the scandal unfolded, he would laugh about his business ineptitude. He just didn’t follow his investments closely, he said. His wife Cindy had to do all the detail work. But people who knew his investment proclivities claimed the exact reverse was true. "At 8 a.m., he knew his positions," says the broker who had Hedgecock’s stock-and-bond account. "He called three times a day. If his stock was down a quarter of a point, he wanted to know why. It’s bullshit that he was naive about investing." And he was even more meticulous about his real estate investments, according to those in the know.

Throughout the controversy Hedgecock continued to maintain that Shepard’s firm was not simply a money conduit to his campaign and that he knew Hoover but had had no dealings with either J. David or Dominelli. If that was true, NEWSLINE, the weekly publication Hoover poured $350,000 into, didn’t seem to know it. On May 12, 1983, right after Hedgecock’s election, NEWSLINE editor Larry Remer wrote to Hoover and Dominelli, “I want to mine the political base of support that put Roger in office for NEWSLINE… I want to leverage our relationship to the mayor’s office into advertising from entities like the Transit Company…and from city lessees.”

Test anyone suspect there was a conflict of interest, it would be done subtly, Remer assured them. While NEWSLINE was attacking businesses on issues such as environmentalism, an “arm’s length” entity—a public relations firm that Dominelli and Hoover would hire—would be hitting up the same businesses for advertising, he explained.

Which public relations firm would it be? “I think we need to hire Shepard and Associates, both because of the obvious clout they have (or appear to have) with the new mayor, and because of Tom’s personal desire to help NEWSLINE grow. I’ve talked with Tom about this and he’s amenable to it if you guys want to pay for it… But, more importantly, the idea of hiring a firm with compatible [sic] people politically (not just with clout) is key. I really need someone who can be out hustling some big developers to advertise their subdivisions with NEWSLINE at the same time that we’re talking on the developers on behalf of the environmentalists and have that someone not blink an eye,” Remer wrote.

Remer also said he would comb the Hedgecock list for potential NEWSLINE advertisers and donors. “Where appropriate, we’d also seek to have Roger put in a good word,” wrote the crusading editor, who is known for attacking the conservative establishment for its ethical lapses.

An embarrassed Remer, who had to cut back his operation sharply after losing  

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**PLASTIC SURGERY:**

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An embarrassed Remer, who had to cut back his operation sharply after losing
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Hedgecock was swept into the headlines day by day; the people spoke. At the trial, the people spoke. The trial began. As the mayor stood trial, the court and the media focused on whether Hedgecock was guilty or innocent, while the voters — at least at first — didn’t seem to care. They were mainly concerned whether he was still capable of governing. The mayor, for his part, kept hitting at his old themes: He had made only minor errors in filling out his financial disclosure forms, the DA’s office was pursuing a vendetta, the newspapers were out to get him, the conservative establishment was trying to hound him out of office. The prosecutor from the DA’s office, Richard Huffman, dismissed such talk as a “bag of trash.”

At the outset of the trial, the betting in San Diego favored Hedgecock. But as the case progressed through December and January, the odds shifted away from acquittal, and toward at least a hung jury. There were too many things Hedgecock could not explain. San Diegos found it difficult to believe that the mayor could get a $3,000 check from Dominelli and consider it a check from his political consultant Thomas.

Keeping his listeners, “Who is out to get Roger Hedgecock?” In reflecting on Hedgecock’s problem, people disinterred an old Watergate apologist: “It’s better to have a capable crook than an incapable honest man.”

On November 1, Hedgecock’s perjury and conspiracy trial began. Five days later, on election day, the people spoke. Hedgecock was swept into office with 58 percent of the vote — about ten percentage points more than he had received in the primary, before the indictment and FPPC suit. He took the whole city, high- and low-income areas alike.

The vote proved that San Diegos didn’t want to be bulldozed, and they didn’t want their city bulldozed either. Even with Hedgecock standing trial on felony charges, the voters indicated they preferred to see the growth-management coalition run the city. As one political writer noted the day after the election, “Hedgecock’s victory may mark the end of the traditional establishment mayoral candidate.” Captain Money and the Golden Girl had at last won a round.

Their victory, though, would prove tenuous and unsatisfying. Like Richard Nixon in 1972, Hedgecock was buried under a mass of moving earth soon after his landslide win.

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Shepard. They couldn’t accept Hedgecock’s explanation that when he received monthly interest checks from the $16,000 trust deed he had previously sold to Hoover, he erroneously thought it was rent from a tenant. They suspected he was trying to conceal details about the $130,000 — characterized by Hedgecock as a loan — that Hoover had pumped into the remodeling of his home.

A businessman testified that in late 1981, Hedgecock, then a member of the Board of Supervisors, told him that Hoover would be financing his mayoral campaign through Shepard. It was revealed that in 1982, when the businessman had a bid pending before the Board of Supervisors for a multimillion-dollar development, he had made out a check for $24,000 to Hedgecock’s wife as a so-called loan to Hedgecock, who was at the time having financial difficulties. (The Hedgecocks, though, never picked up the check.) He had also driven Hedgecock to Los Angeles to consult with a bankruptcy attorney and had paid the $500 legal fee, which Hedgecock did not report on his state financial disclosure forms. Hedgecock played down these lapses as technicalities and claimed that he could never have told the businessman in 1981 that Hoover would be financing his campaign for mayor, because he had not yet decided to run for the office. Prosecutor Huffman asked Hedgecock why Shepard had in 1981 spent money to test Hedgecock’s name identification against that of the police chief, then considered a mayoral candidate, if Hedgecock was not running for mayor. Had Hedgecock been aiming for the police chief’s job? Hedgecock glumly replied that he hadn’t been.

In early February, as the jury started to deliberate, public sentiment began to favor conviction on at least one of the 13 counts brought against Hedgecock. Fully 75 percent of the citizens polled by a local TV station said Hedgecock was guilty. Upon leaving city hall one evening, a grim Hedgecock greeted Mike Gotch, a city councilman who would be the favorite to replace the mayor if Hedgecock was forced to resign because of a conviction. “Good evening, Mayor Gotch,” said Hedgecock.

Evidently, ten other jurors agreed. The jury voted 11–1 to convict on all conspiracy and perjury counts. One juror held out on each charge: a supervisor of trash haulers in the city’s sanitation department. After a mistrial was declared on February 13 — exactly a year after the J. David bankruptcy — fellow jurors denounced the holdout for not considering the evidence, and some even accused him of sleeping through deliberations.

Hedgecock proclaimed the trial outcome a victory, but most San Diegans thought 11–1 tantamount to a guilty verdict. They wondered how a city employee had been seated on the jury in the first place. (Huffman later conceded that he had erred in the jury selection process.)

When the decision came in, another TV station took

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It appeared Hedgecock might be mayor for some time. Plea-bargaining sessions broke down. Hedgecock recruited Oscar Goodman, a Las Vegas attorney and real estate entrepreneur, to replace Pancer. Goodman, whose client list includes reputed organized crime figures, had earlier done legal work for Dominelli — and his firm had been J. David’s landlord. Goodman said he would represent the mayor for a minimal fee. It was altruistic, Goodman explained: He owned a condominium in San Diego and believed Hedgecock was the right man for the mayor’s job.

Goodman’s presence caused the no-growth and pro-growth constituencies to think, at least for a moment, the same thought. They wondered jointly if Goodman would be a new power in San Diego real estate — and they marveled at the irony that Roger Hedgecock, the outspoken no-growth, had served as the catalyst in Goodman’s rise. Despite overwhelming public sentiment that the mayor was guilty, some saw the odds shifting in his favor for the retrial scheduled to begin in late August of 1985. Goodman is a coy, charismatic courtroom lawyer. And, said people, the holdout juror in the earlier trial — a black — had become a hero in the black community and something of a media personality. A second trial might lead to another hung jury.

Meanwhile, the city’s government remained paralyzed — and some considered that the most damaging legacy of J. David. ■

— Don Bauder


Next week: Even some lawyers lose in this adventure.

a poll. Sixty-one percent of San Diegans said Hedgecock could not be an effective mayor, and 50 percent believed he should resign. But Hedgecock still had the support of black, gay, feminist, and environmentalist leaders, some of whom commented that, guilty or innocent, he was a better mayor than anyone else they could envision.
A Spear in the Dirt

Between 1:00 and 3:00 a.m. every day of the week except Sunday, the neon and fast-food desert oasis of Calexico, California, is invaded by a ragged army from Mexicali. They stream through the turnstiles at the border crossing armed with short knives sometimes cinched to their belts in homemade leather sheaths; sometimes they carry their cuchillos — 18 inches of metal rod with an L-shaped grip and a flat, rectangular blade — protected by aluminum foil, stapled cardboard, or wrapped, oiled cloth. Not everyone carries these, but most sling along white plastic grocery bags. The bags contain gloves, bandanas, fruit, rations of tortillas, thermoses of coffee, tea, or even carne asada. From the north, armadas of school buses converge on south Imperial Avenue, and foremen, work bosses, disembark with clipboards to greet the several hundred men and women who silt up in the parking lots of the state Employment Development Department, California Supermarket, Burger King, Circle K, Pizza Hut, and 7-Eleven.

Many of the foremen and bus drivers acknowledge familiar faces with nods, grunts, jokes, and good-natured insults: “What? You want to work again? You worked last week. Get in the bus, and keep your palo in your pants; I got two women today.”

Each bus takes on anywhere from 20 to 50 men and women to harvest cauliflower, lettuce, broccoli, or asparagus. The work will begin at dawn. Today most of the crews are heading to the asparagus fields. There are more than enough workers for the bosses to choose from. There always are. Many are turned away. Among those who are hired, several scramble aboard the buses to curl up on the seats and get extra hours of sleep. The others wait, nursing cups of coffee in the starkly lit Burger King or squat on their haunches on street corners waiting for new contractors to arrive in vans, station wagons, and buses. Mostly men, they are dressed in Levis, boots or sneakers, imitation Members Only jackets, layers of shirts or ponchos. Some wear cowboy hats, others baseball caps. Only a few are bareheaded. Most wear bandanas around their necks or trail them from pockets. The men, from age 16 to well into their 50s, look fit,
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**San Diego Reader August 4, 2005 61**
tough. And they are. The women seem every bit as used to very hard work but dress with touches of color, lace, or hair ribbons.

At exactly 2:00 a.m., I line up in front of the buses with the others. Some hardly spare me a glance; others take in my fatigue shirt, L.A. Angels baseball cap, black Levis, and week’s growth of hair. One bus driver says, “You because I have no money.” Perhaps, as “I want to work for free, registers, perhaps, as “I want to work for no money, but my mediocre Spanish coupled with the alien concept of working for free, registers, perhaps, as “I want to work because I have no money.” One bus driver says, “You have to have a lot of practice. The work is too hard.” I tell him I can do it. He looks at me and grins. The men in the seats behind him lean forward, looking me over. The driver asks, “What side of the tree do you pick the epazote from?” I smile back; I’m pretty sure the stuff doesn’t grow on trees, though I am by no means certain. The men around the bus laugh; I join them. The driver says, “Look, I am full. The patron wants 20 guys. I already have 20. Try across the street.”

The group of men on the opposite corner are sitting on the curb or standing beside parked cars. Someone says we were waiting beside parked cars. I already have 20. Try across the street.”

The driver says, “Look, I am on my clipboard, and humming a song about … palabras de amor.” I tell him I am writing a story and wanted to know what it is like to work in the fields. Could I please come along, like to work in the fields. Nobody hires trouble if they can help it. Eventually, I approach a man with a sheepskin jacket, who has hired on a full crew and is now alone, smoking a cigarette, tapping his fingers on his clipboard, and humming a song about … palabras de amor.”

The car stops momentarily as a turquoise light passes by, and the driver asks, “How’s it going?” When he walks by me, he asks, “How’s it going?”

Nobody hires trouble if they can help it. Eventually, I approach a man with a sheepskin jacket, who has hired on a full crew and is now alone, smoking a cigarette, tapping his fingers on his clipboard, and humming a song about … palabras de amor.” I tell him I am writing a story and wanted to know what it is like to work in the fields. Could I please come along, for a day or two for free,
San Diego Reader August 4, 2005 43

Love to Never Shave or Wax Again?
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(l to r) Robert E. Kearney, M.D., R. Merrel Olsen, M.D., Lori H. Saltz, M.D., Johan E. Brabme, M.D., H. Michael Roark, M.D.

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Eventually, the bus pulls away, and we head north on Route 111, past the El Centro turnoff and into Brawley. By now, it is about 5 a.m. The bus stops at a closed market/gas station with a rack of pipes and faucets near the gas pumps. Three men step out of the rear door of the bus and begin filling orange plastic five-gallon containers with water. The word CHAVEZ is stenciled in black on each of these. When they are loaded, the bus continues north.

There are few landmarks. Darkness stretches to either side. The horizons mark. Darkness stretches north. What do I do with this? — Why here? What’s different about this patch of dust and blackness from any other we’ve passed? — the bus stops and the men climb out, stretch, spit, light cigarettes, scratch. We were here. Wherever here was. No moon, just star-shot blackness overhead, nothing to break the line of low, flat fields to the right. Nothing seems to be growing here, just fallow rows of dirt, lighter patches of starlight against darker umbras of furrow, the smell of turned earth and fertilizer, the odor from the portable toilets now being used by the 18 men and two women. The smell of an asparagus field is that of earth and shit.

To our left are a copse of dead trees, some rusted-out tin-roofed shacks, and junked cars. One man breaks away from the group and walks purposefully into the gnarled tree line. Just to appear, equally purposeful, I follow him. He puts on gloves and uproots one of the thin, dead trees. He tosses it to me. I grab hold of it — it is surprisingly light — and stretch, cough, buying time. What do I do with this? He pulls up another tree about the same size and heads back toward the bus, his breath condensing against the starlight. I follow with...
my tree. He begins stripping branches. I imitate him. Someone hands him a roll of toilet paper, and he uses it as kindling. The paper catches from his match, licks at the small branches until the fire rises to our waists. Sparks burst and flounder upward toward the stars, far more of them than in San Diego — or Calexico.

The men and one of the two women gather near the fire, stretching their hands toward it, revolving in wordless unison to warm their backsides.

Fire-rose light spreads across the undersides of clouds to the east, and an older man with a poncho and ranchero’s hat tosses a refrigerator shelf onto the burning tree limbs. He removes several tortillas from a plastic bag and lays them on the metal. From a thermos, he extracts a few chunks of still-warm carne asada with the blade of his buck knife. He tastes it, nods. Some of the others hand him money, peso notes and American coins. He makes tacos and hands them to the paying customers. His son produces bottles of Pepsi and sells four of them for a few coins. One man wearing a baseball cap that bears the legend *Mi vida es un Madre* (My life is one Mother) talks about the time he was with a woman in Mexico and had to use a plastic bread loaf wrapper and rubber band for a condom. Laughter and coughing. The older woman, maybe 40, grins, exposing a gap in her front teeth. The younger woman (20? 30?) steps out of the toilet and joins the group at the fire. The comedian lowers his voice and now entertains only those close to him.

A smudged cotton dawn gradually reveals endless brown fields criss-crossed with access roads and other buses, like ours, trailing Porti-Sans, in the distance. The hundreds of seagulls wheeling over the fields seem anomalous in the middle of this desert valley. They settle on patches of asparagus that grow in single spears like hearty weeds. Every few inches is either an asparagus spear jutting defiantly from the dirt or a blackened stub where a plant had been burned to fertilize the earth around it. An asparagus farm is neither aesthetic

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mark. His mustache is thick and long, slightly upturned at the ends, like Pancho Villa's. His eyes glow darkly from beneath heavy brows. He holds out his hand for my cuchillo. This is it. I'm fired. He points to a piece of black electrician's tape along the length of the knife. "Nine inches," he says. "Here," he takes the cuchillo and holds it beside a spear of asparagus. "Like this, see?"

"You see?"

"No. No. My back hurts a little bit. It's okay."

"You take some aspirin later. Everybody takes aspirin." He grins. "Maybe you should work the burras. It's easier." His grin exposes perfect white teeth. He waves me to one of the carts back on the access road. "Put about seven boxes on there and push it out to the first pile of asparagus. I'll show you what to do."

At the first mound of harvested plants, he bends and shows me how to grab them. "Make sure they are all facing the same way." He scoops up the pile with both hands and taps the bottoms lightly against the side of the wooden crates, making them more uniform in length. "Lay them in the box in the same direction. If any of them are too big, too long, to fit in the box, cut the ends like this." He shows me with his knife. "You have a knife?"

"When Rebecca comes, you better talk to her. Maybe she doesn't like you here. I don't know, Me, I don't care. I'm a writer, too. I write songs, baladas, mariachi songs and other things."

He strolls beside me as I push the burra, stopping and squattting to take hold of a bunch of spears, tap them against the wood, lay them in the box, and sometimes cut the ends. Asparagus spears are more fragile than they look. They snap in my hands whenever I try to hurry. Alfredo says we are picking Brooks asparagus today, and he gestures to a field in the distance where another variety called Harley, or 57, was grown. Asparagus grows very quickly. Tomorrow he would have another crew in this same field picking just as many spears, they grow that fast. Would I be coming back tomorrow? Maybe I would like to hear some of the recordings he has made.

My spine is now one lance of constant pain, but my shoulders and knees are numb. As I push the burra, filling the 25-pound boxes, it becomes more painful and difficult to make any progress through the soft earth. When all seven boxes are filled, the load would weigh almost 200 pounds. And the wind is kicking up, blowing dust in 30-foot sheets across the fields. I hadn't worn a scarf or bandana. The others all have theirs up over their noses now. The two women look like Arabs, their faces covered with clean rags they had apparently fashioned for such occasions. The dust...
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settles in my eyelashes, nostrils, and then my teeth whenever I try breathing through my mouth, I blink constantly and have to keep my head down, eyes fixed at a spot between my feet. But the pain in my back increases and shoots through my neck when I can’t hold my head upright.

I stop and revolve the baseball cap on my head so the wind won’t catch under the bill and blow it off. Alfredo is no longer beside me. I can hear a chorus of muffled curses on either side of me. I find myself joining them in Spanish, because it seems natural and it helps.

We fall into a rhythm of cursing, bending, spitting, lifting, tapping, and eventually laughing in staccato bursts. We finish the block in a fugue of pain, dust, sweat, and tired laughter.

A man named Chuey helps to off-load the burra and stack the crates. He loads me down with ten empty boxes. I can’t protest. The others carry ten.

The work continues for another hour. The wind dies and springs up again in fits. We stop for breakfast around 9:30. Some go into the buses, others lean against the tires, while still others line up in front of the Porti-Sans and the orange water containers. All I can think of is getting to the orange water coolers with the word CHAVEZ stenciled over them. As I wait behind two other men, I point at the water and ask, “Cesar Chavez? Does the Farm Workers Union provide these?”

“No, this Chavez is a subcontractor, Juan Chavez, Another guy. He rents the water jugs and the toilets.” Oh, I bend to drink from the plastic spigot, and those near me say, “No! Wait!” Chuey holds my hands away from the spigot,

I am loosening up a little but figure I have another 15 minutes, max, before I freeze like a contorted scarecrow out here in some hideous, permanent posture.

“Wash first. There’s a lot of chemicals in that fertilizer, man. You’ll get sick.” Water, Cheer-its, and an apple suffice for breakfast. It is what I have. I don’t eat much. I feel stoned with exhaustion. When it is time to go back into the fields, I try rehearsing a graceful

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San Diego Reader August 4, 2005 75
back to the others. But finally, I lapse out there in front of retreat. I don’t want to collapse out there in front of the others. But finally, I move in stiff resignation back to the burger and load up with empty crates. Half an hour later, I am loosening up a little but figure I have another 15 minutes, max, before I freeze like a contorted scarecrow out here in some hideous, permanent posture. All I can think of is that these people are doing this for $4.25 an hour. After taxes, about $20 a day. Maybe that’s why there aren’t many bars, discos, antique shops, and hair salons in Calexico. Maybe that’s why there aren’t many taxes, about $20 a day. Maybe this for $4.25 an hour. After that, I am loosening up with empty crates. Half much. I could have cried with relief. As we walk off the field, Alfredo looks at me and shrugs, “Hey,” he calls out, me around the 300-acre farm and talk about la vida, “the life.” “I started when I was about ten years old. In Mex- icali, I was born and raised there. My dad used to go up north for three, four months. We stayed behind, my mom and my brothers and sisters. We would pick cotton by hand in the sum- mertime; sometimes we would pick radish or Chi- nese potatoes, green onions. I came from a big family, sir. We made enough money to buy food. We gave it all to my mom. Then my dad got us green cards. Immigra- tion made him. I started school when I was 12, in Calexico. I went two years, then we went up north. At that time, they used to hire kids to pick grapes in Bakersfield. My mom had never done the work before, but then she started, too. It was hard for her, but us kids were used to it.” As she speaks, she shows her Ford Bronco to shout instructions to the crews. “Eight and a half inches, green!” or “Nine inches. Block five!” She remembers when you had to join the union. “At that time there was big strikes, and if you didn’t want to listen or join, they would follow you, take your license plate number. They would break up your car or your house. It wasn’t Cesar Chavez sending those people, it was just macho Mexicans doing their thing. They caused a lot of damage, but they were good in a way because they made
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some changes. We never used to have toilets. It was just the bushes or dishpans, you know? Are the people in these fields working legally in the U.S.?

“Yes, nowadays. The foreman is responsible. He has to sign an I-9 form stating that he has seen all the workers’ papers. Before, it was a problem, but now they have the amnesty cards. The border patrol hardly ever stops the buses anyway," he says. They don’t waste the time, but just a couple years ago it was the usual thing. Why do they do this work? For minimum wage, surely they could find something less back-breaking.

“It’s what they know. They don’t have the education for something else, and there’s no way a machine can do this work. They work six hours, no more. Even if you’re used to it, there’s no way you can work longer than that. Up and down, bending like that. Six hours is it. All for 20 bucks or something. I know it doesn’t make any sense; it’s mostly lack of education. The young ones, maybe they don’t want to go to school, so I got them working, it’s such a shame.”

When asked if the workers out in the fields today were unionized, she shakes her head no. “Ask them.” She doesn’t seem eager to discuss the subject. “It makes it harder to get work. The union wants more. They don’t have the education, surely they could find something else. Up and down, you can work longer than that, there’s no way a machine can do this work. They work six hours, no more. Even if you’re used to it, there’s no way you can work longer than that. Up and down, bending like that. Six hours is it. All for 20 bucks or something. I know it doesn’t make any sense; it’s mostly lack of education. The young ones, maybe they don’t want to go to school, so I got them working, it’s such a shame.”

Rebecca finally says I can return the next day and observe, maybe pick some asparagus for myself, but I wouldn’t be allowed to push the bunker anymore. Later, at the U.S. Border Patrol office in El Centro, Agent Morrissey corroborates what Rebecca had told me; most of the workers in the valley are indeed legal these days. “The burden of proof is on the employer that they hire legal residents. Otherwise they’ll be fined. There can be some pretty hefty fines. They definitely make sure they have papers now.”

Does the border patrol ever go out into the fields for spot checks? “Yes we do. The last time we did a farm or ranch check, I think we checked — now this is just a ballpark figure — something like six or seven thousand workers, and we ended up with two illegal aliens. Obviously, the law is working down here. Occasionally, we do check the workers on the buses, but by and large, most people are complying with the new amnesty law.”

How many illegals are there in the valley nowadays? “Oh, probably 90 a night or so.” Speaking with Delores Huerta, United Farm Workers Union cofounder and first vice president, I ask her what advantages the union offered. “The right to work under a collective bargaining agreement. Rest breaks, a decent time to have lunch, water, sanitary facilities. A lot of this isn’t happening right now. I don’t know where you were, but it’s still a problem. Sometimes they put the restrooms so far away, no one can use them because they’ve got bullied by the foreman. Sometimes there is water out there, but there’s no cups. That isn’t right. The union offers a better wage, a medical plan, pension plan, paid holidays, a grievance procedure.”

How much more in terms of wages can the union offer? “Well, it depends. We have areas where the contracts are as high as $7.50 an hour. In other areas it’s lower.”

What is the relationship between the growers and the union? “It’s a constant day-to-day struggle. They are always trying to get rid of or get around the union. Even in cases we’ve won through the courts, I’ll give you some examples. We had an election in May, about 500 workers who overwhelmingly voted for the union. The company objected to the election. It’s been over a year, and we still haven’t been certified to represent the workers]. It’s tied up.”

Do the labor contractors avoid the union workers? “Oh, absolutely. There’s a blacklist. Very definitely, if the foremen or contractors know a worker is union, they won’t hire him; or if they do and they find out, they’ll get rid of them. The [labor] board down in El Centro is really bad; they just routinely throw out a lot of the charges we file. Farm Workers’ Union change into the wastebasket.”

What are the most common grievances the workers have? “I guess wages are one. Pesticide poisoning is a big one. We had a worker who just died up in Bakersfield from Parathion about a month ago, Jose Campos Martinez. There’s big push now on the part of the growers to get rid of local workers to make room for new Mexicans here under the amnesty law. They want the...”
people who are kind of innocent, who don’t know what the story is, what the options might be for them, what’s going on, what their rights are. According to Huerta, the United Farm Workers Union membership in Southern California is about 15,000 and 100,000 nationally.

Barbara Buck, a spokeswoman for the Western Growers Association, whose members cultivate 50 percent of the nation’s fresh produce and nuts and employ 250,000 to 300,000 workers daily, responded: “The United Farm Workers Union shows bad faith and, we think, do not represent the farmworkers in a fair and even-handed manner. They extort a day’s pay out of each of their members to put in a political action fund, and can get rid of a union member at any moment with very little cause. We have some problems with the way they operate. However, we work quite well with the other farmworkers’ unions.”

As to whether the farmers are welcoming new workers under the amnesty law: “Absolutely. Farmers have taken great strides to make sure their employees are legalized. We have passed out information in Spanish and English to workers and have created a statewide organization called ALFA, Allen Legalization for Agriculture. Its sole purpose was to help workers get legalized. There were a lot of unscrupulous lawyers and people charging very high fees. We offered a way for the farmworkers not to have to pay those high fees, so the farmers were very instrumental in helping people get legalized.”

And Western Growers’ response to Huerta’s assertion that they are encouraging newly legalized workers because of their political naïveté?

“We farmers know that a stable, loyal, local workforce is going to be much more productive and happy and easier to work with. We are pleased that under the new law, we see that the farmworkers are more settled and happier and are willing to stay in one place longer. This is good for agriculture just as it is for the farmworkers.”

