Peter Cetera
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A Tenth Grader’s History of the World
Eye-candy textbooks restrained by state standards.
By Thomas Larson ................................................................. 26
City Lights
Sporty stocks sweet it out; and City Lights shorts... 6
La Mesa’s long-incumbent mayor challenged by
empty parking spots............................................................ 7
Letters ................................................................................. 12
Straight From the Hip
Secrets behind perp-walk pocket pool……………….. 14
The Sporting Box
The Heart of the Game may become Murderball........ 16
Sheep and Goats
Litany at Coronado Lutheran stems from Adam
to button-down shirts..................................................... 18
Best Buys
Tanning Jungle Jane .............................................................. 20
Crasher
Busted at the beach ............................................................. 22
Diary of a Diva
What is it with Barbaraella and unicorns? ............... 24
Every Furtive Soul
Morning at Jolar Adult Theater, By Dave Zielinski .. 58
Spear Man
Blindfolded in Baja. By Ernie Grimm ............................... 62
Trailer Monk
Johnny Depp and the disciplines of Buddhism.
By Hawkins Mitchell ........................................................ 72
La Semana en Español
A week’s worth of stories in Spanish ............................ 156
Name This Place ................................................................. 180
Puzzle ................................................................................. 182
Off the Cuff ........................................................................ 184
Picture Story ....................................................................... 191
Down and Up and Down Again
The reasons are the same at 6 and 46 ....................... 201
News of the Weird .............................................................. 203
Back When
Big surf killed 14 before summer ............................... 205
Ask Saffron
The heavy metal clause .................................................... 207
Blog World
She stood by her bleeding man .................................. 209
It’s a Crime
Operation Eradication .................................................... 211
Remote Control King
From Mr. Burro’s Neighborhood to Lobsterman
and Judy Garland .............................................................. 213
T.G.I.F.
Brizzolara imagines himself king of imaginary island .... 215
CALENDAR
Local Events .......................................................................... 83
Roam-O-Rama
Power-walk to Powerhouse Park .................................. 92
Reading
Lee Child: The Hard Way .................................................. 96
Classical Music Guide ......................................................... 99
Art Museum and Gallery Guide ........................................ 99
Pop Music
Blurt...................................................................................... 102
Instruments and the men who love them .................. 106
Restaurant Reviews and Guide
Four-star Confidential ....................................................... 133
Female sheep make less-harsh cheese .................... 135
The Starbucks of wine purveyors ......................... 136
Theater Guide ...................................................................... 145
Movie Review and Guide
Duncan Shepherd divides time between The Lake House
and Nacho Libre ............................................................... 149
A D V E R T I S I N G
Classified Ads
Antiques & Collectibles .................................................. 204
Appliances ....................................................................... 205
Automotive: Cars .............................................................. 208
Automotive: Trucks/Van/SUV ...................................... 210
Automotive: Classic/Custom Cars ............................... 212
Automotive: RVs ................................................................ 215
Automotive: Parts .............................................................. 215
Automotive: Services ......................................................... 215
Bicycles .............................................................................. 215
Business Opportunities .................................................. 177
Career Training ................................................................. 173
Clases/Lessons ................................................................ 177
Computers ........................................................................ 204
Counting/Support ............................................................ 182
Electronics ......................................................................... 206
Employment Agencies ................................................... 172
Employment Services ...................................................... 173
Furniture .......................................................................... 206
Garage Sales ...................................................................... 204
Health & Fitness ............................................................... 180
Help Wanted ...................................................................... 158
Massage .......................................................................... 178
Matches ............................................................................. 183
Miscellaneous For Sale .................................................. 207
Motorcycles ...................................................................... 208
Music, Equipment/Instruments .................................. 199
Music, Musicians Avail/Wanted .................................. 200
Music, Services ................................................................. 200
Notices ............................................................................. 183
Parent Resources ............................................................. 182
Personals .......................................................................... 183
Pet Central ......................................................................... 193
Photo ................................................................................. 203
Real Estate, Condos ........................................................ 198
Real Estate, Houses ........................................................ 197
Real Estate, Miscellaneous ........................................... 199
Rentals, Commercial ...................................................... 187
Rentals, Apartments/Condos ....................................... 189
Rentals, Houses ................................................................. 187
Rentals, Services .............................................................. 187
Roommates ....................................................................... 186
School Services ................................................................. 187
Services Directory ........................................................... 188
Sports ............................................................................... 202
Stage Notes ...................................................................... 182
Tickets .............................................................................. 182
Travel & Getaways ........................................................... 183
Wanted/Trade ................................................................. 204
Wedding/Party Guide ....................................................... 182
Display Ads
Apartment Rentals .......................................................... 194
Automotive ...................................................................... 199
Career Training ............................................................... 171
Getaways ......................................................................... 82
Great Escapes ................................................................. 84
Health and Beauty ........................................................... 55
Help Wanted ................................................................. 158
Home and Garden .......................................................... 28
Instruction ........................................................................ 182
Music .......................................................... ........................ 198
Real Estate ................................................................. 194
Research Studies ............................................................. 44
Services ............................................................................ 184
Wedding Guide ................................................................. 88
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San Diego Reader June 22, 2006 Page 5
An archive of City Lights stories can be searched on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com

**Political tithing** After that hot trudge across the parking lot to wait in the long lines at the gates of the San Diego County Fair, do you dream of being appointed to the board of the 22nd District Agricultural Association, otherwise known as the Del Mar Fair board? The nine members, though unpaid, are compensated in other ways, with preferential parking, special access to the fair and Del Mar track, free admission to events, plenty of boone at parties, pampering from fair board staff, and many other perks too numerous to mention. But there is a price to be paid, check made payable to the various campaign funds controlled by the governor of California, be paid, check made payable to the various campaigns to events, plenty of booze at parties, pampering from fair board staff, and many other perks too numerous to mention. But there is a price to be paid, check made payable to the various campaign funds controlled by the governor of California, who awards the coveted fair board appointments. Take the case of Poway’s Brent Wilkes, chairman and chief executive officer of Price Self Storage, one of the many enterprises associated with La Jolla’s Sol Price. This February 15, Republican Burt contributed $22,300 to Arnold Schwarzenegger’s reelection fund. On June 2, the governor announced that Burt would be reappointed to the fair board. Schwarzenegger first appointed Burt to the board on May 25, 2005, after Burt contributed $50,000 to the pro-Schwarzenegger “Citizens to Save California Coalition” on April 7 of that year.

The same day Burt was originally named to the board, Schwarzenegger also appointed Rancho Santa Fe’s Vivian Hardage. In October 2003, her husband Sam, a hotel magnate and longtime local GOP kingmaker, had given Schwarzenegger, then a candidate in the Gray Davis recall election, $21,200.

And then there was Brent Wilkes, the defense contractor under investigation for bribery in the Randy “Duke” Cunningham case. Appointed to the fair board by Schwarzenegger on April 7, 2004, Wilkes had given the then-gubernatorial candidate $21,200 on September 9, 2003. In all, Wilkes gave the governor $70,000 before becoming enveloped in the Cunningham scandal.

**Exposing out lobbyists** Ex-Democratic state senator Dede Alpert, once mentioned as a possible San Diego mayoral candidate, is making waves in the state’s capital by promoting the interests of the cable TV industry without bothering to register as a lobbyist. Though not a lawyer, Alpert works for the Sacramento law firm of Nielsen, Merksamer as “special advisor for public policy and strategic planning.” Firm principal Vigo “Chip” Nielsen bills himself as a “political law advisor” and has worked for many locals, including ex-San Diego mayor Maureen O’Connor, Partner Steven Merksamer, former chief of staff to Republican governor George Deukmejian, is a major player in GOP politics.

Among the firm’s clients have been Californians for Ferret Legalization. When she was a senator, Alpert carried a bill, later vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, to lift the state’s ban on the controversial little animals. Alpert spoke out in favor of ex-San Diego School superintendent Alan Bersin during recent senate confirmation hearings on his appointment to the state board of education. Her latest assignment, for cable giant Comcast, first reported by Capitol Weekly, involves the battle phone companies are waging to offer services, including video, that are now the sole province of cable.

State law defines a lobbyist as someone making $2000 or more in a calendar month... or whose principal duties as an employee are to communicate directly or through his or her agents with any elective state official, agency official, or legislative official for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action.” A loophole allows unregistered agents to discuss bills with legislators for two hours a month, Alpert says. They can also offer their clients advice on lobbying strategy, besides avoiding the financial-reporting requirements for lobbyists, former legislators such as Alpert can avail themselves of “floor privileges,” the ability to walk around on the senate floor and buttonhole their former colleagues before votes. Alpert says she has never done that. She declined to disclose how much she is paid.

**Woolley-headed** One of the biggest local donors to a single cause so far this political season has been R.B. “Buzz” Woolley, the La Jolla investor, who gave $94,700 to the EdVoice Independent Expenditure Committee on April 3. Other big contributors include L.A. billionaire Eli Broad and Netflix’s Reed Hastings, who gave the same amount.

The group, which favors various education-reform efforts, spent $125,000 to back ill-fated Democratic assembly candidate William McCammon, the fire chief of Alameda County. It made a $90,000 independent expenditure for successful Democratic assembly primary candidate Paul Krekorian, a Burbank school board member. And it had another winner in the assembly campaign of La Cañada Flintridge Democratic city councilman Anthony Portantino, on whom it spent $80,000.

Heavily backed by conservative Wal-Mart heir John Walton before his death last year in an ultralight aircraft crash, EdVoice has been accused of conducting a stealth campaign for private school vouchers.

**Got the Shaft? Live with It**

By Don Bauder

Most companies live by the old axiom: “Don’t put all your eggs in one basket.” It’s the rationale for diversification — entering disparate businesses in an effort to spread risk. But diversification carries risk too. Does a company know how to manage different kinds of enterprises? Will the company take on too much debt know best, and don’t be tempted to jump into whatever Wall Street thinks is sexy at the time.

There are risks of this non-diversification approach too. A company might watch as sharply.

In the sports-equipment industry, three San Diego County companies have sharply different ideas about touting eggs. Aldila, a maker of graphite (carbon-fiber-based composite) golf shafts, is essentially nonvulcanized — a follower of Twain’s philosophy. Callaway Golf, which makes golf clubs, balls, and clothing, is diversified within the golf industry. Acquisition-crazed K2, Inc., is diversified within the entire sports industry, making skis, snowboards, mountain bikes, sportswear, paintball products, baseballs and gloves, and fishing equipment, among many things.

Aldila’s conservative strategy is paying off, while Callaway and K2 have tummy aches trying to digest past unwise acquisitions. Aldila stock has soared from $1.24 in 2003 into the $30s. “Good stocks still hold their ground in bad markets,” says San Diego’s Bud Leedom, publisher of the California Stock Report. The overall market has been creamed in May and June, but Aldila kept its ground. Its earnings are surging, so it’s still reasonably priced, says Leedom. He ranks it the second-most appealing stock in the state.

The company lost $56 million investing in making acquisitions. A few companies follow Mark Twain’s advice: “Put all your eggs in the one basket and — WATCH THAT BASKET.” Stick with what you know best, and don’t be tempted to jump into whatever Wall Street thinks is sexy at the time.

The company lost $56 million investing in making acquisitions. A few companies follow Mark Twain’s advice: “Put all your eggs in the one basket and — WATCH THAT BASKET.” Stick with what you know best, and don’t be tempted to jump into whatever Wall Street thinks is sexy at the time.

Three companies have sharply different ideas about diversification. The next time someone tells you he has diversified his portfolio, ask him, “What do you do if one of your sectors crashes?”

The company lost $56 million investing in making acquisitions. A few companies follow Mark Twain’s advice: “Put all your eggs in the one basket and — WATCH THAT BASKET.” Stick with what you know best, and don’t be tempted to jump into whatever Wall Street thinks is sexy at the time.

**Neal Obermeyer**
Free Speech and Fair Parking

By Ernie Grimm

La Mesa mayoral candidate Craig Maxwell is the kind of guy people used to describe as strapping. He’s over six feet tall, trim through the middle, broad and muscular in the chest and shoulders. The sleeves of his T-shirt stretch to contain his buff biceps. Though he’s 43, his neatly cut sandy blond hair shows no gray. Looking at him, you’d guess he was a physical trainer. But looks deceive. He owns Maxwell’s House of Books, a three-aisle store within the four-block stretch of La Mesa Boulevard known as the Village. “It is a general store,” Maxwell explains, “but with a special emphasis on scholarly and academic titles. I have a really strong selection of philosophy, political science, physics, sociology, biology, literary criticism. That’s the emphasis, but I still consider myself a general shop. I have over 50 categories in the store, and there is probably something for everybody who spends enough time looking around.”

Nobody would mistake 71-year-old incumbent mayor Art Madrid for a physical trainer. Still, the tanned, white-haired mayor exhibits youthful vigor as he chats with the proprietors and customers of Jitters Coffee Shop. Dressed in jeans and a yellow polo shirt, he assures the shop’s owners that the rumor of a Starbucks going in across the street are unfounded. “Did you hear the latest rumor?” he asks. “Apparently, I’m gay.”

And judging by the pace at which he sets off walking east through the Village, the mayor hasn’t slowed down. Asked about the gay-mayor rumor, Madrid chuckles, “Rumors like that always pop up around election time.”

By way of clarification, he adds, “I was married for 45 years. My wife passed away 4 years ago.”

Art Madrid has served on La Mesa’s city council for 26 years, the past 16 as mayor. In La Mesa, the mayor is just another vote on the five-member council. Despite that fact, Madrid’s name is practically synonymous with La Mesa politics. And walking through La Mesa with him is akin to being part of a rock star’s entourage. People come running out of antique stores, jewelry stores, and restaurants to shake hands and talk with their mayor. On their mind this warm Wednesday morning in late May is the April parking-meter rate hike, from 25 to 75 cents an hour.

Though Maxwell says the parking was “only one of the straws that broke the camel’s back” when it came to deciding whether he’d run for mayor, he has very decided views on the parking increase. “The parking changes were enormous, and they hurt the businesses here,” he says. “It greatly increases the likelihood that you will get a ticket, as before you could shell out 50 cents and know you were safe for two hours. Now you have to have more change, and they are a lot more aggressive about handing out tickets. And they don’t issue any warning citations, which they used to do. All of those things were such nice features; they made La Mesa seem so homey. And they made La Mesa seem so appealing, and almost everybody who came into the shops said, ‘How nice to come here and be able to park two hours for 50 cents.’ And, ‘Oh, I got this warning citation on my car. This is such a wonderful little place.’ Now people are walking down the street cursing, saying they are never going to come back.”

Maxwell continues, “We [merchants] have a hard time making a living here, especially with the [Grossmont Center] mall nearby, where you can park all day. We have a tough time with it. La Mesa is a little out of the way anyway — we are not exactly Mission Valley or downtown. To get people to come out here is something of an accomplishment by itself. So making the place hospitable, making it friendly, is really important to us. We went to [the mayor] looking for some kind of reasonable compromise. If you must raise it, just raise it 100 percent, go to 50 cents. Nothing. There was absolutely no willingness to compromise.”

Asked if he believes the parking-fee increase has hampered business, Madrid says, “No, not at all. We don’t have paupers and people exclusively on welfare buying and stopping at the Village. They are pretty wealthy people. This is the price of doing business.”

Terry White, a goldsmith and owner of Golden Artistry, near the east end of the Village, comes out of his shop to greet Madrid. One of the first things he tells the mayor is, “I think the parking thing backfired on the downtown merchants. Isn’t this the only area in La Mesa that has meters? So what’s happened is, people aren’t just saying, ‘Oh well, it costs more in San Diego.’ They’re saying, ‘Screw this place, I am going to shop elsewhere.’”

continued on page 8
Live with it continued from page 6

city lights

San Diego the best in the company’s his-
tory; sales shot up 17 percent from a year earlier and earn-
ings soared by 28 percent.

“Through the grim years, “Alldia stayed true to what it is
good at,” says Leedom, who specializes in analyzing com-
panies in the golf business.

“When things aren’t going well, a lot of companies go out
and make acquisitions.”

Alldia not only kept con-
centrating on golf shafts dur-
ing the bad years but also set
up a plant in Wyoming for
making carbon fiber for golf
shafts. Now there is a short-
age of materials for graphite
shafts, and Alldia has a leg up
on the industry.

In the late 1990s and the
early 2000s, golf-club mak-
ers were producing club heads
made of exotic space-age met-
als were producing club heads
in the early 2000s, golf-club mak-
ers found they could
make club heads too large, “says
Leedom. “Later, the association ruled
that manufacturers “can’t
get a higher average selling
price if they talked about the
value of the shaft, “ says Lee-
dom. “It wouldn’t have been worth it
if Callaway had gotten Top-
Flite for free. It was a horri-
ble acquisition.”

Because of such moves,
Callaway has been up and
down. The stock peaked at
almost $40 in 1997, is now
selling below $15, and has
been below $10. Earnings have
been spotty. Last year’s were
one-fifth of 2002’s, although
Leedom is high on current
management.

There is one good thing:
Callaway has diversified only
within the golf industry. K2,
Inc., has rapidly bought up
leisure companies in a wide
variety of fields. It is loaded
with debt: the financial-anal-
ysis firm Morningstar gives
K2 a grade of D-minus for its
financial position. Last year,
paintball and other adven-
tures got it into trouble, and
it took a $212 million loss.
Morningstar gives the com-
pany a D-minus for prof-
itability too.

K2’s stock almost hit $33
in 1997 and now sells below
$12. The company made “a
series of desultory acquisi-
tions,” says Jon D. Markman
of TheStreet.com. Other ana-
lysts question executive com-
pen-sation policies. Despite
last year’s big loss, chief exec-
utive Richard Heckmann got
a salary increase from $550,000
to $690,385. His bonus went
up from $350,000 to $959,000.
He also got $913,000 because
other people in the company
were using his private jet.
These are “ludicrous com-
pen-sation policies,” says Tim
Beyers of Motley Fool.

But at least neither Callaway
nor K2 is a conglomerate —
the kind of company that will
buy anything that is for sale:
bank, railroad, whorehouse,
cigarette maker, airline, liquor
store. Almost all such com-
panies eventually get egg on
their faces. Some, like Tyco
and Enron, wind up with
some of their executives in
the slammer.

Fair parking

continued from page 7

Madrid starts to argue this
point. White gently interrupts
him. “You know what, I am
here every day,” he says point-
ing to the seven empty park-
ing stalls in front of his store.
“There are many, many spots
like this, and there never used
continued on page 10
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San Diego Reader June 22, 2006 11
LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 83803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at www.SandiegoReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Between A Strawberry And A Watermelon

Enjoyed the article on cactus (“The World Is a Cactus,” Cover Story, June 15). I was a transplant from Indianapolis some years ago. My father-in-law, a Danny Seranno, deceased, introduced me to the desert and desert mountains.

Danny was a native of Old Town. He took me hunting, and I saw my first cactus. At that time of the year, prickly pears turned red, and he said you could eat them. First brush off the spines and cut them open.

It was September and hot; anything with moisture in it would taste good. After the spines were off, I cut one open. It tasted between a strawberry and a watermelon.

I belonged to the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society. An article in their newsletter said if you’re in cactus country, carry a bottle of Elmer’s glue. If you get any of the spines on your hand or body, put the glue on the spines, let it dry, and peel the spines off. It works.

He also told about a cactus farm in Lakeside where a certain cactus was raised and the pads were shipped east for the Italian market. I remember in Old Town an old adobe house with a cactus fence. Some of the homes in the desert mountains had fences of ocotillo. I don’t know if they are a form of cactus. They were tall and had fair-size thorns on them. I guess to keep the desert tortoises out. Pun intended.

Ed Maisen
Bay Park

Art Needs Defining

Regarding the well-written and unbiased “City Lights” article pertaining to the controversy of Eider de Mello’s ArtWalk contributions (“Barbie in Bondage,” June 15), both views are well taken. Personally, I believe anything controversial, whether it be art, music, or literature, should be permanently banned from the masses of our (sometimes) fairest city. Let’s just turn our heads and act like nothing ever happened and get back to our best business-as-usual: corruption. While we’re at it, maybe stoke the fire with a few more art books while asking ourselves if art is really necessary in the first place — and exactly where are the censors when you need them? Don’t we pay them well enough? It appears that a definition of art needs defining here, so I looked up the word “art” in my handy Oxford dictionary, and there is absolutely no mention of Barbie in the description. Case closed.

Ban the deviant and hang ‘em high. Maybe that’ll show the Ray at Night and Kettner St. art crews that they can’t get away with that stuff around here no more, no siree. Let that be a message and a warning: we’re not gonna take it. Peace.

Michael Page
via e-mail

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Dear Matthew:

I’ve noticed something weird on our local TV news stories on courtroom appearances by alleged criminals. When the arrestee is standing up in front of the judge at arraignment, they often have their hands tucked into the waistband of their pants. Is this because they are embarrassed to be seen in handcuffs? How can it be less embarrassing to be seen with your hands stuffed down your pants? Is this something they are told to do or just some thug fashion thing?

— Jenny, UCSD

Yeah, Jenny, it’s a bitch when your 15 minutes of fame means everybody sees you on TV with your head fuzzed out in those little squares, as if you’re standing in a cloud of mosquitoes, and worse yet, you’re gropping your own crotch. Must make you wonder if the crime was worth the humiliation. On the other hand, we grooped around real thoroughly to answer your question, and I think we can clear up the mystery.

Regular visitors to Aliceland know that Ma Alice’s family tree is full of felonious twigs so we can always get the insider’s take on this kind of puzzlement. We checked around to see which uncle was out on the street and presented your inquiry. Then we double-checked with the sheriff’s department. Here’s the skinny:

So, say you’re locked up at, oh, Chula Vista, and you have a date with the judge in San Diego at 9 a.m. They’ll roust you from your rack about 4 and move you, unshackled, to the holding area where they’re gonna put you on the bus with the window bars. They eventually line you up and start laying out the cuffs-on-waist-chains. You and the random perp next to you are linked together (a slow and cumbersome process), and the two of you share a seat on the ride downtown. Once the bus has pulled in through those big hulking gates on the Front Street side of the Hall of Justice, they escort you to the court holding area, where everybody’s slowly and cumbersome unhooked. Unless you are some kind of notorious thug, you will remain unhooked through the rest of the ordeal, until they put you back on the bus to return to Chula.

If you’re typical, you’re a pretty low-risk type, and security in the courthouse and courtroom is tight. When your case is called, you’re escorted by deputies down a short hall to the courtroom; you’re in front of the judge for two, maybe three minutes; then you’re escorted back to the holding area. On arraignment days, deputies might do this 30, 40 times. Since there’s little security risk to the officers, judge, or public when the perp is out and about, deputies tell them to stick their hands into their pants and keep them there until they’re back in the holding room. That saves deputies from all the hooking and unhooking to move each inmate and makes that inmate’s day-long stint in the courthouse a little more comfortable. The hands-in-the-pants maneuver allows a deputy to keep an eye on where your hands are, or are supposed to be, should you decide you’ve had enough of the justice system and just want out.

One side note: There are occasions when an inmate with a little too much attitude or a heavier than usual rap will be cuffed for the trip to see the judge. In that case, deputies have been known to advise inmates to keep their hands deep in their pants in order to hide the cuffs and not prejudice their case.

Like I Said… Just a Little More Obsessed

Hi Matt, I saw your comments [last week] about tribute bands. I noticed the words “creepy” and “obsessed,” which indicate a negative perspective about tribute bands, or that there is a pathetineness with tribute bands. Original bands usually include “obsessed” members — even world dominator/successful ones…. Hey, it’s just entertainment. It’s like a combination of the ethic of Saturday Night Live and Kiss, when done the way I like it. Or done like a documentary, or play. Yes, movies, documentaries, and plays are creepy and obsessive endeavors, in order to do them well. You’ve got to have the right kind of image and energy to do your part well if you’re onstage also…. Be a doer. Tribute band people are doers and positive contributors with their tribute band efforts. However, the ones that appear not to be putting in what I consider to be the proper full effort, I disdain and avoid seeing those bands again. Nor would I want to play in a tribute band with somebody who doesn’t reasonably put on the image/appearance, presence, passion, and energy, even behind the scenes. I “hate” cover bands, because they don’t present the image/energy/presence.

If classical music orchestras would dress up in baroque/renaissance-era attire, or the attire of whatever era the music was created in, plus wigs as appropriate, it would be so much more entertaining. Otherwise, zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz. Yes, classical music orchestras are creepy. Plus, they are actually cover bands — they’re not original.

Yes, I’m relaxed. Yes, I’m staying home tonight, Saturday night. Be the best you can be, Matt. — Scott

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Summer Movie Review

Last summer I reviewed a sports documentary, Murderball, about a team of quadriplegics who play kick-ass rugby on custom-built wheelchairs. The movie is so good (later nominated for an Oscar) that the fact its main characters are paralyzed recedes into the background and one’s attention is captured by the athletes and their stories. Murderball grossed $1,726,000 worldwide, ran for 13 weeks, and, at its peak, played on 97 screens. When you consider that such dreck as Are We There Yet? played on 2810 screens, grossed $97 million worldwide, well, mamas, don’t let your babies grow up to be filmmakers.

This year the Box is reviewing The Heart of the Game, a movie about a girls’ basketball team; specifically, about the Roosevelt High School Roughriders girls’ basketball team. Roosevelt High is the largest high school in Seattle, its student body is a little more than 50 percent white, a little less than 50 percent African-American, Hispanic-American, or Native American. The movie was written and directed by Ward Serrill, a certified public accountant. Serrill filmed his movie over seven years. In an interview, he was asked why he kept on with it, and he said people kept giving him money. This is a situation many of us aspire to.

When I first started writing, I’d sit with story subject until a story unfolded. Might take an afternoon, might take many afternoons, more than a few have taken months. I’d hang with the person (“Let’s get some breakfast.” “Feel like a beer?”) until the story became clear to me. Everybody has at least one good story. The trick is finding it. So, taking seven years to film a movie doesn’t seem crazy to me…seems like a long time, but not crazy.

Happily, Serrill got his seven years’ worth on the screen. The Roughriders coach is Bill Resler, a middle-aged, balding, gray-haired man with a face that shows every one of his days on earth. He is a lecturer in accounting at the University of Washington. Resler applied for and got the job as part-time girls’ basketball coach at Roosevelt High. He has three daughters; one wanted to play basketball. Resler is a natural, great coach. One year, he tells his team they are a pack of wolves, another year they are a pride of lions, then a tropical storm. He tells the girls to “Sink their teeth in” and “Draw blood”

Serrill said he knew he had a movie when Darnellia Russell, who transferred to Roosevelt in her freshman year, joined the team. Russell was determined to make it to the WNBA. She’s the guts of the film. Her game, her problems with the coach, her problems with the team, her pregnancy, the fact that authorities would not allow her to play after the birth of her daughter, the court fights, and the Roughriders’ march to a Class 4A state championship must have had Serrill shaking his head, muttering, “I’ve hit the mother lode.”

So, I write a review and now comes the part where I find out where the movie is playing, in case you’re interested in seeing it. The movie has been reviewed by everybody. Reviewed on the Ebert & Roeper TV show (enthusiastic two thumbs up), in the Village Voice, New York Daily News, Rolling Stone, New York Post, USA Today, Philadelphia Daily News, Chicago Tribune, Variety, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, Chicago Sun-Times, New York Times, Boston Globe, and many more. Reviews ranged from “good” to “exhilarating triumph.” Most were on the “exhilarating triumph” side. I couldn’t find a bad review. My Internet homepage has a tab that says, “My Movies.” You click on the tab and the movie page loads and shows you what’s playing around town, where it’s playing, and when. As of Tuesday, The Heart of the Game is not playing in San Diego. It’s not playing in El Cajon, Chula Vista, Poway, Santee, La Jolla, or San Marcos. It’s not playing in Oceanside, Vista, Temecula, or Escondido, either. I checked San Juan Capistrano, Irvine, Huntington Beach, Long Beach, and Anaheim. Nothing. I know it’s playing out of town because that’s where I saw it. Turns out, it’s playing in one theater in Los Angeles and one theater in San Francisco and two theaters in Seattle, where it was filmed. The Heart of the Game was released on June 9. The opening-weekend gross was $66,000. Nationwide release was set for June 14. As far as I can tell, as of Monday, June 19, the film was showing in four theaters in the United States. That’s depressing. It’s depressing to click through all those above-named cities, read the playbill of at least 100 theaters, and see the same dozen films over and over and over again.

Maybe this is premeditated. Maybe Miramax, the distributor, is doing a word-of-mouth campaign, betting the film will find its audience over time. Maybe it will blanket the nation next week. I hope so. It’s a great movie.
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Weekly giving: around $3600 (10 percent given to charitable outreaches such as the Heifer Project)
Singles program: no
Dress: dressy-casual, many skirts, many but-ton-down shirts, some jackets and ties.
Diversity: mostly Caucasian
Sunday worship: 10:15 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 15 minutes
Website: http://home.san.rr.com/rlcluth

“Men in Our Lives: A Litany for Father’s Day” opened the service. The congregation recited, “Blessed are you, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, well-spring of all genera-tions. As did our fathers in ages past, so we, too, praise You for this day, O God.” Pastor Hallerberg read the litany: “With Adam, father of humanity, and Noah, who heeded the Lord’s command and trusted his promise and saw the sign of hope.”

“My God talks to us at the very beginning is as His children. The nearest thing about God, who is our father, and our fathers, is that they love us.”

The children stood, and Joan Schwartz introduced them, noting that over the course of their Sunday-school year, “they’ve learned to pray; they’ve learned the power of prayer.” Some of them have taken up prayer partners. They pray together, and they realize, “Wow, prayer is really answered.... They’re coming more and more to be filled with a love of God and an understanding of how they can help in the world.” Then the children sang “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore.” It was one of at least seven hymns, though the only one joined by guitar instead of organ.

The Gospel recounted the parable of the sower whose seed “would sprout and grow he does not know how,” and also the parable of the mustard seed, which starts off “the smallest of all seeds” and “grows up to become the mightiest of all shrubs.” Both images described the kingdom of God, and Hallerberg’s ser-mon quoted Martin Luther, asking, “What does this mean?” Hallerberg’s answer— the kingdom “is about God at work in His world, Jesus says it’s built into the seed. It comes without our prayer. It doesn’t depend on us, it depends on God. Whenever we talk about the kingdom, the main thing we’re talk- ing about is the king. I had a professor who gave me what I think is the best definition of the kingdom of God: all the bother that God goes to establish His rule in our hearts and lives.”

He then associ-at ed his way from the kingdom to mustard lost seeds planted along El Camino Real (“the royal highway” between California missions), which “got you where you needed to go: to worship God, to have something to eat, to find a community. Where do you go and how do you get there? These are kingdom questions.... God is at work, even without our prayer, estab-lishing His rule.”

During the prayer before communion, Hallerberg invoked seeds again: “as grain scattered on the hillside becomes one bread, so let God’s kingdom come from the ends of the earth that all may be fed with the bread of life, Your Son.”

“What happens when we die?” “Somehow or another,” says Hallerberg, “the message of Jesus is always, ‘What are we doing now that we are alive?’” Having said that, what happens when we die is what has contin-u ed to be the case during our life, and that is the grace of God at work in our lives and in His world, and better things are yet to come.... God’s growth is continuing. It’s going to be His secret, and we’re going to get to watch it from the inside out instead of from the out-side.”

— Matthew Lickona

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3. Clarissa Torres

My best friend Bernice is wearing her bikini. I lost that battle two years ago. But I can still wear shorts — the old gams still have a little tone. And the maintenance isn’t too terrible, hair-wise — my thighs don’t show their light blonde fuzz. All I really have to fight with are my lower legs, which sprout dark stumps of hair every other day. If I go more than two days without shaving, husband Patrick starts calling me Jungle Jane.

I’ve been thinking about ditching the razor. I knew plenty about bikini waxing, and thought it’d be even easier to get the same treatment down below the knee. Not so, said Stephanie at Beehive Waxing Salon in Carlsbad (760-729-5200). “Personally, I think the lower leg is the worst thing in the whole world to get waxed,” she said.

“It’s like the pain of a migraine. The upper leg and bikini regions don’t bother me, but the hair on my lower leg is coarser, because I’ve been shaving it longer. When you shave, you trim all the hairs to the same level. With waxing, you pull out the root. Each hair follicle regenerates a new hair at a different rate, so the new hair comes in more sparsely. That way, it gets easier with each new waxing, which you should do every three to four weeks. If you get your lower leg waxed and wait two years to get it done again, it will be the same level of pain as the first time” — all those equally long hairs coming out at once.

Like other waxers, Stephanie spoke well of No-Scream cream. “My clients say that the cream ($17 for 1 oz.) gives a 60 to 80 percent pain reduction if applied 45 minutes before the appointment.” Beehive Waxing Salon charges $35 for lower-leg waxing and $80 for full-leg with bikini.

I thought about monthly waxing appointments. I thought about something more permanent. I paid a visit to the La Jolla office of American Laser Centers (858-202-1808; www.americanlaser.com) and spoke with clinic manager Kay Love about laser hair removal — reduction. (Love told me that’s the official term.) “Laser hair reduction is the hottest thing out here right now,” she told me. “I can hardly get people booked. The technology has improved since the beginning — it’s quicker and more affordable, and it’s not as painful as it used to be. The laser doesn’t go any deeper than the root of the hair, so it doesn’t damage anything else.”

She explained the procedure: “We shave the area first, because you don’t want hair on the surface of the skin. You want the energy of the laser to go for the root, to kill the hair follicle. We mainly use a diode laser — it’s the most effective, because it goes after melanin. So, it works best on a client with light skin and dark hair. If someone has light hair, we have a radio-frequency laser that heats up the hair shaft and breaks it down to the point where it can’t grow hair completely. With the diode laser, however, it’s permanent hair reduction, because it’s more effective at killing the follicle. Hair is reduced up to 80 percent, depending on a person’s genetics.”

If someone has darker skin, they’ll need more treatments, “because with them, we have to use a really low level of energy for the laser.” (This is where skill comes most into play, says Love — calculating the skin type, making the right call for the settings. You have to be a registered nurse to use the laser.) “Still, I have African-Americans come in for facial hair removal. Some of them get ingrown hairs that cause acne and mess up their skin. The laser treatment will break down the hair enough to solve the acne problem.”

But as Love noted, even if you’re an optimal candidate, not all the hair is removed, because hair grows in stages. “There’s an active stage, and you have to capture the hair in the active stage. We time the treatments as closely as we can with what we’ve calculated the active stages to be. If you had your underarm hair reduced today, you’d come back in ten weeks — that’s when the next cycle of hair would be up.” Legs get 11 weeks; facial hair gets 7 weeks. “Underarms usually take six treatments, one every ten weeks.” And, she says, “you’ll still need some touch-up. That’s why we offer a two-year guarantee — so you can get the touch-up.”