The next day, I accept Rebecca’s invitation to return to the heat and dust of the fields; I don’t pick asparagus or push the burros. Instead, I make myself useful by hauling the burros around in the bed of my pickup truck or stacking crates of asparagus for the trucks. Except for Chuey and perhaps one other man, the crew is entirely different from the day before. Alfredo brings a cassette tape and two 45-rpm records of his music. He talks about the difficulties of writing such compositions as “Canto a la Vida,” “La Muerte de un Gran Torero,” and “Ya No Vuelvas Jesús.”

After only two days’ work, it is difficult for me to move without the aid of aspirin. That night, I listen to Alfredo’s songs and soak for hours in a hot bath in a Brawley hotel.

— John Brizzolara

Originally published in the Reader on March 8, 1990.


**LETTERS**

**Absolute Low**
I read the “Sheep and Goats” article in the latest issue (July 28). I thought the purpose of the column was for a particular church to tell about who they are, their philosophical focus, any events they may be having, and that sort of information. I was appalled at the current issue, where you allowed someone to use that forum to criticize another church. That is an absolute low blow. The writer said nothing about his church and what they are about, just used the space to put down someone else’s beliefs (and just for my information, I am not a member of the Mormon church either). If I had a subscription to the Reader I would cancel it. I question who your target audience is, but it certainly isn’t anyone with high values if this is the kind of comments you are allowing.

Ruth Davis via e-mail

**Catholic Inventions**
Regarding your “Sheep and Goats” column of July 28, I think that Mr. Gabriel Carlin should have his head examined. The Mormons are right about one thing: Adolph Hitler did go to heaven. Why? Because there is no other place to go. We all go there when we die. Hell and Satan are inventions of the Catholic Church. They do not exist. Do you think that a loving God would create such a place or such an entity so that we could be tortured for eternity? Nonsense! Do you think that a loving God would even allow some evil entity to exist or allow such a place to be created?

No way! The Bible is so full of b******t, I don’t know how anyone in their right mind can believe any of it.

Name Withheld via e-mail

**Miracle Proposition**
Your recent article on drug use (“Life’s Too Short to Be Small,” July 21) serves to highlight the recurring cycle of drug use and incarceration endured by people who suffer from the disease of addiction. All of the individuals interviewed by Mr. Opincar spent years in and out of prison but, despite the chances for intervention, continued to struggle with addiction.

Drug treatment services must be made more available so that individuals do not have to wait for a miraculous meeting — as did the men in your article — in order to receive them.

Perhaps it is time to remind your readers that California does run such a program under the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (Proposition 36) of 2000. Prop 36 has offered drug treatment instead of incarceration to over 36,000 individuals each year since 2001. In its first two years alone, Prop 36 introduced 30,000 people to drug treatment for the first time. Many of these people had been using for over a decade.

Prop 36 has stopped short the cycle of incarceration and drug use for tens of thousands of Californians. Isn’t this a miracle too?

Margaret Dooley Drug Policy Alliance Southern California Office

**Nazi Questions**
Lawrence Ludlow (Letters, July 14) said our liberty-hating government is becoming more National Socialist (Nazi) each and every day. The components of this progression are socialism (i.e., looting, involuntary servitude) and jingo militarism (i.e., foreign interventions and wars of aggression). It’s rare that I see unadulterated truth: kudos to Mr. Ludlow. Here is a question or two: what can be said of a people who time after time after time be said of a people who

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On Saturday, family night, kids can watch the 2003 version of *Peter Pan*, after a scavenger hunt of their own. “Typically we play boat races, but we’re doing the surprise scavenger hunt because there’s a theme to the movies this year,” says Shanahan.

Seating is first come, first served — the Star of India’s capacity is 200 people. Brienne Ashley, a volunteer for Movies Before the Mast, compares the event to ‘old drive-ins. They don’t really have very many of those anymore…just like the drive-ins, they show a little cartoon beforehand. The last one was *Popeye.*”

Ashley volunteered to help out on the nights *Peter Pan* is screened because she is excited to see the film. She says she will most likely be staffing the popcorn machine. The background noise inherent with outdoor movies is no bother for Ashley. “Sometimes you hear some noises — the boat is right next to Embarcadero and [occasionally] airplanes will fly by — but once you get into the movie, it’s not as noticeable.”

“This is not the multiplex theater with seating,” says Shanahan. “People come here for the environment.” Cushioned folding chairs are provided for all, and patrons should dress warmly and bring additional blankets or sleeping bags.

“The screen is translucent. We project the movie, so that [for at least one half of the film] the people on the opposite side get to see it corrected.”

“We joke about turning the ship around during intermission.” Rather than turning the ship, the projector is programmed to project a reversed image. “We do this in a sense of fairness, especially if there’s writing in the movie, so that [for at least one half of the film] the people on the opposite side get to see it corrected.”

Sharp, a technician by trade, enjoys the chance to stretch his sea legs. "When the Star sails, we’re part of the crew that takes her out, so we’re trained as tall-ship sailors. Last year, I forget the particular snafu, but we had a problem and Michael made some crack to our guests, ‘They’re not technicians, folks, they’re sailors.’”

No food is allowed on board, but light refreshments, like popcorn for a dollar, candy, and clam chowder from Anthony’s, are sold. No alcoholic beverages are sold on family night.

— Barbarella

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Enjoy an oceanfront room, two 30-minute massages at our European spa, continental breakfast for two, dinner for 2, 2 kids 12 and under stay and eat for free!


1-800-343-8582. www.rosaribeachhotel.com

Encinitas Romantic Getaway!

589-$175! 5 quality, private, ocean-view rooms. Feng shui!

2 kids 12 and under stay and eat for free!

Enjoy enchanted gardens. Fish pond with wedding grotto. Perfect for intimate wedding or renewal of vows!

Seabreeze B&B. 760-944-0138 or www.seabreeze-Encinitas.com

Whitewater Rafting

Mild To Wild!

River trips 1 hour-3 days!

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Not applicable for groups or other promotions.

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**Rosarito Beach**

Only 25 minutes South of San Diego on a scenic oceanfront drive, Rosarito Beach, is so close yet so different from your ordinary gateway. Exotic shopping, relaxing spas, galleries, fresh lobster, extreme and water sports, culture, folklore, hospitality, great value hotel packages at every level and great opportunities to acquire real estate by the beach. So drive South to the North... of Baja, and experience the magic of Rosarito.

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Only $239 Per Couple!

- 2 night stay in an ocean front room
- Puerto Nuevo Style Lobster Dinner for two
- A bottle of wine
- Delicious traditional breakfast every morning

From:

$89.00 *

One Round Of Golf At Beautiful Real Del Mar Golf Course For Up To 2 Players and a Comfortable Guest Room.

This Package Includes:
Green Fee And Cart.
Look for other special packages online.

*Prices Are Per Person Plus Tax Based On Double Occupancy Prices Are Subject To Change Without Notice.

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**The Grand Baja Resort**

Only 45 min. South of San Diego

**Romantic Spa Condo Package**

Two nights in an oceanfront condo “A”
Puerto Nuevo style lobster dinner for two
Two Spa Packages
A bottle of Baja wine

$299 *

*This price is based on two people staying in the same room. Valid thru Aug 31, 2005. Some restrictions may apply

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**Hot Summer Rates to Cool Down in Rosarito Beach!!!**

**One Night**

$69 Dlls.+tax. Per Night

**Two Nights**

$59 Dlls.+tax. Per Night

**Three Nights**

$49 Dlls.+tax. Per Night

*Offer valid Sunday to Thursday for 2 adults and 2 children per room. Other options available. Valid thru September 29, 2005.

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Overnight prices for two people:

- **Sunday–Thursday**
  - 1 night, breakfast for 2: **$99**
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      - Breakfast for 2, dinner for 2, therapeutic massage or horseback riding: **$179**
  - Weekend Specials
    - 2 nights, breakfast for 2
      - 2-night breakfast package with dinner & massage one night: **$258**
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You will enjoy San Diego’s breathtaking sunsets aboard our magnificent 71-foot sailing yacht. Your three-hour experience includes a full dinner, beer, wine, champagne and soft drinks.

For reservations and information call 619-256-9211, www.jadasailing.com
Certi Bambini” by Andrea E. Antonio Frazzi features in Italian — without English subtitles — on Friday, August 5, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). $2. 619-237-9601. (Little Italy)

Movies Before the Mast, selected Fridays are date nights (with nautical games of skill), Saturdays are family nights (with games and exploration of the ship) on Star of India. Tour the HMS Surprise and then see Captain Horatio Hornblower on August 5. Peter Pan screens August 6. Films are projected on special ship sails.

Gates open at 7 p.m., with movie commencing just after sundown (around 8:30 p.m.). Tickets: $12 general, $7 for children 12 and younger. Find the Star at 1300 North Harbor Drive. Reservations: 619-234-9153 x101. (DownTown)


Screening for Sunday Matinee, August 7, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Is it possible to heal wounds and bitterness down through generations? Discussion led by Lawrence Baron. Free. 619-236-5800.

“The Bruce Movie” offers an in-depth look at one of the most renowned surfers on the planet. “The Bruce Movie” offers an in-depth look at one of the most renowned surfers on the planet.

From $30. 858-274-6058.

Wednesday, August 10, 6:30 p.m. for City Ballet’s Summer Intensive. David Howard is guest instructor.

$(BALBOA PARK)

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“Screen on the Green: A Look at Masfeld Parrish” series commences with The Adventures of Robin Hood, starring Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland, Thursday, August 11, 8 p.m. Screen is set up behind Casa del Prado courtyard, with seating on lawns in front of Botanical Building. Bring blankets for seating. Free. 619-696-1866. (BALBOA PARK)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: Fighter Pilot: Operation Red Flag. Rhythms of the World, Mystery of the Nile. Fridays at the Fleet continues every Friday night, featuring two classic IMAX films. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

“The Art of American Illustration” presented by education director Maxine Gabber, Thursday, August 4, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in museum admission. 619-696-1866. (BALBOA PARK)


Antonio Frazzi screens in Die Welt der Robben, a depiction of the research work of marine biologist and oceanographer Sylvia Earle. Free. 619-236-5800.


Film Forum on Monday, August 8, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Is it possible to heal wounds and bitterness down through generations? Discussion led by Lawrence Baron. Free. 619-236-5800.


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A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

The Mount Waterman Trail traverse across the north rim of the San Gabriel Wilderness provides almost constant views of statuesque pines, yawning chaparral-covered slopes. The older cedar trees are graced veterans of past fires. Near the end of the Mount Waterman Trail, you hook up briefly with the Pacific Crest Trail, you swing down to cross Angeles Crest Highway, and climb up on the other side to reach the parking lot at Three Points.

The Mount Waterman Trail starts on the south side of Angeles Crest Highway, opposite the Buckhorn trailhead, where you’ll find a parking lot and restrooms (mile 5.80 by the highway marker). The Pikes Points trailhead for end of the hike, is located at the intersection of Santa Clara Divide Road, mile 52.80 on Angeles Crest Highway. Cars parked at either end must display a National Forest Adventure Pass. If you prefer, you can share some time, distance, and elevation gain from this hike by making use of the Mount Waterman Ski Lift, which is open on summer weekends to cater to skiers and mountain bikers. The lift carries you 900 feet up from Angeles Crest highway to a point about three-quarters of a mile north of Waterman Mountain’s summit, and from there you can navigate toward the Mount Waterman Trail. Note that mountain bikes are not allowed on the trail itself.

From the Buckhorn end, follow the well-graded foot trail — not the old road bed paralleling the trail at first — along a shady slope. After one mile of easy ascent through gorgeous mixed-conifer forest, you come to a saddle overlooking Bear Creek. The trail turns west, follows a familiar ridge, and then ascends on six short switchbacks to a trail junction, 2.1 miles. A trail to Waterman Mountain’s summit goes right; you stay left and contour west about one-half mile, then zigzag south down to a second junction, 3.5 miles. Twin Peaks saddle, a spacious spot suitable of broad ravines, either shaded by huge incense cedars and vanilla-scented Jeffrey pines, or exposed to the warm sunshine on chaparral-covered slopes.

Hiking difficulty: Moderately strenuous

View over hazy L.A. Basin

A Trio of San Diego Authors talk about colorful history and development of our county at Museum of San Diego History (1649 El Prado) on Thursday, August 4, 7 p.m. Participants include Iris En- gottland (San Diego: California’s Cornertone), Donald Harrison (Louis Rose San Diego’s First Jewish Settler and Entrepreneur), and Le- land Fetter (San Diego County Place Names A to Z). Signing follows. Free. 619-232-2603. (BIRD ROCK)

Indoor Growing (illuminated on Saturday, August 6, 1 p.m., at City Farmer’s Nursery (4852 Home Avenue). Free. 619-284-6338. (OTTENBERG)

Historic Preservationist Louise Torio presents “The Mills Act” on Thursday, August 4, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). $3. 760-366-1962. (MILLOREST)

“Food: A Basic Need, a Basic Weapon” is subject when epidemiologist and medical thriller author Dr. Chris Holmes focuses on bioterrorism for Sisters in Crime on Thursday, August 4, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). $3. 760-366-1962. (MILLOREST)

“Digital Camera for Newbies” Free. 760-436-3036. ( ENCINITAS)

“Composting Mini-Seminars” Free. 619-267-5344. (MILLOREST)

“Why We Need This Many Lawyers?” Discuss “our litigious society” on Wednesday, August 10, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (MILLOREST)

“The World of Bats” chronicled when Bat Rescue presents multimedia program on Saturday, August 6, 1 p.m., in Turrettine Room at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 858-674-2275 x5 (ESCONDIDO)

“Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System” is introduced by Eric Terrill for “Perspectives on Ocean Science” Lecture series on Monday, August 7, 8:30 p.m., at Birge Aquarium Museum (2500 Expedition Way). 8A Reservations: 858-534-5771. (LA JOLLA)

“Master Your Clutter!” after professional organizer Francis Oliver addresses San Diego Volun- teer Simplicity Group on Monday, August 7, 7 p.m., in room 112 at First Unitarian Universalist Church (1410 Front Street). Donation: $2. 619-298-9797. (MILLOREST)

“In The Name of Righteousness: The Pilgrims — The Persecuted and Persecutors”/“The Pilgrims Were Not Separatists” Free. 619-272-2292. (LA JOLLA)

“Take Control of your Back and Neck pain after spinal fusion classes’ presented by Spine Humani- tarian and Research Foundation on Tuesday in August at 5:30 p.m. at 410 La Jolla Village Drive, suite 100. On August 9, examine spine anatomy and sources of pain, ex- ercise options. Free reservations: 858-597-1082. (LA JOLLA)

“Food and Wine Pairing” explored during class on Wednesday, August 10, 6 p.m., at Vintage Wines (6004 Miramar Road, suite 201). Participants sample eight to ten wines, along with bread and cheese. $25. 858-549-2112. (CORONADO VALLEY)

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“Master Your Clutter!” after professional organizer Francis Oliver addresses San Diego Volun-
San Diego Reader
August 4, 2005

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Present this coupon at any Knott’s Soak City ticket window to receive $8 off each adult ticket (regular price $25.95). Valid any day Knott’s Soak City is open to the public and regular tickets are on sale. Cannot be combined with any other offers or discounts. Coupon is not valid for special ticket events. Offer available only at Knott’s Soak City Water Parks in San Diego, Buena Park or Palm Springs. Limit 6 discounts per coupon. Hours, prices, promotions and attraction availability are subject to change without notice. Valid through the end of the 2005 operating season. #1685

For information on the day you plan to visit, please call (619) 661-7373 in San Diego County, (714) 220-5200 in Orange County or (760) 327-0499 in Palm Springs or visit us online at knotts.com.

San Diego Reader, August 4, 2005
Bayou Brothers played zydeco music for First Thursday Concert on August 4, 7 p.m., in Escondido Library’s Turquoise Room (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

Self-Described “Musical Medium” Jenifer Whisper will “share a song or two” from “famous celebrities on the other side” from whom she channels music and share spiritual messages “from your angel!” on Thursday, August 4, 2 p.m., at North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe (2031 El Cajon Boulevard). $10. 619-874-8678. (NORTH PARK)

World Beat Music and Dance — Danara performs with guest drummer Lamine “Dibo” Camara, along with bellydancer Shalimar, Thursday, August 4, 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2006 University Avenue). Donation: $5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

Spoken-Word Performances by Los-Anole Minded Poets, J. Godley, Duzy Order, and Alan Silva promised, along with paintings by Zani Waters, Friday, August 5, 7 p.m., at Kung Food (2489 Fifth Avenue). Free. 619-298-7302. (BANKERS HILL)

TGIF Jazz in the Parks series continues with jump blues and swing music by Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums, featuring Carmen Getzl on Friday, August 5, 6 p.m., in Calavera Hills Park (at Carlsbad Village Drive and Glascott Street). Parking shuttles operate from Hope School (3810 Tamarack), 5 to 9 p.m. 760-434-2904. Free. (CARLSBAD)

Mario Carrillo and the Bashers perform under the gazebo in concert on Friday, August 5, 5 to 7 p.m. at corner of Main Street and Indiana Avenue. Free. 760-414-9991. (STEEPLECHASE)

Concerts on the Green at Prescott Promenade (on East Main Street) continue with rock and roll by the Players, August 5, 5 p.m. Series continues on Fridays through September 30. Free. 619-401-8858. (ES CAPE)

Summer in the Park concert series promises nostalgic and contemporary music by Fabulous Ultradanos at Trolley Barn Park (1900 Adams Avenue) on Friday, August 5, 6 p.m. 619-297-3166. Free. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

“Oz & Beyond: The Music of Harold Arlen” showcased when Gay Men’s Chorus of San Diego performs on August 6 and 7, in David and Donatha Garfield Theatre at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4216 Executive Drive). Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: 819-328-6974. (MID-CITY)

Acoustic Music Bonanza! Ge-off Muldaur performs for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Saturday, August 6, $15. 819-TJNY hits stage on Wednesday, August 10, 5:30. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mainsfield Street). 619-303-8178. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“End of Summer Talent Fest” — dancers, singers, comedians, hip-hop/rap artists, instrumentalists, DJs perform Saturday, August 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Radisson Hotel Harbor View (1846 Front Street). Tickets: $10, $20. 619-710-2467. (DOWNTOWN)

Kush and Bloodlyf Angels perform for 2005 Summer Concert series at North Park Community Park on Saturday, August 6, 5:30 p.m. Free. 619-204-5686. (NORTH PARK)

Minimum donation: $9. 619-347-2884. (BALBOA PARK)

Eight French Horns ensemble from Coastal Communities Concert Band performs for Local Sounds series on Saturday, August 6, 1 p.m., at Museum of Making Music (5790 Armada Drive). Free. 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Coastal fights for 2 została sekty domek z kotem w oknie. (Nina, Sinead O’Connor) Give a horse a head start and he’ll run the race. Enjoy a rental vacation s...
Mission Improvible’s All-Improvised Comedy Show is Saturday, August 6, 8 p.m., at Swedenborgian Hall (1531 Tyler Avenue). $10. 858-581-0050. (HILLCREST)

Self-improvement Author Judy May Murphy signs and discusses How to Make Your Life Only a Gazillion Times Better, Saturday, August 6, 3 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (810 West Valley Parkway). Free. 760-480-2760. (ESCONDIDO)

“Ramona Memories” signed by author Dydia De Lyser on Sunday, August 7, 1 p.m., at Captain Fitch’s Mercantile (2627 San Diego Avenue). Free. 619-298-3944. (OLD TOWN)

Head to Moonlight Beach for concert of Latin music by Psydecar on Sunday, August 7, 3 p.m. Free. 760-633-2740. Dogs, alcohol, glass prohibited on beach, found at foot of Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Ladies Sing the Blues on Sunday, August 7, 6 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Performers Barbara Jamerson and Ruby Presnell backed “by a quartet of fine musicians.” $30 fee includes dinner at 5 p.m. Reservations: 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Sundays at Six, summer concert by Kahuna Cowboys on August 7, 6 p.m., at Harry Griffen Park Amphitheatre (9550 Milden Street). Free. 619-467-1300. (LA MESA)

Seventh Annual Viva el Mariachi Festival, Sunday, August 7, at Embarcadero Marina Park South. Pre-

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Advance reservations required.

Jared Braithwaite of Troop 725 is an Eagle Scout

In the poorest areas of Mexico, people may live in cardboard boxes or share a room with multiple families. Mindful of this, Scout Jared Braithwaite was determined to build and furnish a house in Tijuana for a needy family.

Organizing a team of volunteers from his troop and his church to raise funds for lumber and other supplies, Jared formed work crews and performed yard work and other services for donations. Homemade Apple Crisp Desserts were sold to raise more funds. Volunteers picked up furniture, cooking appliances, and bedding donated from neighborhood garage sales. Women from the Relief Society from the Church of Latter Day Saints made quilts.

On October 23, 2004 after many hours of planning, coordinating and finally, constructing, Jared Braithwaite completed his Eagle Project and a grateful family had a home.

Living OUT MISSION
For more information, contact the San Diego-Imperial Council BSA at 619-298-6121 or www.sdicbsa.org
• Jane Kenyon

The 2005 Acura Classic continues through August 7 at La Costa Resort (2100 Costa Del Mar Road). Players include Lindsay Davenport, Maria Sharapova, Serena Williams, Elena Dementieva, Svetlana Kuznetsova, Justine Henin-Hardenne, Kim Clijsters, and others.

Match times: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, August 4 and 5; 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, August 6; 1:30 p.m. Sunday, August 7. Tickets: 760-438-5603 and Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (EAST VILLAGE)

And they’re Off! 2005 seaside racing season hosted by Del Mar Thoroughbred Club continues through Wednesday, September 7, with racing every day except Tuesday. Post time 2:30 p.m. for Friday races, beginning at 3:30 or 4 p.m.

Find Del Mar Racetrack at San Diego County Fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Boulevard and Via la Valle. 858-793-5533. (DEL MAR)

Boys of Summer, San Diego Padres are in Pittsburgh to battle the Pirates on August 4, 9:35 a.m. Road trip continues with games against Washington Nationals, August 5–7, at 4:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 10:05 a.m. on Sunday.

P dah head home to Petco Park to host New York Mets, August 9–11, at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday and at 12:30 on Thursday. Tickets: 877-374-2784. (EAST VILLAGE)

San Diego Surf Dawgs host Long Beach Armada, August 4–7, at 7:05 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 1:05 p.m. on Sunday. Home games are played in Tony Gwynn Stadium at San Diego State University (5500 Campanile Drive). Tickets range from $6–$10. 619-282-6887. (SDSU)

San Diego Junior Fencing Invitational runs 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, August 6 and 7 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Fencers aged 19 and younger compete in epee, foil, and saber competitions. Free for spectators. 858-792-0860. (LA JOLLA)

Multisports.com Swim/Run is Saturday, August 6, 7 a.m., at Mission Trails Park. Select either a 5k or 1k swim only, or relay: 760-632-3680. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Bicycle to Miramar Dam with San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders on Saturday, August 6. The 80-miler starts at 8:45 a.m. in De Anza Cove parking lot on East Mission Bay Drive. Free: 619-255-4194. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Summer Dressage Show runs Saturday and Sunday, August 6 and 7, at Del Mar Horsepark (4555 El Camino Real), concurrently with Showpark IV (Horse Show. 888-794-1711. (EAST VILLAGE)

Snorkel with the Sharks on Saturday, August 6, 8 to 10 a.m., during ongoing hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum. These sharks in question are (harmless) leopard sharks, smooth hound sharks, guitarfish. $30. Reservations: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Surf Cup XXV continues August 6–8 for boys’ and girls’ competition. Games played at San Diego Polo Club (1455 El Camino Real). Details: 760-944-7176. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Two Bicycle Rides are offered Saturday, run from 7 a.m. starting at 8:30 a.m. in northwestern parking lot at La Jolla Village Square/Cycle. Select from race-training 45-mile ride, slower 35-mile ride with experienced leader. Helmets mandatory. Free: 858-279-2454. (LA JOLLA)

Kayak the Calm Waters of La Jolla during hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum, Sunday, August 7, 8 to 10 a.m. for adult and Back-Yard for kids. Pack naturalist team with instructors from Ocean Enterprises Express to guide paddlers from La Jolla Shores to caves at La Jolla Cove. Beginners welcome. $60. Reservations: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

SPECIAL

Medall Madness wine and cheese tasting hosted by San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (200 Harbor Drive, suite 120), Thursday, August 4, 5:30 p.m. $15 fee includes four San Diego boutique wines, four award-winning California artisan cheeses. 619-231-6400. (DOWNTOWN)

International Feng Shui Conference runs Friday through Sunday, August 5–7, at Miramar College’s Miramar Resort on Mission Bay. Exhibits and vendors open to public, speakers, food, banquets, rooms devoted to “suburbs” such as interior design, space clearing, ecology/architecture, more. Free; details: 917-969-9697. (MIRAMAR)

Homework 2005 Home Improvement and Back-Yard Living Expo, August 5–7, at Qualcomm Stadium. Over 200 vendors’ booths, back-yard and gardening showcase, pool and spa pavilion, food and sampling and cooking expo, Frikkies for More Experience and Frikkies Cat Team, sports memorabilia and collectors’ marketplace. Hours: 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free general: 714-618-2000. (MISSION VALLEY)
Reading

The Best Day the Worst Day: Life with Jane Kenyon

By Donald Hall
Houghton Mifflin, 2005; 258 pages; $23

FROM THE DUST JACKET:
Donald Hall’s celebrated book of poems
Without was written for his wife, Jane
Kenyon, who died in 1997. Hall returns to
this powerful territory in The Best Day the
Worst Day, a work of prose that is
equally a “work of art, love, and
genius” (Liz Rosenberg, Boston Globe)

Jane Kenyon was 13 years younger
than Donald Hall and a student poet
at the University of Michigan when they
met. Hall was her teacher. The Best Day the
Worst Day is an intimate account of
their 23-year marriage, nearly all of it spent in New Hamp-
shire at Eagle Pond Farm — of their shared rituals of writing, close atten-
tion to pets and gardening, and in the afternoon, Hall joyfully
records Jane’s growing power as a
poet and the couple’s careful
accommodations toward each
other as writers. This portrait of
the inner moods of “the best mar-
riage I know about,” as Hall has
written, is laid against the stark
medical emergency of Jane’s leukaemia, which ended her life in
15 months. Hall shares with read-
ers — as if we were one of the griev-
ing neighbors, friends, and rela-
tives — the daily ordeal of Jane’s
dying, through breakthrough and
generous storytelling.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:
From Publishers Weekly:
“Jane Kenyon died of leukemia at 57 in
the morning, April 22, 1995, in the first sentence of this unsur-
passing and beautifully structured memoir. She was only 47, and the
struggle was harrowing...”

From New York Observer:
“I don’t think I’ve ever read a book
that so fully describes the way
illness can take all other air out of
the room. Yet this book is not
depressed or sadish. Of course
it’s tragic, but Mr. Hall knows that
tragedy hits everyone one way or
the other. And he’s most him-
self, I think, imagining others.
In Seattle, in the middle of a
hospital ward — of bone-marrow
transplant, he hears the unredeem-
able screams of children in the
same state. Yet he knows children have
a much better chance of recov-
er than Jane does. But crying is
in order, and sometimes joy gets
washed away by tears quicker
than pain: I defy anyone to read
aloud — without collapsing — the
passage on their dog’s ecstasy
when they come back in remis-
sion from Seattle.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Donald Hall, born in 1928 in New
Hampshire, has received the National Book Critics Circle
Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in poetry for The One-
Day (1989), the Lenore Marshall
Award for The Happy Man (1987),
the 1990 Frost Medal from the
Poetry Society of America for Old
and New Poems (1990), and the
Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize. He is a
member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and lives in New
Hampshire.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE
AUTHOR:
On the morning we spoke, Mr. Hall
was at home in his New Hamp-
shire farm. His telephone line housed
and buzzed. Some of his sentences disappeared entirely.
I repeatedly interrupted our con-
versation, saying, “I can barely
hear you. Could you say that
again?”

When we began our talk,
however, I read that before I died
(continued on page 12)

“...They didn’t read great stuff
...This is what grownups do after supper.”

“My parents both read all the time. They didn’t read great stuff
but I grew up thinking, ‘This is what grownups do after supper.’”

Celebrate the “Turning of the Wheel at Lughnassadh” on
Friday, August 5, 6 p.m., at Hoop
Groove Park (at Jefferson and Mon-
terey). Bring a snack or drink to share.
Free. 760-415-4102. (CARDIFF)

S.D. County Vintner’s Associ-
Wine & Culinary Center at
(200 Harbor Drive, suite 120).
Sed-Hans-Trevor Gossman pairs
menu with wines from ten San
Diego wineries. $75. Reservations:
619-231-6400. (DOWNTOWN)

Art Around Adams, enjoy “art around Adams” Avenue (from
Hamiltont Street to Biosa Drive) on
Saturday, August 6, 6 to 10 p.m.
Performances, open galleries, artists on hand. Free. 619-283-
0032. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Emerson’s Self-Reliance is up for examination when Great Books
Reading and Discussion Group meets on Saturday, August 6, 2
p.m., in third-floor conference
room, San Diego Public Library
Newcomers welcome. (DOWNTOWN)

Knights Battling with Live
Steel, Shakespearean tournament,
commedia dell’arte players, clever-
footed dancers — almost time for
San Diego Renaissance Faire pre-
pared by Center for Creative His-
ory, August 6 and 7. Eight stages of entertainment, merchants.
Find village on grassy lawns just north of Moorey Field (at
Jarcudana Place and Jarcudana
Drive). Festival opens at 9:30 a.m.,
closes at 7 p.m. on Saturday, 6 p.m.
on Sunday. Tickets: $15 general,
discounts for seniors, children, mil-
itary. 619-418-9412. (ENCINITAS)

Art Auction and Dessert Banquet
sponsored by First Baptist Church
of Ocean Beach to raise funds for
house building projects in Mexico.
Artists working on pieces of art,
deserts from local restaurants for
sampling, at Discovery Center
(4749 Santa Monica Avenue) on
Saturday, August 6, 7 to 10 p.m.
619-223-6992. (OCEANSIDE)

Bead Bazaar hosted by Bead So-
ciety of San Diego, 10 a.m. to
5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday,
August 6 and 7, at Scotch Rite
Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del
Rio South). Loads of beads from around world, demonstra-
tions, kits, vendors offering wares.
$3. 858-578-2273. (MISSION VALLEY)

Rot Happens, compost bins and
worm composting bins offered for
sale on Saturday, August 6, 9 a.m.
to noon, at Casa de Camayola’s
Water Conservation Garden
(12222 Camayola Drive West).
Fee details: 760-436-7986 x216. (ENCINITAS)

San Diego Dahlia Society plans
botanical show, Saturday and Sun-
day, August 6 and 7, in room 101 of
Casa del Prado. Free admission.
619-298-6012. (DOWNTOWN)

21st Philippine Cultural Arts
Festival runs Saturday and Sun-
day, August 6-7, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
at Park Boulevard and Presidents
Way. Festival hosted by Samahan
Filipino-American Performing
Arts and Education Center is
showcase for traditional perform-
ing arts of Philippines, with folk
dances from different regions, folk
songs, cultural exhibits, food for
sale. Admission: free. 619-444-
7528. (BALBOA PARK)

Rod Run for Fun, Rod Run
weekend opens with cruise night
and dinner, Saturday, August 6, 5
to 9 p.m., with various banneies
offering Rod Run specials ($10).
Entertainment, more.
Rod Run 16 promises custom
Cars, hot rods, arts and crafts, car-
related vendors, Sunday, August 7,
9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Main Street.
Live entertainment. Awards: 2 p.m.
on main stage. 760-724-
2875 or 619-414-9391. Free for
spectators. (OCEANSIDE)

Music Rocks and Canines Roll,
Wootstock 2005, the dog fes-
tival replete with fly ball, agility
course, contests, games, is Satur-
day, August 6, 4, 9 a.m. to noon
at Miracosta College, 3303 Manch-
ester Avenue. Donation: 760-901-
4300. (CARLSBAD)

House of Palestine hosts lawn
program at House of Pacific Rela-
tions International Cottages on
Sunday, August 7, 2 p.m. Free.
619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Ayn Rand’s Theory of the
Virtuous is subject when Objec-
tivist Reading Group meets Sun-
day, August 7, 6 p.m., at Claire de
Laine Coffeeshoppe (2966 Univer-
sity Avenue). Free, newcomers wel-
come. 619-291-5741. (NORTH PARK)

Behind-the-Scenes Tour of
offered Monday, August 8, 1:30 p.m., at Mission San Luis Rey
(4050 Mission Avenue). Tour in-
cludes buildings, grounds, discus-
sion of history of California mis-
sion system. $7. 760-757-3631
x115. (OCEANSIDE)

Desperately Seeking “Artsy”
Volunteers. Lux Art Institute re-
cruiting potential volunteers for
education outreach program and
other volunteer positions during
meeting on Tuesday, August 9,
9 a.m., at Sand Diego National Bank
(131 North El Camino Real).
Free. 760-436-6611. (ENCINITAS)

Experience a Traditional Tea
Ceremony when Sohaya Akayo
Soto and assistants present demon-
strations, Tuesday, August 9,
11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., at
Japanese Friendship Garden.
Included in garden admission.
619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

Clowns, Pachyderms, Human
Cannons, Ringling Bros. and
Barnum & Bailey Circus entertains
August 10-14 at IPayOne Center
(5500 Sports Arena Boulevard).
Performances at 7:30 p.m. Wednes-
day and Thursday, 11 a.m. and
7:30 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m. and
3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday;
1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets:
San Diego Mandolin Orchestra

This month we are performing songs from the 1950's to present. Enjoy an evening of beautiful acoustic music with our talented group of musicians. Enjoy dinner and a drink at our new venue, the House of Blues, and then come back to enjoy our performance. Come early, as seating is limited.

Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: House of Blues, San Diego
Contact: 619-220-8497

Looking for Love?
The innovative dating service for singles

The Social Place is the innovative dating service that allows you to meet other members today. Enter registration code "2014" to get a 2-year free subscription. Tickets: $13 for adults, $10 for children. 619-251-8452. (SPRING VALLEY)

MUSEUMS

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

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, “Building Bonita: Over 100 Years of Architecture in the Sweetwater Valley” focuses on the diversity of structures built over the years in Sweetwater Valley. Archi-tecting Itself: Richard Requa have work here, and there are "new and unique concepts such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s. The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of the early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to John Severson in early 1980s.

The San Diego Museum of Art (1993), written while his father was ill, he said, “Jane wrote wonder ful poems about my immi nent death.”

And here you are — alive.”

Yes. Here I am, 76 damn years old. This irony is that this book is me about her rather than the other way around. But I have been feeling good for months. The last 17 months during which I wrote it, I didn’t do any poetry. Typically in my life as a writer I’ve worked all day on different things, short poems and so on. But I just couldn’t do anything but this book. I worked many hours a day, I think that every page was gone over at least 25 times. I kept changing sentence structure and getting rid of an ad jective. But I loved working on it. I love to write all day, in this case it’s almost as if you’re doing something about a horrible thing that happened. As if you’re writing about it, which you can’t do, of course. There was that impetus as well as the love of writing these sentences. People say I write so much. Without and writing this book as suffering by revisiting the suf fering. That is really not true. I’m constantly revisiting the suffering, which I can’t write. Remem bering. Constantly. But I’m revis ing it now in a way to memo rialize it, to make it into some thing fixed and permanent as a monument to Jane. Also, I was happy in this book to talk about our marriage, our time together, that happy stuff. “You had a wonderful mar riage.”

Yes. We struggled, of course. I had cancer; we had trou bles. At times we were anx i ous about money. I got lucky. I wrote that children’s book Or Cart Man, which won the Caldecott. The Caldecott is a prize that actually sells books. There were wonderful illustrations by Barbara Carson. I wrote the text, but it was also a picture book. And so you have to say there’s been a lot of good luck in my life.”

“Jane Kenyon became exceedingly beautiful in her early 40s.”

“Ah, she became so beau tiful. You know, when I married her she was not a particularly pretty girl at 24. She had a pretty...”
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THE SPIRIT OF THE KING DAY
A tribute to the Musical Legacy of Elvis Presley
Hosted by Steve Connolly
Tuesday, August 16 ★ 7 pm - 10 pm

702-678-5600
www.vegasexperience.com
Chinese Historical Society and Museum, view artifacts from San Diego’s Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord’s bed, exhibits on Chinese foreigning and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall.

The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension showcases “Cloisonne: A Perfect Fusion,” with over 35 pieces of animal forms and domestic objects. Find the museum at 1104 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum, the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past, exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original Star newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. For further information, call 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

A Summer Tradition... Free Concerts
at the East Plaza Gazebo

Sunday, August 7 • 1-4 pm
Blue Rockit
Sunday, August 14 • 1-4 pm
Barbara Jamerson & Two Deep
Friday Concert!
5-8 pm 34 Below
Sunday, August 21 • 1-4 pm
Nitelife
Sunday, August 28 • 1-4 pm
The Catillacs

Reading (continued from page 10)

The Big History Project encourages us to think about the big picture when we talk about the world and its past. As we discuss our current challenges, it is important to remember that human history is but a small part of the Earth's history. The Big History Project aims to help us understand the long-term trends of human history and the place of humanity in the natural world. By studying the Earth's history, we can gain a better understanding of our place in the world and our responsibilities to it. This knowledge can empower us to make better decisions about our future.
**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

**Events that are underlined occur after August 11.**

**HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING:** Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number (including area code), and a phone number for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box #5803, San Diego CA 92126. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**If It's August, It's Summer Fest Time,** La Jolla Music Society's SummerFest La Jolla 2005 runs August 4-21, promising concerts, workshops, master classes, guided open rehearsals, encounters, performance chats.

Concerts commence Thursday, August 4, with California premiere of Lalo Schifrin’s “Letters from Argentina,” at 7:30 p.m., at Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway). Tickets: $30-$55. Concert followed by tango after-party on stage, with tango music and dancers, Argentine cuisine ($45).

Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble perform pieces by Sharon, Wu Tong/Li Cangsang, Sandeep Das, Kayhan Kalhor, others, on Saturday, August 6, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Civic Theatre (200 C Street). $35-$105. “Great Romantics” highlighted on Sunday, August 7, 3 p.m.; and “From Rome to Russia With Love” presented on Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 p.m. Both concerts in Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Tickets for either are $55, $60.

The Australian Chamber Orchestra and pianist Angela Hewitt take stage at Civic Theatre on Thursday, August 11, 7:30 p.m. Selections by Brahms, Bach, Vivaldi, Shostakovich, Rachmaninoff, Chaykin Kalhor, others, on Saturday, August 13, 7 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Sunday, August 14, 7:30 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion (1194 West Mission Road). Modern and classic compositions by Holst, John Cremers, Leroy Anderson, John Wasson, others. $12 general, 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

**Summer Concerts at Quail Botanical Gardens**

**Sunday evenings, 5:00 to 8:30 PM**

**Aug. 07**

Ladies Sing the Blues  — Ruby Presnell + Barbara Jamerson

**Aug. 11**

The Bayou Brothers  — Cajun/Zydeco

$25 for members, $30 nonmembers. Includes dinner, dessert, coffee. No-host beer and wine.

Call 760-436-3036 x206 or visit www.qbgardens.org

Seating is limited, reserved today.

**230 Quail Gardens Dr.**

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**Country Western Two-Step**

**DANCES — Every Friday:**

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• Latin & Ballroom

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*(Classes in bold) with this ad, first-time student. Introductory classes. Expires 8/31/05.

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**San Diego Reader August 4, 2005**

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**ROLLING STONES**

**Nov. 11**

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**GALLERIES**

*Pattern Recognition* — works by Bridget Rountree open with reception on Friday, August 5, 7 p.m., at Borelli Space (2407 5th Avenue, suite A). Through August. 619-294-7089.

*Zen 6,* annual exhibit of mixed-media paintings by Randy Mesler opens with reception on Saturday, August 6, 2 to 5 p.m., at Artisan Collection Fine Art and Jewelry Gallery (3862 Fourth Avenue, suite A). Through August. 619-294-7089.

*Two Artists: Two Rooms: Two Stores,* photography by Geoffrey Uhl and *etchings based on cosmetic surgery procedures* by Yamillette Duarte open with reception on Saturday, August 6, 7 p.m., at Assembly/Future of Style (740 Fifth Avenue). Closes on Tuesday, September 6. 619-255-8051. (GALSLAP QUARTER)

*New Water-Media Paintings* by Juliet Salaman are on view through August at Del Mar Art Center (1556 Camino Del Mar at 15th Street). Meet Salaman during reception on Sunday, August 7, 3 p.m. 858-481-1678. (DEL MAR)

*Cards, Prints, and More* are on display through August at Many Hands Craft Gallery (302 Island Avenue, suite 101). Artist’s reception: Sunday, August 7, 2 to 7 p.m. 619-557-8303. (GALSLAP QUARTER)

**ART MUSEUMS**

California Center for the Arts, 100 black-and-white photographs are gathered in “Live With History: Photographs from the New York Times’ Photo Archives.” Exhibit boasts iconic images by Alfred Stieglitz, Edward S. Curtis, Berenice Abbott, Andreas Feininger, among others. Concurrently: “Piece Me Togethér With a Needle and Thread: Quilts by Patrice Longmire,” “10 North: An Artists’ Group,” and “Aliança de Coca en Mexico,” a collection of carved coconut shells displaying motifs ranging from memories of loved ones, mythology, more. All four exhibitions close on Sunday, September 4. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 633-8913. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, North County Satellite, 2902 Parkview Place, Oceanside. “The Beaded Universe — Strands from Africa, and a Japanese tanzaus.” Concurrently, see “JoAnn Mesler: Elemental Art of the Indone-sian Archipelago” includes more than 100 objects such as textiles, jewelry, puppets, baskets, beadworked objects, ritual dance masks, architectural ornaments, household objects, ancestor figures, and shrines. Through Sunday, August 28. The Mingei is located on the square with the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (OCEANSIDE)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, Threshold: Byron Kim, 1990–2005” focuses on the artist’s significant body of easel paintings, presenting four major bodies of paintings on view through Sunday, August 7. “Richard Allen Morris: Retrospective” showcases the physicist and photographer’s project bringing “together the cutting edges of photo- graphy, physics, art, and technology.” Concurrently, see “Graham Flint: American Realism, 1934–1960.” Ends Sunday, August 14. The museum is located at 1500 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard; 858-481-1678. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, “Graham Flint: American Panoramas at 1800 Megapixels” examines the physical and photographer’s project bringing “together the cutting edges of photography, physics, art, and technology.” Concurrently, see “Graham Flint: American Realism, 1934–1960.” Ends Sunday, August 14. The museum is located at 1500 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard; 858-481-1678.

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**San Diego Museum of Art,** more than 80 works on offer in “Maxfield Parrish, Master of Make-Believe.” Exhibit boasts many of Parrish’s most recognizable works, such as calendar and book illustrations, “classified paintings,” and an 18-foot-long mural he painted for Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney. Show explores Parrish’s artistic development and working methods. Closes Sunday, September 11. “Wedge’s Fairland Lustreware from the Collection of Maurice Kaus” also closes on September 11, highlights 27 pieces produced at the Wedgwood factory in Etruria, England, in decade after World War I. The features unique imprints fashioned by artist and photographer, hundreds of images by Alfred Stieglitz, Edward S. Curtis, Berenice Abbott, Andreas Feininger, among others. 619-239-0003. (OCEANSIDE)

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You’d swear that Puck wrote the goofiest stage direction: “He exits, pursued by a bear.”

 centuries from now, when psychologists probe the brain in six (or ten) dimensions, they still might not account for Leontes’ sudden outburst in *The Winter’s Tale*. One minute he’s the contented King of Sicilia: his beloved wife Hermione, quite pregnant with their second child; his dearest friend, Polixenes, a guest at the sumptuous palace. The next, he goes berserk — mad as Lear, bloodthirsty as Macbeth — and destroys every bond he’s ever known.

His wife and son, Mamillus, die. He orders his newborn daughter Perdita exposed to the elements; Polixenes assassinated; Paulina, a lady-in-waiting, burnt at the stake; even disputes the Oracle of Delphi’s verdict. Why does he tear his family, his kingdom — and himself — apart? Jealousy? He accuses Polixenes, a houseguest for nine months, of impregnating Hermione. Or could it be a homoerotic connection with Polixenes? Is it, as Leontes claims, tremor cordis, a disease of the heart? Or do memories of pre-Original Sin innocence, from which Leontes swears he fell, trigger the explosion? Some of the above? None? Other? Shakespeare supplies causes but is much more concerned with healing the effect: how do you — or even can you? — repair ultimate damage? How do you de-Hyde Dr. Jekyll?

In Shakespeare’s most amazing, openhearted statement about human nature, *The Winter’s Tale* shows that a person can change, or change back, if given support, conviction, and time.

funhouse bear’s mouth swallows poor Antigonus whole. And we go with him, through the blood-red, Vegas-tinseled orifice, from death to new life. At the end of Act Three, the play turns, like the seasons, from winter to spring, “from things dying,” the Old Shepherd says, “to things newborn.” At the top of Act Four, it makes another abrupt leap: 16 years into the future. Shakespeare has
The Comedy of Errors
Nature or nurture? Most Comedies of Errors stress how alike Shakespeare’s two sets of twins are, as if growing up in separate cultures had no effect. Director Darko Tresnak shows how different a similarity can be. When at Ephesus (site of sorcery, according to St. Paul) Anthonyachs of Syracuse and Anthonyachs of Ephesus share the same identity, but are opposites. Complications ensue. In some ways, the frame of this staging’s more arresting than the middle. The 90-minute version moves well, but on opening night the acting was technical, not felt. You could sense that performances would grow, however. Plus, having Charles Janasz (as bedraggled Egeon) and Kandis Chappell (the Lady Abbess as a force of nature) guarantees quality. As Do Laim Craig and Evans Zo as the Dual Dromios: played as a cross between Charlie Chaplin and the Cantinflas of Around the World in 80 Days, their slapstick antics guarantee laughs. Then there’s the conjurational dance. When Dr. Pinch tries to exercise Ephesian demons, his conjuration makes everyone wunder. They flop into a snaky, ritualized Bollywood dance that, while Pinch’s spell lasts, is a total host.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, LOWELL DAVIES
THAT PLAYHOUSE, 1420 SIXTH AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH AUGUST 14; FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AND MONDAY, AUGUST 8, AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1464.

The Attempted Murder of Peggy Sweetwater
Broadway Players present John Rustin and Frank Smarani’s Monty Python-esque 1930s pot-boiler. Three “bumbling upper-class twits” try to solve several attempted murders. Michael Siegel directed.

BROADWAY PLAYERS, 402 EAST MAISON RANCH ROAD, EL CAJON, THROUGH AUGUST 27; SATURDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-507-7765.

Beads, Bangles & Baggy Pants
CentreStage Players present a re-vue-triub — jokes, sketches, musical numbers — to “the golden heyday” of burlesque.

ADAMS AVENUE STUDIO OF THE ARTS, 2004 ADAMS AVENUE (CORNER OF ADAMS AND BAYDO), NORMAL HEIGHTS, THROUGH AUGUST 21; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, 7:00 P.M. 619-544-2131.

Chrysalis: Rapechild
She was born on the battlefield of an endless war. Her father, a nine-foot tall child, killed her mother, who demands revenge (“tear his spirit from him”). Another woman, a Mother Courage clone, raised her. So “Rapechild” has two mothers and, it turns out, two destinies. Will the culture of violence seduce her? Or will she resist her insatiable loves and become a dragon? Can, in the play’s ruling image, a lotus grow from the mud? The set-up for Nick Green’s — and Sledgehammer Theatre’s — world premiere raises expectations the outcome doesn’t fulfill. The writing needs rework (people speaking in total innocence, as most of the characters do, shouldn’t use abstract words; the play’s just about her, everyone else merely cursed folly; the pseudo-Eastern wisdom’s sappy, girting card fare). But director Esther Ebemyr’s fluid, evocative stagings, on a tri-level stage strewn with dead soldiers, are often amazing: the monomous warlord, zapped by Jennifer Stetso and Andy Lowe’s beat-red lighting. Delicate sword fights (Rhodanina Bashoe’s sword dance, both graceful and lethal; Charlene Pen- nor’s bald, white “Shade”; and Bashoe’s arc of movements, from humming to fragile) from bombing to precise. A production to be seen, though not necessarily heard.

Worth a try.

STREETS PLAYHOUSE, 1420 SIXTH AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH AUGUST 14; FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AND MONDAY, AUGUST 8, AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1464.

Disfrute’s piece about his inability to overcome same-sex attraction through “reparative therapy,” which resulted in a divorce and excommunication from the Mormon church.

DIVERSITY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH AUGUST 21, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUN- DAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

Cotton Patch Gospel
Harry Chapman’s musical, based on the Gospel of Matthew, gets a stag- ing at the Mission Hills United Church of Christ. Rev. Bonnie Tarr- water directed.

MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 4070 JACKSON, MISSION HILLS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, AND SUN- DAY, AUGUST 7, AT 7:30 P.M. 858-442- 6470, 858-481-7867.

Disney’s Beauty and the Beast
Christian Community Theatre presents the stage version of the ani- mated film, music and lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice. A horrible beast holds Belle’s father in an old castle.

MT. HELIX ANTHROPETHEATRE, 4001 MT. HELIX DRIVE, LA MESA, THURSDAY, AUG- UST 4, THROUGH AUGUST 27; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:30 P.M. 619-586-2026.

Eat Your Heart Out
LampLighters Community Theatre celebrates its 68th anniversary sea- son with Nick Hall’s comedy about an out-of-work actor’s adventures as a waiter.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 8053 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, THROUGH AUGUST 7; FRIDAY AND SAT- URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-464-4598.
42nd Street
"Julian Marsh is doing a SHOW!" 42nd Street is musical comedy’s lottery fairy. It proves that “raw beginners can be winners,” especially if, like young Peggy Sawyer, they’ve got talent and are driven by grim-faced producer Julian Marsh, yelling, “Sawyer! Think of Broadway, dammit.” The first test of any talent is the producer’s faith. Julian Marsh, by instinct, believes in Sawyer. But you’ve GOT to come back a star!

Fritz Blitz 2005 Festival of New Plays by California Playwrights
I want to plug this enterprise sight unseen. For 12 years the Fritz Theatre has presented world-premiere works by California authors. This year savvy local directors — Delicia Turner Sonnenberg, Duane Daniels, Katie Rodda, Tim West among them — stage ten new plays selected from over 100 entries. The four-week festival offers a different program each week, and a zodiac of genres, from comedy to drama to experimental pieces that otherwise might never find a hearing. The Blitz has become a caution for the creative process. It also showcases local actors and designers and, quite possibly, future voices of the American theater.

Worth a try.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8800 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH AUGUST 28; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 760-749-3448.

I Am My Own Wife
Jefferson Mays reprises his Tony Award-winning performance in Doug Wright’s Pulitzer- and Tony Award-winning drama about Charlotte, the “miracle” who survived Hitler’s Gestapo and the East German secret police. Moses Kaufman directs.

LXLA PLAYHOUSE, MANDELL WEISS THEATER AT UCI, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10; THROUGH SEPTEMBER 11; MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 949-888-0222.

I Do, or Die: The Mother-in-Law of All Weddings
For its summer show, onboard the William D. Evans Sternwheeler, docked at the Bahia Hotel, Mission Bay, through September 6, Wednesday and Thursday, Boarding at 6:30 P.M. Dinner Show at 7:15 P.M. 619-544-1600.

Irish Step Dancing
Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grille presents “San Diego’s answer to the Celtic wave,” an evening of contemporary and traditional Irish dancing, music, and song.

DOUBLED AT THE BAHIA HOTEL, MISSION BAY, THROUGH AUGUST 29; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-239-5818.

THE OLD GLOBE THEATRE
February
CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE
THE LADY WITH ALL THE ANSWERS
By David Rambo
Directed by Tom Moore
Now - August 14
How did three men save Gone With The Wind in just five days?

Old Globe Theatre
Cassius Carter Centre Stage
The Lady with All the Answers
By David Rambo
Directed by Tom Moore
Now - August 14
How did three men save Gone With The Wind in just five days?

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“CONSISTENTLY FUNNY”.

“CRITIC’S CHOICE.
“ERRORS” IS SERIOUS FUN”.

“CRITIC’S CHOICE.
SEE IT NOW. YOU’RE NOT LIKELY TO FIND A BETTER PRODUCTION OF ‘WINTER’S TALE’ ANYTIME SOON”.

“CRITIC’S CHOICE
“A FEAST FOR BOTH THE EYES AND EARS”.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS
By Ron Hutchinson
Directed by Tehan Rando
Now - August 14
How did three men save Gone With The Wind in just five days?