What about the pain? “It feels like a light rubber-band snap or a warm, prickly sensation. Women who tell me they’ve done waxing say that this is nothing compared to waxing.

And if I broke down how much you pay for this versus waxing, this is cheaper in the long run. The package cost for legs is $4000, which covers all expenses and comes with a two-year guarantee. But no one pays the full $4000. Every time you refer a friend, we discount your package $250. If you referred eight friends, it would cost only $2000. And until the end of June, we are offering a 25 percent discount off any treatment area — we offer a different promotion every month.”

Aftershave, I spoke with assistant manager Clarissa Torres to get a little more detail on the treatment. “Before we start, we make sure the client isn’t on any medication that would make them sensitive to the sun — like acne medication or antibiotics. That’s because the laser acts like the sun. For two weeks before and after treatment, you must stay out of the sun or use sunscreen of 60 SPF or higher. If you don’t, you could get blisters.”

The most popular regions, said Torres, were “the bikini region and then the underarms or the chin. Legs take an average of six treatments, maybe seven. There are some stubborn areas, like the knee and shin. The ankles are sensitive to treatment sometimes, so we may go to a lower setting. Depending on the size of your legs, each treatment takes one and a half to two hours. The treated area is going to be a little dry and sensitive, so we put on an aloe vera lotion afterwards.”
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Moj Sounds $20 off CD or DVD
Off The Record $20 off any new or used CD
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Relax the Back Up to 40% off floor models
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Tara Picture Frames Free frame

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California Sound & Lighting Pay no sales tax
Car Audio Heaven Autopage car alarm $169 installed
San Diego Auto Stereo Outlet $200 off labor
Soundeo Headset monitors, DVD $299
Wicked Works Auto alarm system $99 complete

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Advantage Limousine Midweek special $99/hour
Big Box Storage, Inc. One month free storage
888 Selfuts Inc. $50 off hot tub rental
Hollywood Limo Free delivery ($10 savings)
San Diego Jet Ski $25 off daily jet ski rental
Skateworld 2 for 1 adults only
Sky Sailing $15 off aerobatic glider ride
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A2 Balloon Flight $20 off hot-air balloon rides
A Plus Rentals $20 off Harley rental
AA Balloon Rides 10% off balloon rides
A+ Truck & Car Rentals Rent a Harley $100/day
Arthu Murray Dance Studio Free private lesson
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Atlas Ticket Free delivery ($10 savings)
Blue Sky Motorcycle Rentals $20 off Harley rental
Bridal Bazaar $200 off labor
Colwood Terrace $1500 off retirement living
The Comedy Store 2 for 1 admission
Firstly Dance Academy 2 free classes
Gem Fair $31 off admission
Hombow Drone & Events Free harbor cruise
Kitty Ceramics $30 off lessons
Miramar Speed Circuit Free race
Pacific Coast Skydiving $125 tandem skydive
San Diego Harbor Excursion $5 off cruise
San Diego Jet Ski $25 off daily jet ski rental
Skateworld 2 for 1 adults only
Sky Sailing $15 off aerobatic glider ride
Skydive San Diego $50 off weekday tandem skydive
The Social Place $30 off admission
Spanish Language Center Free language book
Voice Mail Depot Free voice mail first month
Crasher

by Josh Board

Radio station 103.7 changed its format from classic rock to talk radio. Listeners disapproved, but was it necessary to have two stations in town playing Boston, Journey, and Heart? And 103.7’s new shows are funny. They air one local show, the Dangerous Dick and Skibba show. When I first heard the name of the show, I thought it sounded like a venereal disease and imagined it was going to be a show similar to Loveline on 91X. But Dick and Skibba talk about anything that pops into their minds, which often includes women and partying.

Dick has a “radio voice,” and Skibba reminds me of David Spade. When I heard them talking about their good ratings and hosting a beach party to celebrate, I decided to check it out. It was a bonfire at Dog Beach in O.B. on a Thursday night at 10:30. They announced they’d be going there after their show, and I figured at that hour the cops would shut it down.

I arrived around 11:15 and saw their producer, Lindsay, walking through the parking lot with a few guys. Lindsay reads the news on Dick and Skibba’s show. She has a peculiar voice that reminds me of Victoria Jackson from Saturday Night Live — cute and ditzy.

I walked over to the bonfire and heard Dangerous Dick talking to guys who were passing around a joint. Skibba was walking around the fire pit with a bottle in his hand. He had long, dark hair and looked like Jim Morrison. When I said that to Skibba, he said, “Yeah, when that Doors movie came out, I was in college. I got so high that to Skibba, he said, “Yeah, when that Doors movie came out, I was in college. I got so high that they played. I got so high that they played.

The rest of the evening, I would alternate between taking a puff and spitting sand. I lit up a cigar. Someone asked me for a hit but was disappointed to find out it wasn’t filled with marijuana.

I met two girls from Chicago who had just graduated college. As I talked to them, a guy tripped in the sand and fell into me. I dropped my cigar. Not wanting a three-dollar stogie to go to waste, I wiped the sand off it, and put it back in my mouth. Big mistake.

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There were a few guys with acoustic guitars and someone with bongo drums. A crowd gathered around them as they played. After listening to them for a few minutes, I was distracted by a group of four having an argument. It was about a guy named Taylor who won on American Idol. One guy said Taylor looked like he was 75 years old with all that gray hair. When another person said he was in his late 20s, someone added that there is an age limit on that show, that they don’t accept anyone over 30. A woman came over and said, “I think it’s crazy that more people voted for him than voted in the last presidential election.” I responded, “Taylor has a better voice than Bush.” Another guy said, “That’s bullshit!” I said, “It is? Does Bush have a good singing voice?” He responded, “Not that. About more people voting than in the elections. Everyone keeps saying that, but on that show, sometimes people call in and vote 40 or 50 times, so it’s not accurate like in a presidential election.” Someone jumped in and said, “Yeah, accurate like when Bush stole the election in Florida.”

There was one guy standing by himself, and I talked to him for a little bit. He said he used to listen to NPR, but when he tuned into Dick and Skibba, he thought they were funny. He didn’t seem to fit in with the rest of the crowd. We laughed about the people walking by in a drunken stupor.
Lindsay walked over, and we talked to her for a few minutes. She told us that a friend of hers saw Minnie Driver walking a dog in North Park, and I told her that local musician Greg Laswell was writing songs with her. Lindsay said she went to school with Laswell at Point Loma Nazarene.

Lindsay mentioned moving to Mission Valley from the beach area. She said, “I feel so classy now. When people come over, I want to say ‘Welcome to my apartment. Can I fix you a gin and tonic?’”

I had only been there for 30 minutes when four cop cars rolled up. They shined their flashlights on us and told us the party was over. One officer was pouring out cans of beer. Another asked Skibba about his bottle. He said, “It’s just tea, my man.” The cop moved on to the others. I wasn’t sure why he took Skibba’s word on what was in the bottle.

There were four drunk guys, and one was saying, “Dude, hide the beer in your pants.” “I don’t even have room in my pants for my keys, I can’t put beer down there.” I asked one of the cops what the rule was, and he said, “No beer on the beach after 8 p.m.” Another one said, “It doesn’t matter now. The party is over, even if the beer disappears.”

As everyone was packing it in, I heard the college graduates talking about going back to the place where they were staying in Rancho Bernardo. My stepbrother and I went over to their place and played drinking games in the garage. I had never played “flip cup” before, but it involved everyone chugging a beer and then trying to flip the cup over using only one finger. I told them I wasn’t a beer drinker, so they poured me glasses of wine.

One woman couldn’t get the hang of it, and we laughed as it took her five minutes to get the cup flipped. A few times I lost and had to take shots of Maker’s Mark whiskey. After three shots of that, my throat burned, and I was buzzed.

A dog kept poking its head into the garage and then ran away when it got loud. My stepbrother and I grabbed the dog and tried petting it, but it got freaked out and ran away.

The two college graduates were going to be teachers. My stepbrother is a teacher, and I wondered what a school principal would think if he saw teachers drinking in a garage and throwing cups and tennis balls at each other. When some ’80s hip-hop came on the stereo, one guy did a striptease to it. We threw peanuts and cups at him.

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Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
Option Overload

by Barbarella

Courage is the power to let go of the familiar.
— Raymond Lindquist

When overwhelmed with options, I revert to what I know. If confronted with an extensive menu at a high-end restaurant, I scan for the words “pasta,” “chicken,” and “halibut,” bypassing any dishes that do not contain at least one of these comfortably familiar basics. Rather than researching the latest automobiles on the market, I traded in my 1994 Toyota Corolla for a used 1998 version of the same make and model.

And yet, despite how often I succumb to the gravitational pull of familiarity, I am defensive when David teases me for being a “naked mole rat,” blindly following my own well-worn path. My typical response to this nickname-slash-insult is to recite the many times in the past I have been adventurous. “There was that one time,” I’ll argue, “when I took Doheny to Melrose instead of Sunset to get home after partying in the Hills. So there.”

My preference for the tried and true never seemed to bother David. He’d often push me to stray from my standards, but, when I stubbornly refused, he would just smile, scratch his shaved head, roll his blue eyes, and we’d move on to the next subject. But that was before my adherence to the known began to affect his life, before I subjected him to what he calls “the unspeakable tortoise” — that was before Netflix.

Before Netflix, David and I would go to Hollywood Video on El Cajon Boulevard and, as a team, select a few movies to bring home and watch. I would bine to the walls that held the new releases and search out any faces or titles I might recognize. David preferred to read the back of every box in the comedy and foreign film sections. Upon reuniting after our independent searches we would discuss and debate the DVDs we each had selected. Without fail, I would end up returning most of my handful to the shelves.

The system worked. We were usually happy with our mutually selected movies, and if any of them sucked, we shrugged our shoulders and blamed the cast and crew. But now, because of Netflix, the blame for David’s lack of enjoyment of the last dozen or so movies is mine alone to bear.

For those of you still adjusting the tracking of your VCRs, Netflix is an online movie rental service. All of our friends were doing it, it seemed like such a great idea — thousands of titles at my fingertips, reviews, synopses, easy searching using key words, and I would not even have to leave my office! But after creating my account, I saw the potential for disaster: Me, alone on my laptop, clicking madly through genres and sub-genres, and then, without giving David a chance to debate my selections, pressing the button that puts my virtual handful of flicks on a list to be sent to our home.

There were so many to choose from and they were so easy to sift through, I couldn’t deal. One afternoon, as I agonized over where to begin, one fateful image, a distant memory, popped into my head — Tom Cruise dressed like a woodland fairy fighting an imposing Tim Curry costumed as the devil.

These images were from a movie I had seen as a child and though I couldn’t quite remember the premise, I sensed from the warm fuzzy feeling in my belly that this was a really great film. I typed Legend into the search bar, and there it was.

When the DVD arrived, David was skeptical. “Come on,” he coaxed, “Give it a chance. It’s really good. Humor me.” Reluctantly, David plopped down onto the red leather cushion beside me. The movie began with a scantily clad Tom Cruise frolicking in the forest with a young girl wearing a flowing, gauzy white dress and a crown of flowers. I could feel David’s penetrating stare, his glaring baby blues burning a blush onto my cheeks. Then I uttered the three words, words I have found myself using with increasing regularity, that have caused my love to lose all faith in my movie-choosing ability — “It gets better.”

Legend wasn’t as magical as I remembered. But that didn’t stop me from choosing The Last Unicorn, another nostalgic title, as

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boggled out and his breath caught in his throat, as if I had just punched him in the abdomen. “Come on, let’s check Rotten Tomatoes. This is a great movie. I really think you might like it.” I was intent on redeeming myself and, after all, I’d seen this movie a dozen times, it fit me like an old pair of jeans.

David logged on to rottentomatoes.com, where a quick glimpse allowed him to see how well the film had gone over with critics.

“See? Eighty-two percent, a fresh tomato, I told you it was a good one,” I said.

“Flying dragon?” David squawked after reading the synopsis. “Barb, tell me there’s not a flying dragon in this movie.” I smiled at him, and in response, earned myself a loud, drawn-out sigh.

“Come on, five minutes, just give it five minutes. If you totally hate it we’ll turn it off, but I think you’ll like this one,” I pleaded. “And I promise I won’t make you watch Labyrinth or The Dark Crystal again, even though I want to.”

David looked at me warily, but, in the end, he sat by my side, and he didn’t even complain when I was inspired to hop up off the couch, stand over him, and dance like the flower girl at a wedding reception as I sang along with the theme song.

Though he recently demanded my Netflix password, David’s been a pretty good sport. Now that I have indulged this craving of mine to review every cinematic influence I have had from preschool through adolescence, I can kind of see where he’s coming from. If we were seeing these movies now for the first time, I’d probably think they were dumb too.

Lucky for my love, I’ve just about gotten the shackles of the known and stretch my arms toward things untried. I’ll let David choose one of those old black-and-white movies he seems to like so much and we’ll get takeout from someplace strange and exotic and I’ll even try a dish that doesn’t include chicken, pasta, or halibut! But, just in case things go horribly wrong, I’ve prepared an emergency kit that includes a DVD of Steel Magnolias and a box of Kraft Macaroni & Cheese.
During the 2005–2006 school year, 8250 tenth graders in the San Diego Unified School District were enrolled in World History 1 and 2. The students focused on world history in modern times, roughly from the 1700s to the present — ancient civilizations are covered in sixth grade, medieval and early modern times in seventh. (Students take U.S. history and geography in eighth grade and an elective in ninth.) The tenth graders listened to lectures, made class presentations, and cracked the textbook, where they saw, for example, a brightly colored map of “Napoleon’s Russian Campaign, 1812,” his advance arrowed in blue, his retreat arrowed in red. The majority of these students, 5651, or 69 percent, were enrolled in world history, while 2213, or 27 percent, took advanced world history. (Three hundred eighty-six tenth graders were in advanced-placement world history, where a passing grade may be transferable to college, depending on the school.) Each class had its own text. The book for world history was *Modern World History*, published by McDougal Littell in 2003. The book for advanced world history was *Glencoe World History: Modern Times*, published by McGraw-Hill in 2006. Both the *Modern World History* and the *Glencoe World History* texts are labeled California Edition, which means that the books conform to a set of content standards that California students must be instructed in and tested on. All materials for core curriculum K–12 classes must be aligned with the standards.
Both world history texts weigh five pounds, with pages totaling 750 and 830. Using a forklift to open their shiny covers, you’re overwhelmed by the rush and ubiquity of graphics. You might imagine the kids’ initial delight at seeing so much eye candy last September; but then, after they’d spent a day or more with the book, they were, no doubt, cringing at its blocky facts and data — somewhere, embedded in all that carnival layout, are the answers to the exams they must take. The heft of these door-stoppers comes from an unending parade of colored borders, captioned photos, narrative vignettes, side-bar columns, all in visual competition: yellow-highlighted key-words like “industrial revolution”; “Main idea” statements for each section; boxes banded as “Geographics,” “Internet Activity,” “Critical Thinking,” and “You Decide: Exploring Global Issues”; quotations from Thomas Jefferson or Allah in the Quran, called “Voices From the Past”; bold headings, less bold sub-headings, bigger-smaller fonts; wider-skinnier fonts; tip-box trivia and cartoon drawings; writing assignments; captioned photos; outlines, reviews, lists. On one page I counted nine colors, including hues of red: magenta, brick, and crimson. On another page was a “Featurette,” comparing Roman hairstyles with the beehive of the 1960s. Teachers, of course, supplement the books with overlooked online projects, ancillary material publishers provide. The textbook focus, though, is squarely on the image-learners, the Music Television generation publishers target.

We’d like to think that one pedagogical key is to appeal to our kids via video, movies, computer programs, and lively illustrated textbooks. But these flossy volumes raise the question of how students learn history. Like most products sold to children and teens, textbooks are glib and overworked. The visual clutter is lessened for the advanced students, the challenged and chosen ones with the highest reading ability. For instance, the book for advanced-placement world history is arrayed with some drawings and maps, but it emphasizes the writing — long idea-and fact-rich paragraphs, unaired by bullet points or sidebars. The basics, by contrast, are so deliberately packaged to look fun that the actual content has been reduced or pushed out by the cool pictures and pretty format.

That kids aren’t learning world history is more than just the promise and failure of a text’s design. Many educators feel that kids are uninterested in the subject because the state system of textbook adoption as well as the content of the books, written to comply with adoption guidelines, has been corrupted by religious fundamentalists on the right and multiculturalists on the left. The Thomas B. Fordham Institute, a nonprofit education lobby, reports in its “Mad, Mad World of Textbook Adoption” that California’s standards and the textbooks that follow them slavishly do “far more harm than good.” Students in adoption states, the report notes, score poorly on national tests; the
adopted books, via the state procurement system, are closed to freemarket competition; “lively writing and top-flight scholarship are discouraged”; and, worst of all, the content is “vulnerable to politically motivated censorship.”

“Every individual analyst and expert panel that has studied K–12 textbooks has concluded that they are sorely lacking and that the adoption process cries out for reform.”

One way we know that the state-mandated content is not getting through to students in world history is their dismal scores on the California Standards Tests. In 2005, 87% tenth graders took the world history test, 75 multiple-choice questions. Of the five levels (advanced, proficient, basic, below basic, and far below basic), a combined 35% scored below basic (17 percent) and far below basic (26 percent). By selected high schools, Garfield students scored 82 percent below and far below; Hoover, 56; Madison, 48; Morse, 45; and Point Loma, 41. What’s worse is tenth-grade performance as measured against the district’s “proficiency” goal, that is, scoring at or above proficient. When judged by this criterion, world history scores in the city schools show that in both 2004 and 2005 73 percent of tenth graders are not proficient.

High school history texts render nationalist history — periods and empires described in religiously neutral and multicultural terms. For the tenth grader, the textbook history of the world reflects an uncritical and censored range of facts and precepts. Perhaps these books and their version of the past have a lot to do with why nearly half of those who study world history, in San Diego high schools, at least, are failing the course.

* * *

What’s explained in world history texts is based on the History–Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools. In the 1970s, the state legislature and department of...
education began enacting these “social content standards,” do’s and don’ts, if you will, that all K–12 texts had to comply with. Since then, the standards have been refined and codified and are now legally binding for core classes. An example is the first of the 11 standards for tenth-grade world history: “Students relate the moral and ethical principles in ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, in Judaism, and in Christianity to the development of Western political thought.”

The California standards describe the material to be learned. The goal of all learning is for “students to become prepared to participate successfully in events of local, state, national, and international significance.” How do teachers get to the goal in world history? One way is via a 234-page book, The History-Social Science Framework, from the California Department of Education. The framework guides teachers by listing the criteria that all instructional material must contain. Standards are exactly stated; the framework offers 25 criteria to help insure that the content of the text is aligned with the standards. Some of the criteria are strict. Lower-grade history classes, for instance, must explore the Great Irish Famine of 1845–1850, and every grade level must study the “life and contributions of” César Chávez and Martin Luther King Jr. For high school kids, some guidelines are more open: texts should examine “humanity’s place in ecological systems”; be “based on the best recent scholarship”; and “give significant attention to the principles of morality, truth, justice, and patriotism and to a comprehension of the rights, duties, and dignity of American citizenship, inspiring an understanding of and a commitment to Ameri-
World history is segmented into three periods to be studied in three grades. Grade six focuses on the agricultural, technological, and political development of the first societies, with a concentration on political and religious leaders, art and culture, the role of women, and the foundation of Western ideas; India and China are studied, but the Hebrews, Greece, and Rome are central. Grade seven covers the fall of Rome, the rise of Christianity, the civilizations of the Americas (Inca, Aztec, Mayan), China and Japan, the rise of Islam, as well as the Middle Ages and the Renaissance in Europe. Grade ten picks up with the Enlightenment and moves to the founding of America, the political history on either side of the First and Second World Wars, and the War on Terrorism. Eras and empires are encapsulated, while the narrative emphasizes the “contributions” of religion and culture to humankind as well as Western-style democracy to emerging nations. The purpose of the state standards is to answer the question, “What should my child be learning?”

Each year, depending on a six- or eight-year cycle of textbook adoption, the district’s instructional materials department requests books from publishers. (Texts for K–8 are chosen by state committees; texts for 9–12 are chosen by local committees.) In 2004, advanced world history, along with algebra, AP biology, AP physics, and other courses, were slated for new materials. Publishers are especially keen on 9–12 adoptions because, as “open territories,” any product, theoretically, is in the running. However, according to Donna Marriott, San Diego Unified assistant director for literacy, bi-literacy, English learner support, and social studies, “Any curriculum that comes into the facility has to be accompanied by a standards map.” A standards map is a grid that shows, by correlating page and standard, how the publisher has aligned his book with the standards. Only those publishers who have designed their books to match the standards have a chance. Of the 456 publishers the district contacted for world history adoption, 10 publishers, or two percent, sent books.

At the same time the ten books were arriving, Marriott asked former Clairemont High history teacher Patrick McElhaney to chair the advanced world history adoption committee. A pleasant if abstracted man, McElhaney, 39, spoke with me in his classroom at Point Loma High School. For a year, he worked at the district, overseeing the history curriculum, but is now back in the classroom. Wearing a dark blue shirt with a darker blue tie, the bearded McElhaney told me that he and Marriott advertised in fall 2004 through department chairs, school principals,
They were not singled out, according to Marriott, by scholars solicited? Were historians and in-house historians consulted? She and the curriculum director believed the number of students would be 2000. To this she added 20 percent for copies in the event sections, or the number of students, has increased, also called a reserve. Thus, 2000 copies became 2400 copies. She then added 10 percent more for copies to cover immediate, unanticipated needs. The total was 2600.

A new district policy requires that every core adoption must have an additional set of texts kept in the classroom, so each pupil has a textbook at home and at school. So Hankins requested 1700 more copies for 48 classrooms at about 35 students per room. She added 10 percent, for unanticipated needs, and got 1870. Her total was 4470 and she ordered 4450. Each copy costs $63.48. The total for 4450 was $282,486. Tax was $21,893.

Finally, the estimated number of teachers for advanced world history was 47. Each of the 47 teachers received a $2078 classroom resource payment to buy supplemental books. Why the classroom sets when each student is issued a text? The district instituted this policy because occupational therapists have shown that the weight of several five-pound books in a kid’s backpack can cause tingling arms, stooping posture, and aching shoulders and back. One way not to duplicate textbook purchases would be for publishers to print textbooks no longer than 200 pages, which kids could then transport more easily. Assembly Bill 756, passed by the House last year, seeks to ban books over 200 pages. The bill has been lodged in the Senate Education Committee and still has not been voted on by the Senate. Meanwhile, many districts in the state are buying up to twice the number of books so students do not have to lug them back and forth. The allocation for new textbooks in the district was $7.6 million this past year.

love to have them involved. Some adoption committees, in language arts or health, do attract parents, religious groups, even the occasional scholar. One committee member said that historians were not contacted by the district because she believes potential textbooks have already been analyzed by in-house historian-consultants during the writing process. Textbooks list these “consultants” or “contributors” or “reviewers” in their author section. The Modern World History had some 40 names, typically college and high school history and social studies teachers. Many were contacted and none responded; one textbook insider said that consultants are bound by confidentiality agreements and cannot speak.

At the first meeting, McElhaney, a nonvoting member, trained the committee to evaluate books by using the state’s rubric: the text must follow the standards, be readable, and have depth of content. Within an hour the committee eliminated seven of the ten books — they were not aligned to the standards. Although each district committee may choose its own 9–12 materials, state regulations narrow that choice severely. The committee cannot consider “materials that are contrary to or inconsistent with the standards, framework, and criteria.” The adoption process is also bound by two Education

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Codes: 60119, which requires schools to have sufficient materials for every student, be standards-aligned, and be consistent with the curriculum frameworks, and 60422, which requires the state, when spending money on textbooks, to pay only for “standards-aligned instructional materials.” A third restriction: California tenth graders are tested for knowledge based on the standards.

Tom Adams, director of the Curriculum Frameworks Unit at the California Department of Education, told me that if a district decides to teach the world history curriculum outside of the state’s framework, the district is putting “those students in a situation where they’re taught one thing and they’re being tested on another. What’s being tested is based upon the standards.”

Point Loma High history teacher Simone Arias, who served on the committee, asserted that the committee “had no choice. The publishers publish the book to fit the framework. The standards and the state demand we follow them, so the book that comes closest to spelling them out wins.”

Of the three making the cut, one was the text they adopted, the Glencoe World History, 2006 edition. The second, the nation’s most popular high school history text, was from Prentice Hall, World History: Connections to Today: The Modern Era. The third book had already been approved for AP world history, World History: Comprehensive Volume, from Thomson-Wadsworth Publishing.

“The problem was,” McElhaney recalled, “we got the highest [reading] level” with the Thomson AP book and “the two lowest-level texts” with...
the Glencoe and the Prentice Hall. "There was no middle level."

Though McElhaney and the committee had no contact with any publisher during the adoption process, sales reps pepper him with sample copies, hoping he'll survey their products. McElhaney said he gladly shelves these freebies as classroom references. In the past, he said, publishers would distribute "pens and pads and bags" to teachers, although "book fairs," which the district used to allow, are no more. Only at the last committee meeting, in January 2005, could the sales reps pitch. Each had 20 minutes to persuade the committee of its product's benefits. Each brought in a "history expert" to testify to the text's accuracy. Ancillary materials like overheads, maps, and CD-ROMs were demonstrated. One committee member, Hoover High teacher Chris Steussy, remembered the presenters as "a bunch of used-car salesmen."

McElhaney reminded his committee "to be cognizant in their reading and evaluations" of gender representation, loaded language, and ethnic stereotypes. At home, members studied their copies and summarized their findings. At the next meeting, McElhaney said, "nobody brought up" content issues — each text mirrored the standards. What was at issue? Readability. On the list of committee members that McElhaney showed me, seven of the ten teachers work at inner-city schools like Hoover and San Diego High. Since many of those students' first language is not English, the seven decided on the Glencoe, the easiest of the three.

Opposition to the Glencoe was stiff. Committee member Matt Pruden of Patrick Henry wrote that the Glencoe is not exceptional; [it's] simplistic in its approach with little attention given to the female and minority voice — very Euro-centric." He also wrote that if the district purchased the Glencoe — he thought the book already in use was no worse than the new one — it would be "a colossal waste of money during a time of severe budget limitations." Other members wanted to challenge the students. Simone Arias, who is a 25-year high school veteran and, 15 years ago, was a paid consultant for Prentice Hall, felt an advanced course should have, well, an advanced text, the Thomson book. Sandra Bartels of Clairemont High liked its "academic rigor." But the majority of the committee disagreed. Several believed the Thomson text was a college- not a high school-level book. With a layout less graphics- than text-driven, the book failed because, according to committee members' notes, there was "little use of varied fonts, colorful print or subtitles"; a "dearth of maps, sidebars, and special features" like "pie charts"; and "little support for
English-language learners. "One noted that it was "just simple text," meaning not visually stimulating. Madison High teacher Paul Anderson favored the Glencoe since it "has licensed easy-to-recognize media resources in National Geographic" and other TV channels. Steussy felt the Glencoe was superior because it had "many more ancillary materials — fiction, documents, maps, just gobs of stuff. It was a better package overall."

Although Steussy voted for the Glencoe, he was candid about its limitations. World history texts, he said, "certainly don't seek out controversy. All the books we looked at do a pretty good job of summarizing the current state of historical understanding. That doesn't lend itself to any controversy." Students are also cognizant of textbook limitations. Steussy recalled one of his students asking him why the historical event recounted in the Steven Spielberg movie Amistad, about a trial of Africans who rebelled while on board a slave ship in the 1840s, wasn't in the book. Steussy answered the student with his own query: "I wonder how many other stories in history aren't there?" Perhaps the text publisher thinks the story of the Amistad is not important, he said, or that it doesn't fit in with the book's narrative. History, he reminded them, is...
interesting because of its conflicting narratives. Chief among Steussy's criticisms of the textbooks he's seen is that publishers haven't gotten around to seeing world history "as an actual world phenomenon. Many of these books may say 'Third Edition,' but I bet they've been around for decades." He noted the focus on war, nation-building, and the "march to democracy," which the standards espouse and the texts echo. Without doubt, he said, tenth-grade world history is biased toward the political. "There is no assessment" in these books "of cultural history, of social history, which is the new wave of academic historians. There is some sort of inertia, generation after generation, that pumps out stories of democracy and world wars." Even though texts spotlight nationalist politics and world war, the standards require books to soften any material that might upset young minds. So Steussy and McElhaney, by their own choice, use other sources, say, a chapter from All Quiet on the Western Front, to show war's horror, or a film like Amistad, to wring a human story out of slavery.

One of the ironies of choosing instructional material is that good teachers rely much more on classroom activities than on a book's explanations. McElhaney begins his semester with a unit on historiography: How do we study history, and what do we look for? He recounts the key terms of historical analysis: "bias, objectivity, context, primary sources, evidence, interpretation, types of history — social, political, economic. How," he submits to his classes, "can you use these things to study history?" That list, he told me, is not in the Glencoe. As he goes, he creates assignments: write essays, do group projects, design Web pages. Assignments, he said, are necessary to get "regular-level kids motivated. They'll do it if they know someone is going to look at [what they do]." They will try harder. It may take more time. And maybe," he said, "they'll focus on some of the big questions." One thing's for sure. "They can't sit there. They won't listen. They don't like to read the textbook."

I wondered why, since he supplements the textbook so much, he needs one. "They have to have a textbook. It's like an anchor," McElhaney said that no teacher should be responsible for assembling course material. What's more: "How can you teach without resources?" The textbook is a source. Besides, students "have to get used to reading textbooks. It's a reality in college."

McElhaney told me that his tenth graders love controversy, or what he calls the messiness of history. But there's no time to get messy. "How much time do you think" — he scoffed — "we devote to the Holocaust? A day or two. That's it." McElhaney
cited a new district-made map that models a "progression of units," which support the "essential understandings, essential questions, and big ideas" of the standards. "Unit 1: How Did Modern Political Thought Develop? 5–6 weeks. ""Unit 4: What Were the Causes and Effects of the Second World War? 6–7 weeks." He said that not much of history's messiness can take wing with such time restraints. To bore students, skim historical periods; to interest them, read a compelling narrative like Elie Wiesel's Night. But, to accomplish the latter, teachers must supply background and permit discussion. It's time consuming. And teachers themselves need to "stay on task." Over the school year, McElhaney noted, "The reality is, you've got to get to World War I by January. "Most people don't know anything about what teachers go through," McElhaney added, his hands resting in his lap. He was tired, he said; he'd been up till midnight grading papers. I asked how many students he has this semester. He didn't know. He stood up before the empty desks and point-counted each one. "Let's see, 32 times 5. That's how many students I have."

In a post-9/11 culture, California standards, school curricula, and textbook content have airbrushed Islam's image. As a result, one finds few textbook references to Islam's history of violence and intolerance. The book's content actually says is quite another. Any book adopted in California is subject to another set of guidelines, also enumerated in The History–Social Science Framework, which insist on positive presentations of religion, ethnicity, race, and gender. A Korean-American student in the state, for example, must see the history of Korea, if it's shown in the text, in a positive light. Men and women, as well as...
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minors, must be proportionally represented in all periods whether the gender or the group had any significant effect or not. Illustrations must show the tall and the short, the heavy and the thin, the dark- and the light-complexioned, plus families headed by two parents, one parent, grandparents, aunts and uncles — but no same-sex parents. Language must be gender-neutral ("mankind" is "humankind"); stereotypical roles are forbidden (according to critic Tamin Ansary, "No text-book can show African Americans playing sports, Asians using computers, or women taking care of children"), and persons with disabilities as well as older persons (always physically moving, never sedentary) must be included. Product placement is prohibited, though violations are flagrant: most sidebar articles in the Glencoe World History text are "branded" by National Geographic (a nonprofit) while the text's atlases feature the seal of Rand McNally (a commercial entity). Diet talk must reflect good nutrition and healthy lifestyles. In this hyper-sensitive environment, bowdlerization — to expurgate prudishly — occurs before the book gets to the printer. One proactive editor changed the title of an original kids' story, "A Perfect Day for Ice Cream," to "A Perfect Day"; he did so because state guidelines say that junk food "encourages obesity." Never mind that the kids have eaten tons of sweets already: textbook ice cream will kill you.

The most active ingredient in the writing of history for textbooks is presentation. Presentism looks at the past through the lens of our standards of morality and social equality. An example: to represent women in the Renaissance, text writers will state that "some women were shop owners." Though scant evidence exists to support this claim, it has become part of Renaissance life so that women will feel good today about a time when women had few rights. Presentism chiefly affects how textbooks regard religious belief, ethnic heritage, and women's rights in history. It says that we must apply contemporary standards of social justice to past epochs in order to right past wrongs. What's more, since all aggrieved groups and revered beliefs in history must be seen in today's positive light, we must feel a kind of unadulterated sympathy for the past and its people.

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Students often begin tenth grade by reviewing what their books say about religious prophets. For example, in the *Glencoe* — the text being read by advanced world history’s 2213 students — the section’s prefatory “Main Idea” is that “Christianity was able to spread rapidly through the Roman imperial network, while both Roman and Christian values influenced the West.” The text describes Jesus’ life and that “his message was simple. He told his fellow Jews that he did not plan to harm their traditional religion.” “After the death of Jesus, his followers proclaimed that he had risen from death and had appeared to them.” In *Modern World History* — the book being read by world history’s 5651 students — the “Main Idea” is, “Judaism and Christianity taught individual worth, ethical standards, and the need to fight injustice.” Under “Why It Matters Now,” we learn, “These ideals continue to be important to democracy today.” The text recounts, “According to the New Testament, Jesus of Nazareth was born around 6 to 4 B.C. . . . His preaching contained many ideas from Jewish tradition, such as monotheism and the principles of the Ten Commandments. Jesus emphasized God’s personal relationship to each human being.” And later, “According to Jesus’ followers, he rose from the dead three days later and ascended into heaven. His followers believed he was the Messiah, or savior.”

In the *Glencoe*, Muhammad, the founder of Islam, “is often called the Prophet.” We hear about his birth, that he was “intelligent and hardworking and became a capable merchant. He married a widow, had children, and seemed to have a happy and comfortable life.” We also hear that “according to tradition, one night in 610, while Muhammad was deep in meditation, an angelic voice called out: ‘Recite!’ A frightened Muhammad replied, ‘What shall I recite?’ and the voice responded, ‘In the name of thy Lord the Creator, who created . . .’”
mankind from a clot of blood, recite! The voice then began to speak about the nature of God." Muhammad "memorized everything the voice revealed and began to preach these words to others."