San Diego Union-Tribune
August 4, 2005
San Diego Reader
Calendar THEATER

Joey and Maria’s Comedy Italian Wedding
The Cady Theater hosts the “not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater,” as Joey and Maria tie the knot. Diamond Bar/ULLY THEATER, 338 SEVENTH AVENUE, Gaslamp Quarter, OPENENDED RUN, FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 619-544-5639.

Killer Reunion
Mystery Cafe’s newest interactive comedy takes place at a high school reunion that just doesn’t go according to plan.
IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMA STREET, BANKER’S HILL, OPENENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-255-1401.

Macbeth
Double, double, toil and trouble? No. Something tasteful this way comes. Paul Mullins has directed a safe, formalist Macbeth, substituting stage pictures for substance. In-safe, formalist comes. Paul Mullins has directed a No. Something tasteful this way comes. Paul Mullins has directed a safe, formalist Macbeth, substituting stage pictures for substance. In-safe, formalist comes. Paul Mullins has directed a No. Something tasteful this way comes. Paul Mullins has directed a

San Diego
Deirdre Lovejoy resorts to deep aesthetic affairs. And the leads are cupcakes. The slo-mo battles toward Dunsinane). But the Sisters spears poking through Balboa Park als. Some do catch the eye (white-often mathematically precise visu-thoughts,” we get choreographed, ing stage pictures for substance. In-

IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMA STREET, BANKER’S HILL, OPENENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-255-1401.

The Merchant of Venice
British director John Barton interprets a two-fold performed as Shylock. The best approach, they resolved, is to “play the inconsistent- cies.” Richard Baird’s Poor Players takes that one step further: express the inconsistencies of every charac- ter: thus vanished Portia’s a racist, the Venetians are slaveowner-thugs, and marriages, which take place in the middle of this “com- edy,” may not live happily ever af- ter. The concept’s on the mask (no matter where you choose to stand, no matter which character you identify with, Shakespeare describes your footloose): The modern-dress, minimalist production how-ever, is uneven, especially Act One, where the actors could cue up and double the tempo. But stick around for Act Two: the tempestuous court scene, in which Shylock comes within centimeters of carving his partner out and taking ranks among the company’s best work. And Baird’s Shylock’s one of his finest creations as well. Gray beard, a pronounced limp (from a prior accident?), a pre-

The Magical Misfits
Due to popular demand, Miracle Theatre Productions presents a re-tuned performance of magicians Doug Brewer and John George. THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4404 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 5:00 P.M. 619-268-2494.

Margaret Mitchell’s book vs. loy-alty to emotional truth). As Flem-ing, Tom McGowan gets yuks by having the macho man do things he never would like (giving birth); the script makes David Manis’s Hecht, truth’s brave interlocutor, a whining party-pooper. And Dan Castellaneta’s Shylock, though preachy, does some impressive GYTMW imitations. This giddy bagatelle has funny moments (and a gorgeous Art Deco set by Alexan-der Dodge) but will do anything for a laugh, including warp the facts. OLD GLORY THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH AUGUST 14. TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AND SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-230-2255.

Moonlight and Magnolias
“The problem with the motion pic-ture business,” complained Ray-mond Klause, production manager for Gone With the Wind, “is you make nothing but prototypes.” Three weeks into filming GWoW, producer David O. Selznick shut down operations. He, director Vic-tor Fleming, and script doctor Ben Hecht rewoked the screenplay. Ron Hutchinson’s loopy comedy imagines what that process was like. As if trying to save the pro-duction the way Selznick’s trying to save the movie, director John Rambo gives it a slapstick, cartoony staging — including a food fight and comic book fisticuffs (POW! KER-BUNK!) — with intermittent moral interludes (questions about racism and anti-Semitism that never get beyond the asking: clichés about movie magic and loyalty to

The Merchant of Venice
Margaret Mitchell’s book vs. loy-

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Civic Theatre, 7108 El Cajon Blvd, University City, Thursday, August 5, through Friday, August 10, Tuesday through Thursday at 7:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from $25 to $50. (619) 464-1111.
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LifeFlight to Boise and then

Goodrich was helicoptered by

Center’s burn unit. “He was

reached via cell phone at the

girlfriend Kate Merrick,

To the bathroom, and he

“was asleep and got up to go

on July 14. The 31-year-old

over 50 percent of his body

suffered third-degree burns

Ketchum, Idaho, last year to

local guitarist Michael

— Jay Allen Sanford

Where Art Thou, Jackie?

Recent rumors of

Michael Jackson sightings at

Carlbad’s Chopra Center for

Well Being are true.

Deepak Chopra, who calls

himself Jackson’s “spiritual
guru,” wrote in the July 14

Dello Times: “After the

verdict clearing him of child

molestation charges, Michael

and his children spent a week

with me in San Diego. He

plans to stay in the Middle

East now. I think being away

from the U.S. will do him

good. Michael has been

through very anxious times,

but that’s all in the past now.

He has told me that he now

wants to pay attention to his

career and make great music

and movies… Michael is

eccentric, but I know he’s

not guilty of a criminal offence.

Let’s not forget that Michael

suffered third-degree burns

over 50 percent of his body

after falling into a bonfire pit

on July 14. The 31-year-old

“was asleep and got up to go

to the bathroom, and he

must have tripped and fell

into the pit,” said his

girlfriend Kate Merrick.

reached via cell phone at the

University of Utah Medical

Center’s burn unit. “He was

probably trying to get out

of the pit for an hour before

friends found him.”

Goodrich was helicoptered by

LifeFlight to Boise and then

flown by jet to the Salt Lake

City Hospital. “His heart

stopped three times during

the flight,” according to

Merrick.

Goodrich had surgery

performed on his right leg,

back, and right arm and is

expected to remain in critical

condition for up to two

months before undergoing

six to eight more months of

physical therapy; Goodrich
doesn’t have health

insurance, so a Staggering

Home benefit show at the

Kasino Club in Stanley,

Idaho, is planned.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Chopra knows the King

is an independent person. He

confuses people. He’s

sexually, racially, and
culturally ambiguous.”

Chopra, who was a

potential defense witness at

the singer’s recent trial, met

Jackson 20 years ago.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Hxed by the Giant

“Ob, you mean

Cheap Channel?” 91X

morning DJ Chris

Cantore joked on the air

last month. A few years

ago, nobody at the

modern-rock station

made on-air jokes about

Clear Channel, the mega-

chain that owns 91X.

Cantore said what he said

possibly because he knew

the station was about to

leave the Clear Channel

fold.

Last week, Clear

Channel announced the

sell-off of 91X, urban

oldies Magic 92.5, and

hip-hop hits station Z-90.

The FCC ruled last year

that Clear Channel had to

unload a handful of stations

in order to comply with the

eight-station-per-market

legal maximum.

Finest City Broadcasting,

a company created by former

Clear Channel vice president

Mike Glickenhaus, bought

the three stations remain

fold.

The station was about to

leave the Clear Channel

Cantore said what he said

on the air.

“Giant?”

Last week, Clear

Channel announced the

sell-off of 91X.

“Why will

Monopoly now be

available on

91X?”

she demanded.

Cantore joked on the air

“after all, why can’t

Monopoly be on

91X?”

“Why can’t

91X have the

right to play

classics?”

“Why can’t 91X

have the

right to play

active rock and
classics?”

was the audience’s
demand.

Cantore said what he said

on the air.

“Why can’t

91X have the

right to play

classics?”

“Why can’t 91X

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demand.
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television a ‘contest giveaway.’”

The national head of promotion for Epic Records, Joel Klaman, was fired last week. Laird was not the only program director who allegedly accepted graft from Sony BMG Music Entertainment (which includes Epic), but she was the only one from San Diego.

Clear Channel issued a press release: “The allegations made today will be fully investigated, and any wrongdoing will be met by swift and appropriate disciplinary action.” What does that mean regarding Laird? A request for comment from Laird was not returned.

Local Clear Channel programming VP Jim Richards referred all questions to Clear Channel headquarters in San Antonio, which e-mailed the same press release.

— Ken Leighton

Puff Daddy Is In.

Irradio, Yove, and Operatic are out. Billy Daniels is incoming managing partner at what is now Martini Ranch in Encinitas. He says a new name and music policy are in store for the bar and café that sits next to the La Paloma Theatre.

Daniels says the venue will be renamed D Street Bar and Grill and a new liquor license that allows all ages indicates a new commitment to food service. There are no plans to continue the Thursday-night multiband showcase. Plans include a live jazz band on Wednesday, a classic rock band on Saturday, and popular dance music on other nights.

Established as a nightclub in 1978, the nightspot on Highway 101 has been named Easy Street, Bobby G’s, the Full Moon, Sharkey’s, and the Millennium. Since opening as Martini Ranch in 2001, the club has hosted local original bands on Thursdays. Chad Waldorf has booked “Thursday Night Live” for the past year.

“I’d like to talk to them and see about continuing it,” says Waldorf, who has brought in reggae, indie rock, and jazz bands. Waldorf says he has been told to book only through August 11. On that date, Daniels says his company, LLC Charter Funding, will take over ownership and close the place for two weeks to re-model.

“The only club we really have left that allows us to bring underground and out-of-town bands is the Leucadian,” says John Finkbiner, who plays guitar and sings in the Stereotypes. “Martini Ranch has the best sound of any club I’ve ever been in.”


— Ken Leighton

Whipping Boy

Bruce Hornsby played Humphrey’s July 21. I caught up with him that afternoon and asked if there is anything he can do to keep his hit (“The Way It Is”) from being played on Sean Hannity’s Republican talk-radio show. Hornsby laughed and said, “I’ve heard that from so many people. I really can’t win. People on the left complain about something to [Hannity] before, and he made me his whipping boy. I don’t want to go through that again, but I wish he didn’t use the song.”

— Josh Board

This Just In...

“We figure we lose $300,000 to $400,000 a year [in profits],” says Patrick Glynn, owner of Wireless Flash news service. Based in Hillcrest, the Wireless Flash sends out at least nine weird-but-true stories daily to media subscribers such as Jay Leno, David Letterman, and 700 radio stations.

“We broke the Dr. Laura naked-picture story,” says senior editor David Moye. “We got aspiring...music superstar Shemm on [the] Jimmy Kimmel [show]. Kimmel also discovered Andy Milomakis from us. Now he has his own show on MTV.”

Glynn says his service is taken for granted. “Everyone expects news to be free. It’s hard to enforce [payment].”

With the Internet out there, no one wants to pay for news.”

Yet, Glynn says Wireless Flash (which turns 25 this month) makes money. “This company has made me very wealthy. How else could I have spent $25,000 a week to put out a newspaper?”

That paper was the weekly Fahrenheit, which published from May 2003 to June 2004. Because Fahrenheit had its fans, Glynn says he may bring it back with the same name but with a different staff. “It had no sense of humor,” says Glynn. It was too much a diary of Adam [Grande, editor] and Jesse’s [Duquette, managing editor] life.”

Grame recently signed with Loud+Clear Records, which plans to release his album in October.

— Ken Leighton

Sitar-Man

Ravi Shankar almost canceled a July 10 appearance in Arles, France, after two of his sitars were broken during an Air France flight from Lebanon. Shankar, an Encinitas resident since 1998, wouldn’t play a replacement sitar flown in from London, but his instrument-maker arrived from India with two sitars, and his performance at the World Music Festival went on as scheduled. Shankar filed a loss claim against Air France, assessing the sitars’ value at $200,000. “I feel like I have lost two relatives,” the musician told the BBC.

— Jay Allen Sanford

DIEGO

SUNDAY 8/5:
WALTER II Y ORQ. RUMBANEY
THURSDAY 8/10:
EDMUNDO VIEJO
SUNDAY 8/12:
MADISON BAND
THURSDAY 8/17:
MADISON BAND
TUESDAY 8/22:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
WEDNESDAY 8/23:
JUDY DUNLOP
THURSDAY 8/24:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
SUNDAY 8/27:
THE WEDNESDAY WARRIORS
THURSDAY 8/28:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
SUNDAY 8/31:
SITAR MAN
THURSDAY 8/31:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
SUNDAY 9/7:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
TUESDAY 9/12:
JASON WHEAT & WILD THINGS
**August**

- **Michael McDonald** with special guest Joaquín Heyward **(SOLD OUT)**
- **Lonestar** with special guest Berkley Hart **(SOLD OUT)**
- **Air Supply** with special guest Firefall
- **The Temptations** with special guest LeRoy Bell
- **Cecilio & Kapono**
- **Cowboy Junkies** with special guest Keren Ann
- **Bobby McFerrin & Chick Corea**
- **Dana Carvey**
- **John Hiatt/Shawn Colvin**
- **Marc Antoine & Praful**
- **Dave Koz & Friends** featuring Jeffrey Osborne, Marc Antoine, and Praful
- **Hot Summer Nights** featuring Al Jarreau, The Rippingtons, and Russ Freeman

**September**

- **Susan Tedeschi/Blind Boys of Alabama**
- **Shedaisy**
- **Johnny Mathis**
- **Keali‘i Reichel/Na Leo**
- **Aretha Franklin**
- **Los Lobos/Southside Jukes**
- **Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra**

**October**

- **Bobby Caldwell**
- **“Hills of Home” featuring Doc & Richard Watson & David Holt**
- **Leo Kottke**
- **Celtic Woman**
- **Jesse Cook**
- **Daniela Mercury**
- **Mariza**

**Premium Packages**

- Packages include:
  - 9 premium-seat concert tickets (center section, rows 1-4)
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**Packages Available**

- Tickets required for all ages
- Dates subject to change or cancellation
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**Humphrey’s**

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**San Diego Reader August 4, 2005**
Liquid Politics
“Ignore the media and just rock.”

“W”e’ve played in 64 countries on 6 continents,” says Liquid Blue singer/songwriter Scott Stephens. “The Stones have played in 39.” I take his word for it. The band does seem to be almost always abroad, perhaps explaining how they signed a distribution deal with Shanghai Audio and Video, the biggest music publisher in China. In 2002 they played before 65,000 people in China during a televised music festival. Says Stephens, “Our lyrics show we are an American band thinking about world issues…[we] focus on issues like human rights, seeking peaceful solutions to conflict, the rape of the environment, finding inner peace, etc.”

Liquid Blue is made up of seven members: Stephens (former pro Roller Derby skater for the L.A. Thunderbirds), guitarist Michael Vangerov (who has his own Neal Moser signature guitar), bassist/singer Rocket Rodriguez (also plays sax and DJs), drummer Kris Marshall (the new guy), and three dancing and singing “Blue Girls” who front the band with Abba-esque enthusiasm (Layla Lora, Nikki Nova, and Alex Woods). Catch them at Boar Crossin’ in Carlsbad between continents at Boar Crossin’ in Carlsbad.

WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?
Scott: “Green Day, American Idiot. These guys can rock and talk at the same time.”
Michael: “Peace Not War, with various artists including Jane’s Addiction, Ani DiFranco, Sonic Youth, Paris, and others. Has my vote for CD of the Year.”
Rocket: “The Dave Matthews Band, Stand Up. It was worth the wait. Everybody Wake Up is a personal fave track.”
Kris: “System of a Down, Mezmerize. Amazing how these guys can be so original and different, yet so popular.”
Alex: “Nelly Furtado, Folklore. Reminiscent of Sam Phillips, even better than her debut.”
Nikki: “The Cranberries, No Need to Argue. Zombie is profound and chilling.”
Layla: “Rolling Stones, Let It Bleed. The band of the living dead.”

WORST TV SHOWS EVER?
Scott: “Fox News. ‘Fair and balanced’ — you’ve got to be kidding!”
Michael: “The O’Reilly Factor. ‘Fair and balanced’ — you’ve seen the news.”
Kris: “American Idol. It doesn’t represent real cutting edge indie talent.”
Michael: “The Dave Matthews Band, American Idiot.”
Layla: “The Dave Matthews Band, American Idiot.”

WORST PICKUP LINE EVER USED ON YOU?
Scott: “Do you work for UPS? I could have sworn I saw you checking out my package.”
Nikki: “Hi, I’m a virgin, so you don’t have to worry about catching anything.”
Alex: “You might as well sleep with me because I’m going to tell everybody we did it anyway.”

WORST GIG ABROAD?
Scott: “We were booked at a college in Ibarra, Ecuador…we were shocked to find only a single power cord leading to the stage with a pair of blown fuses. We were already dispersed. The sky had filled with clouds, and after just a few songs we got hit with a downpour and had to stop the show and save our gear.”

ING FOR 65,000 PEOPLE?
Everyone: “Oh, shit!”

BEST BAND NAMES?
Scott: “Keith Richard’s Dealer”
Layla: “The Strap-Ons”
Nikki: “The Dead Kennedys”
Michael: “Rage Against the Machine”
Rocket: “Smashing Pumpkins”

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Hosted by J.J. Style
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KARAOKE THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 • 9 PM
HOSTED BY FRANK

SANTEE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 4 • 9 PM-MIDNIGHT
Shelle
ROCK COVER BAND FRIDAY, AUGUST 5
Alan Iglesias & Crossfire

SERIOUS GUISU
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 • 8 PM

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**Upcoming Concerts**

**August**
- **Bob Schneider** (282): House of Blues, Thursday, August 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Cecil & Kapono** (993): Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 14, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.
- **The Cowboy Junkies** (567): Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, August 15, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.
- **Amy Grant** (968): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Alpha Blondy** (5469): Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, August 25, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-516-6100 or 619-220-8497.
- **Pete Townshend** (558): House of Blues, Monday, August 14, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Judy Collins** (613): House of Blues, Monday, August 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Moby** (677): Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, August 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**September**
- **Jimi Hendrix** (619): Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, August 22, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

**October**
- **Bon Jovi** (275): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, August 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Reo Speedwagon** (858): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, August 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**November**
- **Bon Jovi** (275): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, August 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**December**
- **Bon Jovi** (275): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, August 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park**
- **Toby Keith** (288): Viejas Casino Amphitheatre, Wednesday, August 17, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-671-3600 or 619-220-8497.
- **Judy Collins** (613): House of Blues, Monday, August 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
- **Moby** (677): Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, August 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
Barrington Levy (7/31): Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 25, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.
America, $33 and Pure Prairie League: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 25, 7 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.


Coldplay (7/4): Cove Amphitheatre, Friday, August 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600 or 619-220-8497.
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy (7/6): Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 28, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

John Wesley Harding (7/5): Acoustic Music San Diego, Saturday, August 27, 4050 Manchester Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Don Carlos (7/22): Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, August 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

The Doobie Brothers (7/6): Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 28, 7 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Maxi Priest: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, August 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.


The Johnny Clegg Band and Taj Mahal (9/8): Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, August 29, 7 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Mark Broussard and Citizen Cope: House of Blues, Tuesday, August 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Culture (8/4): Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 31, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.


Jefferson Starship: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, August 31, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

SEPTEMBER
Eric Benet: House of Blues, Thursday, September 1, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.
Susan Tedeschi and Blind Boys of Alabama (9/2): Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 1, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Los Amigos Invisibles: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, September 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.


The Knitters: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, September 4, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

SheDaisy: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 7, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Johnny Mathis: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Bebel Gilberto: House of Blues, Thursday, September 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Sound Tribe Sector Nine: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, September 8, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Marcia Ball (9/6): Belly Up Tavern, Friday, September 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.


Keali‘i Reichel: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 9, 7:30 p.m., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Harry Vines & the Bones (9/9): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 9, 8 p.m., 3005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-3410 or 619-220-8497.

Carlos Vives and Daddy Yankee: Cox Arena, Saturday, September 10, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-596-0427 or 619-220-8497.

Keali‘i Reichel: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, September 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Crosby, Stills, and Nash (8/22): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 9, 8 p.m., 3005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-3410 or 619-220-8497.

Tori Amos (9/13): Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, September 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-8122 or 619-220-8497.

Karl Denver’s Tiny Universe (8/11): Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, September 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Alice Cooper (8/11): Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, September 14, 3005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-3410 or 619-220-8497.
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$40/$50/$60

Al Green
August 21 7:30pm
$55/$65/$75

Smokey Robinson
August 26 7:30pm
$40/$50/$60

O’Jays
September 15
7:30pm
$35/$45/$55

Comedy Central Live!

Gladys Knight
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$40/$50/$60

Al Green
August 21 7:30pm
$55/$65/$75

Smokey Robinson
August 26 7:30pm
$40/$50/$60

O’Jays
September 15
7:30pm
$35/$45/$55

Macy Gray
September 30
7:30pm
$25/$35/$45

Drew Carey & the Improv All Stars
October 16
5:00 and 8:00pm
$45/$55/$65

Montgomery Gentry
October 23 7:30pm
$40/$50/$60

Anne Murray
October 28 7:30pm
$40/$50/$60

Macy Gray
September 30
7:30pm
$25/$35/$45

Drew Carey & the Improv All Stars
October 16
5:00 and 8:00pm
$45/$55/$65

Montgomery Gentry
October 23 7:30pm
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O’Jays
September 15
7:30pm
$35/$45/$55

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I was at a used-record store the other day when I overheard a conversation between a buyer and a guy who was trying to sell a bunch of old CDs. The buyer held up an Urge Overkill CD and said, "Remember when these guys were the shit for about 30 seconds?"

Major-label A&R people made a lot of wounding decisions in the early ‘90s as they scrambled to find the next Nirvana. For instance, did anyone really believe that Walmart shoppers by the millions would pluck a Babes in Toyland CD in their carts?

Teenage Fanclub, the Scottish band made fun of the whole alternative rock feeding frenzy by titling its second album Bandwagon. The band’s power-poppy songs, harmonious vocals, and sarcastic sense of humor briefly earned them a lot of fans, and at the end of 1991 Spin magazine even placed Bandwagon among the top of its list of the year’s best albums — ahead of Nirvana’s Nevermind and My Bloody Valentine’s Loveless.

But the Fannies, as the U.K. press dubbed them, were soon suffering declining album sales and the inability to hold on to a drummer for long. However, the Fannies had — and still have — one thing that few of their bandwagons peers could claim: three talented singers and songwriters.

Norman Blake, Gerald Love, and Raymond McGinley have managed to keep up the quality for more than 15 years, and their latest album, Man-Made, may be their best yet. Now, isn’t that what A&R people are supposed to look for: a talent that can be nurtured through a long career?
Little-Known Artist You’d Recommend: Overlord

Hobbies? Painting, drums

Elvis or The Beatles? The Beatles

What are you looking for today? Iron Maiden… used!

- 100,000 CDs $8.99 each or 3 for $25!
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Jared
Born in Phoenix, Arizona
Favorite Musical Acts: Black Sabbath, AC/DC
Favorite Movie: Platoon
First CD Ever Bought: KORN, Follow the Leader

Little-Known Artist You’d Recommend: Overlord

Macy Gray (1964) Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, September 30, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-758-4580 or 619-220-8497.

The New Pornographers: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, September 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.


Elita James (1941) Humphrey’s by the Bay, Friday, September 30, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

OCTOBER

Kenny G (1965) Virgins Casino in the Park, Sunday, October 2, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Soulive (1968) Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, October 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Seal: Virgins Casino in the Park, Wednesday, October 5, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

The Average White Band (1969) Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, October 6, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Bobby Caldwell (1979) Humphrey’s by the Bay, Thursday, October 6, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club: Brick by Brick, Friday, October 7, 1130 Burnett Avenue, San Diego. 619-275-5400 or 619-220-8497.


"Hills of Home" starring Doc & Richard Wrangell and David Holt: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Friday, October 7, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-220-8497 or 619-523-1010.

Celtic Women: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, October 9, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.


Jesse Cook: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Thursday, October 13, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Danielle Mercurio: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Friday, October 14, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Aimee Mann (1966) Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, October 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Mariah: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, October 16, 7:30 pm., 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

Vince Gill (1951) California Center for the Arts, Sunday, October 30, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-989-4233 or 619-220-8497.

NOVEMBER

Dave Alvin (1958) Acoustic Music San Diego, Saturday, November 5, 4603 Mansefield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.