Such capsule biographies seem innocuous. But consider the issue of attribution. To cite "evidence" of religious origins, Jesus’ and Muhammad’s words are quoted ("according to Jesus"), they come from their disciples ("his followers proclaimed"), or they fit under the big tent ("according to tradition"). The problem is, when a text reports that a religion has been revealed by God, accepted on faith, and reported as tradition, a religion’s claim and historical fact are at odds. This is not an argument against teaching about religious traditions, which the Supreme Court has guaranteed is constitutionally protected. Rather, it is a question of teaching historical scholarship about a religion’s origin rather than, as the textbooks do, merely declaring what the faiths say. A belief in the “truth” of a prophet’s words is not the same as saying such words are historically true. Scholars know the difference between the actual occurrence of the Holocaust, whose truth is found in eyewitness accounts, photographs, records, and the Nuremberg tribunal, and supernatural events related in a venerated text. The former is true by evidence; the latter is true by devo- tion. Textbooks cite no archeological evidence as to where “scripture” comes from; creation stories are never called myths, except those of the Native Americans, who, in textbook-land, lived in “harmony with the Great Spirit.” Claims and elisions can be outrageous: one world history book, without revealing its source, touts the political power held by Iroquois women and avoids mentioning the Iroquois’s love of torturing captive Hurons, a fact easily checked. By state standard, a textbook author is free, even encouraged, to dance around historical accuracy. And yet quotations attributed to prophets are nestled into world history as if they were fact. Put differently, how do sixth, seventh, and tenth graders know the difference between fact and legend when all traditions are given equal status in the march of history?

According to the state’s criterion for religious subject matter, materials must “remain neutral... do not include derogatory language about a religion or use examples from sacred texts or other religious literature that are derogatory.” By state standard, it would be derogatory or an adverse assertion to dispute, let alone say, that whatever a religion or a people or a gender claims as its tradition may not be true. Nowhere is this rule applied as strictly as it is with Islam. In a post-9/11 culture, California standards, school curricula, and textbook content have airbrushed Islam’s image. As a result, one finds few textbook references to Islam’s history of violence and intolerance. This is not to say that textbooks let only Islam’s imperialism off the hook; very little critical is said about any empire or faith. The American Textbook Council, however, argues that the standards for teaching about religion are being egregiously used by publishers to “misrepresent Islam past and present: they contain

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DUI Jury Trial .38% BAC: Hung jury
DUI Jury Trial .24% BAC: Hung jury
DUI Jury Trial .20% BAC: Hung jury
DUI .25% BAC: Entire case dismissed
DUI .21% BAC: Entire case dismissed

DUI .18% BAC: Reduced to public intoxication—no DUI
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fallacies and untruths about jihad, sharia, slavery, status of Muslim women, terrorism, and tolerance.” This is it, the Fordham report on textbook adoption asks, that Mali’s significance as a center for the “Islamic slave trade…[is] papered over”? (A similar glaring bit of revisionism is to temper Aztec human sacrifice as a “requirement to ensure that the sun rises each day.”) If religious dynasties do no harm, then students may learn that the problems of the world, insofar as they learn about them at all, stem only from the secular realm.

Another aspect of depicting religious traditions is the blatant political agenda. When a religion grows — or, as textbooks prefer, “spreads” — faith is always a democratizing force. Such is the historical “appeal” of Christianity in Islamic countries grows — or, as the historical agenda. When a religion grows — or, as textbooks prefer, “spreads” — faith is always a democratizing force. Such is the historical “appeal” of Christianity in Islamic countries. "Religions united peoples of diverse political and ethnic identities. An alternative guide- post, which places religion at the center of national expansion in history, comes from the National Center for History in the Schools: “Religions united peoples of diverse political and ethnic identities. Religion also, often enough, divided groups into hostile camps and gave legitimacy to war or social repression.”

Admitting the conflict may invite rather than stanch the discussion. Finally, textbooks rarely mention the historical importance of

"imposed equality" on people by war, or by proselytizing, would be negative. In fact, in these particular texts, only two negatives come up. First, in Modern World History, the “age of exploration” was “driven by a desire for wealth and Christian converts.” And second, from the same book’s section on “Modern Terrorism,” Islam and Christianity “have viewed each other with hostility since at least the time of the Crusades” as a reason for present-day conflict. A “desire for” converts and a hostile “view” of the “other” hardly characterizes the aggression of religious fundamentalists. An alternative guidepost, which places religion at the center of
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one of Hitler’s rallies, a schoolteacher in Hamburg said, ‘When the speech was over, there was roaring enthusiasm and applause…How many look up to him with touching faith as their helper, their saviour, their deliverer from unbearable distress.’ The personal testimony gives the passage greater weight, even though the text still couches such egregious devotion as “enthusiasm.” In succeeding paragraphs, we hear about Hitler’s means: scapegoating Jews; controlling Parliament; appealing to industrialists and aristocrats; public works projects and Nazi party rallies. Through it, we get some sense of Hitler as a proselytizer and madman.

It is true that these textbooks show leaders who inspire excessive “enthusiasm” to a cause as dangerous: this is the lesson of history. And, it is the individual, especially the nationalist zealot in the 20th Century, who corrupts us, not his ideology: this is also the lesson of history. But what’s missing is a simple explanation that history is composed of people who instill religious-like fervor in the masses, for good and bad ends. Understanding ideology is crucial to understanding history, but ideology is left out. How can students learn about history if a text cannot say anything bad about what people believe? Do teachers make these distinctions in the classroom? The books don’t. Can students recognize the variant strains of ideological thinking? The books don’t.

California state guidelines stress that when adopting a world history text the book “should present history as an exciting and fascinating story”; students should be able to read the material “with interest…and pleasure”; the text should engage the imagination of the reader; and the “writing should be vivid and dramatic without sacrificing accuracy.” Leaving aside the questions of accuracy and bias, the narrative in world history texts is rarely exciting, seldom pleasurable to read, and never imaginatively written. Nor do these texts take the time to explain, as we’ve seen, the manipulative power of ideology. Instead, they rush to their true goal: a neon-colored review box that reminds students of what’s really important: “Vocabulary,” “People and Events,” “Places,” and “Reviewing Big Ideas.” The historical narrative in the Glencoe, more so than the Modern World History (one reason why the Glencoe

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- You receive up to $1155 for your time and travel.
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- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Schizophrenia

Outpatient Research Study
Is it hard to focus and get motivated?

Many treatments for schizophrenia focus on the voices and fears, but what about how hard it is to do simple tasks? We are studying an investigational medication that focuses on the lack of motivation and energy associated with schizophrenia.

Are you currently taking Zyprexa, Risperdal, Seroquel, Abilify, or Geodon and still not functioning well? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication for the low-energy symptoms associated with schizophrenia. 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 receive up to $1105 for your time and travel.
- You receive no-cost research study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.
Insomnia  
Sleepless Nights    
Exhausted Days

A clinical research study for insomnia is now underway. Doctors are enrolling patients in a study of an investigational drug for insomnia.

To qualify for participation in this study, you must:
- Be 18-64 years of age
- Have had trouble falling and staying asleep for more than 3 months

Study participation includes, at no charge:
- Study visits with a medical professional
- Investigational study drug
- Study procedures and tests

Qualified participants could receive compensation for incidental costs and travel.

For more information, call (toll-free):

877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

Do you have Type 1 Diabetes?

Covance is currently seeking participants for a 52 week research study using an investigational "Inhaled Insulin" before meals and an injection of insulin at bedtime.

You may qualify if you:
- have Type 1 diabetes for at least 1 year
- are between age 18-80 years of age
- are a Non-smoker

If eligible, you will receive the following at no cost during the study period:
- Physical exam
- Laboratory blood work
- Electrocardiograms (EKG)
- Pulmonary function testing
- Chest-x-rays
- Glucose meter and test strips
- All insulin required by the study

Those participating will remain under the care of their regular physician for all other health issues. Participants will also receive reimbursement for time/travel expenses.

Call Mon-Fri for more information
1.866.818.3253 (English)  
1.866.977.8322 (Spanish)
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A Clinical Study for People with Schizophrenia
Seeking balance every step along the way

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 1 out of every 100 adults suffers from schizophrenia, a serious brain disorder.

A clinical study is seeking volunteers diagnosed with schizophrenia. In order to participate, study volunteers should be:
- Between ages 18 and 65
- Diagnosed with schizophrenia
- Able to be treated in an outpatient setting

Participation in the study includes:
- 26 outpatient visits over 2 years, including visits every 6 months to an ophtalmologist
- FDA-approved investigational study medication
- Study-related examinations and health assessments

If you or someone you know is affected by schizophrenia, you can learn more about this clinical study by calling:

PCSD ~ Feighner Research Institute
877-FOR-INFO (877-367-4636)
Type 2 Diabetes Study

Are you ...

• A type 2 diabetic controlling your diabetes with diet only or Metformin alone?
• Age 30-65 years old?

If you answered yes to the above questions you may qualify for this clinical trial.

Qualified participants will receive:

• Study-related physical exams and lab work at no extra charge
• Compensation up to $2500 (some overnight stays required)

Call Today:
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Local: 619-409-1244 or 619-409-1257
E-mail: studies@profil-research.com

Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes?

If the answer is yes, Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study.

You may qualify for this study if you:

• Are age 30-70
• Have had type 2 diabetes for at least 2 years
• Are controlling your diabetes with no more than 2 oral medications
• Have no major health problems
• Are able to stay at our facilities for an overnight period

Qualified Participants May Receive:

• Volunteer stipend up to $5100
• 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:
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studies@profil-research.com
AREN'T YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

We are seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of depression due to bipolar disorder.

TO QUALIFY:
• You must be at least 18 years old
• You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
• You must be experiencing symptoms of depression

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:
• Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
• Medical and lab exams • Study medication

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL:
PCSD - Feighner Research
877-FOR-INFO (367-4636)

ARE YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

ARE YOU OVER 65 WITH A MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER?

Mental health disorders affect approximately one out of every eight people over age 65. Although today's treatments can be effective, a new study is underway for an investigational medication that may be more effective in treating some mental health disorders.

If you or someone you know is over 65 and has been diagnosed with a mental health disorder with symptoms such as delusions, hallucinatory behavior, excitement, hostility or poor impulse control, you or your loved one may qualify for a research study that provides all study-related medical care at no cost.

All telephone calls and visits are confidential and safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, please call the Sharp Mesa Vista Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350.
**Fibroids of the Uterus**

Has your doctor told you:

**You have fibroids of the uterus?**

Fibroids are benign tumors of the uterus and are found in 30% of women in this country. They cause pelvic pain and pressure, as well as excessive bleeding. They are the most common cause of hysterectomy in the United States. A research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for the reduction in size and symptoms of uterine fibroids.

To qualify:
- 18-50-year-old premenopausal females
- Have at least one fibroid tumor in your uterus
- Must have regular or steady periods
- Not on hormonal contraception

Participants will receive:
- Examination by a board-certified OB-GYN
- All study-related medication or placebo, lab studies, ultrasound, EKG, Pap smear
- Compensation for your time and travel

For more information, call:
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MAJOR DEPRESSION

We may currently or in the future have inpatient and outpatient research studies involving investigational medications for the conditions listed above. Qualified candidates will be reimbursed for time and transportation ($50 for each inpatient hospital day and up to $100 for each outpatient visit).

For more information, call: 858-566-8222
The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC “CNRI, LLC

Do you have trouble falling asleep?

A research study is being conducted to evaluate an approved medication in an investigational use in the treatment of insomnia.

If you have been diagnosed with chronic insomnia and experience difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep, you may qualify for participation in this study.

Qualified participants will receive study drug and study-related physician visits at no cost and could be compensated up to $1,200 for time and travel.

If you would like more information or think you may be eligible for this study, please contact the physician’s office below.

For more information, call:
Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
877-927-5337
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ment about the slaves begins to look different, doesn’t it? But if you leave out any kind of information that gives context, then you have created an absolutely false impression, which is politically palatable. Everybody’s taught to weep and wail about the ten percent of the slaves who died. But when you were shipping people by sea over long distances in the 1700s, that was typical — and it was in no way particular to the case of the slave ships.”

Benetta advocates that adoption committees should hire professional historians with particular specialties to review the books. Adoption decisions should not be left to committee members themselves, not to interested “community members,” not even to parents. Why?

“What do parents know about history? They can’t be relied on to know anything” about what their kids are learning in school. Statistically, anyone who puts himself onto a committee for textbook adoption may or may not have a knowledge of history. Teachers, like parents, he said, “are members of the public at large; they don’t know history better than anyone else.” Benetta cited Diane Ravitch’s 1997 speech to the National Council for History Education, in which she stated her findings that 55 percent of history teachers have neither a bachelor’s degree (nor a minor) in history, let alone an advanced degree. Most have degrees in education. She asked, “How can teachers teach what they have not studied? How can students learn challenging subject matter from teachers who have not chosen to study what they are teaching?” Benetta echoed Ravitch.

“To imagine that these people can pick out a history book is as absurd as going to a bus stop and picking somebody to select a history book. Either a person is a historian and is qualified to make judgments about a given body of work that purports to be historical information, a person

Do you get nervous in social situations?

❑ My fear of embarrassment causes me to avoid doing things or speaking to people.
❑ I avoid activities in which I am the center of attention.
❑ Being embarrassed and looking stupid are among my worst fears.

If you answered YES to any of the above, you may be eligible to participate in an experimental research study using an investigational drug compared to placebo to treat social anxiety disorder at UCSD. Your participation will include a physical exam and may include the use of brain imaging techniques. To receive more information, call: 1-877-4CSH-SHIV (1-877-827-3749) or e-mail: eyshiv@ucsd.edu

Clinical care will be provided and you may receive monetary compensation.
that textbooks be decide which books are doctors at the helm — committees — with his- standards and let adoption we should dump all stan- ans actually to write text- Bennetta wants histori- history degrees.) least five of the ten have adoption committee, at advanced world history . Dressing him up and period — or he’s not. He Hebrews were presented: “There was a lot of pulling of hair and gnashing of teeth; we couldn’t agree on the way it should be done. The texts are very careful, of course. It doesn’t matter who’s writing them. There were so many dif-

April 2005, Aguirre served on a committee, the Instructional Materi- als Adoption Panel, with 90 other teachers, evalu- ating new texts for sixth- grade world history. All X-9 history and social science books are under- going a new adoption cycle this year. In Sacra- mento, Aguirre and oth- ers had a hard time with how Islam and the Hebrews were presented: “There was a lot of pulling of hair and gnashing of teeth. We couldn’t agree on the way it should be done. The texts are very careful, of course. It doesn’t matter who’s writing them. There were so many dif-

**Have your pimples taken control of your face?**

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for kids and adults to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for mild to moderate acne.

**Qualifications include:**
- Kids and adults between the ages of 12-30
- Must have at least 20 pimples on face

**Qualified participants:**
- May receive a supply of study drug or placebo
- Will receive compensation for their time and travel

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

**BIPOLAR DISORDER and ALCOHOLISM STUDY**

**Signs and Symptoms:**
- Do you have mood swings or difficulty concentrating?
- Feeling trapped in either a manic “up” episode or a depressive “down” episode?
- Do you find yourself drinking to cope with your mood swings?

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Anxiety. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Anxiety at no cost to you.

**ANXIETY STUDY**

**Signs and Symptoms:**
- Experiencing persistent worry?
- Feeling restless, irritable, or tense?
- Having difficulty sleeping?
- Having difficulty concentrating?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Anxiety.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for kids and adults to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for mild to moderate acne.

**Qualifications include:**
- Kids and adults between the ages of 12-30
- Must have at least 20 pimples on face

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- Will receive compensation for their time and travel

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

**Social Anxiety Disorder?**

- Do You Fear Meeting New People?
- Do You Fear Social Events?
- Are You Worried About Being at the Center of Attention?
- Are You Worried About Being Around People?

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Anxiety. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Anxiety at no cost to you.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for kids and adults to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for mild to moderate acne.

**Qualifications include:**
- Kids and adults between the ages of 12-30
- Must have at least 20 pimples on face

**Qualified participants:**
- May receive a supply of study drug or placebo
- Will receive compensation for their time and travel

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

**Are you sad due to Bipolar Disorder?**

We are currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of DEPRESSION due to Bipolar Disorder.

**To qualify, you must:**
- Be at least 18 years old
- Have been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder
- Experiencing symptoms of depression

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Anxiety. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Anxiety at no cost to you.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for kids and adults to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for mild to moderate acne.

**Qualifications include:**
- Kids and adults between the ages of 12-30
- Must have at least 20 pimples on face

**Qualified participants:**
- May receive a supply of study drug or placebo
- Will receive compensation for their time and travel

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact: (619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

**Volunteers Needed**

**Do you have high cholesterol?**

If so, you may be qualified to participate in a 22-week study, in which participants must...
- Be at least 18 years old
- Discontinue any current cholesterol medication
- Follow a diet recommended by the American Heart Association
- Be willing to have blood tests taken and safely monitored at each study visit

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact the physician listed below for additional information.

**Dr. William Shapiro**
619.291.2845

All studies are conducted in accordance with an approved protocol, clinical study conduct guidelines, regulations and ethical principles. Participant confidentiality is strictly adhered to, and all participation is strictly voluntary.
Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder?

Optimum Health Services is currently conducting a research study to find out how two common antipsychotic drugs, Olanzapine and Risperidone, may affect the way the body uses sugar.

Participants should be aged 18 to 65 years with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, and have not been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons in the last three months.

This study does not involve a sugar pill, otherwise known as a placebo, and all the study drugs have been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Some symptoms of schizophrenia include:

- Delusions, or having false beliefs that others don’t share
- Hallucinations, or seeing or hearing things that others don’t see or hear
- Paranoia, or unnecessary mistrust or suspicion

Hospitalization, medical evaluations and the investigational drugs will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also receive compensation for their time and travel.

To find out more information and to see if you qualify please contact Optimum Health Services at: 866-217-9206

RESEARCH STUDIES

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ARE YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Then there might be hope.

We are seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of depression due to bipolar disorder.

TO QUALIFY:

- You must be at least 18 years old
- You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
- You must be experiencing symptoms of depression

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:

- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
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Is the dismal performance of San Diego high school kids in world history — a 43 percent failure rate and a below-proficiency level of 73 percent — an indication of how bad the textbooks are? Why is it that with the state’s resources, with the adoption committees picking the best book, with committed teachers in the classroom, with millions of dollars spent on standards-aligned books — kids still score so poorly? I asked literacy director Donna Marriott what she thought.

Marriott said low test scores are not the fault of textbooks. “We put the best product we can in kids’ hands.” She admitted that “any world history text is a difficult read for kids. They’re dense, fact-laden books. The content is hard, and it requires prior knowledge. The courses in world history are incoherent, that is, they’re laid out nonsequentially — by tenth grade, they haven’t had social studies for a year or two. There’s a big delay.” Marriott said that the district has decided that the way to improve test scores is to improve teachers. “We have a plan of action in place,” she told me. “This year, we are offering more professional development for our world history teachers. Trainings. Providing them with a curriculum map and a pacing guide. Our curriculum map pulls out the big ideas so teachers don’t get immersed in the minutiae — the facts, the events, the dates, the boundaries. Our theory of action is that if teachers teach the big ideas of the discipline, they’re going to get better results.” As for the kids, she said, the district is implementing “an end-of-semester exam and an end-of-course exam,” which means two more tests per year. That, she said, should push them to be more proficient in history.

William J. Bennetta said that the idea that helping teachers with curriculum and giving tests more frequently to students will, taken together, somehow make kids history-smart is ludicrous. “Who cares,” he said, “whether kids are doing well or poorly at memorizing falsehoods and reciting nonsense? Kids should be tested on the right material, not these lousy textbooks.”

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   • Pedi-spa included
   • Facial Treatment
   • 45-minute back massage or Hydroxy Acid Peel

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Every Furtive Soul

It’s an empty middle-of-the-week hump night, Wednesday, 2:30 a.m. The moon is full; the uncommonly illuminated sky is azure and clear, bright as it most often is a half-hour before sunup. University Avenue looks broader at night, quiet and wide open and still. Any sound is amplified tenfold — each car that passes cannot disguise quivers from loose bolts, shudders from worn belts, gasps from wounded mufflers or radiators.

A few blocks east of College, next to the Salvation Army rotunda, squats the Jolar Adult Theater, promising XXX Video and Parking in Rear. A red neon sign blazing in the front window proclaims, always, Live Girls.

Within a cheerless glass display case just inside the open front door, an array of pseudo-studio-quality photographs advertises the dancers. The pictures are unframed, bowed, affixed with crude handwritten labels: Monet, Sicily, Jezebel, Angel. A wistful androgyny: Sebastian. A portly matron in blue Sears chiffon: Helene. Their smiles are artless, unpracticed, out of focus.

A brightly lit showroom lies behind the photos. Staring out across his counter, the bored night clerk observes a clean, well-dressed young man browsing timidly through shelves of videotapes; piles of sealed magazines; racks of sleazy tabloid newspapers; stacks of creams, ointments, salves, and gels; and row upon row of prepackaged rubber genitalia.

The clerk dispenses arcade tokens in exchange for cash, punching out a golden handful from a device that resembles a clunky biology-class microscope. He pours the alloy tokens into the patron’s waiting hand, taking care not to touch skin. In this manner, the transaction is somehow incomplete. His shame mirrors that of the customer. His silence bespeaks an attitude: “Don’t look me in the eye and ask me why I’m working here,” an attitude reflected by the customer’s imploded guilt: “And don’t ask me why I have nowhere else to go in

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the hollow of the night.”

A hand-lettered card rests at the base of the token dispenser: “The girls will return at 10:00 a.m.” Inked-in filigrees curling around the card obscure some of the text, testifying to hours of jailhouse-style monotony.

Behind the clerk’s head hang security television screens that reveal shifting black-and-white views of arcade booths inside the theater. Drab and mute, these scenes change and repeat, capturing an occasional patron emerging from one booth before disappearing into another. At this late hour, there is no music, no soundtrack. The dancers have gone home. The live-action booths in the back are closed.

The Jolar video booths are fashioned from slick red Formica stuff and mock-wood paneling. Stainless steel tissue dispensers are mounted on the walls near the change machines. The room, a brightly lit maze, conceals dozens of barely private video nooks. Amid the fragmentary and isolated groans of anguished movie-people, the biting odor of ammonia and fresh escutcheon stubs at the nose and eyes. Within each nook is provided a trash basket, a chair, and a television screen protected by a thick sheet of acrylic. After tokens are inserted, a button is pressed to change channels. Each press creates a shrill beep. The intermingling of these high-pitched tones from all around the arcade results in pitiful minimalist music — unseen customers search for the most pleasing scene, announcing their pursuit through a series of irritating electronic yips. In counterpoint, add the periodic rush of tokens tumbling into metal collection tins, along with the occasional swish of a sopping mop — not to mention endless video streams of garish color, hopeless dialogue, repulsive gymnastics, counterfeet enthusiasm, unfortunate commands.

Sloppy floundering: a
Ron Rothenberg, M.D.

Founder
Board Certified, American Board of Emergency Medicine
Diplomate, American Board of Anti-Aging Medicine
Diplomate, American Board of Mesotherapy

Dr. Rothenberg founded California HealthSpan Institute in Encinitas, California, in 1998 with a commitment to transforming our understanding of and finding treatment for aging as a disease. Today, California HealthSpan Institute’s mission to create a paradigm shift in the way we view medicine and aging by treating the cause rather than the symptoms has evolved to include services that not only enhance internal health but also improve external beauty without the risk of surgery.

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Dr. Rothenberg founded California HealthSpan Institute in Encinitas, California, in 1998 with a commitment to transforming our understanding of and finding treatment for aging as a disease. Today, California HealthSpan Institute’s mission to create a paradigm shift in the way we view medicine and aging by treating the cause rather than the symptoms has evolved to include services that not only enhance internal health but also improve external beauty without the risk of surgery.

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— Dave Zielinski
Mark Bucon’s plan is to spear fish at a spot along the Northern Baja coast known only to him and a few other guys. Five minutes before we arrive, he unties a black bandanna from the rearview mirror of his Toyota pickup and holds it out to me.

I think maybe my nose is dripping and he’s offering me a handkerchief. He reads the puzzlement on my face and explains, “I’m going to have to blindfold you.”

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

Three minutes after I’ve tied the bandanna around my head, I feel the car decelerate and move right to exit the toll road. A minute or so later, the pavement beneath the truck gives way to the world’s bumpiest dirt road. “You might want to hang onto something,” Bucon says as the truck rocks and bounces. Five minutes — or about 2000 dips and bumps later — Bucon stops the truck. “Disgusting, they’re burning trash over there,” he says, more to himself than to me. “Actually, maybe that’s more than just trash. That fire’s pretty big…and it’s coming toward the road here…and this is the only way in or out.”

We sit there silently for a few minutes while Bucon weighs the risks of proceeding to his secret spot; I stare into the blackness of the bandanna. Finally, he decides he doesn’t want to be trapped by the fire or be blamed for starting it by someone who might have seen us drive down the road. So we turn around and leave. “That’s Mexico for you,” Bucon sighs as we bounce back up the road. “You never know what’s going to happen down here. But that’s the kind of thing you put up with for good fishing.”

Back on the toll road heading north, Bucon, a soft-spoken, athletically built man, bald on top, with kind brown eyes, says, “There are other spots we could fish here in Baja, but I’d rather not stop until

---

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we’re back in the States. It sounds a little paranoid, but I wouldn’t be a bit surprised if we were arrested and accused of starting that fire.”

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

“The first time I came down to this spot,” he explains, “a local fisherman — actually, he’s an urchin diver — he came up to me in his boat while I was in my kayak and said, and this is all in broken English, ‘Listen, this is my kelp bed. I want to protect it so that makes Bucon drive all the way down here, blindfold his guests, and dodge overprotective locals. It’s the white sea bass. And not just any white sea bass. “I’m only going for trophy-size fish,” he tells me.

With his left hand on the steering wheel, Bucon fumbles around in the glove compartment, and we drive the boat down, some friends and I want to do a little fishing. ‘Come on, Richard, I’ve been looking for fish like this my whole life. If you let me fish here, I promise not to come down too often.’ He said, ‘Okay, but no more than once a month.’ Well, the fish I’m hunting are only here for a few weeks out of the year. He said no. Now what I do is I come when I want to, but I show up after 1:00 or so in the afternoon, after they’re done diving.

It’s not just for any fish that makes Bucon drive all the way down here, blindfold his guests, and dodge overprotective locals. It’s the white sea bass. And not just any white sea bass. “I’m only going for trophy-size fish,” he tells me.

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box with his right until he finds an envelope full of pictures. "Look through these," he says. "There are some big ones in there."

In the pictures, Bucon and others stand in wet suits holding by their tails white fish nearly as tall as they are, fish with big mouths and spiny dorsal fins. "That was a big one there," Bucon says as I look at one of him squatting next to his green ocean kayak on top of which lies a five-foot-long white sea bass, "over 60 pounds. Caugh it at the spot we just tried to go to."

"Where do you find them?" I ask.

"They hang out in kelp beds, 10, 15, 20 feet below the surface. They like to sit just inside the bed on the side the current enters the kelp. You swim along on top looking for them, occasionally diving down to check out spots where it looks like a fish could be hiding. It takes an immense amount of patience. You can easily spend four or five hours in the water waiting for an opportunity to bump into a fish."

"How close do you have to be?"

"The speargun," Bucon explains, "has an effective range of only 20 feet or so, so you have to be close. The problem is, you don't have a lot of time. One flick of their tails, and those things are out of your visibility. Sometimes, though, you catch them sleeping, just hanging out sunning themselves, and it's easier to get close for a good shot."

"What happens when you shoot it?"
“Assuming you hit it, the spear goes through the fish and toggles on the other side and the tip comes off the spear. Then the fish runs. There’s a reel on the gun, like a fishing rod, with about 500 feet of line on it. With a big fish like that,” he points to a picture I’m looking at, “you’ve got to let it run and tire it out. First of all, you’ve got to catch a breath and get your heart to slow down, because the adrenaline is pumping so fast through your system that your heart is racing. You really have to calm down. When you have to try to think straight, because it’s really hard to think when the adrenaline is going through your body. While you’re doing that, the fish is weaving in and out of the kelp bed, wrapping around the kelp stalks, and he’s wrapping around the kelp stalks, he’s going deeper. Many times they end up in 50 feet of water.

“So you have to swim with your gun through the weeds and try to follow the path of the fish, reeling in line as you go. You follow your line down as it weaves through the weeds. At first, the line is only, say, 20 feet deep. But as you get closer to the end, you’re going 35, 40 feet to follow your line. Finally you find the fish in 60 feet. So you try to get your shooting line straight above the fish and your speargun floating straight above the fish. The problem is, a lot of times, the line gets hung up. So you’ll go down and pick your fish up in 45 to 50 feet of water, and you’ll be coming up, and, 20 feet from the surface, you can’t get your line through the last stalk of weeds. It’s frustrating because you’re 20 feet from the surface holding a 60-pound fish, and you’ve got to let it go and it sinks to the bottom. Then, after you get a breath, you’ve got to go back down and find out what’s hanging the line up, cut some more weeds, then swim back down to the bottom and find your fish, pick it up, and swim like a madman to the surface. Sometimes you’re down for a minute and a half. It hurts. The lungs are burning, and that first breath of air is the sweetest thing in the world.”

Wanting to go home having done no fishing, Bucon decides to try the La Jolla kelp forests. Two-plus hours after being defeated by fire in Baja — including 15 minutes of searching for a place to park in La Jolla — we find a spot at the south end of Kellogg Park. The parking space is so tight that, even though I stand outside to guide him in, it takes Bucon three tries to parallel park the truck. The two kayaks protruding from the camper shell hang three feet over the hood of the Mercedes parked behind us. Removing them is a bit of a project, but we manage it without any scratched paint. We carry first his then mine down the concrete steps to the small beach just north of the Children’s Pool.

We leave the two boats and Bucon’s seaplane sitting on the beach and return to his truck to put on our wet suits. The short-sleeved, short-legged suit that Bucon lent me feels snug, but no more than his long-sleeved, long-legged one. In addition to the suit, Bucon also dons booties and gloves and a hood. From the back of the truck he pulls out for me an extra hood, attached to a nylon shirt. “I recommend you wear this too,” he says. “It goes under the wet suit.”
I feel like a dog chasing its tail as I try to grab the cord that hangs down from the wet suit zipper at the back of my neck. I finally get hold of it and jerk the zipper down far enough to get my arms out of the tight sleeves. As I put on the hood/shirt combo — which Bucon calls a “cheater vest” — I work my arms back into the sleeves and pull the zipper up.

Just then, a blonde lifeguard in her early 20s walks up and asks, “Are those your kayaks down on the beach? Because you can’t launch there.”

Bucon looks bemused. “Why not?”

“You can launch at La Jolla Shores or south of the lifeguard station,”

“You can’t launch here!” he repeats.

“Why can’t I launch here?” she repeats.

“You can launch at La Jolla Shores or south of the lifeguard station.”

“You have to launch south of the station,” she repeats.

“What’s the number down there?” Bucon asks, cell phone in hand. The lifeguard gives him the number and he dials it. “Hi, this is Mark Bucon. I’m the guy with the two kayaks on the beach up here between the Children’s Pool and Boomers. Could we just launch here today since it’s exceptionally calm and our stuff is already down there and it took us a long time to park? We’ll come in south of the station and I promise to launch from there in the future….Thanks a lot.”

Bucon flips his cell phone closed and says to the lifeguard, “They said we could launch here just this once.”


Down on the beach, Bucon drags his green kayak into the water, just deep enough to float the boat, and climbs onto it. I pull my yellow kayak into the
water alongside his, and, much more clumsily, climb on top. These aren’t the type of kayaks that you slide into, legs and torso inside the boat, head and shoulders above. You sit on top, and, consequently, they’re tipsy. But I manage to get on and sit down without going over. “I’ll follow you out,” I say. Bucon paddles out, and I follow his path through the rocks. The surf is low today, and we glide over the top of the swells without incident. Once in the open water, we head northwest toward the large kelp bed about a half-mile offshore. After a few minutes, I find my rhythm with the paddle and am keeping up with Bucon. When I look back over my right shoulder toward La Jolla, the view surprises me. I’ve stood there admiring the view out over the ocean many times, but I’ve never until now considered what the view looked like in reverse. Basking in the golden-afternoon sunlight, La Jolla looks every bit the haven of wealth and privilege that it is.

By the time I’m done thinking that thought, we’ve reached the kelp bed, and Bucon stops paddling. For a minute or two, he silently checks a few shore reference spots and then says, “This is my spot. Conditions look really good; we should see some fish here today. Maybe not white sea bass, but we’ll probably see some yellowtail.”

He points to a spot about 50 yards to the north where a dozen seagulls circle and dive into the water. “See those birds working that area? That means there’s bait down there. The water is nice and calm, not too much wind, good visibility, bait. Good conditions today.”

Bucon leans forward and reaches into the water, grabs a bunch of kelp, and ties his bow line to it. I paddle ten yards away and try to imitate him, but I can’t do it and keep my balance at the same time. “Why don’t you tie up to the back of my boat?” he suggests with a chuckle.

Even that isn’t so easy in the swells, which seem to jostle you much more when you’re sitting still than when you’re moving, but I finally manage to do it. Bucon then tosses me a pair of swim fins, a mask, and a snorkel from a net bag strapped to his kayak. As I gear up, he asks, “So have you ever snorkeled offshore or done any diving before?”

“Noope. First time.” “Well, you’ve got a lot of balls coming out here.” “I do?” I wasn’t nervous until now. “Why’s that?” “Most people,” he answers, “get a little disoriented and a little sick when they first come out here. My guess is you’ll go for 10 or 15 minutes and start feeling a little queasy. If so, just give me a signal and we’ll get back in the kayaks.”

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

“Just let me know how you’re doing,” he says again, right before rolling into the water.

I pull my mask up and follow him in. The water is about 67 degrees, cool at first, but warm enough that I’m acclimated in less than a minute. After that, with the wet suit and hood, I’m more than warm enough. Bucon reaches up and grabs his speargun — which looks like a wooden combination of a crossbow, rifle, and fishing rod — off the kayak and, motioning for me to follow him, swims off to the north. I start to follow him, but he’s got a head start, continued on page 70
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he’s a better swimmer, and I soon lose him. I’m also distracted by what I’m viewing through my mask underwater. The rust-colored kelp sways in the current against a royal-blue background. Thousands of eight-inch silver smelt swim in and out of the kelp. After a while they’re swirling around me, glistening in the water-filtered sunlight, always just out of reach. I feel like a foreigner in another world — their world. Ten feet below the surface, smaller schools of sardines, also silver but a little bigger and lazier than the smelt, wander by. Occasionally, I spot a green-and-tan calico bass hiding under a kelp branch 15 feet down, and once a half-dozen or so shining silver lines appear at the limit of my visibility and then disappear. I spend about 15 minutes watching this underwater world, breathing noisily through my snorkel, swimming in I don’t know what direction when the sound of Bucon’s voice stirs me from my reverie. “Over here,” I hear him say. I surface and look around, but all I see is the front side of one westward-traveling swell and the back side of another. “Over here,” he says again. It’s coming from my left, and I swim in that direction. Once over the first swell, I see his black-hooded head and mask. “Did you see that school of barracuda?” he asks as I swim up.

“Is that what the silver lines I saw were?” “Probably. How are you doing, okay?” “Great. I love this.” “Good. Occasionally I’m going to give you the okay sign, and if you’re still okay, you give it back.” With that, Bucon swims off again and I follow. This time I make a concerted effort to keep up. But after a while he dives down and keeps going down until he disappears into the blue beyond. I keep swimming in the direction I last saw him go, but I lose him. I don’t mind. I keep swimming aimlessly. The scenes beneath me are so mesmerizing that I lose all sense of place. I don’t know where I am in relation to land or the kayaks or Bucon, and I don’t care. I could keep swimming like this forever. But after a while, the duration of which I couldn’t tell you, Bucon calls me over again. “We’re a long ways from the kayaks,” he says. “We should head back in that direction. There are tons of bait fish around here,” he adds, “but I haven’t seen any yellowtail yet. They could be here; we’ve just got to find them.”

He swims off to the south and I follow. So far I’ve been reluctant to swim below the surface, but now, the first time Bucon goes beneath, I follow him. Immediately my snorkel and mouth fill with salt water, and I return to the surface coughing. Catching up with Bucon, I again follow him on a dive. An exhilaration comes over me as I leave the surface and swim down through the kelp forest, as if I were an astronaut step-

San Diego Reader June 22, 2006

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ping out of his space capsule and into space. About 10 feet down, the exhilaration is replaced by a creaking sound in my head and a sharp pain in my sinuses. Still, I stay down as long as I can. I’m sitting in some kelp reaching out — in vain — to touch a calico bass when something large and black 10 feet beneath me catches my eye. I turn and expect to see a seal or some other large, hopefully friendly sea creature, but it turns out to be Bucon swimming along 20 feet below the surface.

A little while later, I’m following Bucon to the kayaks, which I can see 40 yards ahead toward land. As he pulls himself up onto his and I’m swimming toward mine, seven barracudas — silver, slender, about two feet long, with bright yellow tails — glide by directly beneath me, about eight feet down. They look like polished stainless-steel knife blades. I pull myself up on my kayak and awkwardly work myself into a sitting position. After kicking off my flippers, taking off my mask, and pulling the hood off my head, I look over at Bucon, who is sitting slumped over, his flipper-clad feet dangling over the side, his hood still on his head. “You did really well,” he says. “We were out for over an hour. I’m exhausted. I’ve been out seven out of the last nine days. Too bad we didn’t see any fish to shoot at. The conditions were right, plenty of bait fish around, just not the fish we were looking for. But that’s not unusual. I only shoot a fish one out of every five or six times out.”

— Ernie Grimm
I pointed to the photograph thumbtacked to the office wall. “Is that who I think it is?”

Troy, seated at his desk, did not look up. He was reviewing my Airstream trailer warranty agreement.

“Troy,” I said, “Is that — ?”

Still hunkered over, he raised his eyes. “Yeah, that’s me. My wife says I look better with a mustache.” He looked down and flipped a page. “So I grew it back.”

“Yeah, I like that,” I said. “And your motorcycles?”

“Grew them,” he said. “And your hair?”

“Not sure,” I said. “Troy Bailey had the dark good looks of a (thin) Raymond Burr or a (young) Johnny Depp and I owned the same Airstream International CCD, bought for 150 per treatment.

I turned on him. “I thought so! What’s Johnny Depp’s picture doing here?”

Southwest Coaches rented space in a large RV center tucked away in Irvine’s southern industrial edge. At that site, about the size of a couple of football fields, among the boxy Sea Breezes, 5th Wheelers, Road Rangers, Coachman Catalinas, and the many other popular RV brands, the silvery Airstream trailers parked higgledy-piggledy behind the Southwest Coaches’ office produced a dizzying time warp. The trailers’ molded lines and riveted aluminum shells harked back to the epoch of New York’s Chrysler Building, the Super Chief locomotive, to the popular Flash Gordon series in which Buster Crabbe traveled by spaceship to fight Ming the Merciless on
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- Carmen P., San Diego
planet Mongo. Yet this sense of misplacement had as much to do with the Southcoast Coaches office as with the 1930s-style retro lines of the trailers that stood behind. Slattered in brick-red latex paint, with violently green Airstart peelin off the pavement in wide ugly swatches, the rundown one-room, single-story structure stood in stark contrast to the sales product. Inside the office, it was old desks and chairs, an uneven floor of patched linoleum, a water cooler, and, behind a narrow door, a toilet cubicle in need of soundproofing.

Johnny Depp’s photograph tacked to this wall could hardly have been more improbable.

“We took the picture after I delivered a trailer to his home in Hollywood. It was just like yours,” added Bailey, returning to my warranty, “except three feet longer.”

Southcoast Coaches got my business (and checks for the trailer, the warranty, etc., that totaled close to $60,000) from just two quick telephone calls. I’d earlier run an ad in the Airstream online newsletter, visited two dealerships where I was ignored at the first and humiliated at the second, and coincidentally received a speeding violation for which I later resisted the eight-hour torture called “Comedy for Less” Traffic School. Then I got a lead and called Troy Bailey. His easygoing style inspired trust and confidence, and he offered the best price. Using my credit card, I made a down payment on my trailer sight unseen. Yet now, suddenly and henceforth, I knew that all future accounts of my odyssey to find my trailer were to be reduced to this sentence: Johnny Depp and I owned the same Airstream International CCD, bought from the same dealership. (There was to be no mention that his trailer was bigger than mine.)

I gazed at the snapshot.

The Airstream promotional pamphlet was crammed with cheesy lines, but one of them — that remarkable: “When you buy an Airstream trailer — was amazin things happen all the time when you buy an Airstream trailer — was apparently true.

“Tat’s amazing,” I said, talking to Johnny Depp.

The next week I collected empty boxes from the produce man at Safeway, threw them in the back of my truck, started packing. I began with books, drive man at Safeway, threw

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my trailer’s 25 feet would be taken up with a double bed, stovetop, refrigerator, toilet and shower, a built-in dining area and sofa. Storage space was limited to two small closets, some crawl space, and shelves over the sofa, dining table, and bed. I’d packed and moved four times in the last four years (with a garage sale preceding each move), and still I had to cut to the bone.

My better stuff — a carved Madonna, a small 19th-century bronze satyr, a lithograph series of a horse, some Persian rugs, and a pair of Chinese end tables — were sent off to an auction house. The check for a little more than $5000 that I received following their sale was almost exactly the sum I’d originally paid for the pieces.

“You had the pleasure of them, and in the end it was like borrowing a book from the library and returning it 20 years later with, what, just a late fee?”

My friend, Charlie Malarkey, had a funny name, a slight East Coast twang, and a habit of raising his voice near the conclusion of a remark so that a statement flipped over, at the very last moment, into a question. A simple conversation with Charlie Malarkey was like dancing with a linebacker wearing cleats: He kept you on your toes.

“Yes, I guess you could say that,” I answered.

We were seated in the backroom at Aziza, a Moroccan restaurant in the Richmond district of San Francisco. Charlie had invited me there to celebrate my upcoming move and his own imminent retirement as a media librarian. Under the circumstances, his metaphor of borrowed books and late fees was in character.

The walls of Aziza were painted an earthy cinnamon brown, with deeply recessed lighting and a single candle burning at each table. The ambience was nice, but I’d forgotten my glasses, and in the darkness could not read the menu. For Charlie our dinner was a special occasion, and on special occasions he pulled his long hair back in a gray-streaked, hipster fashion.

But for starters, he selected a cheese mixed into a compote of roasted tomato and served with crostini. The trick, said my host, was the argan oil, a fruit from the tree found in southwest Morocco. “That’s the smoky flavor you taste,” he explained, for of late he’d become something of an authority on the food of the Algarve region. The balsamic eggplant mousse, the roasted pepper dip (served with grilled flatbread) were all tasty. The balsamic dipping sauce was a trick, said my host, was the eggplant, toasted anise-seed dressing, and dipped with grilled flatbread was simple but again delicious.

Next came a phyllo pie filled with saffron-braised chicken and spiced almonds, then sprinkled with powder sugar and cinnamon. As a vegetarian, I obliged Charlie by tasting one chicken-free...
mouthful of pie, but just a single forkful was enough. The thing all but melted on my tongue.

“Wow!” I exclaimed, and Charlie beamed as he’d baked the pie himself.

For the main course, I had a dish of yellow crockneck squash, zucchini, rutabaga, turnip, and carrots served in a saffron-ginger broth. My Berber vegetable tangle was tasty, but I’m sure Charlie’s lamb shank was better. It was cooked with dried fruits, and served with cranberry couscous and grilled green onions.

The dessert, Topped Chocolate Pot, was a rich chocolate pudding sprinkled on top with red pepper buds. My Berber vegetable tangle was tasty, but I’m sure Charlie’s lamb shank was better. It was cooked with dried fruits, and served with cranberry couscous and grilled green onions.

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While I packed and said goodbye to friends, closed my bank account, and arranged for the phone to be disconnected, Kathleen and I talked. We walked in restaurants at the graveyard, in each other’s home. We talked about our differing experiences of Buddhism, politics, of the death of my brothers and of her parents; about architecture and relationships and the need for integrity in one’s life. She’d been class president in her senior year at Hollywood High School. In 1962, I’d taken the first black cheerleader from Hoover High to the senior prom, a girl whose name I could no longer remember. She remembered her date for her prom. He was the student body president.

“Maybe you know him? John Ritter?”

We were sitting on my front steps. It was late September and Kathleen was wearing shorts and a blue cap.

“The guy on the sitcom?”

It was called Three’s Company, and as I remembered it, the thing desperately needed its laugh track. “Yes.” She nodded and dropped her voice. “John died a little while ago, but he was a wonderful person, funny and nice, a really nice guy.”

I had my own nugget: “You know Suzanne Somers, the blonde in the show? Well her first husband was Bruce Somers, and we were in high school together. He was our student body president, and earlier,” I added, “in elementary school, he was my best friend!”

Kathleen’s eyes went blank at the utter mundanity of my remark.

I rushed mention of “six degrees of separation,” the folk theory which holds that everyone on the planet would discover that they knew someone in common if they could trace back six people.

“That’s amazing,” she said, eager to make a remark.

“Isn’t it,” I said.

On my way out of Santa Rosa, my truck loaded and covered with a slick brown plastic tarp, I made a detour and found Kathleen at home. She was the last person I said goodbye to in my old life. As I suspected (and she, too, though we never said), after a perfunctory exchange of e-mails in which each promised to write more next time, as if by an unspoken mutual agreement, there was no next time.
When customers could not tow an Airstream off the lot, Southwest Coaches hired drivers to deliver their trailers. Joe Martinez hooked mine to the back of his gleaming black Ford one-ton pickup and drove it four hundred miles from Irvine to the San Lorenzo Valley. He mapped his progress with the aid of a global positioning system (GPS) programmed to show on a small TV screen to the right of his steering wheel. On the freeway, he and I traded a neat eye-catching pair. Martinez, a professional driver, had crisscrossed the country and put 60,000 miles on his truck within six months of its purchase; but once in the forest he moved at a snail’s pace. Sometimes he stepped out of his vehicle to eye the width of the winding road. At a couple of especially tight places, he shook his head and ran his hand across his stubble of crew-cut hair. I was sure he was going to say there was no chance of getting through, that no trailer could make it; but he never did. Twice he stepped out of his vehicle to move trailer’s gleaming surface; low-hanging branches that he never did. Twice he that no trailer could make it; he and my trailer made against a grove of tall trees. I was at the way, I and my trailer made to show on a small of putting on boots and a robe and taking a flashlight to hike down to the out- house, I opened the front door and relieved myself. That was when I remembered a trick I’d learned 25 years before. I was renting a room in a pensione in Venice during the rainy off-season, and my second night there confirmed what I’d suspected from the night before: With evening, my respectable pensione turned into a whorehouse. Each evening the kindly white-haired concierge retired to her rooms on the ground floor, and the prostitutes access to Vajrapani’s public showers, I found new uses for my own toilet and shower. I stored boxes of books over the toilet and dumped my dirty laundry into the shower stall, thus turning it into an oversized clothes hamper. My very first night, instead of putting on boots and a robe and taking a flashlight to hike down to the out- house, I opened the front door and relieved myself. That was when I remembered a trick I’d learned 25 years before. I was renting a room in a pensione in Venice during the rainy off-season, and my second night there confirmed what I’d suspected from the night before: With evening, my respectable pensione turned into a whorehouse. Each evening the kindly white-haired concierge retired to her rooms on the ground floor, and the prostitutes

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* * *
arriving later with their customers simply plucked a key from the respective cubbyholes of those rooms that were never rented. It was a mix of self-service and the honor system, and what with the opening and closing of doors, and the sounds of people jabbering as they made their way down the hall, it was sometimes a little noisy. But I found the liquid-sing-song sound of Italian, which I did not speak, enchanting. I felt like I was living Puccini’s La Bohème.

At night in Venice, when I needed to pee, I discovered that I could just let go in the old washbasin that was jammed into the corner of my room under a scarred mirror. With its double faucets, that porcelain fixture, stained with age to the color of old ivory, relieved me ten days later all the waste from my washbasin slowly had backed up into the shower stall and the air inside the trailer had taken on the pungent ammonia smell characteristic of urine. Ten days and an inch and a half of pee, and what came from brushing my teeth and washing my face. Fortunately, I’d stacked my books on top of the toilet seat and dumped my dirty things in the shower rather than the other way around. When I pulled at the pile I’d made in the otherwise unused shower stall, the stuff at the bottom — a sleeping bag, sheets, towels, and a whole lot more — was soaking wet. And reeking. I had to roll out of bed, take just one step, lean forward and relieve myself in the stainless steel washbasin; then fall back under the covers. Who knew that the valve outside on the trailer body, the one that sent the water from the wash-bowl down into the gray water disposal line, needed to be opened?

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Highway 9, a two-lane road that winds through the darkly forested towns of the San Lorenzo Valley — Felton, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek, the north-ernmost town, has a drugstore and post office, a Round Table Pizza, two grocery stores, and two cafes (one Mexican) that close after lunch; a hardware store, a lumberyard, a nail salon, a liquor store, Joe’s Bar, and two self-service laundries. At Vajrapani, the women, especially, preferred the laun-derette that hired a local to stand by, make change, hand out extra soap, and keep an eye on things. I drove straight through town to the south end where Valley Laundrette had no public telephone, no attendant, and, that night, no other customers. I logged in my black plastic garbage bags and dumped the stink-ing mess into four Speed Queen washing machines. For $60,000, “I griped, “surely Airstream could afford to check if the refrigerator was working, and a lot more. And when he was on his way back home, surely still in flight, I returned the bag of dry dog food to the store where I stored it. As for the refrigerator, for all Amy’s attention to making sure I knew that it was working properly, I used it for nothing more serious than condi-timents — mustard, ketchup, salad dressing, and a sauce — that added zing to the vegetarian meals delivered to my door each noon. (With so much of my time spent on my morning practice, plus the ognuro, as well as speaking to the occasional unhappy soul grateful to find a monk who was also a psy-chologist, I had no time nor interest in cooking.) The loaf of bread and peanut butter and jelly in the refrigerator were for snacks.

Aaron had imparted valuable information. Men and women with some idea of what lies under the hood of a car, or who do not mind changing a flat tire, would have reeled in the information. For me, when my engine does not turn over when I put the key in the ignition, or I have a flat, I call AAA. Having lived a life of the mind, one of those who belong in Plato’s cave, I was grateful for Amy’s pres-ence as moral support. I stowed away my owner’s manual, unread.

Vajrapani hosts world-renowned Buddhist schol-ar, including the Dalai Lama. Students travel from around the globe to take part in classes and advanced teachings. Half a dozen cabins, available for those seeking a respite from the world, overlook the western hills that go from green to blue with the setting sun. The young staff is international (with fluency in French, German, Spanish, and Chinese) and friendly. The center owns 70 acres, but gullies and streams have left only about half that number for actual use. The main building, a two-story white-washed structure, includes the gompa, or meditation hall, two administrative offices, a library, and a small bookstore. On the ground floor is the dining room and kitchen. Not far off stands a stupka, or memorial, that was built following the 1984 death of Lama Yeshe, the center’s founder. Covered in gild and brightly painted Tibetan Buddhist iconography, including a whimsical pair of lions standing on their...
back legs, the *stupa* is garlanded with tiny multicolored light bulbs that illuminate the air like fluttering Amazon parrots. There are a scattering of cabins for staff and visiting teachers, and a small dormitory unit. All is modest, but congenial.

Each day, I marched to the showers on the western edge of the property. While I scrubbed myself, I took in the breathtaking vista of rolling, tree-covered hills. And the water was always hot. While our water, drawn from the creek, had no discernable mineral aftertaste, I preferred to carry jugs to the kitchen (the equivalent of about three city blocks) where I filled them with water that was filtered.

To the north, behind an iron gate, stands a national stupa, atop the other two, with a creaking sound like a shriek. Amidst the turbulence of falling branches, many as big as a man’s arm, flew about like a scattering of yellow pencils. Amidst the turbulence of lashing trees and falling branches there was a fearful, deep-throated whirring.


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I lay in bed, my eyes closed.

A falling limb busted the windshield of my truck and banged up the hood. (Repair costs totaled close to four thousand dollars.) All the electricity and telephone lines were dead.

Then the cold set in, and the wet.

When I was a young monk, I visited a cave in Nepal where a Buddhist saint had lived centuries before. Later, while in search of my Airstream, I remembered that Nepalese cave and dreamed that life in my trailer might be like living there.

Dreams sometimes come true.

At nighttime, when I put on water to boil for tea, the metal walls steamed up and water ran in lines down their length. My lone light bulb reflected off the walls’ shiny surface. I exhaled and saw my breath in the chilly air. Mornings, my clothes were cold to the touch, nights my pillows and sheets were. (The shock of cold bedclothes was made better with the hot water bottles tucked at the foot of the bed, but nothing relieved the morning torture of drying my face with a towel, or putting on my clothes, each so cold they felt damp.) The ice-cold water (my hot water heater ate up too much energy to be used), the shock of it, numbed my gums when I brushed my teeth, and seared numbed my gums when I ate up too much energy to water (my hot water heater at the foot of the bed, but the hot water bottles tucked in when the roads became impassable. The silence and the long rainy months of winter would, I was told, try my soul. Often, sometimes more than once a day, the trailer shook from an underground tremor. I’d never experienced before how alive the earth was.

When that first storm passed, left in its wake was a morning of pure splendor. The forest was rinsed clean, and sunlight burned bright in glorious little patches. By afternoon, when I stepped out of my trailer, there were pools of sunshine so golden and warm that each felt like I was dipping my toe into a heated bath. Not far from the trailer, Steve Pearl was raking gravel across the road in anticipation of the winter rains. A small man with warm brown eyes, he’d been both a monk and an airplane pilot; now he was the caretaker, and he’d not only built my shed for me, but also confiscated all electrical units that might blow the place. Like my experience with the pair of Airstream trailer salesmen who played Good Cop—Bad Cop with me, Steve was surely likeable and a great help, but he could also be a pain in the ass. I moved nearer to him, stepping into a patch of sunlight as bright as butter. Looking down, I discovered that hundreds of butterflies were sharing my new pool of warm sunlight. Once in a while, I saw a monarch butterfly, and sometimes the small white or lilac-colored ones that fluttered so prettily. These butterflies’ sudden appearance seemed testimony to the rightiness of my decision to move here. I thought of the ground made holy at Lourdes and Fatima, I thought of the Buddha under the Bodhi tree, I thought of the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, the shroud of Turin…

Steve Pearl looked over his shoulder. “Those aren’t butterflies,” he said. “Those are flying termites.”

Charlie had called me a high-end city boy — New York, London, Rome, Ibiza — and at that moment, if I’d been alone, I would have screamed. If I’d not taken vows not to kill or hurt, I’d have swatted the nasty things away. Buddhist teachings have much to say on the peculiar fact that calling a thing a butterfly, say, made me feel good and calling it a flying termite creeped me out. But just then, who cared? I scrambled inside my trailer.

It was almost time for late-afternoon meditation. I stepped outside. All flying things having departed, the purplish autumn sky had dropped clouds so close to the treetops that their branch-tips blurred like a water-color painting. I’d started for the gompa when something made me turn and look back. Standing eerie and serene against a shadowy backdrop of redwood trees, my trailer, mirroring the sky, was dyed a pale electric blue. A far-off single note, deep and breathy as a moan, passed through the trees. It was the giant conch, and the dirge sound of it mixed with the smell of the forest — rotting undergrowth, freshly bathed foliage, damp soil. In that melancholic moment, I knew that I’d never been happier. It was an oddly timed awareness; even odder was the certainty that I’d known this land before, when it was still a forest primeval. I turned and was making for the gompa when the conch sounded a second time, and I was struck by a vision of water that stopped me cold. I only came to myself when the giant conch sounded a third time. I took off running, but I did not forget my vision. It was aons earlier, and instead of hills and trees, everywhere there was only the broiling and boundless sea, miles deep, an endless spread of dark immemorial water that would gradually diminish and recede, and from which the ancient forest must slowly grow.

Amazing.

— Hawkins Mitchell
Lowrider Exhibit

Your Highness

People have been cruising for more than thirty years,” says Jon Henriquez, tour manager of Lowrider Events. “The lowrider movement took off in the early ’80s, but now it’s more mainstream… you’ll see lowriders in Pepsi commercials and hip-hop videos.”

On Sunday, June 25, the Lowrider 2006 Tour will stop at Qualcomm Stadium. The word “lowrider” is defined on Wikipedia as “a car or truck which has had its suspension system modified (usually with hydraulic suspension), so that it rides as low to the ground as possible.” Many lowriders are rigged so that when they come to a stop, the body of the car rests on the ground.

Hydraulics are also used to make a car bounce up and down, a feat known as “car hopping.” The Lowrider Tour will host a hydraulics competition during which “accessorized vehicles will actually bounce and dance for the crowd, sometimes to such extremes that they flip over.”

In this context, hydraulics is the custom-built system that lifts a car using the pressure of hydraulic fluid in the same way brake fluid is used to stop a car when pressure is applied to the brake pedal. Car batteries placed in the trunk power most customized hydraulic systems. “Some vehicles have eight batteries in the back, just to be able to have enough juice to juice up the pumps,” says Henriquez. “Double pumps give [lowriders] more power to jump up and down.”

A more recent trend, beginning around 1967, is the lowrider competition. “Cars are modified to such a degree that they are never driven on the road but rather trailered from one show to the next. “You might see somebody that has the whole undercarriage of their vehicle made of gold chrome. One car that won best of show had a roulette table custom-built in the back part of the vehicle.”

Henriquez has never tricked out one of his own cars, but in the early ’80s he would often go cruising down East L.A.’s Whittier Boulevard in a friend’s lowrider. “A lot of cities have banned [cruising] because it creates a lot of traffic in the area. If people can’t cruise, they go to the beach to show off their cars.”

When asked if cruising was intended more for showing off to the guys or picking up girls, Henriquez responds, “In general, girls are kind of fascinated by seeing someone driving a beautiful-looking car that’s well taken care of. Whether it’s a lowrider or a convertible Porsche, they’d be, like, ‘Hey, what’s up?’”

— Barbarella

Lowrider 2006 Tour
Sunday, June 25
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Qualcomm Stadium
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Cost: $30 for adults; children 10 and under free
Info: 714-939-2441 or lowridermagazine.com/lowridertour/
Events that are underlined occur after June 29.

How to Send Us Your Listings: 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, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to Reader Events, Box 85801, San Diego CA 92108. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Baja

Mike Davis and Carlos Monivails present lecture entitled "El Faro Lado y Del Otro," Thursday, June 22, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Rio). Free. 619-522-664-9366. (Tijuana)

Mainly Mozart Festival 2006, annual musical series closes with concert of Mozart’s “Mass in C” (Coronation)” and “Requiem in D Minor” performed by Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra, Friday, June 23, 8 p.m., at Catedral de Guadalupe (at Segunda and Núcleos Héroes). Tickets, reservations: 619-239-0100. (Tijuana)

“Letras de Luz,” regional investigative photographs gathered in book coordinated and discussed by Pablo Guadiana, Friday, June 23, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Rio). 011-52-664-638-3461. (Villa de Guadalupe)

Outdoors

Eléberberry, two species of which range over most of San Diego County, is in full blossom this month. The flat-topped, creamy-white blossoms of this large shrub or small tree can be seen in the natural coastal canyon areas such as TECOLEte Canyon and Los Perdigueros Canyon Preserve, as well as in the more moist areas of the foothills and mountains. The elderberry's tiny fruits, which ripen in late summer, have traditionally been used for various drinks and preserves.

Crape Myrtles are in blossom around San Diego this month through the end of summer. This smallish, vase-shaped tree blooms in colors ranging from white or pale pink to lavender, red, and blue. "Icac de la South" is one of the nicknames given to this native tree of China because of its popularity in the warmer parts of the United States.

Lanternlike Venus and the waxing crescent moon standing side-by-side over the eastern horizon can be seen by early risers and insomniacs during morning twilight (approximately 4:30 a.m.–5 a.m.) on Thursday, June 22.

Late June’s Very Low Tides, (approximately 4:30 a.m.–5 a.m.) perhaps, you can catch the midnight sun—a flat-topped, creamy-white blossom at 4:13 a.m. Before work on Monday, Perhaps, you can catch the midnight sun—a flat-topped, creamy-white blossom at 4:13 a.m. Before work on Monday, you might consider a stroll through desert garden, Saturday, June 24.

Public skydiving specialties, all with jacuzzis, balconies. Full breakfast included! Mention this ad for a free Starbucks card with your stay.
Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). 619-921-6044. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

Basic Birding program by Tom Town, Saturday, June 24, 8:30 a.m., at Buena Vista Lagoon. Emphasis on using binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, local resources. Free. Directions: 760-439-2473. (OCeanIDE)

Beach Cleanup hosted by San Diego Coastkeeper near Crystal Pier, Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m. Free. 619-758-7743. (Pacific BEach)

Hike a Picturesque Trail through bracken fern and conifers, as well as side trip to the weir in Weir/Lower House, Seeley Stables, more. $19. (PACIFIC MOUNTAIN STATE PARK)

Fire Recovery, Sunday, June 25, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. French Valley with Canyoneers, explore plant communities that have gained since 2003 wildfires. Hike a Picturesque Trail through bracken fern and conifers, as well as side trip to the weir in Weir/Lower House, Seeley Stables, more. $19. (PACIFIC MOUNTAIN STATE PARK)

Fire Recovery, naturalist Carol Standard leads moderate to strenuous walk in Daley Ranch to see gains plant communities have made since 2003 wildfires. Hike starts at 9 a.m. on Sunday, June 25, in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Requested reservations: 760-859-4680. Free. (Daley Ranch)

Ghost Tours led by “ghost hunter” Michael Brown around Old Town, Thursday-Sunday each week, 9–10:30 p.m. Stories “based on research and photos”; sites include Skaller’s Bookstore, Jolly Boy Saloon, Casa Machado, Whaley House, Seelye Stables, more. 619-297-3100 x620. (OC Old Town)

Latest Sunset of the year, 8 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time in San Diego, occurs this Tuesday, June 22 — approximately one week after the summer solstice (our longest day). From now until late July there will be little change in the time of sunset, even though the total length of daylight will steadily shorten.

Redescover Old Escondido West during walking tour led by Escondido Citizens Ecology Committee, Tuesday, June 27, 6 p.m., starting at southeast corner of Broadway and Grand Avenue. 760-743-8207. Free. (ESCONDIDO)


Explore Historic Golden Hill with Walkabout adventurers, Wednesday, June 28. Join group for moderate walk at 10:30 a.m. at 25th and A Streets, see mansions, carriage houses, parks, community center. Bring money for Mexican bakery, optional lunch. Free. 619-231-7463. (GOLDEN HILL)

DANCE

Mojalect Dancers led by Faith Is- may Fensel plan sacred dance pre- sentation, Thursday, June 22, 7:30 p.m., at Saint Paul’s Cathe- dral (2278 Sixth Avenue). Offering: 619-298-7241. (MIDTOWN)

Oldies but Goodies, Janice Donovon provides old favorites for dancing pleasure, Saturday, June 24, 7:30 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4549 30th Street). $6. 619-278-4619. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Guest caller Robert Muir — “all the way from England” — visits on June 25. 858-676-9731. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

“Ultimate Sessions” — Ira Oppen- hauer’s film screens Thursday, June 27, 7 p.m., at Museums of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Tickets $10, benefiting Safari Park Foundation. 858-454-3541. (LA MESA)

“Cinema under the Stars,” en- joy Happy Accidents, starring Marias Tomeri and Vincent D’Onofrio, on Thursday and Friday, June 22 and 23, 8:30 p.m., at Tops (4040 Goldfinch Street). Next up: Gregory Peck and Ingrid Bergman in Hitchcock’s Spell- bound, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, 8 p.m. 858-603-1000. (LA JOLLA)

FILM

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Ocean View Beer Garden

San Diego Swing Club hosts West Coast swing dance party ev- ery Sunday, 3–7 p.m., at La Mesa Women’s Club (3220 Wilson Av- enue). Beginner’s lesson: 3–4 p.m. $7. 858-274-6422. (LA MESA)

Moreton Bay Fig Morris welcomes beginners to learn traditional Morris dancing from England. Tuesday, June 27, 9 p.m., at War Memori- ral Building (1330 Zoo Drive). Free. 619-869-8947. (MARINA PARK)

FILM

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**OUT & ABOUT**

**DARING, RISK, DANGER, action! San Diego Polo Club competition, Sunday, June 25.**

**LECTURES**

“Seven Million Years of Fossil Treasures of the Anza-Borrego Desert” explored by geologist, publisher Lowell Lindsay for Sierra Club on Friday, June 23, 7-7:30 p.m., in Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street); 619-385-3773. Free. 

DNA for Genealogists* presented by UCSD radiology professor emeritus Barbara Bowling for Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego, Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m.-noon, in Robin- son Auditorium at UCSD (off Panga Drive). What is DNA, what does it do, what does it teach about human migration? Free. 858-278-4519. (LA JUNA)

New Mexico State Archaeologist Glenn D. Dean discusses her analysis of “desiccated human faces (copro-lites) from archeaic Southwest Texas,” Saturday, June 24, 8 p.m., at Los Perchitas Canyon Preserve Ranch House (Black Mountain Road to Canyonside Park Drive; drive west past ballfields, parking lots, follow signs). Free. 619-241-3330. (SAN PASQUAL)

Arts in Tijuana explored during round-table discussion with Maria Ortiz Villacorta, Leonardo Sarabia, moderator Pedro Ochua Palacio, Saturday, June 24, 2 p.m., at Muse- um of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown (1001 Kettner Boulevard). Free. 858-443-5411. (DOWNTOWN)

“Geraniums Calore!” Enthu- siast George Plaisted has worked with geraniums for 30 years. He’ll divulge how to select, care for, and propagate these hardy plants, Sat- urday, June 24, 10 a.m., in Caya- maca College’s Water Conserva- tion Garden (12122 Cayamaca College Drive West). $8. Reserva- tions: 619-460-9014. (DOWNTOWN)

“Guiding the Lives of Children of Divorce and Separation” is topic for seminar hosted by San Diego Family Law Council for Children, Saturday, June 24, 1:30-4 p.m., in Manchester Conference Center at University of San Diego (9998 Al- calá Park). Author/clinician/con- sultant Isolina Ricci presents “up-

“Postcards from Paradise,” Ryan Ray’s film screens at 7 and 9 p.m., Friday, June 23, at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Live music by Wise Monkey Orchestra. Tick- ets: $8.50 in advance, $9 at door. 619-222-2385. (LA JUNA)

Saps at Sea Tent, local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans meet to watch A Chump at Oxford, the short Two Tars, more. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, at Trinity Presbyterian Church (3902 Kenwood Drive). $6. 619-417-9032. (EAST VILLAGE)


Musical Movies, see Rent during Carlbad Library film series, Wednesday, June 28, 6 p.m., in Schuman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane); Free. 760-602-2028. (LA COSTA)

Direct Action Is Fun! San Diego Independent Media Center hosts screening of the Ye Mo Vera, Wednes- day, June 28, 7 p.m., at You Alta (1544 Broadway). Donation: $3–$5. 619-378-0946. (EAST VILLAGE)

The Documentary Film Wall of Shame screens for American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, Thursday, June 29, 7 p.m., at Four Points Sheraton Hotel (8110 Aero Drive). Discussion of health-care crisis in Palestine follows. Free. 619-840-1945. (EAST VILLAGE)

“II Grido,” Antonioni’s 1957 film screens for Italian Film Festival on Thursday, June 29, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). $2. 619-237-6601. (EAST VILLAGE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX The- atre: Greece: Seven of the Past and Wind to Win: Surviving the Tour de France. “Fridays at the Fleet” features Amazing Journey (6 p.m.) and Yel- lowsite at 7 p.m. on June 25. Ticket prices and showtimes 619-238-1233. (DOWNTOWN)

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For seminar hosted by San Diego Family Law Council for Children, Saturday, June 24, 1:30-4 p.m., in Manchester Conference Center at University of San Diego (9998 Alcalá Park). Author/clinician/consultant Isolina Ricci presents “up-

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**Los Lonely Boys**

Aug. 18

**Shakira**

Aug. 19

**Earth, Wind & Fire**

Aug. 22

**Red Hot Chili Peppers**

Aug. 25

**Del Lapa/Journey**

Aug. 30

**Randy Travis**

Aug. 31

**American Idols**

Aug. 31

**KEM**

Sept. 3

**James Gang**

Sept. 4

**Bono Rife**

Sept. 7

**Dwight Yoakam**

Sept. 12

**Toby Keith**

Sept. 18

**An Diffoire**

Sept. 20

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**John Mayer/Sheryl Crow**

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(See Sports)

IN PERSON

An Unstable World in the Near Future is setting for Carolyne See’s new novel, There Will Never Be Another You. See discussions, signs books at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Summit Thursday, June 22, 7:30 p.m., among her books: The Handmaid and Golden Days. 858-454-0347.
(FLAX)

“Leave Only Paw Prints: Dog Hikes in San Diego County” discussed by author Dona Lawrence, Thursday, June 22, 7 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (1408 North El Camino Real). 856-450-2879. Meeting information: 760-724-6673. (DISCOVER)

Architects and Architecture offered Tuesday, June 27, 2 p.m., in computer lab at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Understanding of architects and their work, useful websites, library databases. Free. Registration: 619-238-6630. (CONTINUOUS)

“Pack Light, Pack Right,” tips for reducing pack weight offered Thursday, June 27, at REI San Diego (5556 Caminitoлючео, Suite 300). 858-630-6630. (DISCOVER)

Home Alone Workshop addressing assessment and management of potentially harmful behaviors in bored canines, Wednesday, June 28, 9 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5000 Center Street). $35. Registration: 619-299-7012 x2247. (BAYVIEW)

“Helping Parallels Come Home” explored during “Latinos in Summit,” Thursday, June 29, 9 a.m.—4 p.m., at Fiesta Hall (1770 Palm Avenue). Speakers include Ricardo Carrillo, Raymond J. Balberran, and others. Fees, registration: 858-429-4117. (RESTOR)

The Whys and Wherefores of Non-Population Censuses explored by professional genealogist Everett Ireland for North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Tuesday, June 27, 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 858-509-4370. (DISCOVER)

What’s “Under the Hood” of Your Computer? Find out when Bruce Gan addresses Tri-City Computer Club, Tuesday, June 27, 7 p.m., at Salvation Army (3935 Lake Boulevard). Lunch available prior to meeting (noon). Reservations required 760-630-8279. Meeting information: 760-724-6673. (DISCOVER)

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O U T & A B O U T

FOOTBALL
The San Diego Surf Dawgs baseball team hosts the Chico Outlaws on Thursday, June 22, at 7:05 p.m. The Long Beach Armada arrives for games June 23–25, at 7:05 p.m. on Friday, 6:05 p.m. on Saturday, 7:05 p.m. on Sunday. Dawgs host Yuma Scorpions at 7:05 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, June 26 and 27. Games played in Tony Gwynn Stadium at San Diego State University (5000 Campanile Drive). 619-282-4487.@SDSUN

VISIT CARLSBAD with Bicycle Touring Society riders on Saturday, June 24. The 46-mile starts at 8:45 a.m. at Doyle Park (8173 Regents Road at Nobel Drive). Bring money for lunch stop. 619-255-4194. @Cyclescrn

Ramona Ramble, explore San Diego Country Estates and local area during bicycle ride hosted by Knickerbockers on Saturday, June 24. Join group for 30- or 35-mile at 9 a.m. at Collier Park (620 E Street). Free. 760-518-1404. @RAMONA

22nd Annual Bonita 5000, hosted by Bonita Road Runners, with 3k run/walk (7:30 a.m.), 1k kids’ fun run (8:30 a.m.), is Saturday, June 24, at Rohr Park (4548 Santeewater Road). Race-day registration: 6 a.m. 619-421-4562. @MCR

Enjoy Mission Bay Fireworks during kayak tour hosted by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego, Saturday, June 24. Two-hour paddle starts at 8 p.m. at Dana Landing. $40 per

SPORTS
Boys of Summer! San Diego Padres are in Arlington to meet up with Texas Rangers, Thursday, June 22, 11:05 a.m. Pad head back to Petco Park to host Seattle Mariners, June 23–25, at 7:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 1:05 p.m. on Sunday. Oakland Athletics arrive for games June 27–29, at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, 12:35 p.m. on Thursday. Tickets 877-374-2784. @STADIUM


THE SHOW presented by DJ Pokey, Wednesday, June 28, 8 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Live DJ, MC, breakdown battles. $5. 619-260-1731. @EAST VILLAGE

“Telling It Like It Is” — single mother Janet Mast shares You Can’t Love Your Children Too Much! Thursday, June 29, 6:30 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10755 Westview Parkway; 858-684-3366). Free. 619-527-3430. @SAN CARLOS

The San Diego Surf Dawgs begin district play on Monday and Tuesday, June 26–27. Games played in Petco Park. Good on up to six adult Grand Prix or Harbor Tour. Good on up to six adult single TIMEOUT or Doggie Ticket. Expires 6/29/06.