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Northstar: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
Pink Floyd: Blind Melons
Pollo Del Mar: Dreamstreet
Private Domain (489): Dick’s Last Resort
Radiance: Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla)
Reagonomics: Blind Melons
Rev: The Jumping Turtle
Rise the Wake: Fannie’s Nightclub
Scarlet Escape: Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla)
Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Diego)
Simple Method: Brick By Brick
Skynyrd Frynds: Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla)
Slight Return: JP’s Pub
The Spots: Martini Ranch (Encinitas)
The Stampede Band: Etta’s Place
The Steely Damned: Humphrey’s
The Stepping Feet: ‘Canes
The Stilettos: Island Sports & Spirits, McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
The Surf Kings: Dreamstreet
The Stilettos, McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
The Stilettos: Island Sports & Spirits, McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
The Wild Ones: Woody’s Sports Bar
EXTENSION 4005
JAZZ / BIG BAND
Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
The Archetones: Croce’s Jazz Bar
The B-3 Fours: Yvonne Gourmet Restaurant, Monty’s Cafe
The Easy Money Big Band: The German-American Societies
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Blue Large (686): Coyote Bar and Grill
Ray Bril: Hotel del Coronado
Norman Brown: Thornton Winery
Paabo Bryson: Thornton Winery
John Cain (703): Elario’s Bistro & Sky Lounge, Hotel del Coronado
The Jorge Camberos Quintet: Croce’s Jazz Bar
Sammy Canzoneri: Cafe LaMaze
The Gilbert Castellanos Quartet (487): Dizzy’s
Sandy Chappell: Cafe LaMaze
Jo Dark: The German-American Societies
Nick Flores: Pasquale on Prospect
The Jim Gaia Jazz Trio: Kitima Thai Restaurant
Joe Garrison (606): Cafe LaMaze
EXTENSION 4004
POP / TOP 40
Carol Ames (619): Coyote Bar and Grill
B Natural: Bahia Belle Cruise
Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant
Howie Day (688): House of Blues
The 80’s Allstars: Viejas Casino
The Full Effect Band: Humphrey’s
The Heroes: Viejas Casino
Jimmy Lavalle: Dakota Grill and Spirits
Liquid Blue (686): House of Blues
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
The New Breed Band: Hennessy’s Tavern (Carlsbad)
Donny Ousmond: 4th & B
EXTENSION 4005
JAZZ / BIG BAND
Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
The Archetones: Croce’s Jazz Bar
The B-3 Fours: Yvonne Gourmet Restaurant, Monty’s Cafe
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The Jim Gaia Jazz Trio: Kitima Thai Restaurant
Joe Garrison (606): Cafe LaMaze
The Robert Cray Band came from relative obscurity with Strong Persuader, a 1986 album that contained the hit “Smokin’ Gun.” It earned him the first of five Grammy awards. Prior to Persuader, Cray’s group had once been the house band at the Eugene Hotel in Oregon. They often split the bill with Curtis Salgado and his Nighthawks. The Eugene Hotel is where John Belushi drank when he wasn’t on the set of Animal House. Cray says that Belushi was a student of the blues; Salgado was his teacher. Later, Belushi would fashion his Blues Brothers image after him. “Curtis had the little tank underneath his bottom lip,” says Cray, “and he wore prescription Ray Bans. Sunglasses.” “He still does,” I say. Cray’s new CD, Twenty, is full of songs about love. I ask him if that is the true blues. “I guess you have to say that,” he says. “I mean, it’s true, I guess it’s the curse of mankind [laughs]. You got a man and a woman, you know, tryin’ to make it. And man’s supposedly got the smallest brain between the two…and he can’t figure it out.” (To hear a sample of the Robert Cray Band, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in 4941.)
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extension 4009

Blues / soul

The Blue Aces: Redfield’s Lounge & Bistro
The Blues Brokers: The Kraken
The Charles Burton Blues Band (903): The Kraken
Chet Cannon & the Committee: Patrick’s II, Elma’s Place
Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters (922): Clinton Delmark
The Robert Cray Band (943): Belly Up Tavern
The Freemonts (923): Tio Leo’s Lounge
Fuzzy & the Bluesmen (912): Groce’s Top Hat Bar and Grille
Allison Gilt: The Living Room (Hillcrest), Bunney Stone Pub
Fred Heath & the Sidewinders: Turquoise Cafe
Ben Hernandez: Dizzy’s
Nathan James: Dizzy’s
Chris James & Blue Four: Patrick’s II
Jump Jones: Tio Leo’s Lounge
Michele Lunsden & Blues Streaks: Patrick’s II
The Bill Magee Blues Band (947): Pounder’s, Island Sports & Spirts
Mystery Train: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Nite Life (934): Pal Joey’s
The Nude Blues: Balboa Belle Cruise
Ozzy Blues: Patrick’s II
The Stefan Stevens Band: The Quails Inn
The Swingin’ Kings (916): Patrick’s II
Earl Thomas (946): Belly Up Tavern
Johnny V. & the Usual Suspects: Patrick’s II
Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill, Patrick’s II

extension 4010

Everything Else

J.D. Bouchard (985) Princess Pub & Grille
Bushido: Tiki House
Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado
Howe, Squire, & White: House of Blues
Julio y Ramon: TOPICINEO
Langer & the Lepachau: Hemmings’ Tavern (PB)
Robert Lanusa: Po Pazzo Bar & Grille
Bradley Leighton (985): Game Time Tavern
Los Ingratas: Over the Border
Jane Lutz: Dizzy’s
New Direction: Red Fox Steakhouse
Kristi Rickert (998): Top of the Cove
The David Shard Duo: Red Fox Steakhouse
David Timothy Smith: Alba’s Beef Inn
Tardeada: Over the Border
Rico Tumbao: Fat City
Walter II y Rumbaney: Sevilla
Joey West: Hotel del Coronado
Erik Wolfer: Dizzy’s
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Fridays and Saturdays, house.
Sundays, Sunday Night Shakedown with DJs James and Beaudin.
Tuesdays, Step, house music with DJ Red Sonya. Wednesdays, Relax, 70s & 80s funk. No cover; 21 and up.

Sabbath: Second Saturday of the month, Rich’s, 1051 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-2195. Fourth Saturday of the month, the Flame, 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-295-4163. DJs Adam Atom, Dejay, and Robin Roth, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.

Solo Para Mujeres: Wednesdays, reggae, rock en Español, and hip-hop. 9 p.m. Baja Club, 1060 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-425-2512.

Spatalogn: First and third Saturday of the month, electro DJs, tribal dancers. 10 p.m. Recognition, 4545 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights. 619-251-4747.

Transport: First and third Saturdays of the month, Brit rock, indie, and...
CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Upcoming concerts, DJ events, or performances that are not at a club should be directed to 619-235-3000, ext. 261; e-mailed to sellis@nethere.com; or faxed to 619-881-2401.

NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Love Rangers, Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Nickel Creek, bluegrass. Friday, 9 p.m., the Mother Hips and Dirty Sweet Antiques, alternative/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., William Tepery and Michael Tarman, acoustic. Sunday, 8 p.m., the Robert Cray Band and Earl Thomas, blues. Monday, 8 p.m., Teenage Fandango and the Southbeards. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Liz Wright and the Chris Klein Lo-Band. Wednesday, 9 p.m., Noah God and Halie Maskel, reggae.

electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.
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~ Entering ~
Jim Gibbon & Beach Blvd.
Blues Band - Aug. 7th
Reggae Cruise with Mekoda
Dread and Tribal Seed - Aug. 14th
Island Breeze - Aug. 21st
Dave Patrone - Aug. 28th
See Palmer Quartet - Sept. 4th

~ Our Other Cruises ~
Branch & Dinner Cruises
Daily Sightseeing Harbor Cruises & Sea Lion Adventure Cruises

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-6004. Friday, Dean Martin’s Party and Melody Cruise, rock.

Boar Cross’n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-472-2699. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 9 p.m., Liquid Blue, pop-rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3758. Friday, 8 p.m., Persian, Eastern European folk.


Carners, 11490 Bernard Street Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-656-2400. Friday and Saturday, Bandanna, rock.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-439-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Carol Ameo, original rock.

Dance 50’s, 1005 Van Allan Way, Carlsbad. 760-602-0630. Performances are on the patio. Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., David Paul Wirtham, acoustic rock. Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Ron’s Garage, classic rock. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Nite Hawk, classic rock.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-744-0015. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Bradley Lightman, R&B/jazz.

Hennessy’s Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-8051. Thursday, The New Breed Band, pop/rock; Friday and Saturday, call club for information.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linero del Mar, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-776-1111. Thursday, Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Hennessey’s Tavern, classic rock. Friday, 8 p.m., Primasi, European folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Live rock.

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WED. AUG. 10
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SAT. AUG. 6

SUN. AUG. 7

MON. AUG. 8

WED. AUG. 10

THUR. AUG. 11

FRI. AUG. 12

SAT. AUG. 13

AGUA DULCE
ISRAEL MALDANALDO

THUR. AUG. 11

WED. AUG. 10

THUR. AUG. 11

FRI. AUG. 12

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Craig Gass, Jim Florentine, Rev. Bob Levy, Sal the Stockbroker, Richard Christie & Gary the Retard

FRI. AUG. 12

SUN. AUG. 13

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THUR. AUG. 4

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Thursdays, Steve Roots, Eric Rose, and JoJo Cassidy; Fridays, Red, New Day Mile, Crave, Decompression, and Junktis & Thieves; Saturdays, Life or Death, Nickolai, Atmoa, Generation, Crystalawn, Resistance, and the Anti-Race Sunday, Men From Mars.


Los Cabos Mexican Mesquite Grill, 2295 Old Casmul Real, Suite G7, Jam. Max 810-792-2226. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Will Sawyers’ Tropic Zone, Latin jazz.

Martini Ranch, 485 South Coast Highway (at D Street), Encinitas. 760-945-9101. Thursday, 9-30 p.m., Sugar Free, the Spots and the Gaucho, rock and roll.

Maxina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3467. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Mike Gardner, acoustic rock.

McCabe’s Beach Club, 1165 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-9101. Thursday, 9:30 p.m., the California Rangers, country.

California Drive-In Theatres, 900 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., The Charles Burton Blue Band.

Tropic Zone, 3322 Palm Avenue, San Diego. 858-792-2226. Tuesday, 12-7 p.m., Rev. Bob Levy, Sal the Stockbroker, Richard Christie & Gary the Retard.

Saturday, 7-12 p.m., the Charles Burton Blue Band.

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and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Jerry Molnick, jazz/variety present.

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**Album name:** This Is Hip Griffati (2004)

**Artist:** Hip Griffati

**Label:** D.L Records

**Songs:**
1. Get a Kick (Out of You) Day
2. Madison
3. Woodstock
4. Softly as in Morning Sunrise
5. Corcovado

**March 6**

**Oceanside**

- Hip Griffati releases a semi-captivating fusion of jazz, bebop, and Brazilian beat tunes.
- Standard and melodic jazz is what the foursome does best, and their full-length offering features a variety of modulated, spaced jazzy rhythms blended with soft rock.
- Each cut is listenable with either a Latin or gospel feel.

**Best**

- Tubaist Sunday, Jimmy Lewis, solo guitarist
- European jazz. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Techno House, San Diego. 858-299-2999. Live music.
- Best of the decade!!!

**Friday & Saturday**

- The Electric Wate Band. Monday, The Electric Wate Band. Tuesday, Shaka, bongo, reggae. Wednesday, Bird Dog and Hot Laundry.
- The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Belle, 99 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-339-9779. Departures: 6:30 p.m. Friday, 6:00 p.m. Saturday, and 11:00 p.m. Saturday.

**Friday & Saturday**

- sailing junk, 33 Degrees, and Dosed. Friday, the Dave
- Transformer, 2030 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-405-3301. For Info, call club for information.

**San Diego**

- The Aerials (909) Satellites 11) Softly as in Morning Sunrise 12) Corcovado
- Jazz. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 4851. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., 123 West Plaza, San Diego. 858-489-8890. Live Dixieland jazz.

**Breeze**

- Malay's on Prospect, 712 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-489-7844. Thursday, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mike Gardner, acoustic rock.
- The Tide House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, club for information.

- Suite Sunday, Jimmy Lewis, acoustic Wednesday, Nick D'Amico, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Mission Bay. 858-279-2033. Live music Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Rick Box. Live music.
- Tijuana Surf, 1201 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-270-5100. Friday, Brazilian music. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday, open
- Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-489-6284. Live music. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
- The Wine and Cheese Bar, 123 West Plaza, San Diego. 858-489-3107. Live music Saturday, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Michael's Bar, 3405 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-488-1120. Live music. Monday, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Live music. Thursday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
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TOM PETTY
& THE HEARTBREAKERS

THE BLACK CROWES

SATURDAY AUGUST 20

COLDPLAY
BLACK MOUNTAIN
FRIDAY AUGUST 26

JOHN MELLENCAMP
JOHN FOGERTY

AUGUST 31

LUIS MIGUEL
SEPTEMBER 17

GREEN DAY
JIMMY EAT WORLD
SUNDAY OCTOBER 2
126 San Diego Reader August 20, 2006

Calendar

CLUBS

9:30 p.m., the Detroit Underground, rock/roll. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., the Thomas Corner Band, 11 p.m., Wild Child, rock. Sunday, 9 p.m. to midnight, Jose Molina Sereno, Latin jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., David Brown, Jimmy Buffet, tribute band. Wednesday, 9 p.m., the Full Effect Band, disc/overy.

The Imperial House, 405 Kansa Street, San Diego, 619-234-3032. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to

NightSpotting

THE ZOMBIE LOUNGE 3519 El Cajon Blvd. City Heights 619-284-3323

Spectacular Ocean View! 5083 Santa Monica Ave. Ocean Beach 619-222-1101

The Detroit Underground, rock/roll.

Rockabilly, punk, electronica, outlaw country. Special nights to show movies on Sunday with popcorn, but now bands play Friday-Sunday.

Countless...all up, average age is early 20s, equal mix of male/female; 70 percent Caucasian, 25 percent Latino, 5 percent Asian. Cover: none. Hours: 8:00 p.m.–2:00 a.m., every day.

DANCE FLOOR: area about 20X20'

BATHROOMS: one for both men and women that had one toilet and one sink, with paper towels, liquid soap, and a mirror; lots of framed pictures of Playboy models and pinup girls; graffiti included "FUCK YOU" and "THE WRITER" in various places.

CAPACITY: 125

SPECIAL AREAS: near bathroom (midnight)

ACCESS: between I-805 and I-5 on south side of the street (at 35th); no parking lot, but street parking is easy to find; bus stops nearby.

DRESS: casual; a few punkers dressing ripped jeans and studded leather jackets; the rest of the crowd in jeans and T-shirts; "Indian Motorcycles," "Don't Blame Me, I'm a Democrat," "My Boyfriend is Out of Town," "The Cramps," and "One Night Stand".

the Detroit Underground, rock. In Cahoots, 1216 Prospect Ave., City Heights. 619-296-7873. Thursday through Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., the Original Reverb.

the Reverb., Monday, tango.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

619.222-1100

LA JOLLA 18555 Country Club Drive 619-452-7779

LYNN WOODISON 619-458-9475

SUGAR HILL 619-596-0550

F.T.C. 619-295-4038

BEACH 619-270-0212

DOWNTOWN

BARREL HOUSE

Nite Life, 5350 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego, 619-516-4466. Aventuras Salsa Club: Friday and Saturday.


Wednesday, 9 p.m., the Detroit Underground, rock.

Second Wind, 8115 Navajo Road, San Carlos, 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, live music. New booking info: hardrocklajolla@aol.com. 6455 El Cajon Blvd. (near SDSU).

Sham Rocks Shack, 5093 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street). College Area, 619-463-2263. Call club for information.

Trio Leo’s Lounge, 1352 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1647. Thursday, Jump Jones, Blues/Country. Friday, the Crowns, Bluegrass. Saturday, Joe Smurro, classic folk, original folk.

Twigs Tea and Coffee Company, 4390 Park Boulevard, City Heights. 619-206-0161. Friday, 8:30 p.m., Jennifer Lee, folk. Sunday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., the Collins Ensemble, folk.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 310 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., the B-3 Four, jazz, featuring vocalists, Halflife.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519.

Las Vegas

In Store Appearance

The Black Dahlia Murder

In-Store Appearance

The Black Dahlia Murder

Barrel House

The Black Dahlia Murder

SPECTACULAR OCEAN VIEW! 5083 Santa Monica Ave. Ocean Beach 619-222-1101

Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.

Mon.-Fri, $5 domestic/$8 microbrew pitches & $3 wells

SWEET 16 149 7th Street 619-232-0285

HAPPY HOUR 4-6 PM

Monday-Friday, 4-6 PM

$1 off all food

Tuesday, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the DJ Skizzi, $3 U-CALL-ITS.

Downtown

Barrel House

The Black Dahlia Murder

SPECTACULAR OCEAN VIEW! 5083 Santa Monica Ave. Ocean Beach 619-222-1101

Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.

Mon.-Fri, $5 domestic/$8 microbrew

pitches & $3 wells

SWEET 16 149 7th Street 619-232-0285

HAPPY HOUR 4-6 PM

Monday-Friday, 4-6 PM

$1 off all food

Tuesday, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the DJ Skizzi, $3 U-CALL-ITS.
Friday through Sunday, and Wednesday, Steve Brewer, acoustic.

The Casbah, 2001 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 858-232-6111. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Dead Horse, Lazulino, and Silver Sunshine. Friday, Tumnus Blues and West Indian Girl. Saturday, 7 p.m.; Kelly Wells & Bruce Robinson and Ancestral Clue. 10 p.m. Sunday, Steve Brewer. May 27, and May 28, Thursday, Thursday, and Saturday, The Archers, Big Brother, and the Rad Spammers. Wednesday, 7 p.m., Long & Short of It, Disposable Income, the Archers, and Rod’s on Death.

Croce’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 858-235-4555. Friday, Fuzzy & the Bluesmen, blues. Saturday, Primo, salsa/Latin jazz.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 858-234-5554. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., Jimmy Lavello, pop American music. Friday, 9 p.m., Steve Brewer, acoustic.

Dizzy’s, 347 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-233-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., Cindy Lee Berryhill, Friday, 8 p.m., Nathan Jones and Ron Hernandez, blues, with Jane Lee, pianist. Saturday, 8 p.m., the Gilbert Castellanos Quintet, jazz. Sunday, 7:30 p.m., Tom Goegler, Jerry Morris, and Erik Wolfe.

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8/12 • 8 pm
ROBERT WETZEL
8/19 • 8 pm
JIM EARP, MARK JACKSON BAND & PEGGY WATSON

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Free set of guitar strings
(Cut Martin brand steel strings)
With purchase of $10 or more. Limit one set per customer. With ad.
Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Galapam, 619-238-5818. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the O’Brien Brothers, Celtic folk. Wednesday, open mike.

Fat City, 1337 Pacific Highway, San Diego, 619-232-9301. Friday, 10 p.m., B二k Tombs, salsa.

4th & B, 1411 Fourth Avenue, downtown, 619-231-4843. Wednesday, Donny Osmond.

held Hemmerly’s Tavern, 708 Fourth Avenue (corner of Fourth and G), Galapam, 619-239-9991. Sunday, 4 p.m., the Velvet Sheep, jazz/blues. Jimmy Love’s, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown, 619-955-0123. Thursday and Sunday, live disco/pop.

Saturday, 9:45 p.m., live disco/pop. Jimmy Love’s, 4th & B, downtown. 619-238-3077. Music is blues unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Chris James & Blue Four. Friday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Chris James & Blue Four. Saturday, Chris James & Blue Four. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, the Blue Acres, blues harmonica.

Rico Tumbao, 619-232-9303. Friday, 10 p.m., Dublin Square, 1655 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-791-3021. Saturday, J.D. Boucher, piano.

Redfields Lounge, at Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, One Market Place, downtown. 619-232-1234. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, the Blue Acres, blues harmonica.

The reader’s guide to the downtown clubs:

- **Sevilla**, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-5979. Thursday, Peter, salsa/Latin jazz. Tuesday, Walter J. Ramirez, salsa.
- **The Shoot House**, 655 Fifth Avenue, Galapam, 619-231-4700. Call club for information.
- **The Westgate Hotel**, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown, 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Faith Popp, jazz.

**SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO**

- **Buon Giorno Restaurant**, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita, 619-472-2480. Thursday, live reggae band. Friday, salsa/Latin jazz/Caribbean/reggae. Cabo Caribe, 1650 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-3080. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the Great MacArthur/Texas Jazz Quartet.

**Hotel del Coronado**, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Backbeat & Story: Thursday and Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tony Laster, Latin jazz. Also, Friday, 8:30 p.m., Barbara Jefferson and Joe Taparon, jazz/blues/R&B/standards. Also, Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Stella Lingers and Dave Leflund, Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Jim Gibson.

**The Butcher Shop**, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-430-9410. Thursday through Sunday, 9 p.m. to 12:45 a.m., Faith Popp, Latin jazz.

- **Cafe LaMaze**, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Sandy Chappell and Sammy Caruso, jazz/blues, Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Bennett Anderson and Joe Garrison, jazz.

- **Club Caribe**, 1080 Bonita Road, Bonita, 619-472-2480. Thursday, live reggae band. Friday, salsa/Latin jazz/Caribbean/reggae.

**Coronado Island Marriott** (formerly Le Meridien), 2000 Second Street, Coronado, 619-435-3080. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the Coral MacFarland-Thuet Jazz Quartet.

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**Club Caribe**, 1080 Bonita Road, Bonita, 619-472-2480. Thursday, live reggae band. Friday, salsa/Latin jazz/Caribbean/reggae.
I set out to review a little ethnic “gem” this week, but when my partner and I both came down with food poisoning six hours after eating there, my tummy told me I needed a good old steak — meaning, a really good aged steak. I’d heard that LG’s carried only USDA Prime and dry-aged their Porterhouses on premises. That sounded just right.

LG’s Prime downtown is the newest of a chain of four steakhouses founded by Leon and Gail Greenberg in Palm Desert 14 years ago. The other locations are in Palm Springs and La Quinta. Why set down roots in San Diego? “It’s just because the owners love it,” said restaurant manager, Aaron Rojo.

The spacious room is a mix of carpeting and tile, Naugahyde booths with starched white linen cloths, and lots of wood and windows. It’s a plush, modern ranch-house style, without a hint of flocked-velvet stuffiness. And it’s quiet. The bar at dead-center has a dropped ceiling, so what happens in the bar stays in the bar. We couldn’t hear a word from the diners around us, while the soft ambient music was a feast for my ears, featuring country blues, ‘60s jazz, ‘70s R&B — from Gus Cannon’s Jug Stompers to Louis Jordan, Muddy Waters, and Bobby Bland.

We started with a Caesar salad, sized for two. Since we were a trio — including regular posse-mate Sam, a connoisseur of fine meat — our waiter sized it for three at no extra charge. The salad is made tableside, and you’re invited (actually forced) to interact at every step. Our waiter, Juan, arrived wheeling a stainless-steel cart longer than the booth, a two-shelfed miniature kitchen carrying all the ingredients and tools for the operation. Donning latex gloves, he started with four plump anchovies, the quality found in bottles from Italy (not the skinny, hairy-looking specimens typically growing atop a pizza). He mashed them with a fork in the bottom of the big wooden salad bowl, the whole time talking and seeking our approval. Next came the condiments and the yolk of a coddled egg (boiled two minutes to kill any salmonella bacteria). Finally, he swirled the yolk of a coddled egg (boiled two minutes to kill any salmonella bacteria).)

Fluffing up a white linen towel — poof! — he revealed a bowlful of romaine leaves. In went homemade croutons from the bottom shelf, more Parmesan, and presto change-o, we had a genuine Caesar salad. The anchovy flavor was subtle but unmistakable, and the ample quantity of cheese fit right in, without upsetting the balance. “How is it?” Juan asked. “Mmm,” I purred, mouth full. “Yeah, it’s a lot better made fresh than when the dressing comes from a can,” he said. If you want to try it at home, kids, there’s a printed brochure on each table that includes the recipe.

Looking over the appetizer list, we passed on the shrimp cocktail (been there) and crab cake (done that) but were curious about escargots Alfredo. More than curious — I haven’t tasted an Alfredo in 20-odd years, ever since the Food Police called it “a heart attack on a plate.”

Tasted an Alfredo in 20-odd years, ever since the Food Police called it “a heart attack on a plate.”

LG’s carried only USDA Prime and dry-aged their Porterhouses on premises. That sounded just right.

A Portobello mushroom topped with crab offered no optional variations and no thrills. The crabs that LG’s uses are a combination of sweet Dungeness and lackluster Snowlake. The crabmeat was served in a thin, red, creamy sauce, decorated with useless carrot curls that replaced the menu’s promised sweet red peppers. We all found the taste flat, despite a touch of cayenne.

As you’d guess, multiple choices abound when it comes to beef. The menu offers nine different cuts of steak, plus surf and turf (filet with lobster tail) and prime rib roast. A chart defines each degree of doneness from “Black and Blue” through “Medium Well.”

For nearly every dish, the escargots, served in a steel snail cocotte, ranged from tender to slightly tough (but none rubbery). The Alfredo sauce was scary-rich, but a few teaspoons under six little gastropods let you revisit the forbidden food without drowning in it. The dish came with garlic toast for dipping — good toast and a good match.

The spacious room is a mix of carpeting and tile, Naugahyde booths with starched white linen cloths, and lots of wood and windows. It’s a plush, modern ranch-house style, without a hint of flocked-velvet stuffiness. And it’s quiet. The bar at dead-center has a dropped ceiling, so what happens in the bar stays in the bar. We couldn’t hear a word from the diners around us, while the soft ambient music was a feast for my ears, featuring country blues, ‘60s jazz, ‘70s R&B — from Gus Cannon’s Jug Stompers to Louis Jordan, Muddy Waters, and Bobby Bland.

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We ordered the snails and were offered a choice of preparation: traditional garlic butter or special house Alfredo. “Have it your own way,” he said. We wanted it thick.

A Portobello mushroom topped with crab offered no optional variations and no thrills. The crabs that LG’s uses are a combination of sweet Dungeness and lackluster Snowlake. The crabmeat was served in a thin, red, creamy sauce, decorated with useless carrot curls that replaced the menu’s promised sweet red peppers. We all found the taste flat, despite a touch of cayenne.

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We chose “Jewel in the Crown,” a 20-ounce bone-in Porterhouse that’s dry-aged on the premises for 15 days. (See “About LG’s Beef” in the box below to learn about meat-aging.) For doneness, we chose “Rare Charred,” cool and red in the center, with the exterior charred under the 1300? broiler. It was a truly fabulous hunk of beef — two inches thick, with tender, well-marbled, full-flavored meat under a dark-brown salt-and-pepper crust. “This meat is more flavorful than what I remember at Morton’s or Ruth’s Chris,” said Sam. Oddly, the flesh was salty all the way through, perhaps a concentra-
A thick-cut (two-inch) rib roast is nonetheless tender, although our piece was medium-rare (rosy) rather than rare as ordered, and hence less juicy than we’d hoped. The roast comes with the customary horseradish sauce and au jus.

Every steakhouse must include a few bones to toss to non-beefeaters. The featured dish was a rack of lamb (market price, currently $43.95). Any aging process ten- derizes beef, but different processes change the flavor. Dry-aging consists of hanging the meat in a temperature-controlled meat locker. Contact with air makes the meat shrink, and its surface dries out until about 20% of its weight is lost, giving it its “beefy,” and faintly nutty. Before the meat is cooked, the butcher has to trim off the off-cutting. The shrinkage, makes the meat more expensive per pound. Dry-aging also requires a lot of physical space, another reason few meat purveyors do it. Such a venue is now a luxury item, so hard to find that few Americans have ever tasted it. In wet-aging, large cuts of meat are thoroughly sheathed in air-proof plastic. They, too, are hung in a climate-controlled locker, growing tender — but without the air and the shrinkage, the flavor grows no richer.

A recent variant of wet-aging is Cryovac-aging, a process that’s popular among the meat-cutting and mail-order giants of the Midwest. There, the rib- loins of freshly slaughtered cattle are cut into individual steaks and roasts, vacuum-packed in thick plastic shrink wrap, and frozen. The meat slowly ages inside the frozen pack, often growing remarkably tender but no more flavorful. (In fact, Cryo meats often taste insipid.) When aging is complete, the company ships the frozen meat to the pur-chasers (commercial meat purveyors, restaurant supply houses, and large restaurants.) The advantage is that Cryovac-aged meats are easier and less expensive to send across the country than beef aged by the other two methods. Happily, LG’s doesn’t use Cryovac beef, but ages its own meats the two old-fashioned ways.