Enjoy Mission Bay Fireworks during kayak tour hosted by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego, Saturday, June 24. Two-hour paddle starts at 8 p.m. at Dana Landing. $40 per

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and have come to see
if you are tired
and have come to rest
if you are grateful
and have come to share
if you are hurting
and have come for comfort
if you are listening
and have come to pray
if you are seeking
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Climbing beach, lagoon, crest, and canyon, this looping hike touches upon every natural landscape the community of greater Del Mar has to offer. On a typical early-summer day, with tepid temperature and a good breeze, the journey of six miles is a one-water-bottle effort. Hike or run as you see fit, and be aware that early Sunday morning is great if you like solitude.

Start off at Durango Drive and Del Mar Heights Road, four blocks west of Interstate 5, where plenty of curbside parking is available on Durango or any other nearby quiet street. Head 0.3 mile north on Durango to where it curves steep, eroded path on the left descending into the Torrey Pines Open Space Park. In barely a hundred yards, at the shallow bottom of Crest Canyon, pick up a wide path heading north and gradually downhill. Note the elaborate drainage systems along the sandy canyon bottom, which have solved erosion problems of the past. A number of large Torrey pines grace the slopes of Crest Canyon; long needles in bundles of five give their identity away. You’ll see plenty more of these pines near the end of the hike.

At the 2.0-mile mark of the hike, you reach Racetrack View Drive, across from the southern arm of Del Mar Lagoon, a tidal basin currently undergoing an elaborate restoration. Make a left, and soon you’ll be on San Dieguito Drive, a sparsely traveled road winding along the lagoon. Be cautious — the road is narrow and you must share space with cars.

When you reach Jimmy Durante Boulevard (1.75 miles into the hike), turn left, follow it and then Cassina Del Mar ahead to 15th Street in Del Mar’s business district. Hang a right and descend to the adjacent Seagrove and Powerhouse parks (2.7 miles), where you cross the railroad tracks and get access to the beach. Now go south along the coastline. All but high tides are fire (and low tides are perfect) for the 1.8-mile straight stretch of sand-walking ahead.

At 4.5 miles into the hike, turn inland under the Cassina Del Mar bridge and find yourself in a large parking lot for Torrey Pines State Beach (restrooms and water are here). Walk out to the parking lot entrance on Carmel Valley Road, cross over to the other side, and keep on Del Mar Scenic Parkway. In a short while, this residential street ends at the boundary of the Torrey Pines State Reserve Extension. Like the main Torrey Pines reserve just south, this serene, sage-scented patch of landscape harbors scattered but robust specimens of the rare Torrey pine, which can be seen either on the main trail ahead — the Mar Scenic Trail — or along side trails both left and right. If you stick to the Mar Scenic Trail, you reach the south end of

DEL MAR LOOP HIKE
Climb the along the side of the Torrey pine, down south, on the way edging along the lagoon. Be cautious — the road is narrow and you must share space with cars.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 20 miles
Hiking difficulty: Moderate

20th La Jolla Festival of the Arts, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., at UCSD’s East Campus parking lots (at Genesee Avenue and Regents Road). Organizers promise 180 artists displaying their work, food, live entertainment (Doyle Dykes, Wayne Johnson, Mike Keneally Road, Berkeley and others), kids and young area. Tickets: $10 adults, free for those ten and younger. 858-456-1268. (GOLDEN TRIANGLE)

Tenth Annual International Gourd Art Festival, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, at Welburn Gourd Farm in De Luz Canyon (40685 De Luz Road). Gourd art exhibits, gourd crafting area, gourd art competition, live entertainment, demonstrations, classes, kids’ crafts, more. Festival opens at 9 a.m. each day, closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. $7.50 general, free for kids 12 and younger. 760-728-4588. (PALKOBIRD)

Pet Fest and Doggy Dash 2006, Saturday, June 24, 8 a.m.—1 p.m., in Memorial Park (at Park Way and Third Avenue). Music, pet-related vendors and services, adoptions, pet vaccinations. Admission free. Two-Mile Doggy Dash runs/walk starts at 9 a.m. Fee: $12 per entry. All pets must be leashed. 619-422-1982. (MUDDY TRAIL)

Lavender Days Festival — boasting Latin harp music, beekeeping information, lavender oil distillation demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, agriculture, plant sale, lavender crafting — Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, 10 a.m.—5 p.m., at Lavender Fields (12400 Keys Creek Road). Free admission. 760-742-1489. (VALLEY CENTER)

*Probs and Rods,* Ramona Air Show, June 24 and 25, at Ramona Airport. World War II aircraft display, Air Force A-10 Warthog Heritage flight with F-51 Mustang, aerobatic flying, skydiving demonstrations, forestry department demonstrations, car show, food and product vendors. Find airport at 2450 Montecito Road. Admission: free for those under 12, $5 for adults. Gates open at 7 a.m. (for pancake breakfast) both days, close at 5 p.m. 760-522-1777. (RAMONA)

The 27th Annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off Festival is Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m. 8 p.m., along Newport Avenue (4000–5000 blocks). Chili cook-off (10 a.m. 3 p.m. at foot of Newport Avenue), art, live entertainment on four stages, food, chil-
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Music by DJ Vanja
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Poetry by Dominic Tarantino

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San Diego Reader
June 22, 2006
93
In Rust We Trust, spring harvest fair, antique engine and tractor show at Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum is Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25. Harvest fair includes blacksmith and wheelwright demonstrations, vintage skills, food, music, displays of antique cars and steam engines.

Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. Hours: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Admission: $8 general, $7 seniors, $5 for those 6–12, and kids under 6 free. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

California Wolf Center hosts public programs focusing on North American gray wolves every Saturday at 2 p.m. Programs include slide show, visit and tour with resident wolf pack. Tickets: $8 general, $5 for seniors, $4 for children ten and younger. Required reservations: 619-234-WOLF (WOLF) (JULIAN)

Botanical Art Club Show, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, in room 101 of Casa del Prado. 619-239-0512. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Shakti Rising Summer Faire, Saturday, June 24, 1–6 p.m., at Redwood Circle (near Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street). Cultural performances, arts, movement, activities "promoting well-being and creativity." Free. 619-501-2746. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Summer Tea hosted by Home of Guiding Hands, Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m., at agency’s office (1825 Gillespie Way, suite 200). Tickets: $15 in advance, $20 at door. 619-938-2856. (EL CAJON)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25, noon–6 p.m., at Alexandra’s Bookstore (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. $30 per reading. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS ARENA)

The House of Finland hosts lawn program at House of Pacific Relations, Sunday, June 25, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Bombs, Lowriders, Bikes Lowrider 2006 Tour, boasting 400 customized cars and bikes, hits Qualcomm Stadium, Sunday, June 25, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Hydraulics competitions (car hopping), live music by Lil’ Rob, Baby Bash, bikini contests. $30 general, free for kids under 11. 714-939-2441. (MISSION VALLEY)

“The Fall of Berlin, 1945: I Was There” — discussion starts at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 28, at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

Ride the Tide to Fun, San Diego County Fair continues through Tuesday, July 4, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Numerous competitions and exhibits, including fine arts, livestock, children’s art, gems, minerals, home arts, fun zone with rides, games; commercial exhibits; food; contests (hubblegum blowing, pie eating); many concerts.

Closed Mondays. Gates open 9 a.m.–9 p.m., July 1–4; 9 a.m.–10 p.m., July 5; 10 a.m.–10 p.m., July 6–4. 619-226-1111. (DEL MAR)
Hawaiian Cultural Workshops
planned by Frank Kawai-
akuakalani Hewitt, Thursday,
June 29. Traditional Hawaiian
healing using herbs and massage
offered 2:30 p.m. at Cardiff Ellis
Lodge (1393 Windsor Road).
“Aunau Hula” workshop,
6:30 p.m., at Encinitas Com-
munity Center (1140 Oakcrest
Park Drive). $35 per workshop.
858-309-6411. (KAWAI
AKALANI)
TOTS AND TALES interactive
story time for preschoolers, Thursday,
June 22, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego
Humane Society and SPCA (5300
Gaines Street). Free. Reservations:
619-243-3432. (LEDA VITI)
“Mother Holly” presented by
Weaver’s Tales through Sunday,
June 25, in Marie Hitchcock Pup-
et Theater. Comic ventriloquist
Lynn Trimble explores ‘The Magic
of Ventriloquism’ June 28–July 2.
Tickets: $13–$35 general,
$11.50–$85 for kids, available
through Ticketmaster (619-220-
TIXX). (SPORTS & RECREATION)
San Diego Public Library’s digital
community storytelling station remains
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niscences of your neighborhood,
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1938. (DOWN TOWN)
DANCE for $30
for 4 weeks*
Classes Still Open
Mondays
Latin/Ballroom • West Coast Swing
Tuesday
Lindy Hop • Hustle
WEDNESDAYS
*Classes in bold with this ad, first time students. Introductory classes.
Dances – Every Thursday: West Coast Swing/Nightclub Mix
Every Saturday: Latin & Ballroom
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dancetime@gmail.com www.dancetime.com
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Cruises
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and up close views of the fireworks.
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Late Dinner - Boarding: 7 pm Cruising: 7:30 pm – 10:30 pm
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REEL & ROBOTIC
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Featuring original movie memorabilia
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The Hard Way: A Jack Reacher Novel

by Lee Child


“Fars...will find themselves hanging onto their armchairs for dear life.” — Denver Post


A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR: Lee Child is the pen name of James Grant, an English expatriate living in the United States. The Seattle Times has described his series character as “the banking reader’s action hero,” and The New Yorker says he “ranks in the first tier.” I caught up with Lee Child while on tour for The Hard Way.

“You’re reading in San Diego?”

“Just did, at Warwick’s,” says Child, in his lovely Brit accent. “They’re excellent. You must get to a shop in La Jolla, too, D.G. Wills Books. It’s an old-fashioned bookstore. Two books deep on each shelf, and with a secret room.”

“Okay. I’ll look for it next time.”

“This is a difficult question to ask an Englishman: Would you mind braging about your books?”

“The Hard Way is my tenth. It is number three on The New York Times list.”

“Are you just having a hell of a time?”

“I ask. “Eight years. But I’d been visiting the States extensively for 42 years. My wife is American. I feel a kind of classic immigrant’s enthusiasm for the country. I use seem to prefer it over England.”


“I’m surprised at his candor. “Why?”

“Because England is a dull, boring country. I mean, it’s got this sort of method operatus like any other state, but for what it’s a small place of no very great importance. So it’s like having a board of directors for a candy store. It’s just somewhat too heavy.”

Lee Child has personally promoted each of his books. “Do you still enjoy touring?”

“Yes, oh!” he enthuses. “I mean it’s a bad idea, because the rest of the year is spent in solitude. This way I get out and see some real people instead of the ones I’m making up in my head.”

Child spent 18 years writing for television in England, working on major production, and then was dismissed via a mass message left on his answering machine. It may have been his lucky break, as he gave himself a year to write. The book had to be successful to support his family. It was, and he went on to write nine more and sell over ten million copies, earning over 18 million dollars from worldwide sales. Yet I worry about bringing up the subject.

“Ken Follet (author of Eye of the Needle) once said that he got into writing because he blew out the tires on his car and realized he couldn’t replace them. And your sort of backed into it as well. You worked in the golden age of television, in England, and, like many in the global corporate world, you were downsized and laid off.”

“Yeah, that’s exactly right.”

“What do you make of television now in the States? Do you think it’s coming back a bit with The Sopranos and Weeds and Big

“This way I get out and see some real people instead of the ones I’m making up in my head.”
Love, these very ambitious programs!"

"I guess cable penetration has reached a critical mass where there's enough money available to do ambitious shows like that. So it certainly is (coming back) in the sense that it's cable leading the charge. But you've got to ask yourself, what does that say exactly? It's a sort of fragmentation of the audience -- 'narrowcasting' rather than broad-casting. Certainly we'll never see the dominance of networks again."

An interesting phenomenon has been reported in connection with Lee Child's books. Despite the Harry-Vigante violence of the main character doing off frontier justice, many book-sellers have noted that more women than men are buying Jack Reacher novels. And more than half the members of the Reader Creatures fan club are females. Theories about it abound.

"Your villains are really nasty and seemingly deserving of their violent fates, and Jack really obliges. But do you get a lot of criticism because of his violence, or maybe your own?"

"It depends. In western Europe, absolutely. In those orderly Teutonic societies like Germany and Holland and so on, they buy the books and they like the character, but they are simultaneously appalled, by the vigilante I guess. In the U.K. and the U.S. and Australia and other slightly more rugged countries, it's remarkable how many people actually delight in the summary executions. Which strikes me as perhaps readers are taking it as a kind of metaphorical condensation of the judicial process. The other thing I've come to believe over the years is that we read fiction to get what we know we should not have in real life. We live in a gray world, where it does not matter to have fun. Your house is burgled. They're not going to come to catch the guys, you're not going to get you stuff back, and we long for some kind of justice. We know we can't really go around executing people in vigilante mobs in real life. Our consciousness is such that we know that that is not permissible. But we yearn for it, and we forget that release in fiction."

"How far ahead do you tour? Do you go to England and Germany and Japan and Australia for the books each time they come out?"

"Each territory has a separate publisher. Therefore, there's no global coordinator. I always do the U.S. I always do the United Kingdom, and then I will do maybe just one other territory. This time around I'm doing Italy in between the U.K. and the U.S."

"Has the reception been pretty uniform across the globe?"

"No, it's been actually an illustration of how things happen and nobody understands why. Some nations went crazy about it early, like New Zealand. And Bulgaria. Certain nations are just inexplicable. The book will come out. It goes to number one in Australia. It goes to number one in Kensington, London. In Australia, it's all over. In the U.K. it's all over. It sounds really tempting, but you're forever on a downward slide rather than an upward climb. I feel better about having done it step by step."

"I read movies are in the works, but you're having trouble casting your hero, Jack Reacher?"

"Yeah, I mean the way the movie work now without a strong studio system, you need basically three people interested at the same lunch: a producer, a director, and a star. They will get interested based on the quality of the script and the buzz. Many, many times we've had two out of the three committed, yet it's a question of getting all three."

"And at the same moment?"

"Yes, literally at the same moment, and that's a bit of a lottery. As for casting, if there's a big-name director committed, he will cast somebody he likes. If it's a star who likes the script, he will pick out the director. It's all up for grabs still at the moment."

"With your experience in media, are you going to stay involved when the movie is made or are you going to keep distancing yourself, like many sane writers?"

"I'm going to distance myself, not because I have a problem with Hollywood at all. Like Hollywood. But learned an interesting lesson over the winter, when I wrote a screenplay for Harvey Weinstein. He had a project that (ended up page 96)
he liked the concept of, but he did not like the way it was written. So, he asked me to rewrite it. And because I had no personal investment in the original script, no emotional investment, I was able to attack it with something that really amounted to callousness. And that triangulation, the dis-
**ART LISTINGS**

Events that are underlined occur after June 29.

**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 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SandiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**MAINLY MOZART FESTIVAL 2006**

annual musical series closes with concert of Mozart’s “Mass in C (Coronation)” and “Requiem in D minor” performed by Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra on Friday, June 23, 8 p.m., at Catedral de Guadalupe (at Segunda and Niños Heroes). Program is repeated on Saturday, June 24, 2 p.m. Also on view: new paintings by Tracey Tarling, Sheldon Greenberg. 858-793-4442. (SALUDA ITEMS)

**ANNUALITY GALA III,** featuring work by Craig LaRotta and its guest artists, continues through 7:30 p.m. at Spreckels Organ Pavilion (4135 South Cedros Avenue). Recept- tion for artists: Saturday, June 24, 7 p.m. Artwork for sale at 858-238-4758. (SAN DIEGO)

**All About Town,** recent paintings by San Diego native Michael Flohr showcased on June 24 and 25 at 25 at Elyce 4, 1432 University Avenue. Reception for artists: Saturday, June 24, 7 p.m. Artwork for sale at 858-285-5393. (HILLCREST)

**Art San Diego, Downtown,** “Strange New World: Art and Design from Tijuana/Extraño Nuevo Mundo: Arte y diseño desde Tijuana” documents recent exploration of artistic experimentation in Tijuana. Exhibit explores “subtle shift in focus from art about the border experience to art that takes advantage of a new type of acceler- ated urbanism being pioneered in developing cities around the world.” Show features 150 works by art by 41 artists, artists, de- signers, and filmmakers (at both downtown and La Jolla locations). Closes Sunday, September 3.

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla,** “Strange New World: Art and Design from Tijuana/Extraño Nuevo Mundo: Arte y diseño desde Tijuana” documents recent exploration of artistic experimentation in Tijuana. Exhibit explores “subtle shift in focus from art about the border experience to art that takes advantage of a new type of acceler- ated urbanism being pioneered in developing cities around the world.” Show features 150 works by art by 41 artists, artists, de- signers, and filmmakers (at both downtown and La Jolla locations). Closes Sunday, September 3.

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the inside track

Jake, “but I lost it all on April 4, 2000, as the market was having its biggest point-down day ever.”

Jake, once head of Boxwood Capital Management and Boxwood Trading on Morena Boulevard, says he began to use his free time to write songs and tour as a solo act. Eventually, he hooked up with band members via ads placed at Craigslist. Now, the four members of After the Crash live and travel in a 2002 Dodge conversion van and trailer, purchased a couple of years ago for $13,000.

“All we own is our wheels, a computer, and our cell phones,” says Jake. “We’re on the road full-time, booking, promoting, and we go… We have eight or nine [MySpace] pages and send out over 6000 e-mail notices per town we are playing. It’s really increased our turnout.”

The challenge, he says, is getting Internet service without paying.

“Places like Starbucks charge, but Panera bakeries, Atlanta Bread Company, and Buffalo Wild Wings, they usually have free Wi-Fi. We also drive by hotels to see which ones have free networks we can use. Sometimes, all you have to do is park near the right apartment complex; they have Wi-Fi a lot, too.”

Jake says the entire band spends $12 per day on food.

“Kiko, the guitarist, eats a one-dollar side salad from Wendy’s for lunch and a dollar bean burrito for dinner (he’s vegetarian). Me and the other guys buy sandwich meat and cheese from Wal-Mart for a couple of dollars and put it on bread for lunch, and dinner comes from a [fast-food] dollar menu…. The Jumbo Jack is the most food for the smallest price.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Bootleggers’ Bane: The College Guy

At nine in the morning, I knew all was not well,” recalls Detroit transplant Lonnie Goldberg of the 2003 wildfires. He lived in Tierrasanta at the time.

“The air was acrid. It looked like we were right next to a nuclear power plant…. I went out to the deck and saw 50-foot flames 500 yards away. I grabbed the dog and a duffel bag… Based on the watches we recovered after the fire, we could tell the place went two hours after we left. When I came back, the place was like a sunken ship. There were two feet of debris.”

Goldberg’s insurance company paid him for the loss of personal items, but there was two feet of debris. Goldberg says half of his 300 disc collection (which was mostly vinyl) “melted like candle wax”; the rest were unplayable due to heat, smoke, and water damage.

His collection included Led Zeppelin, Doors, and White Stripes concerts, and “the Rolling Stones at the Sports Arena in 1969.”

Since the loss, Goldberg has replaced every recording he lost in the fire and resumed collecting bootlegged concerts. This time, though, they’re digital files on his computer. He downloads the concerts — free of charge — from websites such as dimesearly.org and dimesonline.org.

“(The websites have) saved me thousands of dollars,” says Goldberg.

Though such sites are free, “They will boot your ass if you take more than you give…. I don’t like that word ‘bootleg’ because it implies people are profiteering from music recorded at live shows, no management, and no airplay for the 13-song demo he’s been handing out.

“I work at Sunshine Company in Ocean Beach,” says Brendan. “When I’m working the door at the bar, I’ll check an ID and then I’ll give them a CD. Right now, no one knows me and it’s hard to sell a CD, so I’m just giving them away, trying to spread the word.” Brendan estimates that he has given out a few hundred copies. “I know a few of the Camel [cigarette] reps,” says Brendan. “This kid, Chris — I call him ‘Camel Chris’ — I gave him a copy of my CD, and he told me that [Camel] was doing a show with Mix Master Mike [last Wednesday at On Broadway]. So, they just asked me if I wanted to perform.

“The place was packed,” says Brendan, who shared the stage with DJ Phobik and Apoc. “They gave away 3000 tickets and only allowed 600 people in. I was nervous at first, but once my name was announced I just bum-rushed the stage and rocked the house…” Hopefully one day I’ll be the headliner and I’ll get paid more than $33 for a show.”

— Dryw Keltz

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him and tell him."  

On the air, Sharpe said she'd met with KIFM general manager Darel Goodin the day before. After Sharpe rallied her listeners to contact Goodin, and after airing listeners' calls of support for over an hour, the station's engineer and business manager entered the studio and asked her to leave.  

There are many questions about the episode that neither side will answer. For instance, why would KIFM management want to retool her show? The station is experiencing a surge in ratings. Sharpe's show is one of the top five most successful morning shows in local radio (which include KGB, KSON, Star 94.1, and KYXY) among the most desired age range of listeners, 25–54. Unlike the other top-rated morning shows that have staffs of five or six people, Sharpe does her show alone, without a sidekick or a producer.  

Sharpe wouldn't comment about rumors that she may take legal action. Some radio veterans say her comment about rumors that precipitated his termination while on the air was in December 2001, when Matty Keating (of former alternative North County station 92/1) played songs with off-color lyrics and put callers on the air who used obscenities.  

“I snapped,” Keating said at the time. “I played stuff that was not exactly FCC friendly.” — Ken Leighton  

“She thought I was Bonzo,” says Pavel Sfera of Ireland's president. Sfera met her at a public appearance he made in Dublin last month. Sfera was in high school in 1982 when he started hearing the Bono comparisons. “But I really started happening in the last five years.”  

Sfera has an SDSU degree in city planning that he never used. He works in property management and real estate and with Desire, San Diego’s first U2 tribute band, which he started a year ago.  

Sfera's gigs as a celebrity impersonator earn him the biggest paychecks. He retains an agent and a manager who have obtained work for him in TV and landed him public appearances in Puerto Rico, Las Vegas, and L.A. He earns $200–$600 per walk-on.  

“I have done eight TV shows.” On the Carson Daly show, he and other celebrity impersonators were rated on a scale of one to ten; Sfera received a ten. He characterizes his experience on Chelsea Handler’s show as “crude and cheesy.”  

Sfera estimates there are at least a dozen Bono impersonators in U2 tribute bands.  

“Sonically, I think some of the other singers do it better than myself,” admits Sfera, who emigrated from Yugoslavia with his family. “I never tell people that I’m Bono; I actually have a life. I don’t do the Bono thing 100 percent with the exact same jacket, earrings, and haircut.” Sfera says he’s 5’8”, two inches taller than Bono. “I’m 40 and he’s 45.” Similar to Bono, Sfera says he has been doing humanitarian work since high school.  

“I spent the summer of ’91 working with handicapped orphans in a Romanian village called Rimnicu Vilcea. I designed and built a playground using a student loan… I helped build bathrooms for farmers in San Quintin [in Baja].” Desire appears July 1 at the Dublin Square Pub downtown. — Ken Leighton  

Drummer’s Girl Spontaneously Combusts! Before he joined a Scribe Amidst the Lions, drummer “Nate [Ball] was more or less using his drum kit for dirty laundry bins,” says singer Kristofer Towne. After their first practice session with Hall evolved into a house party, says Towne, “The old drummer’s intoxicated girlfriend showed up and started causing a scene… flashing people, running around the neighbor’s yards shouting obscenities until the cops came.”  

“Upon spotting Nate and hearing what was going on, she started breaking bottles on the kitchen floor, all around his feet. After refusing to leave, she proceeded to lock herself in the hall closet for the next 20 minutes with someone else’s half-finished wineglass. No one remembers what happened to the glass…. Some say they heard it break. — Jay Allen Sanford
Monster Megamix

“Everyone else in the band had their own problems – cancer, kids, wife.”

How did The City’s Finest meet?

“I’ve known Brian and Robby since we were in middle school, although I didn’t join the band until just before college,” says rhythm guitar player Chris Lenz. “I used to hang out with them while they were practicing, thinking about how cool it would be to be in a band, while they were jamming along to the likes of Radiohead, Yellowcard, and New Found Glory. I think I had only owned a guitar for about six months at this point and hardly knew how to play the damn thing, but I can still vividly remember the first time Robby had temporarily switched from bass to vocals, and the band asked me to step in to replace him. For a 16-year-old kid like me, it was like winning the lottery. I was ecstatic.”

Robby and I have been in bands together since we were 15 or 16,” says singer Brian Grider. “We were Strave for the longest of all our bands, about three years.”

“I have been in a bunch of bands with Brian and Chris,” says bass player Robby Powers Davis, “with ridiculous names like Luigi’s Sorrow, but they were really all the same band — we just had different vocalists.”

“I play guitar and sing in the acoustic-techno monster megamix band the Datelose Lovers,” says drummer Tim Curns. “Our lead guitarist is pretty busy with grad school, and I wanted to get back behind the drum set, so I found these guys.”

“A little over a year ago I was in a band called Nicellen,” says lead guitarist Andrew Stone. “It was my first real band that actually tried to get somewhere. It was a great experience, even though I had to drive about two hours, two to three times a week, for practice, and everyone else in the band had their own problems — cancer, kids, wife. I started looking through Craigslist for bands wanting to jam, and I found a couple bands that were cool, but nothing really stuck me. I got sick of looking and just put up my own ad in Craigslist, and Brian e-mailed me a few days after…we got together, and I really loved the sound he was going for.”

INSTRUMENTS USED?

Brian “I use a TC-Helicon VoiceLive vocal processor. I play a bit of keyboards live as well.”

Tim “I bought a used Pearl Session kit from a guy who refurbishes drums. They are fairly new in my hands, but I’m rocking them as much as possible. It’s like driving someone else’s car for the first few weeks…then you can’t imagine how you lived without it.”

Chris “A special-edition Ibanez that I bought at Guitar Center about two years ago. It was my first ‘real’ guitar, so I have a real sense of affinity toward it. I must have tried out at least 30 guitars with our singer that day, but nothing seemed to fit. We were actually on our way out when he saw it hidden amongst a stack of promotional items they had at the front of the store. ‘What about that one?’ he said, and from the moment we plugged in we knew it was the one.”

Robby “My bass was presented to me in a dream. The next day, as I was walking through a deserted house, I found it leaning against the wall.”

EARLIEST MEMORY?

Chris “I climbed onto a chair to try and reach the countertop in the kitchen of our first house but ended up slipping and accidentally grabbing my mom’s miniature cactus to try and halt my fall. I actually remember being blown off by some magical gust of wind, but that’s probably just my subconscious compensating for my childhood stupidity. My aunt was pulling those needle things out of my hands with tweezers for hours.”

Brian “I remember sleeping in my bed when I was about four years old. Someone grabbed my foot, so I woke up and said, ‘What do you want?’ There was no answer, so I opened my eyes…I looked around and saw nothing. At that point I was incredibly scared and just dived under the covers. I’ve been scared of ghosts up until about three days ago.”

Tim “I fell off a stool when I was little and chipped my gum. My tooth came in gray, and I had to press it on my gum. My tooth came in gray, and I had to press it in.”

FAVORITE SAN DIEGO NEIGHBORHOOD?

Brian “La Jolla. I’m very used to organization and rich people.”

Robby “South Park. It’s just a cool place to hang out.”

Chris “South Mission Beach is where it’s at. I lived there during the school year and was within walking distance of, like, eight different bars.”
college night
THURSDAY, JUNE 22ND
JOIN GEENA THE LATINA & THE CHANNEL 933 STREET PATROL EVERY THURSDAY AT DECO'S BIG DUDE & NICKY Z SPINNING HIP HOP, OLD SCHOOL, MASHUPS, & HOUSE NO COVER BEFORE 10:30PM WITH COLLEGE ID & $5 DISCOUNT AFTER 10:30PM WITH COLLEGE ID $3 COORS LIGHT BOTTLES AND $5 TEQUILLAS ALL NIGHT LONG!

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John "Oo" Fleming
SATURDAY, JUNE 24
SPECIAL EVENT SERIES eventvibe.com
### Calendar
#### CONCERTS

#### THIS WEEK’S CONCERTS

**THURSDAY**
- Steve Miller: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, June 22, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.
- India.Arie: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**FRIDAY**
- Styx: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Friday, June 23, 2200 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.
- Rosie Flores and Cindy Lee Berryhill: Avenue Music Music San Diego, Friday, June 23, 4600 Manufield Street, Normal Heights. 619-305-8178.
- Fiona Apple: Belly Up, Friday, June 23, 1055 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-220-8497.
- Béla Fleck and the Yonder Mountain String Band: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, June 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**SATURDAY**
- Indiggnous: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, June 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022.
- Jonny Lang: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Monday, June 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-485-5400.

#### BEST SEATS • BEST EVENTS

**Wicked**
- 7/28-8/5 • $249
  - Includes limo and orchestra seating. Ask about purchasing tickets only.
  - Jonny Lang 6/24 • Viejas
  - All Humphrey’s, Coors & Viejas Tickets!

**In Cahoots**
- Daisy Duke
  - Lookalike Contest $2,000 Cash & Prizes
  - June 3rd - July 8th

**BEST SEATS • BEST EVENTS**
- TUESDAY: Melissa Etheridge
- Wednesday: The String Cheese Incident and Reggie
- Thursday: Fiona Apple
- Friday: Built to Spill
- Saturday: Smash Mouth
- Sunday: Widespread Panic

**WEDNESDAY**
- Smash Mouth: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 28, 2200 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

**UPCOMING CONCERTS**

**JUNE**
- Ringo Starr and His All-Starr Band: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
- America and Richie Furay: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, June 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**JULY**
- Ozomatli: Nuco, Sunday, July 2, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.
- Fairport Convention: Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, July 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
- Nickel Creek: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
- Rob Thomas and Jewel: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, July 5, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-485-5400.
- Linda Ronstadt: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
- The Indigo Girls: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
June

India.Arie
Thursday, June 2

Acoustic Planet Tour
featuring
Béla Fleck & The Flecktones/ Kellie Williams/ Yonder Mountain String Band
Friday, June 3

Hapa/
Derek Hughes
Friday, June 10

Barefoot Natives:
Willie K.
Thursday, July 5

Linda Ronstadt
Thursday, July 6

Nickel Creek
with special guest
Derek Hughes
Wednesday, July 5

Hapa/
Barefoot Natives:
Willie K.
& Eric Gilliom
with special guest
Ledward Kaapana
Friday, June 30

Linda Ronstadt
July 6

Blues Traveler
Monday, July 10

India.Arie
with special guest
Anthony David
Thursday, June 2

Chips Isaac
Friday, June 3

Lyle Lovett
Sunday, June 5

The Beach Boys
June 6 & 7

Hootie & The Blowfish
June 8

Bruce Hornsby
June 9

Herman’s Hermits
June 10

Terri Clark
June 11

Celtic Woman
June 12

Boz Scaggs
with special guest
James Hunter
Tuesday, August 1

The Rippingtons
with special guest
Russ Freeman
20th Anniversary Tour/ David Benoit
Wednesday, August 2

David Bromberg
with special guest
Angel Band/ the subdudes
Thursday, August 3

Foreigner
with special guest
Joe Bonamassa
Friday, August 4

Olivia Newton-John
Saturday, August 5

Iain Anderson
with special guest
Stu Hamm
Sunday, August 6

Joe Cocker
Tuesday, August 1

Blues Traveler
Monday, July 10

Boz Scaggs
with special guest
James Hunter
Tuesday, August 1

The Rippingtons
with special guest
Russ Freeman
20th Anniversary Tour/ David Benoit
Wednesday, August 2

David Bromberg
with special guest
Angel Band/ the subdudes
Thursday, August 3

Foreigner
with special guest
Joe Bonamassa
Friday, August 4

Olivia Newton-John
Saturday, August 5

Iain Anderson
with special guest
Stu Hamm
Sunday, August 6

Perry Farrell
Monday, August 7

Linda Ronstadt
Thursday, July 6

Nickel Creek
with special guest
Derek Hughes
Wednesday, July 5

Hapa/
Barefoot Natives:
Willie K.
& Eric Gilliom
with special guest
Ledward Kaapana
Friday, June 30

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San Diego Reader June 22, 2006 111
Pearl Jam and Sonic Youth: Cox Arena, Friday, July 7, 3055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2589.  
Teena Marie: Sprechhs Theatre, Friday, July 7, 721 Broadway, downtown, 619-239-5380.  
Brand New: House of Blues, Friday, July 7, 1035 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2589.  
"Ozzfest": Cox Amphitheatre, Sunday, July 9, 9 p.m., 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-4560.  
The Foo Fighters: San Diego Civic Theatre, Monday, July 17, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-299-1100.  
Nils Logfren: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, July 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-6180.  
The Beach Boys: Humphrey's By the Bay, Tuesday, July 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
The Beach Boys: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
Hootie & the Blowfish: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
The Thievery Corporation: 4th & B, Friday, July 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-6180.  
Steely Dan: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, July 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-6180.  
The Gipsy Kings: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, July 27, 5005 Willow Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

Venice: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, July 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-6180.  
Lyle Lovett: Humphrey's Concert by the Bay, Sunday, July 16, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
The Fray: House of Blues, Saturday, July 22, 1035 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2589.  
Herman's Hermits: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
Robin Trower: 4th & B, Monday, July 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, 619-231-4343.  
The Who: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, July 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-6180.  
Santana: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, July 29, 5005 Willow Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.  
The Cribs: Humphrey's by the Bay, Friday, July 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  

**AUGUST**

Box Scars: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, August 1, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.  
Puta Yum: The Cuckoo, Tuesday, August 1, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.  
The Rollins Band and X: 4th & B, Tuesday, August 1, 5005 Willow Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

Ray Davies: Coors Amphitheatre, July 14, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.  
Diego, Saturday, July 15, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.  
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“Rocky Rock Raggeu” w/ Ziggy Marley, Sineda O’Connor, Sly & Robbie, and Osomalli: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, August 10, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Asleep at the Wheel: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Yolanda Adams: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Tuesday, August 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Creedence Clearwater Revisited: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 12, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Ben Harper: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Lonestar: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Thursday, August 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Half Ketchum: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, August 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Death Cab for Cutie: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, August 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Neville Brothers: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, August 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Buddy Guy: Robert Cray: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, August 16, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Soul to Sol: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.


Pet Shop Boys: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Asleep at the Wheel: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Lonestar: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Sunday, August 13, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

619-445-5400.


Poco: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Bay, Thursday, August 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Dennis DeYoung: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Tuesday, August 22, 3500 Sports Arena South, 619-445-5400.

The Neville Brothers: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Los Lonely Boys: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Bay, Thursday, August 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Earth, Wind, and Fire: Chris Botti: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.


Air Supply: and Christopher Cross: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Bay, Thursday, August 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Al Jarreau: and George Benson: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, August 24, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Death Cab for Cutie: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, August 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Daveрубек Quartet: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Bay, Sunday, August 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Michael Franks: Humphrey’s Concerts at the Bay, Monday, August 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ella James: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, August 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Earth, Wind, and Fire: Chris Botti: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 16, Embarcadero Park South, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.


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ticketmaster.com
Randy Travis: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, August 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**American Idols Live 2006**: Shelter Island.

August 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, August 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


The Dave Matthews Band: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, August 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Little River Band: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

**SEPTEMBER**


Steve Polt: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, September 3, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.


Joe Cocker: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, September 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Jessie Cook: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Brian Howe: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, September 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-671-3600.

Los Lobos: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The James Gang Rides Again: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, September 9, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Linda Eders: San Diego Civic Theatre, Saturday, September 9, Third Avenue and B Street. 619-231-4343.


Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes and The Fabulous Thunderbirds: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, September 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Dwight Yoakam: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, September 14, 1055 Willow Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Tower of Power: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Mother Hips: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, September 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Toby Keith: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, September 17, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Brian Culbertson and Keiko Matsui: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ani DiFranco: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, September 22, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-226-6700.


The Templations: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

*“Nashville Star Tour”*: House of Blues, Sunday, September 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.


Engelbert Humperdinck: Pala Events Center, Wednesday, September 27, 15 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-519-4300.


Nels Larsen: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 29, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Emmylou Harris: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, September 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

John Mayer: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, October 1, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

**OCTOBER**

Eddi Reader: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, October 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Eddi Reader: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, October 3, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Celtic Frost: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Queen: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Ellis Paul: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, September 29, 4650 Manifold Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-4176.

**HACIENDA BROTHERS**

*If there is genius in the Hacienda Brothers, it is in their ability to sound like a very old band. The Brothers’ music has a patina of age not often courted by modern country. Chris Gaffney and Dave Gonzalez can sing like bourbon-soaked geezers with rusted voices who were rescued from oblivion by a record scout on a tour of lost Texas bars. They are not. They are relatively young men (Gaffney is a veteran of Dave Alvin’s Gunmen; Gonzalez is a member of the Paladins) with an ear tuned to history. Even the title cut from What’s Wrong with Alight, the Brothers’ sophomore release, sounds like something Hank Williams might have found scribbled on a soot-stained one-hung-over morning decades ago. That Gonzalez and Gaffney hooked up with Dan Penn couldn’t have hurt. Dan Penn and Spooner Oldham are the Gambly-Hurt of blue-eyed soul. Penn and Oldham shared more than a few stages with Gonzalez and the Paladins over the years and when the Hacienda Brothers project firmed up, Penn was tapped to help write songs and produce the band’s first two CDs. The result is a blend of R&B and country they call western soul, and it works — not that the two genres are that different at their respective core in the first place. But the blend of country sensibilities and urban rhythms has helped the Hacienda Brothers master the sound of sad. Almost every one of their songs tugs at heartstrings of one kind or another. “Midnight Dream,” “Kept It Together,” a cover version of “Rebutock,” and a cover of Penn’s “Cry Like a Baby” — the tone caters to the sometimes darker human emotions we often ignore, at least until they come to visit. Measured out in country haiku with pedal steel flourishes and a solid R&B grounding, the Hacienda Brothers may be a contrivance, but they sound more real than anything Nashville has promoted for decades.*

HACIENDA BROTHERS, The Casbah, Saturday, June 24, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. $12.
** bell u **

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** 6/24 **

** Wise Monkey **

** FREE COVER **

** Old School **

** The HUSKY BOY **

** ALL- STARS **

** 6/25 **

** DRUNK POETS SOCIETY **

** 6/26 **

** Electric Waste Band **

** 6/27 **

** Mishka **

** With special guests **

** Big Back Yard **

** 6/28 **

** Wireless Art Show **

** National Touring **

** Funk & Jazz **

** Phenomenon **

** 6/29 **

** Karl Denk's KD3 **

** Widespread Panic Bus Trip **

** 6/30 **

** Upcoming **

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** 7/15 Opening Day After Party - Boogie Nights **

** 7/26 New Acoustic Generation w/ Michael Tieman **

** 7/14 Hilt **

** 7/15 Brian Howe formerly of Bad Company **

** 8/6 Mike Riley **

** 8/7 2000 **

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** 7/17 Candi Staton **

** 7/18 Rhae Ledgett w/Marcus Eaton **

** 7/19 The Refugee All Stars of Sierra Leone **

** 7/20 The church **

** 7/21 Holiday & The Adventure **

** 7/22 Back-O-Nine w/ Ska & Skanking **

** 7/22 Brian Howe formerly of Bad Company **

** 7/23 Dezarie **

** 7/23 Xavier Rudd **

** 7/23 David Grisman **

** 7/23 The Mother Hips **

** 7/24 Eurythmics **

** 7/25 Nelson Almendarez **

** 7/25 The Mother Hips **

** 7/26 The Bluegrass Experience **

** 7/25 Jojo & The Wheel **

** 7/25 Rock the Walk Benefit w/Flock **

** 7/26 For More Info **

** 7/26 New Acoustic Generation w/ Michael Tieman **

** 7/27 Holly & The Adventure **

** 7/28 The Bluegrass Experience **

** 7/28 Rock the Walk Benefit w/Flock **

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** 7/28 Wilson's **

** 7/28 Jasper **

** 7/28 Tomatillo **

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** 7/29 Funk & Jazz Phenom **

** 7/29 Funk & Jazz Phenom **

** 7/29 Funk & Jazz Phenom **

** 7/29 Funk & Jazz Phenom **

** 7/29 Funk & Jazz Phenom **

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San Diego Reader June 20, 2006 117
Second Generation
Monday, June 26
9:30-1:30 am
Latin Rock
Jimmy Love's is the place to be!
9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.
Viva Santana
June 22
9:30 pm-1 am
Reggae & Soul
Quinazo
Thursday, June 22
Second Generation
Ronnie Baker Brooks
Sedona
Monday, June 26
9:30-1:30 am
Latin Rock
Viva Santana
June 22
9:30 pm-1 am
Reggae & Soul
Quinazo
Thursday, June 22
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Sedona
Monday, June 26
9:30-1:30 am
Latin Rock
San Diego Reader
June 22, 2006

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**VIEJAS**

**Concerts at Bayside**

---

**IL DIVO**

*In Concert*

*SPECIAL GUEST KATIE MELUA*

*THIS SUNDAY! JUNE 25*

---

**WIDESPREAD PANIC**

*This Wednesday! June 28*

---

**ROB THOMAS & JEWEL**

*Wednesday July 5*

**TAKING BACK SUNDAY**

**ANGELS & AIRWAVES**

*HEAD AUTOMATICA :: THE SUBWAYS*

*SUNDAY JULY 23*

**STEELY DAN**

*Monday July 24*

**SANTANA**

**ANTHONY HAMILTON**

*Thursday July 27*

**MANU CHAO**

*Sunday July 30*

**BEN HARPER & THE INNOCENT CRIMINALS**

**DAMIEN MARLEY**

*SUNDAY AUGUST 13*

**DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE**

**SPOON :: MATES OF STATE**

*TUESDAY AUGUST 15*

**LOS LONELY BOYS**

**LIFEHOUSE**

*Wednesday August 16*

**BONNIE RAITT**

**KEB’ MO’**

*Wednesday September 13*

**EARTH WIND & FIRE**

**CHRIS BOTTI**

*TUESDAY AUGUST 22*

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JONNY LANG
LIVE

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THE STRING BOB CHEESE WEIR- & INCIDENT RATDOG

THIS MONDAY! JUNE 26

BUDDY GUY
ROBERT CRAY
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16 7:30PM

PAT BENATAR
NEIL GERALDRO
TUESDAY JULY 11

THE GIPSY KINGS
THU & FRI JULY 27 & 28

AL GREEN
SATURDAY JUY 29

SAMMY HAGAR
& THE WABOS
THE OTHER HALF WITH
MICHAEL ANTHONY & SAMMY HAGAR
SUNDAY JUY 30

JULIO IGLESIAS
FRIDAY AUGUST 4

ROOFS, ROCK,
REGGAE
ZIGGY MARLEY
STEPHEN MARLEY :: BUNNY WAALER
THURSDAY AUGUST 10 6:30PM

BILL MAHER
FRIDAY AUGUST 11

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED
SATURDAY AUGUST 12

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DONNA SUMMER

An Evening With

THIS SUNDAY! JUNE 25

SAN DIEGO READER JUNE 22, 2006
Join us in June.

Calendar

**CLUBS**

**BEACHES**

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-580-0550. Tango Lounge: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.; John Coli, jazz. 619-580-0550. Tango Lounge: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.; John Coli, jazz.

Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, 9 p.m.; Catherine Baik, blues.

Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant, 949 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7334. Thursday, 9 p.m.; the Clay Colton Band, rock.

**NORTH PARK**

The Aero Club, 2306 El Cajon Blvd. 619-297-7211. Tuesday, 7 p.m.; the San Diego Blues Trio.

**PAINTSTERS**, 1521 Besso Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, Tom Petty tribute night; Friday, Antiques of Saints, D.P.T., and J.F.A.; Saturday, Sackers, Heart Beat, the Hammerstein Band, Louden Street, Categories, Bugs Rust, and Calcium; Sunday, Was Monday, grows; Monday, the Electric West Bank, classic rock. Tuesday, Big Backyard, rock. Wednesday, the Karl Denver Jazz Trio.

**SAN DIEGO**


The Aero Club, 2306 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. Tuesday, 7 p.m., the San Diego Blues Trio.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 990 West Pacific Beach Drive, Mission Bay. 858-359-3779. Departs 6:30 p.m. Friday, 8 National, Top 40; Saturday, Wade Blues, classic rock.

The Beauty Bar, 4748 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-314-4746. Saturday, 9 p.m., Nice Vibe.

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**SOUTH BAY**

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& Guests

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**San Diego Reader June 22, 2006**

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Mike Ruggiello Presents

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

June 23 & 24 • 9 PM

**June 24th • 9 pm - 12am**

DIVA SOUL

June 23
9 pm - 12am

THE SCREAMIN PRIMAS

2pm - 6pm

POLYESTER EXPRESS

7pm - 12am

June 25

HILL COUNTRY

June 29
8pm - 11am

PARTY QUAKE

June 30
9pm - 12am

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JUNE 23 & 24 • 9 PM

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CLASSIC ROCK

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

JUNE 23 & 24 • 9 PM

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**NORTH PARK**

**KARAOKE**

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY 9 PM**

**SUNDAY-THURSDAY**

9 pm • No Cover Charge

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**KARAOKE**

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY 9 PM**

**SUNDAY-THURSDAY**

9 pm • No Cover Charge

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Matisyahu
special guests
Gomez
Street Drum Corps

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Friday Saturday

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QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE
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YELLOWCARD
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SHE WANTS REVENGE
MATCHBOOK ROMANCE
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LUPE FIASCO
PARTICLE + NINE BLACK ALPS
CHEB I SABBAH & 1002 NIGHTS
THOMAS MAPFUMO & THE BLACKS UNLIMITED
WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS
REEVE OLIVER + THE COLOUR + THE SHYS

TOOL
SNOOP DOGG
YEAH YEAH YEAHS
MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE
SEAN PAUL
BLOC PARTY
G.LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE
DONAVON FRANKENREITER
TRICKY
THE SUBWAYS
EDITORS
SKA CUBANO
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* lineup and artists subject to change

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• The Lollipop Girls Burlesque
• TechnoManta Circus
What are you looking for today?

Best hangover cure?

Favorite Musical Acts:

Last good movie you saw:

First concert ever attended Camden

Fleetwood Mac,

Don’t stop drinking

The Yellow Submarine

(15 or 16 years old)

Growing flowers

The Beatles, Bob Dylan, Wilco

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$4 Margarita in the bar (until close)

Taco Tuesdays

Tacos for $1 in the bar for Happy Hour

Thursdays

$2 Drink Night and Karaoke Dinner Show – 6 pm until close

Friday Night Paradise

Live DJs • Hip Hop Dance Party Reggaeton & Rock
$2 Bacardi Shots • $12 Coronita Buckets

Saturday:

Latin Night: Salta, Merengue & Cumbias
$3 Tequila Shots

Lunch Specials

Monday–Friday 10 am–2 pm

Happy Hour in the Bar

Monday–Friday • $3 Appetizers
$4 Margaritas • $2 Wells • $2 Drafts

Authentic Mexican Restaurant

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and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Kevin Roikert, piano.


Tutti Marina, 8450 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 458-977- 1150. Monday, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the Capriccio String Quartet, classical music. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., the James Yale Quartet, Brazilian and mainstream jazz.

Teaggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0566. Thursday, 8 p.m., Steve Friday, 8 p.m., Stone Ginger, Tom Madsen Clinic Hickey, and Misko Vaughan Saturday, 8 p.m., Arabia Zing, Afrobeats, and Will Fishburn, Sunday, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Cellar Ensemble.

Wednesday, 7 p.m., open mike.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3525 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7066. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Willows, smooth jazz/blues.

DOWNTOWN


Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 488 Sixth Street, San Diego. 619-322-4201. Friday, 9 p.m., the Martin Stellar Rend, acoustic rock/blues.

Saturday, 8 p.m., Jason Brown, folk.

The Casbah, 2811 Kettner Boulevard, downtown. 619-252-7210. Music is rock/dance/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Dino Sev and Lady Daisy and the Diamonds, Frasty, Dirty Sweet, V’Gaal Gehr, Silver Sample, and Grand Ole Perry. Saturday, Big Sandy & the Fly-By-Nuts Boys, Ay Hanna Brothers, and the Golden Hill Ramblers. Sunday, N/A, the Heatres, and Dringy. Monday, Air Black Angels, Flippin’, and Just Oatman Tuesday, Air Deres, See Wolf, and Air Deres. Wednesday, John Felber and Sean Hoyos, acoustic/folk.

Cross’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8555. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the David Parson Quartet. Friday, Tavaris, Suzanne, Scott, Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Scott, Tuesday, the John Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, Fuzzy of the Bluesmen.

Deco’s, 751 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-696-4033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

Dick’s Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-224-1101. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, Private Domain. Saturday, live rock. Sunday, the Disco Preps. Tuesday, the SIE Wednesday, the Ghost of Jericho.

Dizzy’s, 414 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-270-7487. Call club for information.

Downtown Johnny Boy’s, 1220 Third Avenue, San Diego. 619-232-8414. Thursday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Misty, soul. Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Little by Little, soft rock.

Dublin Square, 534 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Traditional Irish folk.


Jimmy Loves’, 1727 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-395-0122. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Masterpiece, jazz/blues. Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., discos/Trip. Monday, 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Misty, soul. Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Latin, rock.

The Laurel Restaurant and Bar, 701 Laurel Street (corner of Fifth and Laurel), downtown. 619-239-2222. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Tako & the Ed Kornhauser Trio, classic jazz.

Martini Ranch, 1727 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-235-4610. Club for information.

Martini’s Bar and Grill, 1404 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-293-0122. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Vintage Vigar featuring Laura Dunn or 2-Step, rock.

Patrick’s II, 428 E Street, downtown. 619-235-3377. Music is blues-based unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Bill Major Blues. Friday, the Blues Brothers. Saturday, Family Style Sunday, Blue Joey. Monday and Tuesday, Blue Four. Wednesday, Bill Major Blues.

Princess Pub and Grille, 1655 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-782- 3521. Saturday, L.J. Boocar’s Blues. Sunday, Live DJ.

Sally’s Seafood on the Water, at Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego. One Market Place, downtown. 619-232-1224. Saturday and Sunday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Sally’s Red Drum Duo, cumbias.

Samba Grill, 514 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp. 619-236-1000. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Ed Brad, Brazilian jazz.

Seville, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-7970. Club Salsa Saturday and Tuesday, live salsa.

Whiskey Girl, 560 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-230-1616. Thursday DJ Marc Thompson. Friday and Saturday, DJ David Sunday, Jordan Jones at the Crown 3 and DF Danial. Monday, DJ Marc Thompson. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to midnight, City Limits, countryrock. Wednesday, the Hopping Feet.

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-1190. Friday, 9 p.m., Tuscan Moon at the World Beat Jazz Ensemble, world jazz.

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4119 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-7730. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., italian. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the Ed Kornhauser Trio, live jazz.

Saturday, the Sine Qu Qua Jazz.

The Butcher Shop, 315 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-423-9448. Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., Ray Corcoran, standards/vocal Latin.

Cafe LaMarre, 1440 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-5222. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight, Sandy Chappey and Sammy Courtois, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Barrett Anderson and the Carrivans, jazz. Wednesday, DJ event.

Chicano Park Cafe y Cultura, 615 National City Boulevard, National City.

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127

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Saturday, June 24
Don’t Trip Productions presents
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Tuesday, June 27
STATIC HALO  
SHAIMUS  
GILLY LEADS  
VIVA IN STEREO
Wednesday, June 28
5D Music Scene presents
KNIFE FIGHT  
HEAD TO WALL  
KAVENA

Thursday, June 29
SIX INCH MAN  
AUDIBLE MAINFRAME  
HIGH TIDE
Friday, June 30
WHITE STARR  
MICKEY AVALON  
BLUESPRING  
PACIFIC
Saturday, July 1
PENNY ROYAL  
(Nirvana tribute)
BLIND ON BOURBON  
STOLEN
Wednesday, July 5
RUNAWAY PHOENIX
Thursday, July 6
LOST DISCIPLES

Thursday, July 13
THE OTHER SIDE  
JEB STAPLES  
THE RAVENያs  
THE WALTZES
Friday, July 14
OFFBEAT  
MEDICINE  
THE SISTERS OF SILENCE  
THE WATERBOYS
Saturday, July 15
THE BAND  
DANIELLE  
THE COMETS  
THE MACDROPS

Thursday, July 20
GREAT饱T  
THE MIGHTY NATIVE  
THE NELS  
THE O’JAYS
Friday, July 21
SHROUD  
THE UNION  
THE WATERS  
THE WILD PIGS
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THE BLACKSTARS  
THE LITtle DEATHS  
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STATIC HALO  
SHAIMUS  
GILLY LEADS  
VIVA IN STEREO

Tuesday, July 28
DON’TSLEEP  
EDDIE  
FLEETING  
FORBIDDEN

Thursday, July 20
THE OTHER SIDE  
JEB STAPLES  
THE RAVENያs  
THE WALTZES

Friday, July 21
OFFBEAT  
MEDICINE  
THE SISTERS OF SILENCE  
THE WATERBOYS

Saturday, July 22
THE BLACKSTARS  
THE LITtle DEATHS  
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619-474-7735. Friday, 9 p.m., La Diabla, Columbus continues; Saturday, 6 p.m., Merced Continental de San Diego.

Edelweiss Restaurant, 230 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-420-5372. Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m., Gordon Kahl, Kjell Dallestad, or Voxtrot. Jamming and ethnic accordions.

Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-419-6611. Bobbink and Story. Thursday and Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; also, Friday and Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Tony LaRouzi, Latin jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., Barbara Jaroson and Joe Jaroson, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Sakklin & Dave Reddyke. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Jon Giffes.

Palm Court Thursday through Sunday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Jay Biz. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., Joey Wave. Crown Room: Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., John Cose.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-1366. Friday, Jumptown, rock/blues. Saturday, Stellita & Dave Joe Tarantino, jazz.

**EAST COUNTY**

Borders Books and Music, 159 Parkview Plaza, El Cajon, 619-450-5119. Thursday, open mike. Friday, 7 p.m., Heather Baker, folk. Saturday, 7 p.m., The Martin Jaroson Band, acoustic rock/blues.

Cosmos Cafe, 8378 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-698-4217. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Zoe Jepson, acoustic pop/punk.

Dirk’s Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-454-6344. Friday and Saturday, Air Wild Ones, classic rock.


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Epiphanie

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**The Honeys**

The Cab

**Hospitall**

The Cab

**The Human Abstract**

Epiphanie

**Instigator**

The Jumping Turtle

**IN THE BAY**

The Jumping Turtle

Johnny Different: Canas

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Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys: The Cab

Bing: Blind Melons

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Bullets & Octane: Soma

The Burning of Rome: The Jumping Turtle

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Cheeky: Blind Melons

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The Creepy Creeps: The Kensington Club

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Damiere: Soma

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Wondo Bart: Tiki House
The Wrecking Crew: The Jumping Turtles
X-Factor: Ocean House

JAZZ / BIG BAND
Barnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies
Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Ray Bria: Hotel del Coronado
The Lee Brown Perspective: Theater, Magnolia’s
Sammy Caonitozada: Cafe LaMaze
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Jim Hughart: Portugal
Insight: Jimmy Love’s
Keith Jacobson: St. Tropez Bistro & Bar
Barbara Jameson: Hotel del Coronado
Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
Laura Jane: Martini’s Bar and Grill
Barry Levine: La Valencia Hotel
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Friday • June 24

THE BANANAS

Tuesday • July 5

THE BANANAS

Monday • June 27

THE BANANAS

Thursday • June 30

THE BANANAS

Saturday • July 2

THE BANANAS

Tuesday • July 12

THE BANANAS

Friday • July 15

THE BANANAS

Monday • July 18

THE BANANAS

Thursday • July 22

THE BANANAS

Friday • July 23

THE BANANAS

Monday • July 26

THE BANANAS

Thursday • July 29

THE BANANAS

Friday • July 30

THE BANANAS

Monday • August 2

THE BANANAS

Thursday • August 5

THE BANANAS

Friday • August 6

THE BANANAS

Monday • August 9

THE BANANAS

Thursday • August 12

THE BANANAS

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Monday • August 16

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Thursday • August 19

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Thursday • August 26

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Monday • August 30

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Thursday • September 2

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Friday • September 3

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Monday • September 6

THE BANANAS

Thursday • September 9

THE BANANAS

Friday • September 10

THE BANANAS

Monday • September 13

THE BANANAS

Thursday • September 16

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Friday • September 17

THE BANANAS

Monday • September 20

THE BANANAS

Thursday • September 23

THE BANANAS

Friday • September 24

THE BANANAS

Monday • September 27

THE BANANAS

Thursday • September 30

THE BANANAS

Friday • October 1

THE BANANAS

Monday • October 4

THE BANANAS

Thursday • October 7

THE BANANAS

Friday • October 8

THE BANANAS

Monday • October 11

THE BANANAS

Thursday • October 14

THE BANANAS

Friday • October 15

THE BANANAS

Monday • October 18

THE BANANAS

Thursday • October 21

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Friday • October 22

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Monday • October 25

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Thursday • October 28

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Friday • October 29

THE BANANAS

Monday • October 31

THE BANANAS

Thursday • November 3

THE BANANAS

Friday • November 4

THE BANANAS

Monday • November 7

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Thursday • November 10

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Friday • December 7

THE BANANAS

Monday • December 10

THE BANANAS

Thursday • December 13

THE BANANAS

Friday • December 14

THE BANANAS

Monday • December 17

THE BANANAS
Riley's

MONDAYS
FREE POOL! 6,000 DOMESTIC PITCHERS

TEA DAYS
LAURA JANE ROCKS KARAOKE
3:50 LONG ISLANDS 5:10PM

SWING WEDNESDAYS
6/28 RICE CROPS 7/12 THE STILLETOS

THURSDAYS
“OPEN HYPE” 6:30 STARTS AT 7:30 PM
LET YOUR TALENT BE HEARD!

WEDNESDAY
2:30-6:00
SATURDAYS
REQUEST LINE
4:00 BLOODY MARYS ALL NIGHT!

SUNDAYS
FREE POOL! 3:00 BLOODY MARYS ALL DAY!!

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EXCELSIOR
RESTAURANT • BAR • LOUNGE

THURSDAY
LA JOLLA THURSDAYS
Presented by Corey Biggs & Jason Overall

FRIDAY
HOUSE & HIP-HOP
A night of house and hip-hop dancing and drinks
Now that summer’s here, many of us like to eat a little lighter and stay out a little later. Fulfilling these desires are several new supper clubs that specialize in “small plates” — tapas that aren’t Spanish but desires are several new supper clubs that specialize little lighter and stay out a little later. Fulfilling these Now that summer’s here, many of us like to eat a little lighter and stay out a little later. Fulfilling these desires are several new supper clubs that specialize in “small plates” — tapas that aren’t Spanish but desires are several new supper clubs that specialize little lighter and stay out a little later. Fulfilling these
emerges tender and juicy. The shrimps are perched on a mound of
ginger tini glass, atop a haystack of
chunky jicama sticks with a light
Meyer lemon dressing, covering a scoop of pineapple-
Scotch Bonnet sorbet —
icy-spicy-sweet. Scotch Bonnets
are the jalapeño variant of the
habanero (reputedly the hottest
cayenne pepper), and every
spicy dish, all the flavors, textures, and
temperatures harmonize but re-
main distinct — sweet, smoky,
savory and spicy, hot and cold,
sweet, crunchy, and meaty —
and you get to participate in
the creation of this masterpiece by
choosing your sequence of bites.
A similar thought pattern
tends throughout the menu. On a
gras plate, which comes with sa-
vory pinot noir onion marmalade and candied apples,
along with a glassful of creamy
apple mimosas (champagne and
pulp apple nectar). I loved the
mouth-watering surprise of the
mimosas, but the foie gras seemed
greasy.
A wilder harmony arises
from a quartet of hot-crunchy-wrapped
dates stuffed with
mussels in Thai red coconut
broth, all the flavors, textures, and
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Magic Market

“If you’re from Bosnia, why do you call it Greek food?”

I asked. Watch my hand carefully,” says this guy Rafael. Me and a bunch of kids follow it like eagles. He slowly unfolds the two singles dollars he started with, and — whack! — they’ve become one ten-dollar bill. He hasn’t moved, and there’s nothing up his sleeves, ‘cause he doesn’t have no sleeves.

Now he gets a kid to choose between a silver quarter and a black-and-gold Chinese coin with a hole in the middle. No way to confuse the two. But before you can say “Jack Robinson,” the quarter has changed into the Chinese coin. While I’m scratching my head, a woman from the Greek food stand near door stretches out a fork with a piece of gyro meat on it. “Like to try a sample?”

This is happening halfway down the alley of tents and tables at the farmers’ market on Center Street in downtown Chula Vista, around dusk. It’s as strong as regular feta, and…and doesn’t cover it. “Which one’s best?” I ask. “The beef sausage one,” says Vahida’s offsider, Alido. So heck, I order one and add a “European fruit pie strudel” ($3.00) that I see sitting on the counter, with bits of strawberries and apple popping through the pastry fingers. I go sit down at their lone table. It’s metal, classy with a mosaic of red roses designed into a pastry and apple popping through the pastry. It’s as strong as regular feta, but doesn’t cover it.

So, okay, my meal is in a polystyrene box. But, oh man. The flavors. They’re beautiful. The chipped-up meat and pastry sit on a bed of lettuce and salad — and a feta cheese that comes all the way from Bulgaria. “I get it because of the flavor,” she says. “The cheese comes from free-ranging ewes — female sheep, not goats — eating up in the, uh, Rodopi Mountains. It’s as strong as regular feta, only softer, not crumbly, less harsh.” I swear, some of the best food in town is at these farmers’ markets. Plus, they’re always changing. Last time I was here Afghans, Argentineans, and Tunisians were cooking up a storm. “So if you’re from Bosnia, why do you call it Greek food?” I ask Vahida.

“Greek, Bosnian, Turkish, it’s all the same. If you’re from Bosnia, why do you call it Greek food?” I ask. Actually, Vahida’s lucky to be here at all. She’s made like the sausages of the city of Skopje. She’s made it to the U.S. "I couldn’t stand it," she says. "I had to leave." She escaped to Germany and in 1998 made it to the U.S. "I get it because of the flavor," she says. "The cheese comes from free-ranging ewes — female sheep, not goats — eating up in the, uh, Rodopi Mountains. It’s as strong as regular feta, only softer, not crumbly, less harsh."

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“Greek, Bosnian, Turkish, it’s all the same. But people here are familiar with Greek food, so we call it Greek,” she says.

Rafael and his trim girlfriend Jeneille come over. They’ve wrapped up their magic act. He’s a schoolteacher at Rancho Del Rey Middle School in Bonita. He lives nearby, so he comes to home his act, and, yes, they eat here a lot. "Specially Vahida’s chicken gyro. "This is good food," Jeneille says. Which is great to hear, because she should know. It turns out Jeneille is a weight-loss consultant for Jenny Craig. In light of this, I decide to take my strudel home and have it later. Guilt, I guess. Don’t want to seem like a garbage-gut.

Besides, Alido’s taking the canvas tent down. Vahida’s got to be up baking at three tomorrow morning," he says. "And I’ve still got gym tonight," Vahida says, and four kids at home. I tell my relatives in Bosnia, I work harder in America than I ever did in Bosnia or Germany."

I check my watch. Seven. Before I go, I’ve got two questions for Rafael. "Where can I learn to do what you do?"

“Easy,” he says. “The library, or Penguin-Magic.com. They’re good.” And, uh, can you levitate one more time?

"And dag-gone it, he does, for all I can see. Two inches off the ground. Yes, there’s probably an explanation. But that would spoil it. I like to keep these markets the way they are: magic. ■
The Right Thing

“I love my 25-year-olds. They’re just learning, and they come in all the time.”

There are three Starbucks coffee stores on Fifth Avenue between Laurel and Washington. They’re a Peet’s Coffee & Tea Leaf splitting the distance between two of the Fifth Avenue Starbucks. That’s a lot of beans, but it gets beansier. There’s a Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf splitting the distance between two of the Fifth Avenue Starbucks. There’s a Peet’s Coffee & Tea at University and Fourth. And there’s a Diedrich’s Coffee bumping up against that University and Richmond location. Corporate-chain coffee is king.

That may be part of the reason why WineStyles founder Brigitte Baker would not be at all upset to have her chain known as the Starbucks of wine shops. Because Starbucks didn’t get to be Starbucks just by selling coffee. It sold a lifestyle. “Years ago, Americans didn’t sit in a cafe and have a latte,” says Baker. “We’d get coffee in a Styrofoam cup and take it on the run.”

Within a lifestyle. “We’re finally starting to do that in our country, and I think that’s why Starbucks is a big deal in a lot of our countries.” People want to come to Starbucks just by selling coffee. It sold a lifestyle. “Years ago, Americans didn’t sit in a cafe and have a latte,” says Baker. “We’d get coffee in a Styrofoam cup and take it on the run.”

Festival de la Mer at La Valencia Hotel

Every Friday & Saturday • 5-9 pm Mediterranean Room

An All-You-Can-Eat Seafood Extravaganza!

Including:

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- Paella Valencia • Teryyaki-Glazed Salmon
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Assorted Rolled Sushi and much much more!