### Restaurant Coupons and Menus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Coupon Offers</th>
<th>Menu Offers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Beach Mission Beach Ocean Beach</td>
<td>Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel</td>
<td>$2 off breakfast or lunch</td>
<td>50% off entrée</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broken Yolk</td>
<td>$2 off breakfast or lunch</td>
<td>15% off entrée</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canes’ Cattina</td>
<td>50% off entrée</td>
<td>10% off lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chateau Orleans</td>
<td>$2 off deli/sushi</td>
<td>10% off lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Brava</td>
<td>Free tapa for lunch</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Gourmet</td>
<td>$2 off sandwich or burger</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Moon Buffet</td>
<td>$2 off sandwich or burger</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gringo’s</td>
<td>$2 off weekend breakfast</td>
<td>Free appetizer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Haiku Japanese Steakhouse &amp; Sushi</td>
<td>15% off</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lahaina Beach House</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td>Free appetizer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OB Grille</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Beach Bar Grill</td>
<td>1/2 off sandwich</td>
<td>$1 off Egg Scrambles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PB Sushi</td>
<td>1/2 off sandwich</td>
<td>Egg scrambles half price</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pao Sion Bien</td>
<td>Hard Rock Cafe</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Sandbar Sports Grill</td>
<td>Hornblower Cruises</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
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<td>Taylor’s Restaurant Brewery</td>
<td>Humphrey’s</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yolk’s</td>
<td>Luxor Cafe</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
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<td>Clairemont University City Miramar Rd Poway</td>
<td>McCormick &amp; Schmick’s Seafood Restaurant</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mira Mesa Scripps Ranch Kearny Mesa</td>
<td>Mister Tiki Thai Lounge</td>
<td>Free dessert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashoka the Great</td>
<td>Olé Madrid</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Bombay Coast</td>
<td>Rock Bottom</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Filling Stations</td>
<td>Rockin’ Baja Lobster</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Petizer</td>
<td>Big Baja Bucket</td>
<td>Free appetizer or dessert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madras Cafe</td>
<td>Berta’s</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>20% off entire check</td>
<td>Benning’s</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philadelphia Sandwich Co</td>
<td>Free sandwich</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Sipz Fusion Cafe</td>
<td>Sino</td>
<td>Free appetizer or dessert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sultan Grill</td>
<td>Star of India</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>50% off any plate</td>
<td>Thai Ginger</td>
<td>Free appetizer or dessert</td>
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<td>Thai Café</td>
<td>Thai Restaurant &amp; Bakery</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>$1 off buffet</td>
<td>Tio Leo’s</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Uptown North Park</td>
<td>Thai Soup</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>Harar Ethiopian</td>
<td>Thai Taste</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>$2 off entree</td>
<td>Taste of Italy</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>India Princess</td>
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<td>50% off dinner</td>
<td>Lips</td>
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<td>Panda Park Buffet</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<td>$1 off buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanfilippo’s</td>
<td>Large pizza $11.95</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taste of Italy</td>
<td>Free Greco cheesecake</td>
<td>50% off dinner</td>
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See online menu or coupon for all locations.
Hospital meals? I’m giving them a second chance.
It happened like this: Carla had insisted — again — that we go to Coronado. “Friends,” she said, in that way that told me these friends were about 20 kudos-levels above us. “They’re lovely people,” she said. “Have this lovely place. Travertine marble floors…”

“I like the ‘chick—when-you-walk-on-it’ type of marble?”

“Bedford, Bedford, has it been that long since you’ve enjoyed the privilege of marble beneath your feet?”

We walked up to the door, knocked, saw that big orange flag hanging outside main entrance. Something about her arm, and her leg.

Fast-forward. She’s looking up at me from a Sharp Coronado Hospital bed, while I’m trying to cook from here to kingdom come? — the makeup she’s insisted that I bring from home. I’m about to start that stupid “choo-choo” routine when I see sweat beads on her forehead. Oh man, she’s hurting.

“Get it out of here. I can’t eat.”

I pull the tray back. But…someone has to honor this meal. So I shake up the bottle of Boost, a vitamin concoction, and give it a try. Vanilla, milky. Not bad. Down in two gulps. Then I take the plastic lid off the little mug of turkey rice soup. Mmm. Honest, homey nourishment. And yes, with that first scoop of chicken pot pie, I do feel like a scavenging hyena. Ohmygod. “Sweetheart. You’ve got to try this! It’s grrr-eat! Chicken, carrots, spuds, peas…I dunno. Maybe it’s the combo. Or maybe it’s the…” — I read from the menu — “‘creamy pot pie gravy.’ Whatever, it’s terrific.”

It really is. I can imagine some white wine in this little sucker.

“Give me one spoonful,” says Carla. “Okay. Here comes the choo-choo…”

“Can it, Bedford!”

But she takes the spoonful. For a moment, her eyes go soft. “Not bad, Jeep. First decent hospital food in my life, and you get to eat it. You have all the luck.”

In a way she’s right, because in the days since, I’ve come for breakfast, lunch, and dinner — just to help her out, you understand. Carla doesn’t get more than half down — and the food is always pretty good. Like, yesterday’s breakfast was a banana, cranberry juice, oatmeal, scrambled eggs on English muffin with, okay, margarine, and a cup of coffee. Carla doesn’t get more than half down. Dinner last night was cracked pepper Parmesan chicken breast with orogeno, basil, and olive oil. Darned tasty meal. Dessert was a fine angel food cake and fresh fruit. Sometimes it’s a little stark, like the chicken fajita, which wasn’t bad, but we should have had the Yankee pot roast. But, sigh, it’s Carla’s choice — she’s the patient.

“Bedford,” she said, after the little discussion we had over her picking the fajitas, “if I wasn’t in love with you, I’d suspect you were only being this attentive to get free meals.”

“Course I fell back in shock. Though, actually, we’ve eaten here before, downstairs at Cathie’s Place, the open-to-the-public staff cafeteria. I’d heard it was run by Marriott. Well, turns out the whole hospital is fed by Marriott. That explains a lot.

Only two problems now: one, Carla’s getting her appetite back — my portions are shrinking like an African watering hole in a drought; and two, as soon as she gets out, guess who’s gonna have to cook from here to kingdom come? ♦

The Place: Sharp Coronado Hospital, 250 Prospect Place, Coronado, 619-522-3800
Type of Food: American
Prices: All free. Typical breakfast: cranberry juice, fruit cup, oatmeal or Raisin Bran, scrambled eggs or scrambled-egg substitute or pancakes, muffins or cinnamon coffee cake, coffee; typical lunch: turkey rice soup or tossed garden salad appetizer, BBQ chopped-beef sandwich or chicken pot pie, or a chicken-salad sandwich entrée, fruit cocktail dessert; typical dinner: cream of broccoli soup, chicken breast entrée, whipped potatoes, green beans, angel food cake and fresh fruit dessert
Hours: 6:45 a.m. (breakfast), 11:45 a.m. (lunch), 4:45 p.m. (dinner), daily
Bus: 904
Ferry: Coronado ferry
Nearest Bus Stop: outside main entrance
Nearest Ferry Stop: ferry landing at First and C.

Hyena Pie

“Now I have you in my power. You will do everything I say, capesesh?”

But the poor girl’s in pain. Real pain. “Cut to the chase, Bedford. You want my meal, right?”

As it happens, there is this tray of, like, health drinks, coffee, fruit, a dinner roll, and a big mystery meal under a green plastic-plate cover. The plate underneath seems to float in hot water.

“Well, just to help you out, sweetheart. Why don’t I play father and feed you. ‘Here comes the choo-choo train!’ One mouthful, then daddy takes one to show it’s okay. Okay?”

“Have it, have it. You’re such a gent. God, this hurts.” She turns to the nurse. “Get me some morphine, for Chrissakes!”

As it happens, there is this tray of, like, health drinks, coffee, fruit, a dinner roll, and a big mystery meal under a green plastic-plate cover. The plate underneath seems to float in hot water.

“I pull the tray back. But…someone has to honor this meal. So I shake up the bottle of Boost, a vitamin concoction, and give it a try. Vanilla, milky. Not bad. Down in two gulps. Then I take the plastic lid off the little mug of turkey rice soup. Mmm. Honest, homey nourishment. And yes, with that first scoop of chicken pot pie, I do feel like a scavenging hyena. Ohmygod. ‘Sweetheart. You’ve got to try this! It’s grrr-eat! Chicken, carrots, spuds, peas…I dunno. Maybe it’s the combo. Or maybe it’s the...’ — I read from the menu — ‘creamy pot pie gravy.’ Whatever, it’s terrific.’

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Bus: 904
Ferry: Coronado ferry
Nearest Bus Stop: outside main entrance
Nearest Ferry Stop: ferry landing at First and C.
Master Punster

“What had I accomplished in a life as brief as the turn of a screw?”

Midway through a bonny career that I had plied. I found myself lost, not (of course) in a copse of new wood, but rather, I awoke to grasp that I had put a great dream aside.

So begins Part 1 (The Vinferno) of the De Canon Commedia by Al Dente Allegory. Mr. Allegory bears more than a passing resemblance to one Randall Graham, master punster and proprietor of the increasingly esoteric Bonny Doon wine empire. This is not entirely surprising; I discovered De Canon I-V of the book masquerading as the first part of Bonny Doon’s spring newsletter. The Commedia, says Graham, an honest(ish) account of “my own personal crisis. Whither Bonny Doon? Whither Randall? Will I ever find a way of doing the things that really, truly satisfy my soul?”

At first, our narrator is confused about what those things are. At first, he fears only for “what might remain when I was bonny no more.” He knows that. Hence the pun. Also, perhaps, the mainstreaming of dry pink wine in the US, via his Vin Gris de Cigare. And...oh, enough.)

But fate is only the shadow of the immortality he seeks. After avoiding the Giant Southern Leopardo (heh), the Yellow Tailed Lion (heh heh), and even the Spectacular She-Wolf (oh, very sly), he runs into M. André Noblet, “the legendary cellarmaster of DRC.” Domaine Romanée-Conti is the holy of holies for Pinot Noir, and Pinot Noir is the reason Graham got into winemaking — the great dream he had put aside.

Deep in my bones was a feeling that was haunting.

“When then are you taking me, cher maître?”

“You wish to master pinot, to ascend the steepest mountain?”

“The way up is the way doon, peut-être.”

These words had a rather harrowing effect. I steeled myself for great pain, torture, anguish, etc.

And rightly so. Noblet warns our poet/wine-maker about the perils of chasing fame:

“You shall hear the anguished cries and moans of all those who sought to make wines très flatteurs, of all those who sought to make wines truly kissable. From those who sought to make wines très flatteurs, Producers of all ilk: burgs and clarets, Rhones... For them the highest point score was all that mattered.

What availeth a score of ninety-five when one looth one’s soul and a sense of place is shattered?

The sense of place, the soil — Graham’s real terror is never finding terroir. As Noblet puts it: “It is the rare epiphanous moment that we must glean.

When we somehow become more than mere vignerons And instead become the content of the Great Terroir’s inspired dream.”

Now that’s immortality, and it’s what Graham has decided to pursue. “I feel at this point, I do need — at the minimum — to make a wine that expresses terroir. Or at least to make an effort to do so. I may or may not succeed, but I will make a sincere effort.”

That’s strong talk coming from Graham. Lawrence Osborne’s book The Accidental Connoisseur came out in 2004; in it, Graham sets himself up against Ridge Vineyards’s Paul Draper, whom he terms “the apostle of terroir. Its high priest in America. I’m his opposite because I’m the agnostic of terroir. I’m like the agnostic who’s agonized by the absence of God. I wish we had terroir. But we don’t. I’d like to make a terroir wine before I die. But who knows if I will?”

Back then, he talked about the ridiculous expense of getting a vineyard to give up its terroir. “Helen Turley tells me that it costs $60,000 to make a terroir wine. Low yields, withholding water — it’s ruinous for us, impossible. And you’re spending all this money with no certain outcome, on land with no history.” Back then, he was talking about micro-oxygenation as a way of getting terroir.

He says now: “It’s still looking for the Holy Grail of terroir!” Still looking for “that special place.” All it took was the discovery of a limestone-rich mountain vineyard and a guided tour of Vinferno, the wine hell, to set his feet back on the true path.
It is, naturally, the road less traveled by. "Most people really don't care about terroir," says Graham. "They want the wine to taste good." The two are of course not mutually exclusive, but if all you care about is the latter, you may find yourself sacrificing the former. "Robert Parker certainly doesn't care about terroir. Wine Spectator certainly doesn't care. They want it to taste a certain way, to conform to their image of what excellent wine should taste like.

And here is where the theology of hell gets complicated. De Coteau v. sees the poet wandering among the analogues of Dante’s virtuous pagans — good men who never received the grace of Christ and so remain in a place of natural, but not supernatural, happiness. Explain's Noblet:

This is Wine Limbo, where resides the brilliant vigneron of lore, Masters who came B.S. (Before Spectator) and were never awarded a Masters who came B.S. (Be-

explained the redemption. Fault! — the fall is what occa-

sioned the redemption. A skilful play sometimes creates

with a mad personal quest for authenticity to the products we're producing, including all-

broad daylight ranging from really cheap cheap top sirloin steak and sausage gravy to a pretty
to a prettily simple potato skin and egg. For leg of the bass-cream cheddar burger with fruit is a good surprise combo. The cranberry-sausage salad burger is also good, and the spinach salad, with ham,

price estimates are based on the latest variety of alcoholic beverages. The French equivalent. You'll find much more of a taste for fresher, more modern California cuisine in a beau-

ness of California cuisine in a beautifully presented with none of the culi-

than the French equivalent. You'll find

failafelburger. Its green "meat" is made

own invention: the scrumptious Roxy
dish property in the hills. But the vegan-

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sunny day breakfast ranging from really cheap

to six twists on lean charbroiled

we turn our thoughts to our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara

are recommended listings written by

Michoacan salad" and a tasty dip for the meat, along with less-than-great egg-

lyons and wedge salad. A list
day of the week. Reserve for the

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a menu with outstanding appetizers and pasta dishes. There are many unusual preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. A winner. — E.W.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Bamboo Hut

7927 Black Mountain Village, 92121 Mira Mesa Boulevard (one drive-by west of Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa Malls: 760-489-5814). You'll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that's all mall. The bright little "hut" has bamboo chairs, a bamboo dining area, red floors, and tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a mangi grill. A large lattice awning offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though — this is not the place to try your first Spam sushi. The sushi itself is good, though, including the Rainbow Roll — a thick, sweet roll; the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and bonito. "Local food" choices include a tasty ahi salad and excellent chicken katsu; the kalbi (short ribs) are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrées (price according) with steamed or mildly garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, coleslaw, and a side. In the kitchen, baking is a la French. Be sure they deliver what you ordered; there may be styling. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. — E.W. (843-0303)

Center City Cafe

8208 Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Center City Parkway), Escondido, 760-741-6666. This used to be a pleasant little "moderately" north of Lake Hodges, this restaurant has a menu with outstanding appetizers and pasta dishes. There are many unusual preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. A winner. — E.W.
All-You-Can-Eat Mesquite-Broiled Meats from $13.75*

*Lunch special price Monday-Friday 11 am-2 pm.

The Churrasco is a Brazilian feast that is revolutionizing steak house dining in the U.S. One low price allows you to eat over ten types of grilled meats accompanied by mouth-watering typical dishes and a huge salad buffet. Skewer after skewer of mesquite-broiled cuts will arrive at your table until you say, “I QUIT!”

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**Café Sevilla**

**San Diego**

- **Address**: 129 3rd Ave, San Diego, CA 92101
- **Phone**: 619-234-5789
- **Website**: www.cafesevilla.com

**Description**: Famous for its large, cheerful sushi bar and gourmet tapas menu. Known for its artistic, inventive cuisine. Preparations follow the conventions of contracts in sophisticated cuisine — sweet vs. salty, soft vs. crunchy, hot vs. cold. From the complexity of grilled salmon over pea greens, baby lettuces, sticky rice, and jalapeño to the tradition of lamb chops, Kensington Grill proves a talented, hard-working kitchen. Open for dinner nightly. Moderate. — M.S. (8/09)

**Rainy Day Restaurant**

- **Address**: 717 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92101
- **Phone**: 619-285-9722
- **Website**: www.rainydayrestaurant.com

**Description**: You'll find richly seasoned (and potentially very spicy) Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake, injera, which looks like an edible cloth towel and serves as both an edible spoon and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up mouthfuls in your right hand.) The meat combination platter here isn’t nearly as exciting as several of the specialties. The spicy (spicy fish tartare) is very good, the grilled goat meat cubes (in spicy sauce) is excellent, both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order, and seasoned to your specifications (if you say “hot,” expect fire). Vegetables are fine, too, the yellow split peas, especially, sing with flavor. Rest rooms not wheelchair accessible. Vegetarian-friendly. Can be noisy on weekend evenings. Open daily. Very inexpensive. — M.S. (12/09)

**Big Kitchen**

- **Address**: 300 Grape St (between 30th Street and Fes Street), San Diego, CA 92103
- **Phone**: 619-234-5789

**Description**: This isn’t just a restaurant, it’s the social center of the universe — and justly. The “Beautiful Tres” (three walls) in its upper space. Flaming hot for the Fes Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for distinguishing healthy dishes like Judy’s Favorite (spinach, mushrooms, sherry, and eggs). Our favorite: the avocado cream cheese, and chives omlet. Vegans’ fare may be the “veggie option” — sautéed spinach, mushrooms, onions, chiltepen, brown rice, tofu, and toasted garlic. Her cooks make pretty much everything on the setup, including muffins, souffles, and pancakes. While you’re waiting, they already have this “out there” eclectic crowd, plus waffles filled with pictures and food more like “Will be President For Food.” Breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. most days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

**Chicken Pie Shop of San Diego**

- **Address**: 2633 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, San Diego, CA 92110
- **Phone**: 619-295-0156

**Description**: Started up, the basic chicken pie comes into the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, stained glass — as long as you agree to say “please don’t steal the forks.” But Irish? Even the oddest girl is its queen. Blame her for the Fern Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for mentioning that “out there” eclectic crowd, like “Will Be President For Food.” breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. most days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

**Gorditas**

- **Address**: 3924 West Point Loma Blvd., San Diego, CA 92117
- **Phone**: 619-234-5789

**Description**: How much do people love this place? Count the chickens lining the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, painted, even feathered. Hundreds. They're gifts from generations of customers. No, as in, as the 1930s when it started up, the basic chicken pie comes into the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, stained glass — as long as you agree to say “please don’t steal the forks.” But Irish? Even the oddest girl is its queen. Blame her for the Fern Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for mentioning that “out there” eclectic crowd, like “Will Be President For Food.” breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. most days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

**Real Food Classic American**

- **Address**: 8030 Girard Avenue overlooking La Jolla Cove, CA 92037
- **Phone**: 858-459-0040
- **Website**: www.codysla.jolla.com

**Description**: This is the largest gathering of experts on American cuisine — Over 150 items daily. We use 100% vegetable oil. No MSG. The latest selection — Over 150 items daily. We use 100% vegetable oil. No MSG.

**All You Can Eat**

- **Address**: 1840 Garnet Ave., Pacific Plaza 2 Center, CA 92109
- **Phone**: 858-273-6868

**Description**: 15% OFF TOTAL BILL — Seniors from 4-11 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 8/18/05

**Buffet To Go**

- **Address**: 1840 Garnet Ave., Pacific Plaza 2 Center, CA 92109
- **Phone**: 858-273-6868

**Description**: Lunch $7.20 - Dinner $10.20 per Pax. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 8/25/05

**Three must-haves at this Cheif**

- **Grilled chicken tikka skewer**
- **Spicy Diablo**
- **Kung Pao Chicken**

Inexpensive. — M.S. (8/10)

**Rancho Santa Fe**

- **Address**: 7170 La Jolla Village Dr., La Jolla, CA 92037
- **Phone**: 858-969-4210

**Description**: This is the largest gathering of experts on American cuisine — Over 150 items daily. We use 100% vegetable oil. No MSG.

**All You Can Eat**

- **Address**: 1840 Garnet Ave., Pacific Plaza 2 Center, CA 92109
- **Phone**: 858-273-6868

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- **Kung Pao Chicken**

Inexpensive. — M.S. (8/10)
little tritattou (with adjoining bar) is young, with a chef, the first of many, new dishes into a menu stuffed with local favorites. The theme is Tuscan American, shrimp involtini alongside applewood-smoked pork salt (the latter, especially, is a smoke, nutty tongue tickler. The pizzas are outstanding — such a lovely, airy, cold, creamy salt-and-pepper. A few rounds of pepperoni! Entrees change with the seasons. Desserts are big and sweet. When the weather’s fine, dine on the patio and watch the sun drop light over the pines and hills. Daily lunch and dinner, plus Sunday brunch. Expensive.

Palapa’s Oasis. Syrian-Cins, 3469 Casino Way, Dehesa, 619-445-6602. Forget garnishing — gumbos/chowders, shrimp tortilla stacks till you pass under two huge elegant fans. The “Joo and the Volcano” style place with a fountain to gurgling in the center is Palapa’s. Pay the woman. Now decide: a lot of a little, or a little of a lot. The huge salad bar is surrounded by a gowing U-shaped table laden with everything from peel ’n eat shrimp to baked to certified Black Angus prime rib. Keep coming back. Save them from throwing away this stuff end up with, say, strawberry cheesecake and tuba. As for the other numerics, you’ve gotten a return on your money. Moderate. — E.B. (1002)

UP TOWN & OLD TOWN

Blue Water Seafood Market and Grill. 967 India Street, midtown, 619-497-7014. This bright, clean charner a half-block south of El Indio (look for dentist’s sign) has a small, unassuming identity. First, it’s a rat fish market; second, it’s from Whole Foods, this is a nice restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood south of I-8 and west of City Heights. If you order oysters, don’t miss the big, buttery rounds of pepperoni! The menu includes the usual suspects (burritos, tacos, etc.), plus slightly less common items (chicken mole, mescal, chile relleno). Excellent house-made corn tortillas help the standard fare to better approximate the dine-in. So do the sublime corn flavors of the meats — the chicken in the tacos, the pork in the carnitas verdes, the beef on the enchiladas. The corn advice sports a pleasant spice, and the beans have a beautiful intensity. Less heavenly seasonings (especially paprika and salt) tend to the heavy side. Over all, handy. Breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — A.M. (1101)

El Zarape. 4642 Pacific Boulevard, University Heights, 619-492-1652. This stylish little Mexican restaurant on a trendy stretch of Pacific Boulevard is proof that not all taco shop food is equal. Try a shredded beef or chicken taco or tostada and you’ll know what we mean, with its genuinely juicy, slow-cooked meat. Many Mexican American favorites (tamales, camarones a la diabla, vegetarian potato-filled burritos and rolled tacos, and well-prepared salsas) are on the menu, and the bar stocks over 200 tequilas. The El Zarape is dependable, serving Mexican family-style cooking, basic, hearty, 100% Mexican food. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — E.R. (1001)

El Agave. 2304 India Street (at Old Town Avenue), Old Town, 619-299-8406. Diners recommend wheelchair access. windshield, complete access to the service, including bathroom. The 23rd Street dining room has a small, unassuming identity. First, it’s a rat fish market; second, it’s from Whole Foods, this is a nice restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood south of I-8 and west of City Heights. If you order oysters, don’t miss the big, buttery rounds of pepperoni! The menu includes the usual suspects (burritos, tacos, etc.), plus slightly less common items (chicken mole, mescal, chile relleno). Excellent house-made corn tortillas help the standard fare to better approximate the dine-in. So do the sublime corn flavors of the meats — the chicken in the tacos, the pork in the carnitas verdes, the beef on the enchiladas. The corn advice sports a pleasant spice, and the beans have a beautiful intensity. Less heavenly seasonings (especially paprika and salt) tend to the heavy side. Over all, handy. Breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — A.M. (1101)

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douses — over 100 of the far-flung offerings are available by the glass and you can assemble your own three glass-tasting flights. Prime steaks are the main event, perfectly cooked and well-sea-soned. For the Key Lime pie for dessert — custard and full of limey bite. Val, et voila, very good. Very expensive. — A.M. (10/02)

Gen Lai Sen Hakka Seafood Restaurant
551 Market Street, downtown, 619-234-5074. This second — and the best items are nonbeef: the cold dishes of white fish and seafood, the crispy rectangles with a pork meatball inside and the noodles (especially “house special” dumplings that taste like home cooking (best ordered by the glass). The counter crew is friendly, and may just change your mind about Chinese food. — M.N. (3/00)

Strip Club
340 Fifth Avenue (at 1st Street), Gaslamp, 619-239-3140. This grill-your-own steak joint is a homage to the Strip Club, but if Turf is a low-budget indie cult film, Strip Club is the “Hollywood Monarchville.” Hungry handsome, and if the USDA Choice filet mignon is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochere of the adjacent Hotel Solamar. — K.S. (11/02)

South Bay & Coronado

Azzurra Point
Locates Coronado Beach, 4427 El Cajon Blvd. (Shore Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-4000 or 619-424-4077. The quietly luxurious dining room with a scenic waterfront view is romantic and a hit downtown. It’s not just for tourists, but a lovely evening getaway for locals. The California-French cuisine with an occasional Hawaiian touch emphasizes seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations. Along with a multi-course chef’s tasting menu and a carte-dîner, “the sea spa” dinner show is fantastic. — E.B. (11/03)

Beach Cafe
Ferry Landing Marketplace, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-3900. The Beach Cafe here has California’s typical dumbed-down waterfront-athlete array, plus salads, pasta, grilled meats, a few sauté items and station. They’re generous with dishes like fried clams and mushrooms. Entrées come with salad and a few side dishes. — E.B. (2/03)

Osteria Panevino
Corner of Fifth Avenue and Island Avenue, downtown. (No phone.) (415) 495-2690. The Osteria Club. This place is one of my favorites in Coronado. Even if kielbasa proves a lame substitute on the menu, the counter guys also make hot dogs, chili dogs, meat loaf, stuffed cabbage, and roast chicken. The counter guys also make hot dogs, chili dogs, meat loaf, stuffed cabbage, and roast chicken. — M.N. (7/03)

Gourmets and politicians come to the dogs! — N.W. (10/01)

50% OFF
Buy one entrée and two beverages, get second entrée 50% off — Lamb Shank and Dolmades! Available only – Lamb Shank and Dolmades! Available only. — M.N. (3/00)

San Diego’s fallen musical genius Daniela, an artist from Bulgaria, started this evening-to-late-night food cart right outside this wonderful little down-home Southern delight. Try the airy, sweet potato’ boy (with big juicy oysters and fried onions). Other specialties are available by the glass and you must come early to get first carvings and tons of fois’s! Perfect for Coronado, pretty decent eats. — N.W. (1/00)

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FREE entrée
Sat. & Sun. lunch only!
Buy one entrée, get second of equal or lesser value at current price and receive second pizza or calzone 50% off — Except Fridays. Expires 8/18/05.