$55 per person

La Valencia Hotel
1132 Prospect Street
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www.lavencilla.com
Restaurant Listings

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nath, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 600 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entree. Inexpensive: $10; moderate: $10 to $19; expensive: $20 to $24; very expensive: more than $25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

North Coastal

Bobby’s Gelato 937 South Coast Highway 101 (Encinitas Premium Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-436-3556). This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelato, and wine) but does them exceedingly well. The “gourmet sandwich” really delivers up to their designation, with intriguing Mediterranean combinations. Our choice hearts: black olives, grilled eggplant, prosciutto, gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that’s your flavor.) Gelato are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature over-changing array of fruits, e.g., pears, eggs, pomegranate and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., closed later on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

Fidel’s Carlsbad 2033 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad, 760-726-0803. If it were not for the self-sticker Mexican sign — no cumi-infused mango-sona salsa on Fidel’s menu — then you’d think this was just another one of those big, bland, tasteless chains. The people who work here, though, are very nice and even do a fun dance routine to Hillcrest’s Arriverderci.) The sign to Fidel’s, however, is just north of Rancho Santa Fe) offers the same mall as Harvest Ranch Market, 1562 South Rancho Santa Fe Road (at Rancho Santa Fe), West Village Center, Encinitas, 760-944-9000. This big, beautiful, gracious restaurant (located in the same mall as Harvest Ranch South Coast) offers both a handsome interior and a romantic fire-lit patio. The well-priced specials are laden with huge portions of accom- plished, multiregional Italian cuisine and reasonably priced Italian and California wines (with 1/2-price wines Monday nights). Vegetarians will rejoice in the two dozen meatless selections. Lunch and dinner Monday through Thursday, dinner only on Sunday. High modern: — N.W. (11/01)

Hill Street Coffee House 524 South Coast Highway 101, Ocean View, 760-866-0985. Organic in Oceanside! Really? Look for the sign: “Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar” in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from Old’s past. All that means: poultry, fish, and veggie are organic and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach/breakfast scramble, frittata (Greek eggs), and paella (for us peasants that’s French toast) with fresh fruit and sprouts. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m. try their Cajun chicken. Reserve. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

I Trulli Trauttoria 380 South Coast Highway 101 (between C & H avenues), Encinitas, 760-493-6800. An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there’s no shortage of Italian restaurants.), I Trulli serves contemporary Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled “Newfangled Italian Cuisine,” resembles the usual, but also includes an ambitious, generally “northern Italian” bills of fare that you can counter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. It is, in fact, a sister restaurant to Hillcrest’s Arriverderci.) The signature dish is the $20 to $24; very expensive: more than $25.

Lunch & Dinner Special: $15.95 Win a ride in a BMW Z. Buy your raffle ticket(s) at 50% off. Excludes holidays. 3332 Adams Ave., San Diego • (619) 283-0355 Lunch • Dinner • Brunch • Seafood

Restaurant Coupons and Menus

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Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
pampasrestaurant.com

The best Argentine restaurant in San Diego!
“San Diego’s best steakhouse”
United Airlines Magazine
Best Ambiance, “Best Steaks”
KUSI News

The most celebrated dish is the “cheese crop,” a large tostada covered in goat cheese, salsa verde, and topped with chunky ingredients that burst in your mouth.

For instance, tuna topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche, frisé, and cranberry vinaigrette. Or maybe it’s all buffalo — big, juicy, and low on cholesterol. You call this a family, multi-generational sports bar? Fine. It’s La Jolla, so it’s not dirt cheap, but the guys here seem really interested in making interesting beers and good food to accommo-
date them. For open dinner seven days, lunch and dinner weeknights. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (1/04)

Dine-in Only. • 29% Off Lunch Specials

You can even sit in the old Lube Bay to do it all just feels small-town America. The low-porched building — partly because it’s the sidewalk — is especially tasty at weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. The most celebrated dish is the la Jolla.

Enjoy Live Music Friday to Sunday 6-9 pm
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pampasrestaurant.com

La Tapella 340 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the wild side at this family-ownned wharf, in business since the 1960s. You’ll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-paved patio. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, shrimp, pasta, and pizza, all cooked with a treat of imagination that defies the norm.

Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (1/06)

The best Argentine restaurant in San Diego!
“I love living in this city,” said a visitor to a small Argentine restaurant in San Diego. “It’s like a little piece of Argentina in the heart of the United States.” The restaurant, La Jolla, is located in the upscale neighborhood of La Jolla, just a short walk from the UCSD campus. The menu features classic Argentine dishes such as empanadas, asado, and tiradito. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming, with rustic wood paneling and cozy seating. The service is attentive and friendly, making it a great place to enjoy a meal with friends or family. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (1/04)

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Inexpensive. Three meals, Monday through Friday; open until 4 p.m. Sat.
Thursday, closed Sunday. — E.B. (1/06)

The Marine Room
2000 Sunset Drive (off Torrey Pines Road), La Jolla, 858-495-2221. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas—at moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as general manager and executive chef Jason Embly and desert chef (and cheesemaker) Josh Fisher has taken this restaurant to a new level of craftsmanship, with a culinary sophistication the public has come to expect by now. A new wine list has been added and a new bar has been created with American-style preparations changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and it includes some rotating regional specialties. (11/05, New Orleans muffuletta. As for the restaurant is in a mall but doesn’t serve)

Sushi on the Rock
7734 Girard Ave., La Jolla, 858-486-1138. The many, high-energy spot—a bony, salonk-like place with a sushi bar in back—draws a lively twenty-something crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike traditional sushi bars, there’s a vast selection of “rock rolls” — huge, creative party sushi. (5/02)

San Tong Palace
4904 Conrey Street (south of Oldfield), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic lunchtime is a monument to Thai cuisine, including sports permissions, historic photos, and colorful mummers’ costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city’s cuisine, especially its great curried dishes and famous curry dishes and famous curry dishes and famous curry dishes.

The Phiiladelphia Sandwich Co.
3261 Soledad Mountain Rd., Kearny Mesa, 858-690-0900. This classic lunch势力 is similar to (and just as intense as) a high-energy spot — a boxy, saloon-like downtown dining in fair weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Heated patio dining in fair weather. Lunch and dinner nightly, with deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quicker) location at 1923 Girard in Liberty Station. Claireville, 858-846-1138. — N.W. (11/04)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Cucina Italiana
Claremont Square, 858-274-9732. Chef Jose Flores, who owned the much-missed Yattara Nis- trana in La Jolla, went back to his alma mater, Via Italia — and brought it. Under the new name, the menu is much the same as at Via Italia: multi-regional authen- tic Italian cuisine, including wonder- ful thin-crust pizzas, available only by the ten-inch, not by the slice. The restaurant is in a mall but doesn’t serve soup. The fresh pastas are made in- house and rolled thin, so rins, have more filling than skin and the rich sauces won’t send you out waddling. The numerous daily specials are the most rewarding dishes and keep dinners interest- ing for the many neighboring regulars. Desserts and appetizers are good; room for snfreeby and toast omelet when they’re available. Plenty of wines for the glass, Reserve, especially for weekend and large parties. Heated patio dining in winter weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (pastas and pizzas) to expensive (appetizers and seafood entrees). — N.W. (10/05)

King’s Fish House
825 Camino de la Playa (west of Mission Center Dr.), Mission Valley, 858-574-1230. To find King’s, in the magnificently gothicParameterValue="""" and """"x""""="""" />

Tofu House
1321 4th Ave. (at Cass), Pacific Beach, 858-272-6880. This cheerful cafe instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forlorn population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself “Food Girl,” had imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of Latin-Asian-sorta-health-food to the city. A self-confessed “lucky cook,” she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include countious luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of couscous French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with any meat, instead of fish. Dovers of Southwestern cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stews in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauce (chili oil, oka, chipotle-sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine.

Vegan Sushi
Now available exclusively at San Diego’s number one vegetarian restaurant.

The most extensive all-vegetarian menu, from Thai Sau Curry Chicken to Sicilian Summer Lasagna.

4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. This tiny, little eatery is proof positive that our city has moved into the specialty sushi clubs. Tofu House is a Korean restaurant serv- ing up specialty tofu dishes. Flavorful, healthy foods. I highly recommend the soy-sauce soys (beef, pork, sausages, or mushrooms) with raw egg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kan- chee. Deliver yourself from сервировски generic food — Tofu House serves real food. Open daily. In- dependent. — M.N. (2009)

San Tong Palace
4904 Conrey Street (south of Oldfield), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic lunch势力 is similar to (and just as intense as) a high-energy spot — a boxy, saloon-like downtown dining in fair weather. Lunch and dinner nightly, with deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quicker) location at 1923 Girard in Liberty Station. Claireville, 858-846-1138. — N.W. (11/04)
across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily: 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (10/04)

Costa Brava 1653 Garet Avenue (at jeep). Pacific Beach, 858-275-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gomatem opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "true" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The densely garlic-rich dibus include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that’s made to order (stated to serve two or four; call ahead for large groups). Patio sitting in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. — N.W. (2002)

The Fishery 5008 Caspian Street, Pacific Beach, 858-372-9985. Pacific Beach Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn’t fish anymore, but he does — everything else — supplying top-quality fresh fish, retailing pre-portioned samples to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid the cool blue walls and generous trove of fish. The Fishery’s menu is carefully extensive, featuring an array of fresh seafood (especially excellent multi-burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine multi-illigent fish and chips), nachos, and an ambitious lineup of dainty entrées, some of them whimsically tropicalized (tortilla-encrusted Mexican black bass). If ambition occasionally outstrips execution, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and one recently tasted the kitchen’s enthusiasm with great success. — N.W. (2002)

Across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily: 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (10/04)
Owl Cafe 674 Main Street (between 8th and 7th), El Centro, 760-336-0280. This classic American cafe is over 30 years old and still serves good RB-stick- ing food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special 41: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinner — and they are full — include roast beef and chicken fried steak. Open Mon- day through Friday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. bar until 2 a.m. Saturday, bar only. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (801)

Bulaicchi’s Ristorante 3643 Fifth Avenue (at Pennsylvania), uptown, 619-298-0119. Remember Olympia Dukakis in “Moonstruck” as the best retrospective for comfort to her local trattoria? Bulaicchi’s has that settled, warm feel, but it’s more interesting. Multi-levels create nooks and crannies for treasures dangerous, or then’s the streetside casual level. Niche fountain and large marble columns make it feel old fashioned. Be- ing Sicilian, they have plenty of the tomato-sauce-stained dishes (like teta di nekkina, eggplant layered with mozzarella). But try the excellent calamari piccata, a calamaris “steak” bathed in butter, mushrooms, lemon, capers, and white wine. Simple but deli- cious. Or salads like insalata di fette with filet mignon, gorgonzola, walnuts, eggs, and arugula. And hey, if you want to keep the budget intact, nothing wrong with agarphitico aka. Lunch Tuesday through Friday; dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — E.B. (204)

D’Bagus 824 Park Boulevard (at University Heights overhead street sign), 619-297-6663. This delightfully deco- rated bistro offers eclectic Middle East- ern cuisine that’s primely Persian but offers touches of North Africa, India, Southern Europe, and the U.S. Don’t miss the splendid appetizer sampler (a full array of luscious Middle Eastern tapps), the pomegranate-glazed game hen served with hamimi rice and fruit, or the skewered lamb. The daily fresh fish gives talented chef Cecilia Tajonar a chance for creative play. Persian ice cream in sexy flavors (yashkante, orange blossom) are among the dessert choices. Live entertainment at many branches and weekend dinners provide vibrant cultural experience. In- teresting touts — including Persian and Morroccan. Okay wine list; full bar. Reservations suggested large groups (call after noon). Street parking. Street patio in front and courtyard in back for all fries and dinner fare. Numerous vegetarian/vegan choices. Half-size sal- ad available by request. Branch Sat- urday and Sunday. Dinner nightly until 11 p.m. Bar menu until midnight or later. Moderate. — N.W. (806)

Extraordinary Desserts 410 Union Street (at Ash), Little Italy, 619-294-2132. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a madhead for the newer Little Italy location, a vast, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates — mezze plates, bruschettas, sandwiches, and those plates. Flavors tend to be in- tense; some creations (such as a bacon- cured salmon sandwich and persimmon celer-Yuk, yuk) are wonderful, oth- ers are exhausting even in small portions. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that are up to “extraordinary,” to eat on-site or to take home. Chef-owner Karen Knox’s incorporates fla- vers inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (including champagnes), beer, fruit dishes. Vege- tarian-friendly menu. Both locations are open seven days, three meals, closing at 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at midnight on weekends. Moderate. — N.W. (205)

Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Boulevard (between University Center and El Cajon), Hill-crest, 619-295-2244. The Gulf’s fun- tastic, woodsy dining rooms and patio are great hangouts if you like a restaurant with a noisy party atmosphere. The menu focuses on the cuisine of the South and Southwest, with an emphasis on Louisiana and a heavy hand on the salt shaker. The kitchen does best with the straight southern dishes, turning out di- verse fried self-bintoshed crabs, any hush puppies, and delicious little corn muffins. If you’re deeply familiar with Cajun-Creole flavors, though, don’t look for pure authenticity — you’ll do better with jambalaya, étouffée, or the lunchtime oyster po’ boy than with the hushed gumbo or the macaroni red beans and rice. Heated, smoker-friendly front patio. Wheelchair-adaptable to rest rooms next to stage. Free parking lot left of the door. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, brunch Sunday, din- ner nightly (early closing Sunday).

Goodbye, Mission Hills.

HELLO, NORMAL HEIGHTS!

After over 20 years in Mission Hills, we have expanded and moved to a new location. Visit our charming new Normal Heights restaurant during our Grand Opening celebration Saturday, June 24, from 9 am.

Thank you, Mission Hills!

FREE BREAKFAST OR LUNCH

Buy one entree, get the second entree of equal or lesser value free. With purchase of 2 beverages. Expires 7/30/06.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 10 am with Cake, Food Samples, Mimosa and 4-foot-call Edith Tower Ice Sculpture!

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Join us for pre-game lunch or dinner and receive a Petco Sky-Bridge Pass.

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Traditional Italian Taste of Melanjo just $14.95!

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From 10 to 100 people. Book your next celebration at Caffe Milano. Four-course dinner starts at $15.95. Includes: appetizer, pasta, salad and your choice of veal, chicken or fish main, plus coffee and tea and dessert. Menu, entree and dessert for $14.95.

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Our authentic dinner entries include:

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Crispy • Fresh Breads & more!

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Please call for reservations. Order one dinner and receive $10 off any dinner order of $45 or more. Dine in only. Not valid with any other offers or Happy Hour. 634 Pearl Street 858-454-2500

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exposed white-tablecloth restaurant in the country, and it’s spread all over the coun-
ty. The Gaskamp bunch, its 30th, is just like all the other branches, even down to the tables and chairs, which is the whole point. The menu, however, is a bit more high-rent, high-end, high-cultural. The Dijon sauce, for instance, is made with a mixture of mustard and white wine vinegar. The Dijon sauce is used to dress the appetizers, which are served with a side of chips and salsa. The chips are fresh and crunchy, and the salsa is made with tomatoes, onions, and cilantro. The Dijon sauce is a little too spicy for my taste, but it adds a nice kick to the appetizers.

The main course is the runner of the show, and it’s a doozy. The USDA Prime beef is aged to perfection, and the steak is cooked to your liking. The side dishes are also top-notch, with a variety of options to choose from. The mashed potatoes are creamy and rich, the creamed spinach is perfectly seasoned, and the asparagus is crisp and fresh.

The dessert is a must-try, especially the key lime pie. It’s a perfect balance of sweet and tart, and the pie is made with fresh, local key limes. The key lime pie is a little too sweet for my taste, but it’s still a wonderful dessert to end the meal.

Overall, this restaurant is a must-visit for fans of classic American cuisine. The food is top-notch, the service is excellent, and the atmosphere is warm and inviting. It’s a great place to take your date or your family for a special meal.

If you’re looking for a great restaurant in the Heartland, this is the one for you.
Inexpensive.

For is the restaurant is famous for its "Grandma's"

— E.B. (11/00)

Inexpensive.

This unassuming, spill-out-on-the-street

day and Sunday. Inexpensive.

619-426-8820. From the outside, La Bella

Revolución: 1315 Avenida Revolución

— N.W. (9/00)

619-628-8414. At a table by this fish

stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood

in a hard-to-read font), but some

menu (no venison) and perhaps less

— E.B. (2/05)

Casa de Calof 11545 (west of Juarez), Rosarito Beach, Baja,

— E.B. (6/02)


— E.B. (4/03)

— E.B. (1/02)

— N.W. (5/02)

— E.B. (11/00)

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— E.B. (6/02)

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Amadeus
Lamb’s Players Theatre celebrates Mozart’s 250th birthday with Peter Shaffer’s tale of “genius, envy, and betrayal.” Kerry Meads directed.
LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH JULY 23; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

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Directed by Kirsten Brandt
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For mature audiences

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A delightful comedy about how love makes fools of us all. With a magical potion that grants love at first sight, anything is possible.

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A powerful tale of jealousy and passion features one of the most tragic love stories and wicked villains of all time.

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Sledgehammer Theatre presents Charles L. Mee’s “multimedia meditation on power from the Christian warrior who lost China.” Scott Feldsher directed.

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Five Shades of Blues
In Cinders Repertory Players present Calvin Manson’s musical journey “from Africa to deep into the Delta, then up the Mississippi” to jive joints and house parties of Memphis and Chicago.” Manson and Charmen Jackson co-directed.

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Hannah and Martin
Lateran/Reveil Productions stages the Southern California premiere of Kate Fodor’s drama about the unhinkable love between Hannah Arendt and Martin Heidegger. Francois Chmink directed.

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San Diego Theatresports: The Funhouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and Family Feud, Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the “game show” — on Fridays — is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had “Team Sports” — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience, and “Gorilla Theatre” — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.
THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

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Hugh Butternutt’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — “Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays 70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh’s anniversary, got stuck in the 70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They’re “losers,” they admit, but not “ordinary” ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from Forever Plaid. There’s also the Forever Plaid problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inep characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. Another’s a first-rate mime, and the third’s a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complaining of difficulties to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

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**The Violet Hour**
Most scripts play better than they read. Richard Greenberg’s com-
edy/drama/delirious salgadoan’s an exception. It’s fun: a read. notions about time and human effort jump around, as do in- jokes for the literati. Onstage, however, it unfurls like a 90-minute chamber piece, with filler, to two and a half hours. And through-
out, Greenberg keeps pumping the brakes when he should be hit-
ting the gas. The idea’s a grabber: what would you do if you knew how your life will turn out? John Face Seaving, budding pub-
lisher, reads not the book of his life, but books and articles about it (some of which are wrong): what’s he to do? The play’s obvi-
ous answer: much less interesting than the question. Violet Hour tries to yoke antithetical canvases together. Given these taggings, it’s a wonder that director Carolyn Canion, and a game young cast, almost holds them together. Best of show: its hyper-period look. L.A. Times, February 14, 1997, p. S1 - 3.

**The Romantic Hour**
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**The Romantic Hour**
Most scripts play better than they read. Richard Greenberg’s com-
edy/drama/delirious salgadoan’s an exception. It’s fun: a read. notions about time and human effort jump around, as do in- jokes for the literati. Onstage, however, it unfurls like a 90-minute chamber piece, with filler, to two and a half hours. And through-
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Timing Isn't Everything

Even the most minimally attentive viewer will be able to see where events are headed.

Timing Isn’t Everything

To say that The Lake House and Nacho Libre appeal to different audiences is just to say they appeal to different facets of oneself. I enjoyed both of them as far as I was able.

The first, a remake of a South Korean film with the Italian name of Il Mare, takes place in a Lifetime Channel fantasyland where every romantic hero is an architect (the artistic businessman), every romantic heroine is a doctor (the nurturing career woman), and every dream house is on the water (the boundless homestead). Into this boilerplate is introduced what we must call a time wrinkle. Our second-generation architect moves into a see-through house on stilts — “Le Corbusier meets Frank Lloyd Wright” — built on the shores of Lake Michigan by his cold-fish father: “Dad knew how to build a house, not a home.” With the certain knowledge that it has stood empty for years, he is puzzled to receive a note from the “previous” tenant, an opposite-sex tenant, giving him mail-forwarding instructions as well as an apology for the paw prints that already led to the front door when she moved in. “What paw prints?” he wonders aloud. But he really has to start wondering when a stray dog blithely pads through his do-it-yourself paint tray on the boardwalk and leaves an indelible trail to the front door.

And he has to continue wondering when he tries to hand-deliver a letter to his predecessor’s new address in downtown Chicago and finds the site to be still under construction. What’s going on here! Well, what’s going on, after a little sorting-out, is that the man is living in 2004 and the woman is living in 2006, and they discover that they are able to correspond with one another, and fall in love without the risk of actually having to keep company, through the agency of the magic mailbox at the lake house.

In the Korean film, as I understand it, the house was christened Il Mare.

In the remake, Il Mare is the exclusive Italian restaurant at which the hero makes a two-years-in-advance reservation in hopes of arranging a rendezvous in the flesh. That rendezvous doesn’t work out, but the difficulties do not appear insurmountable. A two-year time barrier hardly approaches the degree of difficulty which Christopher Reeve, for example, strove to overcome in Somewhere in Time, a film that appealed more strongly to this facet of me, the irrationally romantic, the sur-really yearning. These two separated lovers can get through to each other with an almost E-mail or chat-room alacrity. If they happen to be in the right place at the right time, they can see, before their very eyes, and seemingly without aid of human hand, the red flag on the mailbox go up and down as letters are delivered and collected and answered, although of course they are unable to see the deliverer or collector, and the film hasn’t the patience simply to stand there and allow a written dialogue to unfold at

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length. Nor does it dwell on the incon-
vincence of this set-up for the woman,
an overworked resident physician, who
must make quite a schlep to pick up or
drop off her mail. Instead, the film takes
out a poetic license to circumvent the
mailbox mechanism and to show the
respondents illogically in the same
space at the same time, conversing in
voice-over or right out loud. Only the
most thoroughly enraptured viewer —
not me — will be able to suppress petty
thoughts of stock tips, Super Bowl
outcomes, etc., that might have been
passed down profitably from the fu-
ture. It does, however, occur to the
occupant of 2006, just to prove her
bona fides, to forewarn the 2004
dweller of a late-season snowstorm.
It does not occur to her to attempt to
raise an alarm over Hurricane Katrina.
Even the most minimally attentive
viewer will be able, from afar away, to
see where events are tragically headed, and to
wonder whether fate can (or ought
to be) altered, and to brace for the sorts
of time-travel conduits that ulti-
mately seem, well, a waste of time.
Still, the initial disclosure and addi-
tional development of the situation are
smooth and deft, and the glossy pho-
tography makes effective if infrequent
use of Chicago’s architectural glories.
The Argentine director, Alejandro
Agresti, is chiefly known in the U.S. for
Valentine, which is to say chiefly known
for schmalz. He doesn’t struggle
against his typecasting. The on-screen
casting, meanwhile, has been calcu-
lated with an eye for publicity — the
two Speed freaks, Ierna Reeves and
Sandra Bullock, together again, at
around 15 mph — rather than an eye for
the actual qualities they might bring to
their roles. At this point in their lives,
fourty-two years apiece, the foremost
quality they bring is middle-age denial.
The film, if any, rarely enters
into it. It’s in the nature of things that
their respective chemical components
are kept incompatibly apart.
Nacho Libre, to switch facets, is
nothing if not esoteric, a backhanded
salute to Mexican wrestling movies and
more broadly, the whole macho-
of-the-border wrestling subculture.
Odd, offbeat, outlandish as it is, it
makes a fitting, albeit unforeseeable,
followup to Napoleon Dynamite
for its director, Jared Hess. Perhaps in-
escapably, it put me in mind of how
the Coen brothers in Barton Fink
posed the existance of an established
Hollywood genre of “wrestling pic-
tures” in the 1930s. That was a joke.
But then again, the actual existence of
such a genre in Mexican cinema is
scarcely less of a joke: campy superhero
adventures of masked luchadores
with names like Santo and Blue Demon,
in titles like Santo y Blue Demon contra
el Doctor Franklinstein y Santo y Blue
Demon contra Dracula y el Yumbo
Lob. The hero here is a mere wanna-
be, the potbellied cook in a Catholic or-
phange in Oaxaca by day, and by night
one-half of a hapless tag team along-
side a skin-and-bones petty thief who
has been flitching the orphanage’s do-
tored tortilla chips. Their stage names,
or rather their ring names: Nacho and
Esqueleto (the Skeleton). The hero’s
mask and mission will take on Zorro-
esque overtones when a particularly
interesting nun, immaculately acted
by Ana de la Reguera, lays down the
law: “These men fight for vanity, for
money, for false pride.” Better, a light-
bulb goes on over his head, to fight
for a school bus to take the orphans
on “field trips and stuff.”
The gags and their laughs are ap-
propriately small — e.g., the pronunci-
cation of “nitty-gritty” with a
Mexican accent, or the amorous
come-on of a late-night snack of burnt
toast, or the Spartan training exercises
utilizing such handy resources as a
cow pie and a bedcover — and Hess’s
squared-up, flattened-out composi-
tions are the visual equivalent of
deadpan delivery. Fat jokes and fart
jokes serve, to a greater extent than
I might like, to offset the esoterica.
As does that John Belushi-like Joe Bow,
Jack Black, working his eyebrows,
nostrils, lips, etc., with all the ex-
pressiveness, the emotiveness, of a
Mexican pop singer, and sporting,
in addition to his robin’s-egg twists with
cardinal trim, a 1970’s curly pern and
gigolo’s mustache. The whole thing
might seem mildly insulting of all
things Mexican, not just wrestling
culture and warped English, but relig-
ion, music, food (a corncob on a stick),
everything. The sympathetic (while
still sardonic) portrait of Napoleon
Dynamite’s Latino sidekick, Pedro,
surely should give the filmmaker some
rope.

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SanDiegoReader.com
Cavie — Microbudget suspense film of a Filipino-American brought back to his homeland for his father’s funeral and dragged through hell to retrieve his kidnapped mother and sister from Islamic terrorists. The thriller affords small comfort to the paying spectactor who has to peer through the haze of the video image and get bounced around by the hand-held jiggles and push-button zooms. There is plenty of squallor and “Fuck that shit,” but overt violence is limited by the limited wherewithal. Written and directed by Nellie Della Lana and Ian Gamasen, the latter of whom also plays the main (and virtually only) role.

2006. (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Click — Comedy-fantasy starring Adam Sandler, Kate Beckinsale, and Christopher Walken, directed by Frank Coraci. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN, CHULA VISTA 10, CN ERMA 8, DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8, ENCINITAS 8, ESCONDIDO 16, FASHION VALLEY 18, GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MALL 20; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PRIME NAI 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Cavie — The movie is of course its own separate matter, and inasmuch as it’s a Ron Howard movie it’s pretty much what we could have predicted, something dugged, diligent, uninspired, overproduced, and crowed-plasing or at least crowd-pander-
fing. The grainy, color-drenched flashbacks, ranging back to the traumatic childhoods of the two principals — a symbolologist and a cryptologist — and back, back to the Dark Ages, Ancient Rome, and the attermuth of the Crucifixion, testify to the unwieldiness of the transfer from page to screen. The trajectory of the narrator is an odd, dash-and-dot line of breathless chase interrupted by long-winded discourse on religion, Church history, Renaissance art, etc., a high-speed quest for the Holy Grail broken off for pedantic excursus of what the Grail actually is. Tom Hanks, even with longer hair, does not make a credible long-hair. Audrey Tautou speaks English well enough to expand the market for her elfin cuteness. And Ian McKellen carries on in the grand tradition of stage-trained British thespians who have fallen in love with the sounds of their own voices. Still, the movie ought to be cut some slack for its abstention from pyrotechnics, albeit no abstinence from high technology. And some more slack for its stress on the mental aspects of detective work, although even the code-breaking proceeds at a breakneck pace. And maybe, too, a bit more slack for its crescendo of rhetoric to a pitch typically in the upper range of apocalyptic science fiction. But that might altogether be too much slack for a movie with an acute preoccupation to hang itself. Paul Bettany, Jean Reno, Alfred Molina. 2006.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN, DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8, ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18, GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MALL 20; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PRIME NAI 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTA MARGARITA; SANTÉ DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

District B13 — Paris in the near future. Berlin-style walls have been put up around the ghettos to contain the spread of crime,
**San Diego Reader**

**Calendar MATIONS**

and a WMD has fallen into the hands of a gangland. The Hong Kong-style action and MTV-style camerawork fail to communicate the seriousness of the situation. With Cyril Raffaelli and David Belle; directed by Pierre Morel. 2005.

**THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT** — The automotive franchise moves to the Far East, with Lucas Black, directed by Justin Lin.

**Friends with Money** — There are, to be exact, three friends, with money, and one, a woman, with one hundred thousand to her children’s school.

**The Da Vinci Code**

Becker, Stephen Dillane, Alessandro Nivola, and Anna Friel; directed by Danny Cannon. 2006.

**GOING OUT...OR STAYING IN?**

— Bar mitzvah mania, all for laughs and all for naught. Not so much as a snicker. Not so alarming a show. 2006.

**THE KING** — The King’s return to England, with Ken Stott, directed by Richard Benjamin; directed by Scott Marshall.

**The Lake House** — Reviewed this issue. With Keanu Reeves, Sandra Bullock, Dylan Walsh, Sheerah Aghdashloo, and Christopher Plummer; directed by Alejandro Agresti.

**Ice Age: The Meltdown** — More straightforwardly, Ice Age: The Sequel. Our three inseparable prehistoric mammals — woolly mammoth, sloth, and saber-toothed tiger — face global warming (as they are already calling it) and the impending inundation of their frozen valley. Even if they can escape the flood, outrun the rapacious sea beasts, and catch the prototype of Noah’s Ark, the end is still near. And at the end of a sequel, even with a final retreat into Major Denial, the end can only be nearer. The consciousness of imminent doomsday is compounded — is complemented — by the personal identity crisis, the extinction anxiety, of the sort-a-thump mammoth: “What if I am the last mammoth?” On the trek, he will get an answer to his question when he runs into an opposite-sex mammoth who, raised among possums, acts and thinks like a possum herself; another sort of identity crisis. All this existential angst gives the film more resonance than some other computer cartoons, an ominous low hum drowned out nonetheless by the avant-sav-smart brassines. The nonverbal squirrel, wrestling with his own existential angst, chasing the unattainable acorn, continues to put in intermittent appearances but comes to steal the show. With the voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary, and Queen Latifah; directed by Carlos Saldanha. 2006.

**An Inconvenient Truth** — A documentary for the Don’t-Blame-Me-I-Voted-for- Gore crowd. It has a nominal director, Davis Guggenheim, but it’s Al Gore’s show, a self-described “slide show,” or illustrated lecture, and not really a movie, to do with the causes and effects of global warming. This is laid out explicitly as an urgent political message. With the voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary, and Queen Latifah; directed by Carlos Saldanha. 2006.

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The big Liebowski is great. I love the extraneous commentaries, but the best part is the opening with a conservation society talking about what they had to do to save the film. I’m from Georgia, and the film’s just what I imagined all the people from Southern California would be like.

Any of the seven seasons of Buffy the Vampire Slayer. It’s one of the few TV shows I wanted to own in its entirety. I love it. It showed a lot of character development and had moral lessons but not in a cheesy way. The episode “Hush” in season four is great.

Over the Hedge — A population of computer-cartoon Crite Critters, plasticity, foam-rubber, styrofoam, and styled to please the eye of the pre-schooler, teaches the lesson that one wins by deception. There are some elaborate and well-timed visual gags, pretty awful to look at nonetheless. The buzzed-up squirrel, not unlike the squirrel in the first Ice Age, rather steals the show. With the voices of Bruce Willis, Garry Shandling, Steve Carell, Wanda Sykes, William Shatner, Nick Nolte, and Allison Janney; directed by Tim Johnson and Karey Kirkpatrick. 2006.

Peaceful Warrior — Athletic inspiration by way of the Buddhist school of thought, a zigzagging journey. The slow-mo nightmare of a world-class gymnast — drops of perspiration detonating at the vol-
Mano dura

América Barcelo-Pohlenz
Diario San Diego

El Buró de Aduanas y Seguridad Fronteriza (CBP), aseguró que han aumentado 80 por ciento los arrestos de personas que cruzan ilegalmente a Estados Unidos usando documentos falsos. La oficina federal dijo que hasta el pasado mes de abril se han detenido a mil personas, número que contrasta con los 873 arrestos realizados durante todo el año fiscal 2006.

Huracán de mujer

Eleonor López
Diario San Diego

Está en su mejor momento. Atrás han quedado los escándalos, el alcohol y las drogas para una de las mejores cantantes de rock-pop de México.

Viva el futbol

Abraham Nudelstejer
Diario San Diego

Muchos lo llaman fantástico. El delantero mexicano es una mezcla un gol y ganar un partido en el Mundial. Llorar cuando el equipo que representaba a nuestro país erró una gran ocasión para el balón y nuestro equipo rompió la cuota.”

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Conducido por el periodista José Santiago Healy y el equipo de profesionales de Diario San Diego.

¡Escúchanos cada lunes!

Noticias
Deportes
Migración
Farándula
Polémica

¡Ellos tienen el micrófono... usted tiene la palabra!
Caen secuestradores

Omar Millán González
Para San Diego

Trabajaban al menos desde hace dos años como una organización criminal. Tras la captura de los hermanos Arellano Félix muchos de sus miembros decidieron crear su propia "microempresa criminal", según la Procuraduría General de Justicia del Estado (PGJE), esta es una de esas celdas que se independizan del cartel. Se trata de una banda de secuestradores que el Grupo de Coordinación de Baja California detuvo la madrugada de ayer jueves en el fraccionamiento Los Huaraches, al Este de la ciudad. Atraparon a cuatro miembros de esa organización defictiva, que tenía en una casa de seguridad, conocida como Aventureros, a dos comerciantes que habían pagado el rescate de 81 mil dólares. El grupo de secuestradores estaba conformado por Sergio Molina García, Oscar Elizalde Varela Burell, Jesús Álora Saúl Varela y Félix Zamora Pacheco, quienes confesaron haber sido sicarios del cártel de los hermanos Arellano Félix. Informó la PGJE en un comunicado, de acuerdo a la PGJE, los secuestradores pasaron a sus víctimas por la cena de entre 100 y 500 mil dólares.

Diversos grupos opuestos a migración ilegal realizaron un mitín y procesión masiva para exigir la detención de los residentes indocumentados en Estados Unidos. La marcha culminó a las afueras del consulado de México en San Diego, donde los manifestantes mostraron banderas mexicanas tachadas y su oposición a la migración ilegal. Líderes de los principales grupos anti migrantes como Proyecto Minutemen, América Despierta, Concejala Cultural de América, Frontier Alerta, y candidatos a distritos locales al congreso federal se unieron a la procesión nacional de motociclistas "Paul Revere Ride".

Aguanta dolor

Estando en Alemania, participó en el Mundial de futbol, el Día del Padre tuvo un significado especial para su porteño Osvaldo Sánchez. El técnico Ricardo La Volpe había anticipado el descanso de los jugadores con el argumento de que la disciplina no es todo el futbol y que, a los jugadores, la convivencia con la familia les sienta tan bien como la intensidad de los entrenamientos. Después de la previa, los jugadores se dispersaron para celebrar el Día del Padre, que para Osvaldo tuvo un valor especial por la reciente muerte de su progenitor tres días antes del arranque del Mundial de Alemania 2006. "Tal vez sea un día difícil, porque mi padre ya no está conmigo pero él está conmigo y estoy seguro de estar jugando el Mundial", comentó el portero mexicano. Osvaldo dejó la concentración en Gotinga el 8 de junio y se fue a México para acudir a las exequias de su padre Felip Sánchez, y a su auto voló de vuelta con su familia a Nuremberg, para ser el titular en el partido ante Irak. El arquero mexicano se ha mostrado como uno de los mejores de la Copa del Mundo a pesar del dolor de haber perdido a su padre días antes de que arranque el Mundial.
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TELEMARKETERS looking for enthusiastic and highly motivated individuals. Must be experienced making cold calls in the business-to-business environment, comfortable with skills to work with businesses of all levels, and results oriented. This position is part-time, 9am-2pm Monday-Friday. $10/hour plus commission. Must have clean driving record and provides own transportation.

MDM/CEO. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring. Please apply: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 144 West Beach Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92130. Phone: 858-581-8650. Fax: 858-581-8655. Web: www.
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Vista Community Clinic, a private nonprofit outpatient community clinic serving North San Diego County for over 30 years, has immediate full/part-time openings. Bilingual: English/Spanish.

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If interested in these positions, forward resume to: joinvcs@vastcommunityclinic.org or fax to: 760-414-3702

www.vastcommunityclinic.org

Heartland Payment Systems (NYSE: HPY), the 6th largest processor in the country, has available positions:

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- Rapidly expanding Salon: Work directly with owner in coordinating business growth for salon locations in La Jolla and Downtown 8+ years. Team builder, communicative and positive attitude. Willing to work weekends. Call Nicole at 619-281-1898.

**OFFICE COORDINATOR**
- Must have solid computer skills, ability to multi-task, and 2+ years of general office experience. Many San Diego/Waterfront businesses looking for an energetic, attentive, and friendly individual. Apply today by calling Chef Chula Vista, 858-742-9017 email: chula-vista@epix.com and reference in the subject line: Office Coordinator.

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- Directly with owner in coordinating business growth for salon locations in La Jolla and Downtown 8+ years. Team builder, communicative and positive attitude. Willing to work weekends. Call Nicole at 619-281-1898.

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RESERVATION AGENTS: Excellent salary, bonuses, paid weekly. PM shifts (10 a.m.-4 p.m.). We offer: Comprehensive health care coverage, dental, 401(k), life insurance, resort discounts and more. Call: 760-467-5301; e-mail: hoteldel@ proteineri.com or fax: 760-467-4780.

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Responsibilities:
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- Ensuring a positive guest experience

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- Excellent communication and customer service skills
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Responsibilities:
- Greeting guests
- Directing guests to their cars
- Providing excellent customer service

Requirements:
- Good communication skills
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Experience in a customer service role

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Responsibilities:
- Working with children in a residential setting
- Providing guidance and support
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Requirements:
- Prior experience working with children
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NAME This Place

Clue: Come here to walk right over Tony Gwynn

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to Reader, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)

Last week's place: (clue: Incense for immortals) Altar at the University Avenue. Mr. Chao Ming, the cultural center's caretaker, lights candles and incense to Tien Ho, the “queen of heaven,” an immortal dear to fishermen, Guan Gong, god of war, and Guan Yin, goddess of mercy. (There were no winners last week.)

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190
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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.” Question? 619-235-8204 #146

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No 900 access? Call anytime day or right to purchase a call time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express—no for little as $1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-4962 24 hours

No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying certain categories, such as age, ethnicity and non-smoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.

SanDiegoReader.com: This page, click on “Matches.”

SINCERE, attractive, youthful lady, 5’6”, trim, athletic, enjoys outdoors. Seeking tall, healthy male. Mail #170, enclosing our money order to blend our two money values for equal relationship. Self-assured, charming, comfortable, but not at all untouchable. 

SINGLED BACHELOR, male, 46, seeks between 25-40 year-old female, looking for a good time one day, 150-$200.

SUMMER IS HERE! Take that date of hers with her act together and minus baggage. Seeks gentleman for good times, a caring attitude, good looks, smart talk. Call: 619-794-5999.


EUROPEAN, educated, gorgeous people, seeks a relationship, preferably with a non-smoker, of the same or other nationalities. Penpal, or mail contact. Mail #171, enclosing $5 return stamp.

AMAZINGLY LOVELY, single lady, 26, athlete, 6’, seeks male in our late 20’s to mid 30’s for a relationship. Seeking: Tender, loving relationship, a man to spend his life with. Mail #353, enclosing a $5 deposit. 619-997-1970.

MESSAGE: I am 27 years young and wish to contact an interested party. I am interested in learning more about you and how you spend your time. Thank you...

ATTRACTION: Looking for a relationship, preferably with a non-smoker, of the same or other nationalities. Penpal, or mail contact. Mail #171, enclosing $5 return stamp. 619-997-1970.

VOLUNTARY, seeking a non-smoker, interested in long-term relationship. Seeking: Lots of fun, understanding, sharing love, companionship, non-smoking man, seekers, no previous kids, spiritual/religious, mail #171, enclosing a $5 deposit. 619-997-1970.

AMAZINGLY LOVELY, single lady, 26, athlete, 6’, seeks male in our late 20’s to mid 30’s for a relationship. Seeking: Tender, loving relationship, a man to spend his life with. Mail #353, enclosing a $5 deposit. 619-997-1970.

SINCERE, attractive, youthful lady, 5’6”, trim, athletic, enjoys outdoors. Seeking tall, healthy male. Mail #170, enclosing our money order to blend our two money values for equal relationship. Self-assured, charming, comfortable, but not at all untouchable.

SINGLED BACHELOR, male, 46, seeks between 25-40 year-old female, looking for a good time one day, 150-$200.

SUMMER IS HERE! Take that date of hers with her act together and minus baggage. Seeks gentleman for good times, a caring attitude, good looks, smart talk. Call: 619-794-5999.


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Is it impossible to buy real estate in San Diego?

For a working-class person, I’d say yes. Down the line, I haven’t really thought about it. The prices would obviously have to be lower. They’re artificially right now. Hell, no, can I settle down in San Diego? I mean, if I could afford it, I would. I’m from Austria and so is Arnold; that’s just an interesting comparison.

Is it impossible to buy real estate in San Diego?

It depends how safe this country ends up being; there is a difference, a fear factor that might even be artificial. You don’t want to be around it too much; you just get sick of it after a while. You know that Hitler is from Austria and so is Arnold; that’s just an interesting comparison.

Beautiul, striking, blonde, intelligent, unique, sophisticated, easy, elegant, glamorous, great figure. 47. Desires extremely accomplished, sexy, elegant, glamorous, great figure, and doesn’t make a lot of money...with beautiful soul and passionate heart. (7/5)

In California, it’s a different lifestyle. There’s a lot more people, and things aren’t as slow. San Diego is a great town; I love San Diego.

For someone like me, who’s a teacher and doesn’t make a lot of money...with beautiful soul and passionate heart. (7/5)

For someone like me, who’s a teacher and doesn’t make a lot of money...with beautiful soul and passionate heart. (7/5)

It depends how safe this country ends up being; there is a difference, a fear factor that might even be artificial. You don’t want to be around it too much; you just get sick of it after a while. You know that Hitler is from Austria and so is Arnold; that’s just an interesting comparison.

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2. Use of a 24-hour voice mailbox service
3. Placement on the Roommate Hotline
4. Pay with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, check or cash. The cost is $20.
5. No matter which payment option you choose, you must first call (619) 235-2415 to place your ad.
6. Write your 25-word Roommate ad on this form and be ready to dictate it when requested. You will have one minute of recording time.
7. Begin with the neighbor, then describe the property and list the rent. After dictating your ad continuos, please dictate your roommate situation. When you are finished recording, press 2.
8. 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.
9. Advertisers are responsible for checking their Roommate ads for accuracy and reporting any errors by 6 pm Monday, following publication. Call (619) 235-8200.

For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200.

Mail-in payment: Reader Roommate Line
P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186
Walk-in payment: 1703 India (at Dale), Downtown San Diego

For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200.
188 San Diego Reader June 22, 2006

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COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO.

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F

car had ploughed through the side of the house, carrying a corner timber with it, and stopped astraddle the baby's crib, in the front room. The little boy lay among a pile of broken glass and splintered wood.

— by Robert Mizrachi

PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society


DOWNTOWN. $595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, washer/dryer included. 2 blocks from Balboa Park. 1452 Box Street #207. 619-234-3605; www.downtownapartments.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. $745. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, washer, dryer, including utilities. 2 blocks from Little Italy. 717 N. 24th St. 619-238-6000.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. $825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, including utilities. 2 blocks from Little Italy. (between Hwy. 15 & 805) www.thesquare.com; 619-442-9935.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. $850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, can be furnished, washer/ dryer, central air conditioning. 745 11th St. 619-233-8460.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. $950. Spacious, private 1 bedroom, 1 bath, large walk-in closets, washer/dryer, central air conditioning. www.goldenhillpm.com; 619-234-9553.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. $1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, washer/dryer. Linen service included. 1867 Pepper Valley Lane. Available now. 619-457-1821.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. $1800. 1 bedroom apartment, 1 bath, includes utilities, washer/dryer, parking. 3042 4th Ave. 619-297-4444.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. $2295. Ground floor studio condo. 2 Bathrooms, washer/dryer. 1024 4th St. 619-238-6000.

GOLDEN HILL. $1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 931-1012. 619-287-7007; www.goldenhillpm.com.

GOLDEN HILL. $1000. 1 bedroom apartment. 1 bath. $200 off for 12 month lease! 619-442-9935.

HILLCREST. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, extra large closet, washer/dryer. 701 Kettner Boulevard #215. Agent, 619-985-4630. theresa330j@yahoo.com. 619-985-4630.

HILLCREST. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, includes utilities and internet, $200 off. 2034 Kettner Boulevard. 619-238-8680; www.goldenhillpm.com.


HILLCREST. $1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, includes utilities and internet, 1 month lease! $300 off, 9 month lease! 1 bath. 1233 25th Street (off W. street). 619-222-7922.

HILLCREST. $1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, includes utilities and internet, 1 month lease! $300 off, 9 month lease! 1 bath. 1233 25th Street (off W. street). 619-222-7922.

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HILLCREST. $1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, includes utilities and internet, 1 month lease! $300 off, 9 month lease! 1 bath. 1233 25th Street (off W. street). 619-222-7922.
**KITTENS**
1-1/4 bath condo. Great room, laundry, patio. 619-952-9112, jennifer.heylman@wellpoint.com.

**KEARNY MESA**
3 males and 1 female, 3 months old. puddled male. Born 3/23/06. Light fawn color, lots of energy. Parents on-site. Wants to go to the village, large, new carpet. Quiet, laundry area. 825-8954.

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$4,000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking spaces. Close to UTC Village and freeway. 858-968-2621.

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“I BORE ME | By Frances Kuffel

“So somebody’s boring me. I think it’s me.”

So said Dylan Thomas, no doubt on a sprea, a reason for another drink, and another, until there was no boredom, no thinking, no “me.”

It’s a sentiment any substance abuser understands. I could fractionate my four years of relapse in episode after episode but, frankly, bore me.

I am bored with oozing obnoxiousness and apology — bored and angry at how I live. I shrivel when I meet couples and kids on the sidewalk, convinced they matter more than I do. I steer Daisy into traffic to avoid teacup poodles and mom-trailing indolent pride and Wall Street assumptions. You call yourself a dog? she barks, furious that a Coney Island bust-the-balloons prize is pinning on her home block. I love your kids, I snipe silently. They’re so cute on Razor bikes.

I am bored with being a walking proclamation of “Reject Me!” and with trying to decipher how morphers pluck from allies to sadists. I am especially bored with assuming the blame.

This is the stuff I ate over when I was 6, and it’s the stuff I relapsed over at 46. I ate because I was scared of my sexually predatory oldest brother. I ate because I’d been given away at birth. I ate because, in first grade, Sister Mary Marcella made me go to the bathroom every hour and because I wet my pants anyway. I ate because the house was empty after school or because it wasn’t. I ate because I was lonely and to forget the too-much space I took up, and because I’d rather side Daisy between the parked cars and the honking ones than deal with her or my outrage. I ate because I ashamed of the desires I didn’t deserve to have or satisfy or, for a long time, admit.

I’ll be 50 in December. I’ve paid 43 years of eating and hiding, gaining and losing at least 800 pounds. The price is skin that flaps in a brisk wake when I’m thin and enfolds the putrid secrets of bacteria feeding on sweat when I’m fat. In some ways, I look at my body at any weight and I marvel, “What a monument!” It’s an achievement carved by agony. I am Mahler’s Das Kindertotenlieder, Guernica, Callas singing Tosca at Covent Garden.

If my teenage aspirations to sing

Sondheimer on Broadway and/or rank with William Carlos Williams in The Norton Anthology of Poetry were hangovers I tamped with breakfast cereal, my body is the Tony

American Book Award of Longing.

As I write this, I’ve been abstinent for 95 days. I’ve lost 21 pounds. When I weighed myself, five days ago, I was so charmed I hadn’t lost more that I bought a tub of Breyer’s sugar-free Neapolitan ice cream. Thank God for strawberry ice cream. I fed it to Daisy. The rest took 24 hours to digest, and another 24 hours for the notion to hit that, hey? it wasn’t 21 pounds gained, my jeans are becoming clown pants and the scatica I courted early this spring has vanished. I’m letting the incident go as a lesson learned because I’m bored with the little talks I have with myself that start with phrases like, “When I’m ___” I’ll be happy” or “You can’t have ___ until you ___” or “If I just ___”.

Part of the lesson of that mini-hinge is

that I hadn’t been listening as I cruised that ice cream at every purveyor in Brooklyn Heights until I knew where I could get it without being caught, on a Friday night while the 12-step meeting I should have been attending was finishing up two blocks away. I waited until I was taking care of a dog that had a working freezer in the house. I thought about it the night before while having dinner with the man I have loved most, a horrible and beautiful and painful dinner in which I was once again in the synch of love and bored by what he was saying.

He’ll go back to Connecticut in an hour, I thumbed. Tomorrow night, tomorrow night...

And, in fact, the ice cream bored me as much as the self-reproaches the next morning.

It’s twilight. I’m about to take Daisy for a walk. We’ll span the sidewalk as she sniffs out the muskiest potential father for her children and I sing “The Ladies Who Lunch” and smoke a ciga-

rette, glaring down careening children and lovers holding hands.

In fact, I might start making a diet of this.

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PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS 48 photos at San Diego Reader. Also, see thousands of classified ads not printed here.
ABY SPORTS LEAGUES. VAM Sport and Social Club. wwww.gol.png, lists 12 different adult sports leagues, happy hours, event planning and vacations throughout San Diego. www.vamsports.com.

FOOTBALL TICKETS:
• RIPPINGTON TICKETS, only $25.00. 619-545-7200.
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news of the WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd


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Thirty Years Ago
The Grossmont commencement ceremony was punctuated by water balloons. The seniors were christened with bottled water stolen from the science labs... “Five years ago the valedictorians would get up and blast the administration. Now they get up and bustle everyone with Jesus.” Religion is back. The Christians are in so much control now that one Jewish girl wrote an editorial in the school paper complaining that every other consciousness was obscured in a cloud of Christian bliss. (She later had a nervous breakdown.) Dave Peters, as one of “The Catholic Three,” genflected as he crossed the stage to receive his diploma. It might have indeed been a needed prayer.

— "BRAVING THE NEW WORLD," Richard Loen,
June 24, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago
“There are many terrible things about Russia. It is in general a lousy country but schools are better than here, “ he continued. “When I was half the age of my son, I went to chess school. Also to ping pong school. I had same was half the age of my son, I went to chess school. Also to ping pong school. I had same

— Richard Louv,
190

Ten Years Ago
WALTER LINBACK: (South Clairemont): “...I was down the hill in front of our northern-most outpost. I mean, I was practically in Chinese territory. So if the Chinese attacked, I was supposed to give the warning before I got killed so they could send in artillery. Of course, if the Chinese didn't get me, the artillery or the machine gun and rifle fire would, since I was right where they were all zeroed in.

— "THE FORGOTTEN WAR," David Burge,
June 20, 1996

Five Years Ago
Ex-Republican congressman Brian Bilbray, defeated by Democrat Susan Davis last November, has finally found a job, reports National Journal’s Congress Daily. The one-time surfer mayor of Imperial Beach, who now lives in Alexandria, Virginia, has become a legislative consultant, signing up three California clients, including the county of Los Angeles, Conquer Cancer and Alzheimer’s New, and the San Diego consulting outfit of Benedetto Advocacy and Communications. Craig Benedetto’s clients include the controversial Bajagua project, a plan to ship U.S. sewage into Mexico for treatment, a project backed by legislation sponsored by Bilbray when he was in the House.

— OLY LIGHTS: “CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME,”
Matt Potter, June 21, 2001

Ten Years Ago
San Diego Reader, June 25, 1991

Ten Years Ago
San Diego Reader, June 25, 1991

Ten Years Ago
San Diego Reader, June 25, 1991
Newer, with warranty, cost $1200. Take fabulous deal, priced to sell quickly.

Broiler pan. $400. Original price was $599.85.

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Broiler Pan, $400. Original price was $599.85.

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Dear Saffron,

My small business is growing fast, and I needed to rent larger office space. We work days and some nights, which I explained to the landlord when we were negotiating the lease. Things went well until our new space, until the first night when we had to work late.

My three employees and I were astounded to hear, at about 10:30 p.m., the most god-awful sound of noise. It was like being right next to the speakers at a giant rock concert. I rushed upstairs to locate the noise. It was like being right next to the speakers at a giant rock concert. I rushed upstairs to locate the noise. It was like being right next to the speakers at a giant rock concert.

Dear Saffron,

Your landlord is an irresponsible jerk. What to do about this was not in our lease, and we are not sure about our legal rights. We are not sure about our legal rights. We are not sure about our legal rights.

Dear Big Brother,

Don’t wait for your sister to call you every time. Take the initiative, and phone her once in a while so she can have friendly chats and not be focused on money. Tell her you might be happy to give money when she is in need, and that it makes you uncomfortable to have it called a loan. Tell her you don’t want to hear any more about paying you back because the money is a gift. No strings. You’re family. She can relax and stop feeling like she’s over the bank.

Dear Saffron,

I’m writing in reference to the letter you got from your grandmother who couldn’t remember one of her grandkiddies but was afraid to let on. Good luck. What to do when you remember your own birth date, tell her to call me one of her other grandchildren and ask them. Also, I drop birth announcements in a file folder and just go to the file when I need to jog my memory. (Is it, if I can remember what I filed under?) Or the grandma who wrote to you can do what I do — with 19 grand- and great-grandkiddies, I tell ’em, I’m old, and I’ve got a right to forget things! Lighten up, Grandma. No biggie! If Grandma’s late with a birthday present, that simply extends the birthday celebration! Look on the bright side, and teach your grandchildren to do so.

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**San Diego Reader** June 22, 2006
The serrated blade squeezed through the bread and slid into my skin. My heart leapt. I jumped up in pain, dropped the knife, and clasped my finger with the opposite hand. A single crimson drop of blood formed at the tip of my left index finger.

It felt like an ice pick was pressing into my chest. My hands turned numb, my vision blurred, and my stomach brewed with nausea. Beads of sweat formed on my forehead. My arms dropped to my side all but incapacitated. My head bobbed into unconsciousness. A ringing pierced my eardrums and then faded.

A familiar voice called out, “Jeremy, can you hear me? Are you okay?”

My senses returned. That voice is Rhiana’s, I thought. A slight smile formed on my face from the sound of her voice. Yes. Now things are returning to normal.

A third time, Rhiana spoke. “Jeremy, answer me. What is going on?”

Like I had just been woken from a trance I muttered in a hushed monotone, “I cut my finger slicing the bread. It’s not okay. Why couldn’t you just leave that stupid oven be?”

Crouched on the floor, I tried to hold my head up, but it sank back down. The nausea in my stomach nearly elevated to a heave. Again I tried to hold up my head, and again it fell between my shoulders.

Rhiana was frantic. “Are you okay? Can you hear me? What happened?”

I mumbled once more about the stove, and as the nausea rose I said, “Call 9-1-1.”

Rhiana left the room and returned with the phone. She dialed a few chirps and dashed through the operator’s query, “Hello. Yes. Medical. Please. My fiancé cut his finger. He passed out, and I think he hit his head on the way down. Okay. Thank you.”

Rhiana retrieved a cold, wet hand towel and pressed it to my face. “Can you hold this on your head? Let me see your finger. You are bleeding everywhere.” She lifted my limp arm from the floor and folded my unscathed fingers down and out of the way.

“You need to hold this hand up. Hold this paper towel on it and keep up the pressure while I get the bandages. Why didn’t you listen to me and just sit down?”

Coming back to my senses, I persisted. “Did you turn off the oven?” She had left the room.

Returning again and this time agitated by the repeated question she snapped back, “Yes, the oven is off. Keep your hand up!”

It was then that I could here the rumble of diesel engines rolling onto our quiet street. The engines grew loud and bombastic and then they idled off into silence.

Rhiana opened the door and I could hear a scanner radio scrunching out updates over the emergency radio band. The voices of several men talking in the drive grew closer accompanied by the thump of large protective boots. I could see the silhouette of a fireman’s hat standing outside the door. Rhiana stepped out to greet them. As the crew began to fill the kitchen, Rhiana leaned down and looked into my dazed eyes. “You know that whole ‘In sickness and in health’ thing? We haven’t agreed to that yet, so try to not do something like this again for another couple of weeks. Okay?”

Okay.

misusedsuperlative.

blogspot.com
It’s a CRIME

ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING
Location: 9290 Lakeview Road, Lakeside
Time/Date: 1:05 p.m. on 6/6/06
Report: A large white truck (unknown make), occupied by two men, approached two eight-year-old girls as they were walking home from Lakeview Elementary School. The driver slowed the truck as if it approached the girls and the passenger leaned out the window, grabbed the two girls, and pulled them towards the vehicle. One of the girls bit the man on his right wrist, forcing him to release both girls. The two occupants in the truck drove off immediately in an unknown direction.

ALIEN SMUGGLING
Location: San Ysidro Border
Time/Date: 9:45 p.m. on 6/5/06
Report: A 27-year-old U.S. citizen registered to participate in the SENTRI program (Secure Electronic Network for Traveler’s Rapid Inspection) was arrested by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers at the San Ysidro port of entry after he allegedly attempted to smuggle a six-year-old girl in the vehicle he was driving.

CBP officers encountered the driver, Juan M., a resident of Tijuana, Mexico, when he entered the San Ysidro border station through a designated SENTRI lane, driving a black 2002 Hyundai Elantra. M. presented two SENTRI “portpasses” to the CBP officer, one for himself issued in his name and a second portpass in the name of his daughter, for the minor in the passenger seat.

The CBP officer suspected the young girl in the vehicle was not the person whose portpass was presented for inspection. The vehicle and occupants were escorted to the secondary inspection area where it was confirmed the child was an undocumented Mexican national and not the person who was lawfully issued the portpass. M. was arrested, charged with alien smuggling and his SENTRI privileges were revoked.

MARIJUANA SEIZURE
Location: Cleveland National Forest
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. on 6/10/06
Report: Members of the grant-funded San Diego Sheriff’s Department Marijuana Eradication Team, acting on a tip, were checking a remote location in the Cleveland National Forest, near Palomar Mountain, for what was described as an outdoor marijuana grow, consisting of about fifty plants. Team members from the San Diego Sheriff’s Department Marijuana Eradication Team trekked to the remote location and discovered 13,000 marijuana plants ranging in maturity. Upon their arrival at the grow, two Hispanic males and one Hispanic female tending to the plants ran. A short foot pursuit ensued — however, due to the remoteness and rugged nature of the area, the three suspects eluded capture. During the initial foot pursuit, one of the male suspects dropped a loaded handgun, along with a radio for communication. The items were recovered...along with all the plants as evidence.

HIT AND RUN
Location: 1300 Industrial Boulevard, Chula Vista
Time/Date: 11:35 p.m. on 5/11/06
Report: Dispatch received telephone reports of a traffic collision involving a vehicle and a pedestrian in an electric wheel chair. Officers arrived and located the victim, who had suffered massive head injuries and two broken legs. Due to the seriousness of the injuries, LifeFlight transported the victim to UCSD Medical Center. The 51-year-old Chula Vista resident, James O., [was] in critical condition. Officers at the scene were able to get a description of the suspect’s vehicle. It was located abandoned about ten minutes later by a CVEF detective. The vehicle, a red 1993 Honda Civic, had been reported stolen in San Diego on March 30, 2006.

ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON
Location: 1833 Skyline Drive, Lemon Grove
Time/Date: 10:15 p.m. on 6/10/06
Report: Lemon Grove Sheriff’s Deputies responded to reports of shots fired...and found a victim with six gunshot wounds. The investigation revealed [that] the adult black male victim was seen arguing with two Hispanic males in the street. The victim was shot at least six times, from his thigh to his shoulder, by the suspects, who ran away. None of the wounds appear to be life threatening.

HOMICIDE
Location: 343 Richamar Avenue, San Marcos
Time/Date: 9:12 p.m. on 6/14/06
Report: Sheriff’s Communications Center received a call of a stabbing in front of the La Fiesta Grande Market. Deputies arrived on scene two minutes later. At that time they found two males, both of whom were believed to be in their late teens, lying on the ground in front of the business. Both subjects, who were unconscious, appeared to have suffered multiple stab wounds. One victim was transported to Palomar Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 9:40 p.m. The second victim was transported to Scripps La Jolla Hospital. His condition [was] reported to be “serious, but stable.” Early reports indicate that a group of males were fighting in front of the business and that the two stabbing victims were involved in that altercation.

STABBINGS
Location: Intersection of Johnson Avenue and Washington, El Cajon
Time/Date: 7:04 p.m. on 5/27/06
Résumé of Incident: El Cajon Police Department began receiving numerous 911 calls regarding a stabbing. Upon arrival, officers located two suspects with stab wounds. The 14-year-old and 15-year-old victims were transported by El Cajon Fire Department to Sharp Memorial for treatment. The wounds [were] not life threatening.

The victims reported that they were confronted by two Hispanic males who exited a light gray or blue van driven by a third Hispanic male. The two suspects had knives when they exited the van, and stabbed the victims. The suspects got back into the van and fled the scene.

—Michael Hemmingman
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HEAD LIGHT
HI, KIDS! I’M JOSE EL BURRO. WELCOME TO MY NEIGHBORHOOD. Let’s take a look around. Here we are at 36th Street and University. Look at that pink building over there with the stars painted on it. Let’s read the sign: “The Minx Strip Club, World’s Hottest Showgirls.” Can you say, “Showgirls”? Let’s go over and take a look.

Hey, it’s our friend Svetlana. Hi Svetlana.

“Oh, hi Joe.”

“How are you, Svetlana?”

“I’m okay, Joe. I had to do two days in jail.”

“Oh, no!

“Yes. I was arrested for DUI. But I was not even drunk or in my car. I had two beers and was already in my apartment when the cop car pulled up in front.”

Well, Svetlana. We have laws for...

“And now they say about sending me back to Russia. But my son Eric is American citizen. He was born here. My green card...”

Okay, good luck, Svetlana. Svetlana is what we call an “exotic dancer.” Kids. That means she takes her clothes off for one-dollar bills. It takes a lot of one-dollar bills to buy school supplies. Can you say, “Showgirls”? Let’s go over and take a look.

The stars painted on it. Let’s read the sign: “The Minx Strip Club, World’s Hottest Showgirls.”

Goodbye!

“Sure can, Jose.”

That’s a good tip, Ollie. Okay, can we say goodbye now, Ollie?

“I sure can, Jose. Have fun in your neighborhood, kids. But always check the Megan’s Law website for sexual predators before you play in front of someone’s yard.”

That’s a good tip, Ollie. Okay, can we say goodbye now, Ollie?

“Sure can,” Ollie.

Goodbye!

“Goodbye, kids!”

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, JUNE 22
BUILDING THE GREAT PYRAMID
DSC 8:00 PM.

Once again, Egypt will be the seat of world domination. When I am elected president of Earth, I will rule from a stone lounge on the banks of the river Nile. Publicly, I’ll reason that the central location makes it ideal, but privately I’ll know it’s because I want to wear eye makeup and one of those serpentinite gold headbands.

WHERE MY DOGS AT
MTV2 8:00 PM.

You go out there and you find that goddamn dog or I’m going to slap all hell out of you. We should’ve listened to your therapist when we found the gerbil floating tis up in the toilet, but noooooo. Your mother said it’d teach you responsibility. Now I’m driving around with my head out the window yelling, “Rusty! Rusty!” If we don’t find him, you know what that means. Back to the school in the big white building. Back to your friends who play with their own spit, and you wear the helmet again. You want the helmet? Better find that goddamn dog.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23
LOST IN SPACE: YELLOW LOBSTER AT SEA
DSC 8:00 PM.

I was sure they’d stay down there forever. Now, it looks like I have to resume my fight with the Lobstermen of Atlantis. It’s odd that they’ve sought out a television show to air their grievances with me instead of clipping open my throat while I slept, but I’m not going to look at a gift dolphin in the blowhole. Time to oil up my trident and Speedo.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24
JUDY GARLAND: MEDICAL SECRETS
DHX 10:00 A.M.

Some so-called medical “professionals” wouldn’t acknowledge a three-marlin breakfast and Demolod lunch to be a longevity secret. It’s about time the Discovery Health Channel set them straight.

MISS HAWAIIAN TROPIC USA FINALS
CBS 11:00 A.M.

Thank you, CBS. And, thank you, Hawaiian Tropic. And most of all, thank you, bikini ladies, for making my cottonmouth and headache seem tolerable on Saturday mornings. Let’s sing a song: OH! IIIIIIII like girls in bikinis. Yes, IIIIIIII like girls in bikinis. Some people say it’s sexist / but I’lll’d rather watch girls in bikinis / than D2: The Mighty Ducks on Channel 33. OH! IIIIIIIII like girls in bikinis. ThereeeeeeIIIeee make me happy!

THE TRUE STORY OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT
HIST 8:00 PM.

Behind his back they called him Alexander the Mediocreo or Schmalexander the Just. Okay. I heard his feet kind of stunk, too. “The Great” my “The Ass.”

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

BRAVEHEART (1995)
SPIKE 8:00 P.M.

The police didn’t believe me when I told them I wasn’t peeping on that woman, but rather I was saving her cat caught up in that tree when my kilt got snagged on the spiky top of her iron fence. I don’t know where the cat ran off to, but if I wasn’t fighting crime, then why did I have my batman cape and mask on? Answer me that, smart, copper.

MONDAY, JUNE 26
GOOD MORNING SAN DIEGO
KUSI 7:00 A.M.

Every Monday morning it’s the same thing. I get up, shower, button my shirt up, and lace my boots. Then I spend the next eight hours trying to get drunk enough to appreciate Eskimo pornography. I mean, those nice people are trying to put themselves through Whale Blubber College or something, and who’s going to look at it except me? I think of it as civic volunteering.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27
TOBY KEITH-LIVE, UNCUT, AND UNLEASHED
CMTV 8:00 P.M.

This sounds like more of Mr. Keith than I’d care to CBS.

VIDEOPHOTON M-169

Steve Olivieri

“Hey, look! It’s our friend Maria. Hi Maria!”

Maria, a dancer at the Minx Strip Club, World’s Hottest Showgirls.

“Hi, Jose.”

“Are you okay, Maria?”

“Sure, Jose.”

“Hi, Maria.”

“Hi, Jose El Burro.”

Kids, it’s friendly to ask, “How are you?” when you see a friend. So, how are you, Maria?

“I’m okay, Jose. I finally got a restraining order on Carlos.”

Carlos, your husband?

“Yes. He can’t come within 200 feet of me, but he still calls and hangs up. The phone number on the ID is a pay phone downtown, but I know it’s him.”

Didn’t you stab him in the shoulder with a broken shard of mirror a couple of weeks ago?

“My lawyer says that I was provoked. It was self-defense.”

Didn’t you stab him in the shoulder with a broken shard of mirror a couple of weeks ago?

“I’m good, Jose.”

Can you help us wrap the show up, Ollie?

“I sure can, Ollie. Have fun in your neighborhood, kids. But always check the Megan’s Law website for sexual predators before you play in front of someone’s yard.”

That’s a good tip, Ollie. Okay, can we say goodbye now, Ollie?

“Sure can,” Ollie.

Goodbye!

“Goodbye, kids!”
Kanye West
AFI
Social Distortion
Wu Tang Clan
Queens of the Stone Age
Bad Religion
Yellowcard
Slightly Stoopid
Wolfmother
She Wants Revenge
Matchbook Romance
Rock Kills Kid
Lupe Fiasco
Particle
Nine Black Alps
Cheb i Sabbah & 1002 Nights
Thomas Mapfumo & The Blacks Unlimited
What Made Milwaukee Famous
Reeve Oliver
The Colour
The Shys

Tool
Snoop Dogg
Yeah Yeah Yeahs
My Chemical Romance
Sean Paul
Bloc Party
G. Love & Special Sauce
Donavon Frankenreiter
Tricky
The Subways
Editors
Ska Cubano
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Margot & The Nuclear So & So's
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* lineup and artists subject to change
"The alleys are ruled by dangerous, roving thugs like you.'

By John Brizzolara

I am writing this on a Sunday morning, actually. Father's Day. That's a small patch of history behind us (you and I) if it's any at all (was yours memorable?) It's an overcast, quiet day and my neighborhood is still in that spot between an exhales breath and exhales one after an uneventful night, still except for the rattle-chink-clunk and stutter of a shopping cart being maneuvered between a parking garage and a Dumpster area.

It's a no-man's zone or a real estate company's zone, I suppose, that offers shelter from the alley (if you open some fuse/circuit-breaker plywood doors) and the rain-run-off pattern slides from the garage roof tiles to a kind of tool shed that during a rain offers up a subliminal and distant sounding tribal drumming of some Lilliputian colony from an island just off some imaginary shore that exists if you close your eyes — as I do in my bedroom — and imagine myself safe on some middle-class mainland where all we have are cars and jobs and assigned Dumpsters, and those on the island, just off the coast, have nothing, addictions, or not your是一部小说的正文，以下是它的Json格式。
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