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1520 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach
$2.00 OFF Any menu item
*Offer not good with any other promotions or specials.

We are THE dog-friendly deli in Little Italy. We serve everything, all the time.


Prime steaks are the main event at Golden Hill’s Turf Supper Club — a grill-your-own steak joint is a homage to the Strip Club. The counter crew is friendly, and if the USDA Choice filet mignon is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochere of the adjacent Hotel Solamar. — K.S. (11/02)

Le Halibut
2500 Pacific Street (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-595-7959. The food here is particularly good, with peppers, onions, and meats rich in Portobello mushrooms. Entrees come with salad and pulpy, cut-yourself garlic bread, resembling hamburger buns with gi-ant-sized. Six veggie and starch dishes (including two types of garlic mashed potatoes) are available at extra cost; dessert bars are commercial ice cream novelties and the Greene’ss plat-ter of potatos. Dessert tray available. Over 21 only, no reservations accepted. Dinners Tuesday through Saturday nights, open late on weekends. Inex- pensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Vida Cart
Center of Fifth Avenue and Island Avenue, downtown. (No phone.) Golden 88’s deli in Little Italy. This is a popular little place, with an occasional Hawaiian touch emphasizing seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations. Al-though with a multi-course chef’s tasting menu and a carte-dîner, “the sea spa” dinner show is fantastic. — E.B. (11/03)

Try the 7 most popular dishes & more, all for one price
Try the 7 most popular dishes & more, all for one price

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Miso Soup, salad, mixed vegetables, shrimp appetizer and rice (steamed or fried)

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3 pancakes, 3 eggs, 3 sausage

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2 drinks
*With purchase of 1 buffet and 2 drinks per family/group:

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Spicy Tuna Roll

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Buddha River

California Roll
Rainbow Roll
Spicy Tuna Roll

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2nd Dinner
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Little Italy

2nd Dinner
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We offer you the best sushi & sashimi in San Diego

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I’m not much of a Jim Jarmusch fan. Check that. Not anything of a Jim Jarmusch fan. More of a Jim Jarmusch bare tolerator. But Broken Flowers, his latest and surely his main-streamiest, gave me a lot of laughs, even allowing that the first of those was a laugh at his pretentiousness, a laugh at his opening dedication of the film to Jean Eustache. It is doubtful whether many of his really rabid fans will recognize the name of the French film aficionado, ascetic aesthete, Cahiers du Cinéma groupie, unprolific director of The Mother and the Whore and a few others, a suicide at the age of forty-two, or whether they will be moved hereafter to investigate his œuvre, or whether that in turn can shed much light on Jarmusch’s own œuvre, any more than was shed by his earlier salute, for example, to Yasujiro Ozu.

Still, it can do no harm to point his followers in that direction, though it can do less good than to point them in Ozu’s. The latter grants access to a busier road.

The pretension does not stop there. It persists, more or less throughout, in the cinéma d’ennui pacing, and rears up with a vengeance in the deliberately dissatisfying ending. In a race between tortoise and tortoise, Jarmusch might have some difficulty crossing the finish line behind Antonioni in his prime, or kicking up quite so thick a cloud of mystification. But it would be short odds. Laughs are laughs, nonetheless, and once they have fought through the pretentiousness, they cannot be wiped off the scoreboard. (Another impediment to be fought through, another potential wet blanket, is an image a shade or two dark and dreary.) The idea of the film is a simple one and an immediately appealing one. We start with “an over-the-hill Don Juan” (words of a huffily departing girlfriend) by the name of Don Johnston (“with a ‘t,’” he must frequently tell skeptical new acquaintances), a man of leisure who made a bundle in computers. More precisely, we start, in straightforward brass-tacks manner, with a pink envelope dropped by an anonymous hand into an anonymous mailbox outside an anonymous post office, followed through the sorting process, onto an airplane, into the bag of a pedestrian carrier, and through the slot in the front door of our Don Juan, as he sits on his couch watching — what else? — The Private Life of Don Juan on his plasma television. The envelope contains an unsigned typewritten letter from a former lover, informing him that he has a nineteen-year-old son bent on tracking him down. At the urging of his mystery-buff neighbor (an unlikely neighbor in so swanky a suburb, a West Indian family man with three menial jobs and more than that many children), he draws up a list of possible suspects from the pertinent time period — a list of five, one now deceased, scattered across the country, as revealed through a search of the Internet — and sets out to track them down, pre-emptively, and to smoke out the source of the letter. Counseled by the mystery buff to keep an eye peeled for clues in pink, he will find the color everywhere he goes: pink chairs, pink earrings, pink bathrobe, pink business card, pink typewriter (ah-ha!), etc. And can it be a mere coincidence that the dead dog of one of his exes will have the

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same name — Winston — as the mys- 
tery buff himself! The itinerary of our amateur sleuth 
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Jacopo Castelvecchi’s disheartening remake of Fingers improves on James Toback’s all-thumbs rendition. Not hard to do. The single-minded, Roman Duri, is ug- 
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barely fitting into his mouth; and he man- 
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Howdy—in the very much hyped world of play, so much that those in the know have to giggle to keep from crying, the domain of the so-called plastic idiot who has no idea of how much bigger a human head is compared to a human arm, and who—along with the ever so slightly more intelligent one—has no clue that the human body is a complex, multi-layered, and highly evolved system. But let us not get ahead of ourselves. The beginning takes place in a small town where a closely monitored populace (Carmel Mountain; Chula Vista; Del Mar; Escondido; Galena, IL; Enmore, MA; Enmore, ME; Enmore, MI; Enmore, MN; Enmore, NH; Enmore, NV; Enmore, OH; Enmore, OR; Enmore, PA; Enmore, WA; Enmore, WY) is being subjected to a variety of tests and procedures that are designed to alter their perception of reality. The tests include the use of special equipment that can manipulate the brain and the body, as well as the use of drugs that can cause hallucinations and other psychoactive effects.

The main character, a 20-year-old man named Ben, is one of the test subjects. He is given the task of observing and reporting on the behavior of the other test subjects, who include a group of adolescents and young adults. Ben quickly learns that the tests are not just for the benefit of the subjects themselves, but also for the benefit of the researchers, who are using the information to develop new techniques for controlling the human mind.

As the story unfolds, Ben begins to question the motives of the researchers and the nature of the tests themselves. He is joined by a group of other test subjects who also begin to question the experiments, and together they form a resistance movement to halt the testing and to expose the researchers' true intentions.

One of the key elements of the story is the use of technology, both in the form of the special equipment used in the tests and in the form of the digital world that the characters inhabit. The digital world is a place where the boundaries between the real and the virtual are blurred, and where the characters must navigate a complex network of relationships and interactions.

The story is also characterized by a strong sense of direction and momentum. The characters are always moving forward, always striving to achieve their goals, and always facing new challenges and obstacles. This sense of movement is enhanced by the use of a variety of storytelling techniques, including flashbacks, flash forwards, and dream sequences.

Overall, the story is a thought-provoking and engaging exploration of the nature of reality and the role of technology in shaping our world.
King Kong is the elephant seal who seizes the moment. An unlucky-in-love romantic trifle about living in the moment. An unlucky-in-love Frenchman plays cupid for a Nigerian man about to be wed and a Hispanic woman involved with a stuffy Brit.

**THE HEBSREW HAMMER** (USA) 2003, Paramount

List price: $19.99

**JUMP TOMORROW** (England) 2001, MGM

List price: $19.98


List price: $26.98

**BAD BOYS II** (USA) 2004, Twentieth Century Fox

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List price: $29.98

**HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG** (USA) 2003, Dreamworks

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**THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES** (Canada) 1980–1987, CBC Radio Canada

List price: $49.99 (four discs)

**ALLEGRO NON TROPPO** (Italy) 1977, Home Vision Entertainment

List price: $29.95

**THE ANIMATION SHOW, VOLUME ONE** (International) 2003, www.animationshow.com

List price:$39.95

**MARK TITLE**

Director, BestFest America, www.BestFestAmerica.com

I’m an avid collector of short films. The **Man Who Planted Trees Deluxe Edition** contains the inspiring and delightful shorts of world-renowned master of animation Frédérick Back, including his heart-warming “The Man Who Planted Trees” and “Cacti!”

Allegro Non Troppo, a 1977 animated Italian spoof of classic Disney’s *Spacey*, is beautifully hilarious. Favorite short includes “Slavic Dance,” the story of a man who hates copycats, and “Bolero,” the evolution of life from a Coke bottle left on the moon. The Animation Show, Volume One includes the brilliant German short “Das Rad (The Wheel),” with two talking rocks on a mountaintop watching the rise and fall of civilization.

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Must Love Dogs — Hen-party atmos- phere for a romantic comedy wherein the sisters of an Irish-Catholic divorce push their younger sister into an arranged marriage. Diane Lane seems too good for the shifty John Caasus (“You seem very prac- tical and categorically not what I’m looking for”). Though Lane doesn’t act like a man who’s fan- tasy movie would be Doctor Zhivago, and too good, the combination has the promise of a decent movie. Not men too good for too fast the shuffle of date- from-his-life Court. Too good, really, for the movie in toto. With Elizabeth Perkins, Christopher Plummer, and Stockard Chan- ning, directed by Gary David Goldberg, 2005.

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★ RANCHO SAN DIEGO

San Diego Reader | Calendar of Movies | 35

MOVIE SHOWTIMES
Some Like It Hot — In the heyday of Billie Wilder’s career, there is an evident pull toward the romantic and euphoric (Love in the Afternoon, I Love a Lazy Afternoon, and so on). If the effect had not taken hold so fast, it might have been merely disappointing instead of shocking. The scene, a very late scene, gives a taste of what we would have expected from a satisfactory sequel when Blanche comes into Marianne’s bedroom in the grip of the night sweats (at the Hour of the Wolf, if you know your Bergman), and crawls into her bed to seek comfort from his glimpse of the abyss. For the rest, it’s hard not to hear a broader implication when Marianne sits up, “This was a mistake.” Borge Ahlstedt, Julia Dufrennis. 2004.

Grossmont Center; Horton Plaza 14; La Jolla 12; Mira Mesa 18; Mission Marketplace 12; Mission Valley 20; Oceanside 10; Palomar Promenade 24; Parkway Plaza 28; Poway 10; Rancho del Rey 18; Rancho San Diego 15; San Marcos 18; Towner Square 14; Vista Village.

Shrek 2 — Another dose of foam-rubber animation, rapacious capitalism, main-stream hipnosis, and coy vulgarity (“It looks like we’re up Chocolate Creek without a popsicle stick”). Viewers of the forerunner will know what they are in for, and will have only themselves to blame. One new character, Puss in Boots, is well drawn despite coughing up a hairball or soliciting poor-kitty pity, and well voiced by Antonio Banderas. With the returning voices of Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy — co-directed by Adam Shankman, Kelly Asbury, and Conrad Vernon. 2004.

★ (Escondido 18; Mira Mesa 18; Oceanview 18; Oceanside 18; Parkway Plaza 18; Rancho del Rey 18; Rancho San Diego 15; San Marcos 18; B-9 and 10; D-2.)

Sin City — Comic-book burlesque of the hard-boiled film noir, tougher than tough, cooler than cool, bloodier than bloody, sillier than silly. Robert Rodriguez adapted it — or more accurately, copied it — from Frank Miller’s series of graphic novels, and he insisted, to the point of resigning from the Director’s Guild, on sharing the directing credit with Miller (besides bringing in his buddy, Quentin Tarantino, as a “guest director” of unspecified services). Different first-person narrator guides us through the different, dovetailed storylines, but always with the same hammed-up tone of voice: “I’m gonna find that son of a bitch that killed you, and I’m gonna give him the hard goodbye.” The baroque black-and-white photography, with digital dabs of color for a red dress, green eyes, blue eyes, golden hair, etc., may at first be “visually arresting” (thank you, Newsweek), but over the long haul it’s visually imprisoning. Bruce Willis, Mickey Rourke, Cameron Diaz, Benicio Del Toro, Jessica Alba, Brittany Murphy, Carla Gugino, Jaime King, Rosario Dawson, Alexa Bledel, Michael Madsen, Elfhead Wood, Nick Stahl, Powers Boothe. 2005.

★ (Gainsville 15.)

Sky High — Kurt Russell goes back to his beginnings — silly Disney family films, this one a sort of live-action version of The Incredibles, with Russell and Kelly Preston as the superhero parents (realness by day) of a “late bloomer” who in his freshman year at the elite prep school must be assigned to a “clique” of other such heroes (realness by night), and in any event it’s several degrees more human than The Incredibles. With Michael Angarano, Danielle Panabaker, Maksim Birk, Elizabeth Winstead, Lynda Carter and Bruce Campbell, directed by Mike Mitchell. 2005.

★ (Chico Vista; Chula Vista 10; Del Mar Highlands 8; Encinitas 8; Escondido 18; Fashion Valley 18; Galaxy 9.)

Spielberg makes damn good and sure that new zeal. Still, the decision to re-do the seminal alien-invasion story, rather than to do a new one, tends to raise the familiar specter of Spielbergian arrogance. In spite of the glorious gun-and-gramps cameos for Gene Barry and Ann Robinson, the two stars of the commendable 1953 treatment of the novel, there is the inescapable implication that this version didn’t have the wherewithal to do the job right. No matter how eye-popping Spielberg’s special effects may be, no matter how much “improved” over those of a half-century ago, we are at every turn confronted by his belief in the almighty dollar, his inflation with size, his complacent certainty that bigger is always better, and his dependence on mere loudness and suddenness to elicit a response from his audience. And his trusty old device of the temporary death, the take-y-backy death, the just-fooling death, would indicate that his penitence for E.T. lasts a little more in cinematic Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning, Tim Robbins.

★ (Carroll Mountain; Chula Vista 10; Del Mar Highlands 8; Encinitas 8; Escondido 18; Fashion Valley 18; Grossmont Center; Horton Plaza 14; La Jolla 12; Mira Mesa 18; Mission Marketplace 12; Mission Valley 20; Oceanview 18; Palomar Promenade 24; Parkway Plaza 28; Poway 10; Rancho del Rey 18; Rancho San Diego 15; San Marcos 18; Towner Square 14; Vista Village.)

Wedding Crashers — It starts out as a meh-behaving-badly skit about a couple of skirt-chasing carbs who drop in on weddings to pick up susceptible gals and promptly drop them. After a freighted montage of their modus operandi, however, the action settles into a perfectly conventional romantic comedy, hitting all the expected spots at all the expected times, as our two dads — the equally expected Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson, who earlier worked with the director, David Dobkin, on Clay Pigeons and Shanghai Knights respectively — discover their true soul mates, two sisters for added convenience, aphony virgin slash nymphomaniac slash bondage girl (Isla Fisher) and a rancher (Rachel McAdams) who reveals her superior sensibility by giggling uncontrolably at the self-written verses of their older sister and new brother-in-law. The funny business, in what amounts merely to a newer version, is pushed to extremes of craziness and grossness that you feel as if the laughs are being extracted not by feather tickles but by thumbcreech. E.g., the ancient matriarch of one of America’s leading polit-

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**PICKUP/DELIVERY TEAM.** We are looking for experienced individuals with a take-charge attitude for an exciting career in home health. We're a growing, friendly, em-
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oriented and are seeking a full-time posi-
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**SECRETARY.** Looking for a motivated person to help with unexcused absences, receiving phone calls, handling general office work. 5 hours per day. Must have a phone and be available immediately. Please call 619-294-8989.

**SECRETARY, RECEPTIONIST.** Full-
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**SKILLED NURSING.** Mission Valley. 20 hours/week, $9.25/hr. Call HR for appointment. Mission Valley Auto Circle. 619-224-4151.

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**WALK-IN, WALK-OUT.** We are currently seeking an experienced person with take-charge ability for an exciting career in home health. We're a growing, friendly, em-
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**WELSH, B&I.** We are looking for an experi-
ced production assistant. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Call 619-562-6330.
PARIS HILTON has no talent. You only hear about who she dates; I don’t think that’s talent. Brad [Pitt] and Jen [Aniston] are overexposed without really coming out with anything in the past few years. You hear about Michael Jackson all the time and he hasn’t come out with anything except sexual allegations. Even with the trial, bad publicity is still good publicity. Angelina Jolie does stuff for Africa, so I think she uses her celebrity in positive ways. She tries to help the community and doesn’t just try to hype her movies. I think Brad Pitt’s just riding her coat tails. I think Angelina’s star has already out-shined Brad’s.

I don’t think that’s talent. Brad Pitt is overrated, too. The whole Brad and Jen dynamic thing is another example of how things are in the media. I’m against divorces, but when you’re a celebrity, that’s the only thing you really do. Neither Brad or Johnny Depp are that good of actors. They’re put in movies where they can get by as little pretty boys. Johnny Depp gets by being the weird guy. Paris Hilton doesn’t have any reason to be a celebrity; besides that, she’s gross. She’s not pretty, but she gets put in ad like the Carly’s [of commercial where she’s riding a bud; the ad only plays off how skanky she is].

There are quite a few overrated celebrities. Paris Hilton is famous for nothing other than not being cute. She doesn’t do anything, she’s rich from her parents. If she didn’t have any money, she’d be a hoolker or porn star at best. I’m sad about Brad and Jen separating. I pay attention to what’s going on with them. Angelina’s a good actress from what I’ve seen, but everybody’s always saying how gorgeous she is. She’s really pretty, but a lot of it is just hype. Jessica Simpson’s dumb as a brick. Besides being dumb, she sings worst, almost as if she’s having spasms or seizures. Maybe she’ll be a good actress; sometimes dumb people act really well.

I’d have to say that Angelina Jolie is the most overrated. She hasn’t really been in any good movies (or, at least, nothing that I’ve seen), and it just seems like her publicity is all for show. Actors like Bruce Willis or Mel Gibson deserve more attention; I like those guys. I’m not really interested in celebrities’ personal lives; I’d rather hear more about their movies. I’ve fallen into some of the hype. I watched Jessica Simpson’s show, New York, and I’ll probably end up seeing her in Dude’s [of Hazzard] movie. I’m not really into celebrities’ personal lives; I’d rather hear more about their movies. I’ve fallen into some of the hype. I watched Jessica Simpson’s show, New York, and I’ll probably end up seeing her in Dude’s movie because he cheated on his fiancée; maybe Jude saw Brad, Jen, and Angelina and thought he could make a comeback from Alfie, Star Captains, and Close. What was his wife thinking anyway? Didn’t she see Close? I wouldn’t trust Jude Law any further than I could throw Lindsay Lohan.

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VERY ATTRACTIVE ASIAN woman, 28, professional and outgoing. Current partner is not what I need in my current life. Excellent family. Looking for educated, domestic, professional gentleman or new, meaningful relationship with love and caring heart. 619-370-4707.


I AM SWEET, SHYLY, sleepy, sensitive woman from New York. Sometimes, I am just too sensitive. Please call me. I am 50. 619-950-2789.


SECRET, SINCERE, 35, shaved head. Caucasian, gentle, easy-going, with a great sense of humor, all about the love, 40-50, I have a good gui- tars, music. Must be a non-smoker. Hooked on mind body spirit. www.sandiegoreader.com.

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THE CITY

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Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is $1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser’s introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as “Dating.” Questions? 619-235-8200 x416

Use your credit card

No 900# access? Call any day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as $1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-9494 24 hours
No refusals. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

Matches are ads now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to voice online.

SanDiegoReader.com From this page, click on “Matches.”


Free Online Placement: Ads submitted online receive e-mail responses and voice mail responses. Tell more about yourself and upload a photo, too! These features are free. Online placement deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

More Free Placement Options: Can’t get online? Fill the form below and mail or fax it to us. If faxing, please photocopy first. Fax/mail deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

Meets your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

OPTIONAL HEADLINE: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized; abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is $12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. $1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday
Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92116 Fax: (619) 233-7907
Online: SanDiegoReader.com

LATE DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday
Fax: (619) 233-7907 Phone: (619) 235-8200
Walk-in: 1703 Indiana St. (at Date St.) downtown

Meets your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

San Diego Reader Online

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

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox $ FREE
Headlines ______ x $12 each line ________
First 25 words of printed ad ________ $ FREE
Additional words ______ x $1.20 each word ________
Late fee/walk-in fee: $20 ________
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
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San Diego Reader Online 177

Try online placement for your Reader Matches Ad!

Meet your Match.

More successful professional, great personality and sense of humor. Seeking friendship, romance and love. (619) 470-6830

Warm Heart, Mind

Clear out, pure, employed, nice-looking man. 22, 5’10”, 130. Seeking young, kind woman for committed relationship. Let’s dress up and have fun. Thank you. (619) 470-6830

WINTER Activate: Furry, sensitive, kind, handsome, intelligent, passionate, sensitive. Seeking woman for long-term relationship. No smoking. (8/10)

Asian Girlfriend Wanted (female) I am hardworking, smart, tall, strong kind man. Seeking a warm, loving, kind and sensitive lady. Let’s chat online first. (8/10)

Asheville is Paradise. Join me. Genuine. (619) 818-7927

Great Kiss. Seeking loving and committed partner. (8/10)

San Diego: Ocean Beach, medium energy/drive, 5’5”, trim, athletic, enjoy outdoors. (8/10)

San Diego South Bay: Looking for travel man, 70-78 years, 5’10”+, for long-term relationship. Race open. (8/17)

Outdoors, the late 60s, mushroom picking. (619) 235-3002

Classy, sexy, 50s, attractive, white, trim. (619) 470-5057

Classy, sexy lady, 66, San Diego South Bay. In search of kind, lighthearted gentleman, 70-78 years, 5’10+. (8/10)

Looking for travel man, 70-78 years, 5’10”, for long-term relationship. Race open. (8/17)

Faulkner, MS. Pretty, sincere, creative, 100 lbs., 45, looking for serious relationship. Must have a passion for life! (619) 470-6830

Looking for travel man, 70-78 years, 5’10”, for long-term relationship. Race open. (8/17)

Seeking same. Passionate about animals, peaceful, white, trim, 30s, clean cut. (619) 470-5057

Seeking a long-term relationship. (8/10)

Seeking same. Passionate about animals, peaceful, white, trim, 30s, clean cut. (619) 470-5057

Seeking长沙Chameleon, mature guy. Love ocean, music, conversation. Ageless, unimportant. You be true. (619) 470-6830

Seeking San Diego matches, 1-900, 999-6282.

Seeking General, Southern California home. Male, 41.

Seeking San Diego matches, 1-900, 999-6282.

Seeking same. Passionate about animals, peaceful, white, trim, 30s, clean cut. (619) 470-5057

Looking for travel man, 70-78 years, 5’10”, for long-term relationship. Race open. (8/17)

Seeking San Diego matches, 1-900, 999-6282.

Seeking Long Beach, 35-50, 5’6”, trim, athletic, enjoy outdoors. (8/10)

Seeking white, 32, 50 lbs. looking guy for fun times, movies, dining, shopping, etc. Ages 40-50. (619) 470-5057

Seeking San Diego matches, 1-900, 999-6282.

Seeking a long-term relationship. (8/10)

Seeking same. Passionate about animals, peaceful, white, trim, 30s, clean cut. (619) 470-5057

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45 1-Hr. Massage Fine-time clients, Exp. 8/15/03

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24 hours. No return. You may renew your credit card at our office with cash or check only.

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Matches are 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 SanDiegoReader.com from this page, click on “Matches.”

San Diego Reader

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San Diego’s Finest in European Skin Care

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Comfortable, well-maintained 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. $675. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. $725. Share 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. $850. Pets allowed. $675.

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**Call the free Roommate Hotline! 235-2415**

Soon after advertisers place their ads, their spoken introduction can be heard on the Roommate Hotline. This lets you hear listings before they’re printed in the newspaper. Call 24 hours/day & choose option two. Select listings by gender, price and area. Listings updated daily.

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**Place your Reader roommate ad today and get responses tomorrow!**

**Call (619) 235-2415 day or night.**

For just $20 per week, you receive:
- A 25-word printed ad in the Reader
- Also on SanDiegoReader.com
- Use of a 24-hour voice mailbox service
- Placement on the Roommate Hotline

1. **Pay with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, check or cash.** The cost is $20. No deposit is required. When placing your ad, choose the day you want it to run.

2. **Write your 25-word ad.** The form below explains how to write your ad. Be ready to dictate it when requested. You will have one minute of recording time. Begin with the neighborhood, then describe the property and list the rent. After dictating your printed ad, continue to describe your roommate situation. When you are finished recording, press 2.

3. **Your print ad may not describe you or the person you are seeking.**

4. **To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need cross-streets and zip code:**

5. **The system dictates a mailbox number and security code:**

6. **Renew your mailbox and ad if you don’t need to make any changes in your ad copy or mailbox recording, Call (619) 235-2415 and choose the renewal option. You may renew your mailbox any time Thursday through 6 pm Monday.**

7. **Advertisers are responsible for checking their Roommate ads for accuracy and reporting errors by 6 pm Monday, following publication. Call (619) 235-8200.**

8. **Mail-in payment: Reader Roommate Line P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92196**

9. **Walk-in payment: 1703 India (at Date), Downtown San Diego**

For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200.
FAMOUS FORMER NEIGHBORS

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SERVICES DIRECTORY 619-235-8200

Rental duplex, 2 bedroom, $750/month, utilities included. 858-622-0100. E-mail: homenow@hotmail.com

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ANTIQUE WAREHOUSE PLACES


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Available now! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, large kitchen, laundry, washer/dryer. $525/month. 619-481-3000.

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3 rooms to share in an apartment. 1 block from the trolley. Utilities included. 858-292-0145.

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Space is still available! We have furnished rooms with comfortable accommodations and a hub for holistic health professionals. Consider us now! 619-446-6358; 858-964-0941.

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Save Time and Cash Yard, building, vacant lot cleanup and hauling, for as little as $65. Call George Philip, 619-663-1913.

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Cabinet and countertop, new and used, solid wood and melamine, we can custom design, build, and install to your specifications. Inquire today! 619-423-4150.

CABINET

CARL 221

Emmy’s Clean Carpet

Carpet cleaning and upholstery cleaning for all indoor/outdoor carpet, furniture. Water removal. Serving San Diego county over 10 years. 619-251-1653. E-mail: clean@emmysclean.com.

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CARL 221

Emmy’s Clean Carpet

Carpet cleaning and upholstery cleaning for all indoor/outdoor carpet, furniture. Water removal. Serving San Diego county over 10 years. 619-251-1653. E-mail: clean@emmysclean.com.

HOME

AIR CONDITIONING

Amsco Services


TUBS

Tubs Refinished

Refinish your old, worn-out bathtubs/sinks to look like new! Fiberglass and Porcelain. 15 years experience-handyman. Free estimates. 619-469-2341.

BATHROOMS

Custom Remodel

Cabinets and countertops, new and used, solid wood and melamine, we can custom design, build, and install to your specifications. Inquire today! 619-423-4150.

CABINETS

CARL 221

Emmy’s Clean Carpet

Carpet cleaning and upholstery cleaning for all indoor/outdoor carpet, furniture. Water removal. Serving San Diego county over 10 years. 619-251-1653. E-mail: clean@emmysclean.com.
Across
1. Shapers
2. "ain’t broke..."
9. PC bailout keys
14. Island off the coast of Turkey
15. 1996 candidate
16. Give, on the back
17. “Bungle in the Jungle” band
18. Banks on the runway
20. Vending machine inserts
21. Setting of many jokes
22. Match, in a way
23. “Turn up the heat!”
24. It often changes by the aisle
27. Food service industry giant
29. Run well
31. Neckline style
32. Obsees over
33. "Chicago" actor Richard
36. Acher of legend
37. Feet above sea level. Abb.
40. Acquires a liking for
42. One of the 13 our colonies
45. Social Security bucket
47. Quite sufficient

Down
1. Actions with no future
2. Writer with an award named after him
3. Soda bottle units
4. Homer Simpson outbursts
5. Map letters, once
6. Attach, in a way
7. Island off the coast of Turkey
8. Bedridden
10. Weird Al’s first Top 40 hit
11. Luggage attachment
12. Security Council veto
13. Prefix with pod
14. "Mighty ____ a Rose"
15. "What does he see ____?
16. Archer of legend
17. "Moi?"
18. "Bacterial ___-en-Provence"
19. "Incredible Hulk"
20. "Get ____ the drums".
21. Calling you, as Dancin’
22. "It often charges by the axle"
23. Attach, in a way
24. "Get ____ the drums".
25. "What does he see ____?
26. "What does he see ____?"
27. ".getElementById()"
28. "Websocket".
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Jacuzzi

Acupressure
Hot Baths
Body Shampoo

Mock wedding, c. 1890s. At the end of the Victorian era, among California’s laws pertaining to marriage: “divorced people cannot evade the law by going upon the water...a California vessel is a part of California, wherever it is.”

— by Robert Mizrachi

No-Deductible Health Plans

RightPlan PPO 40

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Single</th>
<th>Generic-Only Rx (PE48)</th>
<th>Comprehensive Rx (PE49)</th>
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The above rates are effective 1/1/2006 for San Diego County and are subject to change. Rates are illustrative only and may vary based on individual underwriting risk. Some areas may have higher or lower rates. Refer to the plan brochure for more complete list of coverages, conditions, restrictions, limitations and exclusions.

Michael Freeman
Authorized Independent Agent
3511 Camino Del Rio So., Suite 303
San Diego, CA 92109
(800) 660-4313
CA Insurance Lic. #0619120

PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society

Refrigerator included. No pets. 10428 Bistro Drive. Please call Allen Real Estate Services, 619-698-1400.

OCEAN BEACH.

$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Pacific Beach home onExcellent

Ocean View! 3 blocks from ocean. 1050-64 Missouri

Ave. Available 10/1. See neighborhood and photos on


619-222-3443.

$1495. Newly remodeled

duplex style 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to beach. North

County Property Management. 760-804-3417.

$975. Immaculate 1


Great location. Close to Indian

2 bath house. 1038 45th Street. Gated. New

landscape. Call 619-296-6343.


whizway.com prior to calling Dan at 310-345-0781.

$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. North Park. A
classic 1905 Victorian home. Beautifully

renovated. Large eat-in kitchen. Spacious

entry. Large laundry room. Call 619-295-9543.

$3200. For rent now: 4 story townhome

in South Park. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, storage

spacious. Washer/dryer, front yard with parking and

on-site laundry. Easy freeway. Available now.

3861 Swift Avenue.

$1377. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet, gorgeous view,

Pool, parking and on-site laundry. Gas/wa-

dryer. Remodeled bathrooms/kitchen. 2-car garage.

PACIFIC BEACH.

$1975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer in-unit. Garage, w/d.


$950. Parking.

$250-

2 bath house. 4489-4491 44th Street. 858-272-3889 or

$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2500 square feet, 2-car garage. 1

year lease. Sm pl. at 277 Bella Vista. 619-896-3471.

$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 square feet, 2 car garage.

New kitchen. Granite. 2-car garage. Mountain views. Washer/dryer in

dryer. Remodeled bathrooms/kitchen. 2-car garage. 1 block south of Adams.

$3597.

$675. 1 bedroom,

dispensable unit in very nice small complex, 2 blocks to beach. No pets.

4938 Hermandez (or Comodo Cottage). Please do not disturb current tenant. Rent plus $50 move in.

Deposit $1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath,

$1495. Newly remodeled

duplex style 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to beach. North

County Property Management. 760-804-3417.

$975. Immaculate 1


Great location. Close to Indian

2 bath house. 1038 45th Street. Gated. New

landscape. Call 619-296-6343.


whizway.com prior to calling Dan at 310-345-0781.
Greetings, Papi Moai,

The humans that reside in this dwelling have temporarily evacuated to “go camping.” Shall we all go ourselves to their second automobile?

But, as I am an all-powerful galactic entity, I can transport myself to the far reaches of space with a mere thought. I do not require the assistance of mechanized conveyance.

Whoa-re, rev up on, I please. No note, no tape, no exclamation point. Look at my dimen vest.

RED MEAT

by Max Cannon ©2005

RED MEAT

Glorious Delusion

by Max Cannon ©2005

Golden Girls

by Max Cannon ©2005

Red Meat

by Max Cannon ©2005

Papi Moai

by Max Cannon ©2005

tete-a-tete

tete-a-tete

by Max Cannon ©2005

RED MEAT

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by Max Canon
Jacuzzi, Steam


Nonsmoking. 1120 Eureka Street, 92110. blocks from the beach. No pets. Available 3:30pm. 4344 Ingulf Street. Torrey Pines

Large kitchen. Fireplace, large yard. Pet CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE, SOUTH. CARLSBAD.

Please call Hedy, 858-504-2334.

September 1. 2950 Clairemont Drive.


Living. Laundry room close to freeways and Navy Base. No pets. All Points Real Estate, 619-298-6615.

CITY HEIGHTS.


CARMEL VALLEY.

CITY HEIGHTS.


CHULA VISTA.

Table Melt Cellulite with "Para-fango" & Shiatsu Massage

BE 6-20 INCHES
UPPER LIP
UPPER LEGS
LOWER LIP
LOWER LEGS
TOES
NECK
MELT CELLULITE IN JUST ONE HOUR!

15-minute treatment. $35 value. No obligation.

IPL Laser Special $99

First 15 minutes. 4 treatments. No other conventional lasers. Upper lip $49.

Microdermabrasion $59


Men: $99 Introductory Special

Excessive back and shoulder hair? We can help!

Free Electrolysis Services

San Diego's 26 years serving San Diego 3262 Holiday Club #201 • 888-212-3620

www.sarahalexander.com Offers expire 9/5/05. With this ad.

Financing available.

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www.sarahalexander.com Offers expire 9/5/05. With this ad.

Financing available.
Bedroom, 1 bath condo. All appliances, lofts, only for the urban at heart! Cool 1 and bath. Parking available. 1055 6th Avenue. Air conditioning. Full kitchen, views of city, bay. Large, bright units. Computer alcove. Off-street parking. Fabulous organizers. Laundry on each floor. Com-


Gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 619-275-1836.

Ocean view 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, 1 covered parking space, recently redecorated. Near shopping, restaurants, commutes from! 619-417-4392.


How to contact us: 619-297-7368.

DOWNTOWN. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 619-258-3837.

GOLDEN HILL. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace, 2 blocks to Balboa Park. Water paid, on-site laundry, as- able now. www.GoldenHillRental.com.

GOLDEN HILL. $1030. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking, sandstone townhome. 1 story, close to park. 30 Min. Old Town. 858-455-6892.

GOLDEN HILL. $1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking, enclosed patio. Near UCSD. $1150 with garage.

GOLDEN HILL. $1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 parking, on site laundry, corner units. $1275 with garage.


GOLDEN HILL. $1250. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking, 10 ft. ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick townhome. 10' rounded ceilings, beautiful brick 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LEAD STORY

A subculture of hip-hop music has developed recently among computer science professionals, who taunt each other in verse much as mainstream rap artists do, according to a June report on Wired.com. "Geeksta" rappers like Yacker and MC Plus+ spin verses such as the latter’s "I’m encrypting shit like every single day!" sending it across a network in a safe way / protecting messages to make my pay/ if you hack me you’re guilty under DMCA (referring to a federal copyright law). Explained another, "Money": "(I) instead of boasting about our bitches, blunts, Benzes or Benjamins, maybe we talk about our math skills or the efficiency of our code." A hip-hop journal editor doubted the genre would endure, though, because so far the major artists are males: "You’re going to need some females."

Compelling Explanations

André Guthrie, 22, faced with a special five-year minimum sentence under the law because he robbed a Sovereign Bank in Lowell, Mass., "while masked," argued to his sentencing judge in June that he wasn’t actually in disguise but merely in his transvestite mode ("Andrea Guthrie"), including wig, false breasts, and a fake nose and facial moles. "This is what he does," said Guthrie’s lawyer. "This is who he is.

"... Nicholas' death. "It [was] Nicky's time to go," said a friend, "you're all not guilty. ... What are you, a bunch of transporters, who typically charge more to ship heroin than cocaine."

"... He allegedly said in court.) To the 30 people waiting in line, he said, "Get that sucker!"

"... As he headed out the door, then yelling at his Social Security income" (Chicago). ... Dorothy Denmore, 86, was arrested in May for having called 911 20 times in a 40-minute period to complain of poor pizza-service delivery and then biting the officer who came to question her (Charlotte, N.C.). Vera Turis, 80, who uses an oxygen tank and a walker, was nonetheless arrested in June and charged with running a prostitution service out of her apartment in a low-income project (Lin-denwood, N.J.).

Undicted Offenders

A 31-year-old student at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga died after pulling her car into a garage and closing the door behind her but leaving the engine running while continuing a long cell phone call (February). ... A 54-year-old man in the Tokyo suburb of Musashimura- rayama became the latest person to be killed by a suicide jumper’s inadvertently landing on him (December).

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 1202, San Diego, CA 92118 or to newsweird@aol.com
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**MEATY READER**

My kids both love books, and one of the things that I look forward to most as a parent is introducing them to my favorite books. We’ve read to our kids for almost every day they’ve been alive — even when they were tiny infants. When the Bumblebee was a baby, sometimes I would read aloud to her from books that I was reading myself, because just the way my voice changed when I was reading her a story (versus talking to her) seemed to calm her down.

We have literally thousands of books in our house, that run the gamut from kids’ books, to contemporary trade fiction, to junky mysteries, to scholarly tomes (hello Riverside Shakespeare). We’ve got amateur poetry, family autobiography, literary crit and analysis, theatrical anthologies. We’ve got a lot of books. Once, my mom asked me if there was any room in our house that didn’t have a bookshelf in it, and I told her, “Of course, Mom, I would never store books in the bathroom — water is bad for them.” That was before the cookbooks got moved into the dining room (thank goodness, so many are there in three rooms in our house with no permanent collection).

Both of our kids have bookshelves that are crammed full of picture books, board books, and chapter books. Over the years, we’ve read the Bee some books that were (at the time) way beyond her comprehension (The Hobbit, Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass, The Wizard of Oz). When the Bee was born, I started reading kids’ and young adult books again, so that I would be prepared when she was ready to read that stuff, and I’ve found some amazing things along the way (although nothing yet to dislodge my personal favorite, From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, a book I must have read twice a year from ages 8 to 11). The Sweet Potato is currently in a phase where he drags piles of books (mostly board books) from one room to another, demanding to have them read. And the Bee has gotten a good enough reader that she can sometimes read those books to him, which makes him (me) very happy.

My own parents had very different attitudes about books. I grew up in a house with a lot of books — when I was 6 or 7, my dad built a bookcase from one end of our upstairs hallway to the other, to house his own books. He had a great, eclectic taste in novels, and was definitely the parent that I wanted to have been like. I vividly remember lying in my parent’s bed with my two brothers, as he read aloud to us from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and later Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator. I think we had every Roald Dahl book that was intended for children, and some that weren’t.

My dad played a very important role in my development as a reader, and it continued on as I got older, even as my parents’ marriage crumbled and eventually fell apart. He always encouraged me to read, and gave me books that he thought would challenge me. He let me read anything on his shelves, as long as I remember once or twice having him tell me (when I was 12 or 13) that I should wait until high school to read a certain novel.

His own reading tended to the black humorists. He was a great fan of Vonnegut’s, and had all of John Irving’s early novels, although I knew it was a topic we could connect on, and he knew that by treating me as more of an ’adult’ reader, we would bond more easily.

I don’t know how I’ll react when my kids want to read something that I think is “too old” for them. I get to make those choices now — I’ve read the BB the first of the Lemony Snicket books, but not yet Harry Potter, because I think she’ll find the Potter book scary, while the Snicket books are not. But what would I do if she wanted to read The Cider House Rules at age 12? I’m not really sure. Luckily, I’ve still got a few years to decide.
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PETTY THEFT
Location: 3487 Eluta Street, Midway
Time/Date: 5:25 a.m. on 7/12/05

Officer’s Investigation: Upon my arrival I con- tacted the victim, L. I noticed his vehicle was parked directly behind another vehicle, a van, so as to prevent the other vehicle from leaving. L. informed me that his backpack was stolen from inside the Adult Depot this morning and the theft was caught on videotape. L. also stated he believed the suspect was in the van.

Officer Garrette and I knocked on the van doors and announced our presence. We received no response. L. stated he was sure someone was inside because he saw the van move just prior to our arrival. Officer Garrette informed L. that we could not force entry without being positive the suspect, and not someone else, was inside. Officer Garrette further informed L. that the parking lot was private property and if the Adult Depot wished to tow the vehicle from the property, we would wait in order to make sure the vehicle was towed safely and no one was found inside. L. spoke with the manager of the Adult Depot, and they decided to have the vehicle towed.

L. showed me the surveillance video that captured the aforementioned theft. At approximately 6:25 a.m., a white male, wearing a red shirt and khaki pants, walks into the Adult Depot and up to the front counter. The unknown male speaks to L. for a few minutes. L. then walks away from the front counter. The unknown male walks to the front of the store, stops near the front and picks up two magazines, then immediately exits the store. A few minutes later, the male returns to the inside of the store, takes L.’s backpack from behind the counter, and leaves again. The male appeared to be tall, thin, and had long brown hair.

A tow truck from Star Towing arrived and the driver opened the vehicle with a slim-jim, in order to put the vehicle in neutral for towing purposes. As he did so, A. appeared from the back of the vehi-

cle. A. stepped outside. Officer Garrette asked A. why he didn’t answer when we knocked on the door and A. stated he did not do so because he has warrants for his arrest and he did not want to go to jail. I looked at A. and determined, based on the surveil- lance video, that he was not the person who stole L.’s backpack.

Officer Maggi obtained A.’s name and date of birth and checked for warrants. A. was found to have two outstanding warrants. I informed A. he was under arrest and placed him in handcuffs. I double-locked the handcuffs.

HIGH-SPEED PURSUIT
Location: Corner of Earl Street and Severin Drive, La Mesa
Time/Date: 12:24 p.m. on 7/4/05

Incident: Officer Claudia McDaniel saw a vehicle fail to stop at a stop sign. McDaniel caught up to the vehicle and tried to initiate a traffic stop in the area of Dallas Street and Fletcher Parkway. She activated her emergency lights and siren and the vehicle fled from [her].

McDaniel pursued the vehicle into the city of El Cajon, for a distance of approximately 1.1 miles and at speeds reaching about 80 mph. The suspect’s vehicle lost a tire after striking a curb in the area of Fletcher Parkway and Garfield Avenue. McDaniel terminated her pursuit when the vehicle drove onto the wrong side of a divided roadway, traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes of Fletcher Parkway at Hacienda Drive.

The suspect vehicle was found abandoned in the 1100 block of Loma Portal Drive. The vehicle had been reported stolen by the El Cajon Police Department four days earlier. With the assistance of the El Cajon Police officers and citizens, the driver of the vehicle [later identified as Michael P., 33 years old] was found and arrested a few blocks away. A passenger in the suspect’s vehicle had intentionally jumped from the car to evade officers, and was injured as a result.

RESIDENTIAL ROBBERY
Location: 12700 Pomerado Road, Poway
Time/Date: 6:18 a.m. on 7/24/05

Incident: Deputies from the Poway Station responded to a residential armed robbery. Upon arrival, deputies contacted the owners of the residence, who indicated they were the victims of a home invasion robbery. According to the victims, two suspects broke into the residence and held the victims at gunpoint while they stole valuables. One of the victims was assaulted with a lamp. The suspects escaped in the victim’s vehicle prior to deputies’ arrival.

The vehicle is described as a 1992 Ford Mustang convertible. The suspects are described as two white males, each about six feet tall and both around 20 years old.

AUTO THEFT, ETC.
Location: Corner of Fanta Drive and Mission Grove Road, Santee
Time/Date: 2:20 a.m. on 7/4/05

Report: Deputies from the Santee Station contacted the driver of a white Toyota Camry at a convenience store. A check of the vehicle license disclosed the car was stolen from a Rancho Bernardo burglary several days earlier. The driver, identified as Jeffrey M., from San Diego, was arrested.

Deputies later contacted Sheriff’s deputies at the Poway Station and learned that M. was wanted in a home invasion in Poway on Sunday, July 24, 2005. M. was also wanted for a series of residential burglaries in the Poway, Rancho Bernardo, and Rancho Peñasquitos areas.

M. was booked into the San Diego Central Jail and charged with conspiracy, robbery (first degree), assault with a deadly weapon (not a firearm) with great bodily injury, burglary (three counts), and auto theft (three counts).

— Michael Hemmingson
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- 1979 Datsun 280ZX, mall, $1100. 858-299-9150.
- 1978, 1979, & 1980 VWs, $1500 each. 858-299-9150.
Charles Elster's letter to the editor:

Charles Elster is a literary fellow. While showing me the 1981 Toyota diesel pickup that first brought him out west, he says, “I named my truck after the antiques in Ishmael Reed’s novel Mumbo Jumbo. This plague brings people good. It’s called Jes Grew. Like in Uncle Tom’s Cabin, when Topsy is asked, ‘How’d you get so big?’ he says, ‘Jes grew.’ I thought that was a high-spirited name to give a vehicle for a young man to go west in.”

“IT was my first car. Growing up in New York, and at college, I didn’t really need one. Except one summer during college I was building a house with a couple of buddies in the Vermont woods. The site had no electricity, no running water.

“To get our supplies, we had this International Harvester three-quarter-ton flatbed crew cab. It’s this big old thing with an engine that sounds like it’s under water. Blub, blub, blub. And a first gear that’s suitable only for pulling stumps. That’s what I learned to drive a stick in.

“One time I was on the other side of the mountain, going toward Middlebury for a load of lumber. I climb very steeply and come to the summit, and the road drops sharply after that and goes into a hairpin turn. Now this truck, if the motor stalled, you lost your brakes. One of those old-time power brake systems.

“So I got up to the summit, and I stalled, right before the steep down and the hairpin turn. I thought, ‘What am I going to jump out of the truck and let it go flying down the hill, or can I get this thing going?’ I had one hand on the door handle, ready to bail. As a last-ditch attempt, I popped the clutch. And the motor started up. I couldn’t have done that with an automatic. So when I bought the Toyota, I got the stick, a five-speed.

“The Toyota is the kind of truck I love. It’s the tortoise in ‘The Tortoise and the Hare.’ If you’re willing to put in the effort and smell the roses, it’s for you.

“There are guys who use trucks as an extension of their phallic. The classic example would be the best-selling truck in America, which is the Ford 150. I know when I see an F-150 on the freeway, it’s being driven by somebody with override testosterone.”

“Now wait,” I say. “I used to drive an F-100.”

“The F-100s behave themselves. But if you want to just race around town and look like the guy in a truck, the F-150 is the thing to drive.

“Jes Grew is the antithesis of a Ford F-150. My dad used to tell this joke. There’s a father bull and a son bull, and they’re standing on top of a hill looking down over a verdant valley filled with hemlocks and young cows munching away on the soft grass. And the son bull starts to paw the ground and snort, and he says to his dad, ‘Hey Pop, why don’t we run down there and knock off a piece.’ And the father bull takes a long, slow breath, licks his lips and says, ‘Why don’t we strut on down there and have ‘em all.’ My truck is the father bull, the Ford 150 is the son bull.”

To suggest future “Driven” stories, email ken@kenkuhlkenn.net.
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WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4
EXTREME MAKEOVER
ABC 8:00 P.M.

Last weekend I grew a tail. If it had grown longer it would have been prehensile like a monkey’s, but Tuesday morning it fell off in the shower.

HIP-HOP SHOW
MTV2 7:00 P.M.

I’d rather take a punch to the yam than be hung over. You take a blow to the ghoolies, my new favorite euphemism for masturbation.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5
LESS THAN PERFECT
ABC 9:30 P.M.

If my uncle isn’t the inventor of the phrase, “you row you row,” then he is the only one I have ever heard use it. It is interchangeable with “coming out of your mouth,” and is reserved by Uncle for when he is talking about one of his ex-wives. An example of proper use is, “So I’m out on the back porch fixing the handrail when Sherry drives up and

starts yow-yow-yowing in my God-damn car.”

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
PRESIDENT BUSH’S WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS AND DEMOCRATIC RESPONSE
CPBN 3:45 P.M.

The San Diego radio station that used to be called Star 100.7 is now called Jack. That’s a sweet name. When I’m mega-rich and I own a radio station I’m going to call it Dillohole FM. That’ll make a cool bumper sticker.

SEX GAMES: VEGAS
MAX 11:40 P.M.

My favorite euphemism for masturbation is “giving oneself hell.” My favorite used to be “landing the Johnson account,” but that’s hard to work into a conversation. It’s easier to say, “Oh, really? You walked in on George giving himself hell?”

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
OVER THERE
FX 11:00 P.M.

This hurts my soul. I’m not sure why. Something isn’t right about dramatizing a war that’s still going on. Hollywood is profiting from real-life dramatic situations that are happening now. Real soldiers wounded in war do not receive the best treatment. The American public is not interested in them. We’re interested in the theatrical portrayal of them instead, and the actors who play them on TV are making a boatload more money. The writers, directors — hell, the cameramen are probably better off than the soldiers.

It’s just too soon.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8
RENOVATE MY FAMILY
FOX 8:00 P.M.

Another “We’re not good enough” show. Put us on TV. Tape our tats together to make cleavage, Vaseline our teeth, and cake makeup on our necks. Duct tape my shirt down in the back and I’ll stand in front of your hot lights and camera. Make us good. Make the people good.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9
JOHN RATZENBERGER’S MADE IN AMERICA
TRAV 9:00 P.M.

What the hell is this about? Is that Cliffy Clavin? Oh, Cliffy. Try as you might to repackag Yourself, we’ll never see you doing anything else except giving us little-known facts about birds from the end seat at the bar.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10
BORN WITHOUT A FACE
DHC 7:00 P.M.

I miss my tail.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11
THE O.C.
FOX 9:00 P.M.

Tomorrow’s a good night to go out with someone new. Have a couple drinks; tell your good stories. If she’s a total dummy you haven’t blown a perfectly good Friday or Saturday night. If you imbibe a little too much and feel like junk the next day, Fridays at the office are a cakewalk next day, Fridays at the office are a cakewalk anyway. Just keep half of the lights in your office shut off and bring on the coffee.

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“The tree line’s lousy with NVA,” I corrected him. “I’ve called in an air strike.”

“Huh?”

“Let’s mobilize. We’re escalating over there.”

“What’s that?”

“I don’t know. Let’s get out of here before Mom makes us clean something. Down there, I pointed to the lake. From a burger joint in town on the edge of the water, a jukebox played “Hey Mister Tambourine Man,” and it echoed across the stillness shot with the instinctive, repetitive whine of diesel inboarders and Mercury outboard motors. “Down there is Haiphong Harbor and it’s full of mines.”

“Yeah?”

“Let’s strip down, we’re going for a swim. We’ll need knives.”

“Decrater the mines,” I explained.

The movers were packing up the blankets, the truck, and stuff. They had killed a six-pack each, all four of them, while sitting on the porch listening to Jerry Vale and Al Martino. From the cab of the truck they produced my ragged paper-covered tapestry. “You can make it, Kowalski. There’s ping around me, but I helped who I could, placing their arms over my shoulders and speaking into the thinning night.”

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Eventually my father explained it very well for me. I almost started to cry when I finally got it and have since forgotten the simplest principle of the stuff.

The lake, they said, was exactly a mile in diameter and in three in circumference. I knew the difference. A few powerboats tore the green marble surface in fading white scars; Sunfish sailboats sat like skewed washstubs in the still heat. I walked inland to the far end of the property along Hainesville Road. Heat mirages shimmered on the blacktop. Very few cars passed; each wobbled into the foreground like gelatinous beasts from a primordial, hallucinatory pond at the road’s vanishing point. I could still hear the constipated sound of the powerboats through the trees as I walked along the gravel shoulder of Hainesville. I tended I was on the Baata Death March in the Philippines. My men were dropping around me, but I helped who I could, placing their arms over my shoulders, joking, and offering encouragement. “You can make it, Kowalski. There’s ping around me, but I helped who I could, placing their arms over my shoulders and speaking into the thinning night.”

We moved on a Friday in August 1965. From Chicago to five and a half acres in Round Lake, Illinois, a godforsaken outpost of the John Birch Society. The place was little more than a gargantuan few isolated, low-income veterans’ housing tracts; a train station; and a town with grain and feed stores, a post office, bars, and the Robin Hood Supermarket. The wooded areas were jungles in the summer, fantasy landscapes in the fall. The wooded areas were jungles in the summer, fantasy landscapes in the fall. The wooded areas were jungles in the summer, fantasy landscapes in the fall. The wooded areas were jungles in the summer, fantasy landscapes in the fall. Without Pity,” and “Blue on Blue.” I stood at the edge of the lake.

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